

EXPERIENCING RADHA-KRISHNA
A GUIDE FOR ENTERING INTO THEIR PLAY
or CREATE YOURSELF IN AN IDEALIZED REALITY

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SKY RIVER PRESS

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EXCERPTS FROM *UJJVAL NILMANI*

In this section, we will explore relevant excerpts from Rupa Goswami's *Ujjval Nilmani* that I adapted for contemporary Western readers. Rupa wrote this book as a guide to help devotees enter into Radha-Krishna's amorous play in Braj. He structured it using classical Indian dramatic aesthetics to portray Radha-Krishna as the ideal romantic hero and heroine.

I recommend using these vignettes to picture the residents of Braj and their activities in that spiritual setting, learn their moods and interactions, and imagine how you might interact with them in your perfect spiritual body. In this way you can develop your own identity as a character in their play. Using techniques similar to a method actor, shift your consciousness to become that character.

INVOKING AUSPICIOUSNESS

All glories to the eternal God-dess, Radha-Krishna, the Divine Couple, whose holy names attract those who are expert at relishing transcendental play. Their transcendental qualities eternally increase the bliss of their devotees. Their transcendental forms bring a great festival of happiness to their devotees.

Because of its confidential nature, the erotic relationship was only briefly mentioned in the description of the primary relationships presented in the previous book (*Universalist Radha-Krishnaism*).

That sweet taste, the apex of devotion, is therefore described in this book in great detail.

The sweet taste is made even more relishable when accompanied by various ecstatic sentiments which will be described in this book. Learned devotees consider this relationship the sweetest of all devotional moods.

KRISHNA

Krishna's nature as a cause of ecstasy is described in the following statement:

• Purna says to Radha, "Krishna's beauty eclipses many billions of cupids. The artistic dancing of his sidelong glances charms the village girls' hearts. His form is like a glittering new rain-cloud. He is an ocean of great transcendental pastimes. He is the supreme good fortune of all beautiful young girls in the three worlds. I pray that this Krishna will cause great happiness in your heart."

Krishna's qualities can be listed as follows:

1. Extremely handsome and charming
2. Sweet
3. Endowed with all transcendental qualities
4. Strong
5. A young man in the full fresh bloom of life
6. Eloquent
7. A pleasing talker
8. Intelligent
9. Brilliant

10. Grave
11. Expert
12. Clever
13. Happy
14. Grateful
15. Skillful
16. Controlled by love
17. An ocean of profoundness
18. The best
19. Famous
20. Charming to all women
21. Eternally new and fresh
22. His dear flute music, personal beauty, and transcendental pastimes are all super-excellent and cannot be compared to anything else.

These are some of Krishna's many transcendental qualities manifested in the relationship of erotic love.

KRISHNA'S AMOROUS LOVERS

The girls of Braj have personal qualities similar to those of Krishna. They are filled with the sweet opulence of great and intense love for Krishna.

I offer my respectful obeisances to these girls. They are filled with the most sublime transcendental sweetness. They carefully studied under their tutor, youthfulness, and they display their skill in amorous pastimes with Krishna.

Even though they are country girls living in the rural area of the Braj forest, the slight fragrance of

their sweetness has dissolved the great beauty and opulence of the the goddess of fortune. The exalted position of these girls is very rare. I pray that these girlfriends of Krishna may grant transcendental happiness to you.

Radha and Chandra are the leaders of the eternally dear girlfriends. They are all transcendental reservoirs of eternal beauty, expertise, and all other spiritual qualities just like Krishna.

I worship Krishna who lives in his own realm, Braj, with Radha, who resembles his own spiritual figure and embodies the ecstatic potency. Their companions are her girlfriends, who embody extensions of her bodily form and who are imbued and permeated with ever-blissful spiritual delight.

RADHA

In all respects Radha and Chandra are the best of all Krishna's girlfriends. Each of them has a group of followers numbering millions of doe-eyed girls.

On the river bank, Krishna enjoyed the famous circle dance with these two and many hundreds of millions of other girls.

