



THE PANDAVA PRINCES

PANDU'S FIVE BRAVE SONS

Vol 626 | ₹70





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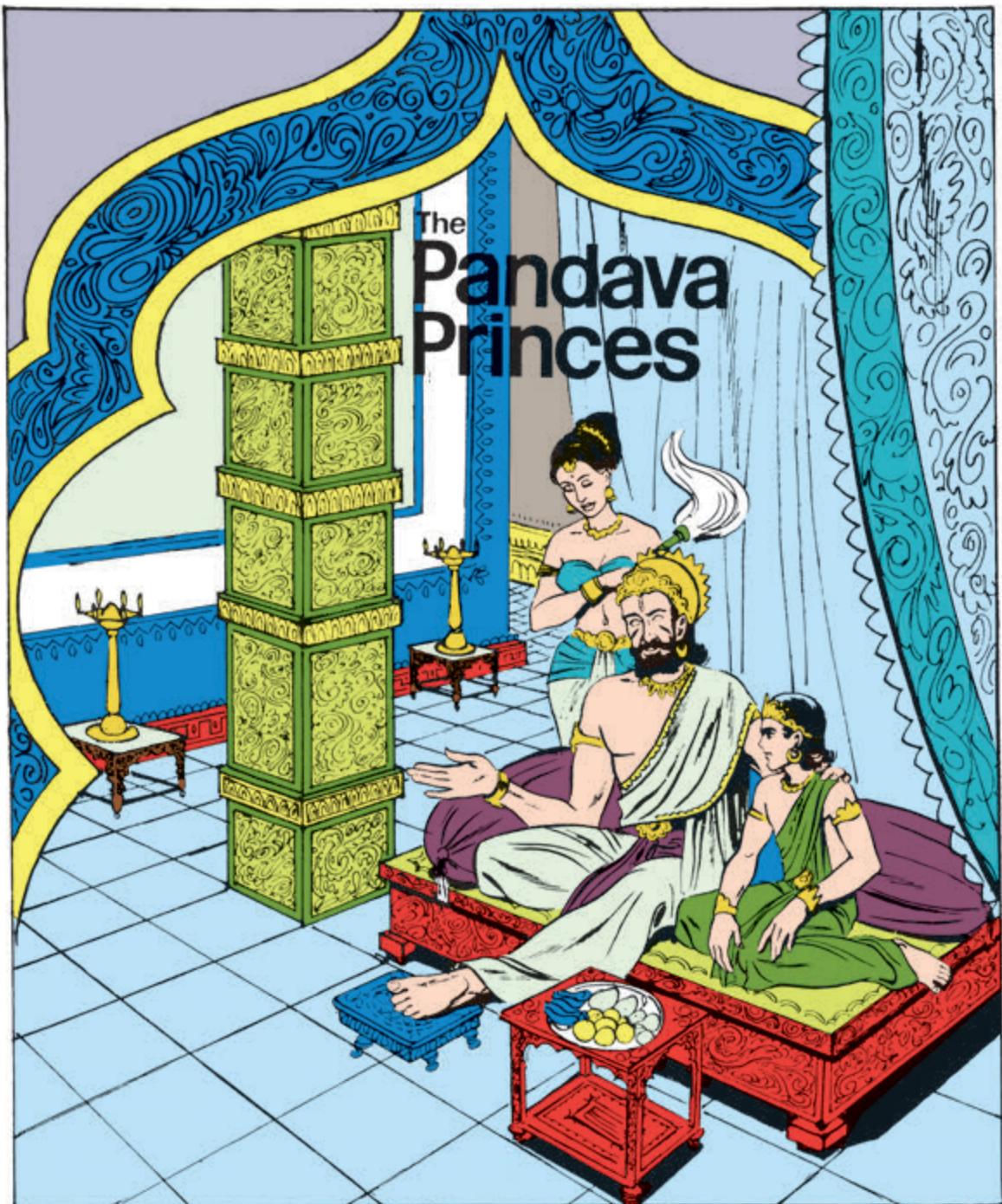
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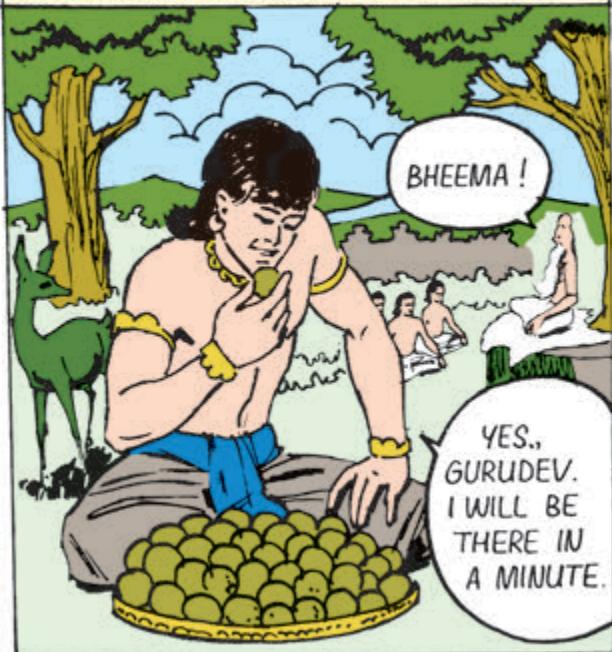
The **Pandava Princes**



THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO, INDIA WAS DIVIDED INTO MANY SOVEREIGN STATES. ONE OF THEM WAS HASTINAPURA, RULED BY THE BLIND KING DHRITARASHTRA. HE HAD A HUNDRED SONS, WHO WERE CALLED THE KAURAVAS. THE ELDEST WAS DURYODHANA.

DHRITARASHTRA'S BROTHER PANDU, HAD RULED THE KINGDOM EARLIER, BUT HE HAD RETIRED TO THE FOREST, BECAUSE OF CONTINUED ILLNESS. PANDU HAD TWO WIVES-KUNTI AND MADRI. THERE IN COURSE OF TIME, THREE SONS WERE BORN TO KUNTI-YUDHISHTHIRA, BHEEMA AND ARJUNA. MADRI HAD TWO SONS-NAKULA AND SAHADEVA. TOGETHER THEY WERE CALLED THE PANDAVAS.

THE GREAT SAGES OF THE JUNGLE TAUGHT THE PANDAVAS TO READ AND WRITE.



THE HARD JUNGLE LIFE MADE THEM STURDY AND FEARLESS.



WHEN PANDU DIED, MADRI BURNT HERSELF ON THE PYRE. SAGE VYASA CAME TO CONSOLE KUNTI.



