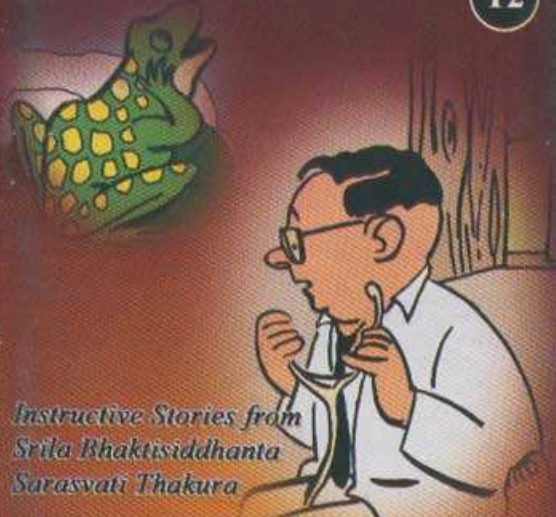


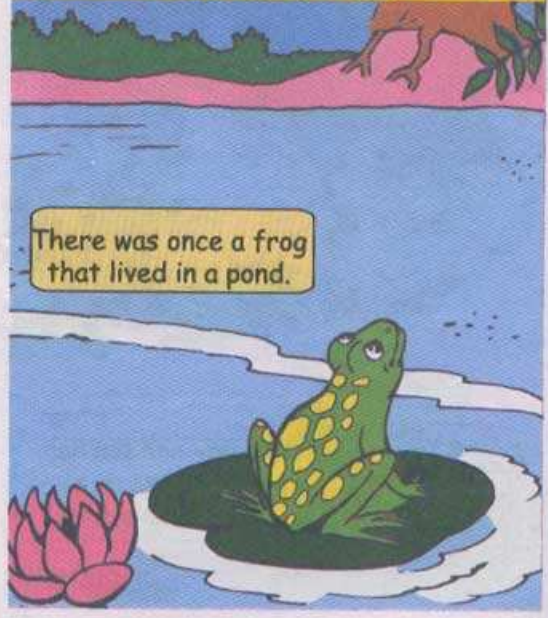
UPAKHYANE UPADESA

12



*Instructive Stories from
Srila Bhaktisiddhanta
Sarasvati Thakura*

The Exploding Frog



There was once a frog
that lived in a pond.



One day her son happened to see an elephant near a tank.

2



Really? How big was the animal?

Mother, today I saw a huge animal!

3



Oh it was much bigger than you

4



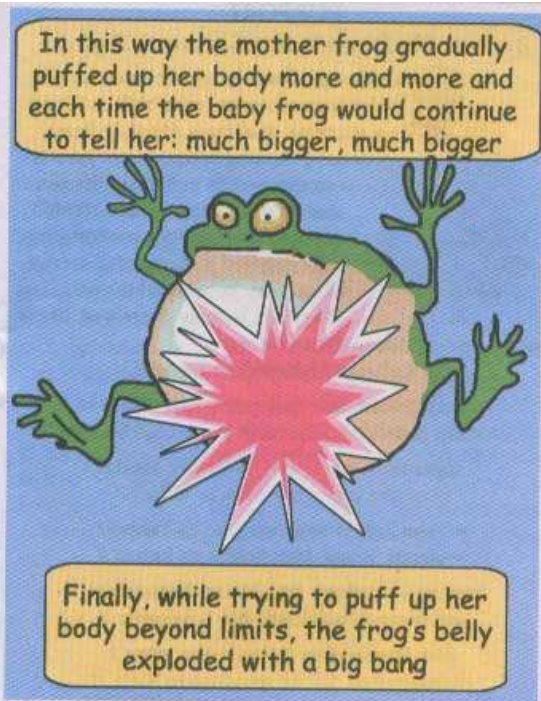
This much bigger!

Oh! No, much bigger!

5




6



7

PURPORT

By Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura



The insignificant living entities who consider themselves as "para-brahma" (para = supreme, brahma = Absolute Being), or as if nothing is equal to or greater than themselves in spite of the fact that they're simply misconceived insignificant entities constitutionally engaged in devotional service, take a fancy to be equal in perfection with a liberated soul. They are usually destroyed like a puffed-up frog due to their false ego.

