

59. After going there along with me and the gods, Viṣṇu, the favourite deity of the gods, spoke in dejection but with joy in the heart.

60. O excellent sage, standing there, along with me and the gods, he eulogised Śiva, the lord of all the worlds with great pleasure.

Viṣṇu said:—

61. O great lord, what are you doing there inside? Save us who are harassed by Tāraka and who have sought refuge in you.

62. O great sage, praising and pleading like this to Śiva, Viṣṇu wept bitterly along with the gods harassed by Tāraka.

63. O great sage, the tumultuous cry of the heaven-dwellers distressed by the demon got mingled with the sound of eulogy to Śiva.

CHAPTER TWO

(*The birth of Śiva's son*)

Brahmā said:—

1. On hearing that, the great lord, an expert in Yogic theory, though free from lust, did not emit the semen, fearing to offend Pārvatī.

2. He came to the door, near the gods distressed by the demon. Śiva is the benefactor favourably disposed to His devotees.

3. On seeing lord Śiva, favourably disposed to His devotees, the gods including me and Viṣṇu became extremely happy.

4. O sage, bowing down with stooping shoulders the gods along with me and Viṣṇu eulogised Śiva with great pleasure.

The gods said:—

5. "O great God, O lord of gods, O ocean of mercy,