



# TALES OF VISHNU

THE GENTLE GOD

Vol 512 | ₹ 90





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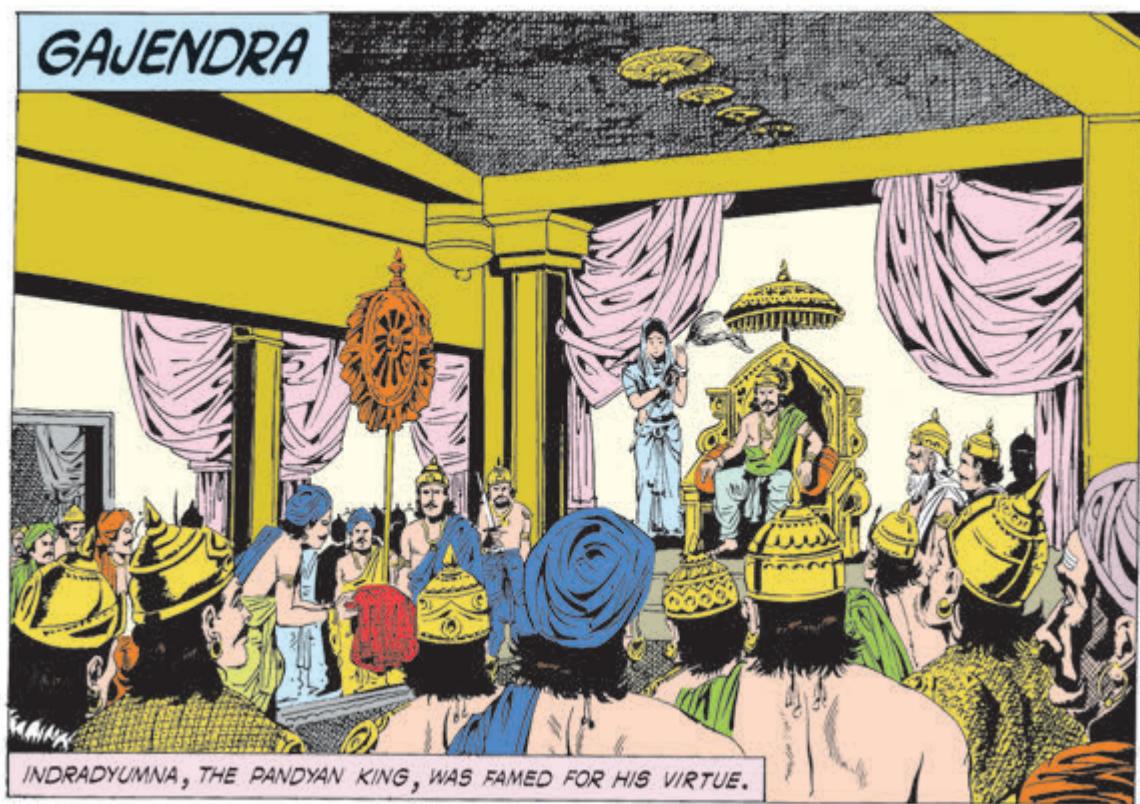
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# GAUENDRA



INDRADYUMNA, THE PANDYAN KING, WAS FAMED FOR HIS VIRTUE.

ONE DAY, HE CALLED A MEETING OF HIS COUNSELLORS.

I HAVE DECIDED TO RETIRE TO THE FOREST AND DEVOTE ALL MY TIME TO THE WORSHIP OF THE LORD.

BUT, YOUR MAJESTY...  
THE KINGDOM...

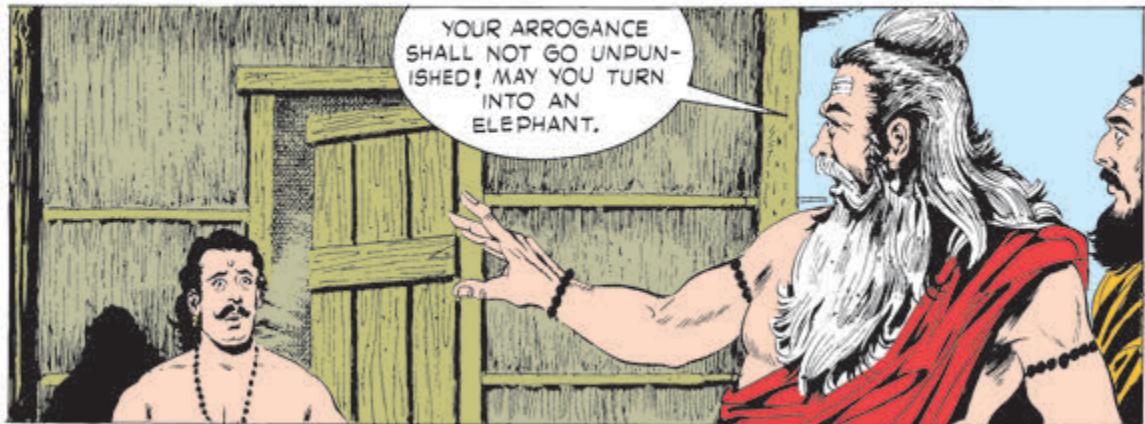
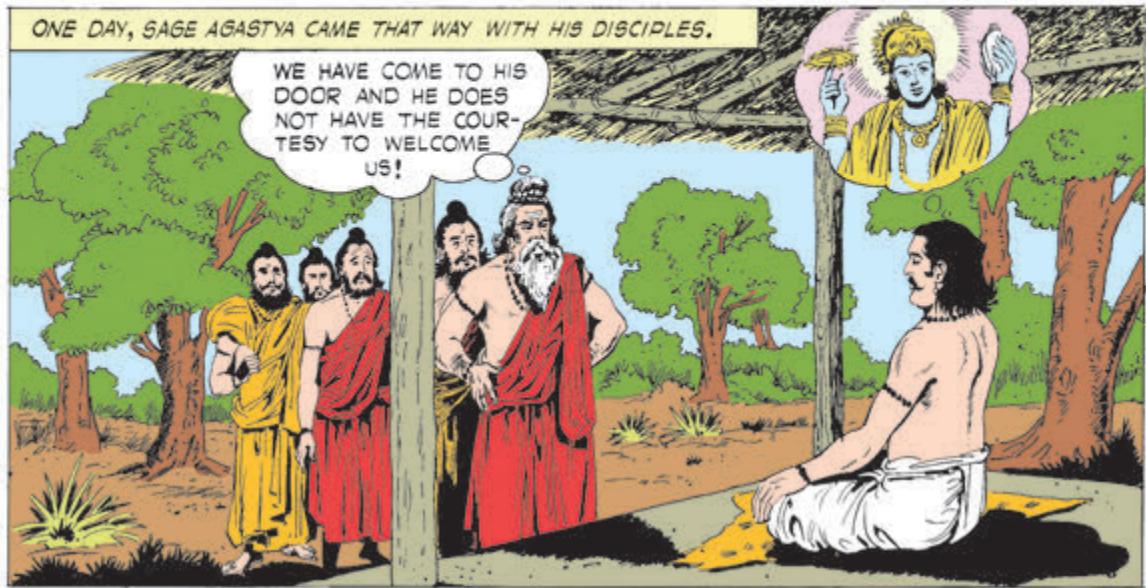
DON'T TRY TO STOP ME. I AM CONFIDENT THAT YOU CAN AND WILL TAKE CARE OF THE KINGDOM.



INDRADYUMNA THEN RETIRED TO THE KULACHALA MOUNTAINS WHERE HE BUILT A COTTAGE FOR HIMSELF. OBSERVING THE VOW OF SILENCE, HE SAT WITH HIS MIND DWELLING UPON LORD VISHNU.



ONE DAY, SAGE AGASTYA CAME THAT WAY WITH HIS DISCIPLES.

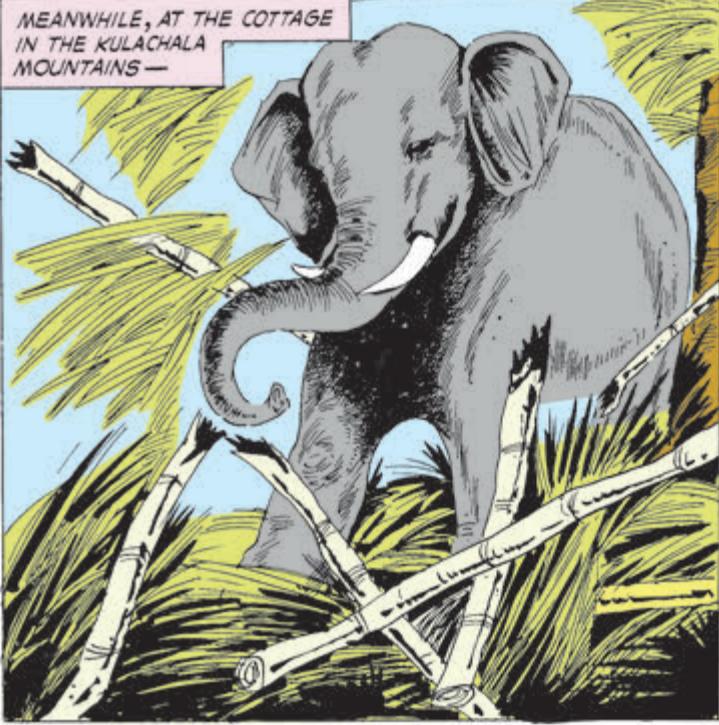


IN HIS CELESTIAL ABODE, LORD VISHNU SMILED WHEN HE HEARD THE CURSE OF AGASTYA.

AGASTYA, YOU HAVE UNKNOWNLY DONE MY DEVOTEE A GREAT SERVICE!



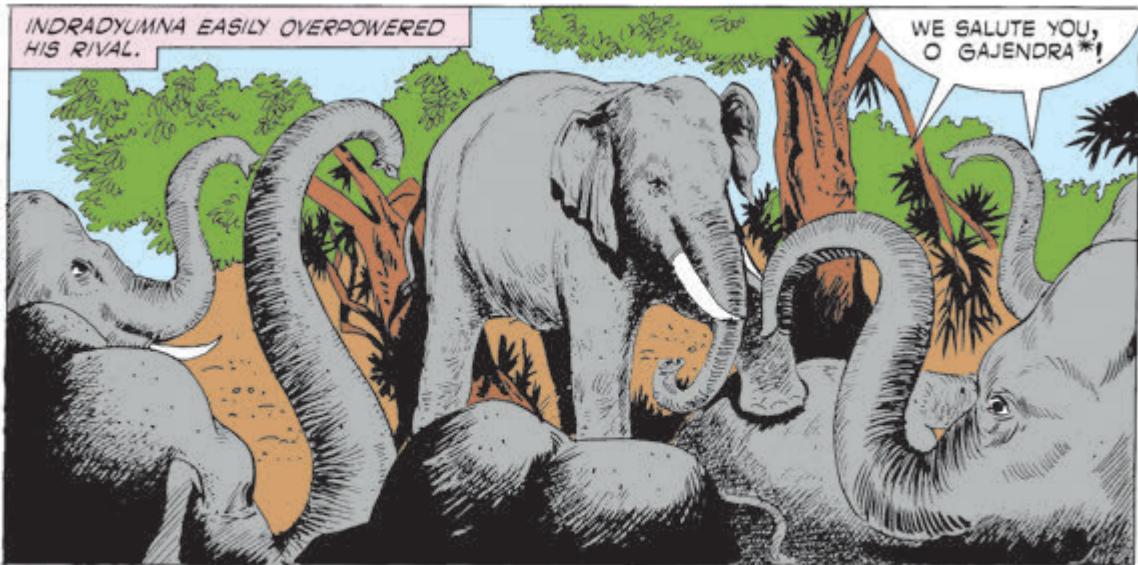
MEANWHILE, AT THE COTTAGE IN THE KULACHALA MOUNTAINS —



AS INDRADYUMNA BEGAN TO ROAM ABOUT IN THE FOREST, HE CAME ACROSS A HERD OF ELEPHANTS.

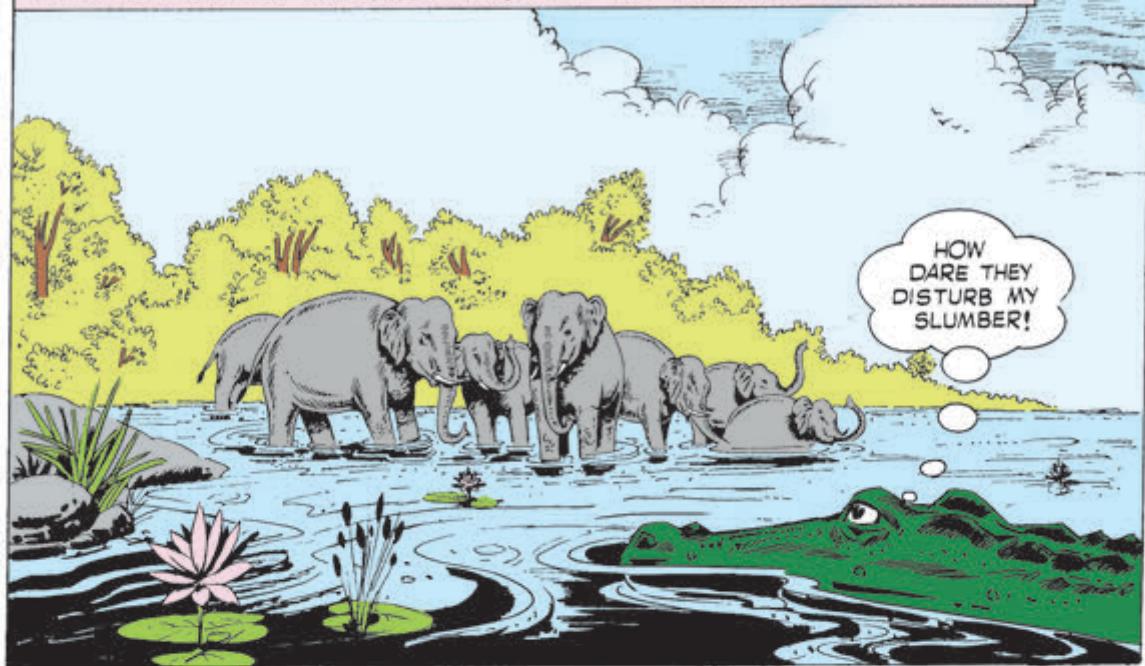
I WILL HAVE TO FIGHT THEIR KING. ONLY THEN WILL THE HERD ACCEPT ME.



