AN 5.230 — Black Cobras (2nd)

English translation by Bhikkhu Sujato.
Source: https://suttacentral.net/an5.230/en/sujato
Source revision: 3bc8665e0e28e70518eba94304a2fafcab80f933
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Text

Numbered Discourses 5.230

23. Long Wandering

Black Cobras (2nd)

“Mendicants, there are these five drawbacks of a black cobra. What five? It’s irritable, acrimonious, venomous, fork-tongued, and treacherous. These are the five dangers of a black cobra.

In the same way there are these five drawbacks of a lady. What five? She’s irritable, acrimonious, venomous, fork-tongued, and treacherous. This is a lady’s venom: usually she’s very lustful. This is a lady’s forked tongue: usually she backbites. This is a lady’s treachery: usually she’s an adulteress. These are the five drawbacks of a lady.”