

Sanatkumāra said:—

7. After saying this, Brahmā kept quiet remembering Śiva. The gods too returned to their respective abodes rejoicingly.

8. Then at the behest of Śiva, the celestial sage Nārada went to the abode of the Daityas and sang the glory of the beauty of Pārvatī.

9. On hearing his words the two Daityas were deluded by deception. Afflicted by the god of lust they desired to abduct the goddess.

10. They thought to themselves where and when they would obtain Pārvatī at the rise of their good fortune.

11-12. Once Śiva was engaged in sports. Pārvatī too was playing with a ball along with her friends in the presence of Śiva.

13. At times she looked up. At times she displayed the lightness of limbs. At times when she took deep breaths, bees hovered round her enticed by the fragrance. At times the bees made her eyes agitated.

14. Flowers from her tresses fell on the ground in front of her. Her cheeks were perspiring. Drops of sweat dripping from the paintings on her cheek brightened up.

15. The lustre of her body spread all round through the partings of her gown. By exerting her too much in beating the ball her red hand became redder than the red lotus.

16-17. When the ball bounced, her eyes too followed it making the brows to dance thereby. As the goddess mother of the universe was playing, she was seen by the Daityas who were going by the aerial path. They were, as it were, held in the lap by the imminent death.

18. They were the Daityas Vidala and Uptala who had become haughty by the boon of Brahmā and by the might of their arms thought the people of the three worlds as insignificant as the blades of grass.³⁴⁴

19. Desirous of abducting the goddess as they were tormented by the god of lust, they descended from the sky quickly after adapting the Śāmbarī magic skill.

344. This verse is the repetition of fragments of verses 2 and 3 of this chapter.