

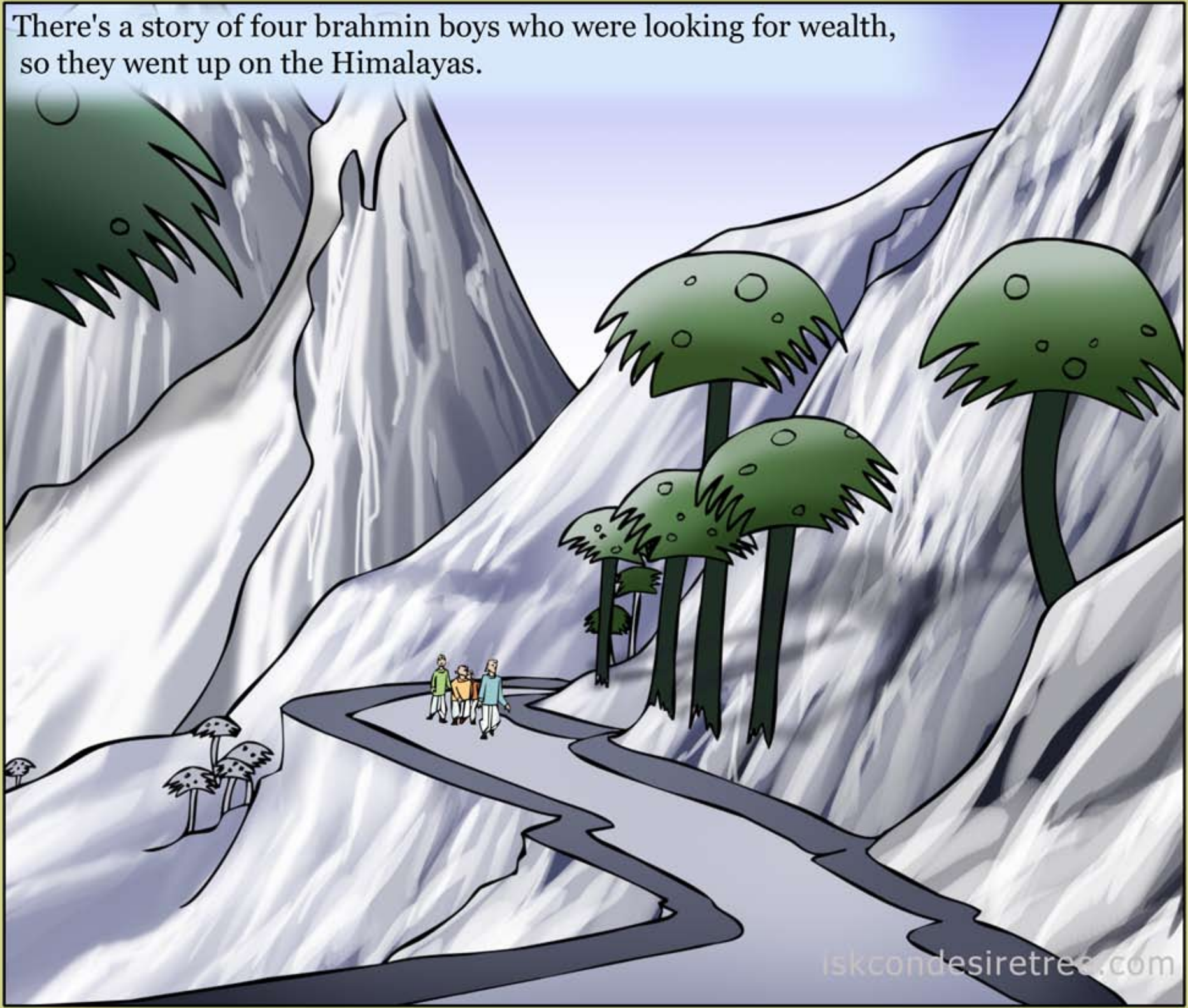


FOUR

BRAHMIN

BOYS

There's a story of four brahmin boys who were looking for wealth,
so they went up on the Himalayas.



Brahmin means devotee, but they were interested in getting wealth. They were thinking, they have just come out of gurukula training, now they have to get some wealth, and then they can get married and live a happy life.



