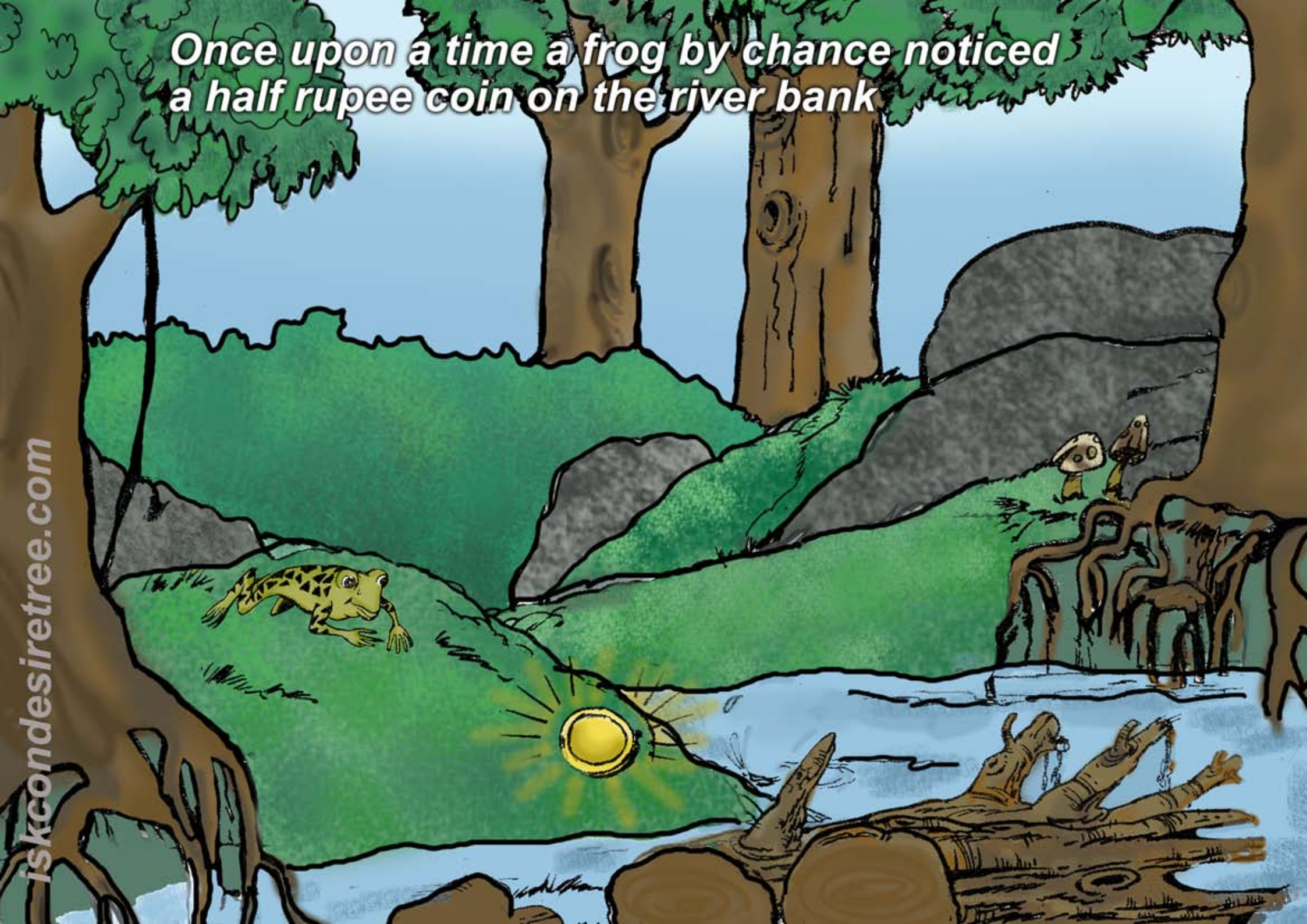


The Frog's Half-rupee Coin



*Instructive Stories from teachings of
Srla Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakur*