Among the girls of Braj, Radha and another girl are considered chief. However, when we compare them, it appears that Radha is most important because her real feature expresses the highest ecstasy of love. The ecstasy experienced by other girls cannot be compared to that of Radha.

• Krishna said to Radha, “My dear Radha, your curling locks of hair, long restless eyes, firm breasts, slender waist, shyly bowed head, creeper-like arms, and jewel-like fingernails are all exquisitely beautiful. The jubilant festival of your beauty makes all the three worlds tremble with transcendental bliss.”

Radha’s twenty-five chief qualities are:

1. She is very sweet.
2. She is always in the fresh full bloom of life.
3. Her eyes are restless.
4. She smiles brightly.
5. She has beautiful, auspicious lines.
6. She makes Krishna happy with her bodily aroma.
7. She is very expert in singing.
8. Her speech is charming.
9. She is very expert in joking and speaking pleasantly.
10. She is very humble and meek.
11. She is always full of mercy.
12. She is cunning.
13. She is expert in executing her duties.
14. She is shy.
15. She is always respectful.
16. She is always calm.
17. She is always grave.
18. She is expert in enjoying life.
19. She is situated at the topmost level of ecstatic love.
20. She is the reservoir of loving affairs in Braj.
21. She is the most famous of submissive devotees.
22. She is very affectionate to elderly people.

23. She is very submissive to the love of her friends.
24. She is the chief girlfriend.
25. She always keeps Krishna under her control.

In short, Radha possesses unlimited transcendental qualities of form, mind, and words just as Krishna does. These transcendental qualities are all manifested on Radha, and they may be clearly seen in her. Their fullest expression cannot be seen on anyone else.

Radha's beautiful girlfriends are the best of all young women. They are decorated with all transcendental virtues. Their beauty, grace, and charm completely attract Krishna.

THREE KINDS OF GIRLFRIENDS

Here are three examples of types of heroines:

1. A girl who meets her lover or arranges that he meet her at the place of rendezvous may be considered in two features--when she travels on a moonlit night and when she travels on a dark, moonless night she wears light or dark garments suitable for the journey. Accompanied by a single affectionate girlfriend, she goes to meet her lover.

• Radha to Bishakha, "Krishna doesn't know how my heart suffers with love for him. O my friend, please go to him, expertly appeal to him for me, and affectionately bring him here to meet me before this wretched moon kisses the horizon and robs me of my life-breath."

• Bishakha to Radha, "O beautiful Radha, the great circle of the moon is now filling the forest of Braj with bright moonlight. Krishna, the son of Braj's leader, Nanda, has marked the path you have taken, and he's about to follow it. You're nicely dressed in a white silk dress and anointed with fine perfume. Will you not now place your two beautiful lotus feet on this path that leads to Krishna?"

2. A girl who decorates her body and home to attract her lover yearns to enjoy amorous pastimes with Krishna. She gazes at the path, waiting for Krishna's arrival. She enjoys telling her friend about her pastimes with Krishna. She continually looks for the arrival of Krishna's messenger.

• Rupa to a girlfriend, "When Radha sees the erotic pastime grove with its beautiful couch of flowers, and when she sees her own transcendental form nicely decorated, she begins to smile. Repeatedly meditating on her association with Krishna, her heart becomes intoxicated by amorous desires."

3. A girl who controls her lover, picks flowers and enjoys pastimes with her lover in the forests of Braj and in the water of the Yamuna River:

• Brinda to Purna, "Krishna happily paints incomparably beautiful designs and pictures on Radha's full breasts. On both her ears he places blue lotus flowers so fragrant that they attract the bees, and on her braid, he playfully places another delicate lotus flower. In this way, Krishna obediently pleases Radha for a long time."

• Radha said, “Krishna, please draw some nice pictures on my breasts and cheeks. Decorate my hips with a sash, twine a garland of flowers in my hair, and decorate my hands and feet with bracelets and anklets of lotus petals.” When Krishna heard all these orders, he obediently carried them out with great pleasure.

