âgacchantam ca tam bhûyah sa Vetâlo 'bhyabhâshata: «râjan, çrinu! kathâm ekâm hridyâm te kathayâmy aham: 2

Asti Vakrolakam nama puram Surapurqpamam; tasmin Suryaprabhậkhyo 'bhúd râjâ Jambhâri-samnibhaḥ, s saukaryodyatayâ murtyâ dattậnando vasumdharâm imâm Harir iva 'uddhritya yo babhâra ciram bhuje; 4 dhûmậsange 'çru-sampâtaḥ, çringâre mâra-samkathâḥ, dvâḥstheshu hema-daṇḍâç ca râshṭre yasya 'abhavan prabhoḥ. 5 sarva-sampat-samriddhasya tasya 'ekâ 'abhûd anirvritiḥ, na 'udapadyata yat putro bahushv antaḥpureshv api. 6

etasminç ca kathâ-samdhau Tâmraliptyâm mahâ-puri babhûva Dhanapâlâkhyo dhuryo dhanavatâm baṇik. 7 tasya ca 'ajâyata 'ekaiva nâmnâ Dhanavatî sutâ, Vidyâdharî cyutâ çâpât saundaryeṇaiva sûcitâ. 8 tasyâm ca yauvana-sthâyâm, sa baṇik pañcatâm yayau; tad-dhanam râjâsânâthyâd âkrântam atha gotrajaih. 9 tato Hiraṇyavaty-âkhyâ baṇijas tasya gehinî âdâya ratnâbharaṇam nijam aprakaṭa-sthitam, 10 Dhanavatyâ tayâ sâkam sva-duhitrâ niçâmukhe palâyya dâyâda-bhayâd grihâd guptam viniryayau. 11 dhvântena vahir antaç ca sâ duḥkhena 'andhakâritâ kricchrâd vahih puram prâyât sutâ-hastâvalambinî. 12

tatra samtamase yântî vidhi-yogâd alakshitam ańsena 'atâḍayac cauram çûlậgrậropita-sthitam. 13 sa sajîvas tad-ańsâgra-ghaṭanậdhika-pîḍitaḥ, «âḥ! kshate kshâram etad me kshiptam kena?» 'ity abhàshata. 14 tatas tatraiva sâ, «ko 'si?» 'ity apricchat tam baṇig-badhûḥ; pratyuvâca tataç cauraç: «cauro 'ham iha sûcitaḥ; 15 «çûle papasya ca 'adyậpi na 'utkrâmanti mama 'asavaḥ. «tad, ârye, tvam mama brûhi: kâ 'asi? kva 'evam prayàsi ca?• 16 tac çrutvà 'asya baṇig-bhâryâ yâvat svodantam âha sâ, tàvat tilakitam prâcyâ mukham udbhâsitendunâ. 17

tato dikshu prakāçāsu sa cauras tām baṇik-sutām drishṭvā Dhanavatīm kanyām, tad-mātaram uvāca tām: 18 « çriṇu me prārthanām ekām! sahasram kāñcanasya te « dadāmi, tad imām mahyām sva-sutām dehi kanyakām!» 19 « kim etayā tava? » 'ity ukto hasantyā 'atra tayā, 'atha saḥ punaç cauro 'bravīd: « nāsti putro mama gatāyushaḥ, 20 « na ca 'aputro 'çnute lokāns; tad eshā yam mad-ājnayā « kutaçcij janayet putram, kshetrajaḥ sa bhaved mama. 21 « ity etām prārthaye, tvam tu tad vidhatsva mama 'īpsitam! » tac çrutvā sā baṇig-yoshil lobhāt tat pratyapadyata, 22