Some of King Krsnacandra's ministers wanted to get rid of Gopal Ban, as he was too cunning.
So they devised one plan, they employed the local barber, as the barber's shop was a place of gossip. He was the king's personal barber.
When the king came to the barber...
Barber asked king...

How are your relatives faring in the heavenly planets?
Well I don't know
You should send someone up to the heavenly planets to find out
What a good idea!
It should be someone very confidential and close to you.
Like your Gopal, for instance
Yes, what a brilliant idea! Gopal should go to the heavenly planets and find out how my relatives are faring.
So the method prescribed for going to the heavenly planets was that Gopal be burned in a fire.
Would you do it?
He was very enthusiastic.

Yes, of course I will do it
So the ministers were very pleased.
But Gopal was very cunning, and he made a trapdoor opening into a tunnel from the stake where he was to be burnt, all the way to his house.
They performed the ceremony
Gopal escaped through the trapdoor and crawled through the tunnel to his house.
And he stayed there
MORAL:

If someone is cunning we must be more cunning

- Srila Prabhupada.