Sri Caitanya Mahaprabhu has said :

jnani jivanmukta dasa painu kari mane /
vastutah buddhi suddha nahe krsna-bhakti vine //
mayadhisa mayavasa, isvare jive bhed /
hena jive isvara-sah kaha ta' abhed //
prabhu kahe-visnu visnu iha na kahiva /
jivahame 'krsna'-jnan kobhu na koriva //
sannyasi - cit-kana jiva, kirana-kana-sama /
sadoisvaryapuna krsna hoy suyopama //
jiva, isvara-tattva-kobhu nahe 'sama' /
jvaladagnirasi jaiche sphulingera 'kana' //

8

"A foolish person who says that the Supreme Personality of Godhead is the same as the living entity is an atheist, and he becomes subject to punishment by the superintendent of death, Yamaraja." (Cc - Madhya Lila 18.115)

N.B.

By narrating this fable of the exploding frog, Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Gosvami Prabhupada used to instruct that it is better to be a good man than to be a big one. "I am Brahman," "I am siddha", "I am Vaisnava", "I am pandita", "I am self-realized" - this sort of false ego is the root cause of the fallen entities' bondage. One who is enlightened with pure devotion for Sri Hari, never conceives himself to be the lord of this material nature or the enjoyer of this material world, as a great worker, a great preacher, and the like. Such a person should realize himself as insignificant as eternal dust-particles under the feet of his spiritual master and of all the Vaisnavas. He possesses a very candid humility all the time in his heart. A living entity can never be para-brahma, just as Ravana can never be Lord Sri Ramachandra.



9

"A foolish person who says that the Supreme Personality of Godhead is the same as the living entity is an atheist, and he becomes subject to punishment by the superintendent of death, Yamaraja." (Cc - Madhya Lila 18.115)

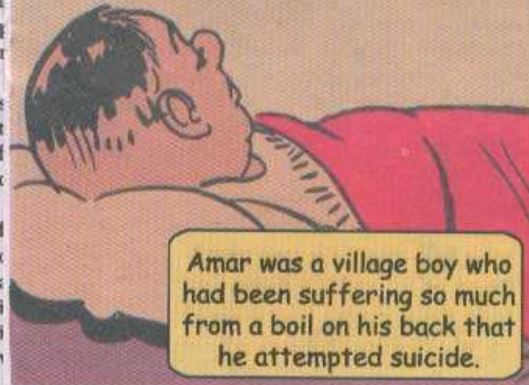
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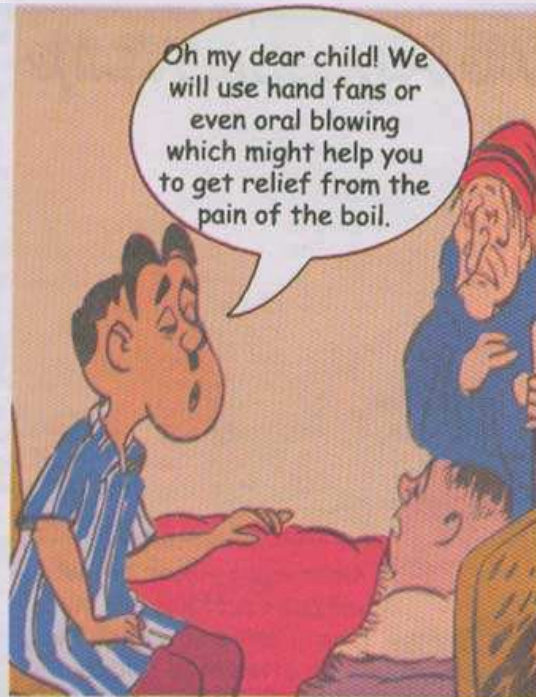


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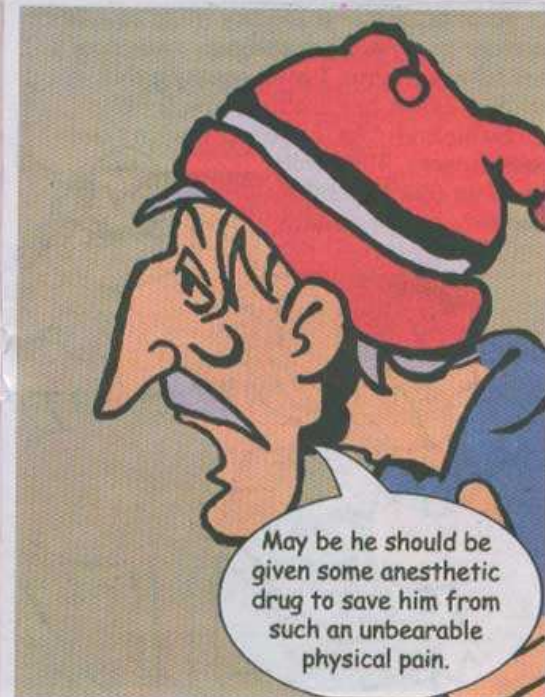
The Physician's Knife



11



12



13

It would be better if the boy would be killed in order to relieve him eternally from such a painful experience. I am suggesting this solution as the boy is alive, so he is being suffering and if he is dead he wouldn't be in pain anymore. The result would be complete solution to both the disease and patient.