These three types of heroines are cheerful at heart and decorated with exquisite ornaments.

THE ETERNAL GIRLFRIENDS

The girlfriends who are always satisfied by the friendship of the other girlfriends and do not aspire to become direct lovers of Krishna are called eternal girlfriends.

• One day, Radha tried to arrange a tryst between Krishna and her friend Mani. Mani declined the invitation saying, “My dear Radha, I have no desire to taste the happiness you enjoy by touching the transcendental limbs of Krishna. I simply yearn to share my love with you.” Mani never desires an amorous meeting with Krishna.

• A girlfriend to Krishna, “My dear Krishna, please allow me to expertly arrange for your splendid transcendental love play on the dancing stage of Radha. This service is the topmost treasure of her girlfriends hearts. My heart has no desire to personally taste the nectar of the touch of your transcendental body.”

A girlfriend messenger may meet Krishna in a secluded place. Although Krishna may appeal for her mercy, he may sometimes be refused and spurned.

ACTIVITIES OF THE GIRLFRIENDS

Some of the activities of the girlfriends are:

1. Glorification of mutual love and transcendental qualities.
2. Creating attachment to the divine couple.
3. Arranging for the meeting of the divine couple.
4. Presenting their friends before Krishna.
5. Speaking joking words.
6. Dressing and decorating the divine couple.
7. Expertly revealing the actual feelings within the hearts of the divine couple.
8. Giving instructions.
9. Arranging for the rendezvous of the divine couple.
10. Fanning the divine couple and rendering other services.
11. Sending messages.



❖ Sudevi to Radha, “Out of respect for you, the sun is now setting in the west, and according to Krishna’s desire, it has now become very dark. Just as the cuckoos lament, I repeatedly appeal to you, O charming girl, delay is fruitless. Now is the time for your delightful rendezvous with Krishna.”

• While decorating Radha, Lalita spoke the following joking words, “As I draw pictures and designs in musk upon your forehead, I cannot but think that eventually drops of perspiration will wash them away and use them to decorate the face of Krishna.”

• Exhausted and perspiring, Radha rested on the chest of Krishna in the forest grove. Waving a fan of vine-flowers, Lalita fanned her.



Some girlfriends love a specific girlfriend slightly more than they love Krishna. The love of these girlfriends is eternal. They always think, “I am the property of my friend.”

• Mani says to the young, inexperienced Chatura, “Let me teach you what I’ve learned from my experience. If you make friends with Radha, then within that friendship, ecstatic love for Krishna is automatically included.”

THAT WHICH STIMULATES ECSTATIC LOVE

That which stimulates ecstatic love between Krishna and his beloved girlfriends are:

1. Transcendental qualities
2. Pastimes
3. Costume
4. Things related to the object of love

Transcendental Qualities

The transcendental qualities are divided into three broad groups:

1. Qualities of mind and intelligence such as gratefulness, tolerance, patience, and compassion.

• Krishna is so grateful that he allows himself to become controlled by one who performs even the slightest service. He is forgiving and tolerant that he smiles patiently even if the greatest unforgivable offense is committed to him. He is so compassionate that his heart becomes tormented if he sees others suffering even slightly. When I see this Krishna, my heart thirsts to be with him.

2. Qualities of speech which delight the ear.

• Hiding behind a creeper, Radha eagerly listened in on a conversation between Krishna and his friend Subal. Afterwards, Bishakha asked Radha why she was so eager to hear Krishna's words. She said, "My friend, the nectar of Krishna's word is filled with an unprecedented sweetness that enchants the ears. I'm not satisfied to have once sipped that nectar, but I yearn to drink it repeatedly."

3. Qualities of the body such as youthfulness, beauty, sweetness, and delicateness.

3.1 Radha-Krishna and their girlfriends are at the junction of youth and adulthood, those whom we call young adults in the eighteen to twenty year age range.