AT THE PALACE, YOU WILL MEET BHEESHMA, YOUR GREAT GRAND UNCLE, VIDURA, THE WISE MINISTER AND...

...OUR HUNDRED COUSINS!
I WONDER HOW OUR UNCLE REMEMBERS THEIR NAMES!

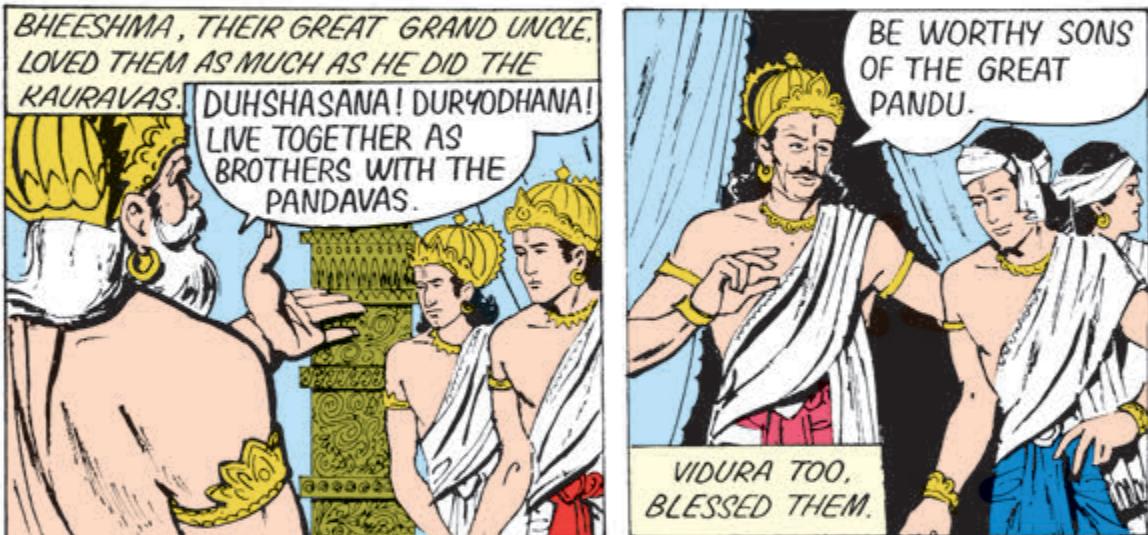
NEXT DAY-



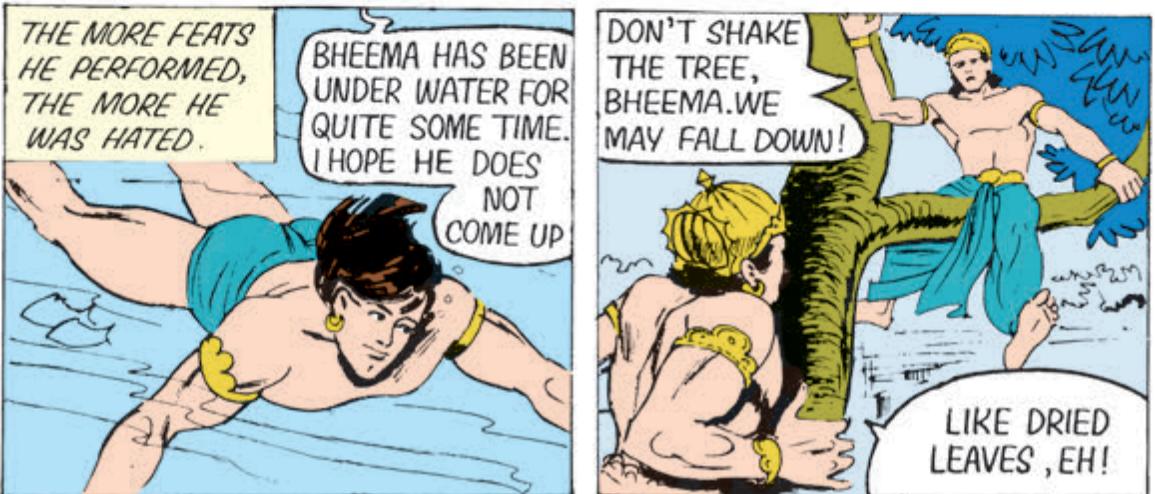
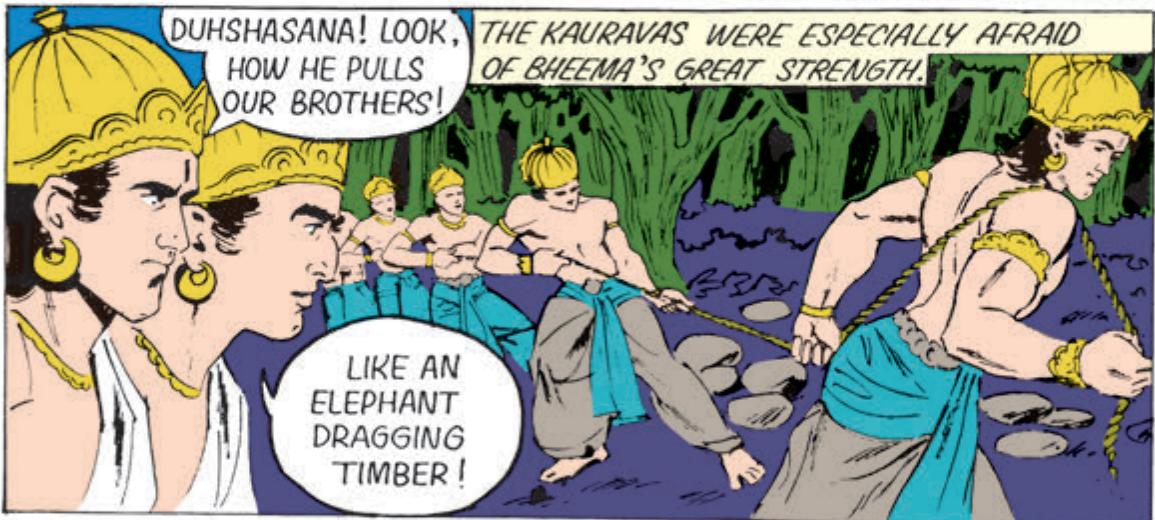
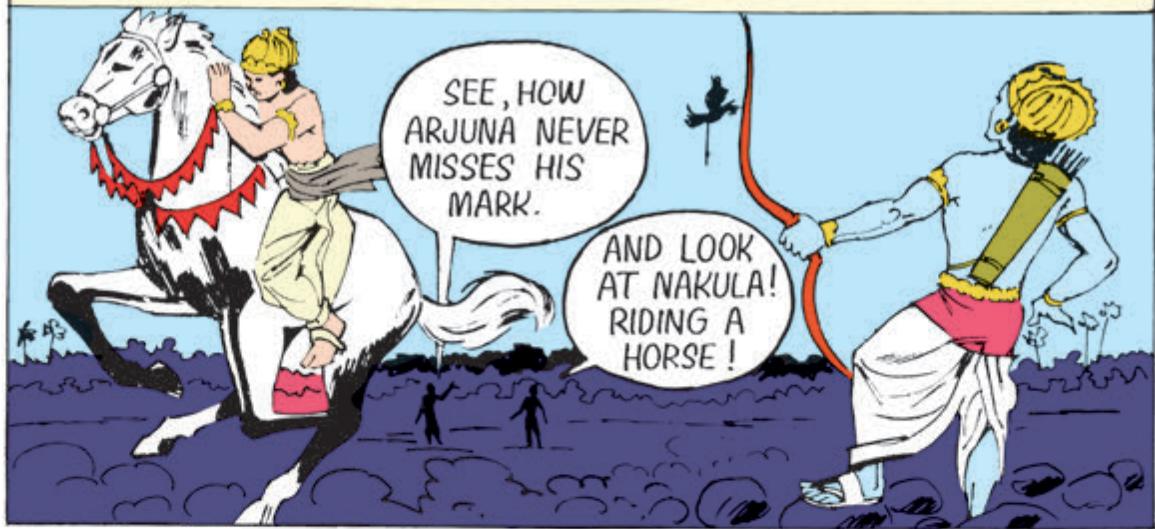
ARJUNA ! WILL WE GET SUCH A WARM WELCOME AT HASTINAPURA ALSO ?

