

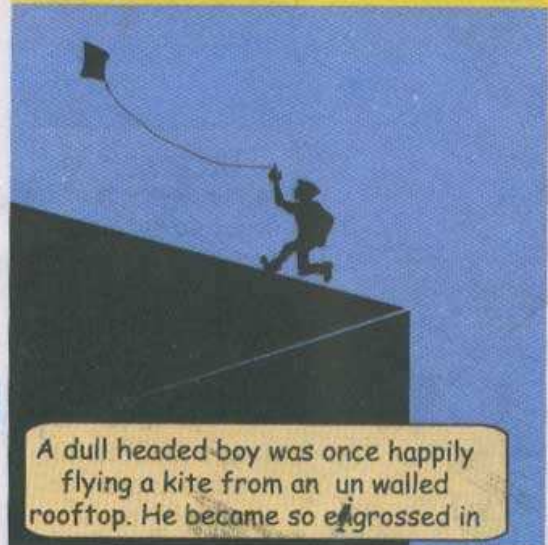
# UPAKHYANE UPADESA

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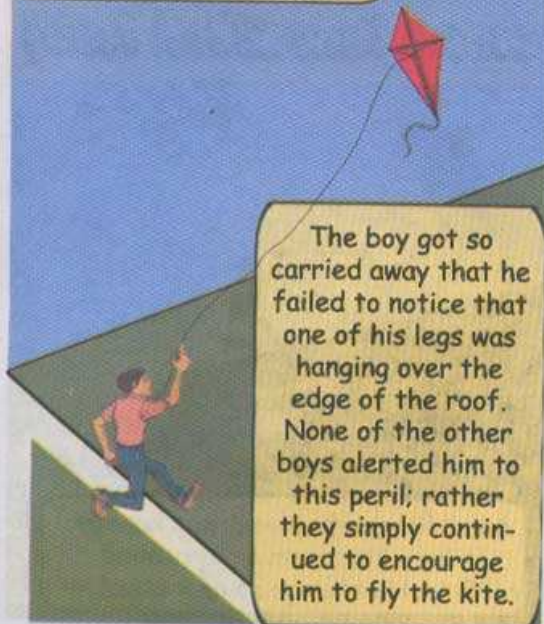
*Instructive Stories from  
Srila Bhaktisiddhanta  
Sarasvati Thakura*

## *Kite-playing on an Unwalled Roof*



A dull headed-boy was once happily flying a kite from an unwalled rooftop. He became so engrossed in

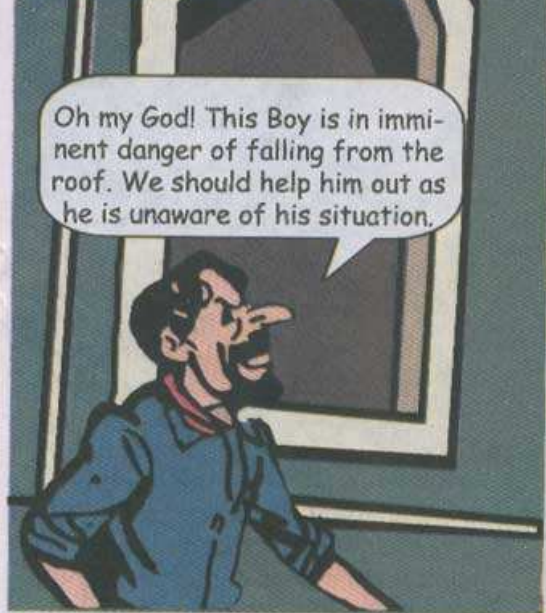
His playmates were also encouraging him very much.



The boy got so carried away that he failed to notice that one of his legs was hanging over the edge of the roof. None of the other boys alerted him to this peril; rather they simply continued to encourage him to fly the kite.

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At that critical moment a wise man happened to pass by.



