

Man projects the contents of his mind and cognizes them in the world outside. Arjuna had no idea till then that it is Iswara who has become the entire universe and that there is also a terrific aspect to His manifestation. The sudden and unexpected vision of it frightens him even though he is a person of extraordinary calibre. He projects this unsettled state of his mind on the world and says that the worlds are terror-struck even as he is. He mentions the cause of his being frightened as follows :—

नभः स्पृशं दीप्तमनेकवर्णं व्यात्ताननं दीप्तविशालनेत्रम् ।
दृष्ट्वा हि त्वां प्रव्यथितान्तरात्मा धृतिं न विन्दामि शमं च विष्णो ॥

नभः-स्पृशम् दीप्तम् अन्-एक-वर्णम् वि-आत्त-आननम् दीप्त-विशाल-नेत्रम् ।
दृश्-त्वा हि त्वाम् प्र-व्यथि-त-अन्तरात्मा धृतिम् न विन्द-आमि शमम् च विष्णो ॥

*nabhaḥ spr̥śam̐ dīptam̐ aneka varṇam̐
vyāttānanam̐ dīpta viśāla netram̐ ।
dṛṣṭvā hi tvām̐ pravyathitāntarātmā
dhṛtim̐ na vindāmi samam̐ ca viṣṇo ॥*

नभःस्पृशम् *nabhaḥ spr̥śam̐* touching the sky दीप्तम् *dīptam̐* shining अनेकवर्णम् *aneka varṇam̐* in many colours व्यात्ताननम् *vyāttānanam̐* with mouths wide open दीप्तविशाल नेत्रम् *dīpta viśāla netram̐* with large fiery eyes दृष्ट्वा *dṛṣṭvā* having seen हि *hi* verily त्वाम् *tvām̐* thee 'प्रव्यथित अन्तरात्मा *pravyathita antarātmā* terrified at heart धृतिम् *dhṛtim̐* courage न *na* not विन्दामि *vindāmi* (I) find शमम् *samam̐* peace च *ca* and विष्णो *viṣṇo* O Vishnu

When I see You touching the sky, blazing with many colours, with mouths wide open, with large fiery eyes, my heart trembles in fear and I find neither courage nor peace, O Vishnu.