So they went to one sage who was living near the Himalayan mountains



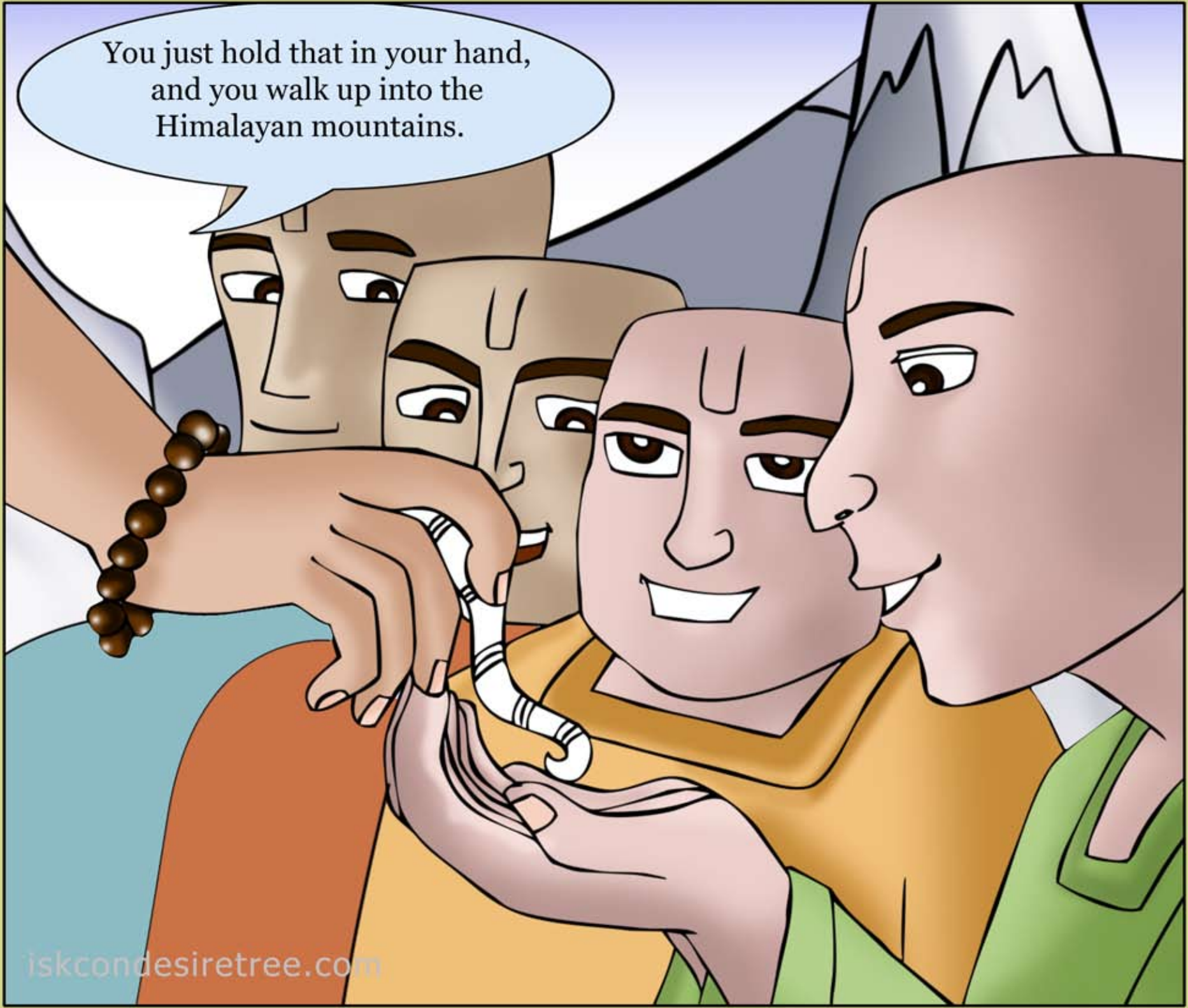
and they asked him...

My dear sage,
we have heard that you are
all-knowing, so please tell us where
we can find wealth.

