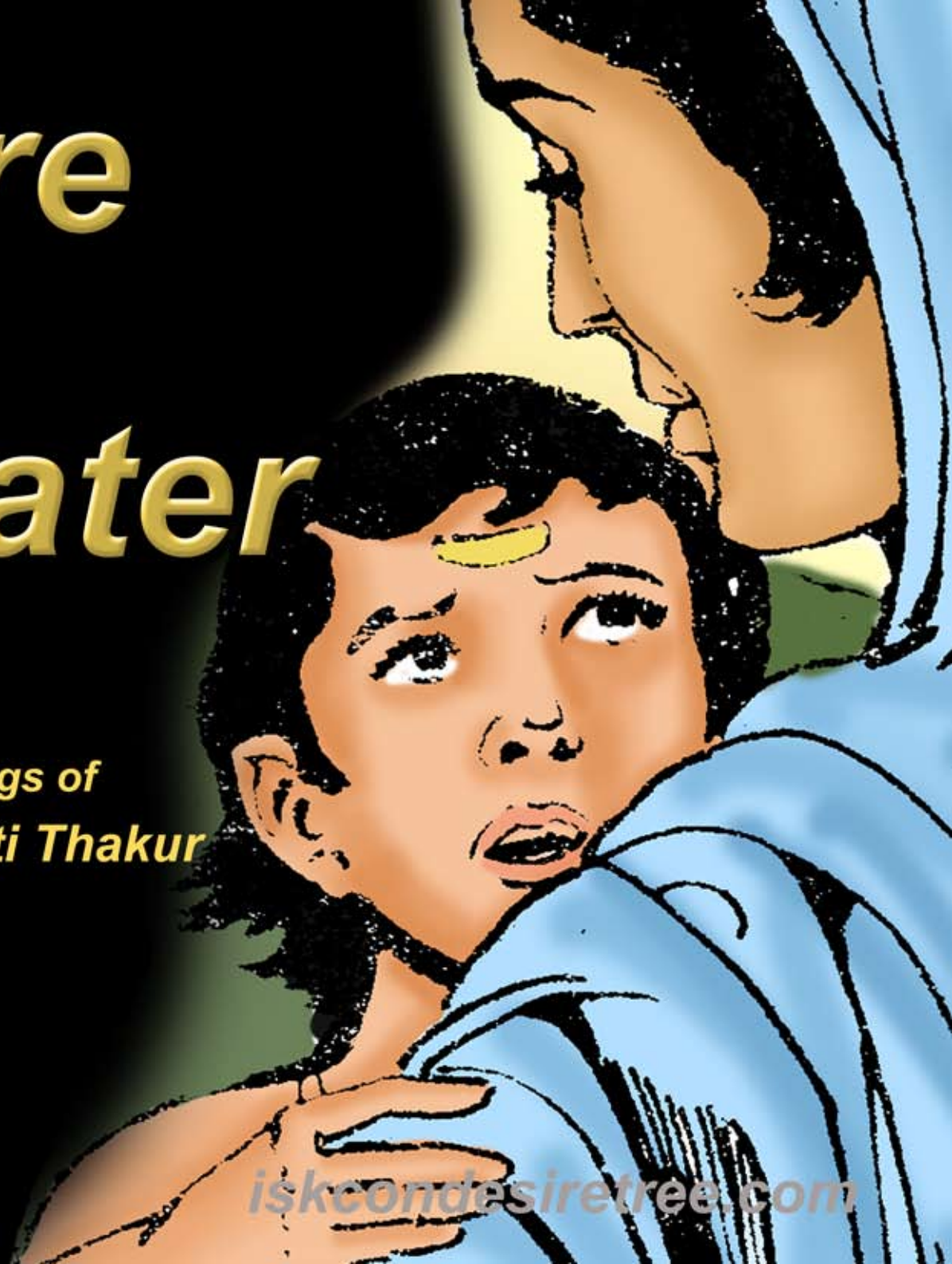



The desire to swim out of water

*Instructive Stories from teachings of
Srla Bhaktisiddhanta Sarasvati Thakur*





Mother I want to join my friends for bath in river.

**No my son. You
take bath at home**



*Why you never allow
me to the river?*



*Since you don't
know swimming,
I am worried that you
may get drowned*




*You never allow me
to the river with my
friends. How will
I learn to swim?*



Once a saintly person advised...

