

Menā particularly (does so). There is no doubt about my becoming their daughter.

28. Just as you, Rudra too, desires my incarnation in the abode of Himavat. Hence I shall incarnate. That shall be the end of misery in the world.

29. All of you return to your abodes. You shall be happy for a long time. After incarnating I shall give Menā full happiness.

30. I shall become Śiva's wife. But this desire is a great secret with me. Śiva's divine sport is wonderful. It deludes even the wise.

31-32. Ever since I cast off my body born of Dakṣa on seeing my lord's disrespect at the hands of my father at the altar of sacrifice, my lord Rudra is tormented by thoughts about me.

33-34. He saw my anger at the altar of my father's sacrifice. Thinking that the virtuous lady had cast-off her body out of love for him he became a Yogin and abandoned home-life. He assumed an unearthly form and features. But he could not bear my separation.

35. On account of me he was much distressed. He put on an abnormal dress. Ever since he forsook the excellent pleasure of love.

36. Hear further, O Viṣṇu, O Brahmā, O sages and O gods, the divine sports of the supreme lord Śiva, that protect the universe.

37. Oppressed by the pangs of bereavement He wreathed a garland of my bones. Although He is the sole enlightened god He did not get peace anywhere.

38. Like a non-god, like a helpless creature he roamed about here and there and cried aloud. The lord Himself could not distinguish between the proper and the improper.

39. The lord Śiva did this just to show the behaviour of a love-lorn lover. He blabbered like a lover in despair due to separation.

40. But really the supreme lord has no aberrations, is not distressed and remains unconquered. My master Śiva is perfect, lord of all and the controller of illusion.

41. He is not tarnished by illusion. Of what avail are illusion, love and other emotions for Him?