

THE ADVENTURES OF
BHAKTA MUSIKA
AND THE TERRIBLE SNAKE



by Mānya dasa (Michael Pickup)

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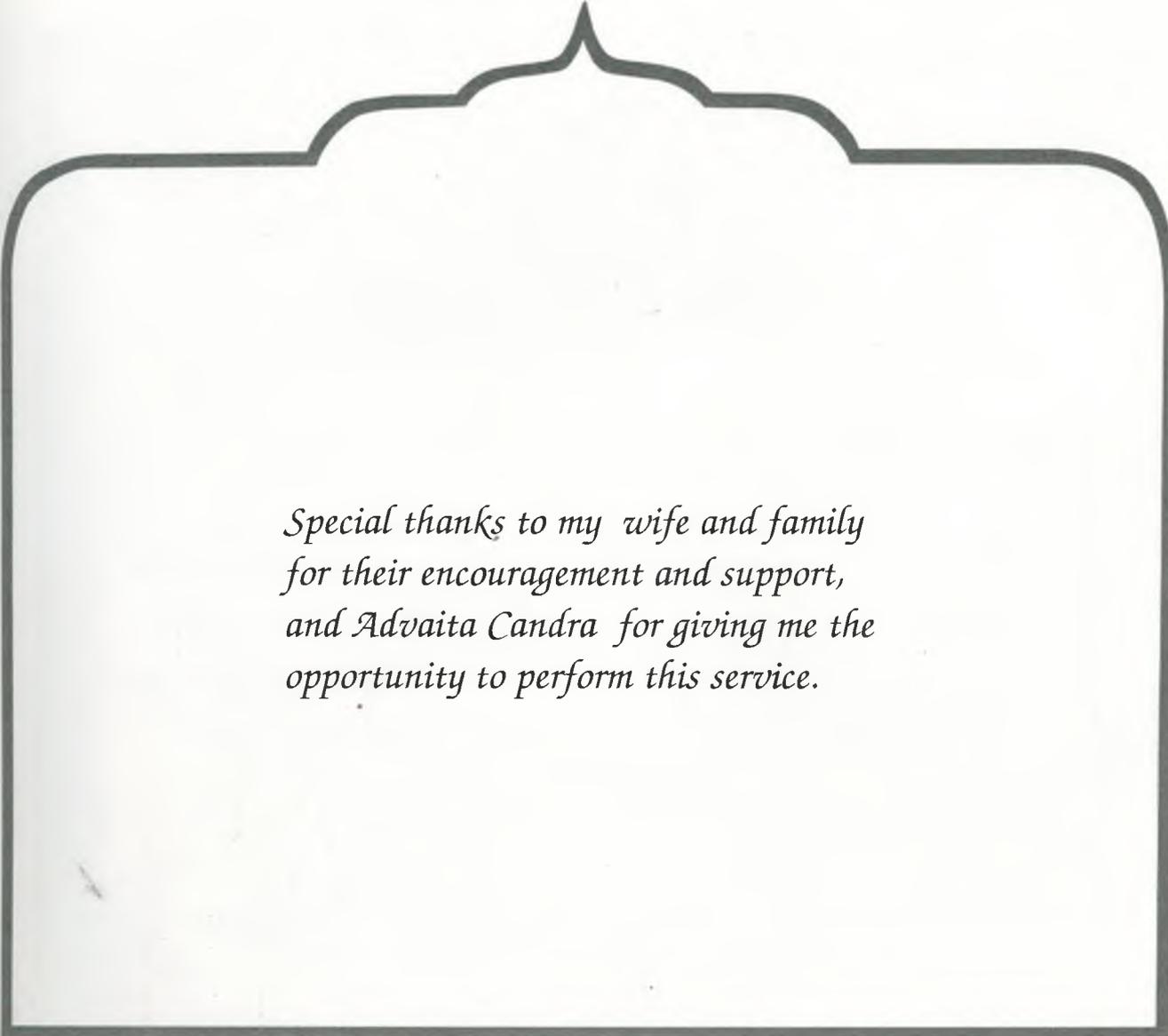


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All Glories to Srila Prabhupada





*Special thanks to my wife and family
for their encouragement and support,
and Advaita Candra for giving me the
opportunity to perform this service.*



There once was a mouse who lived in a small village near the mountains. His name was Bhakta Musika. Although he was very small, his love and dedication for Lord Krishna was very great. Everywhere he went he told everyone he met about the glories of Lord Krishna.





One day while gathering flowers for
the evening puja, Bhakta Musika
crossed paths with a dear old friend.







It was the lion Bhakta Musika had rescued from a hunters trap many years ago.

“Hare Krishna!” shouted the lion.

Bhakta Musika was overjoyed to hear the chanting of the holy names coming from the lion.

“How can I serve you?” inquired Bhakta Musika as he embraced his dear friend.