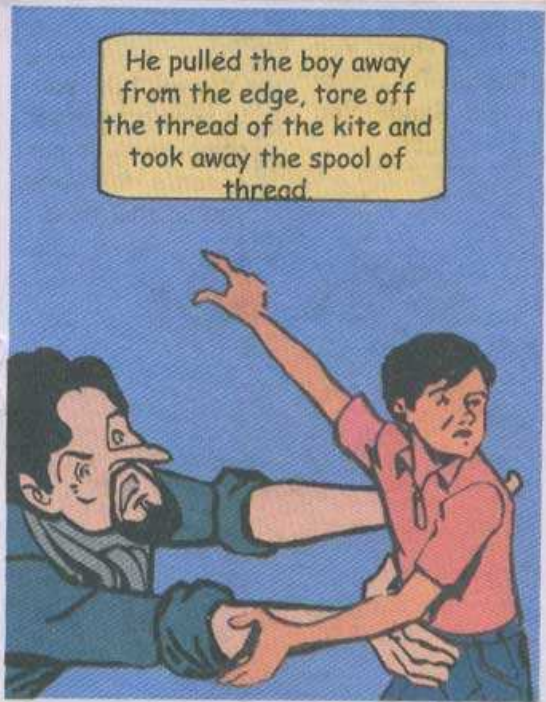
Oh my God! This Boy is in imminent danger of falling from the roof. We should help him out as he is unaware of his situation.



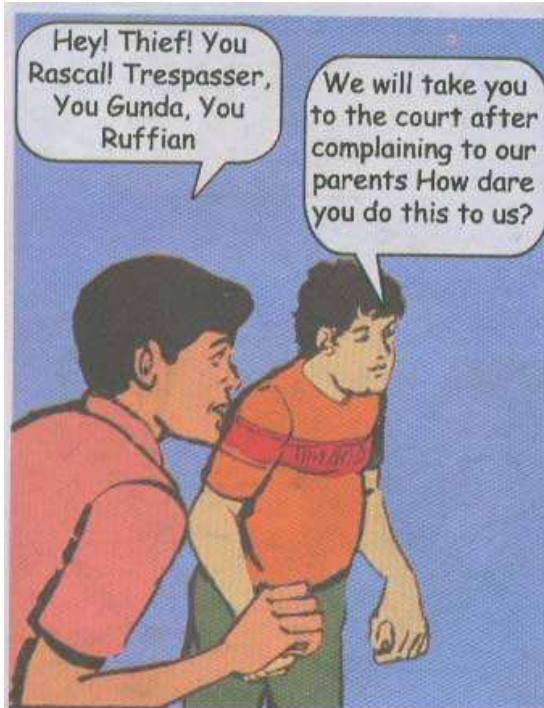
He immediately rushed up to the boy to save him although the others saw no danger.

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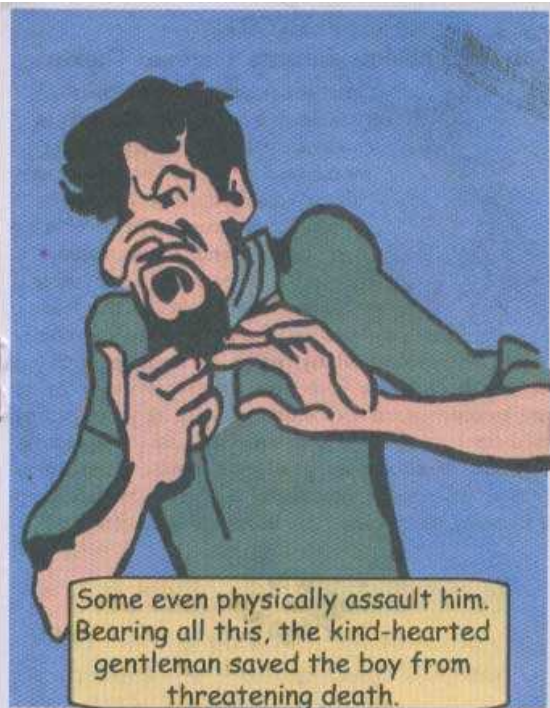
He pulled the boy away from the edge, tore off the thread of the kite and took away the spool of thread.



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**PURPORT**

By Srila Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakura

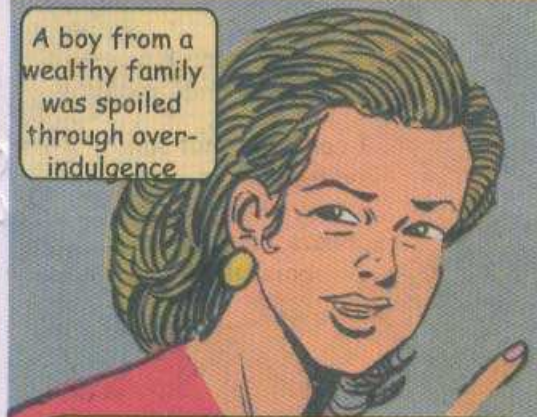


Materialistic persons embrace their certain death by accepting whatever is apparently palatable to them. By no means are they prepared to accept any thing which is apparently bitter but ultimately pleasant. Many of our so-called friends in this material world also encourage us in sense gratificatory activities that lead us to certain death and destruction. By chance if one comes across a benevolent saintly person, he preaches to us out of his sheer mercy some real truths although in an unpleasantly stern exposition (like a dose of strong medicine) in spite of our unwillingness to accept it. Therefore we should accept all good sermons from saintly persons delivered in the cause of our eternal welfare, even if those words appear utterly bitter and heart rending.



