



# GHATOTKACHA

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#### **Script**

Lakshmi Seshadri

#### **Illustrations**

Umesh Burande

#### **Editor**

Anant Pai

*Cover illustration by: Khalap*

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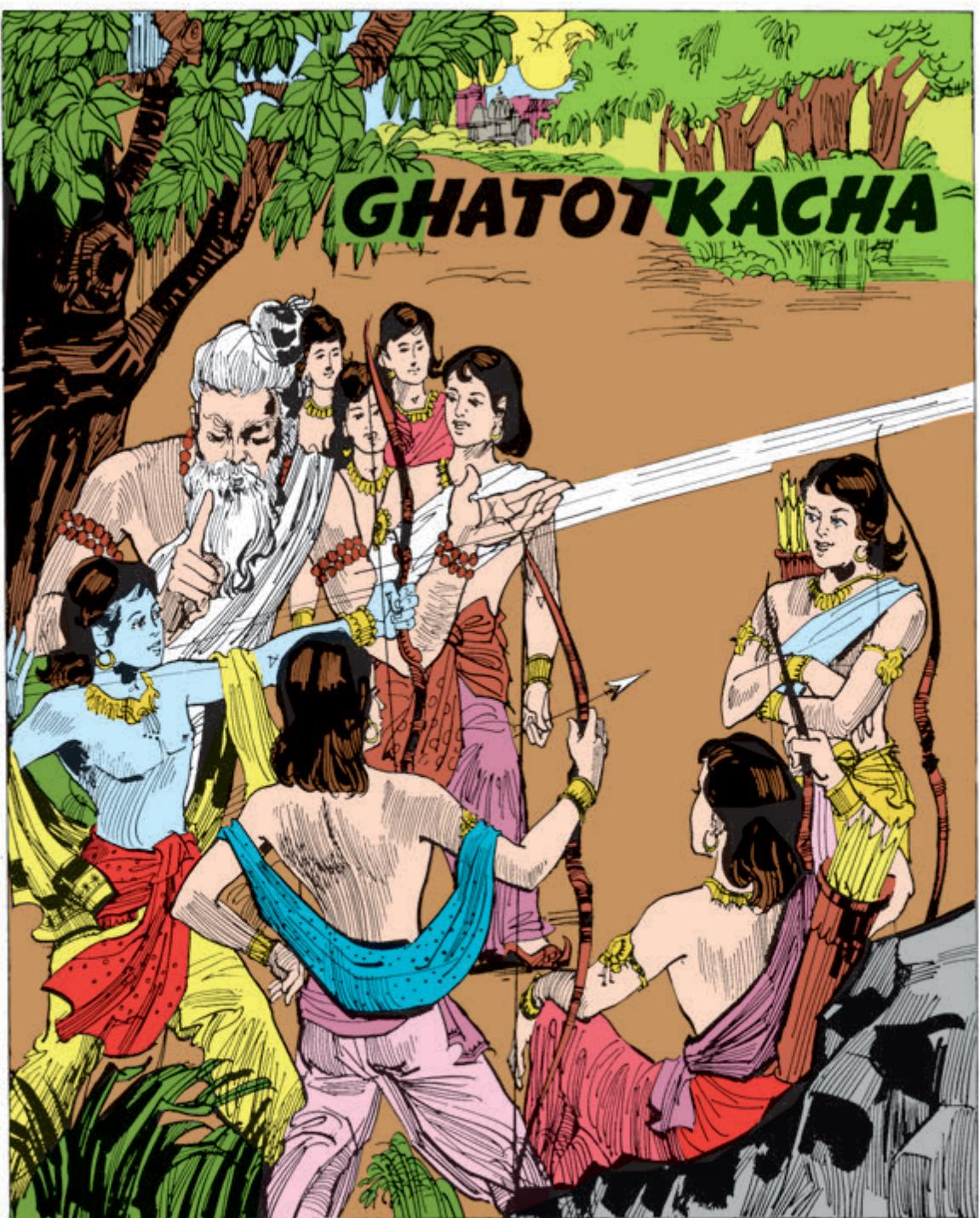
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# GHATOTKACHA



THE KAURAVA PRINCES AND THE ORPHANED PANDAVA PRINCES WERE COUSINS. THEY GREW UP TOGETHER AT HASTINAPURA IN THE CHARGE OF THEIR GRAND-UNCLE, BHEESHMA.

BUT THE KAURAVAS WERE JEALOUS OF THEIR COUSINS.

UNCLE BHEESHPMA IS PARTIAL TO THE PANDAVAS.

THE PEOPLE TOO LOVE THEM MORE THAN US.

JEALOUSY SOON TURNED INTO HATRED. DURYODHANA, THE ELDEST KAURAVA THOUGHT OF A WICKED PLAN.

WE WILL SEND THEM TO VARANAVATA TO LIVE IN THE HOUSE OF LAC. AND THEN SET FIRE TO IT.

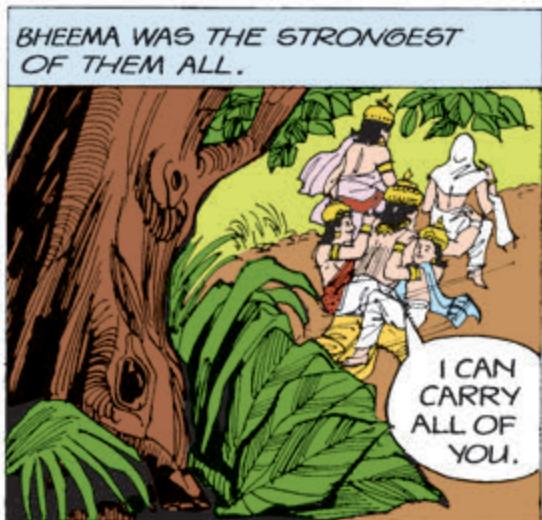
WHEN THE PANDAVAS ARRIVED AT VARANAVATA, YUDHISHTHIRA, THE ELDEST OF THEM TURNED TO THE OTHERS -

THIS IS A TRAP!

THE PANDAVAS SECRETLY HAD A TUNNEL MADE FOR ESCAPE.

BEFORE WE LEAVE, WE MUST SET FIRE TO THIS HOUSE.

AFTER SETTING THE HOUSE ON FIRE, THE PANDAVAS AND THEIR MOTHER, KUNTI, ESCAPED THROUGH THE TUNNEL.



WHEN HIDIMBAA CAME IN SEARCH OF THE PANDAVAS SHE SAW BHEEMA FIRST.

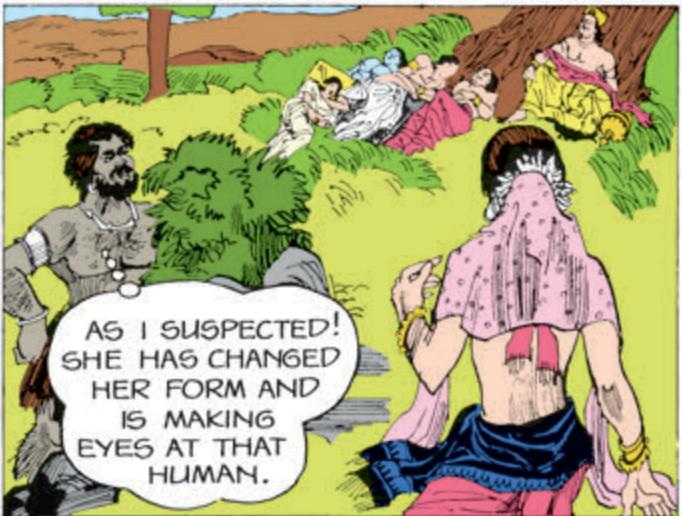
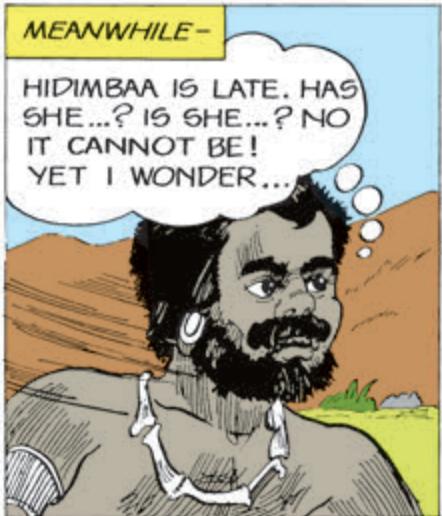
HOW HANDSOME HE IS!  
I DON'T WANT TO EAT  
HIM. I'LL MARRY HIM.

