

prakrāmantaṃ ca taṃ bhūyaḥ sa Vetālo 'bhyabhāshatā:
«rājan, na 'udvijase citraṃ! tad imāṃ me kathāṃ ṣṛiṇu: 8

Asti Gaurī-tapaḥ-kleṣa-vṛitena Tripurārīṇā
asāmānya-guṇōtkarsha-lubdhena 'iva svayam vṛitā 9
Bhogavaty-Amaravatyos tṛitīyā 'Ujjayinī purī,
udāra-sukṛita-prāpya-nānā-bhogopavṛiṇhitā; 10
yasyām stabdhhatva-kārkaṣye kuceshu varayoshitām,
tāsām eva bhruvor bhaṅgo, locaneshu ca cāpalam; 11
tamo niṣāsu, vakratvaṃ yasyām kavi-vakroktishu,
mado dantishu, jādyam ca muktā-malayajendushu. 12 X

tasyām Candraprabhākhyasya rājño mānyo bahu-ṣrutah
Devasvāmī 'ity abhūd vipro bhūri-yajño mahā-dhanaḥ. 13
tasya kālēna tanayaḥ Candrasvāmī 'ity ajāyata;
so 'dhīta-vidyo 'pi yuvā dyūṭaika-vyasano 'bhavat. 14
ekadā ca dvijasutaḥ Candrasvāmī sa kāmca
dyūṭakāra-mahā-ṭiṇṭhām dyūṭena krīdituṃ yayau; 15
«āḥlishyāmaḥ kam atra?» 'iti vipadbhir iva vikshitām
vikshiptaiḥ kṛishṇasārābhair netrair akshair niranṭaram; 16
«kaḥ so 'sti, na ṣṛiyam yasya harāmy apy Alakāpateḥ?»
iti 'iva tanvatīm nādān dyūṭakṛit-kalaha-svanaiḥ. 17
tām praviṣya kramād, dīvyann akshaiḥ sa kitavaiḥ saba,
vastrādi hārayitvāpi dhanam anyad abhārayat. 18
mṛigyamānaṃ ca yad na 'adāt sa tad dhanam asaṃbhavi,
tad avasṭabhya sabhyena laḡuḍaiḥ paryatādyata. 19 X
laḡuḍābhata-sarvāṅgaḥ pāshāṇam iva niṣṇalam
krītvā mṛitam iva 'ātmānaṃ tasthau viprasuto 'tha saḥ. 20

tathāiva divasān dvitrāns tatra tasminn avasthite,
kruddhaḥ sa sabhyash ṭiṇṭhāyām kitavān svān abhāshata: 21
«ṣṛitā 'anena 'aṣmatā, tad etaṃ kshipata kvacit
«nītvā 'andhakūpe niḥsattvaṃ! dhanam dāsyāmy ahaṃ tu vaḥ.» 22
ity uktās tena kitavās te Candrasvāminam tataḥ
araṇyam ninyur utkshipya dūraṃ kūpa-gaveshiṇaḥ. 23
tatra 'eko vṛiddha-kitavas tān anyān evam abhyadhāt:
«mṛito 'yam prāyaṣas; tat kiṃ kūpe kshiptena no 'dhunā? 24
«tad ihaiva 'enam ujhitvā, vakshyāmaḥ kupa ujhitam.»
iti te tad-vacaḥ sarve «tathā!» 'iti pratipedire. 25

tatas tyaktvā gateshv eshu kitaveshu, sa utthitah
Candrasvāmī viveṣa 'atra ṣuṇyam ekaṃ Ṣivālayam. 26
tatra kiṃcit samāṣvasya cintayāmāsa duḥkhitah:
«viṣvasto māyayā kaṣṭam mushitah kitavair ahaṃ! 27
«tad idṛiṇaḥ kva gacchāmi nagnopahata-pāṇḍulaḥ?
«pitā bandhuḥ suhṛid vāpi drishṭvā kiṃ hi vaded mama? 28
«tat samprati sthito 'smi 'iha, naktaṃ ca kshut-praṇāntaye
«paṇyāmi nirgatya, katham yatishye bhojanaṃ prati.» 29