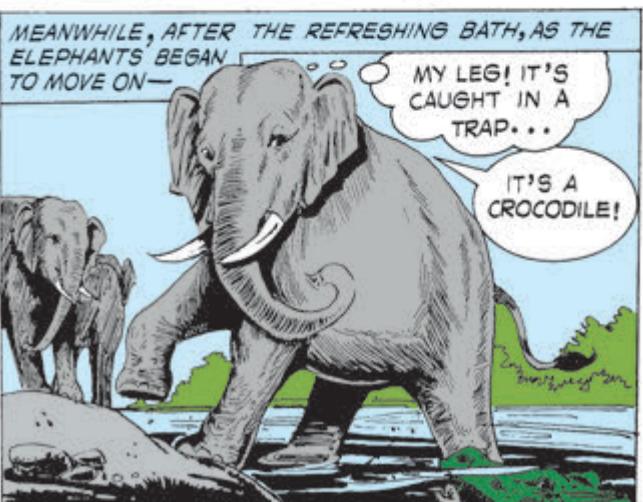


\*KING ELEPHANT

THE ELEPHANTS THEN ENTERED A LAKE, WHICH WAS THE ABODE OF A CROCODILE.



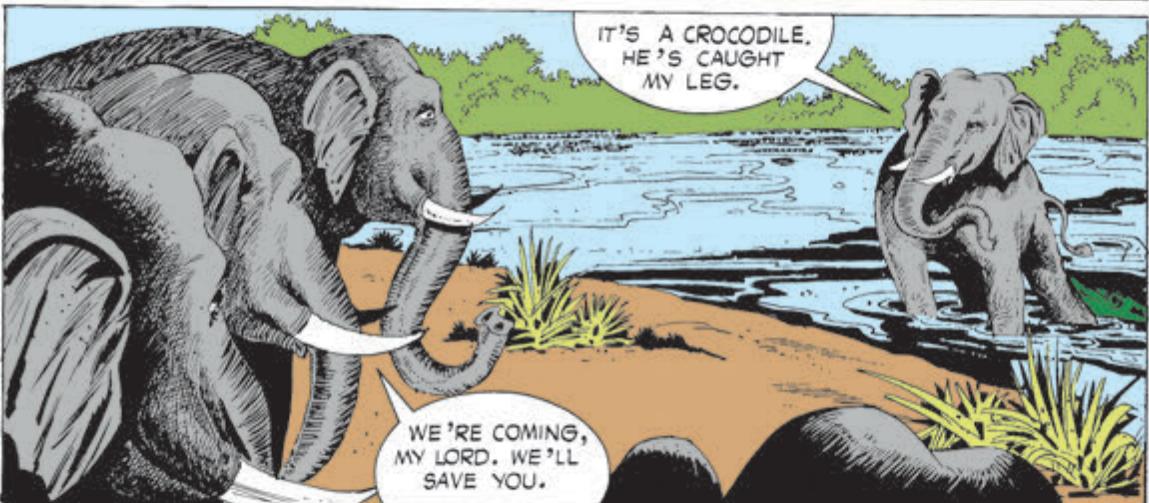
THE FURIOUS CROCODILE BEGAN TO SWIM TOWARDS GAJENDRA.



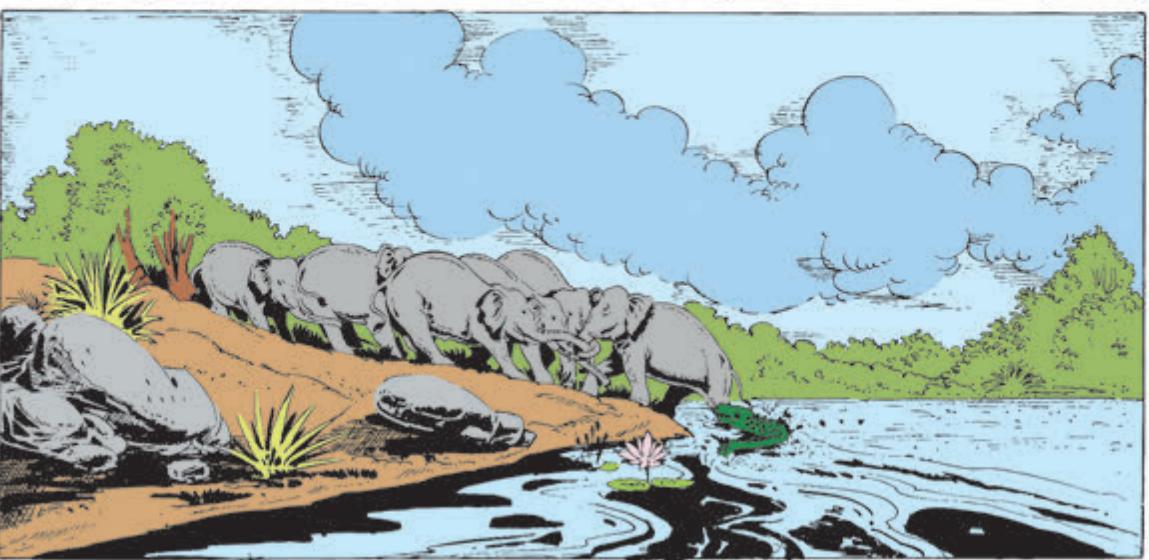
TRUMPETING LOUDLY, HE TRIED TO SHAKE OFF THE CROCODILE.

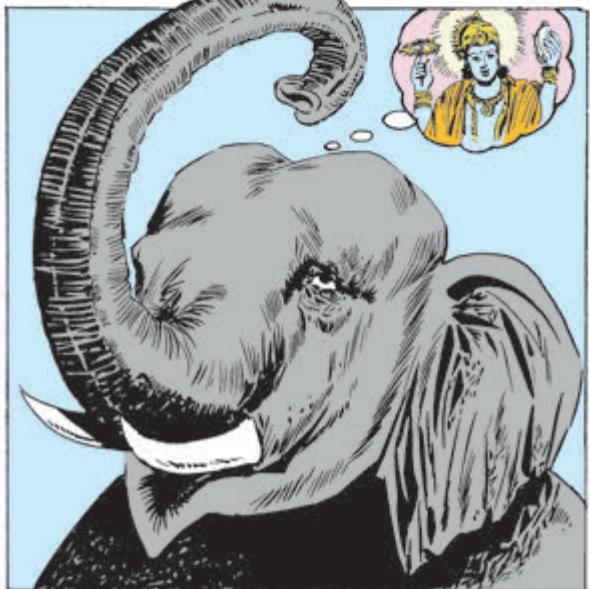
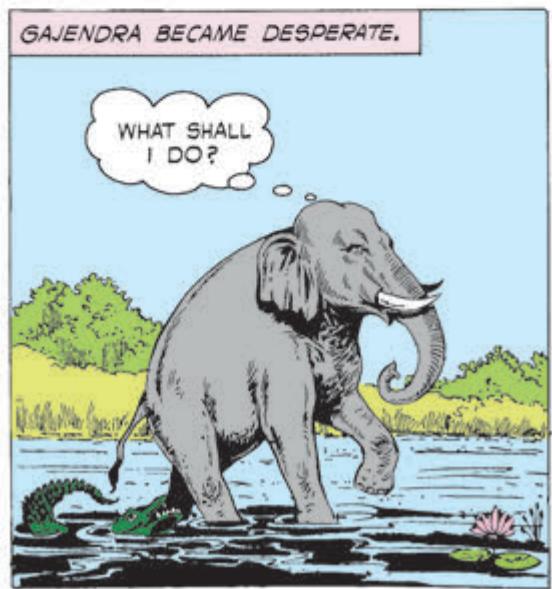
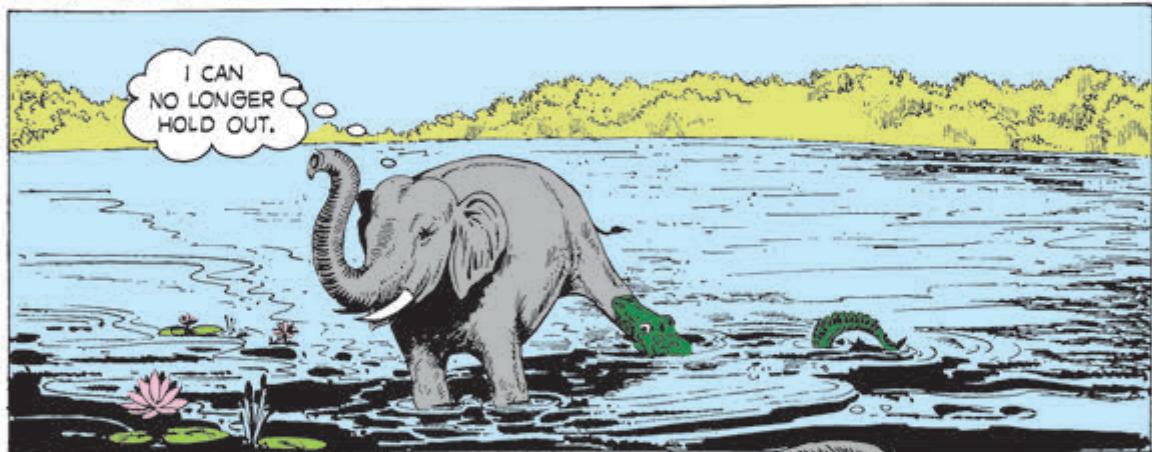
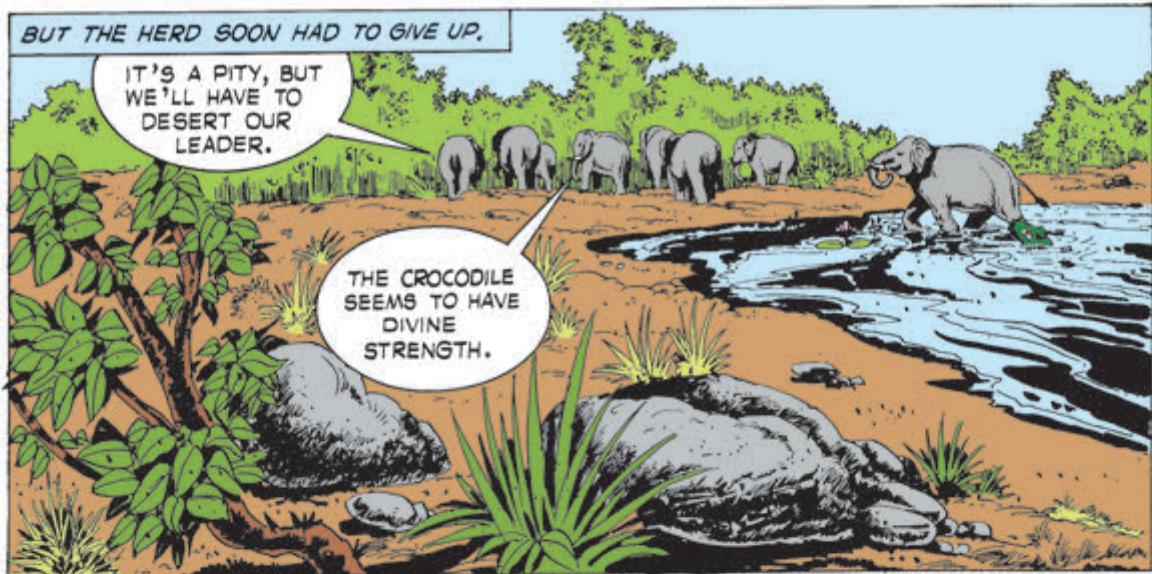


BUT ALL HIS EFFORTS WERE IN VAIN.



