

Canto 3

Chapter Twenty Three

Devahuti's Lamentation

Theme-I

Kardama is pleased with
Devahuti's service
(3.23.1-8)

Theme-I – Kardama is pleased with Devahuti's service
(3.23.1-8)

Text-1

maitreya uvāca
pitṛbhyām prasthite sādhvī
patim iṅgita-kovidā
nityam paryacarat prītyā
bhavānīva bhavam prabhum

Maitreya said: After her parents departed (**pitṛbhyām prasthite**), Devahūti (**sādhvī**), understanding the suggestions of her husband (**patim iṅgita-kovidā**), served him constantly with affection (**nityam prītyā paryacarat**), just as Parvatī served Śiva (**bhavam prabhum bhavānīva**).

Theme-I – Kardama is pleased with Devahuti's service
(3.23.1-8)

Text 2

viśrambheṇātma-śaucena
gauraveṇa damena ca
śuśrūṣayā sauhṛdena
vācā madhurayā ca bhoh

O Vidura (**bhoh**)! She served with trust, purity (**viśrambheṇa ātma-śaucena**), respect, sense control (**gauraveṇa damena ca**), menial duties, friendship (**śuśrūṣayā sauhṛdena**) and sweet words (**vācā madhurayā ca**).

Theme-I – Kardama is pleased with Devahuti's service
(3.23.1-8)

Text 3

visṛjya kāmam dambham ca
dveṣam lobham agham madam
apramattodyatā nityam
tejyāmsam atoṣayat

Devoid of lust, cheating (**visṛjya kāmam dambham ca**), hatred, greed, sin and pride (**dveṣam lobham agham madam**), always working with attention and diligence (**apramattā udyatā nityam**), she pleased her powerful husband (**tejyāmsam atoṣayat**).

Theme-I – Kardama is pleased with Devahuti's service (3.23.1-8)

Text 4-5

sa vai devarṣi-varyas tām mānavīm samanuvratām
daivād gariyasaḥ patyur āśāsānām mahāśiṣaḥ

kālena bhūyasā kṣāmām karśitām vrata-caryayā
prema-gadgadayā vācā pīḍitaḥ kṛpayābravīt

Kardama, the best of sages (**sa vai devarṣi-varyah**), overcome with compassion (**kṛpayā pīḍitaḥ**), pained on seeing the condition of his wife (**tām mānavīm samanuvratām**) who had become thin and weak (**kṣāmām karśitām**) over a long time (**kālena bhūyasā**) from following vows (**vrata-caryayā**) and who desired a son from her husband (**patyur āśāsānām mahāśiṣaḥ**) who could change destiny (**daivād gariyasaḥ**), spoke to her in a choked voice (**prema-gadgadayā vācā abravīt**).

Kardama was stronger than destiny (daivat garīyasaḥ).

He could change destiny.

There is another meaning.

She had given up all desire, but after some time, by the impetus of the Lord (daivāt) she desired some objects of pleasure.

Pained on seeing her thin body, with compassion he spoke to her.

Theme-I – Kardama is pleased with Devahuti's service (3.23.1-8)

Text 6

kardama uvāca

tuṣṭo 'ham adya tava mānavi mānadāyāḥ
śuśrūṣayā paramayā parayā ca bhaktyā
yo dehinām ayam atīva suhṛt sa deho
nāvekṣitaḥ samucitaḥ kṣapitum mad-arthe

Kardama said: Daughter of Manu (**mānavi**)! I am pleased today with you (**tuṣṭo aham tava adya**), who give respect to me (**mānadāyāḥ**), for your excellent service (**śuśrūṣayā paramayā**) and utmost devotion (**parayā ca bhaktyā**). You have neglected (**nāvekṣitaḥ**) your body (**sah dehaḥ**), which is dear to those possessing bodies (**yaḥ dehinām atīva suhṛt**), preferring to make it thin (**kṣapitum samucitaḥ**) in order to serve me (**mad-arthe**).

Theme-I – Kardama is pleased with Devahuti's service (3.23.1-8)

Text 7

**ye me sva-dharma-niratasya tapaḥ-samādhi-
vidyātma-yoga-vijitā bhagavat-prasādāḥ
tān eva te mad-anusevanayāvaruddhān
dṛṣṭim prapaśya vitarāmy abhayān aśokān**

Behold the objects of enjoyment (**ye prapaśya**), not subject to fear and lamentation (**abhayān aśokān**), given by the Lord (**bhagavat-prasādāḥ**), attained rightfully by your service to me (**te mad-anusevanayā avaruddhān**), which have been attained by me (**ye me sva-dharma-niratasya vijitā**) through concentration of advanced meditation and worship (**tapaḥ-samādhi-vidyātma-yoga**). I will give you the vision (**dṛṣṭim vitarāmy**).