All right.
So now I will put in each of your hands
one ghee wick



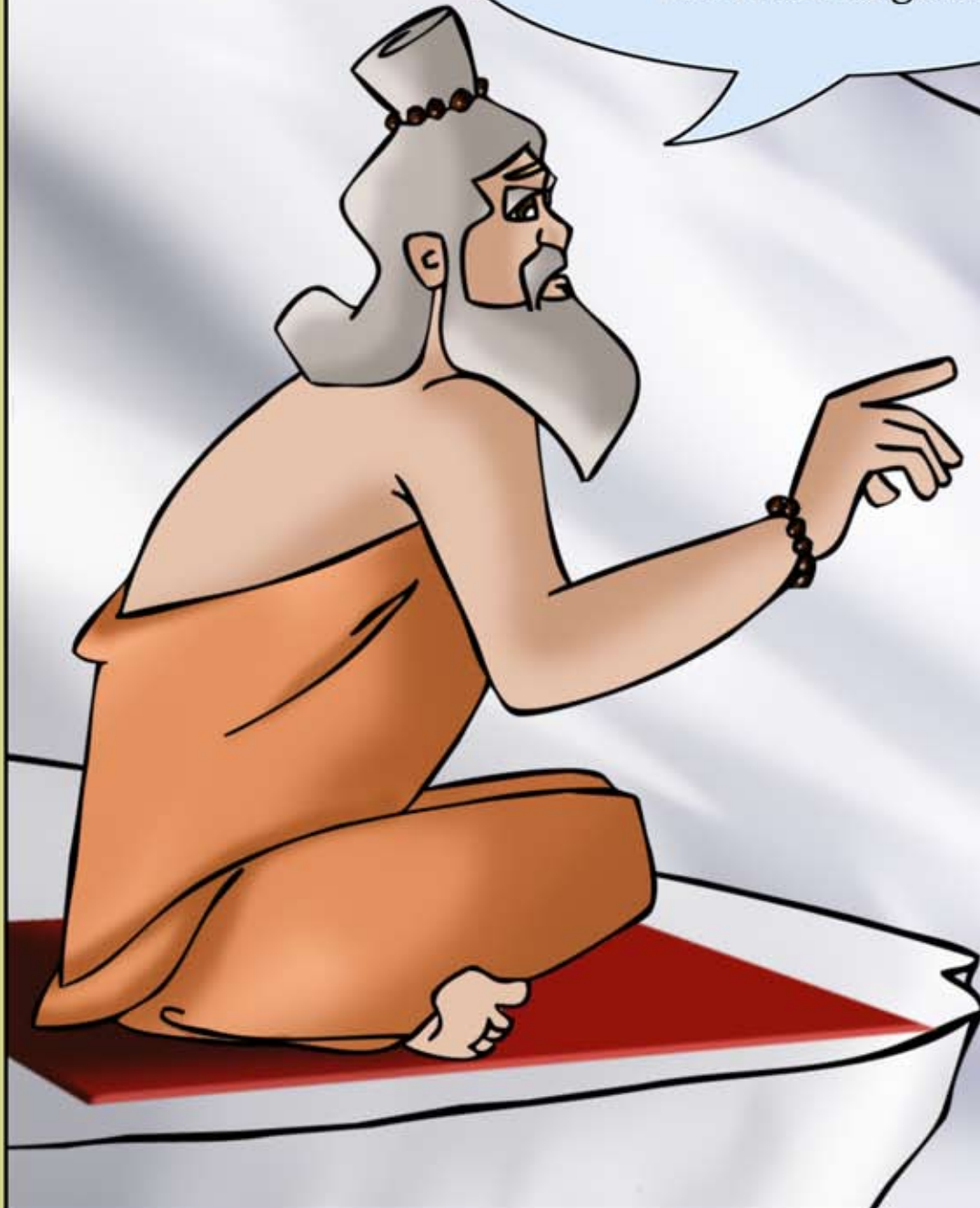
You just hold that in your hand,
and you walk up into the
Himalayan mountains.



Wherever this wick drops
during the course of walking up
the mountain,
at that spot if you dig you will find
something valuable.



You will find precious
metal up to
the value of gold.




So they were very happy and they went up on the mountains holding their wicks.



