Śrī Bṛhad-bhāgavatāmṛta

by Śrīla Sanātana Gosvāmī

Volume - 2

Śrī-goloka-māhātmya

The Glories of Goloka

Part 6

Abhīsta-lābha

The Attainment of All Desires

Text 166
bhāvena kenacit svinnam
putrasyodvīkṣya sā mukham
sammārjya prasnuvat-stanyā
bahir-dvārāntam anvagāt

Mother Yaśodā (sā) saw (udvīkṣya) Kṛṣṇa perspiring (putrasya svinnam) from a mood of ecstasy (kenacit bhāvena) and came to wipe (sammārjya) His face (mukham) and went with Him (anvagāt) as far as the outer gates of the village (bahiḥ-dvāra antam), her breasts wet with milk (stanyā prasnuvat).

Kṛṣṇa's face may have been perspiring because of the longing to be with the gopīs that arose in Him when He saw them following behind.

Mother Yaśodā, however, was concerned only with wiping His face.

First she wiped with her hand, and when that didn't work she used the edge of her garment.

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Text 167
tenoktāpi gṛham yāntī
grīvām udvartayanty aho
padāny atītya dvi-trāṇi
punar vyagrā yayau sutam

At His request (tena uktā api) she then turned back toward the house (gṛhaṁ yāntī). But—oh (aho)!—after two or three (atītya dvi-trāṇi) steps (padāṇi) she craned (udvartayantī) her neck (grīvām) and anxiously (vyagrā) went back (yayau punaḥ) to her son (sūtam).

tam vegair āyayau punaḥ

Text 168 upaskṛtyāsya tāmbūlam mukhe haste samarpya ca punar nivṛtya prāg-vat sā

She made (upaskṛtya) pān (tāmbūlam) for Him (asya) and put (samarpya) some in His mouth (mukhe) and some in His hand (haste ca) and then again (punah prāk-vat) turned toward the house (nivṛtya). But once again (punaḥ) she (sā) quickly (vegaih) came back to Him (tam <u>āyayau</u>).

Just like the first time, Yaśodā again nervously turned around, craned her neck to see Him, and came back to Him.

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Text 169
miṣṭaṁ phalādikaṁ kiñcid
bhojayitvā sutaṁ pathi
pāyayitvā ca gehāya
yāntī prāg-van nyavartata

Right on the path (pathi) she fed (bhojayitvā) Him (sutam) some fruits (kincit phala) and some other sweet things (miṣṭam ādikam) and gave Him something to drink (pāyayitvā ca). Then she again (prāk-vat) started going back to the house (gehāya yāntī), and then again turned around (nyavartata).

Text 170
muhur nirīkṣya vastrādi
sanniveśya sutasya sā
punar nivṛtyāthāgatya
dīnā putram aśikṣayat

She gave Him a thorough looking over (sutasya muhuḥ nirīkṣya) and adjusted (sanniveṣya) His clothes and the other things He had on (vastra-ādi), and then she (sā) once more (punaḥ) turned back (nivṛtya). But then (atha) she again returned (āgatya), and plaintively (dīnā) gave Him some instructions (putram aṣikṣayat).

Yaśodā spoke to Kṛṣṇa anxiously because she knew He was naughty and would likely ignore her advice.

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Text 171

bho vatsa durgame 'raṇye na gantavyam vidūrataḥ sa-kaṇṭaka-vanāntaś ca praveṣṭavyam kadāpi na

"My dear child (bhoḥ vatsa), don't go (na gantavyam) too far (vidūratah) into the impenetrable woods (durgame aranye). And (ca) never (na kadā api) enter (praveṣṭavyam) deep into the forest (vana-antaḥ) where there are thorns (sa-kanṭaka)!"

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Text 172

tad-artham cātma-śapatham mātā vistārya kākubhiḥ punar nivṛtya katicit padāni punar āyayau

After speaking this way at length (vistārya kākubhiḥ), beseeching Him to take care (tat-artham ca ātma-śapathaṃ), she (mātā) once again (punaḥ) turned home (nivṛtya) and took a few steps (katicit padāni), and yet again (punaḥ) came back (āyayau).

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Text 173

bhos tāta rāma sthātavyam bhavatāgre 'nujasya hi tvayā ca sakhyuḥ śrīdāman sa-sarūpeṇa pṛṣṭhataḥ

"My dear boy Rāma (bhoḥ tāta rāma)," she said, "You stay (bhavatā sthātavyam) in front of Your younger brother (anujasya hi agre). And you (tyayā ca), Śrīdāmā (śrīdāman), stay behind (pṛṣṭhataḥ) your friend Kṛṣṇa (sakhyuḥ) with Sarūpa (sa-sarūpeṇa).

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Text 174 amśo 'sya dakṣiṇe stheyam vāme ca subala tvayā ity-ādikam asau prārthya sa-tṛṇam putram aikṣata

"You, Amśu (amśo), should stay (stheyam) on Kṛṣṇa's right (asya dakṣiṇe), and you, Subala (tvayā subala), on His left (vāme ca)." Straw between her teeth (sa-tṛṇam), she implored the boys (asau prārthya) with such requests (iti ādikam). Then she looked intently (aikṣata) at her son (putram).

Balarāma, the most competent of the boys, should walk in front of Kṛṣṇa.

Though the others would spontaneously take up their proper places, she directed them anyway, just to make sure.

The phrase ity-ādikam indicates other requests:

The boys should not let Kṛṣṇa go into thorny and dangerous places, they should provide Him shade if the sun became too intense, and they should be sure He ate nicely at lunch.

Coming to the end of her list of requests, Mother Yaśodā looked intently at Kṛṣṇa's face to evoke promises from Kṛṣṇa and the other boys that they would do what she had asked.

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Text 175 evam vyagra-dhiyā yātāyātam sā kurvatī muhuḥ nava-prasūtām ajayat

surabhim vara-vatsalām

In this way (evam) Mother Yaśodā, anxiously (vyagra dhiyā) going back and forth (yāta-āyātam kurvatī) again and again (muhuḥ), showed more love than (ajayat vara-vatsalām) a cow (surabhim) who has just given birth to a calf (nava-prasūtām).

This exchange between Yaśodā and Kṛṣṇa went on for some time, but Sarūpa wanted to avoid prolonging his description.