I SHALL CHANGE MYSELF  
INTO A BEAUTIFUL  
GIRL. THEN HE WILL  
FALL IN  
LOVE WITH  
ME.



MEANWHILE -

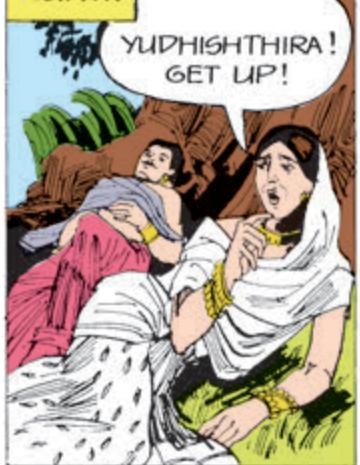
HIDIMBAA IS LATE. HAS  
SHE...? IS SHE...? NO  
IT CANNOT BE!  
YET I WONDER...

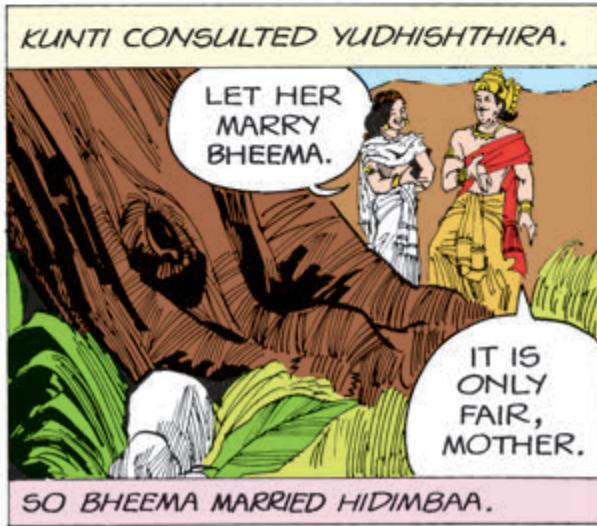
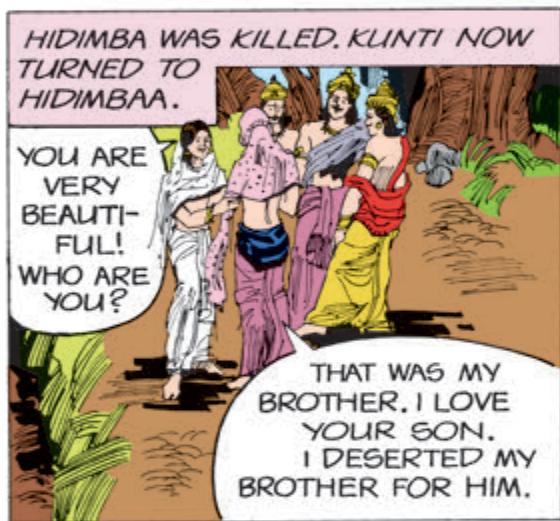
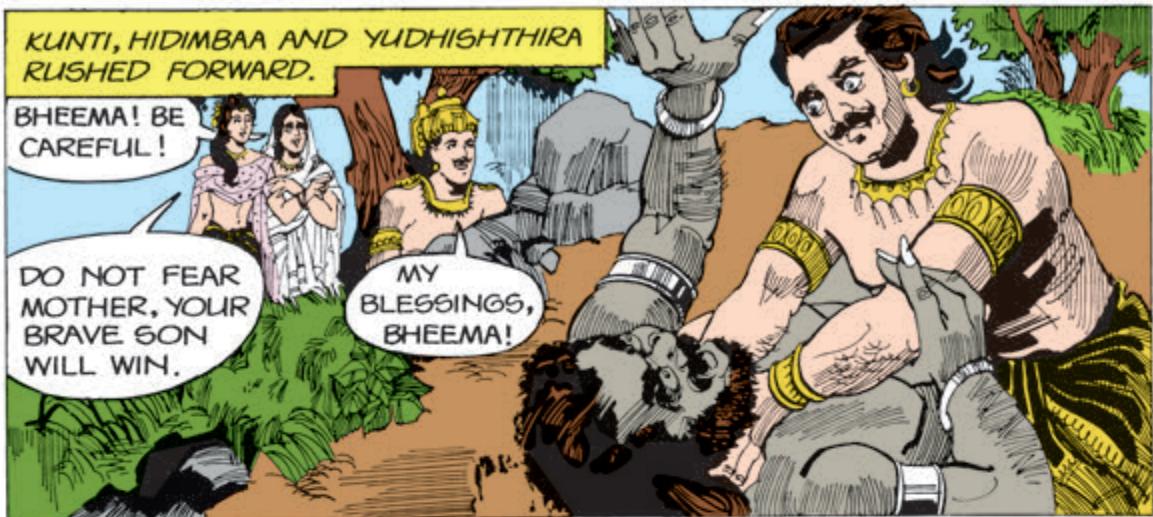


HIDIMBA CHALLENGED BHEEMA AND THEY FOUGHT.



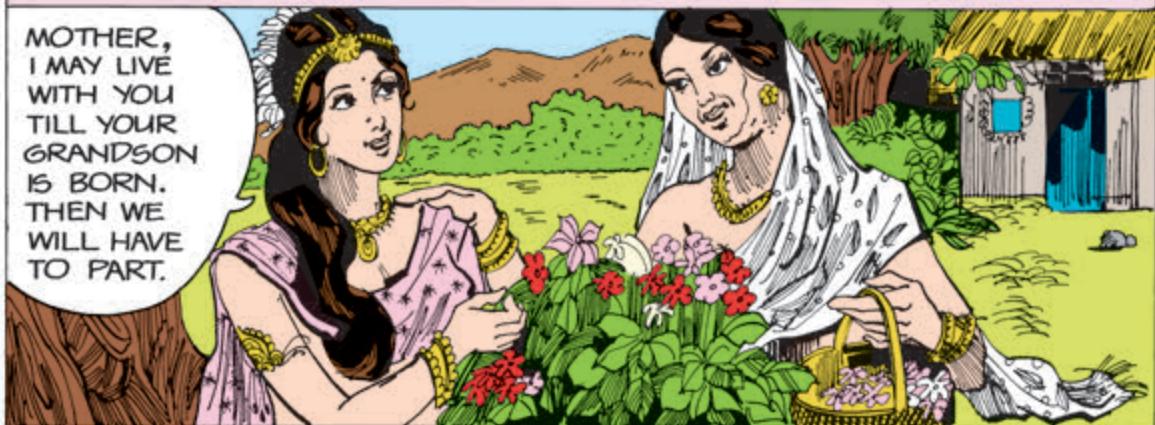
THE NOISE AWOKE  
KUNTI.





HIDIMBAA WAS A DEVOTED DAUGHTER-IN-LAW.