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**Open the Door to Allow the Light in Your Room**

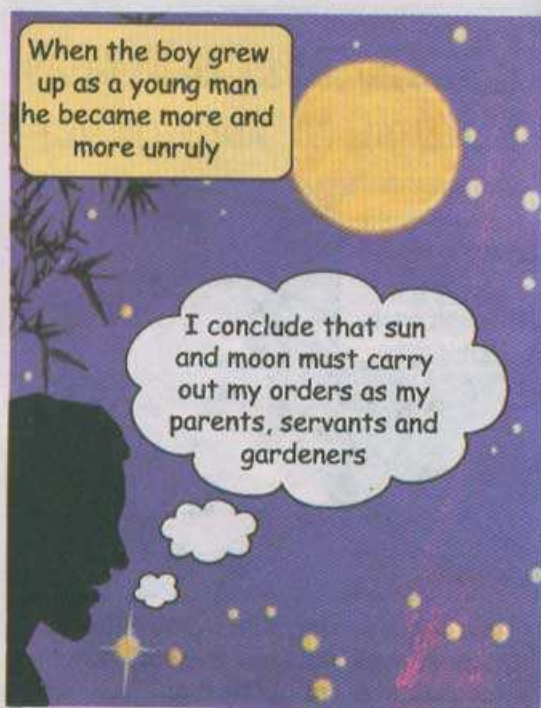


His fanciful parents used to fulfill all his desires and thus they did great harm to the boy

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When the boy grew up as a young man he became more and more unruly

I conclude that sun and moon must carry out my orders as my parents, servants and gardeners



One day the young man was sleeping in a room with all the doors closed.

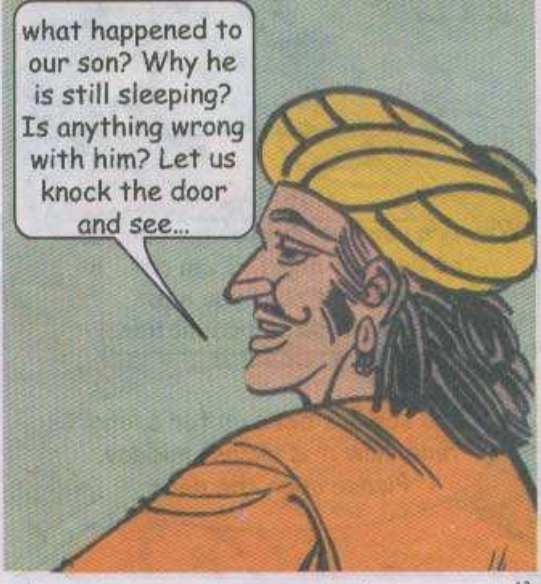


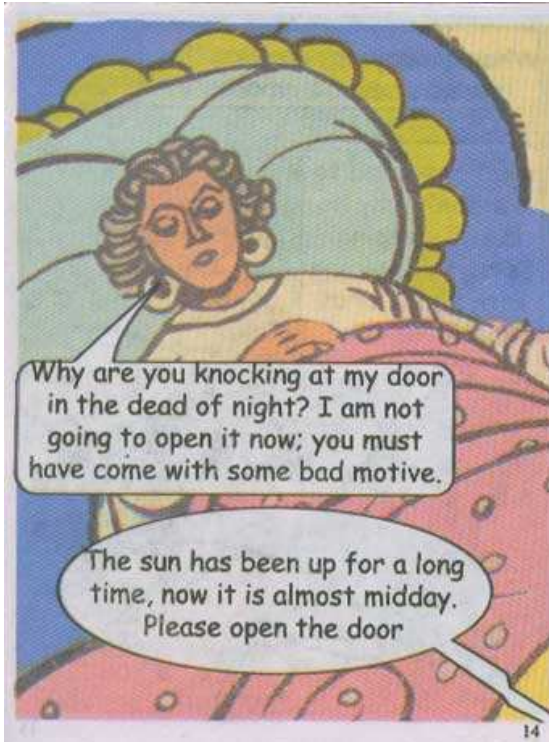
It is early morning only; our son has worked very hard yesterday night will be feeling to sleep some more time.