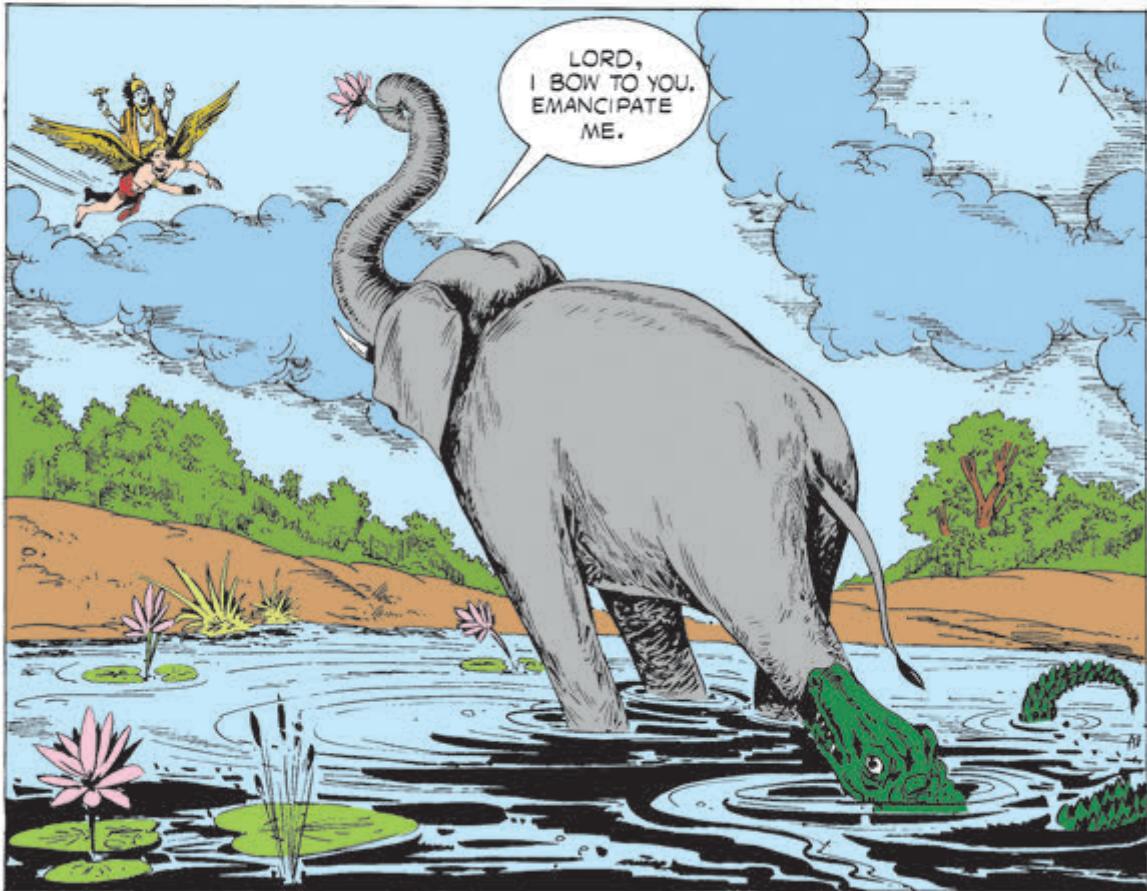
IT'S A CROCODILE.  
HE'S CAUGHT  
MY LEG.

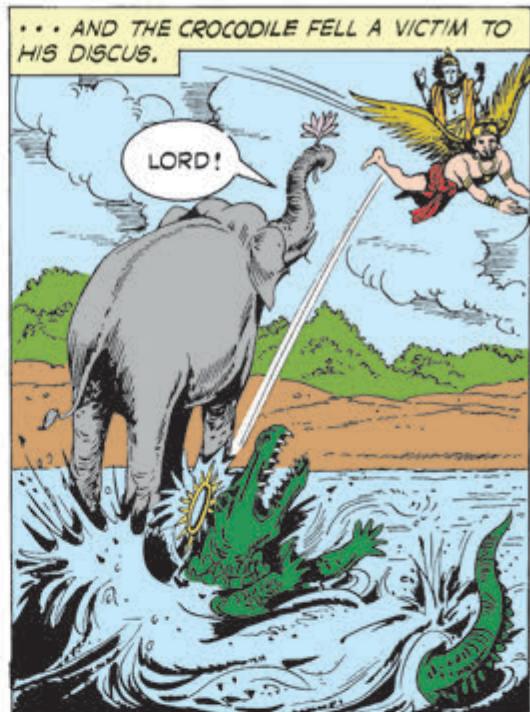




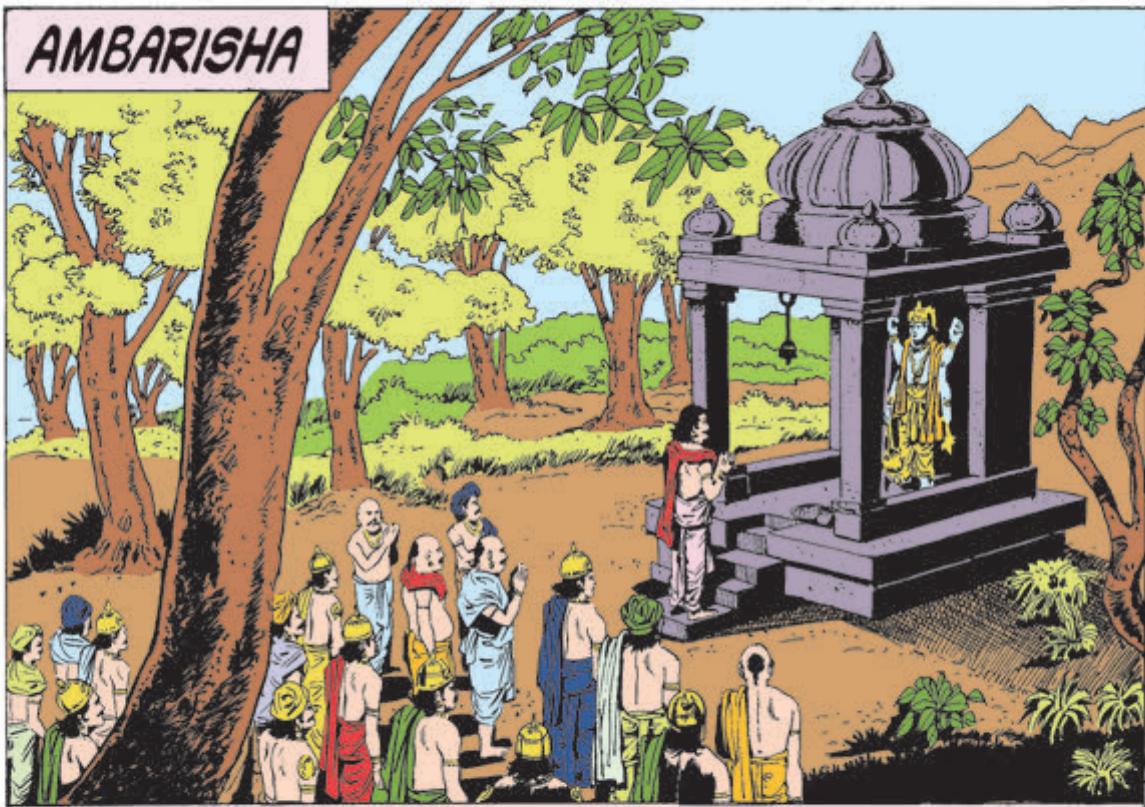
O VISHNU,  
COME TO MY AID!  
YOU ARE MY ONLY  
REFUGE.

VISHNU HEARD THE PRAYER. MOUNTING GARUDA,  
HE LEFT HIS ABODE, VAIKUNTHA.

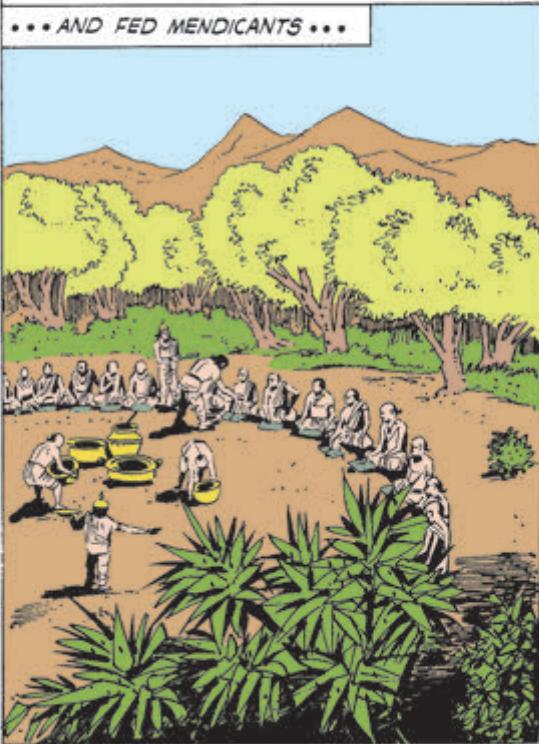
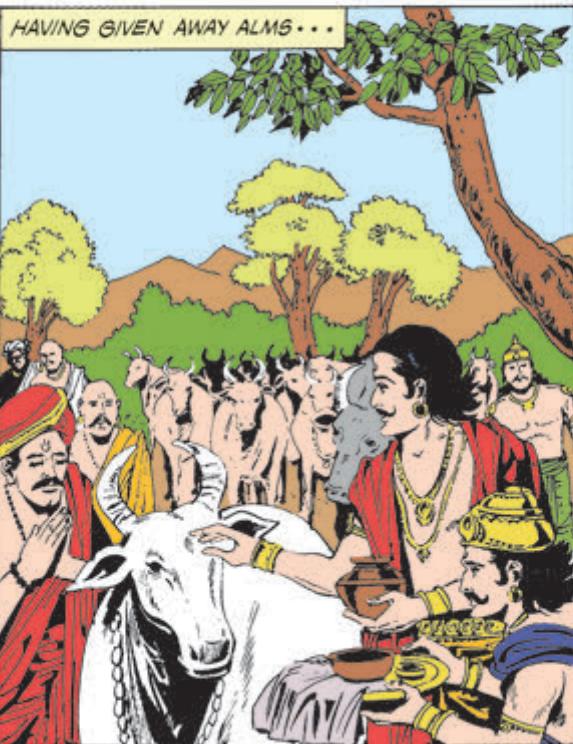




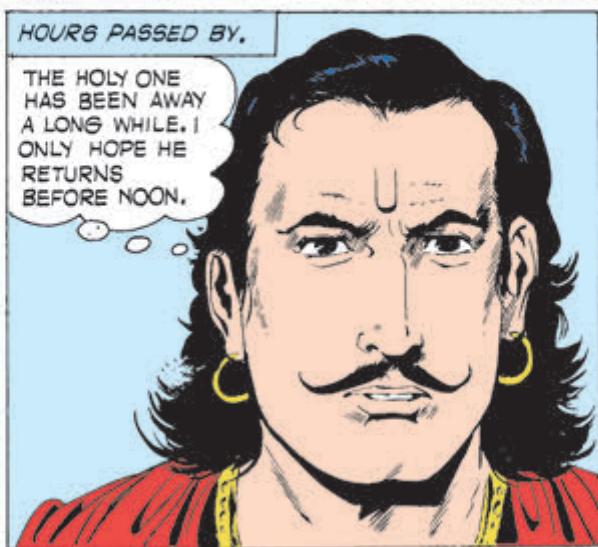
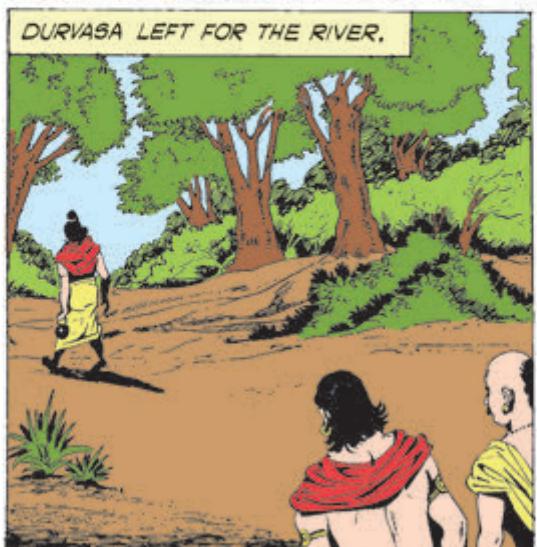
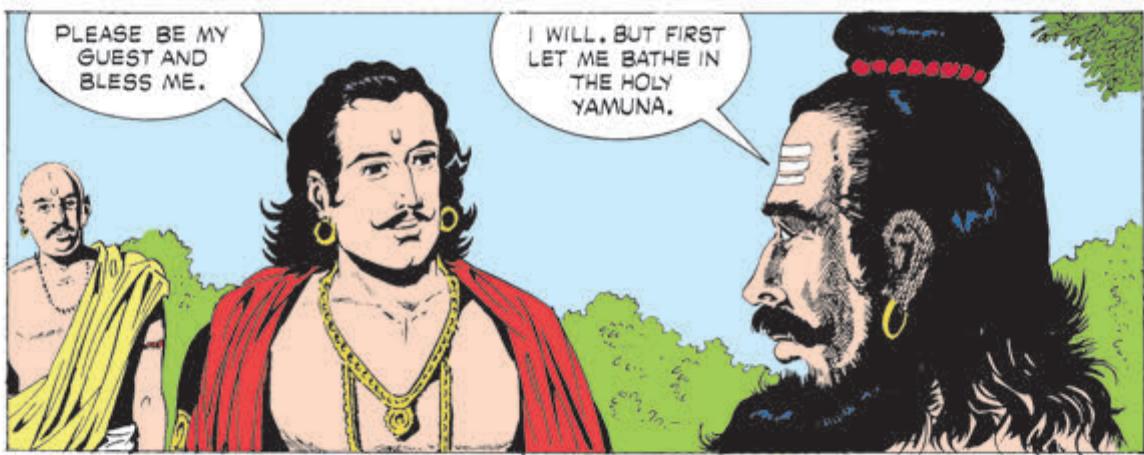
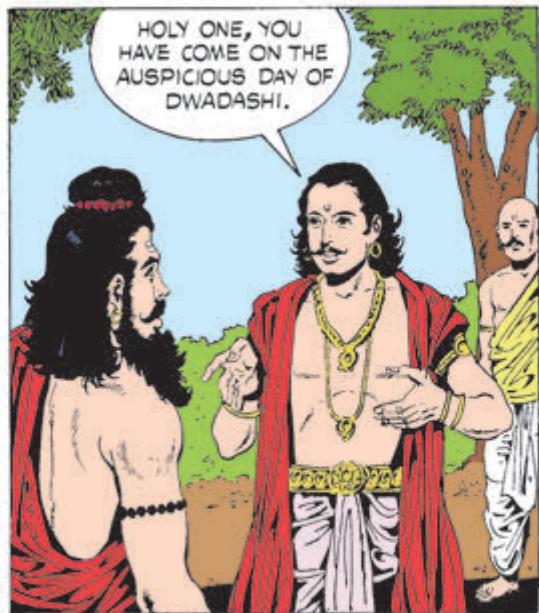
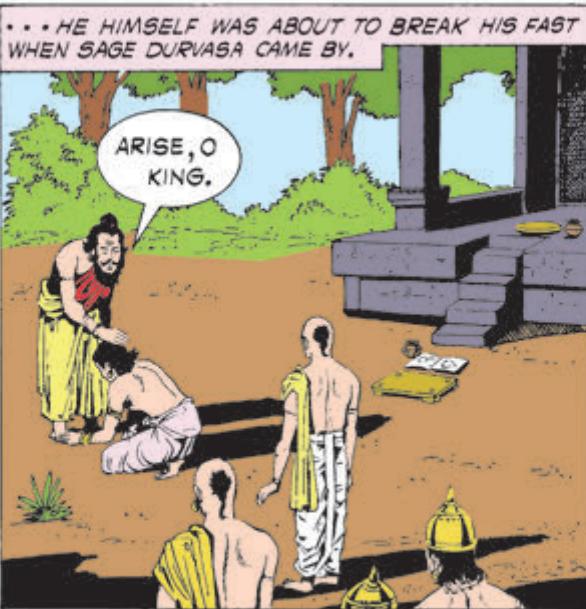
# AMBARISHA

