Tha Ap 69 — 67. Vatthadāyaka

English translation by Jonathan S. Walters.

Source: https://suttacentral.net/tha-ap69/en/walters

Source revision: 2d9ca8da858f94302ed6783e2717bf73d651881b

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Text

Therāpadāna

The Legends of the Theras

67. Vatthadāyaka

Walt 1393 I was born as a bird back then,

with good strong wings, a harpy-king.

I saw the Stainless Buddha go

on Gandhamādana Mountain. Verse 1

Walt 1394 Shedding my harpy appearance,

I got dressed in human clothing.

One piece of cloth I gave to the

Lord of Bipeds, the Neutral One. Verse 2

Walt 1395 Having taken that piece of cloth,

the Buddha, the World’s Top Leader,

the Teacher, standing in the sky

spoke these verses about me then: Verse 3

Walt 1396 “Because of the gift of this cloth
and the resolve in his own heart,
abandoning the harpy womb
he’ll delight in the world of gods.” Verse 4

Walt 1397 But Atthadassi, Blessed One,
the World’s Best One, the Bull of Men,
after praising the gift of cloth
then departed facing the north. Verse 5

Walt 1398 When I’m reborn in existence
attainments of cloth befall me;
there’s a canopy in the sky:
that is the fruit of giving cloth. Verse 6

Walt 1399 Seven men named Aruṇaka
were wheel-turners with great power.
In the thirty-fourth aeon hence
they were the lords over people. Verse 7

Walt 1400 The four analytical modes,
and these eight deliverances,
six special knowledges mastered,
I have done what the Buddha taught! Verse 8

Thus indeed Venerable Vatthadāyaka Thera spoke these verses.

The legend of Vatthadāyaka Thera is finished.

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