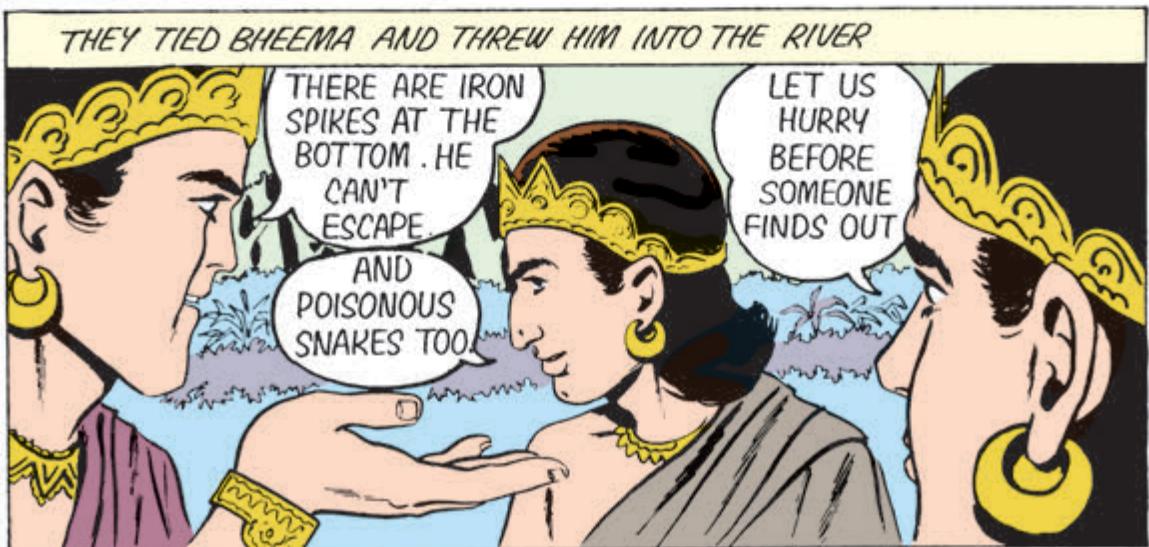
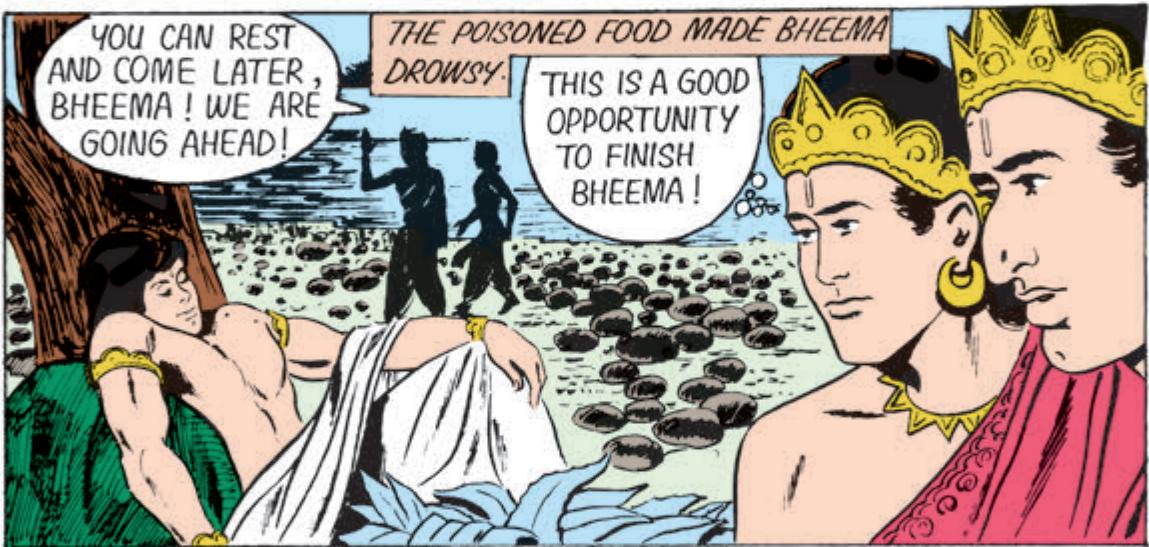
VICTORY TO THE SONS OF PANDU !

ON THEIR WAY-



THE KAURAVAS ENVIED THE FIVE PRINCES.