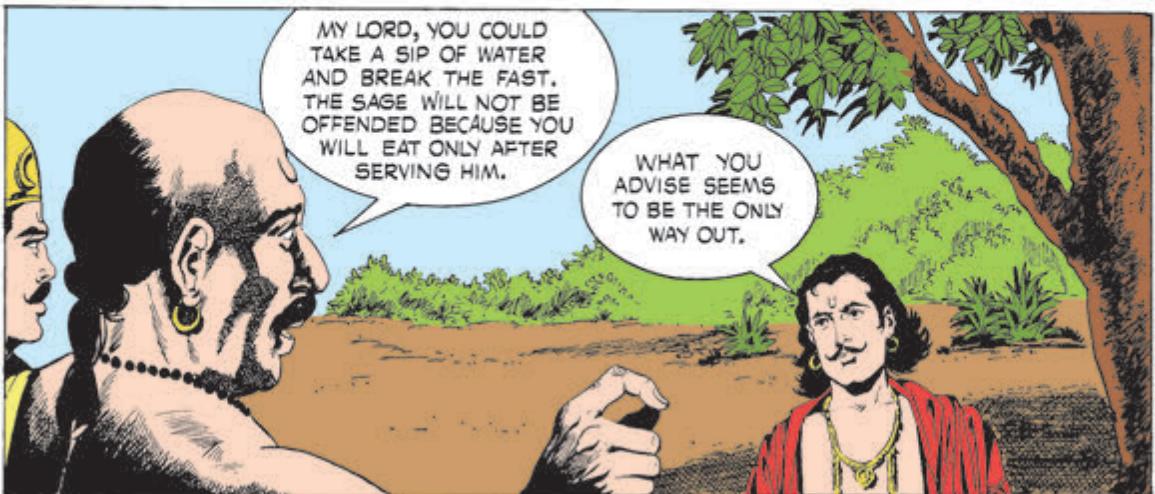
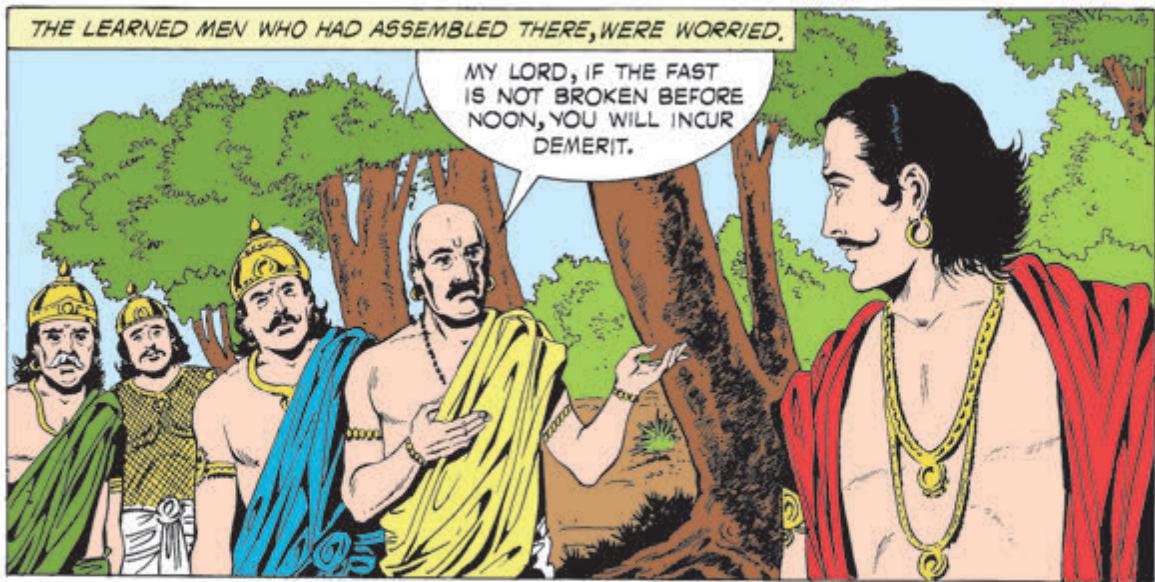


AFTER FASTING FOR THREE DAYS, KING AMBARISHA WORSHIPPED LORD VISHNU IN THE FOREST OF MADHUVANA\*. HE WAS TO BREAK HIS FAST ON THE AUSPICIOUS DAY OF DWADASHI.+

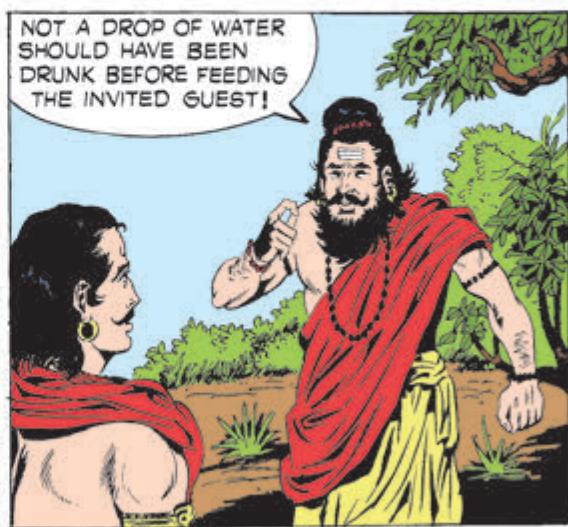
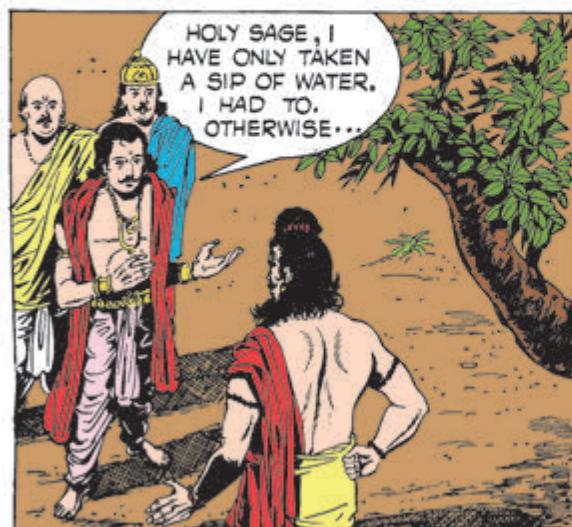
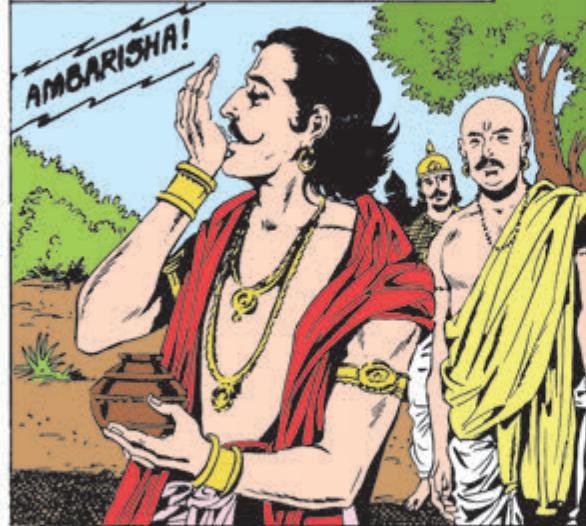


\* THE FOREST REGION AROUND MATHURA + THE TWELFTH DAY OF THE FORTNIGHT





AS AMBARISHA POURED A LITTLE WATER INTO HIS PALM AND RAISED IT TO HIS LIPS —



THE COURTIERS WERE ASHAST.



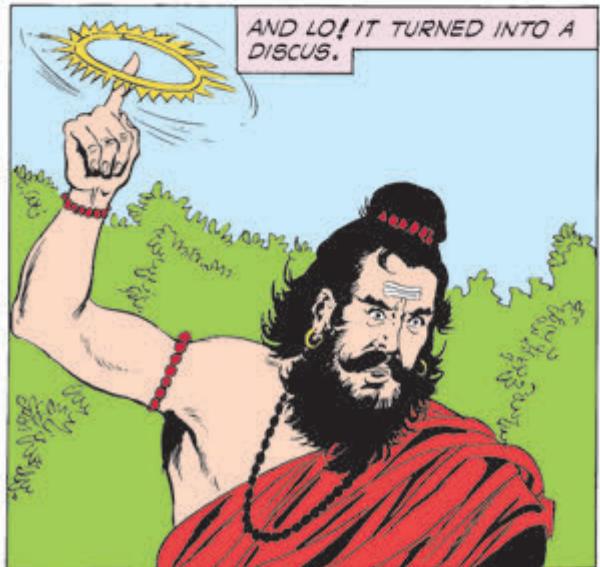
BUT THE COURTIER WAS IN FOR A SHOCK. THE NEXT MOMENT—

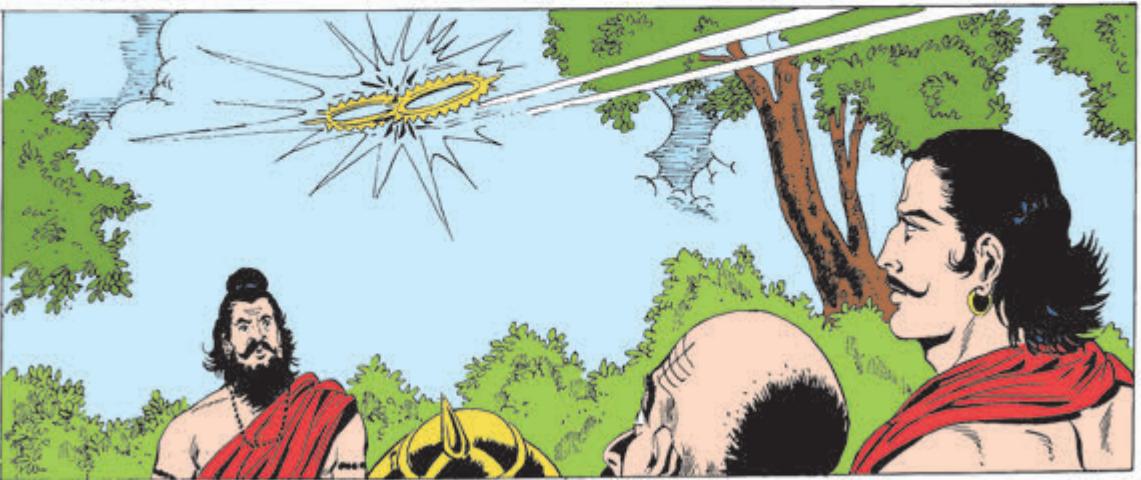
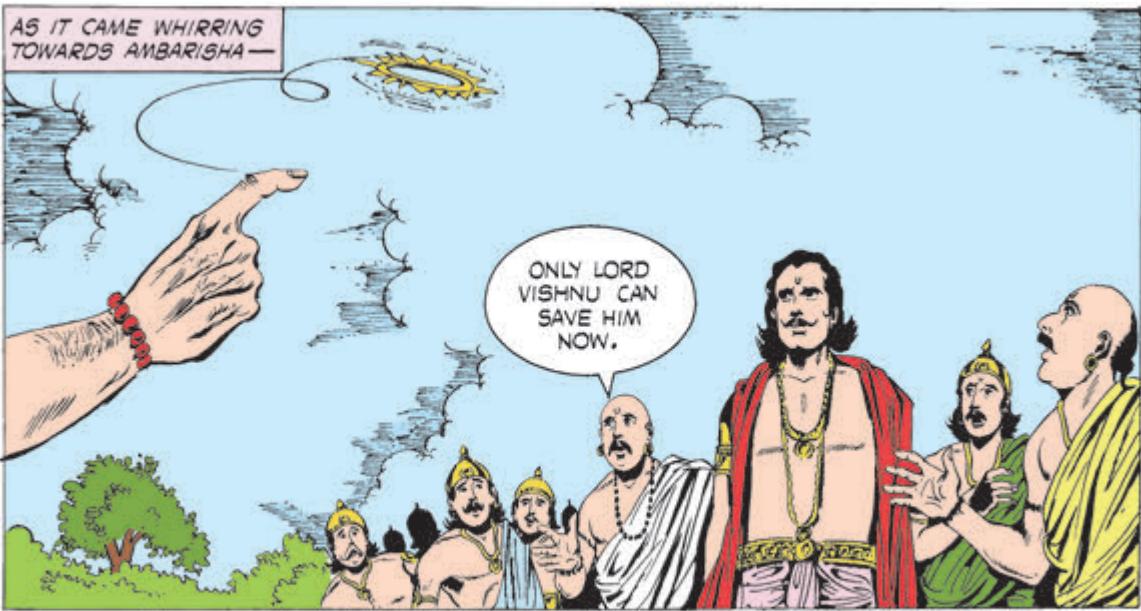


THE SAGE TORE OFF A LOCK OF HIS MATTED HAIR.

