CHAPTER THREE

1. Kindle the fire with dried wood and arouse the newcomer (i.e. the fire) with clarified butter. Then place your offerings on it.(1)

2. Offer hot and purified butter to the well-kindled shining omnipresent fire divine.(1)

3. O brilliant and most youthful blazing fire, we augment you with dried faggots and melted butter.(1)

4. O fire, let my faggots covered with offerings and dripping melted butter go to you. Accept them with favour.(1)

5. O being,(1) becoming(2) and bliss(3) ! Vast as sky and extending as earth! O earth, seat of sacrifice for Nature's bounties, on your back I place the food-consuming fire, so that we may gain foodgrains.(4)

6. This fire, having strange-coloured flames, moves. He sits down before the mother (earth; in the form of domestic fire) and goes to the father, the sky as well (in the form of the sun).(1)

7. The radiance of this fire penetrates within just as out-breath comes from in-breath. Thus the great fire illuminates the sky.(1)

8. He resides in thirty places. Praise is offered to the fire divine every day in the festive morning.(1)

9. Fire the light, light the fire. *Svāhā.*(1) Sun the light, light the sun. *Svāhā.*(2) Fire the lustre, light the lustre. *Svāhā.*(3) Sun the lustre, light the lustre. *Svāhā.*(4) Light the sun, sun the light. *Svāhā.*(5)

10. May the fire divine, in consonance with the Creator God as well as with the night associated with the resplendent Lord, be pleased to come here and enjoy. *Svāhā.*(1)
May the sun, the illuminator, in consonance with Creator God as well as the dawn associated with the resplendent Lord, be pleased to come here and enjoy. *Svāhā.*(2)

11. Approaching the sacrifice, let us recite the verses of praise for the adorable Lord, who hears us even if He is afar.(1)

12. The fire divine is the head (of Nature's bounties), the summit of the heaven, the lord of the earth; it sustains the seed of aquatic life.(1)

13. O resplendent Lord and O adorable Lord, I invoke both of you for performing the sacrifice and for feasting together on the offerings. Both of you are bestowers of food and riches; I invoke both of you to gain vigour.(1)

14. O fire divine, this is your right place of birth, in all seasons, whence as soon as you spring to life, you ever shine. Knowing this, may you stay here and make our riches grow.(1)

15. This invoker of Nature's bounties, adored in worship, has been assigned a foremost place by the performers of noble deeds. This is the cosmic fire, marvellous in action and sovereign over all, whom the wise sages, and their descendants harness for domestic purposes and for the benefit of mankind.(1)

16. Following His eternal radiance, the learned ones have drawn the bright milk of knowledge from thousands of cows.(1)

17. O adorable Lord, you are protector of bodies; protect my body. O Lord, you are bestower of long life; bestow long life on me. Bestower of lustre you are; bestow lustre on me. O Lord, whatever deficiency I have in my body, kindly make it up for me.(1)

18. O adorable Lord, having enkindled you, may we keep you burning bright for a hundred winters. You are giver of life; may we get long life. You are giver of courage; may we have courage. You are destroyer of enemies and yourself uninjured; may we remain uninjured. O night, rich in shining stars, may I reach your end safe and secure.(1)

19. O adorable Lord, you come with the brilliance of the sun, hearing the praises offered by sages, to the place you love. May I be blessed with long life, lustre, progeny and plenty of wealth.(1)

20. You are food; may I eat your food. You are respectable; may I also enjoy your respect. You are vigour; may I receive your vigour. You are plentiful riches; may I enjoy your plentiful riches.(1)

21. O wealth bestowing Nature's bounties, stay happily in this abode, in this fold, at this place, in this dwelling. Stay just here; do not go away.(1)

22. You are concentrated energy of every form. May you enter me so as to make me master of my sense-organs. Day and night we approach you, O Lord, with reverential homage through sublime thoughts and noble deeds.(1)

23. We approach you, O Lord, the radiant, the sustainer of the cosmos, the constant illuminator of truth, with humility to appreciate the glory ever-increasingly manifested in your creation.(1)

24. O Lord, be unto us easy of access, as a father is to his son. May you be ever-present with us for our sake.(1)

25. O adorable Lord, be our nearest friend, a protector, benefactor and a gracious friend. O adorable Lord, giver of dwellings and dispenser of food, be near us and bestow upon us wealth, splendidly renowned. (1)

26. O most bright and resplendent adorable Lord, we earnestly solicit you for the happiness of ourselves and our friends. So please do understand us, and hear our invocation; may you keep us far from malevolent people.(1)

27. Come O divine wisdom, come O eternal life.(1) Come O all the desirable objects. May I obtain my heart's desire from you.(2)

28. O Lord, the preceptor, please make the seeker illustrious, who offers devotions to you, and make him talented too, just as those who specialize in creative activity.(1)

29. May He, who is opulent, the healer of the week-minded, and acquirer of riches, augmenter of nourishment, the prompt bestower of rewards, be favourable to us.(1)