One of the wicks dropped, so the brahmin dug there and he found copper

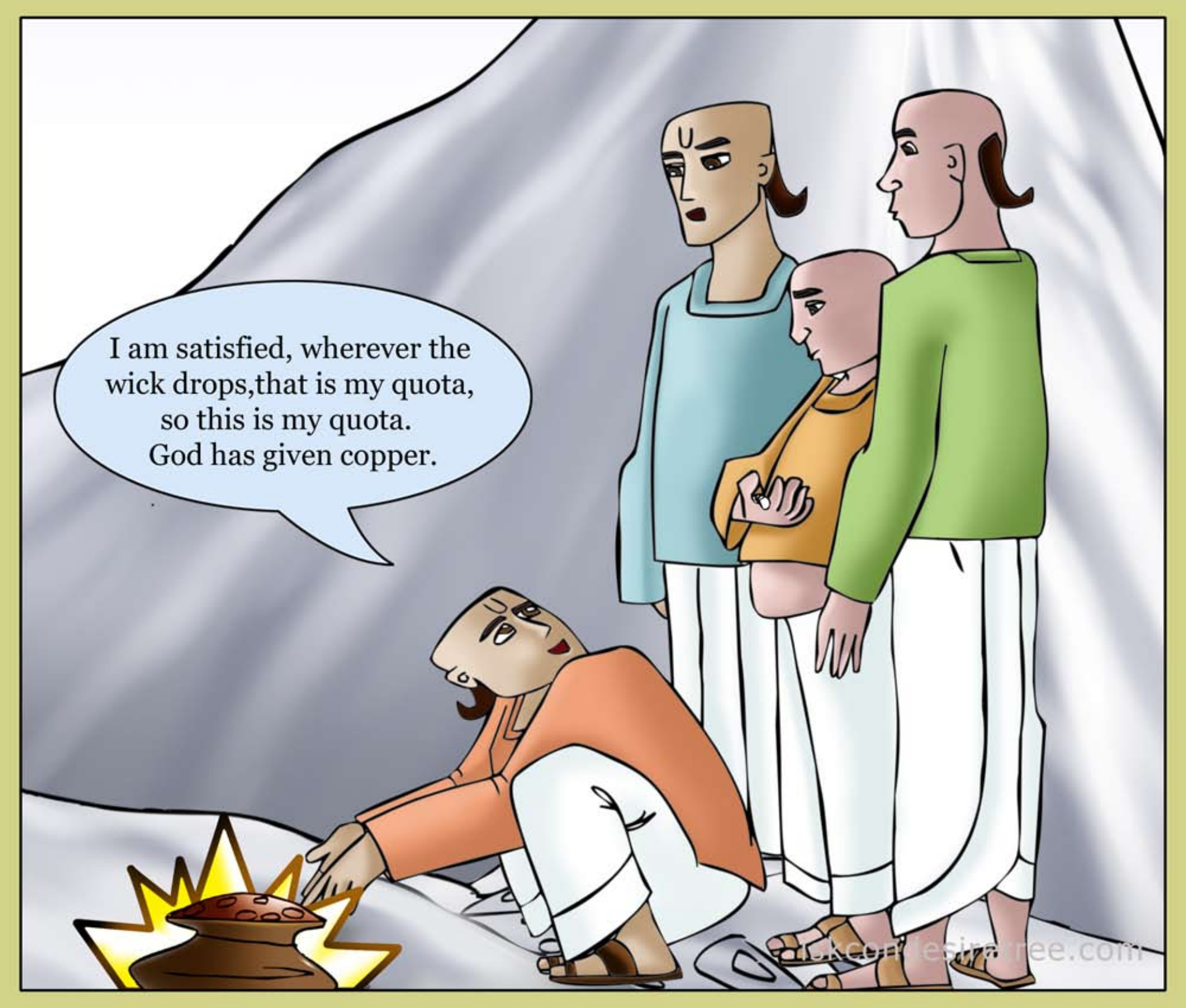




Oh, copper. Very nice.



Why just copper? No no.

A cartoon illustration depicting a scene where a man in an orange tunic and white pants is kneeling on the ground, lighting a small lamp. The lamp is on a dark brown base and has a bright yellow flame. Three other men stand behind him, watching. The man on the left is wearing a light blue tunic and white pants. The man in the middle is wearing an orange tunic and white pants. The man on the right is wearing a green tunic and white pants. The background is a simple, light-colored wall with a white curtain or cloth hanging on the right side. A speech bubble is positioned to the left of the kneeling man, containing text.

I am satisfied, wherever the
wick drops, that is my quota,
so this is my quota.
God has given copper.

So he took that and went down. The other boys continued



Another wicked dropped. When they dug they found silver.

