


# Tolerance is the Key for a spiritual aspirant



Once a young man named Ram approached a saintly person for initiation

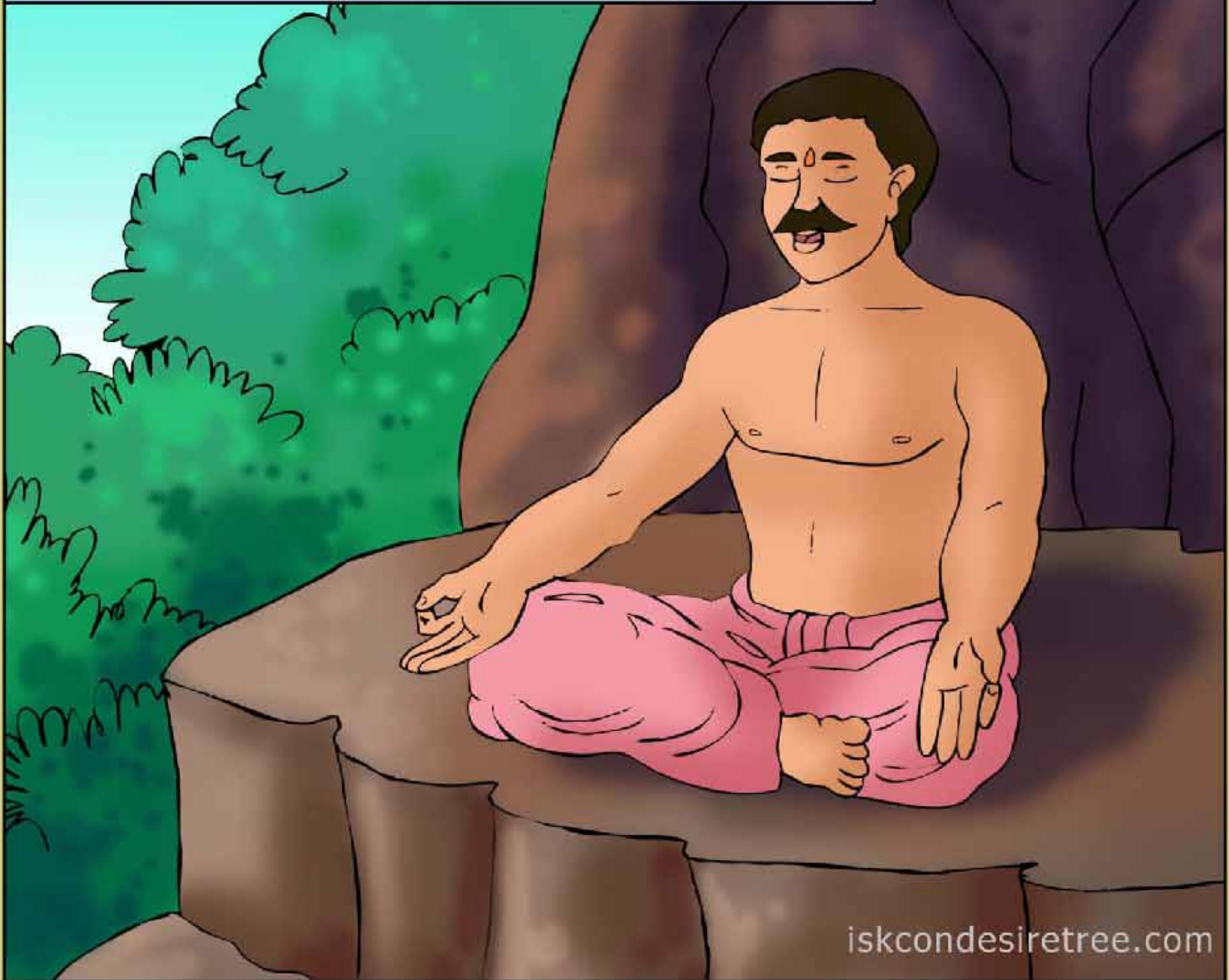
Please accept me as  
your disciple





You should practice penance for one year  
and after that have a bath and come back,  
then I will accept you as my disciple

So accordingly, Ram performed severe penance for one year





After one year, Ram had bath and was about to come out

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The guru said sweeper....