14

Unnerved by such advise, the wise father of the boy immediately sent for an experienced physician who advised that a minor surgery be formed on the boy



15

The boy's mother, grandmother and others started weeping all in a row.

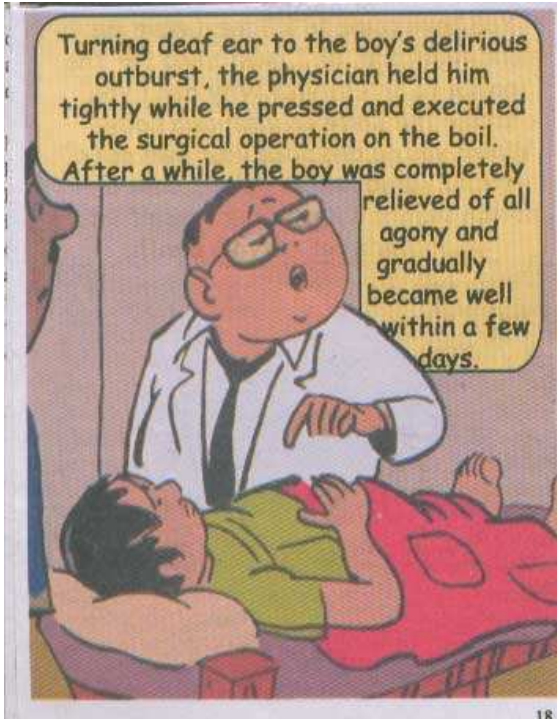


16

You have come to kill me. Leave me alone right now, or I must send for the police to arrest you! Why don't you strike the knife on your own body? Would you go and take your own son's life? I would rather take a dose of poison before I surrender myself into your hands for certain death.



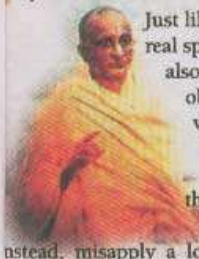
17



Turning deaf ear to the boy's delirious outburst, the physician held him tightly while he pressed and executed the surgical operation on the boil. After a while, the boy was completely relieved of all agony and gradually became well within a few days.

PURPORT

By Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura

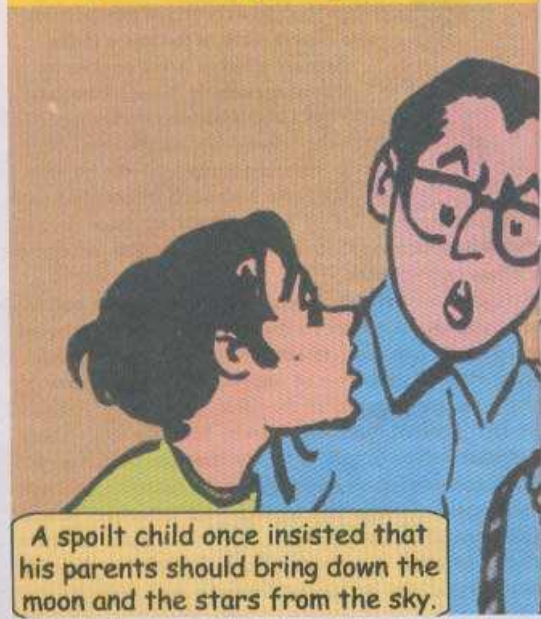


Just like a real physician, quite often the real spiritual masters and saintly persons also dissect some of the knots in the obstinate mind of living entities by way of apparently distasteful injunctions and instructions varying on the degrees of entanglement. But the suffering entity is hardly inclined to agree with such injunctions and instead, misapply a lot of harsh words to those saintly persons blaspheming them as their enemies and extremely merciless executioners.

So-called relatives and friends of such suffering entities strongly advocate against such a surgical operation to avoid the apparent pain and uneasiness. Some such pseudo-friends even in the name of impersonalism advise one to commit suicide to get rid of the rut.

In fact, none of these ways can be fruitfully undertaken for the eternal welfare of an entity. The constitutional position of a living entity is only realized after disentanglement from all unworthy mundane attachments with the help of saintly injunctions sincerely followed. This enables one to enter into the province of devotional service which is the only way to eternal bliss and peace of mind.

Spitting Upward



A spoiled child once insisted that his parents should bring down the moon and the stars from the sky.