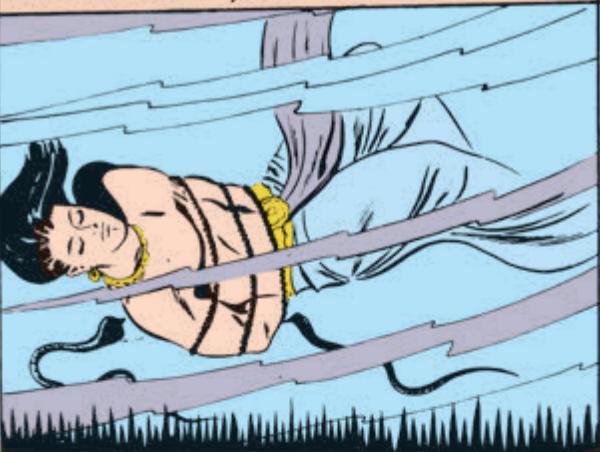




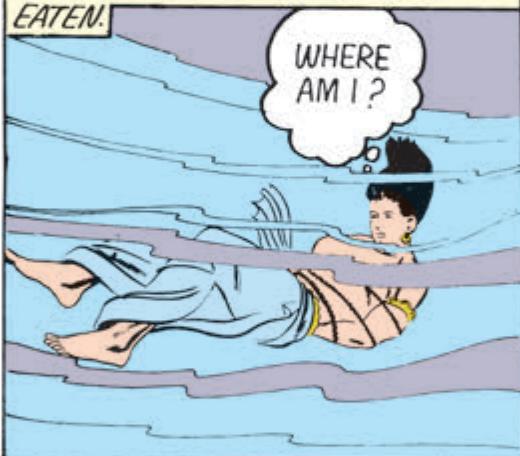
NEAR THE PALACE GATES,
YUDHISHTHIRA MET DURYODHANA.



IN THE RIVER, BHEEMA ESCAPED
THE IRON SPIKES, BUT THE SNAKES BIT HIM.



THE SNAKE POISON ACTED AGAINST
THE POISONED FOOD WHICH HE HAD
EATEN.



HE TWITCHED HIS MUSCLES TILL THE
BONDS BURST.

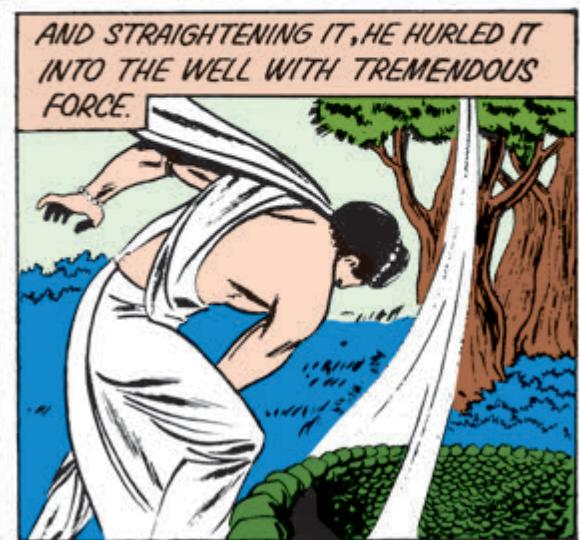
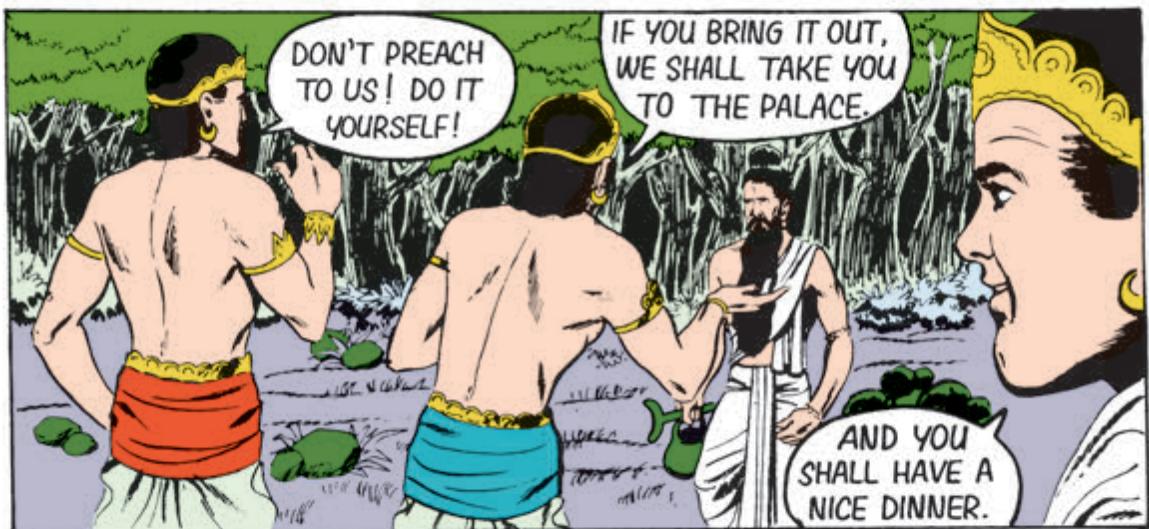
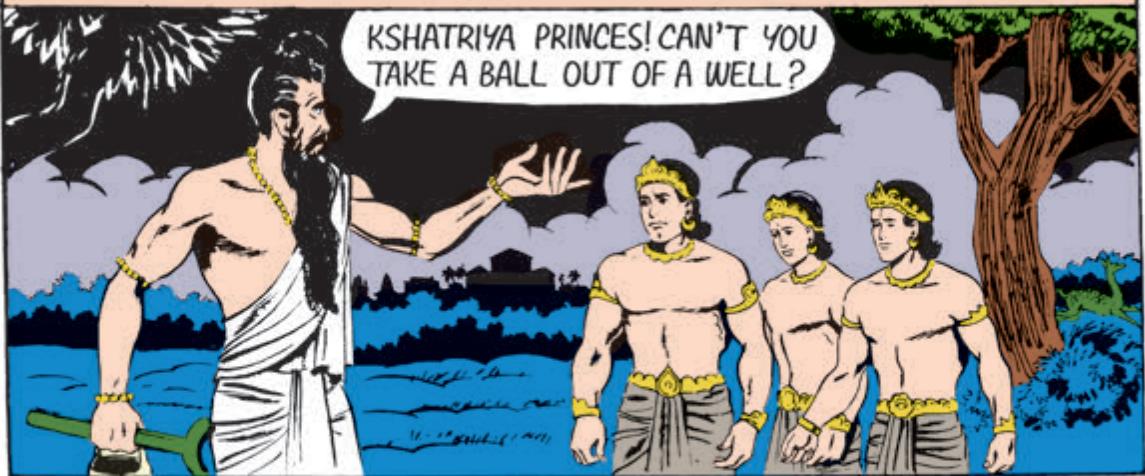