There is nothing suitable to give you to repay the debt of your selfless service to me. That service is very rare.

See those things attained by concentration of advanced meditation and worship (samādhi-vidyā), which are rightly attained by you.

I give you divine vision by which you will directly see them now.

Or another meaning is “By my mercy see directly this sight, without shyness.”

Let there be no obstacle to both enjoyment and liberation by those things given by the Lord through meditation on the Lord mixed with svadharma or austerities!

Thus Kardama promises fearlessness and no lamentation.

Theme-I – Kardama is pleased with Devahuti's service (3.23.1-8)

Text 8

anye punar bhagavato bhruva udvijṛmbha-
vibhramśitārtha-racanāḥ kim urukramasya
siddhāsi bhukṣva vibhavān nija-dharma-dohān
divyān narair duradhigān nṛpa-vikriyābhiḥ

What is the use of attaining other enjoyments (**kim anye punar artha-racanāḥ**), which are destroyed by the movement of the Lord's brow (**urukramasya bhagavato bhruva udvijṛmbha-vibhramśita**)? You have become successful (**siddhāsi**). Enjoy these extraordinary objects (**bhukṣva vibhavān**), attained by your service to me (**nija-dharma-dohān**)—unattainable (**duradhigān**) by men who identify themselves as kings (**divyān nṛpa-vikriyābhiḥ narair**).

The objects of Svarga enjoyed by Indra's wife are filled with fear and lamentation. Are they all not insignificant?

These have been attained by your loyalty to your husband (nija-dharma-dohān).

They are hard to obtain for those who disfigure themselves with identity as king or queen.

Theme-II

Devahuti requests for a
child

(3.23.9-11)

Section II – Devahuti requests for a child (3.23.9-11)

Text 9

evam bruvāṇam abalākhila-yogamāyā-
vidyā-vicakṣaṇam avekṣya gatādhir āsīt
sampraśraya-praṇaya-vihvalayā gireṣad-
vrīḍāvaloka-vilasad-dhasitānanāha

Hearing the words of her husband (**evam bruvāṇam avekṣya**), who was expert in all worship and yogic powers (**akhila-yogamāyā-vidyā-vicakṣaṇam**), Devahūti became relieved (**abalāgata ādhih āsīt**). With shining a smile (**vilasad hasita ānana**) and a slightly bashful glance on her face (**iṣad-vrīḍāvaloka**), she spoke (**āha**) words choked with humility and love (**sampraśraya-praṇaya-vihvalayā girā**).

He was expert in all worship and powers arising from yoga.

She considered in her mind, “My husband is giving me a wealth of enjoyment and liberation beyond my experience of the present world. This is not ordinary pleasure.”

Thus she was agitated with humility (sampraśraya) and love.

In this state she approached her husband.

She spoke by means of her slightly bashful glance and a face shining with a smile.

She found it impossible to speak with her mouth in the next two verses because of the contrary taste in praying for material enjoyment from her husband, and because she was the crest jewel among all women.

Therefore to speak, she used a glance infused with an embarrassing smile as her mouth.

Her humility and love made her voice choke up.

Thus she clearly stated her intentions in the two following verses, but without using her mouth.

She remained silent.

Section II – Devahuti requests for a child (3.23.9-11)

Text 10

devahūtir uvāca

rāddham bata dvija-vṛṣaitad amogha-yoga-
māyādhipē tvayi vibho tad avaimi bhartaḥ
yas te 'bhyadhāyi samayaḥ sakṛd aṅga-saṅgo
bhūyād garīyasi guṇaḥ prasavaḥ satīnām

Devahuti said: O best of brāhmaṇas (**dvija-vṛṣa**)! O great one (**vibho**)! O husband (**bhartaḥ**)! I know (**tad avaimi**) that all this has been achieved by you (**bata etad rāddham**) since you are the master of infallible powers of yoga (**tvayi amogha-yoga-māyādhipē**). Let us unite once (**sakṛd aṅga-saṅgo bhūyād**), according to the verbal contact made (**yas te abhyadhāyi samayaḥ**). Bearing progeny through a great husband (**garīyasi prasavaḥ**) is a praiseworthy quality for a woman (**satīnām guṇaḥ**).

Devahūti speaks, but actually through her glances.

O best of brāhmaṇas! You have achieved this power. I know that.