Sweep dust on Ram after he had bath.

Certainly

Accordingly, the sweeper broomed the road and threw dust on Ram. He became angry and....



....ran after him with great speed to beat him up





Ram had bath again



He came to the saint for initiation

Please accept me as  
your disciple

Though you had done penance still  
you had not been able to tolerate  
anger



For a person aspiring to be a sadhu he has to be tolerant. You go back and meditate for one more year and come back to me

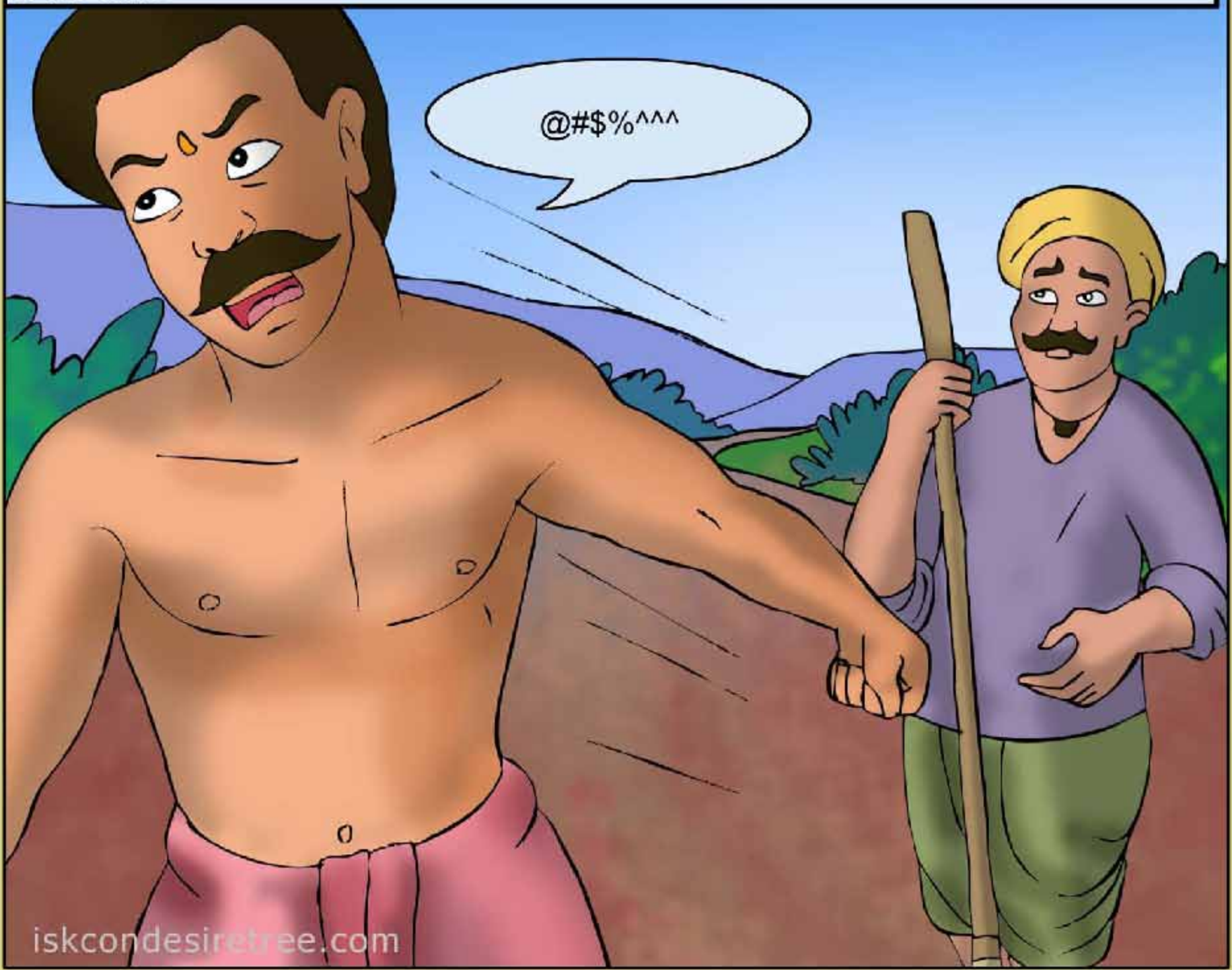
One year later, Ram had a bath and was returning to the saint

