Radha and Krishna

I. Radha's Musings

How will I address my Gopal
If I encounter him in heaven or
In hell? I don't know, what I deserve
For falling in love with him.
'Kanha' – no, he may feel offended,
He is a king now. He might have
Forgotten his lovely dialect to
Learn a different language. An
Address as Dwarikadheesh will be
Befitting his position. Will he smile
Mysteriously as ever? Or play on his
Flute or invite me to dance? May be
He no more dances like he used to;
He might have learnt new ones,
The classical ones, apt for his new
Position. Will he be free to talk to me?
How does it matter to me? I have him
In my heart and in my mind. I'll dance
And sing all alone as Meera used to
Oblivious of all, conscious of Krishna.
Where will you run, my dear love!

II. A Dialogue

"Come, Radha come; let us again
Spend some time together and
Relive our days; never passed a
Day when I did not remember
You and moisten my eyes,"
Said Krishna in a hush, hush tone.

Smiling Radha extended her
Hand and they sat both in the
Garden smiling at each other.
Krishna was curiously waiting
For her to speak. Radha understood
The smile and said, "I never
Missed you my Kanha;
You were always there in my heart
You could not abandon it;
My eyes had always kept a
Close watch on your movements;
I never allowed them to blink.
No tears ever came to my eyes;
I know how my trickster could have
Given me a slip in those moments.
I also kept a close watch on the
Moves of Meera. Why to give
Someone a chance and repent later."
Krishna just smiled and pressed her hand.

III. Krishna Meets Radha

"You have not changed a bit,
Radha," said Krishna. "Are you
Not happy to see your friend
Become a king, the King of Dwarka?
How does it matter if it was
Located near the salty water?"
Radha smiled, held Krishna's hand
And looking into Krishna's eyes said,
"Tell me Kanha, when did you last
Play on your flute? When did
You last dance a dance? Was
Satyabhama your dance partner ever?

Did Rukmini ever tie your ringlets?
Didn't you forget to play on your flute?
But, you relied more on your Sudarshan
Which could not play melodies
But hissed and created blood-spates.
People love your flute and dance,
O Murlidhar, but they are afraid of
Krishna holding Sudarshan Chakra.
Do you still have your self-esteem, Kanha?"
Without raising his eyebrows
Krishna was smiling and smiling
While watching Radha from the
Sides of his deep, dark swollen eyes.

IV. Radha's Monologue

"Tell me Kanha, o my Banke,
If you ever remembered your
Cows and gopis once you left
Them to their fate in Barsana;
To whose care did you leave them?
Didn't you know that Yamuna is
Infested with Kalias and Mathura is
Inhabited by Kamsas; how difficult is
It for Ugrasens to rule?
But, you had another kingdom to
Raise and other people to look after.
You thought simple life of a cowherd
Was not meant for you. The crown of
Love was not sufficient for you.
You wanted to wear the crown of a king;
You were so wrong Kanha, so wrong!
How could you miscalculate?
How could the most judicious misjudge?

Who remembers Krishna the King?
People simply hail, the *Bansi vala*.
'*Bansi vare ki jai*,' they shout in ecstasy.
Just look down to your old abode."
The unmindful Niranjana was staring into the sky.

V. Radha's Unusual Prayer

O Kanha, you cared more for Arjun
Than for your old love. Where was
Your judgment lost? When Arjuna
Hesitated to touch your wounds
Why didn't you remember your Radha?
My love would not have diminished
Unlike Arjun's powers. O Pitambar,
Come to me again; lie down here in my lap.
Let me wash the blood-stains on your dress;
Be assured, you will be fit again;
Fit to dance again in the orchids
With your gopis; no goon will
come to violate your gopis; no
Kal Yaman will come when
Radha is by your side.

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