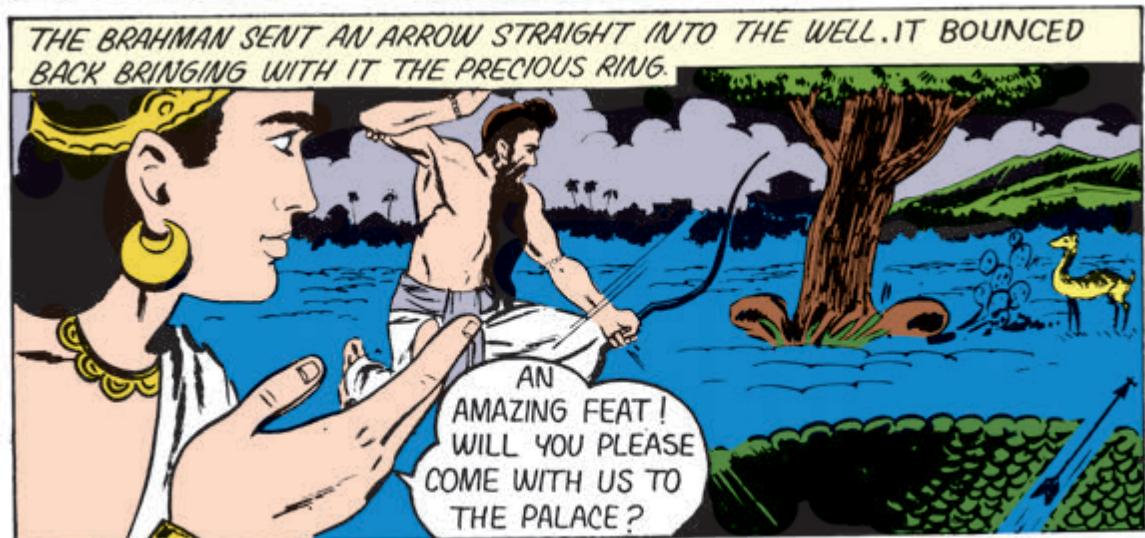
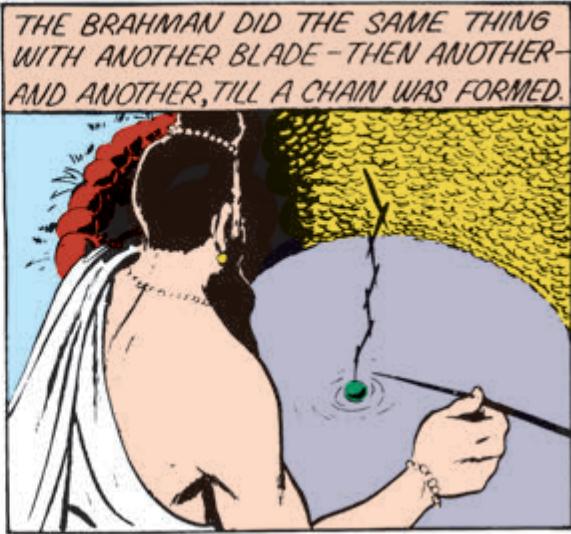
SOON HE CAME OUT OF THE WATER AND REACHED THE PALACE.



