THE MENDICANT WHO BEGGED A POT

INSTRUCTIVE STORIES BY SRILA PRABHUPADA
There was one mendicant.
He had no pot to drink water
He had nothing.
He was just walking around barefoot.
He had no place to live.
So he went to a pot maker
and he begged repeatedly
Please give me a pot.
I will use it for various purposes.
After ten months of begging, the pot maker made a pot and gave it to him.
The mendicant took the pot...
...and he was looking at it

I got a pot!
And he was dancing in this way and that way.
But when he threw the pot up into the air in joy.
He forgot to catch it
MORAL:

This is an expression in South India – a beggar begged for a pot for 10 months, and when he got it he just played with it and broke it. This body is a pot. We beg for 10 months, and then we get the pot. Pregnancy lasts 9 months, and then in the 10th month we come out. But then when we get the pot – "Oh I've got a pot! I've got a pot!" And we engage in sense gratification and then "Phut!" And then one gets another pot.

- Srila Prabhupada.