



**Dear Sivarama Swami,**

**Hare Krishna.** Please accept my humble obeisances. All glories to Srila Prabhupada. I hope you don't mind my writing to you. I have never written to a spiritual master before. You don't know

me. My name is Bhaktin Dora and I live in Pecs (Hungary). I'm 14 years old, and I live at home with my mother and older sister.

In 1992 I went to the Hare Krishna Festival with a friend. I was not very interested, but I enjoyed the chanting and dancing at the end. After it was over I bought a book, The Science of Self-Realization. I don't know why; generally I never read. I think it was because of the chanting.

I took the book home and cannot remember what happened to it. One day my mother found it and was very angry with me. She thought that I was reading this kind of thing. You see, our family members are very strict Catholics. They thought Krishna consciousness was some kind of "brainwashing". Actually I wasn't reading the book; I had forgotten all about it. Somehow it just "appeared." Anyway, my mother was going to throw it away.

My grandmother, who is 68, was in the kitchen at that time. She lives in the apartment upstairs. She came in and took the book. She looked at it and scolded me in a very heavy way. I thought that would be the end of it. I did not mind so much, as I was in a lot of maya at that time.

About a week later I overheard a conversation between my mother and my grandmother. Granny was saying that this was not some ordinary book. She said that what Prabhupada was saying is what Jesus Christ said and that Krishna is God. I was very surprised. She said that we should listen to what Prabhupada said and chant hare Krishna because that was the religion for this age. There was a lot of talk about how Christianity was no more and no one was following

the Bible but what Prabhupada said was pure and perfect. Things really took a turn from here. One day my grandmother visited the nama-hatta (local Krishna center) here and began to chant on beads. She also began to buy Prabhupada's books one by one. She was spending all her pension buying what she called the "beautiful holy Bhagavatam". Sometimes she could only afford to eat potatoes, but she kept buying the books. The devotees even came to her flat and helped her set up an altar. When I went upstairs there were Krishna pictures everywhere.



That was really the beginning. One night Granny had a dream about Prabhupada. Something really happened to her then. I don't know what it was, but she begun to get very enthusiastic. Next she begun to get the whole family involved. I mean, not just me and my mother and sister, but her two sons, their wives and six children, as well as her brothers, sisters, and relatives. Before she used to carry a Bible with her and quote Jesus Christ. Now she has a Bhagavad-gita

and quotes "the good Lord Prabhupada". She became a veritable transcendental terror. Everyone in the family has to chant at least one round a day. In addition Granny made everyone become a vegetarian including my dog Sikra, and we offer our food to a picture of Prabhupada and Lord Caitanya.

**N**ow I am also getting out of maya and chanting and reading a little also. Where I go to school my friends inquire about Krishna, since they know I am a devotee. The whole family goes to the nama-hatta, all sixteen of us. During the Christmas marathon (for book distribution), we all tried to distribute Prabhupada's book. Even Granny would take books with her to the market and sell them to the vendors. Everyone is afraid of her because she is fearless. They all think she has gone crazy, but she doesn't care.

**N**ow she is saving to go to Budapest to see the newly installed Deities. She has heard that Lord Caitanya and Lord Nityananda "came" to Hungary and are being worshiped there by the devotees. She says she wants to see God just once in this life.

Written by Bhaktin Dora

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At this time of the year, it is a tradition to celebrate the birth of Lord Krishna. On this day, devotees perform various rituals and offer prayers to the Lord. You may find many articles and videos on the internet. If you are interested in this topic, please visit our website. You will find many interesting articles and videos. If you are interested in this topic, please visit our website. You will find many interesting articles and videos.