

*Brahmā said:—*

27. Particularly pointing out the worldly conduct of fake ascetics, the bull-bannered god Śiva laughingly spoke to the mountain.

*Śiva said:—*

28. This auspicious slender-bodied maiden of comely hips and moon-like face should not be brought near me. I forbid you again and again.

29. A woman is a phase of illusion. As the scholars who have mastered the Vedas say particularly, a young damsel is a hindrance to ascetics.

30. O mountain, I am an ascetic, a yogin, never affected by illusion. Of what avail is a woman thrust on me ?

31. O friend resorted to by great ascetics, you shall not say so again, since you are an adept in Vedic religion, a scholar and one foremost among the wise.

32. O mountain, by contact with a woman, worldliness springs up; non-attachment perishes and the virtuous penance is destroyed.

33. Hence, O mountain, no ascetic shall have any truck with women. A woman is the root of all worldly attachments. She destroys all wisdom and detachment together.

*Brahmā said:—*

34. Speaking these and many other similar things to the lord of mountains, lord Śiva the great Yogin, stopped.

35. On hearing these ruthless words of Śiva free from sickness and desire, the father of Pārvatī became nervous, O celestial sage, and a little agitated. But he kept quiet.

36. On hearing the words of the ascetic and finding her father, the lord of the mountains, frightened, Pārvatī bowed to Śiva and spoke these words clearly.