But the contract spoke by you should be fulfilled once.

We should associate until one child is born, since the quality of chaste women is producing progeny through an excellent husband (garīyasi).

Women are criticized as barren if they do not have children.

Another version has guṇa-prasavaḥ: the qualities of the father will be born in the offspring through chaste women.

Let there be good offspring from you!

Section II – Devahuti requests for a child (3.23.9-11)

Text 11

tatreti-kṛtyam upaśikṣa yathopadeśam
yenaīṣa me karśito 'tiriraṁsayātmā
siddhyeta te kṛta-manobhava-dharṣitāyā
dīnas tad īśa bhavanam sadṛśam vicakṣva

O master (īśa)! Do (upaśikṣa) what is necessary (tatreti-kṛtyam) according to the scriptures for our union (yathopadeśam), by which my body (yena eṣa me ātmā), agitated by the desire for pleasure (atiriraṁsayā karśito), will be capable of enjoyment (siddhyeta), since I am pained by desire stimulated by your presence (te kṛta-manobhava-dharṣitāyā). Please consider also a house suitable for that pleasure (sadṛśam bhavanam vicakṣva).

Theme-III

Devahuti and Kardama
enjoy Household life
(3.23.12-48)

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 12

maitreya uvāca
priyāyāḥ priyam anvicchan
kardamo yogam āsthitaḥ
vimānaṁ kāma-gaṁ kṣattas
tarhy evāviracīkarat

O Vidura (**kṣattah**)! Fulfilling the desire of his dear wife (**priyāyāḥ priyam anvicchan**), Kardama (**kardamah**) situated himself in yoga (**yogam āsthitaḥ**) and created at that moment (**tarhy eva aviracīkarat**) an airplane which moved freely in the air (**vimānaṁ kāma-gaṁ**).

Whatever Devahūti had indicated silently by her eyes, Kardama supplied while he also remained silent.

He did not give an answer.

The place was not imperfect in pleasure like the creations of devatās or humans.

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 13

sarva-kāma-dugham̐ divyam̐
sarva-ratna-samanvitam
sarvarddhy-upacayodarkam̐
maṇi-stambhair upaskṛtam

That heavenly vehicle (**divyam̐**), fulfilling all desires (**sarva-kāma-dugham̐**), increasing in wealth at all times (**sarvarddhy-upacaya udarkam̐**), was covered with jewels (**sarva-ratna-samanvitam**), and ornamented with jeweled pillars (**maṇi-stambhair upaskṛtam**).

Whatever Devahūti had indicated silently by her eyes, Kardama supplied while he also remained silent.

He did not give an answer.

The place was not imperfect in pleasure like the creations of devatās or humans.

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 14-15

divyopakaraṇopetaṁ
sarva-kāla-sukhāvaham
paṭṭikābhiḥ patākābhir
vicitrābhir alaṅkṛtam

sragbhir vicitra-mālyābhir
mañju-śiñjat-ṣaḍ-aṅghribhiḥ
dukūla-kṣauma-kauseyair
nānā-vastrair virājitam

It was equipped with attractive paraphernalia (**divya upakaraṇa upetaṁ**) which gave constant pleasure (**sarva-kāla-sukhāvaham**) and was decorated (**alaṅkṛtam**) with colorful small and large flags (**vicitrābhir paṭṭikābhiḥ patākābhir**). It was radiant (**virājitam**) with various cloths (**nānā-vastrair**) made of silk, linen and dukūla (**dukūla-kṣauma-kauseyair**) and garlands interwoven with other garland of various colors (**sragbhir vicitra-mālyābhir**) which attracted sweetly humming bees (**mañju-śiñjat-ṣaḍ-aṅghribhiḥ**).

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 16

upary upari vinyasta-
nilayeṣu pṛthak pṛthak
kṣiptaiḥ kaśipubhiḥ kāntam
paryaṅka-vyajanaśanaiḥ

It appeared charming (**kāntam**) with separately arranged beds, couches (**pṛthak pṛthak kṣiptaiḥ kaśipubhiḥ**), fans and seats (**paryaṅka-vyajanaśanaiḥ**) in rooms arranged one above the other (**upary upari vinyasta-nilayeṣu**).

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 17

tatra tatra vinikṣipta-
nānā-śilpopaśobhitam
mahā-marakata-sthalyā
juṣṭam vidruma-vedibhiḥ

It was made beautiful with various sculptures (**nānā-śilpa-
upaśobhitam**) placed here and there (**tatra tatra
vinikṣipta**) and with emerald floors (**juṣṭam mahā-
marakata-sthalyā**) and coral platforms (**vidruma-
vedibhiḥ**).