• Bishakha jokes to Radha, "The bumble bee of your sidelong glances now desires to land on the

lotus flower of your eyes, the young swan of your heart now searches for the tender lotus sprout of your passion, and a flood of the honey of joking words now rises on the lotus flower of your mouth. O beautiful Radha, I think you are now preparing a great festival of happiness for the pleasure of Krishna.”

3.2 The age when a girl’s breasts are fully developed, her eyes are restless, and the sentiments of amorous love are fully manifest within her is called the full bloom of youth.

❖ Brinda to Radha, “Your breasts are full and firm, your words crooked, your eyes restless, your hips developed, and your waist slender. O beautiful girl, your full youthfulness is now perfectly suitable to engage in love play with Krishna.”

❖ Shyama to Radha, “O girl with beautiful lips, you now wear a pearl necklace of scratch marks, and your lotus flower garland lies scattered throughout these forest groves. O doe-eyed Radha, how were you able to bind with a glance the handsome lion Krishna, who is like an ocean of chivalrous power, and lead him into the cage of your breasts?”

❖ Once, as Chandra was lamenting the good fortune of Radha, Padma comforted her in this way, “What rival young woman is not afraid of the beauty of your face? What girl doesn’t become stunned by seeing the showers from the rain cloud of your love of Krishna? What girl in Braj has not become your student in the various arts? O Chandra, expert at

relishing the transcendental mellows, you are the reigning light of Braj.”

3.3 Of all the beautiful young women of Braj, some are especially beautiful, such as when a girl’s beauty is so great that her unornamented limbs appear as if decorated with beautiful ornaments.

• Brinda to Lalita, “O Lalita, seeing how beautiful Radha is even though simply dressed without any ornaments, Padma becomes embarrassed and considers all her elaborate efforts to decorate herself with ornaments to be a useless waste of time.”

• Once, as Radha was enjoying pastimes with Krishna, Bishaka addressed her, “My friend, listen, I’ll whisper something in your ear. Please don’t force the moon of your face to become so pale. Rest it against Krishna. Allow it to be reflected in the sapphire mirror of his chest. No other beautiful young woman is reflected there.”

• Krishna says to Radha, “Your face is as beautiful as the full moon. Your chest is splendidly decorated with beautiful large breasts, your arms are nicely connected to your shoulders. Your waist is slim. Your hips are broad, and your gently tapering thighs are very lovely. O Radha, nothing else is as beautiful as your charming transcendental form.”

Pastimes

• Radha and the girls watched as Krishna played ball games with his male friends. Radha then addressed the girls, “Appearing like a moving braid of hair,

Krishna tosses the red ball in the air and then swiftly pursues it. As his large eyes gracefully dance about, following the movements of the ball, Krishna brings us a great festival of transcendental happiness.”

❧ Lalita to Radha, “O most beautiful friend, please accept the personality of bliss. Standing with his right foot placed below the knee of his left leg, the middle of his body curved in three places, and his neck gracefully tilted to the side, he takes his flute to his pursed lips and moves his fingers upon it here and there.”

Costumes

Costumes include garments, ornaments, garlands, jewelry, perfumes, and cosmetics.

❧ Radha to Lalita, “O beautiful Lalita, don’t you see a beautiful garment as splendid as sunlight on Krishna’s hips? This garment now covers the peaceful composure in my heart.”

❧ Krishna to Radha, “All glories to your wonderful, ruby-red silk dress. O Radha, this dress has doubled the passionate love I bear for you in my heart.”

❧ Describing his meeting with Lalita on the pathway, Krishna says to Subal, “With her splendid pearl necklace, the pair of earrings swinging at her cheeks, and her glistening, golden armlets, this Lalita enchants and delights me.”

❧ A girl to Krishna, “O Krishna, why do the sandalwood oil and other fragrant substances

anointing your body arouse such amorous passion in the girls? Why does your garland fill them with ecstatic love for you?"

Things Directly Touching the Beloved

1. Sound of the Flute. ❁ Brinda to Radha and her friends, "The sweet sound of Krishna's flute makes the trees and creepers blossom with happiness. That flute sound is thunder that drowns out the kuhu kuhu chanting of the cuckoos at sunset. That flute sound is a playful breeze that fans the flames of ardent love in the moonfaced girls. That flute sound is a thunderbolt that breaks to pieces the mountain of Radha's peaceful composure."

