Ja 296 — The Story about the Sea

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 verse set in the ABT Cst4-based edition, with paired source Pali and English; 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 — Pali source

1. Ko nāyaṁ loṇatoyasmiṁ samantā paridhāvati,

Macche makare ca vāreti, ūmīsu ca vihaññatī ti?

Verse 1 — English

Who is it that runs about all over this salt water, fending off both the fish and sharks, and harassing the waves?

Verse 2 — Pali source

2. Anantapāyī sakuṇo atitto ti, disāsuto,

Samuddaṁ pātum-icchāmi, sāgaraṁ saritaṁpatin-ti.

Verse 2 — English

Being an endless drinker, a dissatisfied bird, famed abroad, I desire to drink the sea, the ocean and the lord of rivers.

Verse 3 — Pali source

3. So ayaṁ hāyati ceva pūrate ca mahodadhi,

Nāssa nāyati pītanto, apeyyo kira sāgaro ti.

Verse 3 — English

The great ocean dwindles away and is filled up again, the end of its drinking’s not known, the ocean, it seems, is undrinkable.