

## the Goat and the Butcher...

### a love story

*The Master disciple relationship is the love story between the Goat and the Butcher.*

*The Butcher goes around the town looking for a young and suitable Goat to lure into his garden. Tempted by the vision of eternal peace and freedom, the Goat gives up its life, its friends and family and happily follows the Butcher into his garden.*

*The new Goat is given grand welcome; he is treated as a special guest. He is given a special diet of the finest food and sleeps in a cosy corner created especially for him. As the days go by, the Goat grows up... becoming very comfortable, and very-very fat.*

*Then one fine day the Butcher takes out his knife and starts sharpening it. The Goat is surprised at first, then alarmed and then shocked... "How can this be!" he thinks. "The Butcher is my friend!" But the Butcher continues to sharpen his knife and starts practicing the death blow.*

*The Goat knows that his days are numbered and his mind is flooded with thought of chaos and disaster. But after one sleepless night, as the sun appears above the horizon, a new layer of understanding dawns: The Goat looks at the Butcher again as if for the first time, and realizes that the Butcher is not doing anything; he is merely playing his role, fulfilling his destiny as a Butcher. In fact, the Butcher is not there at all. At that moment, all anger for the Butcher vanishes, and all thoughts of escaping the garden are released. Resentment gets converted into love, and the Goat realizes that like the Butcher, it too must fulfill its destiny. Some part of him knows that this is the way it is meant to be, and fighting with fate appears to be pointless.*

*The Goat's mind becomes still and silent and his heart is flooded with a strange kind of joy and anticipation. The Goat walks forward and quietly places his head on the chopping block,*

- *a Master is a Master because He is not there at all* •

*waiting for the final blow. And as the Butcher arrives with his sharpened shiny knife, the Goat says, "What a paradox this is! How can a Goat ever fall in love with a Butcher? How could I ever fall in love with you?"*

*Raising his knife for the final blow, the Butcher compassionately whispers, "Because this is what you wanted all along, this is what you wanted all along."*

*My most beloved Papaji... my most beloved Gurudev, many-many thanks for your countless gifts over the past eight years and especially for the ones you have showered during this mysterious and divine retreat.*

*With love and gratitude... yours, Gyandev.*

Gyandev, are you Indian or a Westerner!? You have an Indian body, but a totally western mind. If you perceive through the heart, you will see me as a doctor or a surgeon... not as a Butcher.

You are seeing through the head; it conveys many things about you – that you are a heady person; you live in the head. When you go into the heart, then you will see me, not as a Butcher... but as a *chikitsak*... as a physician. And you are a person of very-very high potential.

A Master is a Butcher... in a way... no doubt about it. And a Master is a Master because He is not there at all. If He is there, then He is not a Master. And you have seen this.

As you say:

*"The Goat looks at the Butcher again as if for the first time, and realizes that the Butcher is not doing anything.."*

A Master is one who never does anything. The moment you are a Master, you are no more a doer. Right now you are a slave because you are a doer. All the time fighting with the mind; doing something or the other suggested by the mind. You are controlled by the mind, you are a slave to your mind – you are not your Master. And why you are not the Master? ...Because you are a doer.

A Master is one who is not a doer at all.

• *a Master is one who never does anything* •

Just become a non-doer. This much is the clue: Remain a non-doer. When you are passive, you are a non-doer. I am teaching you non-doership in a different way ...Gurudev chuckles... I am telling you: Just remain passive. And just remain passive means remain a non-doer. An act cannot happen without you becoming the doer. The moment the act happens, you identify and become the doer. I am teaching you not to identify, not to become the doer.

Maybe in the beginning, because of old habits, it is difficult. But if you persist... and give it your love, your patience... you *will* realize that the Butcher is not doing anything.

And Gyandev, you are the only person, I believe, who can see through and through that there is no doer here!

*"...and realizes that the Butcher is not doing anything; he is merely playing his role, fulfilling his destiny as a Butcher. In fact, the Butcher is not there at all..."*

That is right! The Butcher is not there at all, but still the butchering happens. That is the mystery – butchering without a Butcher! ...laughter...

*"...At that moment, all anger for the Butcher vanishes, and all thoughts of escaping the garden are released. Resentment gets converted into love, and the Goat realizes that like the Butcher, it too must fulfill its destiny..."*

Yes, you are totally right. Your language is totally western, your thinking is totally western, your seeing is western because you are constantly reading western books. If you had read Indian books, then you would have a different terminology, then you would have a different way of seeing things.

But the point is perfect, the understanding is perfect, the realization is just perfect.

*"...Resentment gets converted into love and the Goat realizes that like the Butcher, it too must too fulfill its destiny. Some part of him knows that this is the way it is meant to be, and fighting with fate appears to be pointless. The Goat's mind becomes still and*

*silent...*

The moment you accept, the moment you leave the fight aside, you become silent and still. This is going to be the result. Clarity will dawn. In that stillness, in that silence, for the first time, you see things *as they are*.

That is what I say all the time: If you are not silent, if you are not still, if you are in the head, then you are projecting; you are not seeing things as they are... you are seeing your own projection. But when you are just silent and still, you can see things as they are. And this is what we call “Heart.” This is the real, spiritual Heart. It is not the emotional heart which is crazy and mad all the time. And it is not the head either, which is always calculative, mathematical, protective and manipulative. This is the real Heart, a balance of both. It has all the positive qualities of heart and all the positive qualities of head. This is the real union... of male and female... of head and heart. And when they are united, when they become one, you see things as they are.

*“...and fighting with fate appears to be pointless. The Goat’s mind becomes still and silent and his heart is flooded with a strange kind of joy and anticipation...”*

Totally perfect. When you are still and silent, joy – abundant joy – is just there. A different kind of happiness, a different kind of peace, a different kind of joy arises... and nourishes you like anything. And in that stillness, in that silence, *you* disappear and God appears.

*“...The Goat walks forward and quietly places his head on the chopping block, waiting for the final blow...”*

A Butcher prepares you to come to this point, where acceptance happens. Not that the Butcher has to do anything. He does nothing. He just remains patient – not doing anything, just waiting. Even “waiting” is not the right word, but his Presence, his very Presence is needed as a catalytic agent. If there is no catalytic agent, this cannot happen. He does not do any butchering, he just pretends to be a Butcher. It is a *pure* happening.

*“...And as the Butcher arrives with his sharpened shiny knife,*

*the Goat says, "What a paradox this is! How can a Goat ever fall in love with a Butcher?"*

One day, the Goat has to fall in love with herself – that is spirituality. Ego has to commit suicide by itself. The Master does not do anything. I am telling you this since many days, in different analogies, in different ways. An analogy is an analogy, but the essence remains the same.

And I am telling you that when you are on the peak, you need a good kick from the Master. I don't mean that He comes and literally kicks you, but something happens. And it happens to each individual in a different way. And nobody knows... neither the Goat knows, nor the Butcher knows... but it happens.

*"...Raising his knife for the final blow, the Butcher compassionately whispers, "Because this is what you wanted all along, this is what you wanted all along."*

Then what happened? ...Let me tell you: The knife disappears, the Butcher disappears... and the Goat also disappears. This should be added in the story... the Butcher is no more a Butcher, the Goat is no more a Goat.

There is no Butcher; there is no Goat.

There is no Master; there is no disciple.

...And nothing has ever happened.

18.01.03, 4.15 pm, Goa, India.