

21. Spring too did the needful in enchanting Him. O, listen to it, O fortunate Being. I tell you the truth, the truth alone.

22-23. He caused the various kinds of flowers to bloom in the place where Śiva was stationed—flowers such as Campakas, Keśaras, Punnāgas, Ketakas, Mallikās, Kurabakas etc. etc.

24. He made the lakes abounding in full-blown lotuses in the hermitage of Śiva, very fragrant by causing Malaya breezes to blow.

25. He made creepers full of flowers twine round trees as if resting on their laps with great attachment—Seedlings of Dhattūra were scattered to beautify the place.

26. On seeing the trees abounding in beautiful flowers rustling in the fragrant breeze, even the sages became slaves of Kāma, then what about other (ordinary mortals) ?

27. In spite of all these, no cause of deflection from steadiness was seen in Śiva who did not evince any sentimental feeling, not even anger towards me.

28. On seeing these and realising His ideal conception I am averse to any further attempt at deluding Śiva. This is my firm opinion that I tell you.

29. When he finally eschews Samādhi we cannot even stand in His presence, within sight. Who can think of charming Him ?

30. O Brahmā, who can stand facing Him with eyes blazing like fire and as fearful as flocks of large alligators or a horned animal²⁴⁹.

Brahmā said :—

31. On hearing these words of Kāma I, the four-faced lord, though desirous of saying something did not say anything and was agitated with anxious thoughts.

32. On hearing the words of Kāma—"I am incompetent to enchant Śiva", O sage, I heaved a deep sigh due to extreme sorrow.

²⁴⁹. The text is corrupt in all printed editions. The present translation is conjectural.