*Once upon a time a frog by chance noticed
a half rupee coin on the river bank*





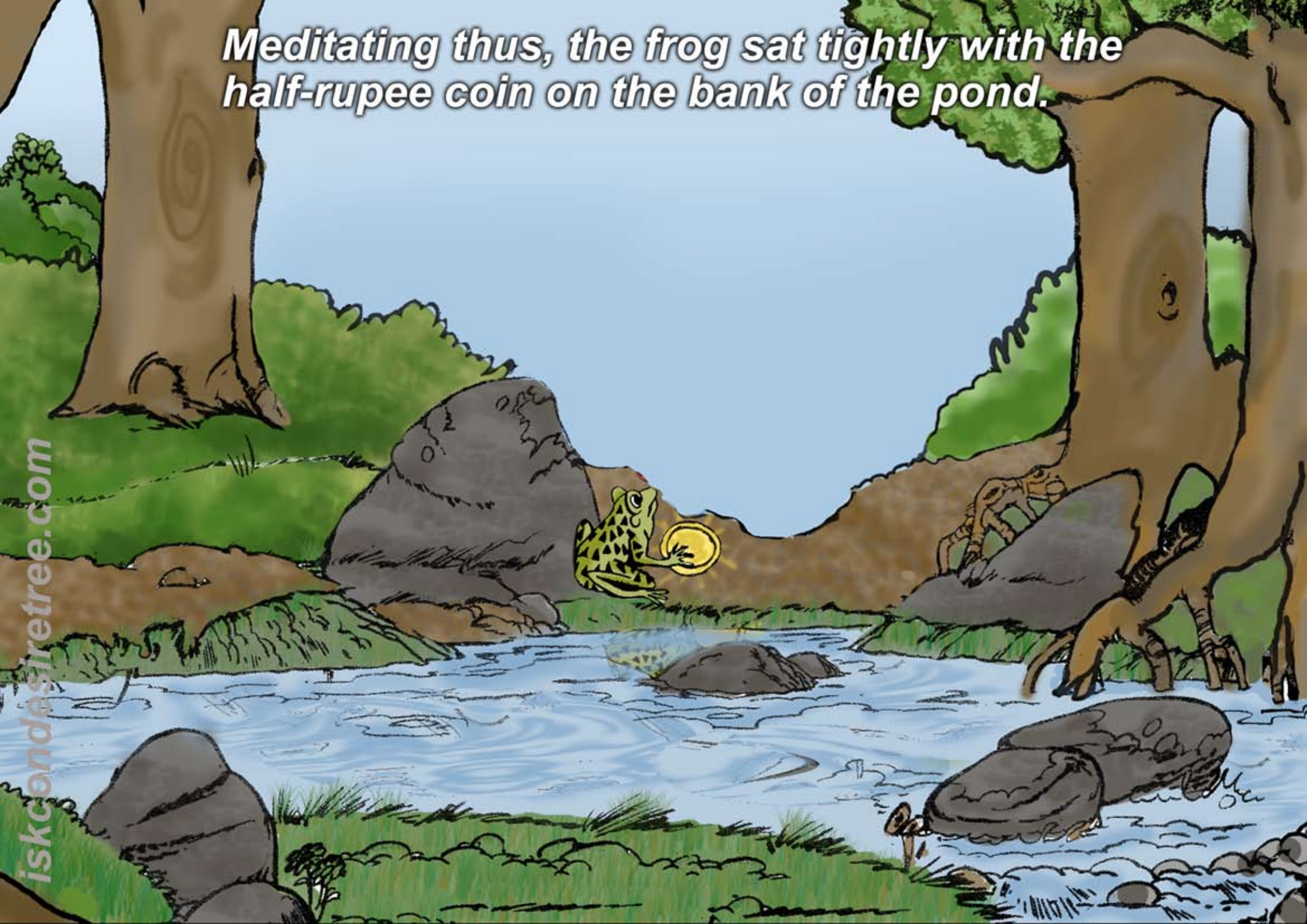
Hey ! I got a coin.

Upon getting the half rupee coin the frog became puffed-up and thought...

**Is there anyone else as rich as I am now?
If the king's elephant comes this time to
drink water here. I will chain him up. I
won't let him drink water here again!**