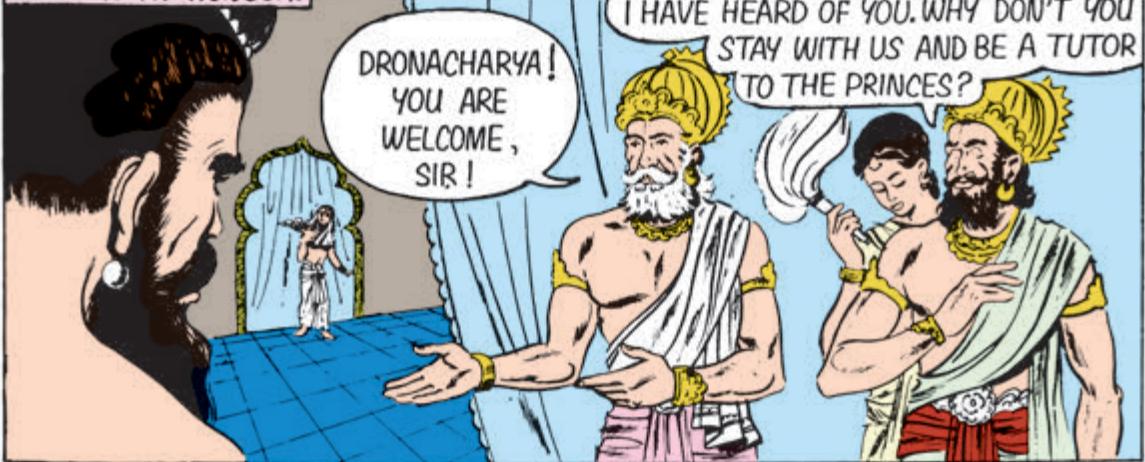


A POORLY-CLAD BRAHMAN APPROACHED THEM

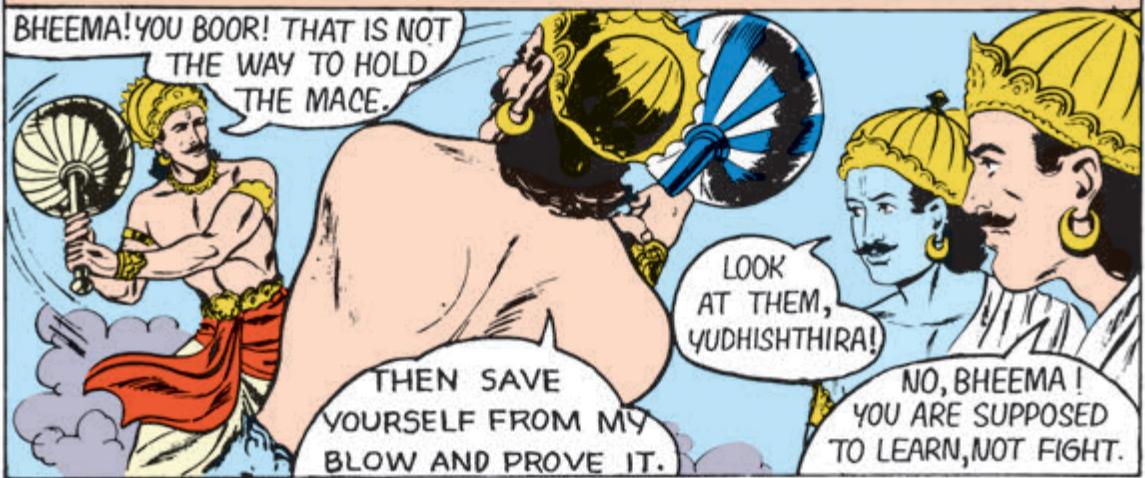




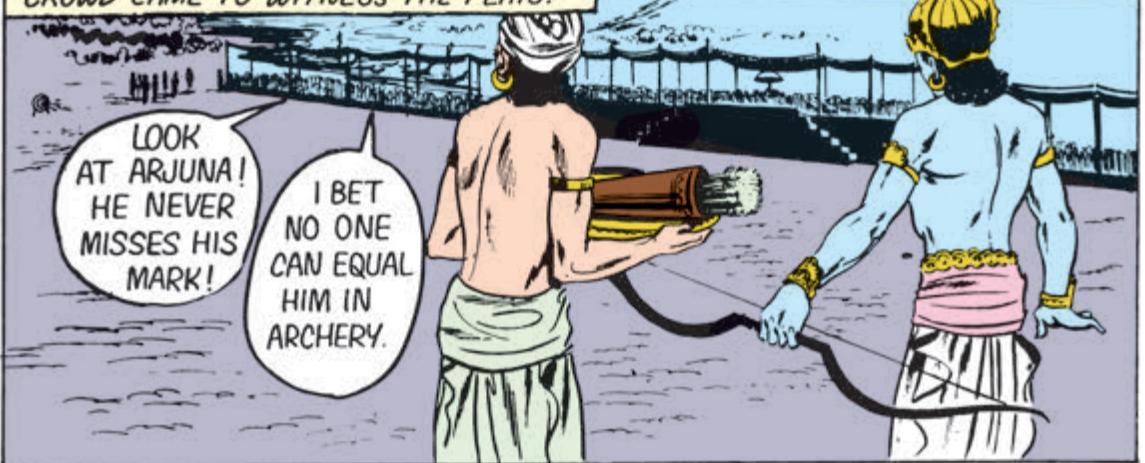
AT THE COURT, BHEESHPA RECOGNISED HIM. KING DHRITARASHTRA RECEIVED HIM WITH HONOUR.



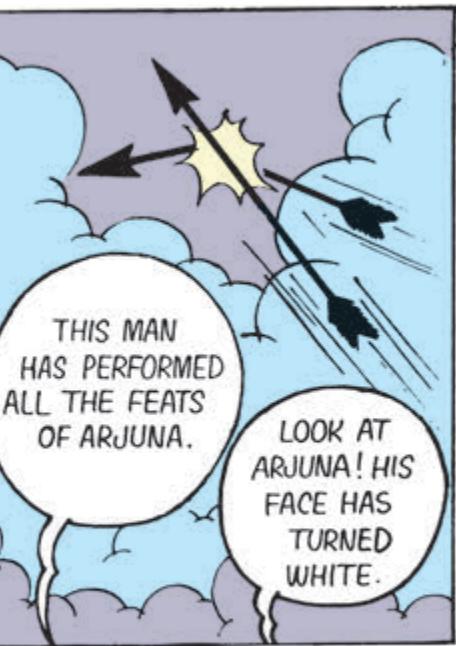
THE PRINCES LEARNT THE ARTS OF WAR FROM DRONACHARYA.



ONE DAY, DRONA HELD A CONTEST TO WHICH THE KING WAS INVITED. A BIG CROWD CAME TO WITNESS THE FEATS.



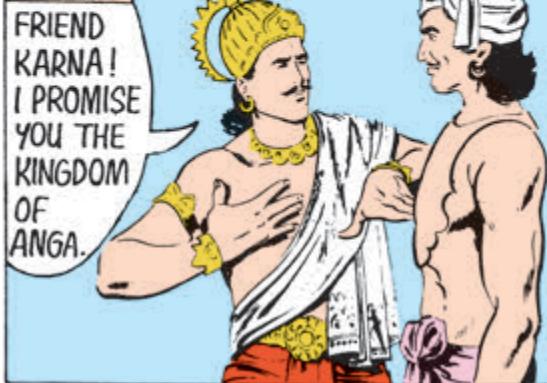
SUDDENLY, A YOUTH CLAD IN SHINING ARMOUR STEPPED FORWARD.



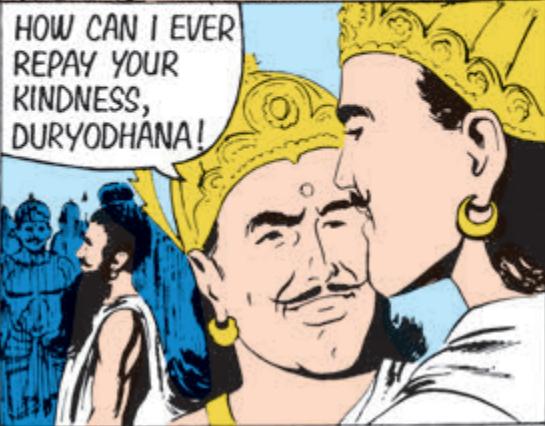
JUST THEN, A CHARIOOTEER, WHO WAS AMONG THE SPECTATORS, ADVANCED WITH TEARS FLOWING DOWN HIS CHEEKS.



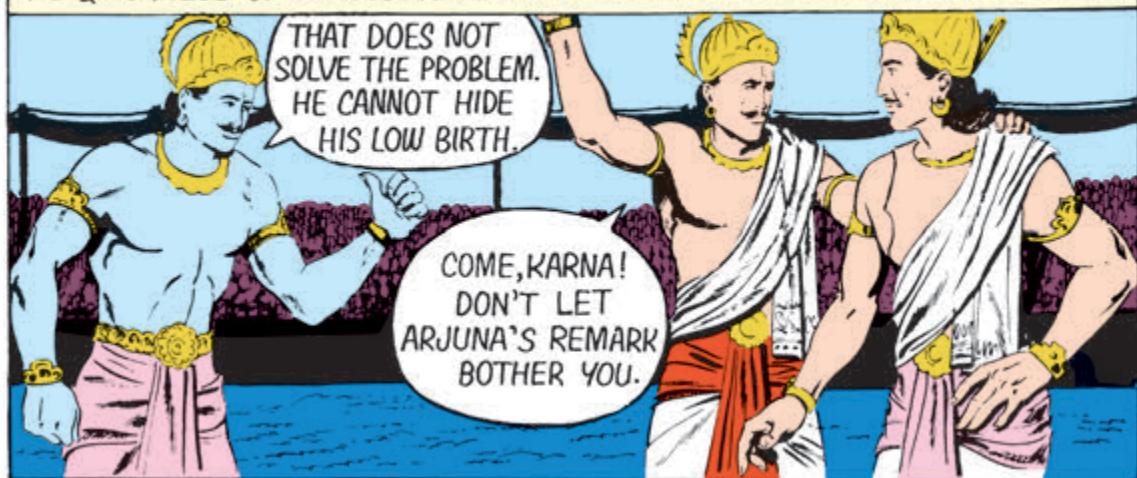
DURYODHANA INSTANTLY TOOK A LIKING FOR KARNA. BY BEFRIENDING HIM, HE WANTED TO HUMILIATE ARJUNA.