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life
(3.23.12-48)

Text 18

**dvāḥsu vidruma-dehalyā
bhātaṁ vajra-kapāṭavat
śikhareṣv indranīleṣu
hema-kumbhair adhiśritam**

The doorframes were coral (**dvāḥsu vidruma-dehalyā**) and the bolts were made of diamonds (**bhātaṁ vajra-kapāṭavat**). On sapphire towers (**śikhareṣv indranīleṣu**) there were situated gold kalāśas (**hema-kumbhair adhiśritam**).

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 19

**cakṣuṣmat padmarāgāgryair
vajra-bhittiṣu nirmitaiḥ
juṣṭam vicitra-vaitānair
mahārhair hema-toraṇaiḥ**

It was equipped with gold festoons (**juṣṭam hema-toraṇaiḥ**), with various valuable canopies (**mahārhair vicitra-vaitānair**) made of choicest rubies (**padmarāga agryair**) which were like eyes (**cakṣuṣmat**), set in surfaces of diamonds (**vajra-bhittiṣu nirmitaiḥ**).

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 20

hamsa-pārāvata-vrātais
tatra tatra nikūjitam
kṛtrimān manyamānaiḥ svān
adhiruhyādhiruhyā ca

The airplane reverberated with the sounds (**tatra tatra nikūjitam**) of flocks of swans and doves (**hamsa-pārāvata-vrātaiḥ**) which flew towards (**adhiruhyā ādhiruhyā ca**) flocks of artificial birds situated there (**kṛtrimān tatra tatra**), thinking the artificial birds were real (**svān manyamānaiḥ**).

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 21

vihāra-sthāna-viśrāma-
samveśa-prāṅgaṇājiraiḥ
yathopajoṣaṁ racitair
vismāpanam ivātmanaḥ

Designed pleasurably (**yathā upajoṣaṁ racitaiḥ**) with amusement areas, bed rooms (**vihāra-sthāna-viśrāma-samveśa**), yards, and courtyards (**prāṅgaṇa-ajiraiḥ**), it seemed to cause astonishment even to Kardama (**vismāpanam iva ātmanaḥ**).

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 22

īdṛg gr̥ham tat paśyantīm
nātiprītena cetasā
sarva-bhūtāśayābhijñāḥ
prāvocat kardamaḥ svayam

Devahūti was not too pleased (**nātiprītena cetasā**) on seeing that abode (**īdṛg gr̥ham tat paśyantīm**). Kardama (**kardamaḥ**), knowing the hearts of all beings (**svayam sarva-bhūta-āśaya-abhijñāḥ**), then spoke to her (**prāvocat**).

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 23

nimajjyāsmiṁ hrade bhīru
vimānam idam āruha
idam śukla-kṛtam tīrtham
āśiṣām yāpakam nṛṇām

O fearful wife (**bhīru**)! After bathing in this lake (**asmiṁ hrade nimajjya**) created by Viṣṇu (**idam śukla-kṛtam tīrtham**), which grants all desires to men (**āśiṣām yāpakam nṛṇām**), ascend this airplane (**idam vimānam āruha**).

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 24-25

sā tad bhartuḥ samādāya
vacaḥ kuvalayekṣaṇā
sarajam bibhratī vāso
veṇī-bhūtāmś ca mūrdhajān

aṅgam ca mala-paṅkena
sañchannam śabala-stanam
āviveśa sarasvatyāḥ
saraḥ śiva-jalāśayam

Following the words of her husband (**tad bhartuḥ vacaḥ samādāya**), the lotus eyed Devahūti (**sā kuvalayekṣaṇā**), with matted locks of hair (**veṇī-bhūtāmś ca mūrdhajān**) and wearing dirty clothing (**bibhratī sarajam vāso**), whose breasts were discoloured (**śabala-stanam**), being covered with dirt (**aṅgam ca mala-paṅkena sañchannam**), entered (**āviveśa**) the lake of auspicious water (**saraḥ śiva-jalāśayam**) filled by the Sarasvatī River (**sarasvatyāḥ**).

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 26

sāntaḥ sarasi veśma-sthāḥ
śatāni daśa kanyakāḥ
sarvāḥ kiśora-vayaso
dadarśotpala-gandhayaḥ

In the lake (**antaḥ sarasi**) she saw (**sā dadarśa**) a thousand young girls (**śatāni daśa kanyakāḥ**), all youthful (**sarvāḥ kiśora-vayaso**) and fragrant as lotuses (**utpala-gandhayaḥ**), residing in a house (**veśma-sthāḥ**).

