

Kuṇḍina said that Kṛṣṇa was suitable to Rukmiṇi. Seeing Rukmiṇi returning from the Devi temple, he took her in his chariot in the midst of other kings and drove fast. Jarā-sandha and others pursued but soon returned with disappointment. Rukmi's resolve to kill Kṛṣṇa and then enter Kuṇḍina. When he offered battle and was about to be killed, Rukmini appealed to the Lord to save her brother. At this he was tied to the chariot with his hair and moustache shaved. Advised by Rāma that punishment of Rukmī was not in order. Married Rukmiṇi according to Śāstras amidst festivities in Dvārakā. Owing to Śiva's grace, got sacred sons of whom one was Pradyumna by Rukmiṇi, being Kāma in a previous birth. Killed Sambara who stole the baby. Saw the lost Pradyumna and his wife Rati in his residence, and hearing their account from Nārada, embraced the couple. Present at Pradyumna's marriage.²⁶

Requested Satrājita to give the Syamantaka gem for their king but he refused. Suspected by Satrājita to be responsible for his brother Prasena's disappearance in the forest; recovered the jewel from Jāmbavan after fighting for 28 days, and got also his daughter Jāmbavatī in marriage. The jewel was returned to Satrājita in the public assembly. Married Satrājita's daughter Satyabhāmā, and when the jewel was offered, it was returned. Went with Rāma to the Kurus after the rumoured death of the Pāṇḍavas and Kuntī; met the Pāṇḍavas at Pāñcāla city in the guise of Brāhmaṇas; killed Śatadhanvan, the murderer of his father-in-law Satrājita. Sent for Akrūra and asked him to exhibit Syamantaka in his possession, and returned it to him afterwards.²⁷

Kṛṣṇa once went to Hāstināpura to see the Pāṇḍavas and was heartily welcomed. Paid respects to Yudhiṣṭhira and Bhīma, embraced Arjuna and received respects from Nakula and Sahadeva. Kuntī welcomed him also. When he was spending that winter there, he went to the forest

²⁶ Bhā. X. Chaps. 53-55; Vi. V. 26. 2-11; Chap. 27; 28. 2-8.

²⁷ Bhā. X. Chaps. 56-57; Br. III. 7. 301; 36. 15 and 21; 68-28; 71. 46-96; M. 45. 34; Vi. IV. 13. 64-98, 142-157.