

finely-shaped eyebrows capable of captivating the minds of even sages.

21. Neither in human world nor in that of the Devas was there such a woman of complete perfection in all qualities. Nor was there such a woman in nether worlds in all the three times (past, present and future).

22. On seeing her I involuntarily got up. Various thoughts rose up in my heart. Dakṣa and others—the Prajāpatis, Marīci and others—all my sons, felt similarly.

23. O best of sages, when I Brahmā, thought like this, a wonderfully Beautiful Being appeared as my mental creation.

24-29. He had a golden complexion. His chest was stout and firm. His nose was fine. His thigh, hips and calves were round and plump. He had blue wavelets of hair. His eyebrows were thickset and tremulous. His face shone like the full moon. His hairy chest was broad like a door. He was as huge as the celestial elephant Airāvata. He was wearing a blue cloth. His hands, eyes, face, legs and fingers were red in colour. He had a slender waist. His teeth were fine. He smelt like an elephant in its rut. His eyes were like the petals of a full-bown lotus. He was fragrant like the filaments. His neck was like the conch. He had the emblem of a fish. He was tall. He had the Makara fish for his vehicle. He was armed with a bow and five flowers for his arrows. His loving glance was very attractive as he rolled his eyes here and there. O dear one, his very breath was a fragrant wind. He was accompanied by the sentiment of love.

30. On seeing that Being, my sons, Dakṣa and others, were struck with wonder and became eager and inquisitive.

31. Their mind became deformed and confused immediately. Smitten with love they lost their mental courage.

32. On seeing me the creator and the lord of the worlds, the person bowed down with his shoulders stooping by humility and said.

*The person said :—*

33-34. “O Brahmā, what is the work I am to do ? Please assign me an honourable task, O Brahmā, suitable to