

with Devayānī's dress by mistake, Devayānī treated her as a slave, she being the daughter of a Brahmana Purohita. The Princess became enraged, stripped her and cast her into a well and went away; when she was crying helpless there came Yayāti who was on a hunting expedition. He gave her his upper cloth to wear and lifted her up. Devayānī requested him to be her husband, saying that she had been cursed by Kaca, Br̥haspati's son, to marry only a Kṣatriya. Yayāti agreed and departed. Devayānī reported Śarmiṣṭhā's conduct to her father Śukra who left the palace in disgust. The king implored him on his knees, when Śukra agreed to stay on if Śarmiṣṭhā would be appointed as servant of his daughter. This was agreed upon, and Śarmiṣṭhā became her servant. When Devayānī was married to Yayāti, Śukra presented Śarmiṣṭhā as his daughter's maid. She had two sons Yadu and Turvasu. Learning of her husband's connection with Śarmiṣṭhā during her own pregnancy, Devayānī left for her father's house. Yayāti followed her and was cursed by Śukra to fall a prey to old age. Yayāti appealed to him to mitigate the curse as his desire for enjoyment with his daughter was still keen. Then Śukra said that if anyone would give him his youth and take up old age then he could regain his youth. His son Pūru agreed and once more the king enjoyed the company of Devayānī;² heard the story of an ewe loved by a ram from Yayāti, and thought it was an allusion to her; became detached and cast off her body with her mind on Hari.³

¹ Bhā. V. 1. 34; M. 24. 52-3; Vā. 1. 155; 65. 84; 98. 20; Vi. IV. 10. 4, 20. ² Bhā. IX. 18. 7-51; M. 25. 7; Chh. 26 to 32. ³ Bhā. IX. 19. (whole); Br. III. 1. 86; 68. 15; Vā. 93. 15-16.

Devayānī (II)—a daughter of Jayanti and a granddaughter of Indra.

M. 47. 186.

Devayugas—ten in number.

Vā. 61. 121