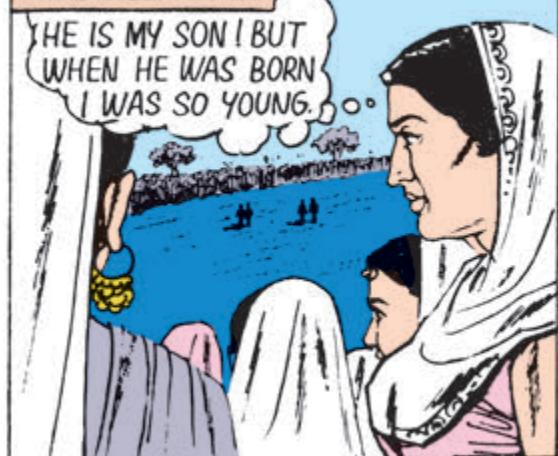
AFTER OBTAINING THE PERMISSION OF KING DHRITARASHTRA, KARNA WAS CROWNED THERE AND THEN.



THE QUICKNESS OF DURYODHANA'S ACTION ASTONISHED THE WHOLE GATHERING.



KUNTI, WHO WITNESSED ALL THIS, WAS ALSO SAD.



THE PANDAVA PRINCES WERE LOVED ALL OVER THE COUNTRY.

WE WANT YUDHISHTHIRA TO BE THE KING!

THE PANDAVAS ARE BRAVE AND HONEST.

DURYODHANA IS TOO CRUEL TO BE THE KING.

THIS TALK REACHED THE EARS OF DURYODHANA.

FATHER! THE PEOPLE WANT YUDHISHTHIRA TO BE CROWNED KING.

WILL WE HAVE TO LIVE ON THE CRUMBS THE PANDAVAS THROW AT US?

I SUGGEST, YOU SEND THEM AWAY ON SOME PRETEXT.

PREFERABLY, TO A PLACE FAR AWAY.

SO THE PANDAVAS WERE SENT TO VARANAVATI TO ATTEND THE FESTIVAL BEING HELD THERE.



THE PANDAVA PRINCES

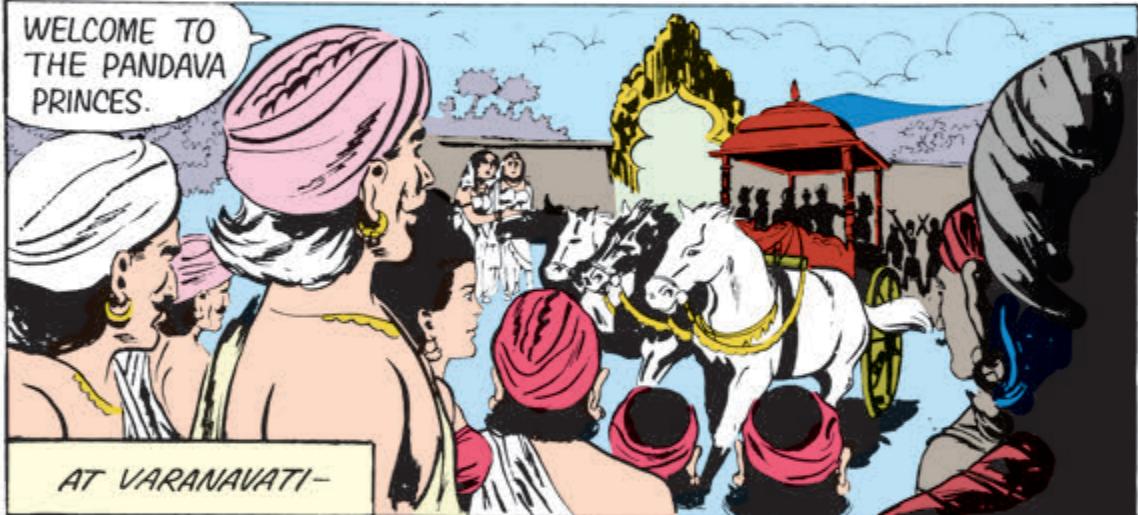
DURYODHANA WHISPERED SOMETHING IN THE EARS OF PUROCHANA, A CLEVER BUT SLY ARCHITECT.



VIDURA WARNED YUDHISHTHIRA TO BE CAREFUL.



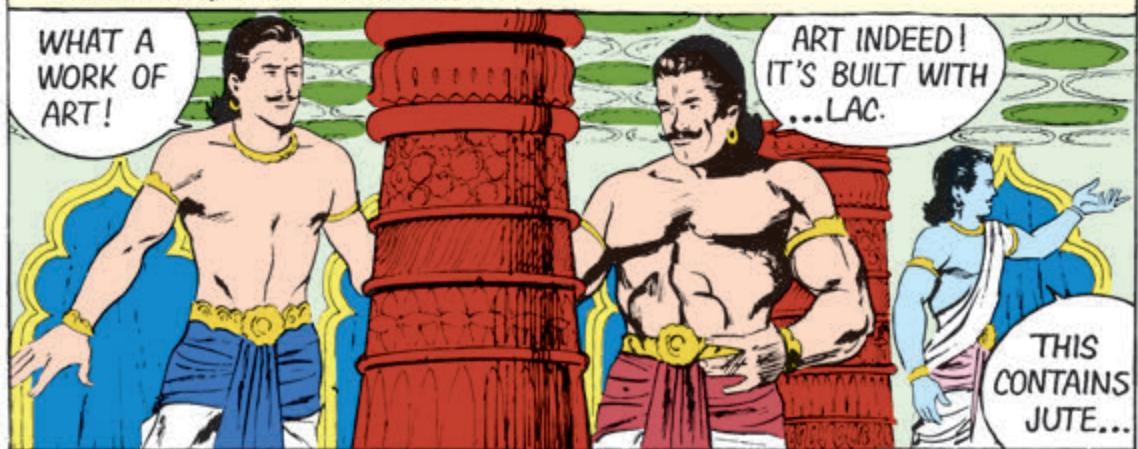
WELCOME TO THE PANDAVA PRINCES.