❁ As Krishna wanders in this pavilion of flowered creepers filled with buzzing bees, he expertly plays his flute creating music very pleasing to the ear. That flute is like a fishhook to catch the fish of the girls' hearts.

2. The Tinkling Sounds of Ornaments. ❁ Krishna, "Moving through the air in waves of sweetness, the tinkling sounds of Radha's ankle-bells silences the cooing of doves maddened with amorous passion. That tinkling sound fills my heart with an abundance of ecstasy."

3. The Sound of the Lute and Other Musical Instruments. ❁ Krishna praises Shyama's lute playing, "Milking the Vedas of their beauty to create the introductory stanza of Cupid's romantic drama, Shyama's glorious lute music brings me great joy."

4. Expert artistic skill. ❁ Radha, "With great artistry, Krishna strung this beautiful flower garland on a silken string. This garland must be Cupid's quiver filled with sharpened arrows to make my heart tremble in this way."

Things Near the Beloved

Glimpses of the Beloved's Friends. ❁ Rupa to her friend, "One day as Radha was drawing dolphins in musk on Bishakha's breast, she happened to glimpse Subal nearby. The sight of Subal reminded her of Krishna. She became agitated with love, the hairs of her body stood up in ecstasy, and she proceeded to draw a picture of Krishna wearing a garland of forest flowers."

ECSTATIC SYMPTOMS

❁ Padma to Radha, "O golden complexioned Radha, now that springtime, the friend of the cuckoos, has made the flowers blossom on the Yamuna's shore, the creeper of your eyebrows has begun to gently dance, and the bumble bee of your eyes, resting now on the flower bud above your tilted stiffened neck, is now moving to and fro between the two creepers of your ears."

❁ Bishaka to Radha, "As you listen to the sound of Krishna's flute, your breasts throb and heave with many sighs, your eyes have become crooked, your cheeks blossom with happiness, your belt has

slipped, and your garments are drowned in perspiration.”

❧ Krishna to Subal, “Grasping a tree branch with the budding reddish twigs of her fingers, Bishakha left the cottage of creepers at daybreak. Her eyes were rolling and her partly disheveled hair moved to and fro on her shoulders. This Bishakha is now living inside my heart, and she will never leave it.”

❧ Krishna to Subal, “Charming Radha is filled with amorous playfulness, and her limbs are marked with rising youthful beauty. This Radha enters my heart and drives me mad with love for her.”

❧ Rupa to a friend, “Standing in the grove by the Yamuna’s shore, wonderfully decorated by the moon light, her beautiful eyes gracefully closed, her perspiration carried away by the gentle breeze, and the splendid necklace broken on her beautiful breasts, youthful Radha aroused amorous desires within the heart of Krishna.”

❧ Rati, “Slightly tilting her head, fatigued and indolent from the circle dance, and pressing her bent foot against the ground, this moonfaced girl jubilantly places her right hand on Krishna’s shoulder and her left hand on his hip.”



❧ Krishna jokingly says to Radha, “O Radha, the love in your heart is greater than my love. I’ll now prove this fact. Your love is so great that it can no longer be

content to remain locked up in your heart. It's now emerging from your heart, and in my presence it's pushing aside the red bodice that stands in its way."

• Krishna to Subal, "When lotus-eyed Radha breathes, her ruby-like nostrils flare wide open, and the pearl on the end of her nose rocks to and fro as if riding on a swing moving in the breeze. This sight has carried Radha into my heart."

• Padma, "When she becomes frightened by the sounds of the cuckoos, where does Chandra find shelter? The answer is, Chandra finds shelter in the arms of Krishna."



• Madhu, "Frightened by thunder, the firm-breasted Radha embraces Krishna and remains stunned and motionless in his arms."