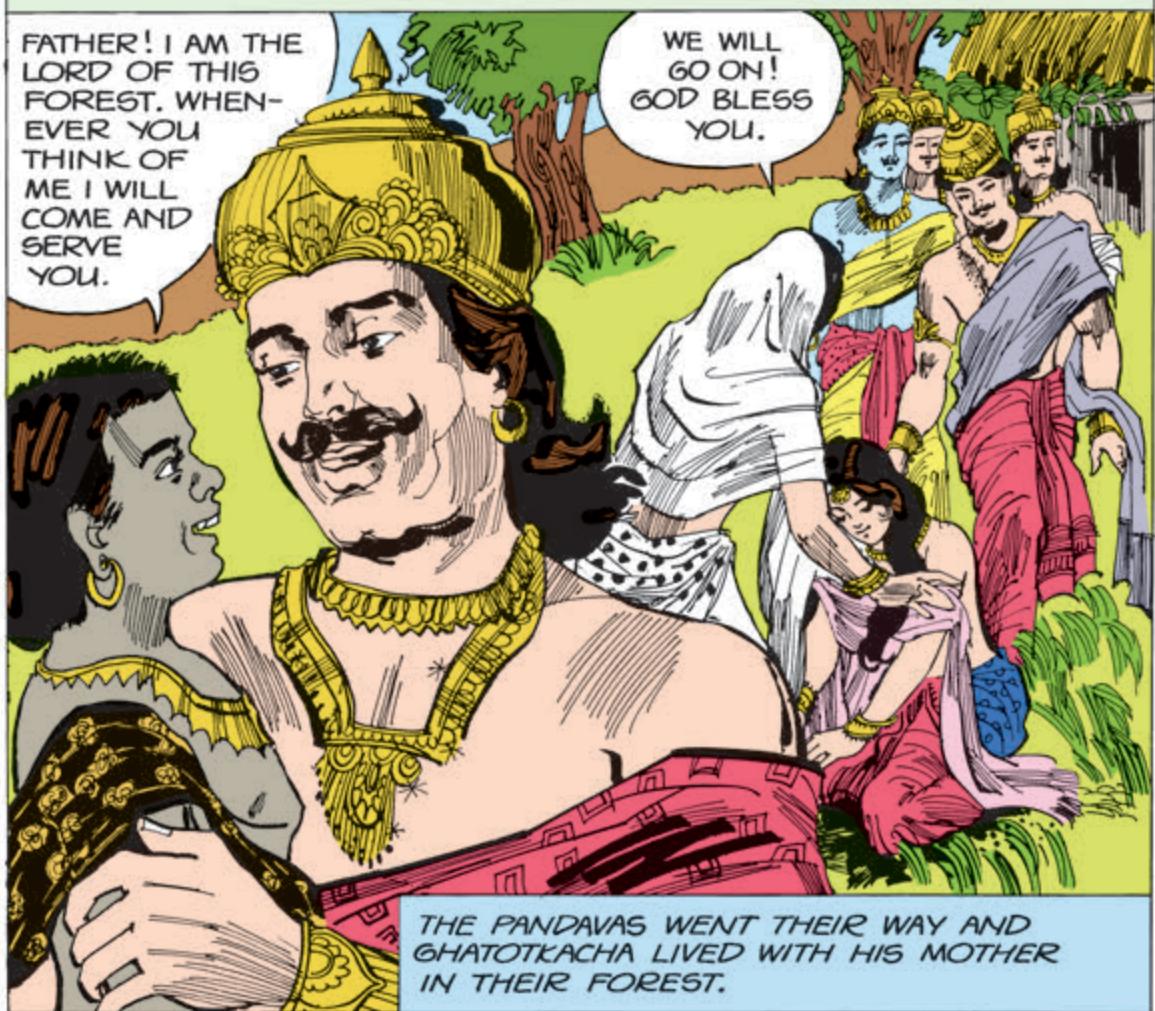
MOTHER,  
I MAY LIVE  
WITH YOU  
TILL YOUR  
GRANDSON  
IS BORN.  
THEN WE  
WILL HAVE  
TO PART.



NOT LONG AFTER, BHEEMA'S SON, GHATOTKACHA, WAS BORN. BEING A RAKSHASA HE KNEW ALL THEIR MAGIC AND WAS FULL-GROWN AT BIRTH.

FATHER! I AM THE LORD OF THIS FOREST. WHEN-EVER YOU THINK OF ME I WILL COME AND SERVE YOU.

WE WILL GO ON!  
GOD BLESS YOU.



THE PANDAVAS WENT THEIR WAY AND GHATOTKACHA LIVED WITH HIS MOTHER IN THEIR FOREST.

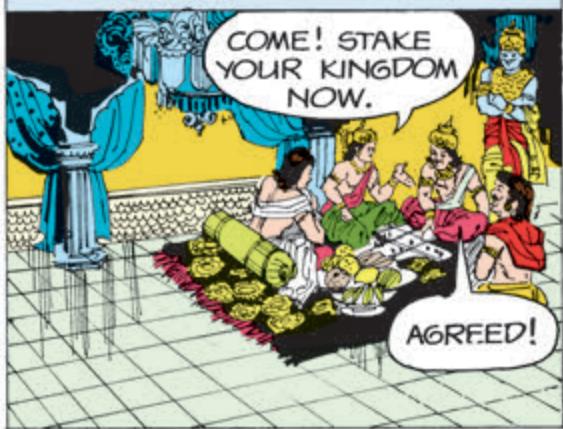
MANY YEARS PASSED BY. THE PANDAVAS BECAME THE RULERS OF INDRAPRASTHA WHERE THEY BUILT A BEAUTIFUL PALACE. YUDHISHTHIRA PERFORMED THE RAJASUYA SACRIFICE. THE KAURAVAS WERE JEALOUS OF THEIR SUCCESS.



SO THE KAURAVAS INVITED THE PANDAVAS TO HASTINAPURA.



YUDHISHTHIRA PLAYED AND LOST ALL HIS WEALTH.



HE LOST HIS KINGDOM TOO. BUT HE CONTINUED TO PLAY.



YUDHISHTHIRA LOST. THE PANDAVAS HAD TO LEAVE FOR THE FOREST, WITH DRALIPADI, THEIR QUEEN.



WHEN THEY HAD GONE, ARJUNA'S WIFE, SUBHADRA, A YADAVA PRINCESS, TOOK THEIR SON, ABHIMANYU, TO THE YADAVA KINGDOM.

ABHIMANYU, YOUR UNCLE BALARAMA HAS GONE BACK ON HIS WORD. HE IS GIVING VATSALA TO \*LAKSHMANA.

MY REPUTATION IS AT STAKE. LET US GO TO DWARAKA.



ON THE WAY TO DWARAKA—

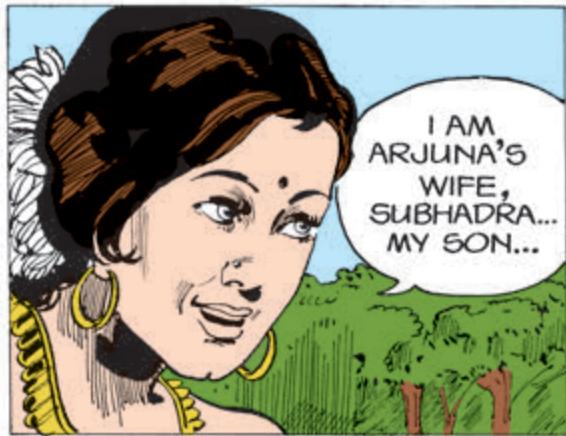
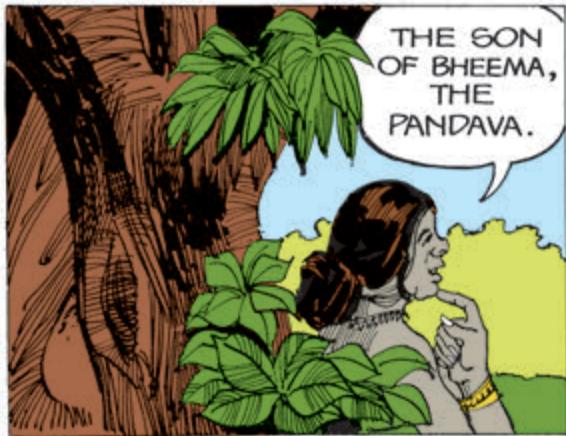


DRIVE QUICKLY, ABHIMANYU. I DON'T FEEL SAFE.



\*DURYODHANA'S SON.

BALARAMA'S DAUGHTER



SUBHADRA TOLD HER STORY.

SISTER! MY BROTHER,  
BALARAMA, HAS  
GONE BACK ON HIS  
WORD.