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 27

tām dr̥ṣṭvā sahasotthāya
procuḥ prāñjalayaḥ striyaḥ
vayaṁ karma-karīs tubhyaṁ
śādhi naḥ karavāma kim

Seeing her (**tām dr̥ṣṭvā**), the women quickly stood up (**striyasahasā utthāya**), and with folded hands said (**procuḥ prāñjalayaḥ**), “We are your maidservants (**vayaṁ karma-karīs tubhyaṁ**). Please tell us (**śādhi naḥ**) what we can do for you (**karavāma kim**).”

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 28-29

snānena tām mahārheṇa
snāpayitvā manasvinīm
dukūle nirmale nūtne
dadur asyai ca mānadāḥ

bhūṣaṇāni parārdhyāni
variṃyāmsi dyumanti ca
annaṃ sarva-guṇopetaṃ
pānaṃ caivāmṛtāsavam

After bathing the cheerful Devahūti (**snāpayitvā manasvinīm**) using valuable, fragrant oils (**tām mahārheṇa snānena**), the respectful girls (**mānadāḥ**) gave her (**asyai daduh**) fine, new clothing (**nirmale nūtne dukūle**), valuable, praiseworthy, sparkling ornaments (**variṃyāmsi dyumanti parārdhyāni bhūṣaṇāni**), food with all good qualities (**annaṃ sarva-guṇopetaṃ**) and sweet drinks (**pānaṃ ca eva amṛtāsavam**).

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 30-31

athādarśe svam ātmānam
sragviṇam virajāmbaram
virajam kṛta-svastyayanam
kanyābhir bahu-mānitam

snātam kṛta-śiraḥ-snānam
sarvābharaṇa-bhūṣitam
niṣka-grīvam valayinam
kūjat-kāñcana-nūpuram

In a mirror, she saw that (**atha ādarśe**) her body (**svam ātmānam**) was made auspicious (**kṛta-svastyayanam**) and clean (**virajam**), tended carefully by the girls (**kanyābhir bahu-mānitam**), adorned with a garland (**sragviṇam**) and clean cloth (**virajāmbaram**), bathed fully including the head (**snātam kṛta-śiraḥ-snānam**), and decorated with all ornaments (**sarvābharaṇa-bhūṣitam**), with a niṣka around her neck (**niṣka-grīvam**), armlets (**valayinam**), and jingling, gold anklets (**kūjat-kāñcana-nūpuram**).

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life
(3.23.12-48)

Text 32

śronyor adhyastayā kāñcyā
kāñcanyā bahu-ratnayā
hāreṇa ca mahārheṇa
rucakena ca bhūṣitam

She was decorated (**bhūṣitam**) with a gold belt (**kāñcanyā kāñcyā**) with many jewels on her waist (**śronyor bahu-ratnayā adhyastayā**), by a precious necklace (**mahārheṇa hāreṇa**) and by auspicious substances (**rucakena ca**).

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 33

sudatā subhruvā ślakṣṇa-
snigdihāpāṅgena cakṣuṣā
padma-kośa-spr̥dhā nīlair
alakaiś ca lasan-mukham

Her face shone (**lasan-mukham**) with beautiful teeth,
beautiful brows (**sudatā subhruvā**), charming eyes
(**ślakṣṇa cakṣuṣā**) with tender glances (**snigdha
apāṅgena**), defeating lotus buds (**padma-kośa-spr̥dhā**),
and black locks of hair (**nīlair alakaih**).

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 34

yadā sasmāra ṛṣabham
ṛṣiṇām dayitaṁ patim
tatra cāste saha strībhir
yatrāste sa prajāpatiḥ

When she thought of her husband (**yadā sasmāra dayitaṁ patim**), best among the sages (**ṛṣiṇām ṛṣabham**), she immediately arrived at the spot (**tatra āste**) where her husband was standing (**yatra āste saha prajāpatiḥ**) along with her servant maids (**saha strībhir**).

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 35

**bhartuḥ purastād ātmānaṁ
strī-sahasra-vṛtaṁ tadā
niśāmya tad-yoga-gatiṁ
saṁśayaṁ pratyapadyata**

Seeing herself (**niśāmya ātmānaṁ**) surrounded by thousands of maids (**strī-sahasra-vṛtaṁ**) in the presence of her husband (**bhartuḥ purastād**), she was surprised (**saṁśayaṁ pratyapadyata**) at his powers of yoga (**tad-yoga-gatiṁ**).