• One girl carried Krishna through her eyes into her heart. She then closed her eyes and embraced him in her heart as if she was a yogi rapt in meditation. In this way, she became flooded with transcendental bliss, and the hairs of her body stood erect.

• A girl addresses Dhanya, "My dear Dhanya, your thighs are stunned, your bodily hairs stand up with happiness, and your eyes are filled with tears. O lotus-faced friend, the blue treasure of Krishna must have secretly fallen in to the palm of your lotus hands."



• Brinda tells Purna, “The exquisitely beautiful girls became exhausted by dancing with Krishna. They moved with slow gracefulness, resting their lotus hands on Krishna’s shoulders. Their curling locks of hair languidly moved on their foreheads, and they became covered with perspiration.”

• After enjoying amorous pastimes with Bishakha, Krishna says, “My dear beautiful Bishakha, now your arms move languidly and your cheeks are covered with perspiration. Your charming form has filled my heart with the nectar of transcendental pleasure.”

• Radha tells Lalita and Bishakha, “When Krishna, as splendid as a slightly blossomed blue lotus petal touches me with his lotus hand, I feel intense pleasure that makes me so excited, my friends, that I no longer know where I am, who I am, or what I am doing.”

• Krishna to Subal, “I said to Radha, O moonfaced girl, come sit on this bed. Why not? Your obedient servant begs you, be kind. In this way, I repeatedly appealed to Radha with many sweet words as she stood in the doorway looking like the beautiful goddess of fortune descended into the Braj forest.”

• Hearing herself being praised, Radha began to shyly retreat. Then, Brinda told her, “O Radha, please don’t shrink from hearing these truthful words. The moonlight of your glory illuminates the

universe. You are the eternal, transcendental ornament on Krishna's chest."

❖ Krishna reads the words of Radha's letter as if he were becoming intoxicated by drinking the nectar of a blossoming lotus flower. Carefully concealing the amorous passion in his heart, he smiles mildly. Who can describe his expression?

❖ "Let Krishna tightly embrace this girl who has fallen at his lotus feet. Let him trample me or break my heart by never being visible to me. He is a debauchee, after all, and can do whatever he likes, but he is still no one other than the worshipful ruler of my heart."

❖ Bishakha to Padma, "Radha is eternally situated in the full bloom of youth. Her beauty astonishes all the doe-eyed girls. She possesses a host of extraordinary transcendental virtues. The supreme male loves her alone and desires no other girl. What other girl is like her in this world?"

❖ Seeing their beloved Krishna, the girls eyes blossomed wide with happiness. The slender girls rose to greet Krishna as if he were their life and soul.

❖ As she gazes upon the form of Krishna, Radha speaks with Lalita, "Is this a nectar moon to make the lotus flower girls blossom with happiness? Is this a regal festival of youthfulness appearing in Braj? Is this a garden of flowers to delight the cuckoo bird of my heart? O slender-waisted Lalita, this person I see now is sprinkling my eyes with waves of nectar."

• A girl to Krishna, “Radha eagerly waits for you. She constantly meditates on you as she decorates her limbs and carefully prepares the bed. Whenever a leaf flutters, she thinks you’ve come. She yearns to enjoy hundreds of pastimes with you. She refuses to spend the night without you.”

• In the middle of the circle dance, Krishna left with the most fortunate girl, Radha. Finding Krishna’s footprints, Chandra addressed the other girls, “O friends, just see! At this particular spot we do not see the footprints of that girl. It appears that because there were some pinpricks from the dried grass, Krishna took her on his shoulder, O, she’s so dear to him.”

• “My dear girls, what auspicious activities must the flute have performed to enjoy the nectar of Krishna’s lips independently and leave only a taste for the girls for whom that nectar is meant. The forebears of the flute, the bamboo-trees, shed tears of pleasure. His mother, the river, on whose bank the bamboo was born, feels jubilation, and therefore her blooming lotus flowers are standing like hair on her body.”

• “O charming friend, don’t become very proud that you’re always drinking the nectar of Krishna’s lips. After all, you only take the remnants of what Krishna’s flute drinks. What are you in comparison to that fortunate flute?”