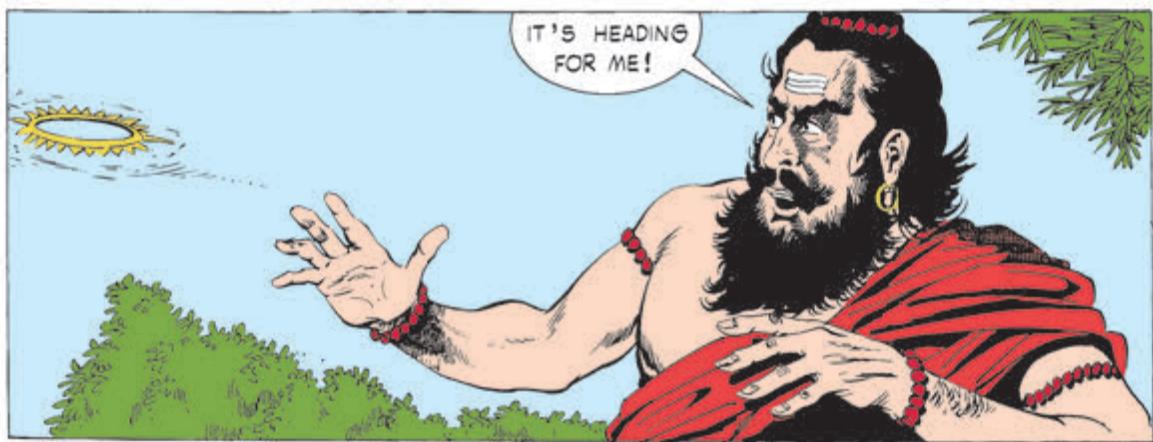


AND LO! IT TURNED INTO A DISCUS.

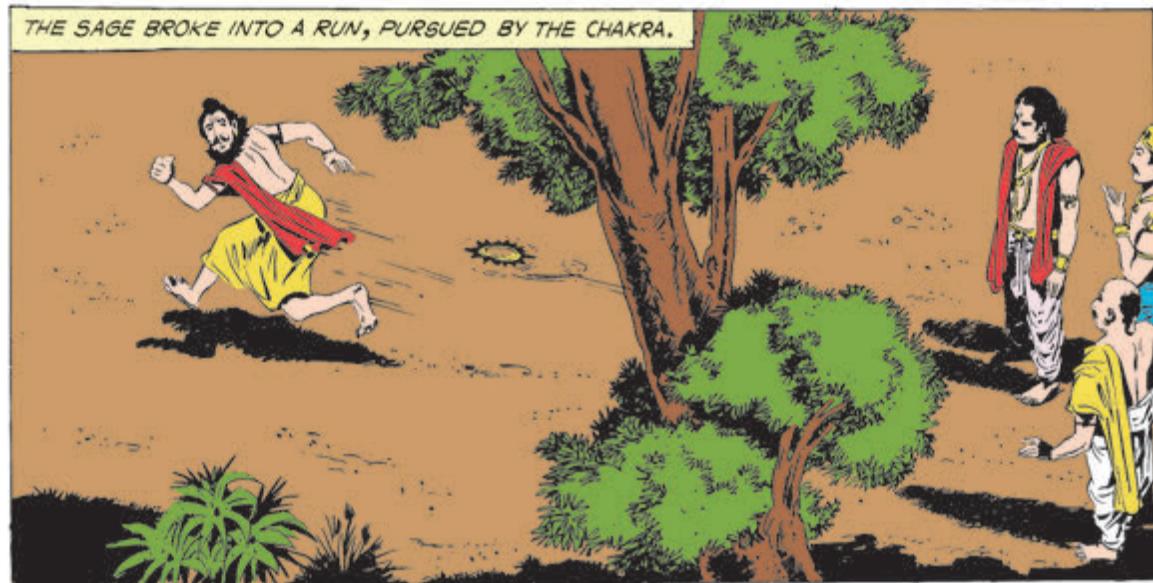


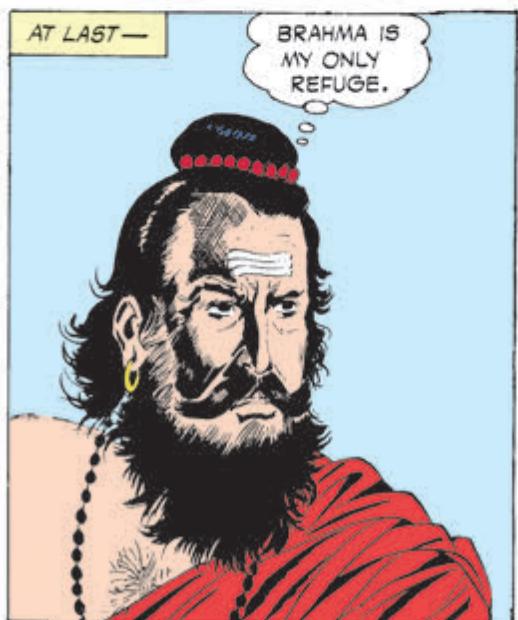
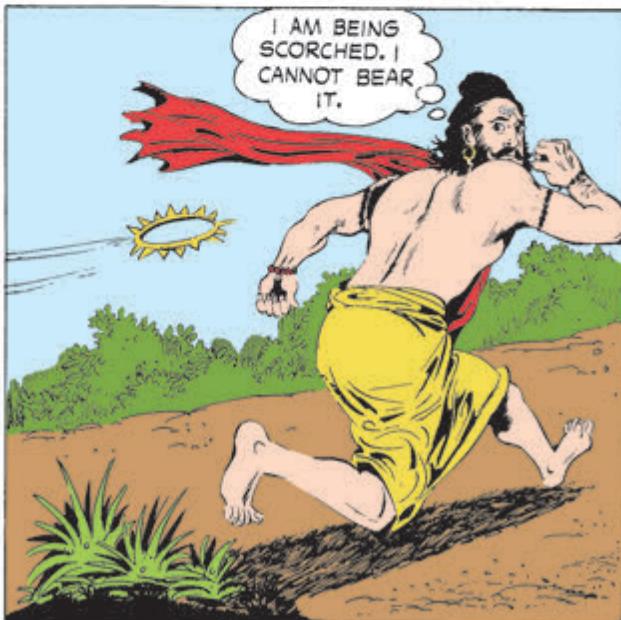


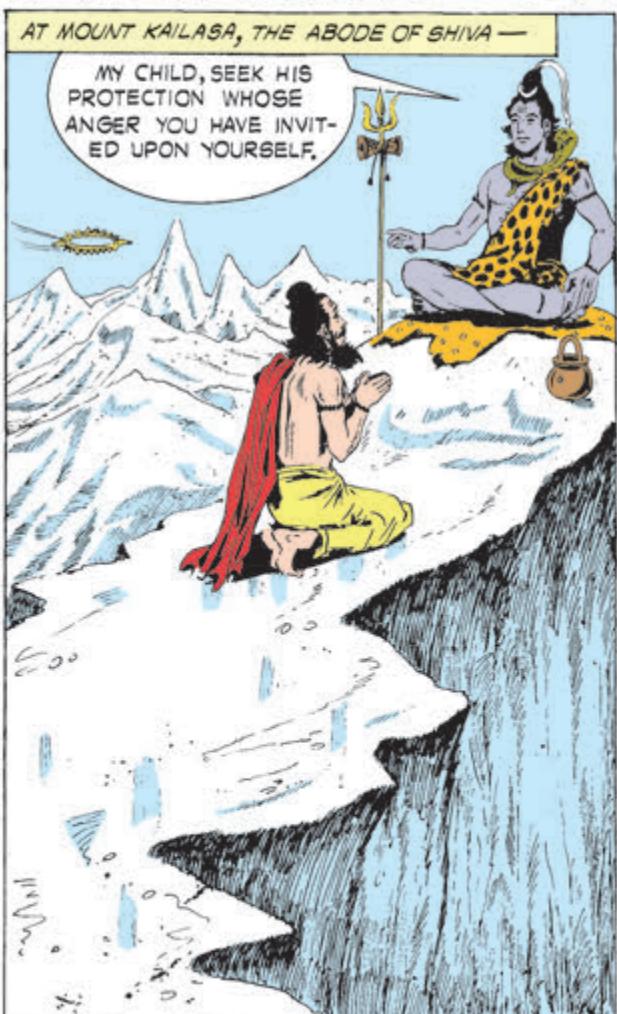
HAVING DESTROYED THE DISCUS WHICH THREATENED AMBARISHA'S LIFE, SUDARSHANA CHAKRA FLEW TOWARDS DURVASA.

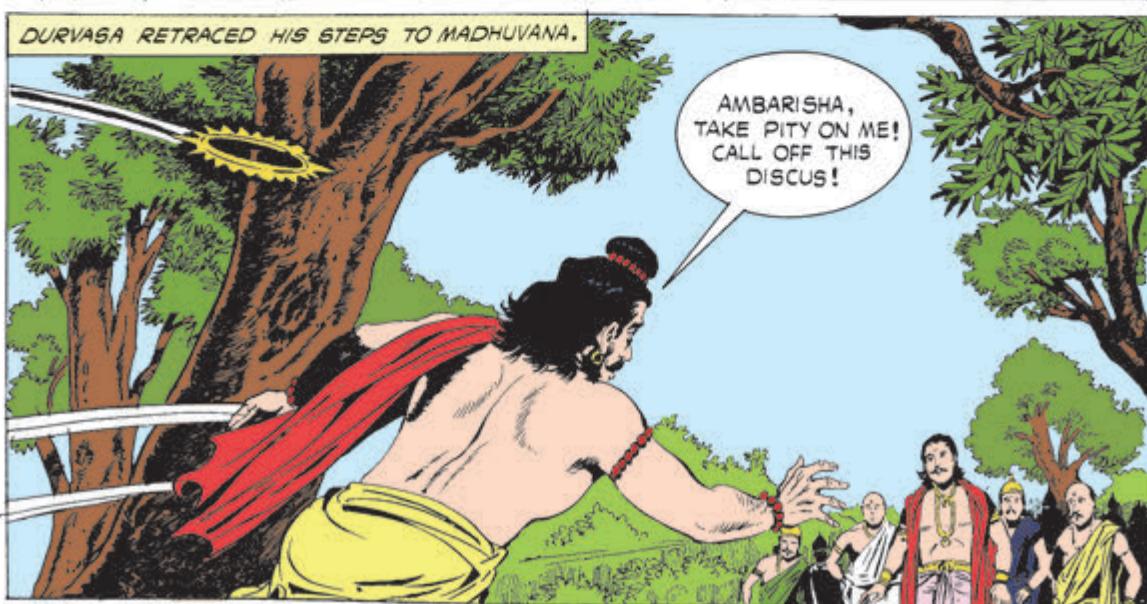


THE SAGE BROKE INTO A RUN, PURSUED BY THE CHAKRA.









AMBARISHA WAS MOVED BY DURVASA'S PLIGHT.

HE APPEALED TO SUDARSHANA CHAKRA.

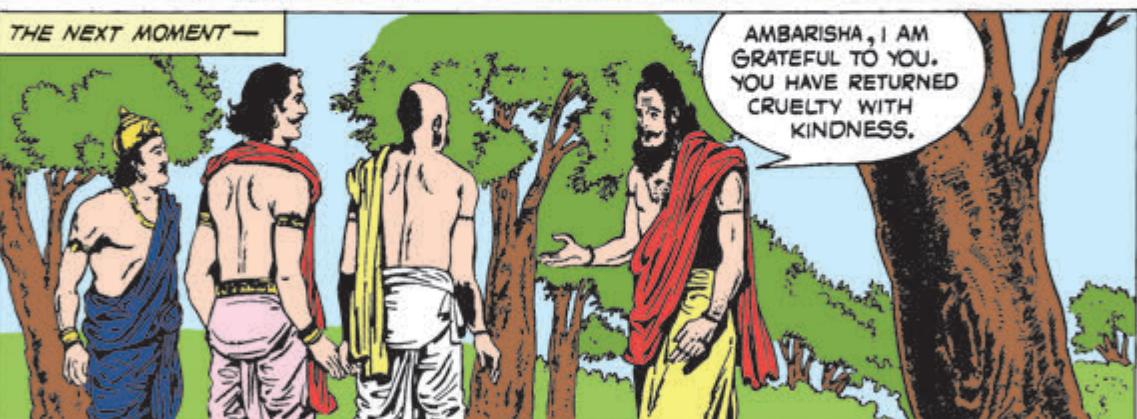
HAS THE  
GREAT SAGE  
BEEN REDUCED TO  
SUCH A PATHETIC  
STATE?

IF LORD VISHNU HAS BEEN  
PLEASSED WITH MY DEVOTION,  
LET SAGE DURVASA NO LONGER  
BE TROUBLED BY YOU.

AND THE SUDARSHANA  
CHAKRA DISAPPEARED.

THE NEXT MOMENT —

AMBARISHA, I AM  
GRATEFUL TO YOU.  
YOU HAVE RETURNED  
CRUELTY WITH  
KINDNESS.