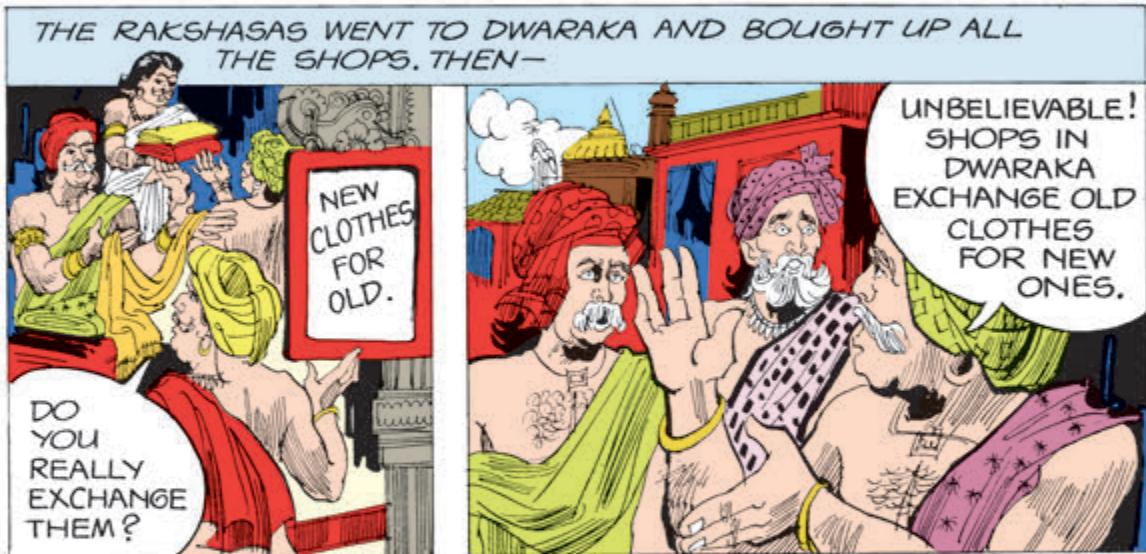
ABHIMANYU WAS  
BETROTHED  
TO HIS  
DAUGH-  
TER,  
VATSALA.

BUT NOW THAT ARJUNA  
IS IN EXILE, VATSALA  
IS TO MARRY  
LAKSHMANA,  
THE SON  
OF THE  
KAURAVA,  
DURYODHANA.

WE ARE  
GOING TO  
DWARAKA  
TO TRY  
AND  
PREVENT IT.

GHATOTKACHA PROMISED TO HELP THEM.

DON'T WORRY, MOTHER!  
TAKE OUR GUESTS  
HOME. I WILL  
SETTLE THIS  
MATTER.



MEANWHILE GHATOTKACHA ENTERED VATSALA'S ROOM.



GHATOTKACHA LEFT VATSALA WITH ABHIMANYU AND RETURNED TO DWARAKA.



THE NEXT MORNING THE BRIDE WAS LED TO THE MARRIAGE HALL.

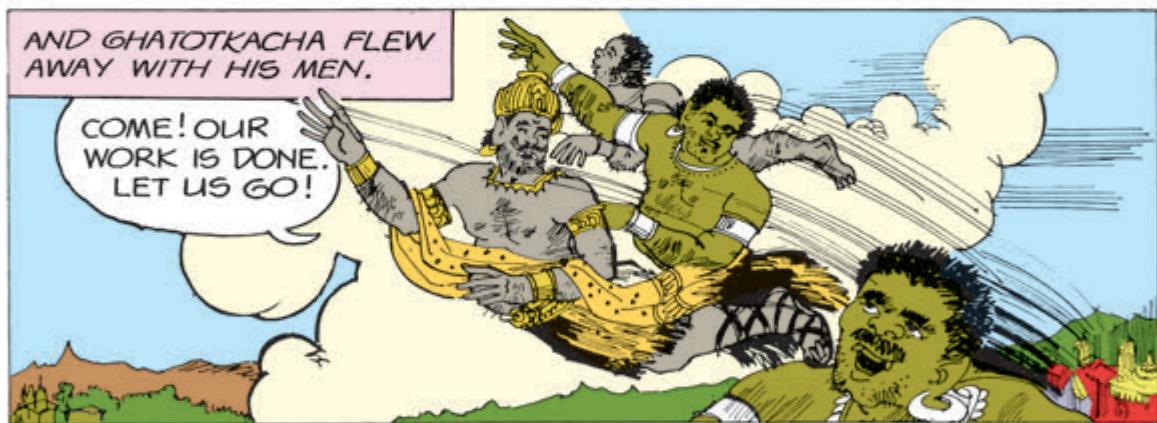


GHATOTKACHA SQUEEZED LAKSHMANA'S HAND SO HARD THAT HE FAINTED.



AND GHATOTKACHA FLEW AWAY WITH HIS MEN.

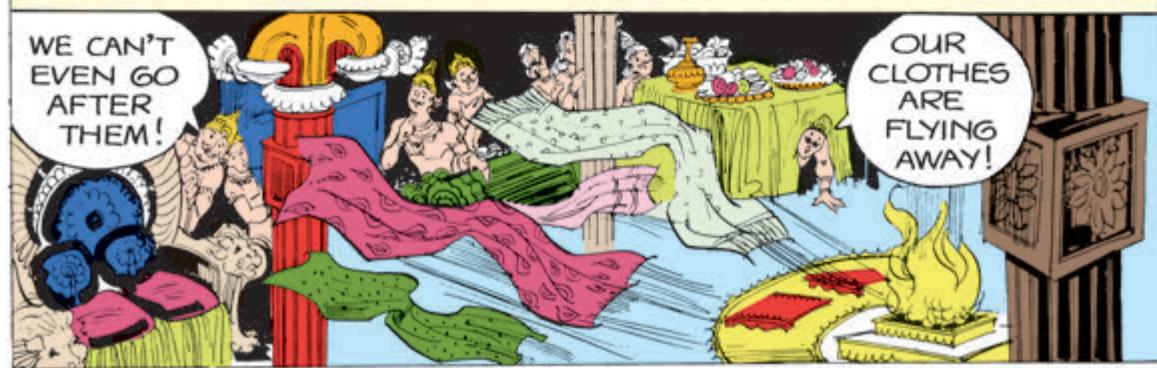
COME! OUR WORK IS DONE.  
LET US GO!



WITH THEM THE NEW CLOTHES ALSO FLEW AWAY.

WE CAN'T EVEN GO AFTER THEM!

OUR CLOTHES ARE FLYING AWAY!



THE NEXT DAY, SUBHADRA ARRIVED AT DWARAKA WITH ABHIMANYU AND HIS BRIDE.