• Surrounded by many beautiful girls in the midst of the jubilant circle dance festival and blinded with love, Radha tightly embraced Krishna’s chest.

Saying on the pretext of singing his glories, “Your lips are as sweet as nectar,” she passionately kissed him. I pray that Krishna, whose smile enchants the heart, may protect you.

• Lalita asks a swan to deliver the following message to Krishna, “Her hair decorated with fresh, fragrant flowers, and her eyes like flower buds closed in the happiness of sleep as she rests on your lap in the forest cottage terrace, aromatic with the lotus flowers growing in the nearby Yamuna River. When will I serve Radha by fanning her with a bunch of budding twigs?”

• Rupa to Rati, “Her nipples illuminated by the gem on Krishna’s chest, her left arm placed around Krishna, and saying in her sleep, ‘Don’t follow my path. Let me go to the Yamuna alone,’ exhausted, lotus-faced Radha fell deeply asleep in the cave.”

• Rupa says, “Even though the hairs of her body were standing up in ecstasy as she enjoyed transcendental pastimes with Krishna on the summit of Govardhan Hill, still, Radha took time to playfully wipe the perspiration from Lalita’s brow, decorated with curling, disheveled hair.”

STEADY ECSTASY

• Aroused by the darting tongue of the black snake of their ecstatic love for him, the girls have mortally wounded Krishna with the wonder of their sidelong glances. With restless glances from the corner of his

reddish, rolling eyes, Krishna has also shattered the hearts of the girls. I pray that Radha-Krishna may grant auspiciousness to you.

❁ After seeing Radha, Krishna told Madhu, “Who is this girl that wounds me with the sharp arrows of her sidelong glances, shot from the trembling bows of her eyebrows above these jewel earrings?”

❁ Radha tells Bishakha, “When I saw Krishna in the forest by the Yamuna’s shore, his restless sidelong glance bit the delicate creeper-blossoms of my lips, arousing intense love for him within my heart.”

❁ Krishna tells Subal, “My dear Subal, who is that girl on the Yamuna’s shore, her restless glances creating lotus flowers everywhere? She’s enchanted the bumblebee of my heart.”

❁ Radha’s female messenger tells Krishna, “O prince of Braj, when Radha drinks the sweet nectar of your words, she becomes intoxicated with love for you. In this condition, she remains unaware of how her loosened undergarments are beginning to slip from her.”

❁ A girl says, “Filled with unprecedented sweetness, this land of Braj maddens my heart with transcendental bliss. His handsome form like an ornament decorating the three worlds, a certain monarch of amorous heros enjoys transcendental pastimes in this Braj.”

❁ A girl says, “Dark-complexioned Krishna may be ugly, or he may be the crest-jewel of all

handsome men. He may be devoid of all good qualities or he may be the best of all virtuous men. He may hate me, or he may be an ocean of mercy to me. Let him be whatever he may be. He shall always remain my heart and soul.”



❖ Krishna, “Even though I search for charming, graceful Chandra on this autumn night so suitable for happy amorous pastimes, still tossed to and fro by the waves of wonderful pastimes enjoyed by Cupid’s army, Radha patiently waits for me with her heart of sweetest honey.”

❖ One of Pali’s friends tells Krishna, “O Krishna, you’re like a nectar sweet cloud, and Pali is like an ocean of feminine beauty. How is it possible that this ocean of beauty will not melt in your embrace?”

❖ Chandra’s friend Padma addresses Lalita and the assembly of Radha’s friends, “Whenever Chandra arrives, Krishna at once respectfully embraces her from a distance. With her very pure love, she brings Krishna completely under her control. She appears like a white monsoon cloud depleted by showering a great rain of transcendental pastimes with Krishna. To what else may I nicely compare my friend Chandra?”

❖ Krishna to Subal, “Radha is like a nectar statue fashioned from the intense sweetness of love, filled with all transcendental virtues, and softened by

the great heat of ardent passion. When her name enters the abode of my ears, I become immediately filled with incomparable bliss and I forget the existence of the entire world.

