SN 1.5 — Cut How Many?

English translation by Bhikkhu Sujato.
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Text

Linked Discourses 1.5

1. A Reed

Cut How Many?

At Sāvatthī.

Standing to one side, that deity spoke this verse in the Buddha’s presence:

“Cut how many? Drop how many?

Develop how many more?

When a mendicant slips how many chains

are they said to have crossed the flood?”

“Five to cut, five to drop,

and five more to develop.

When a mendicant slips five chains

they’re said to have crossed the flood.”