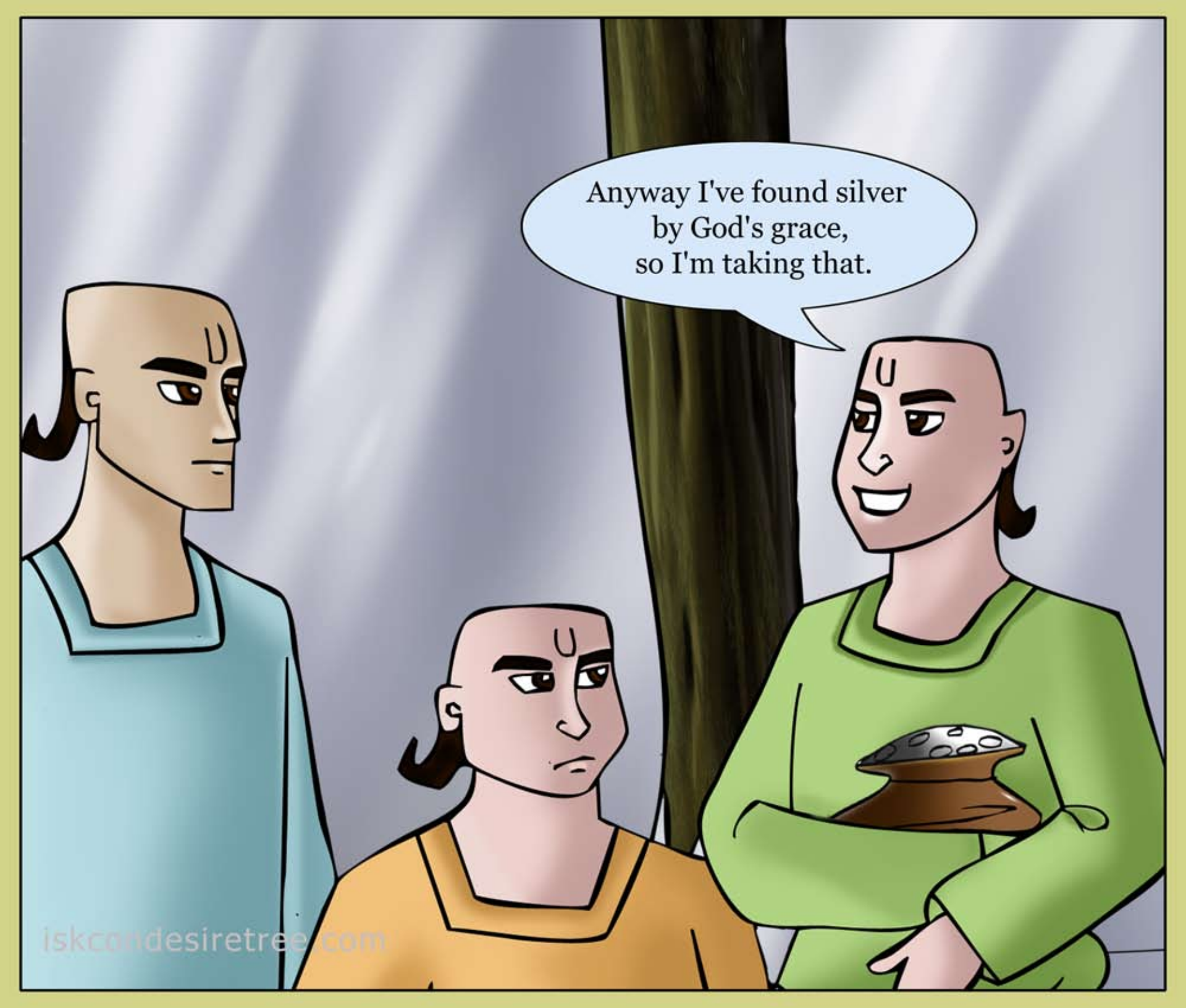


The brahmin was very satisfied.

Ah, silver, very nice.
Even more valuable.



Well silver's alright,
but the sage said up to gold.




Anyway I've found silver
by God's grace,
so I'm taking that.

So the other two continued




So the other two continued. One of their wicks dropped. He dug, and he found gold.







All right,
here it is, the gold.
Enough for both of us.




Yes, but I still have my wick.
It hasn't dropped yet.



Yes, but the sage said
nothing more valuable than gold.

A close-up cartoon illustration of a man's face. He has a light brown complexion, dark brown eyes, and thick black eyebrows. He is smiling slightly, showing his teeth. A light blue speech bubble is positioned above his right eye, containing text. The background is a simple gradient of light blue and pink.

Well anyway, I still have my
wick, so I am going
to find my treasure.



Well you do as you like,
but I am taking this gold.



So then the brahmin went high on the Himalayas, up to the very top, and still his wick didn't drop.

Then he saw one man in the distance.

