

The hermit and the ruler

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An old hermit was once invited to visit the court of the most powerful king of those times.

"I envy such a saintly man, who is content with so little." said the ruler.

"I envy Your Majesty, who is content with even less than I," responded the hermit.

"How can you say such a thing, when this entire country belongs to me?" said the offended king.

"For precisely that reason. I have the music of the celestial spheres, I have the rivers and mountains of the whole world, I have the moon and the sun, because I have God in my soul. Your Majesty, on the other hand, has only this kingdom.?"

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