When midday was arriving the parents became anxious.

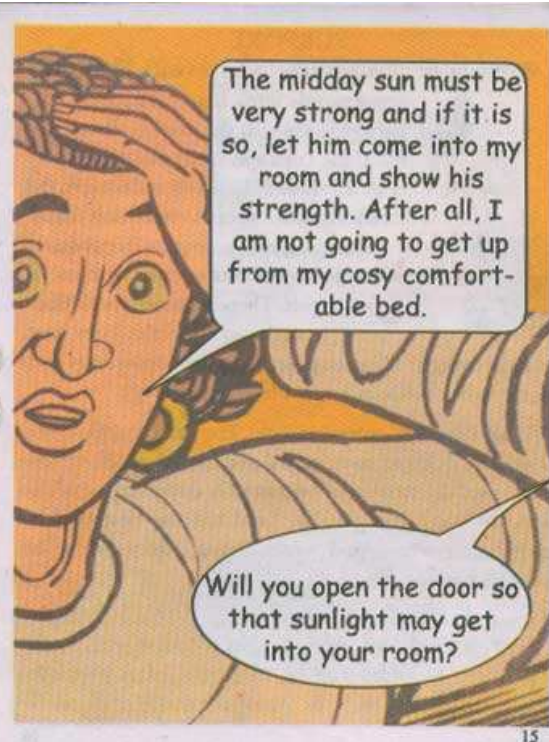
what happened to our son? Why he is still sleeping? Is anything wrong with him? Let us knock the door and see...





Why are you knocking at my door in the dead of night? I am not going to open it now; you must have come with some bad motive.

The sun has been up for a long time, now it is almost midday. Please open the door



The midday sun must be very strong and if it is so, let him come into my room and show his strength. After all, I am not going to get up from my cosy comfortable bed.

Will you open the door so that sunlight may get into your room?

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Some people think that it is nothing but flattery to say that the Lord is all merciful. If the Lord was really merciful, how is it that there is so much suffering in the world? Some people even think that if Godhead was omnipotent, He should have changed our motives without out effort. There argument is similar to such a spoiled child. They have,

in fact, engaged themselves in their own apparently cosy comfortable bedroom under illusionary energy.

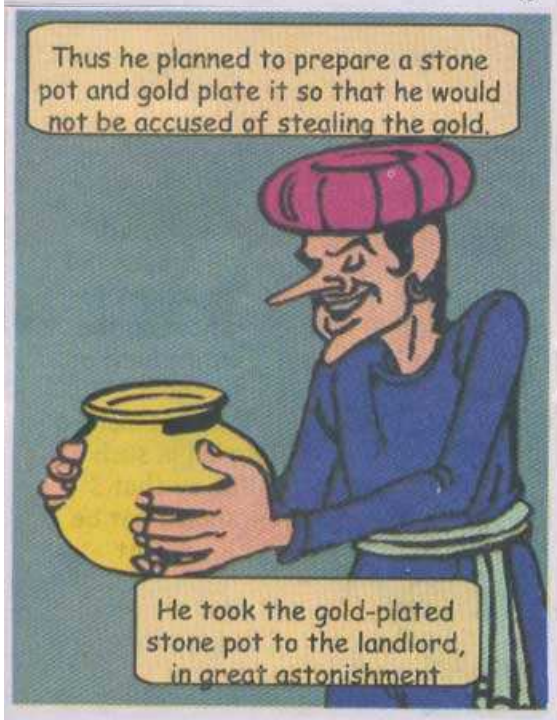
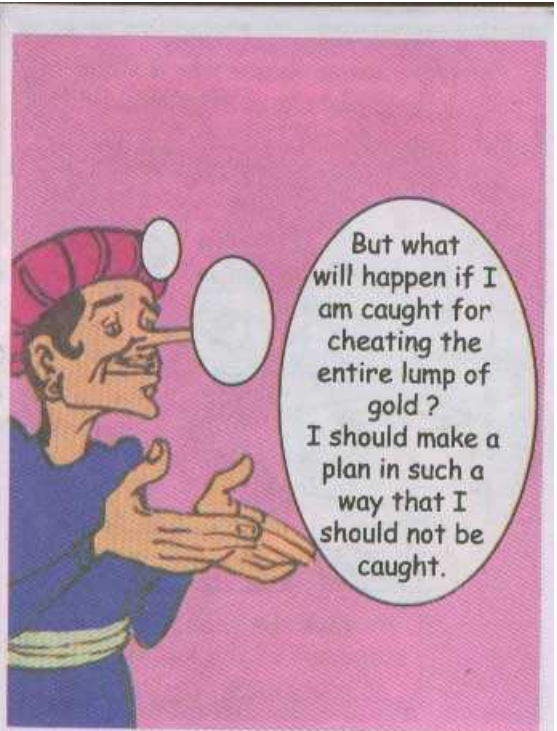
The sun distributes his light everywhere indiscriminately, for rich and poor, palace and cottage alike. Anyone who takes the trouble of opening his doors and windows will surely get sunlight. The Lord has also bestowed his mercy everywhere and every living entity, using his freewill, can enjoy it.