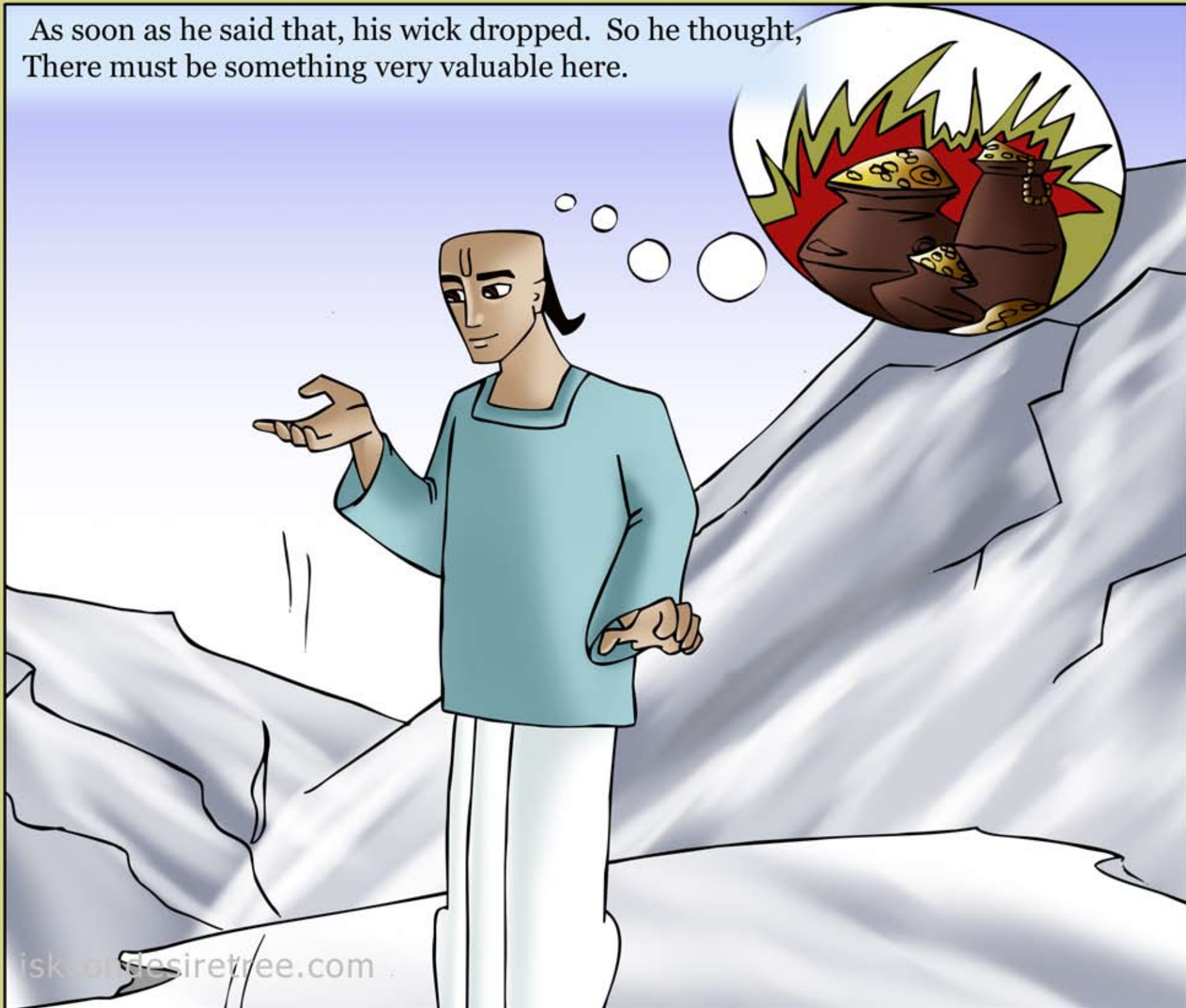


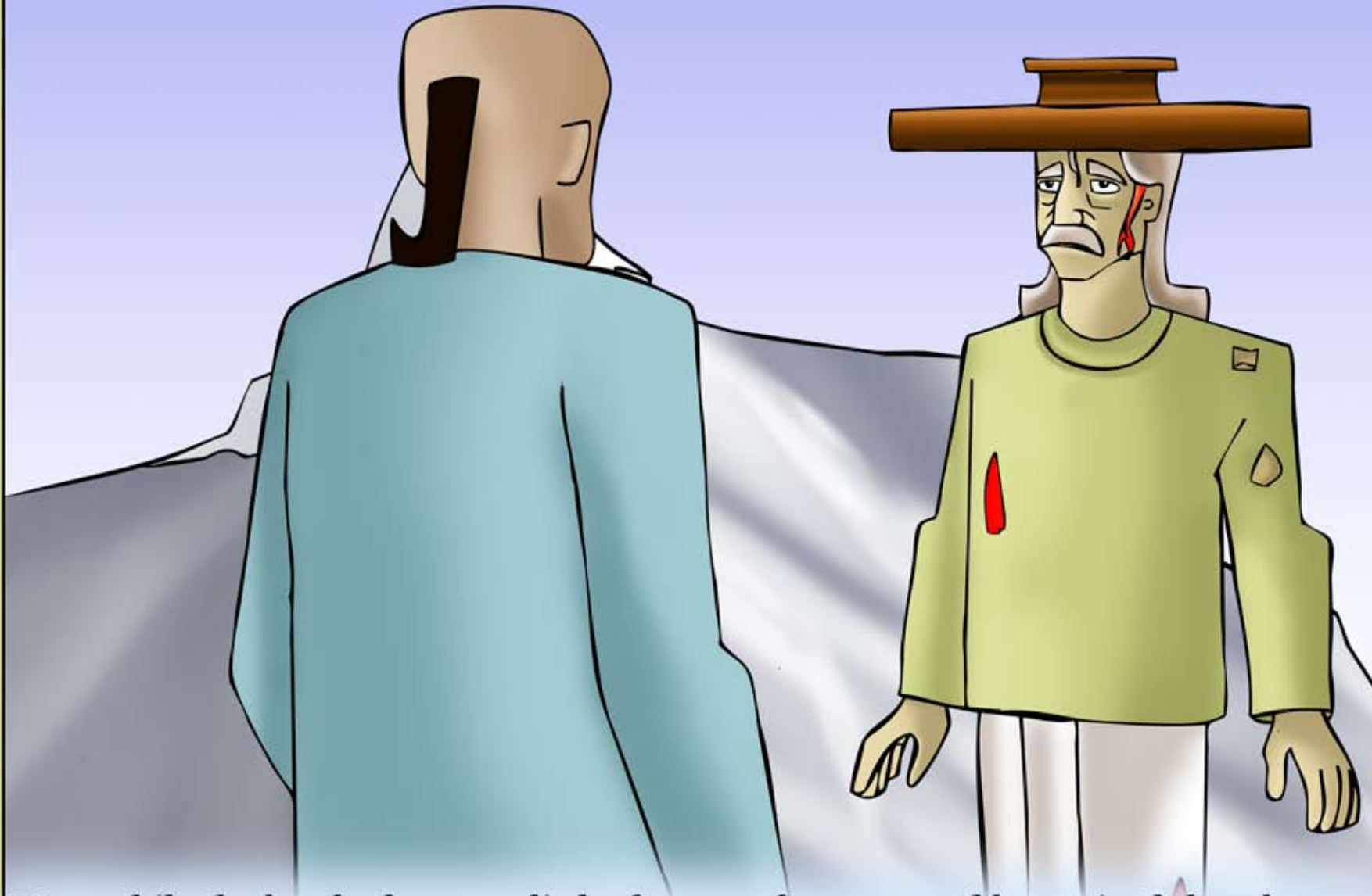
So he asked him..

My dear sir, do you know of
any valuable treasure up here?
I am looking for wealth.



As soon as he said that, his wick dropped. So he thought,
There must be something very valuable here.





Meanwhile the boy had come a little closer to the man, and he noticed that the man was standing in a strange way, he was not moving, and there was a wheel turning on his head. The middle of the wheel, the hub was grinding into his head and causing blood to flow, and this man was obviously in great pain.




When this boy's wick dropped then that wheel was suddenly moving from the other man's head onto his head, and the wheel was turning and he was feeling great pain. He also could not move any more, the wheel was somehow keeping him in place.


The other man could move again and he was saying...

Oh, I'm free!
Thank God!






Please tell me what is going on here!
Why am I suddenly stuck to this spot?
I cannot move and this wheel is on my
head and it is feeling very painful.
What is happening?



You have come to the place where
Kuvera keeps his treasure. He's the treasurer
of the demigods, and all his wealth, all the
wealth of the demigods is buried
here and you have come across it.

Well, what is this wheel for?





