

Then the greater beasts knew him to be only a jackal, and turned on him and slew him. Whatever the natural disposition may be, that will be hard to conquer. If a dog were made king, some time or another he would gnaw his master's shoe.

The parrot was accorded an interview and was so insulting and boastful, that the king grew angry with him, and was about to accept the crow's offer to kill him, when the minister interfered just in time to prevent the disgrace of an ambassador being killed at the court to which he was accredited. A spy brings news of the approaching invaders, and that the goose-king is harboring a traitor. The minister reiterates his belief that the traitor is none other than the crow; but the king misled by the apparent zeal of the crow to kill the parrot, declined to withdraw his confidence. The crow, he said, was a stranger, but strangers were sometimes of great service. A foreigner by his kindness may become as a relation, and a relation by his harshness as a foreigner. The seeds of death are nurtured in one's own body, the healing drug in the distant forest. Did they not know the story of the prince, who, after a short service gave up his only son to save his sovereign,

The invading army was attacked on the march, and suffered great loss. But the fortunes of war were retrieved; the fort was invested; the crow, who was a traitor, threw fire into the stores, and after hard fighting on both sides, the great fortress of the goose-king was taken.

The fourth book relates to peace. It opens with Hiranyagarbha complaining against the evil fate which led him to trust the crow. The minister reminded his majesty, that, though when we err it is pleasanter to blame our unlucky stars than ourselves, nevertheless it is unwise to do so, and it is equally foolish to disregard the advice of well wishing friends, as the tortoise did when he fell from the stick and perished. The story runs. In the Magadha country there is a lake, where lived two geese and a tortoise, who was their friend. One day the tortoise heard some fishermen say, that on the morrow they would fish in that lake, and expected a great catch of fish and turtles. He told his friends the geese, and asked what he should do. They told him they would think over it to-morrow. The tortoise said: his trouble was near at hand, and action must be taken at once to be of any service. Said he, you must at once help me to go to another lake. How can we do that, said the geese? If you, replied