The "Golden" Stone Pot

A wealthy landlord called upon a goldsmith in his village and requested him, while giving him a lump of pure gold.



You are to make a nice golden pot for my milk with this gold. You should not make it any way impure by mixing any kind of alloy in it





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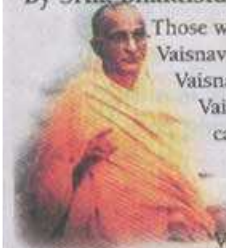


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Those who consider casteism among the Vaisnavas, classifying them as brahmana-Vaisnavas, ksatriya-Vaisnavas, vaisya-Vaisnavas, sudra-Vaisnavas, or as candala-Vaisnavas, simply indulge in a speculative inference as "golden" stone pot. Either one should be considered as 'vaisnava', or as brahmana, ksatriya, vaisya, or sudra. Either one should call it a 'golden pot', or a 'stone pot.' Mango-cake (amsatva) must be prepared from mango itself, and no one can call something 'mango cake' if it is made of 'jackfruit' (knathaler amsatva). Similarly, it would be wrong terminology to ascribe the quality of a sudra to a Vaisnava. Whenever one is accepted to be a 'Vaisnava', then it is confirmed that he does not belong to any mundane social classification such as brahmana, ksatriya, vaisya, sudra or low-born candala and the like, nor even Hindu or non-Hindu. Any terminology such as 'Hindu-Vaisnava' or 'Yavana-Vaisnava' is utterly absurd and also offensive.

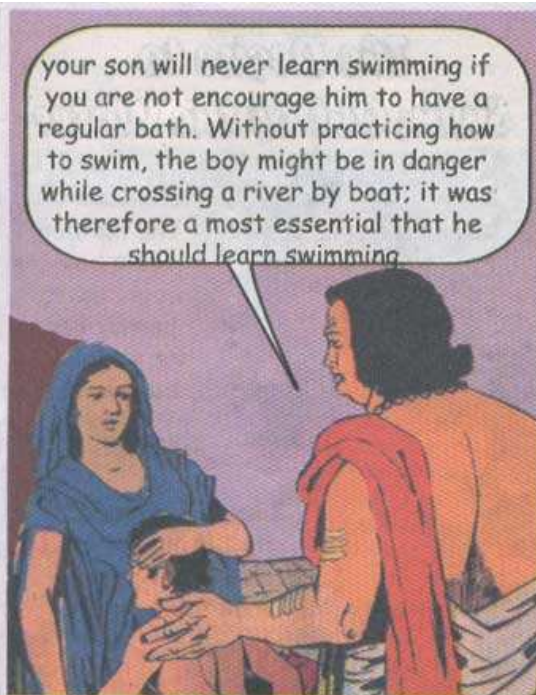


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### The Desire to Swim Out of the Water



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Hearing the instructions and injunctions that one is supposed to suffer a lot or go to hell in the next life unless one practices worshipping Lord Sri Hari, materialists become anxious to ensure their freedom from such sufferings. But they are not at all prepared to render devotional service to the lord and follow the regulative principles after getting initiated in Krsna Consciousness under the lotus feet of a spiritual master. They indulge in shyness, apprehension, indecision, diffidence etc. , in this respect.

As a result their interest in rendering devotional service to the Lord never materializes. just like a desire to learn swimming out of water. To swim, one must have the requisite, determination and similarly, one has to take shelter of a bona-fide spiritual master in order to be qualified in devotional, and to overcome all the impediments.

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