“I would like to live in your village to learn more about Lord Krishna,” said the lion.

“HARI BOL! That’s a great idea,” exclaimed Bhakta Musika.







Overwhelmed with joy, Bhakta Musika
ran to the village and rang the temple bell.
DING DONG, DING DONG

He called all the mice to hear the news.



My dear friends,” shouted Bhakta Musika,
“I have great news. Our old friend the lion
wants to live in our village and learn more
about Lord Krishna.”



The mice were silent. Although Bhakta Musika had befriended the lion the other mice did not trust him.

One mouse exclaimed, "He is not one of us! He is HUGE and HAIRY with very SHARP teeth. He is certainly different."





The Lion was nearby and heard the cruel rejection of the village mice. Tears began to well up within his eyes as he quietly turned and slowly walked toward the jungle. He did not want to cause Bhakta Musika any trouble.







Bhakta Musika said, “Friends, Lord Krishna teaches in the *Bhagavad-gita* that we are not these temporary material bodies but eternal spirit souls.” Lord Krishna also says that we should see all living entities with equal vision, especially those desiring to perform devotional service.”

While Bhakta Musika was preaching to the mice about the teachings of Lord Krishna, a very large snake was silently waiting in the tall grass eager to catch his lunch.



SWOOSH! The long tail of the snake wrapped around the group of mice and they all cried in fear, "Help, Help! We are all doomed!"

Bhakta Musika exclaimed, "Chant Hare Krishna Hare Krishna Krishna Krishna Hare Hare Hare Rama Hare Rama Rama Rama Hare Hare and remember the form of Lord Krishna."

So they all began to chant as loud as they could.







“SSSSO, what is this
chanting?” inquired the snake.

“You are so small no one will
hear your squeaky little voices.”



By this time the lion had walked quite a distance from the village. But by Krishna's mercy he heard the chanting of the tiny mice and returned. He wanted to enjoy the mantra one more time.

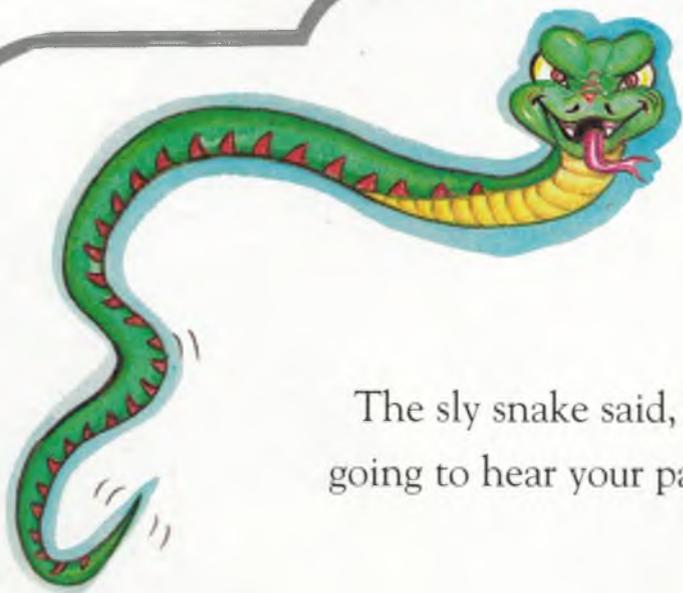






Peeking through the tall grass he gasped in shock at the sight of the tiny mice being squeezed by the snakes strong tail.





The sly snake said, "SSSSee no one is going to hear your pathetic chanting!"





Out of the tall grass leaped the lion roaring:

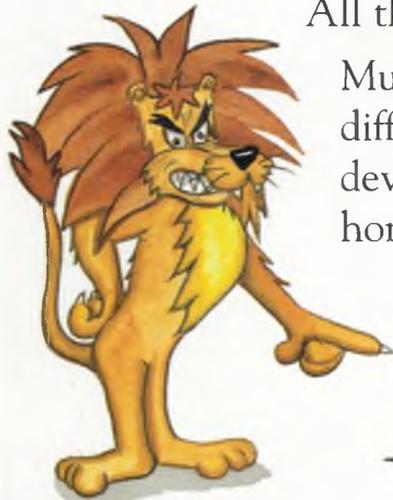
HARE KRISHNA HARE KRISHNA KRISHNA KRISHNA HARE
HARE HARE RAMA HARE RAMA RAMA RAMA HARE HARE!



After hearing the powerful chanting of the lion, the snake dropped the mice and slithered away knowing he had been defeated by the devotees of Lord Krishna.

All the mice now agreed with Bhakta

Musika that although the lion was different in size and color, he was truly a devotee of Lord Krishna and they would be honored to have him live in their village.







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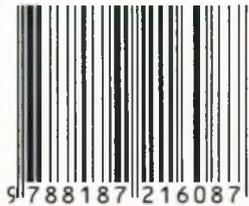


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