

VERSE 7
= Sn 149

mātā yathā niyam puttam
āyusā ekaputtam anurakkhe,
evam pi sabbabhūtesu
mānasam bhāvaye aparimānam.

Saddhatissa: Just as a mother would protect her only child at the risk of her own life, even so, let him cultivate a boundless heart towards all beings.

Norman: Just as a mother would protect with her life her own son, her only son, so one should cultivate an unbounded mind towards all beings,

Basham: As a mother cares for her son,
Her only son, all her days,
So towards all things living
A man's mind should be all-embracing.

Rahula: Just as a mother would protect her only child even at the risk of her own life, even so let one cultivate a boundless heart towards all beings.

Woodward: Even as a mother, as long as she doth live, watches over her child, her only child,—even so should one practise an all-embracing mind unto all beings.

Ñānamoli:
(1) Thus as a mother with her life
Might guard her son, her only child,
Would he maintain unboundedly
His thought for every living being.

Ñānamoli:
(2) Thus as a mother with her life
Will guard her son, her only child,
Let him extend unboundedly
His heart to every living being.

Dhammayut: As a mother would risk her life to protect her child, her only child,
Even so should one cultivate a limitless heart with regard to all beings.

Gunaratana: As a mother would risk her own life
to protect her only child,
even so towards all living beings
one should cultivate a boundless heart.

Khantipalo: Just as a mother at the risk of life
loves and protects her son, her only son,
so let him cultivate this boundless love
to all that live in the whole universe;

Aronson: One should cultivate an unlimited mind
Towards all beings
The way a mother protects her only son
With her life.

Narada: Just as a mother would protect her only child at the risk of her own life, even so let him cultivate a boundless heart towards all beings.

New Translation: