

Wisdom of the Buddha(brot)

by Károly Zsolnai

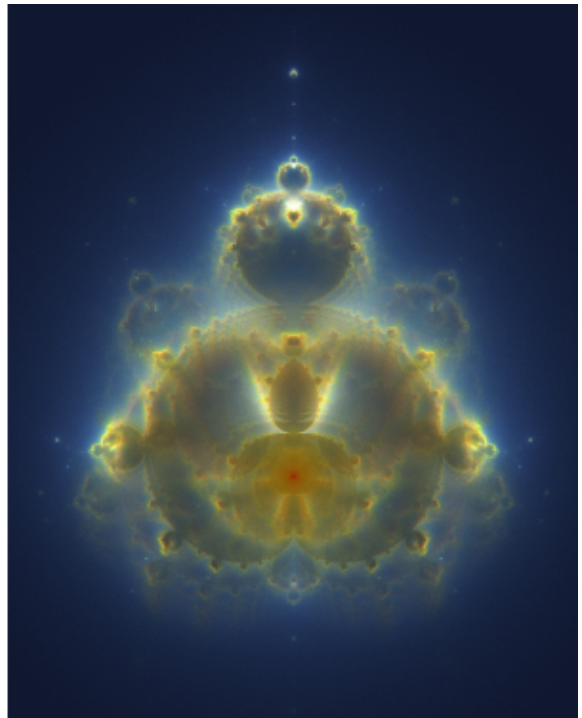
More than five hundred years before Christ was born, buddhist philosophy regarded the **third eye** as the eye of wisdom, a symbol of enlightenment. Their teacher, Gautama Buddha was always pictured with this, and it is also well-known that married Indian women still wear a bindi, a red dot or a jewel as a decoration between the eyebrows. Zen buddhists define the **hara** as a location just below the naval, in the lower abdomen, which they say is the center of awareness, and perform their zazen sessions (sitting meditation) concentrating on this part of the body. **Maybe they have known something, maybe not - no one knows for sure, or at least no one had shown evidence that they do.**

A few thousand years later, equipped with computers and mathematical knowledge, people became interested in visualizing all kinds of complex mathematical functions with pictures, and then started calling them **fractals**. One day a woman named Melinda Green decided to try a new function, which looked almost like the famous [Mandelbrot set](#), is certainly worth a try: $z_{n+1} = z_n^2 + c$. Can you imagine *anything* simpler than this?

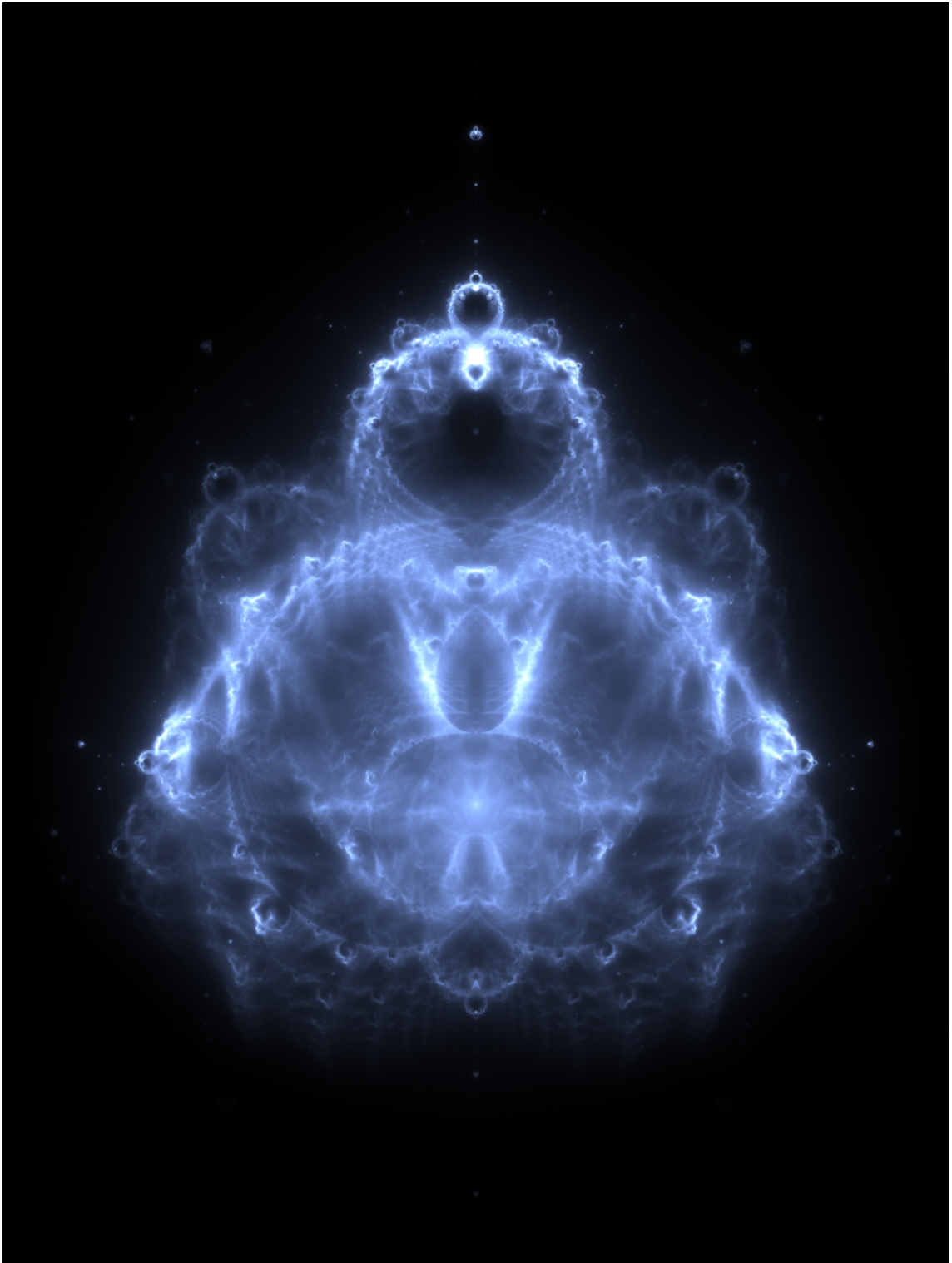
After rotating the result 90 degrees, most people would say that the resulting picture depicts Buddha, as he is sitting in traditional buddhist meditation posture, thus the function was given the name Buddhabrot. As surprising it is, it's not everything. Actually, it's nothing compared to what can be seen at his forehead and the abdomen.

Now you know everything there is to know, you can turn the page, I'm sure you'll be just as amazed with the results as I was.

Magic.



1. Figure. You are kidding me, right?



2. Figure. Another stunningly beautiful render.