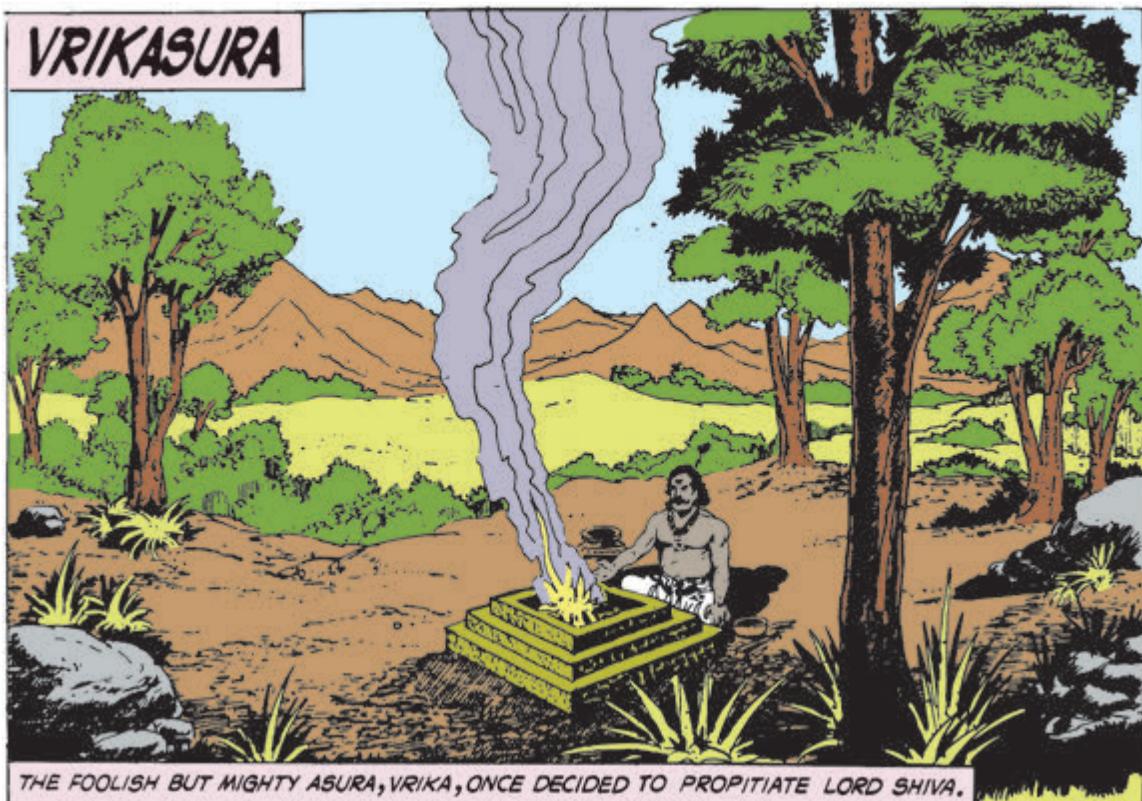


THE DISCUS OF VISHNU  
WHICH COULD NOT BE  
CONTROLLED BY EITHER  
SHIVA OR BRAHMA,  
RESPECTS YOUR WORDS.  
WHAT IS THE SECRET  
OF YOUR POWER?

THE LOVE  
OF LORD  
VISHNU.

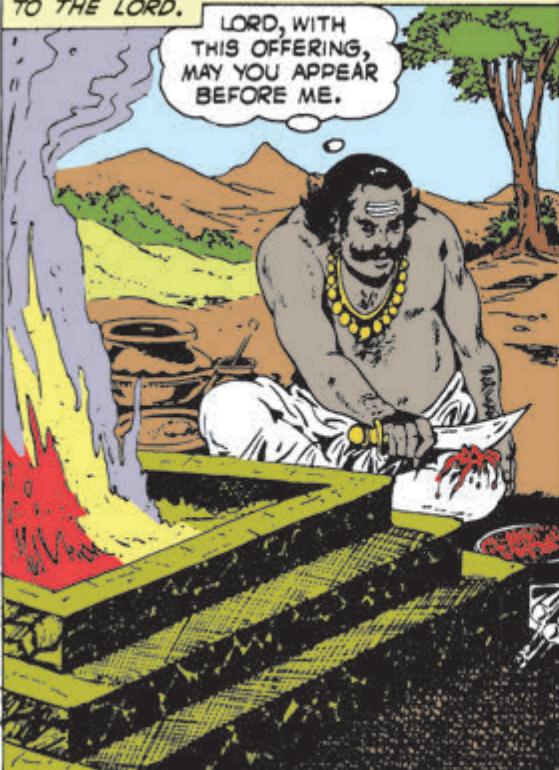
THUS DID VISHNU DEMONSTRATE HIS LOVE FOR HIS DEVOTEES.

## VRIKASURA

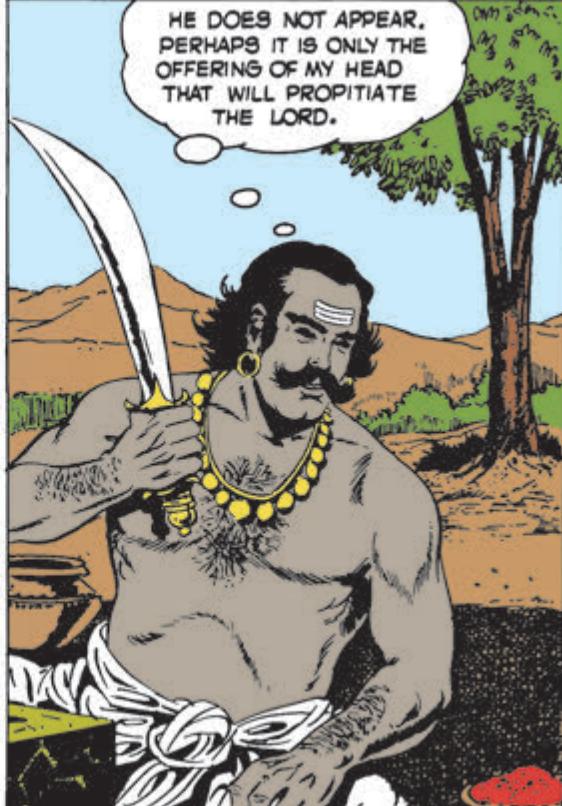


THE FOOLISH BUT MIGHTY ASURA, VRIKA, ONCE DECIDED TO PROPITIATE LORD SHIVA.

HE CUT OFF HIS FLESH AND OFFERED IT TO THE LORD.

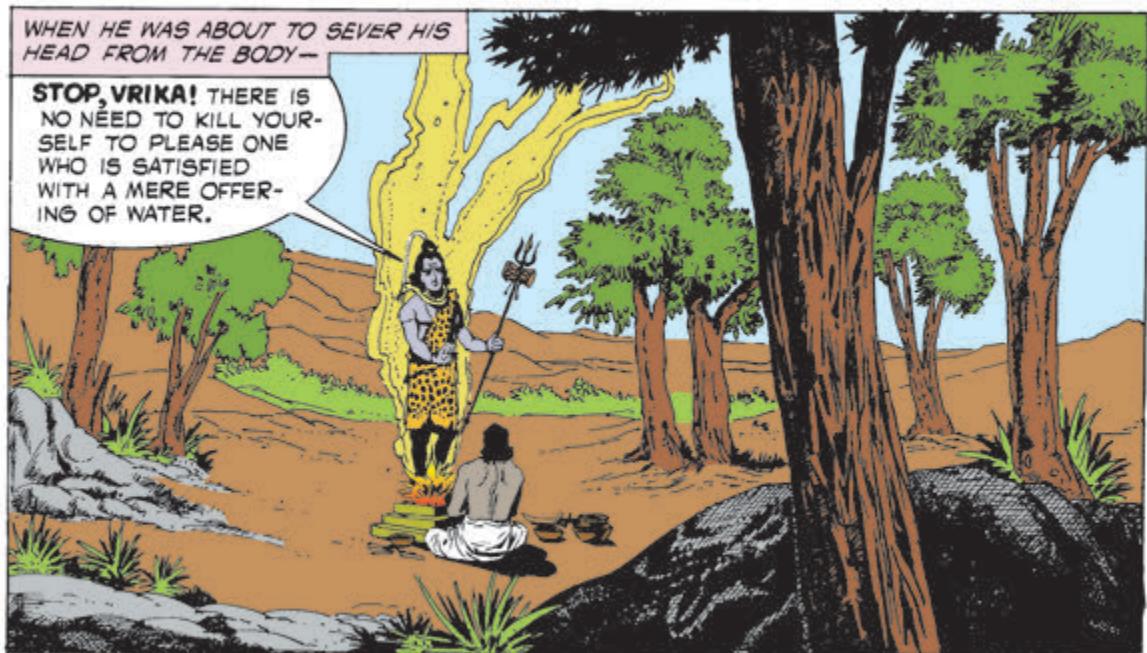


HE DOES NOT APPEAR. PERHAPS IT IS ONLY THE OFFERING OF MY HEAD THAT WILL PROPITIATE THE LORD.



WHEN HE WAS ABOUT TO SEVER HIS HEAD FROM THE BODY—

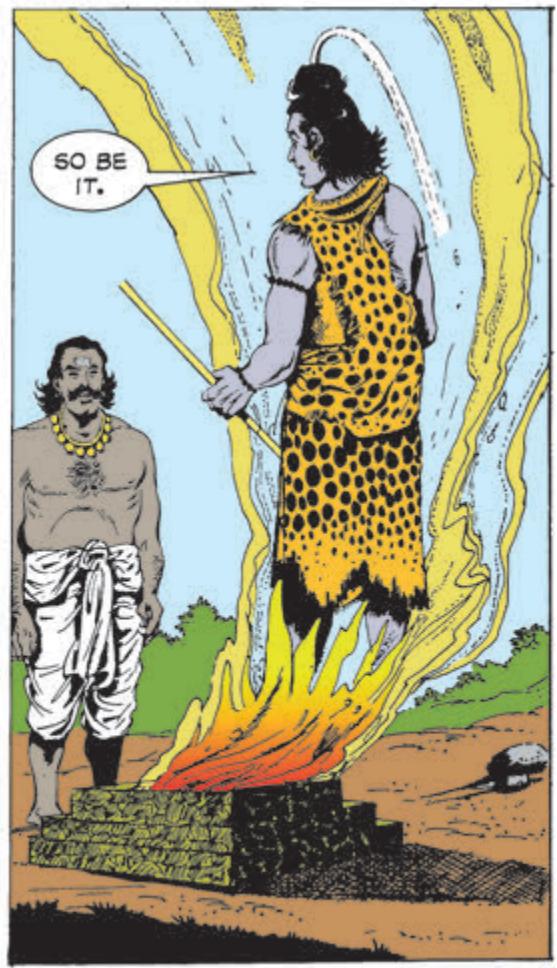
**STOP, VRIKA!** THERE IS NO NEED TO KILL YOURSELF TO PLEASE ONE WHO IS SATISFIED WITH A MERE OFFERING OF WATER.



WHAT IS  
THE BOON  
YOU SEEK?

I WISH TO  
CONQUER THE WORLD.  
MAY ANYONE ON  
WHOSE HEAD I LAY  
MY PALM, DIE.

SO BE  
IT.



THE NEXT MOMENT, VRINKA TRIED TO REACH FOR SHIVA.



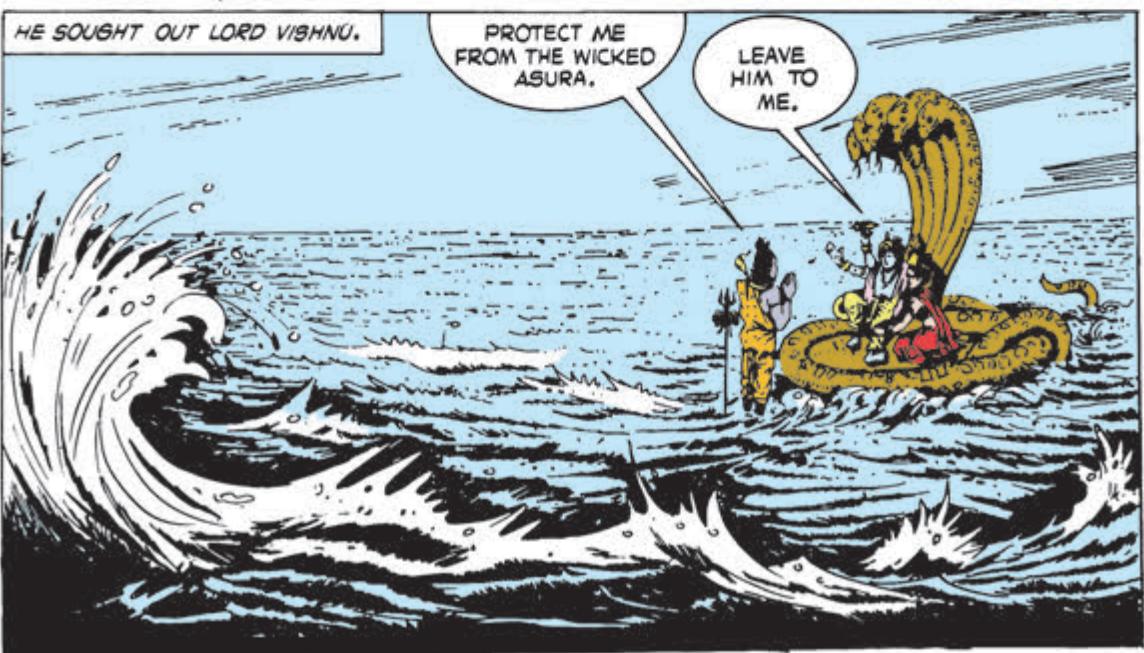
SHIVA BROKE INTO A RUN.