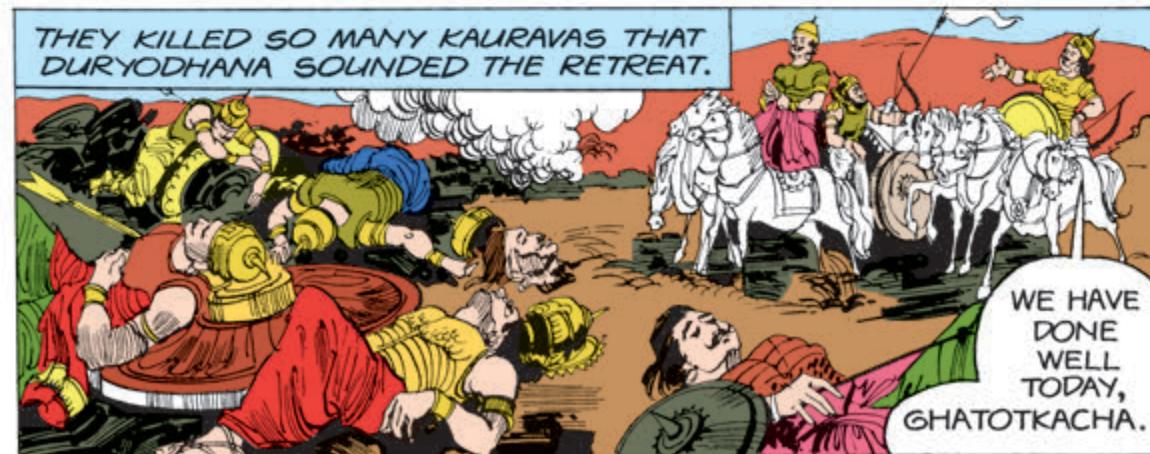
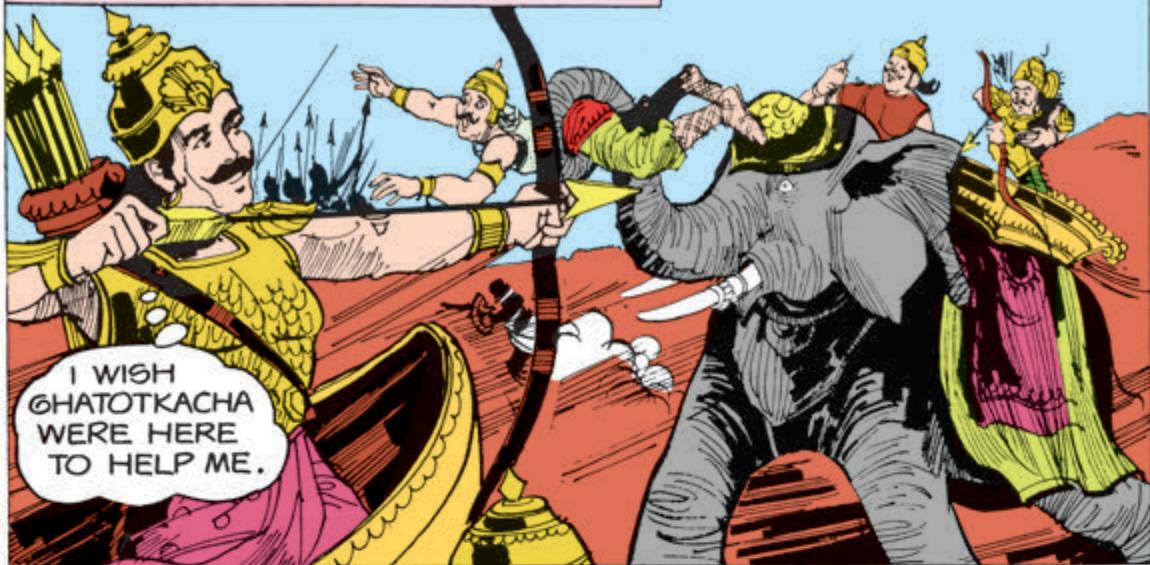


ABHIMANYU LIVED HAPPILY AT DWARAKA WITH VATSALA AND SUBHADRA.

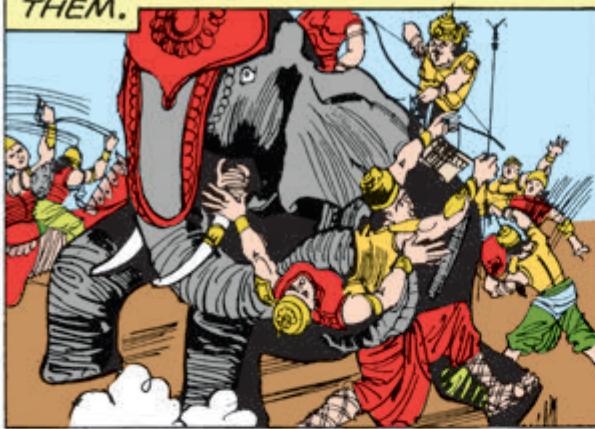
WHEN THEIR EXILE WAS OVER, THE PANDAVAS RETURNED FROM THE FOREST. THE KAURAVAS WOULD NOT GIVE BACK THEIR KINGDOM. SO THE PANDAVAS COLLECTED THEIR ARMIES TO FIGHT THEM. LORD KRISHNA WAS ON THE SIDE OF THE PANDAVAS -



THE MAHABHARATA WAR BEGAN. ON THE FOURTH DAY OF THE WAR, KING BHAGADATTA ATTACKED BHEEMA.



THE NEXT DAY, BHAGADATTA RETALIATED BY ATTACKING THE PANDAVAS AND KILLING MANY OF THEM.



GHATOTKACHA CAME THERE. THE KAURAVAS SAW MANY OF THEIR FRIENDS LYING DEAD.



HOW DID SO MANY OF THEM DIE ALL OF A SUDDEN?

WH...WHAT...  
HOW? LET US SAVE  
OUR LIVES!

NOT REALISING THAT IT WAS MERELY AN ILLUSION,  
THEY RAN AWAY FROM THE BATTLEFIELD.

HA! HA! HOW EASILY  
THEY WERE  
TRICKED.



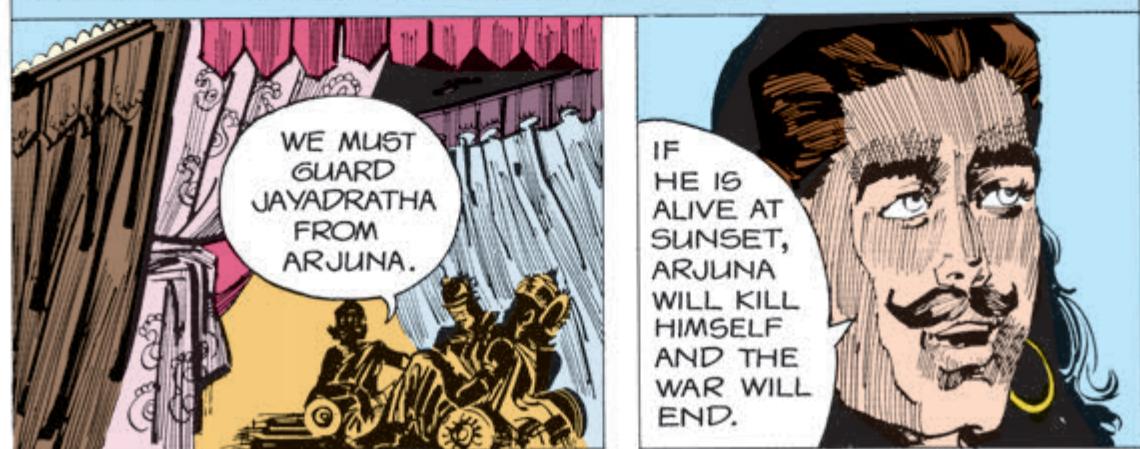
ON THE THIRTEENTH DAY OF THE WAR,  
ABHIMANYU WAS KILLED.



JAYADRATHA WAS THE CAUSE OF ABHIMANYU'S DEATH. ARJUNA  
SWORE TO KILL HIM BY SUNSET NEXT DAY.



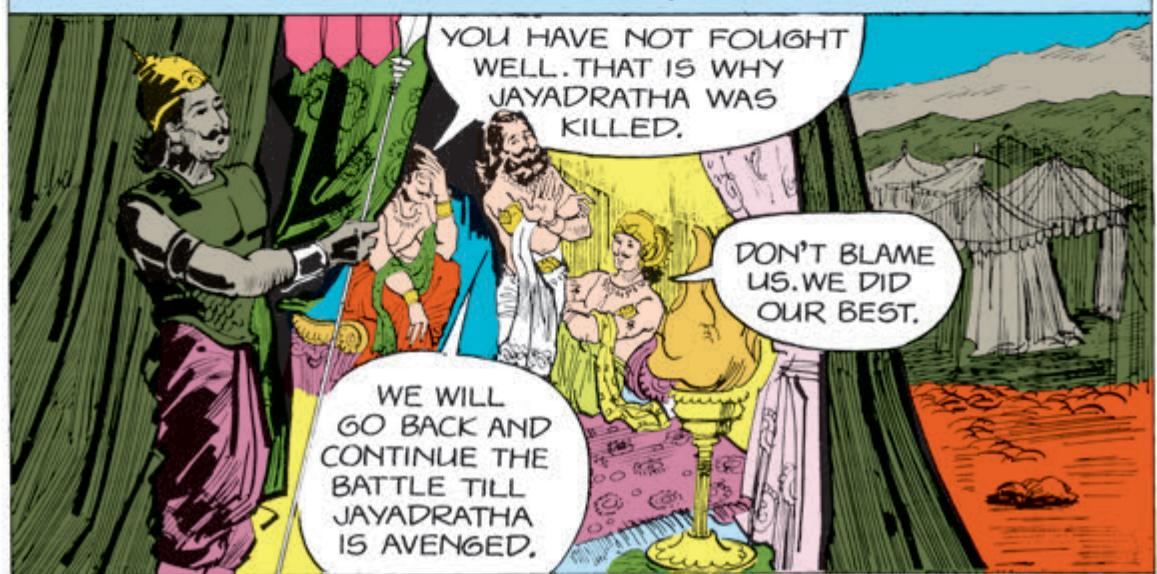
DURYODHANA CALLED HIS GENERALS TO HIM.