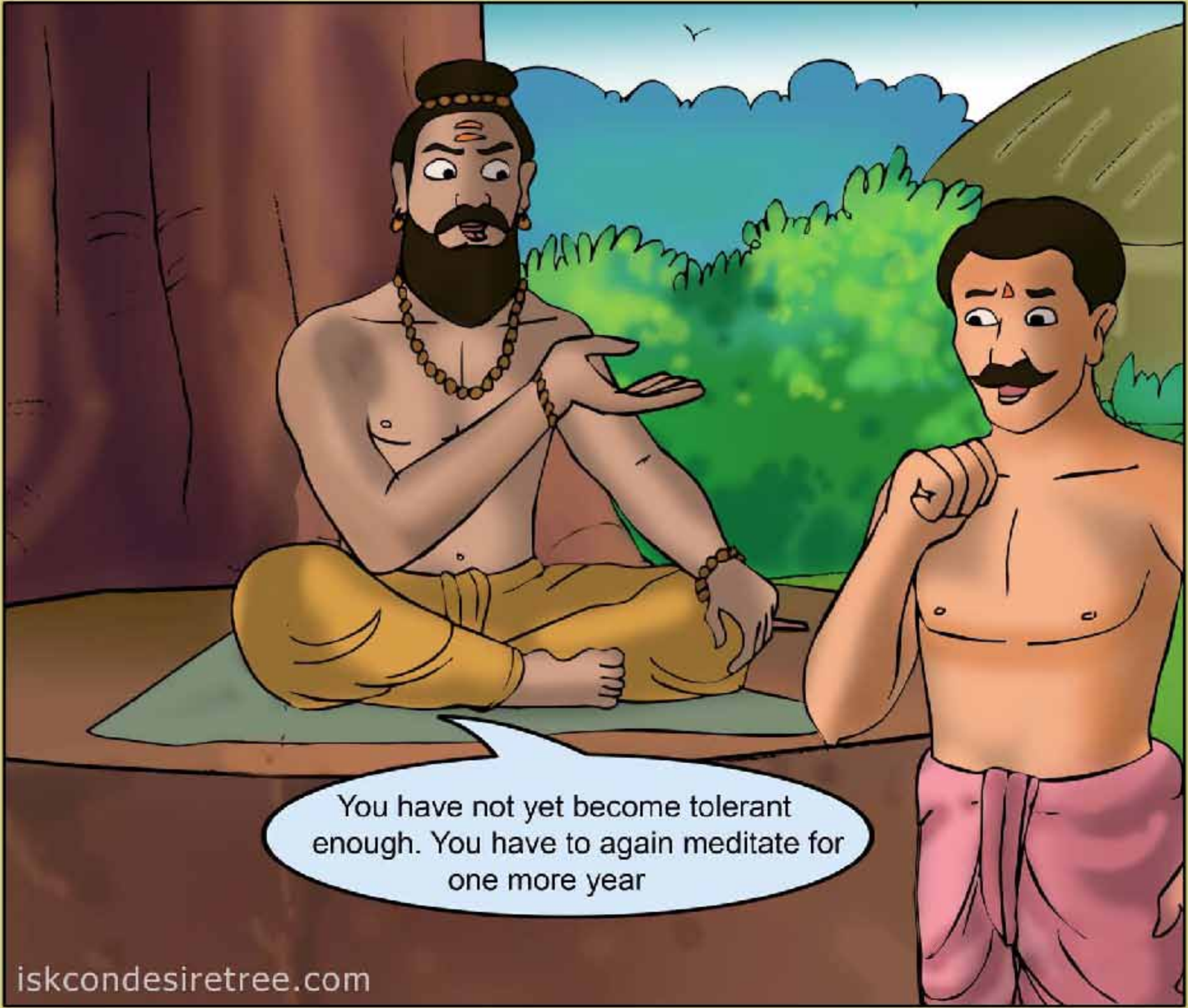


Just then the sweeper came and touched the body of Ram with the broom



Ram became angry and this time chastised him heavily with words and returned back to the saint





You have not yet become tolerant enough. You have to again meditate for one more year

After one year the saint told the sweeper...