❁ Rupa to Rati, "To enjoy the pleasure of touching Radha's nipples, Krishna, his hairs standing up with excitement, dallied for a long time as he slowly painted pictures on her breasts with perspiring fingers. Restless-eyed Radha, anxious that someone may intrude on their pastimes, suddenly pushed him away, pressing her left breast against him."

❁ During the circle dance, one girl jubilantly placed Krishna's lotus hand in hers, and another girl placed her arms around his shoulders anointed with sandalwood paste.

❁ A girlfriend gives Chandra the following advice, "Don't shyly move back when lotus-eyed Krishna places bells around your ankles. The tinkling sounds of those bells will shame all your swanlike rivals."

❁ Bishakha asks Radha, "My friend, what do you tell Krishna when you strongly embrace his shoulders with the two creepers of your arms, and lowering your cheeks, whisper secrets in his ear?"

❁ A girl says, "Resting the two ripe fruits of her breasts on his charming chest, my friend Chandra paints many designs in red dots on the forehead of Krishna."

❁ Radha considered herself Krishna's most beloved girlfriend. She became proud and left the circle dance with Krishna. In the deep forest, she said,

“My dear Krishna, I can’t walk anymore. You can take me wherever you like.”

• As Krishna was about to speak the secret of their nocturnal pastimes, beautiful-eyed Chandra knitted her delicate eyebrows and quickly covered his mouth with her hand.

• Brinda to Nandi, “Defeating Krishna in the gambling match where a kiss had been wagered as the prize, Shyama gazed at him with crooked eyes. She bound his neck with the creeper of her left arm and drank the nectar of his lips.”



• Purna to Nandi, “The peerless, jubilant festival of Radha-Krishna’s mutual love is eternal. It’s never bound by the confines of a single particular birth. Whatever destiny may bring to that couple, their love never wavers. That love is supremely independent and has nothing outside itself for its cause. Those lovers relish the nectar of their association always. That astonishing, blissful love eternally increases in its beauty and opulence.”

• Seeing Krishna from a distance, Radha told Brinda, “Krishna now continually walks on the path way of my eyes. I’ve never before seen such sweetness. My eyes are hardly able to drink even a drop of his charming handsomeness.”

• Radha, “O slender friend, who is this Krishna that when his name enters my ears I lose all composure?” Lalita, “O girl blinded by love, what is it

that now continually plays within your heart?" Radha, "Don't make fun of me!" Lalita, "O bewildered girl, I've now placed you in the hand of this Krishna." Radha, "It's true. It's true. He's now appeared before me like a lightening flash appearing in the courtyard of my eyes."

• Kunda tells Krishna, "O Krishna, what are these unprecedented waves of amorous pastimes where you and your beloved Radha strive to conquer each other? I can see now that Radha has firmly chained the elephant of your heart with the shackles of her love, and you've also bound the deer of her heart with the ropes of the transcendental bliss of your love."



Radha-Krishna devotional literature explains that attachment is present even in the preliminary sentiments of love felt by Radha and her girlfriends towards Krishna.

The varieties of transcendental ecstatic love felt by the goddesses of Braj are beyond the perception of material logic and speculation. The description of them presented in this book is a brief outline only. It is not complete.

In this way, we have described some of the varieties of transcendental erotic love. There are many more varieties, but we have not described them here, fearing a great increase in the size of this book. The

experiences of these varieties of erotic love have for the most part been described in a general way.

Radha-Krishna eternally enjoy the circle dance and other pastimes with the goddesses in the forests of Braj. Radha-Krishna and the girls are never separated.

• Brinda to Kunda, "Now Krishna very firmly presses Radha to him with his arms. She sighs deeply. They expertly celebrate the festival of erotic love and fill the forest grove with the inarticulate sounds of their pleasure. In this way, the moon of Radha-Krishna's erotic union expands."

Because the sweet nectar ocean of devotional pastimes is bottomless and shoreless, it is very difficult to enter. Standing by its shore, I have simply touched it.