BEFORE SUNSET THE NEXT DAY, ARJUNA,  
WITH LORD KRISHNA'S HELP, KILLED JAYADRATHA.



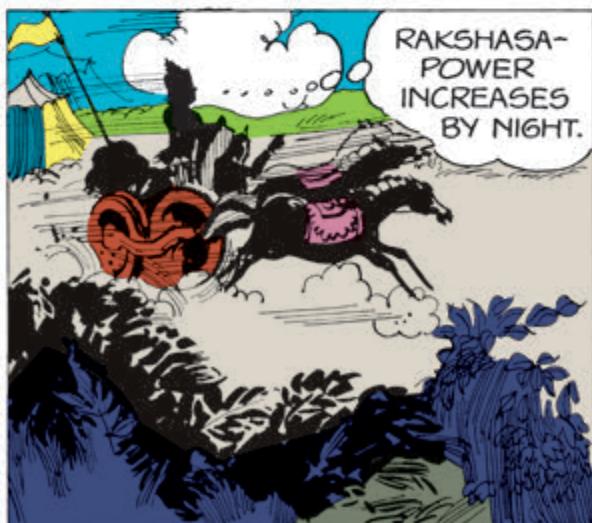
DURYODHANA TAUNTED HIS GENERALS, DRONA AND KARNA.



DRONA AND KARNA FOUGHT SO WELL THAT THE PANDAVAS WERE HARD-PRESSED. YUDHISHTHIRA CALLED ARJUNA AND KRISHNA.

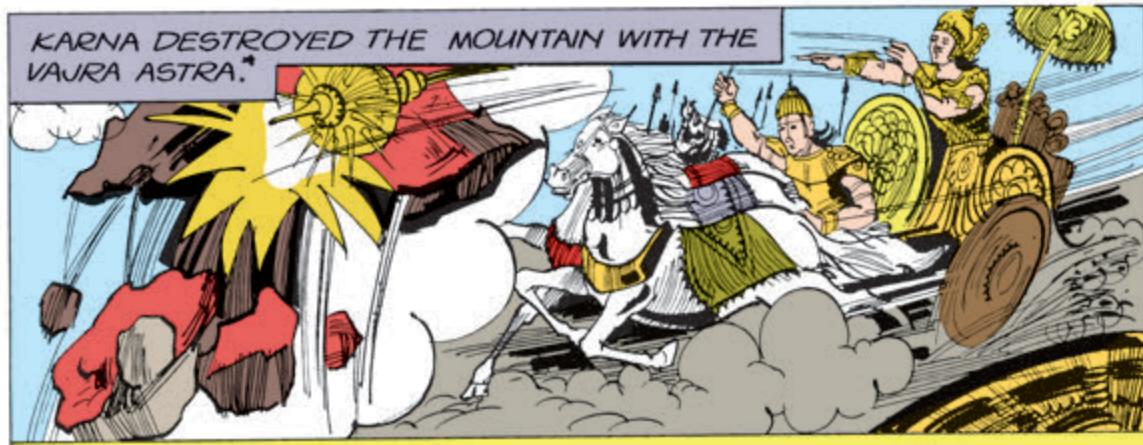


LORD KRISHNA SENT FOR GHATOTKACHA. WHEN HE CAME -





KARNA DESTROYED IT WITH ARROWS, SMILING ALL THE TIME.



\* THE VAJRA ASTRA IS HARD LIKE A THUNDERBOLT AND CAN BREAK EVEN MOUNTAINS.

GHATOTKACHA MADE A DARK CLOUD WHICH RAINED DOWN STONES.



KARNA BLEW IT AWAY WITH A VAYU ASTRA.



\*VAYU ASTRA PRODUCES A STRONG WIND AS IT IS GUIDED BY THE GOD OF WIND.

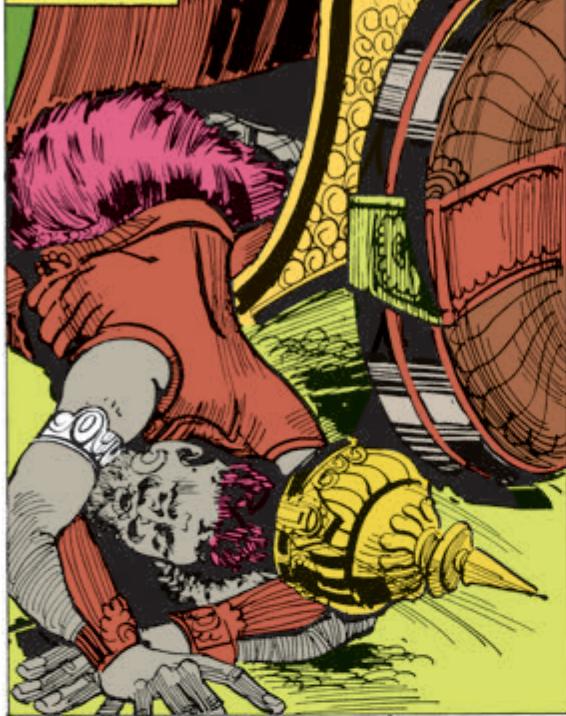
GHATOTKACHA SENT TREES FLYING AT HIM.



KARNA DESTROYED THEM WITH ARROWS.



GHATOTKACHA FELL DOWN AS IF DEAD.



THE PANDAVA SOLDIERS GRIEVED.



SUDDENLY THERE WERE GHATOTKACHAS EVERYWHERE.



KARNA SHOT ARROWS AT THEM ALL.





THEN HE BECAME INVISIBLE AND SENT SHOWERS OF FIERY WEAPONS.



THE TERRIFIED KAURAVA FORCES APPEALED TO KARNA.

SAVE US,  
KARNA!

YOUR ARROWS  
ARE NOT  
POWERFUL  
ENOUGH.

YOU ARE  
OUR  
PROTECTOR.  
USE YOUR  
SHAKTI!!



THE SHAKTI HAD BEEN GIVEN TO KARNA BY INDRA, KING OF THE GODS.

IT IS MY WEAPON.  
IT WILL KILL  
ANYONE. BUT  
YOU CAN USE IT  
ONLY ONCE. IT  
WILL RETURN  
TO ME AFTER THAT.



KARNA HESITATED TO USE THE SHAKTI.



BUT THE CRIES OF THE WARRIOR WERE PITIABLE.



I CAN'T LET OUR WARRIOR SUFFER.



I WILL HAVE TO USE THE SHAKTI.



KARNA PICKED UP THE SHAKTI AND THREW IT.



IT ENTERED GHATOTKACHA'S HEART AND WENT UP TO HEAVEN AS A FLASH OF LIGHT.