His power of yoga was that without even using her feet, she came from the water.

Seeing the power of his yoga, she was surprised, thinking “How amazing this is!”

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 36-37

sa tām kṛta-mala-snānām vibhrājantīm apūrvavat
ātmano bibhratīm rūpaṁ samvīta-rucira-stanīm

vidyādhari-sahasreṇa sevyamānām suvāsasam
jāta-bhāvo vimānaṁ tad ārohayad amitra-han

O conqueror of lust (**amitra-han**)! Kardama (**sah**), struck with love for his wife (**tām jāta-bhāvo**), who was now cleansed (**kṛta-mala-snānām**), shining (**vibhrājantīm**), beautiful as she was previously (**apūrvavat ātmano bibhratīm rūpaṁ**), with covered, charming breasts (**samvīta-rucira-stanīm**), fine robes (**suvāsasam**), served by thousands of young girls (**vidyādhari-sahasreṇa sevyamānām**), placed her in the airplane (**tad vimānaṁ ārohayad**).

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 38

tasminn alupta-mahimā priyayānurakto
vidyādhārībhir upacīrṇa-vapur vimāne
babhrāja utkaca-kumud-gaṇavān apīcyas
tārābhir āvr̥ta ivod̥u-patir nabhaḥ-sthaḥ

The sage of undiminished glory (**alupta-mahimā**), whose body was served by the girls (**vidyādhārībhir upacīrṇa-vapur**) and who was attached to his wife (**priyayānurakto**), shone in the airplane (**vimāne babhrāja**) like the moon in the sky (**nabhaḥ-sthaḥ uḍu-patir iva**) surrounded by charming stars (**apīcyā tārābhir āvr̥ta**) while possessing many blossoming lotuses in the form of their eyes (**utkaca-kumud-gaṇavān**).

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 39

tenāṣṭa-lokapa-vihāra-kulācalendra-
dronīṣv anaṅga-sakha-māruta-saubhagāsu
siddhair nuto dyudhuni-pāta-śiva-svanāsu
reme ciraṁ dhanadaval-lalanā-varūthī

Using that airplane (**tena**), praised by the Siddhas (**siddhair nutah**), Kardama, surrounded by damsels like Kuvera (**dhanadavat lalanā-varūthī**), enjoyed for a long time (**reme ciraṁ**) in the valleys (**dronīṣu**) of Meru Mountain, the pleasure ground of the deities of the eight directions (**aṣṭa-lokapa-vihāra-kulācalendra**), with its pleasant breezes (**māruta-saubhagāsu**), the companions of Cupid (**anaṅga-sakha**), and which reverberated with the sound of auspicious water walls of the Gaṅgā (**dyudhuni-pāta-śiva-svanāsu**).

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 40

vaiśrambhake surasane
nandane puṣpabhadrake
mānase caitrarathye ca
sa reme rāmayā rataḥ

Pleased with his wife (**rāmayā rataḥ**), he enjoyed (**sah reme**) in Vaiśrambhaka, Surasana (**vaiśrambhake surasane**), Nandana, Puṣpabhadraka (**nandane puṣpabhadrake**), Mānasa Sarovara and Caitrarathya (**mānase caitrarathye ca**)

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 41

bhrājiṣṇunā vimānena
kāma-gena mahīyasā
vaimānikān atyaśeta
caraṅ lokān yathānilaḥ

He surpassed the devatās with their airplanes (**vaimānikān atyaśeta**) as he traveled like the air to other planets (**caraṅ lokān yathānilaḥ**) on his giant (**mahīyasā**), glowing vehicle (**bhrājiṣṇunā vimānena**) propelled by his desire (**kāma-gena**).

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 42

kim durāpādanam teṣām
puṁsām uddāma-cetasām
yair āśritas tīrtha-padaś
caraṇo vyasanātyayaḥ

What is difficult to achieve (**kim durāpādanam**) for those with full absorbed minds (**teṣām uddāma-cetasām puṁsām**), who take shelter of the feet of the Supreme Lord (**yair āśritas tīrtha-padaś caraṇah**), which destroy all misfortune (**vyasanātyayaḥ**)?

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 43

prekṣayitvā bhuvō golam
patnyai yāvān sva-saṁsthayā
bahv-āścaryam mahā-yogī
svāśramāya nyavartata

After showing his wife (**patnyai prekṣayitvā**) the greatly amazing territory of the earth (**bahv-āścaryam bhuvō golam**) with its structure (**yāvān sva-saṁsthayā**), the great yogī (**mahā-yogī**) returned to his hermitage (**svāśramāya nyavartata**).

