

9. There is no doubt about it that my House will be fortunate. If her mother also likes this, what can be more auspicious than this ?

*Brahmā said:—*

10. After hearing the words spoken by her father and (in a way) commanded by him, the two maids went to her mother along with her.

11. O Nārada, approaching Pārvatī's mother, they bowed down and with palms joined in reverence they respectfully spoke thus.

*The maids said:—*

12. O mother, O gentle lady, please listen to the words of your daughter. Obeisance be to you. You will listen with pleasure and act accordingly.

13. For the sake of attaining Śiva, your daughter wishes to perform a severe penance. She has secured the permission of her father. She now wants to seek it from you.

14. O chaste lady, she is desirous of making her beauty fruitful. If your permission too is received, the penance can be performed.

*Brahmā said:—*

15. O excellent sage, after saying this, the maids became silent. Distressed in mind, Menā did not accept the proposal.

16. Then Pārvatī herself spoke to her mother joining her palms in humility and remembering the lotus-like feet of Śiva.

*Pārvatī said:—*

17. O mother, I shall be going in the morning for performing penance to achieve Śiva. Please permit me to go to the penance-grove for the task.

*Brahmā said:—*

18. On hearing the words of her daughter, Menā was distressed. That chaste lady called her daughter near and spoke to her in dejection.