Ja 232 — The Story about the (Broken) Lute

English translation by Ānandajoti Bhikkhu.

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Changes: Presentation only: original HTML markup reflowed into plain text; wording, numbering and source repetitions retained. No repetitions expanded.

Completeness: COMPLETE. Complete canonical Jataka English verse set; source verse notes retained; narrative story, synopsis, word commentary and trailing collection index excluded. COMPLETE is for this verse set, not the complete source page or all 547 Jatakas.

Text

Verse 1

Having had a sole thought of welfare the fool, who is not a guide, is surely not worthy to join up, dear lady, with the hunchbacked dwarf.

Source note 1.1 (English)

I am understanding vāma to be short for vāmana here.

Verse 2

Thinking this was a bull of a man, I desired this hunchbacked man, this same shrunken person lies down like a lute with a broken string.