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 44

**vibhajya navadhātmānam
mānavīm suratotsukām
rāmām niramayan reme
varṣa-pūgān muhūrtavat**

Dividing himself in nine parts (**ātmānam navadhā vibhajya**) and delighting (**niramayan**) his wife, daughter of Manu (**rāmām mānavīm**), who desired amorous pleasure (**surata utsukām**), he enjoyed for many years (**reme varṣa-pūgān**), which passed like a moment (**muhūrtavat**).

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 45

tasmin vimāna utkr̥ṣṭām
śayyām rati-karīm śritā
na cābudhyata tam kālam
patyāpīcyena saṅgatā

Situated on an excellent bed (**utkr̥ṣṭām śayyām śritā**) which stimulated desire in that airplane (**tasmin vimāna rati-karīm**), in the association of her handsome husband (**apīcyena patyā saṅgatā**), she did not notice that time had passed (**na ca abudhyata tam kālam**).

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 46

evam yogānubhāvena
dam-patyoh ramamāṇayoḥ
śataṁ vyatīyuh śaradaḥ
kāma-lālasayor manāk

As the couple enjoyed (**evam dam-patyoh ramamāṇayoḥ**), eager with desire (**kāma-lālasayoh**), by the power of yoga (**yogānubhāvena**), a hundred autumns passed (**śataṁ śaradaḥ vyatīyuh**) in a few moments (**manāk**).

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 47

tasyām ādhatta retas tām
bhāvayann ātmanātma-vit
nodhā vidhāya rūpaṁ svaṁ
sarva-saṅkalpa-vid vibhuḥ

The powerful Kardama (**vibhuḥ**), knower of all desires (**sarva-saṅkalpa-vid**), knower of the soul by his intelligence (**ātmanā ātma-vit**), thinking of his wife (**tām bhāvayann**), divided his form into nine (**nodhā vidhāya rūpaṁ svaṁ**), and deposited his semen in her (**tasyām retah ādhatta**).

By thinking of a woman at the time of impregnation, a female child will be produced.

Kardama knew that his wife desired daughters.

He was a knower of the soul by his intelligence.

Thus he was detached.

Because his desire was less, his semen was less, and thus female children were produced.

Pumān puṁso 'dhike śukre strī bhaved adhike striyā: a male is born when the man is stronger, and a female is born when the female is stronger.

Nodhā means nine times.

He was the knower of all desires.

He knew that his wife had a desire for many children.

He was powerful (vibhuḥ), capable of fulfilling her desires.

Section III – Devahuti and Kardama enjoy Household life (3.23.12-48)

Text 48

ataḥ sā suṣuve sadyo
devahūtiḥ striyaḥ prajāḥ
sarvās tāś cāru-sarvāᅅgyo
lohitotpala-gandhayaḥ

At one time (**ataḥ sadyaḥ**), she gave birth (**sā devahūtiḥ suṣuve**) to female children (**striyaḥ prajāḥ**), all with beautiful limbs (**sarvās tāś cāru-sarvāᅅgyo**) and with the fragrance of red lotuses (**lohita utpala-gandhayaḥ**).

Theme-IV

Devahuti pleads with
Kardama

(3.23.49-57)

Section IV – Devahuti pleads with Kardama (3.23.49-57)

Text 49-50

patim sā pravrajīṣyantam
tadālakṣyośatī bahiḥ
smayamānā viklavena
hṛdayena vidūyatā

likhanty adho-mukhī bhūmim
padā nakha-maṇi-śriyā
uvāca lalitām vācam
nirudhyāśru-kalām śanaiḥ

Seeing her husband (**tadā ālakṣya patim**) leaving the home (**pravrajīṣyantam**), the beautiful Devahuti (**sā uśatī**) smiled outwardly (**bahiḥ smayamānā**), but with a heart disturbed and pained (**viklavena vidūyatā hṛdayena**), she looked down (**adho-mukhī**), writing on the earth (**bhūmim likhanty**) with her jewel-like toe nails (**padā nakha-maṇi-śriyā**), and, suppressing her tears (**nirudhya aśru-kalām**), slowly spoke (**śanaiḥ uvāca**) charming words (**lalitām vācam**).

She smiled since that was natural on seeing her husband, but actually her heart was filled with worry and agitation.

