

Jalandhara said:—

42. “O celestial sage, O Nārada, obeisance be to you, O holy lord. Where is this most excellent of all ladies ? Please tell me now.

43. Wherever it may be in the whole of this universe, if such a lady exists anywhere, I will bring her here. Truth, it is certainly the truth.”

Nārada said:—

44. Kailāsa is very beautiful and it possesses all sorts of things conducive to prosperity. Śiva lives there assuming the form of a naked Yogin.

45. His wife Pārvatī is exquisitely beautiful in every limb. She is charming and has all the characteristics of a beautiful lady.

46. Such an exquisite beauteous form has never been seen anywhere. It incites the enthusiasm of everybody. It is highly wonderful. It fascinates even the Yogins. It is worthy of being seen. It is conducive to great prosperity.

47. This occurs to my mind, O valiant Jalandhara that there is none more prosperous in the three worlds than Śiva who possesses the most excellent of all ladies.

48. Even the four-faced²²³ lord Brahmā, immersed in her ocean of beauty, lost his mental steadiness formerly.²²⁴ Who can be compared to such a beautiful lady?

49. Even Śiva reputed to be free from infatuation has been won over by her womanly sports. Śiva who is independent has been subjugated by her.

50. The prosperity that he enjoys inasmuch as he indulges in dalliance with the most excellent of all ladies has not come to you O lord of Daityas though you are the master of excellent gems and jewels.

Sanatkumāra said:—

51. After saying this, the world-renowned celestial

²²³. Brahmā is called four-faced (caturāṇana or caturmukha). Originally he had five heads but one was cut off by Śiva for telling lies. According to another version it was burnt off by the fire of Śiva's central eye for speaking disrespectfully.

²²⁴. Cp. ŚP. RS. Pārvatikhaṇḍa 49. 8.