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minds to and seek refuge in Him joyously and devoutly have nothing to fear from any quarter.

- 27. The interruption to amorous dalliance will take place at the proper time, not now, O Brahmā. Any task carried out at the proper time shall be crowned with success, not otherwise.
- 28. If the enjoyment is desired by Siva who can check it? When another thousand years are completed He will desist from it, out of his own will.
- If any one separates the copulated pair by a tricky expedient, he will have the pangs of separation from his wife and sons in every birth.
- 30. He will fall from perfect wisdom. His glory will be destroyed. He will lose his fortune. That sinner after his death will suffer the tortures of the hell Kālasūtra<sup>129</sup> for a hundred thousand years.
- 31. The sage Durvāsas<sup>130</sup> separated Indra in copulation with Rambhā<sup>131</sup> and the sage got separation from his wife as a result thereof.
- 32. He took another woman as his wife and thus put an end to the pangs of separation lasting for a thousand years of the gods.
- 33. Brhaspati hindered Kāma in copulation with Ghrtācī<sup>152</sup> but within six months the moon abducted his wife.
- He then propitiated Siva, fought a battle over Tārā, enjoyed her even as she was pregnant and tried to dispel his pangs of separation.
- 35. The sage Gautama forced the moon in the company of Rohini to desist from sexual dalliance and he suffered the pangs of separation from his wife.
- 36-37. Hariścandra expelled a ploughman in copulation with a Sūdra woman, to wander in a lonely forest. Listen

<sup>129.</sup> Kālasūtra is one of several hells wherein the wicked are tortured. For details see Viṣṇu Purāṇa II. 214.
130. Durvāsas, the son of Atri and Anasūyā was a sage of irascible

temper.

<sup>131.</sup> Rambhā, a celestial damsel is represented as the type of female beauty. She was one of the rarities produced at the churning of the ocean.

<sup>132.</sup> Ghrtācī, a celestial damsel, was known for her rare beauty and charms.