Section IV – Devahuti pleads with Kardama (3.23.49-57)

Text 51

devahūtir uvāca
sarvaṁ tad bhagavān mahyam
upovāha pratiśrutam
athāpi me prapannāyā
abhayaṁ dātum arhasi

Devahūti said: O master (**bhagavān**)! You have accomplished (**sarvaṁ upovāha**) what you promised to me (**tad mahyam pratiśrutam**). But you should also give fearlessness to me (**athāpi me abhayaṁ dātum arhasi**), who am surrendered to you (**prapannāyā**).

Section IV – Devahuti pleads with Kardama (3.23.49-57)

Text 52

**brahman duhitṛbhis tubhyam
vimṛgyāḥ patayaḥ samāḥ
kaścit syān me viśokāya
tvayi pravrajite vanam**

O brāhmaṇa (**brahman**)! Your daughters (**tubhyam duhitṛbhiḥ**) will find qualified husbands for themselves (**vimṛgyāḥ patayaḥ samāḥ**). But who will solace me (**kaścit syāt me viśokāya**) when you depart to the forest (**tvayi pravrajite vanam**)?

I am not worried about their marriage.

I should have a qualified son from you for removing my lamentation.

Be merciful and stay a few more days with me.

Section IV – Devahuti pleads with Kardama (3.23.49-57)

Text 53

etāvatālam kālēna
vyatikrāntēna me prabho
indriyārtha-prasaṅgēna
parityakta-parātmanah

O master (**prabho**)! So much time (**etāvatā kālēna**) has passed uselessly (**me alam vyatikrāntēna**) in sense pleasure (**indriyārtha-prasaṅgēna**), without thoughts of the Supreme Lord (**parityakta-parātmanah**).

“By your clever words, do you want more material pleasure from me?”

In shyness she replies.

I have wasted so much time in sense pleasure, since I have rejected the Supreme Lord.

This means that time has been wasted.

Section IV – Devahuti pleads with Kardama (3.23.49-57)

Text 54

indriyārtheṣu sajjantyā
prasaṅgas tvayi me kṛtaḥ
ajānantyā param bhāvaṁ
tathāpy astv abhayāya me

I have associated with you (**prasaṅgas tvayi me kṛtaḥ**), while being attached to enjoyment (**indriyārtheṣu sajjantyā**) and not knowing your superior condition as a devotee with great detachment (**ajānantyā param bhāvaṁ**). Still, you should give me fearlessness (**tathāpy astu abhayāya me**).

People are delivered by even a moment's association with you, a great devotee.

There are two reasons why I did not get deliverance even after many years of association with you.

I was attached to sense pleasure and I did not know your supreme position-- you have great detachment and are a great devotee of the Lord.

Since you are inclined to give up all possessiveness in an instant, give mercy to me, an offender.

Section IV – Devahuti pleads with Kardama (3.23.49-57)

Text 55

saṅgo yaḥ saṁsṛter hetur
asatsu vihito 'dhiyā
sa eva sādhuṣu kṛto
niḥsaṅgatvāya kalpate

Association with materialists (**asatsu saṅgah**) done in ignorance (**yaḥ adhiyā vihitaḥ**) is a cause of bondage (**saṁsṛter hetur**) and association with devotees done in ignorance (**sa eva sādhuṣu kṛto**) leads to liberation (**niḥsaṅgatvāya kalpate**).

Section IV – Devahuti pleads with Kardama (3.23.49-57)

Text 56

neha yat karma dharmāya
na virāgāya kalpate
na tīrtha-pada-sevāyai
jīvann api mṛto hi saḥ

A person whose actions do not lead to dharma (**neha yat karma dharmāya**), to detachment (**na virāgāya kalpate**) and to service of the Lord's feet (**na tīrtha-pada-sevāyai**), though living, is actually dead (**jīvann api mṛto hi saḥ**).

“What are you requesting? You have such wealth. Enjoy those objects!”

He whose actions are not for the purpose of dharma, detachment and service, concerned only with body and senses, is already dead.

Section IV – Devahuti pleads with Kardama (3.23.49-57)

Text 57

sāham bhagavato nūnam
vañcitā māyayā dr̥ḍham
yat tvām vimuktidaṁ prāpya
na mumukṣeya bandhanāt

I have been cheated (**aham nūnam dr̥ḍham vañcitā**) by the illusory energy of the Lord (**bhagavato māyayā**) because, having attained you, who give liberation (**yat tvām vimuktidaṁ prāpya**), I did not desire liberation from bondage (**na mumukṣeya bandhanāt**).

I am an example of such a dead person.

I am the living person who is dead (sāham).

I did not desire liberation (na mumukseya).

She speaks with tears in her eyes and choked voice.