

*Śiva said :—*

31. “Is this your face or the moon? Are these your eyes or lotus petals? These two eyebrows are the bows of Kāma of noble soul.

32. Is this your lower lip or Bimba fruit? Is this your nose or the beak of a parrot? Do I hear your voice or the cooing of the cuckoo? Is this your slender waist or the sacrificial altar?

33. How can her gait be described? How can her comely appearance be described? How can the flowers be described? How can the clothes be described?

34. Whatever is graceful and sweet in the creation has been incorporated here. Indeed, all her limbs are exquisite in every respect.

35. How blessed is this Pārvatī of mysteriously wonderful features. There is no other woman equal to her in beauty in the three worlds.

36. She is a storehouse of the finest beauty. She has wondrous beautiful limbs. She is an enchantress of even sages. She increases great happiness.”

*Brahmā said :—*

37. After describing her body again and again, recollecting the boon granted by Brahmā, Śiva stopped.

38. When Śiva put His hand within her garment and moved it, she, as is natural to women, bashfully withdrew and kept aloof.

39. O sage, then Pārvatī smilingly laid bare some parts of her body and cast graceful glances at Him with great pleasure.

40. On seeing these movements and gestures Śiva became fascinated. Lord Śiva indulging in great divine sports spoke these words.

41. “I feel great pleasure on merely seeing her. What pleasure shall I derive by embracing her?”

42. Thinking thus only for a moment, the enlightened Śiva became detached, honoured Pārvatī and spoke.

43. “How wonderful and mysterious is the situation that has arisen! How is it that I have been deluded and fascin-