



HINDU TALES FROM THE SANSKRIT

**S. M. MITRA
AND NANCY BELL**

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**BY
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NANCY BELL**

Hindu Tales from the Sanskrit By S. M. Mitra and Nancy Bell.

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CONTENTS

Introductory Note

Story 1. The Magic Pitcher

Story 2. The Story Of A Cat, A Mouse, A Lizard And An Owl

Story 3. A Royal Thief-Catcher

Story 4. The Magic Shoes And Staff

Story 5. The Jewelled Arrow

Story 6. The Beetle And The Silken Thread

Story 7. A Crow And His Three Friends

Story 8. A Clever Thief

Story 9. The Hermit's Daughter

Then Mana Kanaka told the king the whole sad story; and when it was ended the wicked woman who had first thought of injuring the queen, and the barber who had helped her, were sent for to hear their doom, which was—to be shut up for the rest of their lives in prison. This was changed to two years only, because Kadali-Garbha was generous enough to plead for them. As for the third person in the plot, the old witch of the cave, not a word was said about her by anybody. Mana Kanaka knew well enough what her share in the matter had been; but magicians and witches are careful not to make enemies of each other, and so he held his peace.

Dridha-Varman was so grateful to his father-in-law for bringing his wife back to him, that he wanted him to stop at court, and said he would give him a very high position there. But Mana Kanaka refused every reward, declaring that he loved his little home in the forest better than the grand rooms he might have had in the palace. "All I wish for," he said, "is my dear child's happiness. I hope you will never again listen to stories against your wife. If you do, you may be very sure that I shall hear of it; and next time I know that you have been unkind to her I will punish you as you deserve."

The king was obliged to let Mana Kanaka go, but after this he took Kadali-Garbha to see her father in the forest very often. Later, when the queen had some children of her own, their greatest treat was to go to the little home, in the depths of the wood. They too learnt to love animals, and had a great many pets, but none of those pets were kept in cages.

17. What is the chief lesson to be learnt from this story?
 18. Which of all the people in this tale do you like best?
 19. What do you think is the greatest power in all the world?
 20. If you had been Kadali-Garbha would you have forgiven those who tried to do you harm?
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