SN 1.21 — A Sword

English translation by Bhikkhu Sujato.
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Text

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3. A Sword

A Sword

At Sāvatthī.

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

“Like they’re struck by a sword,

like their head was on fire,

a mendicant, mindful, should go forth,

to give up sensual desire.”

“Like they’re struck by a sword,

like their head was on fire,

a mendicant, mindful, should go forth,

to give up substantialist view.”