

4. Who is the real culprit according to the king?
Why does he escape punishment?

Ans) The real culprit according to the king is the merchant because although his old father was the real murderer he was dead and someone had to be punished in his place.

He escapes the punishment because he is too thin to be properly executed on the stake.

5. What are the guru's words of wisdom? When does the disciple remember them?

Ans) The guru's words of wisdom were that if was the city of fools. He advised the disciple to leave ^{the} city because he would not know what they would do next. The disciple remembers this when he was going to be executed.

6. How does the guru manage to save his disciples' lives?

Ans) The guru tries to confuse the King by expressing his desire to be killed first. Then to further confuse the King he tells the story of becoming the King in the next incarnation. Apparently it may sound like a case of pure lie to save your dear one's life. But if we go deeper, consciously or unconsciously, the sage is trying to save everybody's life in the Kingdom. Ultimately he is able to pull everybody out of the misery of living in the Kingdom of fools.