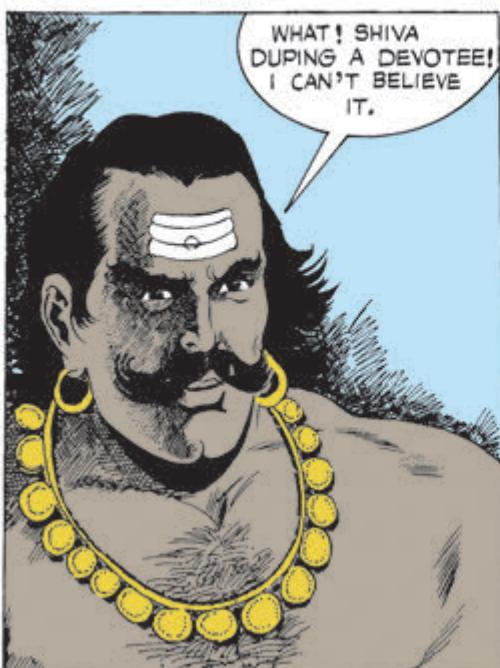
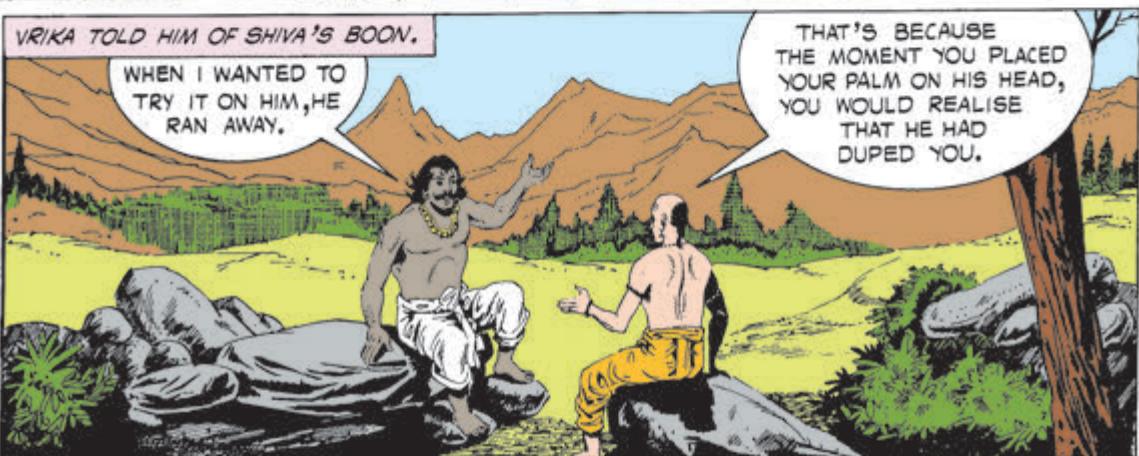
HE SOUGHT OUT LORD VISHNU.

PROTECT ME  
FROM THE WICKED  
ASURA.

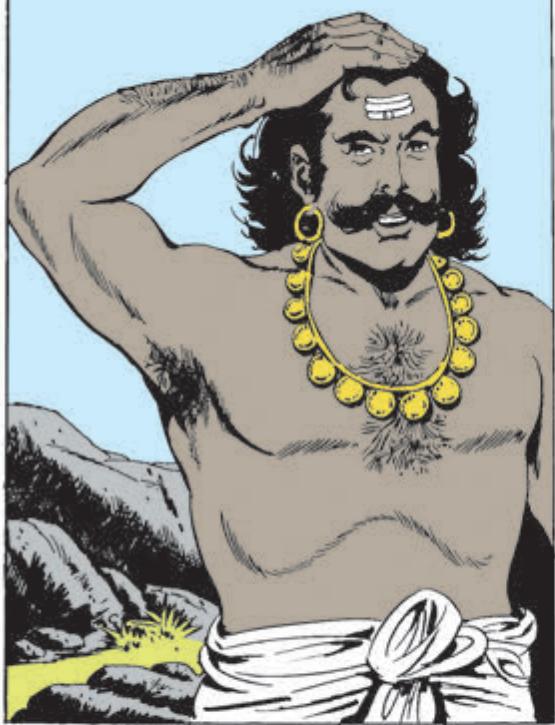
LEAVE  
HIM TO  
ME.



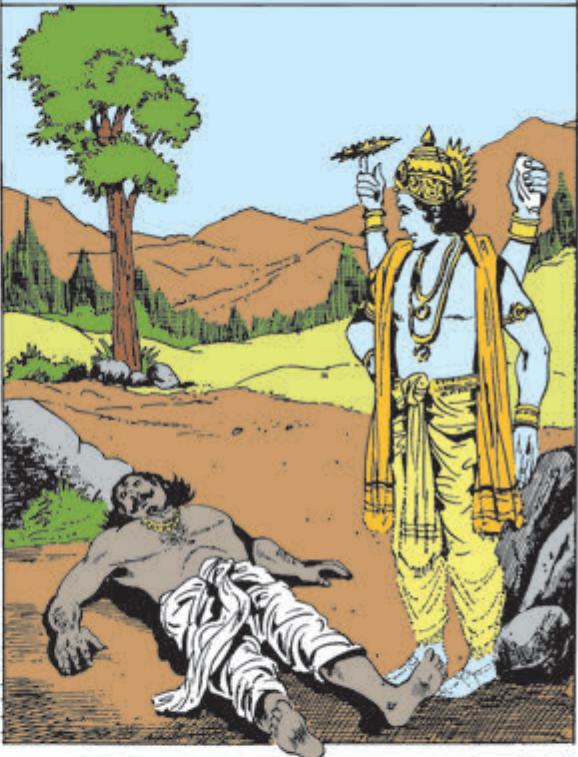
MEANWHILE, AS VRINKA RAN IN SEARCH OF SHIVA, A YOUNG BRAHMACHARI \*MET HIM.



WITHOUT STOPPING TO THINK, THE FOOLISH ASURA PLACED HIS PALM ON HIS HEAD.



THE NEXT MOMENT, HE FELL DEAD. THE CLEVER BRAHMACHARI WAS NONE OTHER THAN VISHNU.

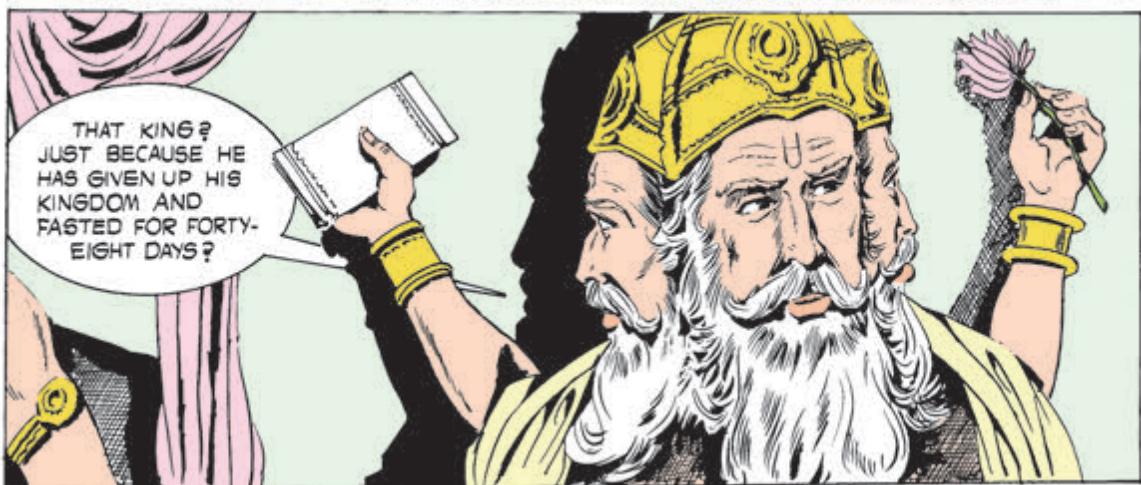
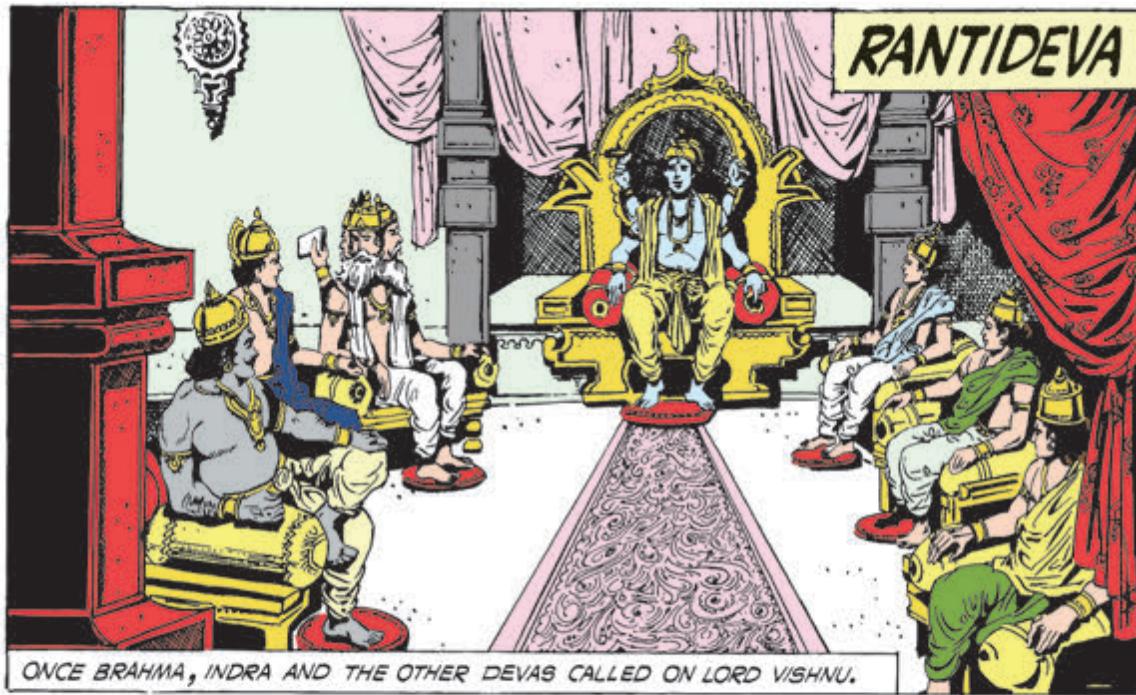


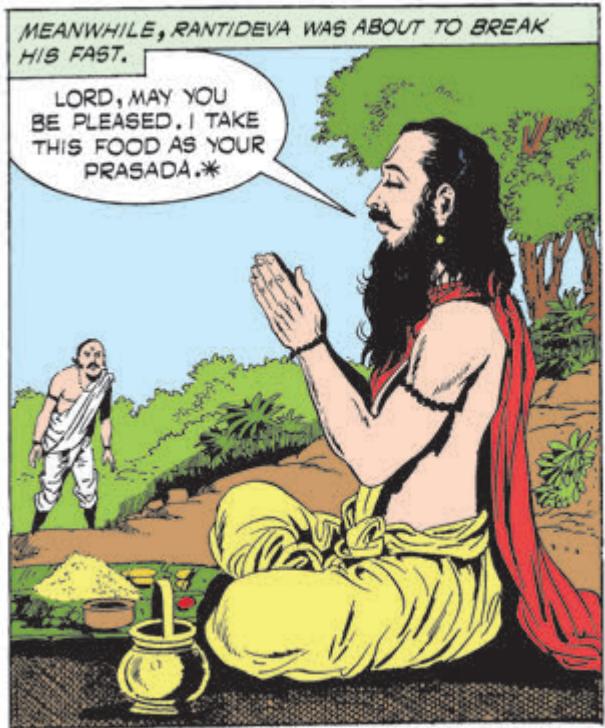
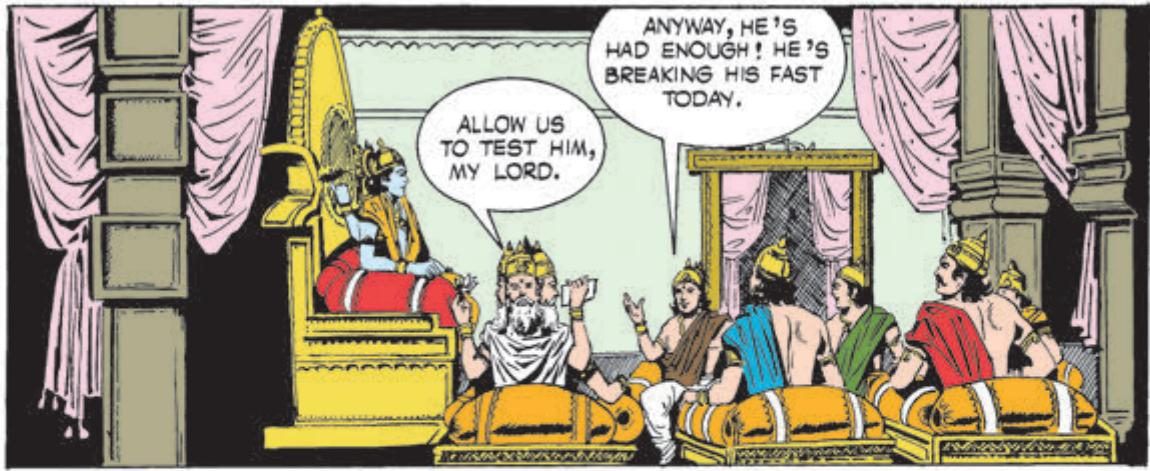
JUST THEN, SHIVA APPEARED.

I AM SORRY THAT  
THE UNFORTUNATE  
ASURA HAD TO  
DIE.