**Why don't
you send
your child to
take bath with
his friends at
the river?**

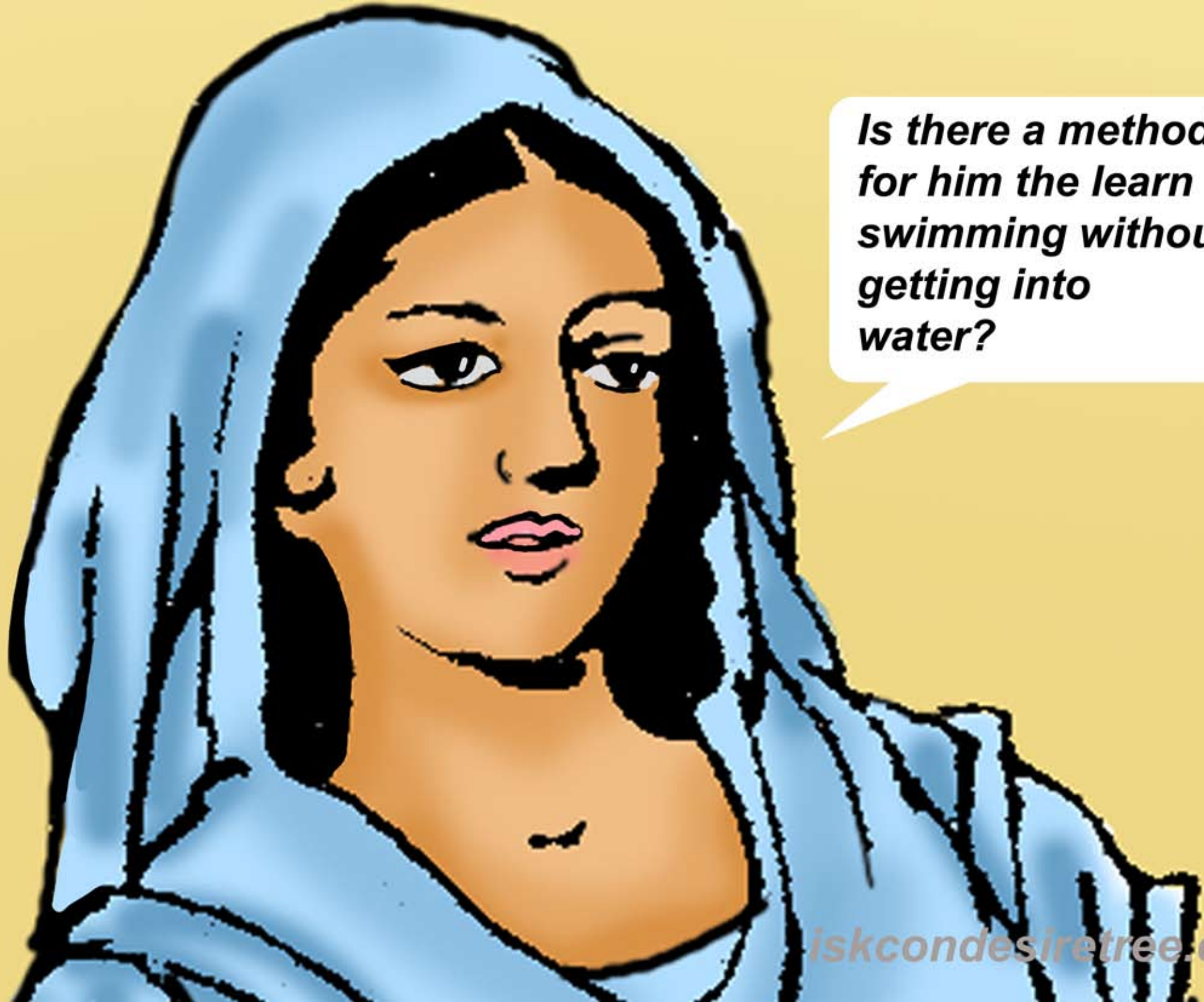


A woman with a blue sari and a blue headscarf is shown from the chest up. She has a concerned expression and is holding the head of a young boy with both hands. The boy is shown from the back of his head and shoulders, looking towards the right. The background is a simple yellow and green landscape.

*He has not learned to swim.
Therefore, I am worried that
my only son may get drowned*

Your son will learn to swim easily if you encourage him to take bath with his friends at the river. For ages all the villagers have been learning this way. If you don't send him to the river than he will never learn swimming. Surely there is danger of drowning for him in future





*Is there a method
for him the learn
swimming without
getting into
water?*

PURPORT

Hearing the instructions and injunctions that one is supposed to suffer a lot or go to hell in the next life unless one practises worshiping Lord Sri Hari, materialists become anxious to ensure their freedom from such sufferings. But they are not at all prepared to render devotional service to the Lord and follow the regulative principles after getting initiated in Krsna Consciousness under the lotus feet of a spiritual master. They indulge in shyness, apprehension, indecision, diffidence etc. , in this respect.

As a result their interest in rendering devotional service to the Lord never materializes. just like a desire to learn swimming out of water. To swim, one must have the requisite, determination and similarly one has to take shelter of a bona-fide spiritual master in order to be qualified in devotional and to overcome all the impediments.