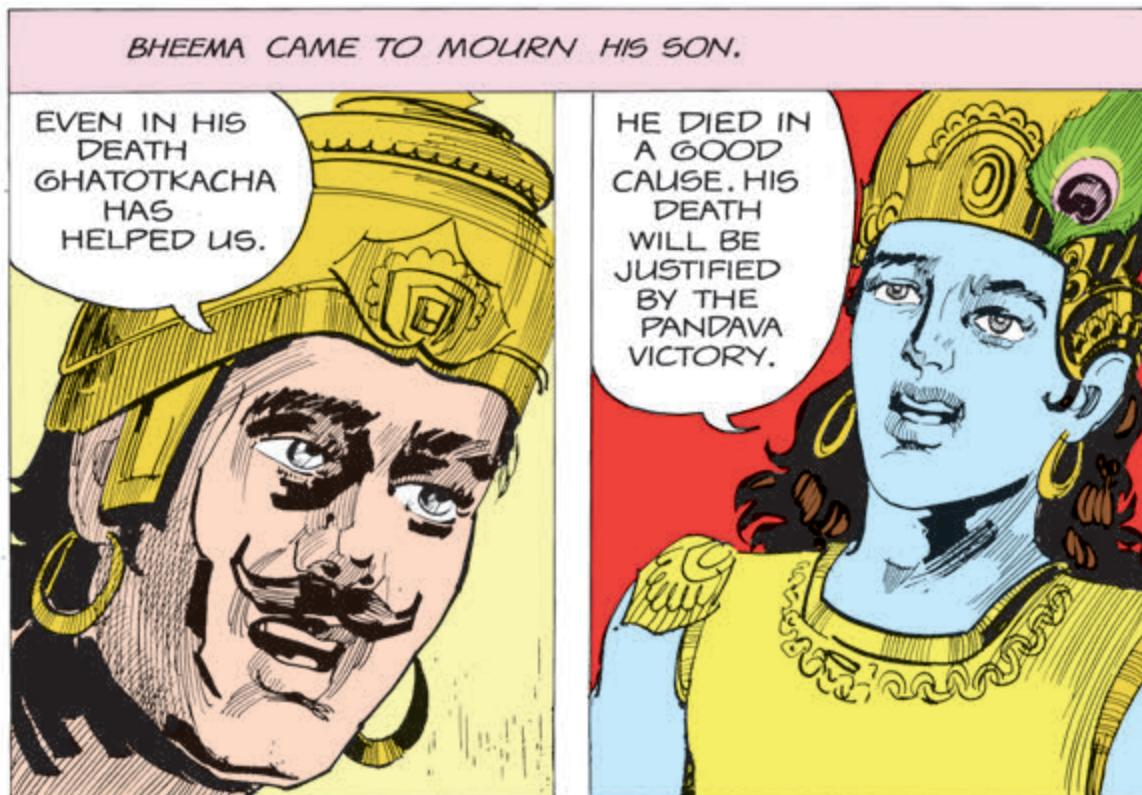


GHATOTKACHA KNEW HE WAS DYING. HE MADE HIS BODY ENORMOUS, JUMPED INTO THE AIR...



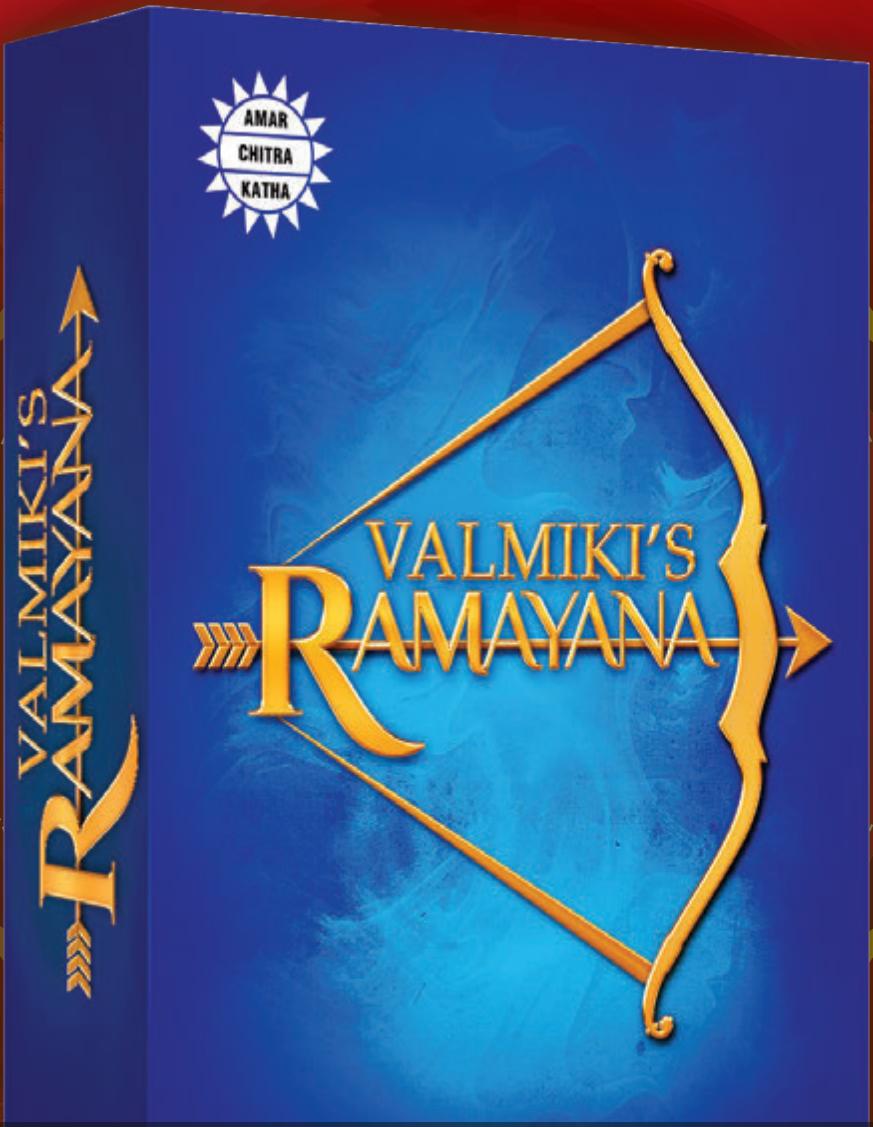
...AND FELL, CRUSHING A WHOLE KAURAVA REGIMENT UNDER HIM.







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# WHICH OF THE ACKS HAVE YOU STILL NOT READ?