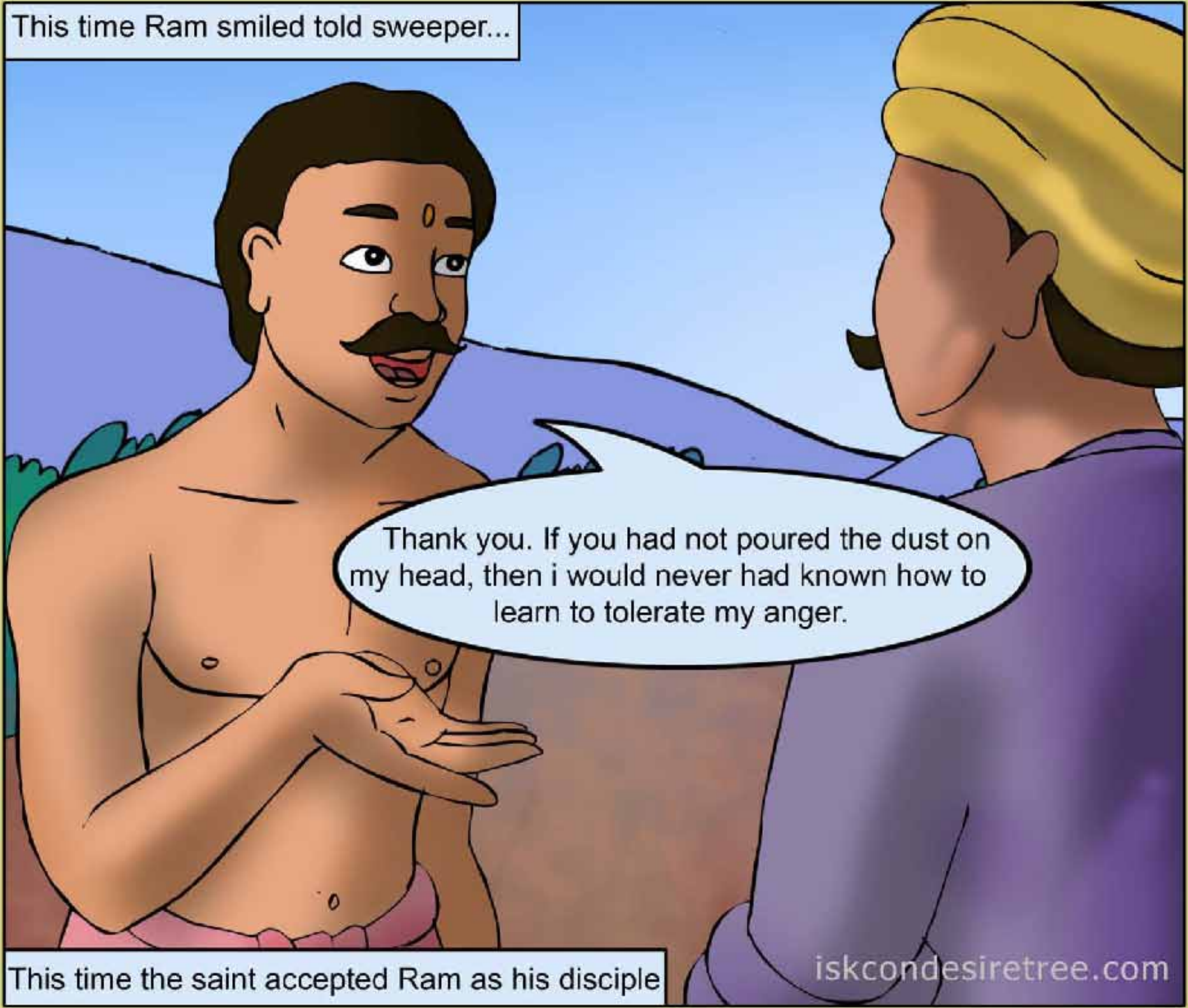
Empty the entire basket of dirt on the head of Ram





Accordingly after Ram had his bath, the sweeper emptied the entire contents on his

This time Ram smiled told sweeper...



Thank you. If you had not poured the dust on my head, then i would never had known how to learn to tolerate my anger.

This time the saint accepted Ram as his disciple

**MORAL :**

**The best answer to anger is silence.**