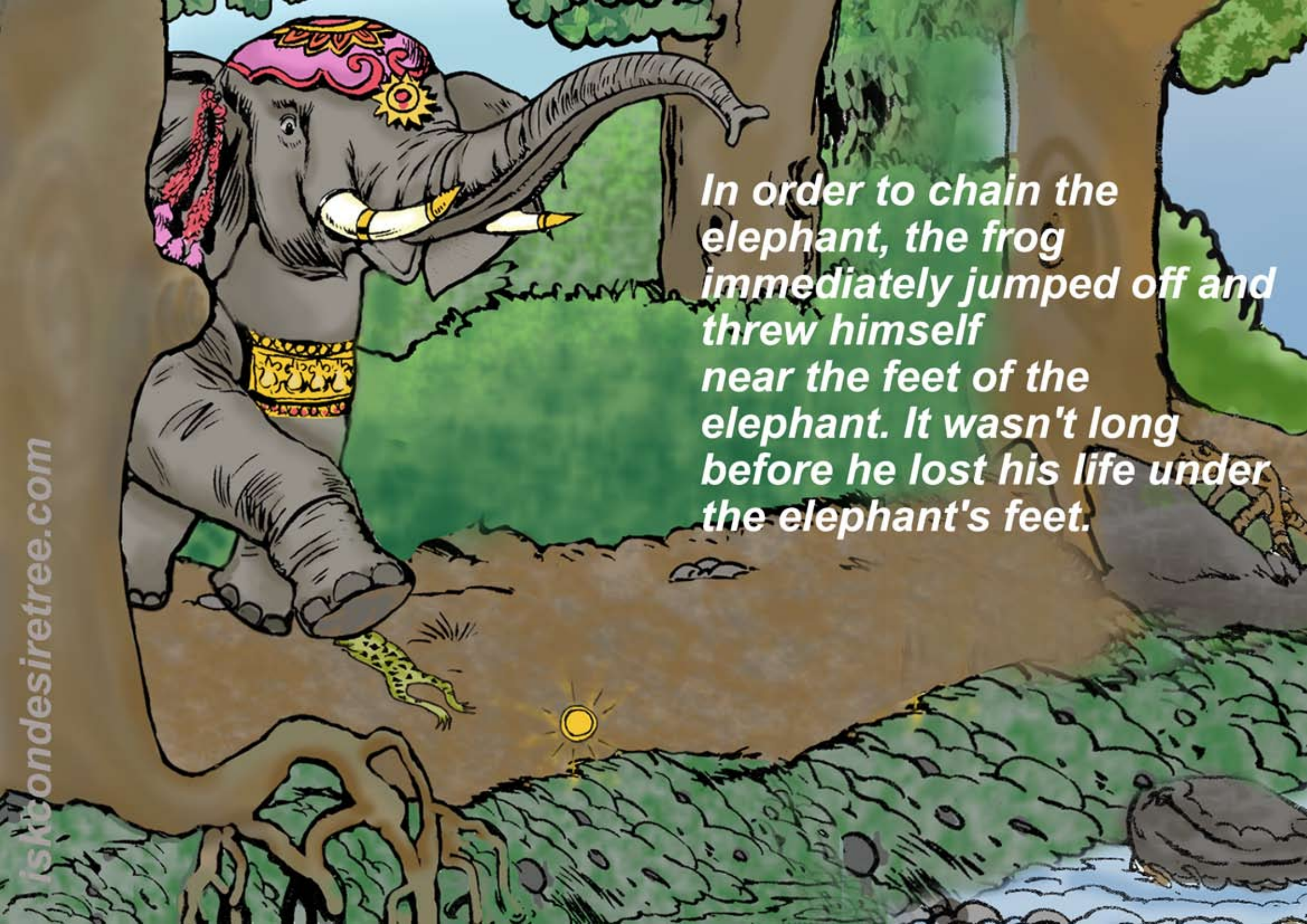


Meditating thus, the frog sat tightly with the half-rupee coin on the bank of the pond.



**Hey! The king's
elephant is coming.
Let me chain him up.**





In order to chain the elephant, the frog immediately jumped off and threw himself near the feet of the elephant. It wasn't long before he lost his life under the elephant's feet.

Purport :

Those who are simply puffed-up with their great sphere of mundane activities in this material world, prove themselves to be insignificant like the half-rupee coin of the frog's whenever they are confronted with a situation of real assessment.

The great valour of an untiring worker in this material world may be crushed underfoot at any moment under the pressure of the mundane spell, as it is nothing but a gift from the material nature.

Thus the Bhagavad - Gita says :

**prakrteh kriyamanani gunaih karmani sarvasah /
ahankara-vimudhatma kartaham iti manyate //**

The spirit soul bewildered by the influence of false-ego thinks himself the doer of activities that are in actuality carried out by the three modes of material nature. (BG 3.27)

The activities performed under the influence of different modes of nature, are considered by the living entity to have been done by himself under the illusion of I am the Lord. Such a puffed-up person under illusion thinks himself to be the lord of enjoyment in this world and thus wants to lord it over the world. They fail to realize, however, that mother nature can at any moment crush down their tall edifice of boasting as a great worker. There is no use of independence and its related conceit in this material world. Today's king may be tomorrow's beggar on the street. Today's pauper may become puffed-up with unlimited wealth and opulence. So the great saint sings :

**rajar ye rajyapat yena natuur nat
dekhite dekhite kichu noy /
hena maya kare yei, param isvara sei
tanre mana sada kara bhaya //**

The king's kingdom is like the dancer's dance, in an instant it can be finished. In the same way, Maya, the supreme controller, acts. O mind, be always fearful of her!