<b>EPICS AND MYTHOLOGY</b> <i>Best known stories from the Epics and the Puranas</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Abhimanyu</li> <li>Agastya</li> <li>Andhaka</li> <li>Aniruddha</li> <li>Aruni And Uttanka</li> <li>Ashwini Kumars</li> <li>Ayappan</li> <li>Bahubali</li> <li>Bhanumati</li> <li>Bheema And Hanuman</li> <li>Bheeshma</li> <li>Chandrahasa</li> <li>Dasharatha</li> <li>Dhruba And Ashtavakra</li> <li>Draupadi</li> <li>Drona</li> <li>Elephanta</li> <li>Gandhari</li> <li>Ganesha</li> <li>Ganesha And The Moon</li> <li>Ganga</li> <li>Garuda</li> <li>Ghatotkacha</li> <li>Hanuman</li> <li>Hanuman To The Rescue</li> <li>Harischandra</li> <li>Heroes Of Hampi</li> <li>Indra And Shachi</li> <li>Indra And Shibi</li> <li>Indra And Virtra</li> <li>Jagannatha Of Puri</li> <li>Jayadratha</li> <li>Kacha And Devayani</li> <li>Karna</li> <li>Kartikeya</li> <li>Konark</li> <li>Krishna</li> <li>Krishna And Jarasandha</li> <li>Krishna And Narakasura</li> <li>Krishna And Rukmini</li> <li>Krishna And Shishupala</li> <li>Krishna And The False Vaasudeva</li> <li>Kubera</li> <li>Kumbhakarna</li> <li>Mahabharata</li> <li>Mahiravana</li> <li>Nachiketa</li> <li>Nahusha</li> <li>Nala Damayanti</li> <li>Pareekshit</li> <li>Parashurama</li> <li>Prabhavati</li> <li>Pradyumna</li> <li>Prahlad</li> <li>Purushottam Dev And Padmavati</li> <li>Rama</li> <li>Ravana Humbled</li> <li>Saraswati</li> <li>Sati And Shiva</li> <li>Savitri</li> <li>Shiva Parvati</li> <li>Stories of Creation</li> <li>Subhadra</li> <li>Sudama</li> <li>Sukanya</li> <li>Surya</li> <li>Tales From The Upanishads</li> <li>Tales Of Arjuna</li> <li>Tales Of Balarama</li> <li>Tales Of Durga</li> <li>Tales Of Indra</li> <li>Tales Of Narada</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tales Of Shiva</li> <li>Tales Of Vishnu</li> <li>Tales Of Yudhishtira</li> <li>Tapati</li> <li>Thanjavur</li> <li>The Churning Of The Ocean</li> <li>The Gita</li> <li>The Golden Mongoose</li> <li>The King In A Parrot's Body</li> <li>The Lord Of Lanka</li> <li>The Pandava Princes</li> <li>The Pandavas In Hiding</li> <li>The Parijata Tree</li> <li>The Sons Of Rama</li> <li>The Suyamantaka Gem</li> <li>Tirupati</li> <li>Triputra</li> <li>Uloopi</li> <li>Vaishno Devi</li> <li>Vali</li> <li>Vishwamitra</li> <li>Yayati</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>VISIONARIES</b> <i>Inspiring tales of thinkers, social reformers and nation builders</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adi Shankara</li> <li>Albert Einstein</li> <li>Anant Pai</li> <li>Babasaheb Ambedkar</li> <li>Basaveshwara</li> <li>Buddha</li> <li>Chaitanya Mahaprabhu</li> <li>Chanakya</li> <li>Chokha Mela</li> <li>Dayananda</li> <li>Deshbandhu</li> <li>Chittaranjan Das</li> <li>Eknath</li> <li>Fa Hien</li> <li>Ghanshyamdas Birla</li> <li>Guru Arjan</li> <li>Guru Gobind Singh</li> <li>Guru Nanak</li> <li>Guru Tegh Bahadur</li> <li>Hsiuen Tsang</li> <li>J.R.D Tata</li> <li>Jagadis Chandra Bose</li> <li>Jamsetji Tata</li> <li>Jawaharlal Nehru</li> <li>Jayaprakash Narayan</li> <li>Jim Corbett</li> <li>Jnaneshwar</li> <li>Kabir</li> <li>Kalidasa</li> <li>Lal Bahadur Shastri</li> <li>Lokmanya Tilak</li> <li>M. S. Subbulakshmi</li> <li>Madhvacharya</li> <li>Mahavira</li> <li>Marie And Pierre Curie</li> <li>Megasthenes</li> <li>Mirabai</li> <li>Mother Teresa</li> <li>Narayan Guru</li> <li>Rabindranath Tagore</li> <li>Ram Shastri</li> <li>Ramana Maharshi</li> <li>Ramanuja</li> <li>Salim Ali</li> <li>Shankar Dev</li> <li>Soordas</li> <li>Sri. Ramakrishna</li> <li>Srinivasa Ramanujan</li> <li>Subramania Bharati</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Swami Chinmayananda</li> <li>Swami Pranavananda</li> <li>Tales Of Sai Baba</li> <li>Tansen</li> <li>Tulsidas</li> <li>Vidyasagar</li> <li>Vivekananda</li> <li>Zarathushtra</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>INDIAN CLASSICS</b> <i>Enchanting tales from Indian literature</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ananda Math</li> <li>Ancestors Of Rama</li> <li>Devi Choudhurani</li> <li>Durgesh Nandini</li> <li>Kadambari</li> <li>Kannagi</li> <li>Kapala Kundala</li> <li>Kumanan</li> <li>Maarthanda Varma</li> <li>Malavika</li> <li>Manonmani</li> <li>Prince Jivaka</li> <li>Raj Singh</li> <li>Ratnavali</li> <li>Shakuntala</li> <li>The Adventures Of Pratapan</li> <li>The Elusive Kaka</li> <li>Udayana</li> <li>Urvashi</li> <li>Vasantasena</li> <li>Vasavadatta</li> <li>Veer Dhaval</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>FABLES AND HUMOUR</b> <i>Evergreen folktales, legends and tales of wisdom and humour</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Bag Of Gold Coins</li> <li>Amrapali</li> <li>Ander Nagari</li> <li>Angulimala</li> <li>Bikal The Terrible</li> <li>Birbal The Clever</li> <li>Birbal The Genius</li> <li>Birbal The Just</li> <li>Birbal The Wise</li> <li>Birbal The Witty</li> <li>Birbal To The Rescue</li> <li>The Inimitable Birbal</li> <li>Chandralalat</li> <li>Dhola And Maru</li> <li>Friends And Foes</li> <li>Gopal And The Cowherd</li> <li>Gopal The Jester</li> <li>The Mystery Of The Missing Gift</li> <li>The Pandit And The Milkmaid</li> <li>The Pig And The Dog</li> <li>The Pious Cat</li> <li>The Priceless Gem</li> <li>The Prince And The Magician</li> <li>The Prophecy</li> <li>The Queen's Necklace</li> <li>The Rainbow Prince</li> <li>The Secret Of The Talking Bird</li> <li>The Silent Teacher</li> <li>The Tiger And The Woodpecker</li> <li>The Tiger Eater</li> <li>Thugsen</li> <li>Viduyt Chora</li> <li>Vikramaditya's Throne</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Mouse Merchant</li> <li>True Friends</li> <li>Kanwal And Kehar</li> <li>Kesari The Flying Thief</li> <li>King Kusha</li> <li>Manduka</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PANCHATANTRA TALES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crows And Owls</li> <li>How The Jackal Ate</li> <li>The Elephant</li> <li>The Brahmin And The Goat</li> <li>The Dullard</li> <li>The Greedy Mother-in-law</li> <li>The Jackal And The Wardrum</li> <li>Raman Of Tenali</li> <li>Raman The Matchless Wit</li> <li>Sahasramala</li> <li>Sakshi Gopal</li> <li>Satwant Kaur</li> <li>Sharan Kaur</li> <li>Shrenik</li> <li>Sukhu And Dukhu</li> <li>Sundari</li> <li>Tales Of Maryada Rama</li> <li>The Acrobat</li> <li>The Adventures Of Agad Datta</li> <li>The Adventures Of Baddu And Chhotu</li> <li>The Bridegroom's Ring</li> <li>The Celestial Necklace</li> <li>The Clever Dancer</li> <li>The Cowherd Of Alawi</li> <li>The Fearless Boy</li> <li>The Fool's 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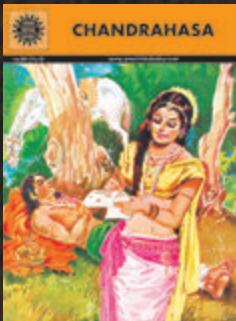


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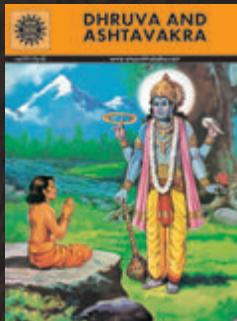
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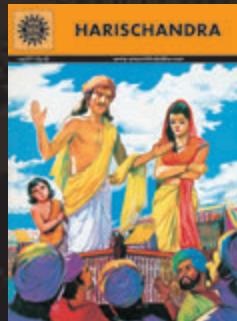
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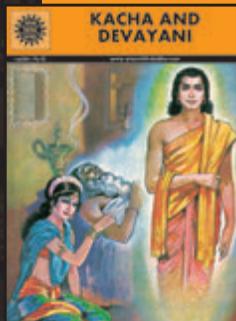
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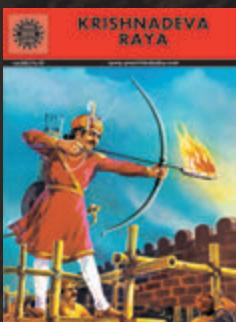


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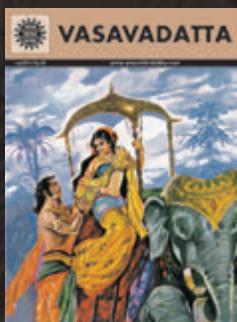


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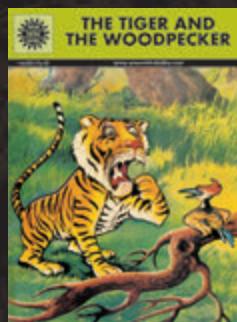
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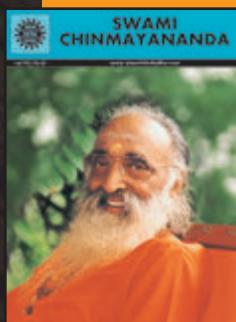
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