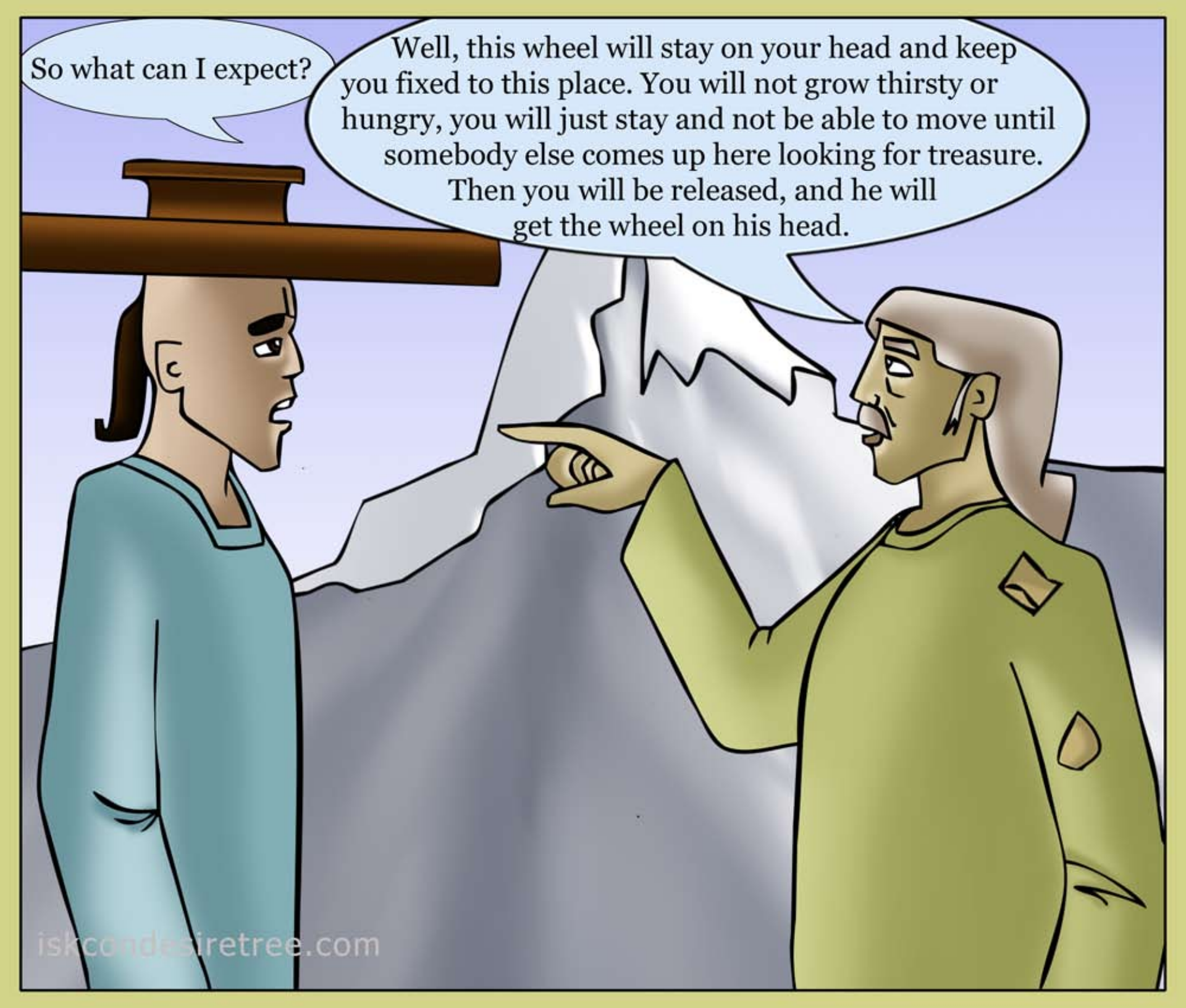
This wheel is a weapon of Kuvera
which protects his treasure.

Oh, So tell me,
What is going to happen to me?




The same thing that happened to me.
I also came up here looking for treasure.
I came up with some friends and met an old sage,
and he gave us ghee wicks. My friends got copper,
silver and gold, but I wanted to go higher.
I came up here, and the wheel came
onto my head.






So what can I expect?

Well, this wheel will stay on your head and keep you fixed to this place. You will not grow thirsty or hungry, you will just stay and not be able to move until somebody else comes up here looking for treasure. Then you will be released, and he will get the wheel on his head.



How long were you here?



Who is the king of India now?

The boy gave the name of some king



Well when I came up here,
Lord Ramacandra was king.




Oh no! That was two million years ago!



And then the man was going to leave.





No you can't leave!

Yes, I can leave, I'm getting out of here.
I've suffered so much.



This greedy brahmin was left up there, and probably he's still up there now.



MORAL :

This is an illustration how this lusty desire for sense gratification can get one in great difficulty. This brahmin broke the law and took more than his quota, so therefore he got into trouble

- Srila Prabhupada