Two monks were on their way returning to the monastery. When they got to a stream, a young woman in beautiful fine clothes was standing there. It had rained heavily and the stream was brimming with rushing water. Learning that the young woman didn’t dare to cross the stream because the water would ruin her fine clothes, the elder of the two monks offered to carry her across the stream. With the woman’s consent, the old monk lifted her in his arms and carried her to the other side of the stream before he put her down.

The two monks continued their journey to the monastery. About half an hour later the younger monk asked the elder monk, “Sir, as monks, we cannot touch a woman. Yet, you carried that woman across the stream back there. I don’t understand.” The elder monk answered calmly, “I put her down when we got to the other side of the stream. Why are you still carrying her?”

http://viewonbuddhism.org/resources/buddhist_stories.html