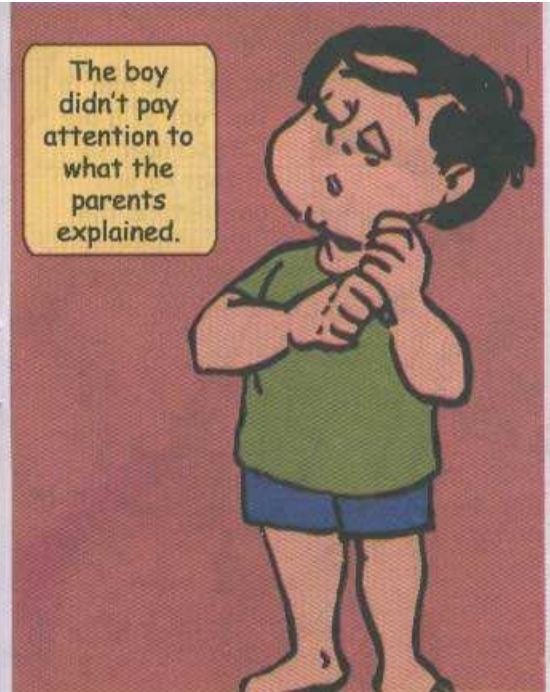


I need the moon and stars down!!!!!!!!!!!!



It is beyond one's ability to even touch that, what to talk about bringing them down

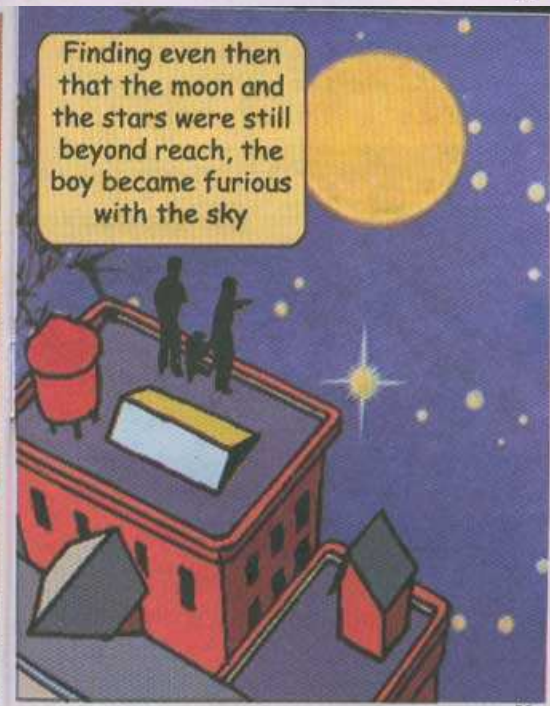
No, we can bring them, you are simply cheating me!!!!



The boy didn't pay attention to what the parents explained.



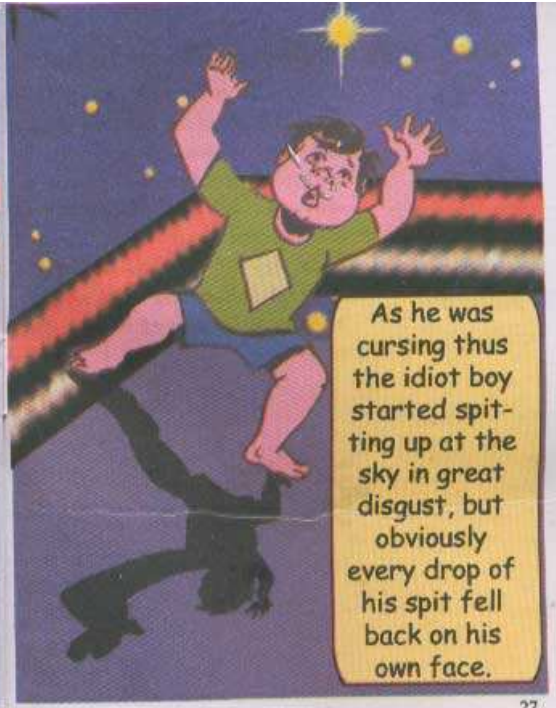
let us take him to the roof of a big skyscraper so that he will understand that the stars and moon are beyond our reach



Finding even then that the moon and the stars were still beyond reach, the boy became furious with the sky



Damn sky! Why do you hold the moon and the stars so high? Look I will make you feel the evil consequences!



As he was cursing thus the idiot boy started spitting up at the sky in great disgust, but obviously every drop of his spit fell back on his own face.

PURPORT

By Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura



Those who prefer to blaspheme the highest order of the spiritual master and the Vaisnavas, are simply attracting utter disgrace upon themselves. As such, it is advised that all insignificant living entities should better try to take shelter of the spiritual master and the Vaisnavas in order to be assured of their own well being.

