

दैवी हि एषा गुण-मयी मम माया दुर-वृत्ति-भया ।

माम् एव ये प्र-पद्यन्ते मायाम् एताम् तरन्ति ते ॥

*daivī hy eṣā guṇamayī mama māyā duratyayā ।*

*mām eva ye prapadyante māyām etām taranti te ॥*

दैवी *daivī* divine हि *hi* verily एषा *eṣā* this गुणमयी *guṇamayī* made of Gunas मम *mama* my माया *māyā* illusion दुरत्यया *duratyayā* difficult to cross over माम् *mām* in me एव *eva* only ये *ye* who प्रपद्यन्ते *prapadyante* take refuge मायाम् *māyām* illusion एताम् *etām* this तरन्ति *taranti* cross over ते *te* they

Verily this divine illusion of Mine, made up of the Gunas, is hard to surmount; but those who take refuge in Me alone, they cross over this illusion. 14

*Daivī māyā*, the divine illusion, is the cloak that the Lord has assumed. It serves as His body. महामायः *Mahā-māyaḥ* is one of the appellations of Vishnu. He who is an expert in creating the illusion, is the meaning of this term. He has hidden His Reality in the garb of Nature. All the same, He deigns to disclose Himself to those who take refuge in Him. The Reality in Him being known, the assumed garb of *Māyā* vanishes. It is like the disappearance of the phantom of the snake when the rope is perceived in its reality.

Why are we not able to behold the Divine Mother? It is because She keeps Herself concealed behind the chicks or bamboo screen after the fashion of the respectable ladies of an aristocratic family. She sees everything and guides everything, but none can see Her. But the true devotees who are Her kith and kin can cross the chicks, get near and behold Her.

— Sri Ramakrishna