30. Protect us, O all-wise God, so that no cruel censure of a malevolent creature may reach us.(1)

31. May we have great, wealth-giving and unassailable protection from the three, the sun, the wind and the waters.(1)

32. Over such people, may the sinful enemy never have sway either at their homes or on dangerous highways.(1)

33. They, the sons of Eternity, provide continuous light to mortal man, so that he may live long.(1)

34. O resplendent, you never injure a sacrificer; on the other hand you favour him. O Lord of wealth, your divine donation to sacrificer always increases more and more.(1)

35. May we imbibe in ourselves the choicest effulgence of the divine creator, so that he evokes our intellects.(1)

36. O adorable Lord, may your indestructible chariot, with which you guard donors, offer us protection from all the sides.(1)

37. O being, becoming and bliss! May I be a good progenitor with children; may I be a good father with sons; may I be opulent with riches.(1) O friendly to men, protect my progeny.(2) O praiseworthy, protect my cattle.(3) O unperturbable, protect my food.(4)

38. We have approached you the omniscient Lord. You are the donor of best riches to us. O foremost emperor, bestow on us power and glory.(1)

39. This fire is the lord of the house. This is most useful for the household. This bestows wealth for the sake of progeny. O fire, lord of the house, bestow on us power and glory.(1)

40. This fire is the vitality in animals, source of riches, strengthener and invigorator. O fire, vitality of animals, bestow on us power and glory.(1)

41. O homes, don't be frightened; do not tremble; full of vigour here I come. I come to you O homes, full of vigour, with a good heart, with good intellect and with a cheerful mind.(1)

42. We are approaching the homes, of which a person travelling afar thinks time and again and where there is a lot of affection. We remember and recognize them. May they also recognize us.(2)

43. I have found the cows in good condition and in good condition the goats and sheep have been brought to me. And the delicious foods abound in our home.(1) I approach you for safety and peace. May I have joy, happiness and bliss here.(2)

44. We invite the soldiers, who are good eaters and killers of bad people. Let them enjoy our barley meal.(1)

45. Whatever sin we commit either in village or in the wild, whether in assembly or in privacy or with our bodies, we expiate ourselves from it by performing this sacrifice.(1)

46. O resplendent illustrious leader, associated with your brave comrades, abandon us not in the grim struggle of life which confronts us at every step. For O mighty one, the bestower of blessings and kind accepter of our oblations, whilst we have the greatest regard for you, we have no less regard for your brave associates also, and we have all praise for them too.(1)

47. Experts have performed their work with delightsome voice. Having completed your work for Nature's bounties, all you friends, depart for your several homes.(1)

48. O purificatory sacrifices, you are ever-moving like ocean; however, may you slow down your movement here, so that I may get atoned by the enlightened ones the sins committed against the enlightened, and by mortals the sins committed against the mortals. O Lord, protect me from the torturing sins.(1)

49. O ladle, full to the brim may you go up, and come down overflowing still. O accomplisher of noblest deeds, let both of us barter our merchandise, i.e. mine the food and your's the vigo (1)

50. Give me and I give to you. Fulfil me and I fulfil you. Present to me your gifts and I present to you mine. *Svāhā.*(1)

51. The sense-organs had their sufficient enjoyment through the pleasure you have given them. And under the thrill of joy, they have glorified you with commendatory thoughts. So, now, O resplendent self (the lower self), it is high time that you put restraint on them.(1)

52. O bountiful self, we praise you, since you look benignly on all. Thus praised by us, and fully equipped, may you ride on your chariot (human body). May you proceed on righteous path, and put your senses in control.(1)

53. With songs praising the common people and with lyrics praising the elders, we invoke the mind.(1)

54. May our spirit return to us for active and efficient living. May we see the sun for long.(1)

55. O elders and enlightened ones, may you give us again the spirit, so that we may live with family of the living.(1)

56. O blissful Lord, regaining spirit in our bodies, may we, having good progeny, abide by your laws.(1)

57. O vital breath, this portion (of oblation) is for you. Take it and enjoy it with your sister, the autumn. *Svāhā.*(1) O vital breath, this is your portion; let tubers be your food.(2)

58. We have pleased the vital breath the triocular, so that he may provide us with decent accommodation, make us more respectable in society and endow us with firm determination.(1)

59. You are the healing remedy; remedy for cow, for horse and remedy for man; relief for ram and ewe.(1)

60. We worship the mother of three regions, with fragrant fame, and the augmenter of prosperity; may I be liberated from death like a cucumber from its stalk, but not bereft of immortality.(1) We worship the mother of three regions, with fragrant fame and who avails protectors for us; may I be liberated from this world, like a cucumber from its stalk, but not bereft of that one.(2)

61. O vital breath, the commander of the vital system, here is food for your journey. Take it and depart. Go across the grassy mountain with your bow unstrung and covered with cloth, wearing skin. Pleased with our homage go without causing any injury to us.(1)

62. Men full of vital heat live three spans of life; men of vision also live three spans of life. The enlightened ones also have three spans of life. May we be blessed with the same three spans of life.(1)

63. O gracious God, your name is auspicious; your adamantine determination is our protector. Our reverence to you. May you not injure me.(1) I aspire for long life, for foodgrain, for progeny, for wealth and prosperity, for praiseworthy offspring and reputed valour.(2)