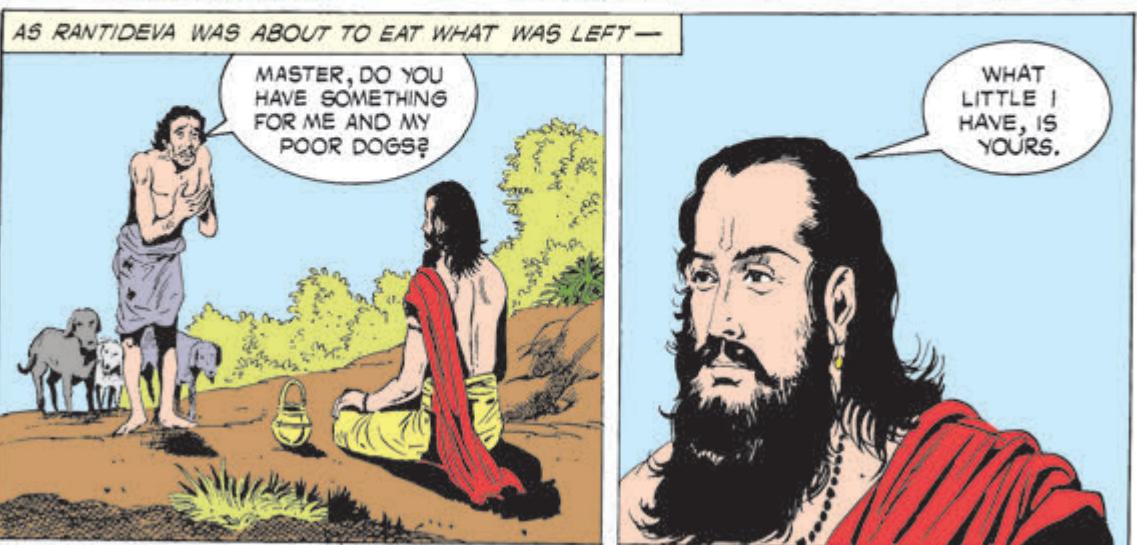
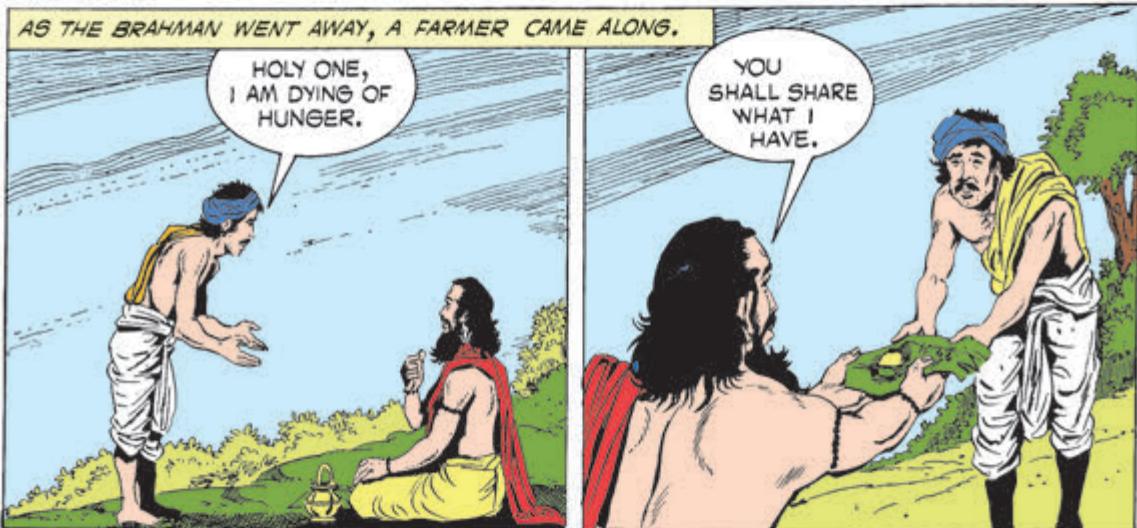
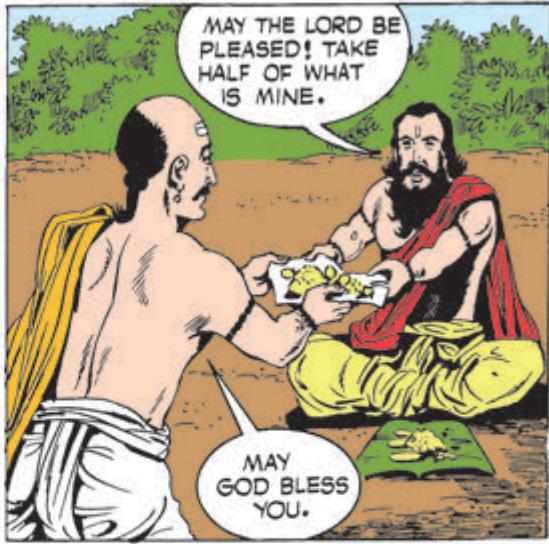
IT WAS  
INEVITABLE. HE WHO  
SECURES A BOON  
TO DESTROY OTHERS  
SEEKS HIS OWN  
DESTRUCTION.

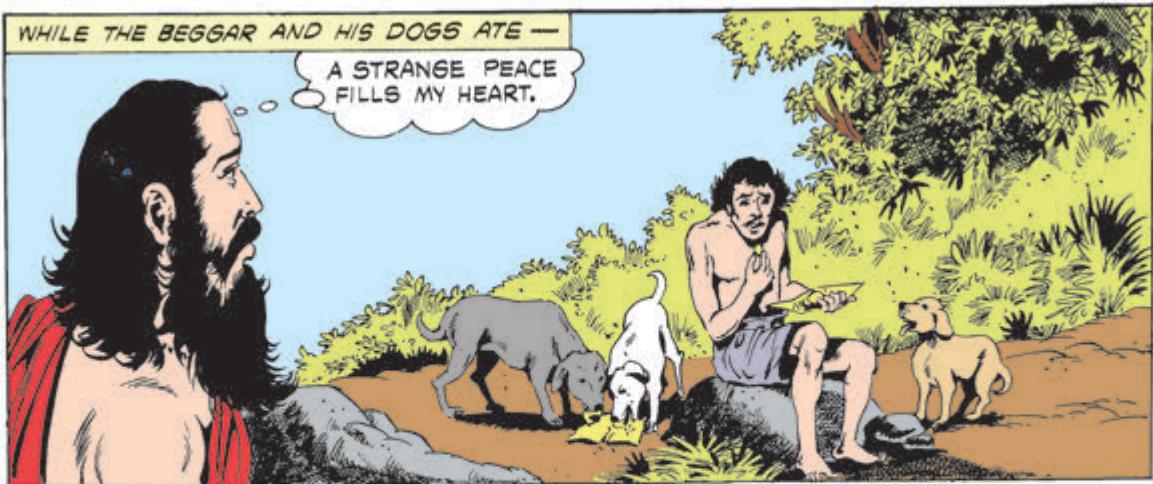


**RANTIDEVA**

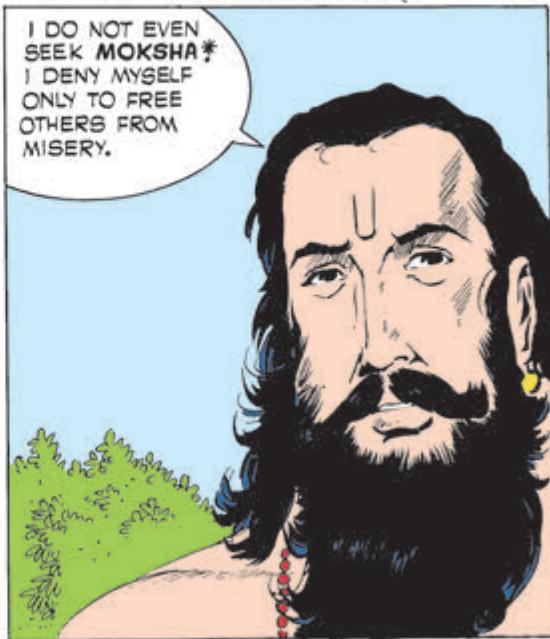


\* GOD'S GIFT





\*CELESTIAL BEING



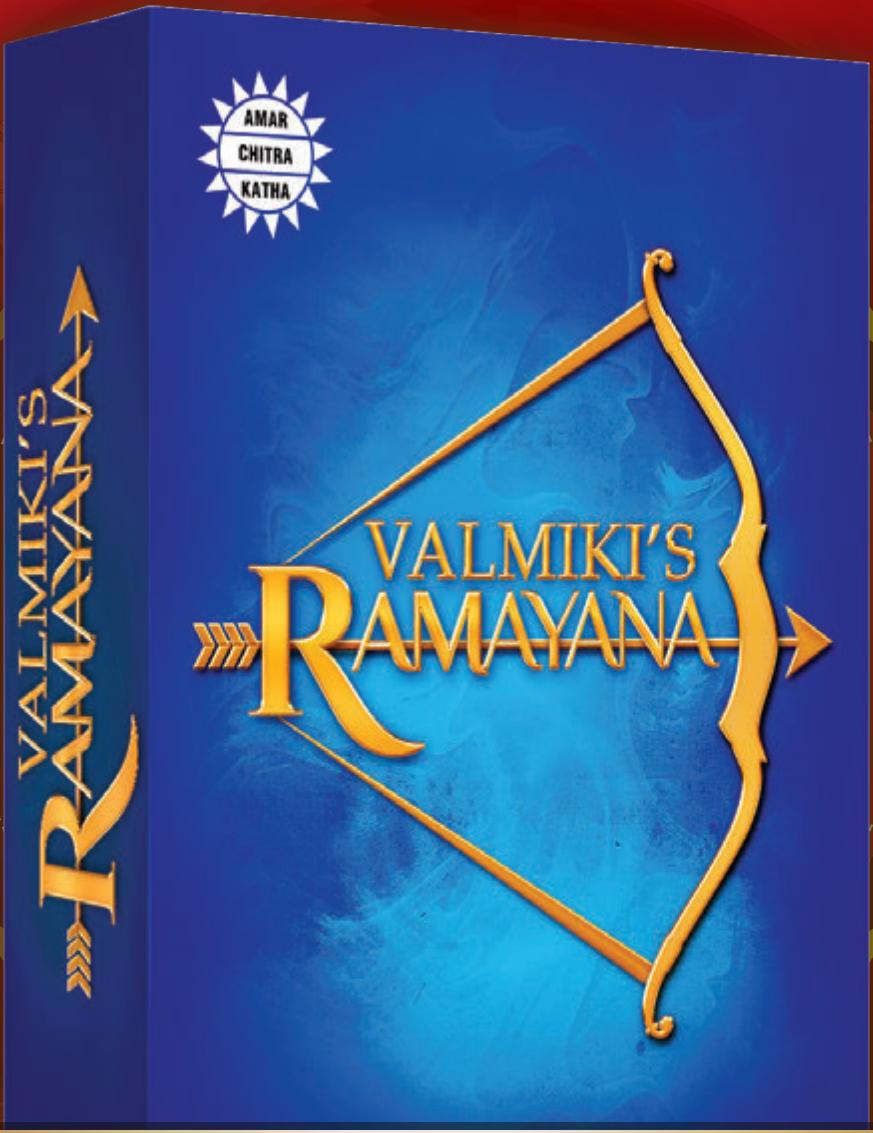


THE NEXT MOMENT, VISHNU AND THE OTHER DEVAS APPEARED BEFORE RANTIDEVA.





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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> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>HITOPADESHA TALES</b> <i>Choice Of Friends How Friends Are Parted</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hothal</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>JATAKA TALES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Battle Of Wits</li> <li>Bird Stories</li> <li>Deer Stories</li> <li>Elephant Stories</li> <li>Jackal Stories</li> <li>Monkey Stories</li> <li>Nandi Vishala</li> <li>Stories Of Courage</li> <li>Stories Of Wisdom</li> <li>Tales Of Misers</li> <li>The Deadly Feast</li> <li>The Giant And The Dwarf</li> <li>The Hidden Treasure</li> <li>The Magic Chant</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>BRAVEHEARTS</b> <i>Stirring tales of brave men and women of India</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Nation Awakes</li> <li>Ahilyabai Holkar</li> <li>Ajatasatru</li> <li>Akbar</li> <li>Amar Singh Rathor</li> <li>Ashoka</li> <li>Babur</li> <li>Bagha Jatin</li> <li>Bajirao I</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 Disciples</li> <li>The Golden Sand</li> <li>The Green Demon</li> <li>The Unhappy Tiger</li> <li>The Learned Pandit</li> <li>The Lost Prince</li> <li>The Magic Grove</li> <li>The Miraculous Conch</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> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>CONTEMPORARY CLASSICS</b> <i>(New Category)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The best of modern Indian literature</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Blue Umbrella</li> </ul>
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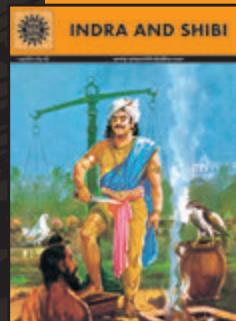
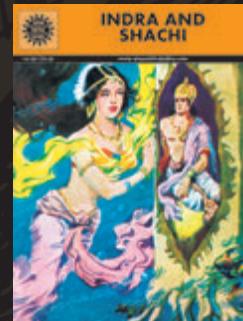
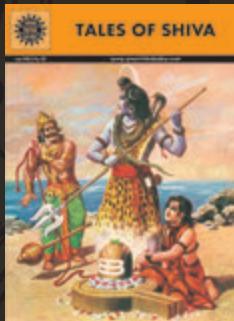


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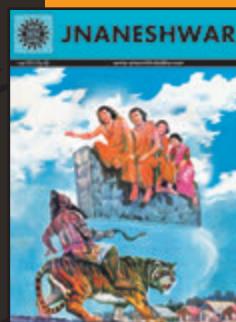
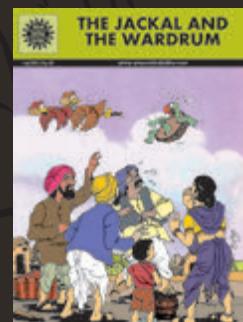
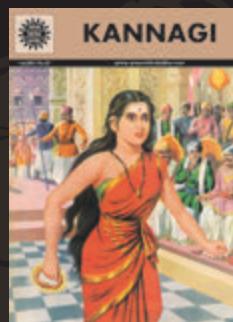
## TALES OF VISHNU

Vishnu, they say, is just one of a powerful threesome – the highest lords of the universe. However, though Brahma has created the universe and Shiva can destroy it, it is up to the great god Vishnu to keep all creatures within it well and happy. Always compassionate, he is also the wisest of the trinity. It is he who good-naturedly sorts out the mess the others create. And above all, Vishnu always favours the good and the pure.

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