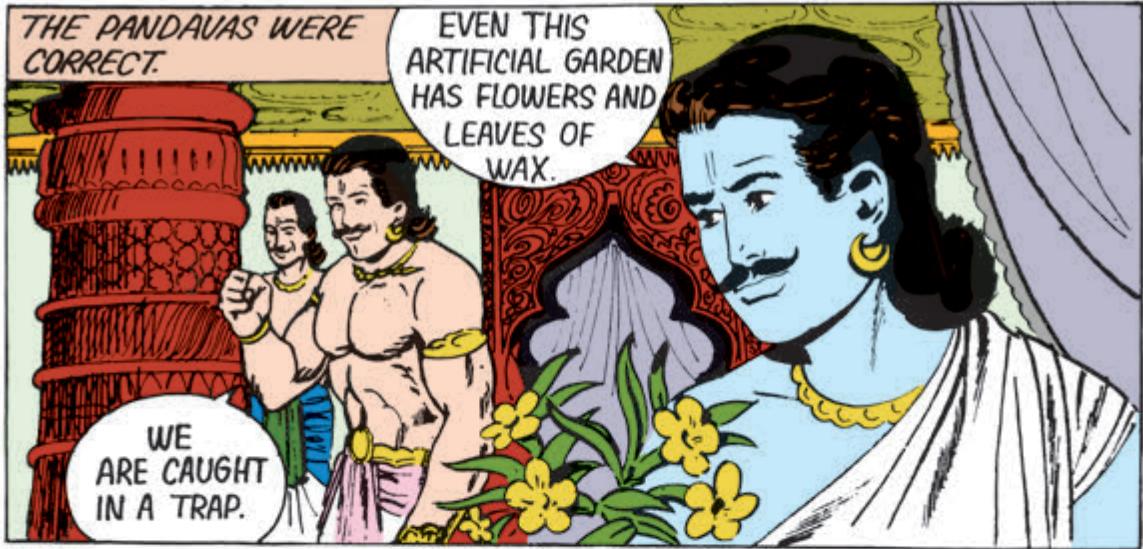


AT VARANAVATI-

WHEN PUROCHANA FINISHED BUILDING A GRAND PALACE FOR THE PANDAVAS, THEY MOVED INTO IT.

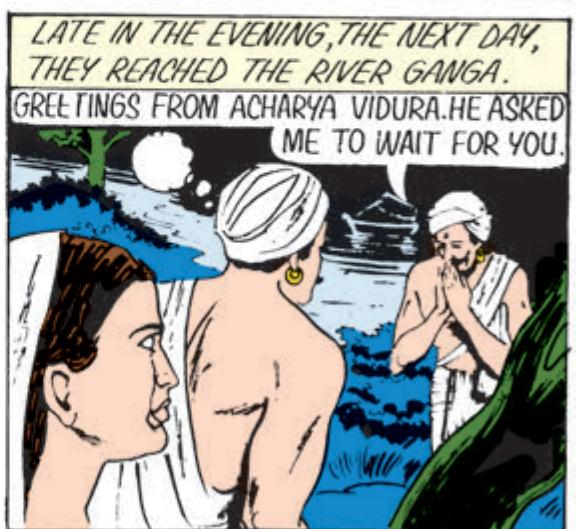
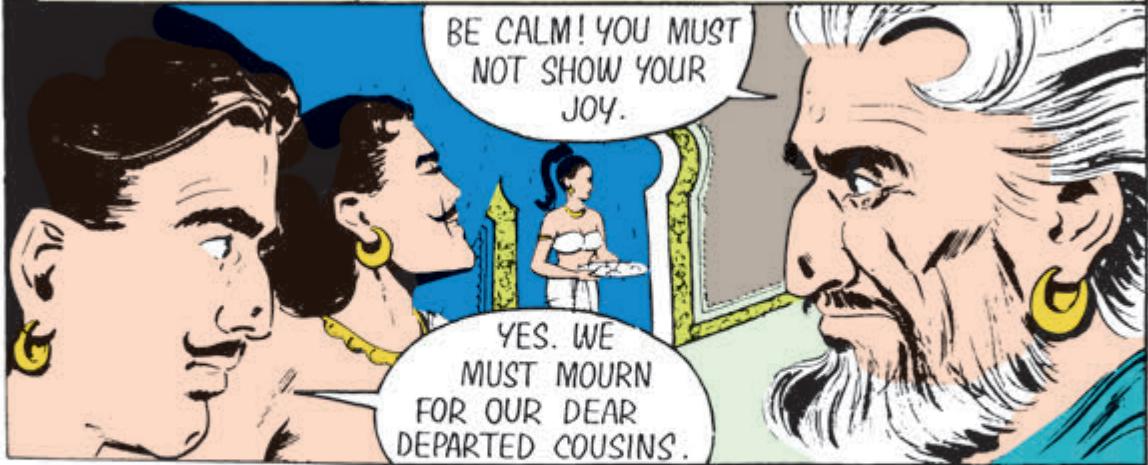
WHAT A WORK OF ART!







WHEN THE NEWS REACHED HASTINAPURA, DURYODHANA AND DUHSHASANA WERE HAPPY. SHAKUNI, THEIR WICKED UNCLE, CAUTIONED THEM.



THE PANDAVA PRINCES

AFTER CROSSING THE RIVER, THEY ENTERED A DENSE FOREST.

I CAN'T WALK ANY FURTHER!

THEY LAY DOWN TO REST. BHEEMA ALONE STAYED AWAKE.

THIS WATER WILL REFRESH THEM.
I WILL REMAIN AWAKE AND GUARD THEM.

FOR MANY DAYS THEY WANDERED UP AND DOWN THE HILLS, THEY TREKKED. AT LAST IT SEEMED THAT THEY WERE NEAR SOME HUMAN HABITATION.

THERE! LET US GO AND ASK THEM FOR FOOD AND SHELTER!

NO, NAKULA!
DON'T YOU SEE-
THEY ARE
RAKSHASAS!!

BUT THE RAKSHASAS WERE SOON ON THEIR TRAIL. BHEEMA FACED THEM WITH AN UPROOTED TREE.

HIDAMBASURA, THE RAKSHASA CHIEF, STEPPED FORWARD AND TRIED TO SNATCH THE TREE FROM BHEEMA'S HAND.



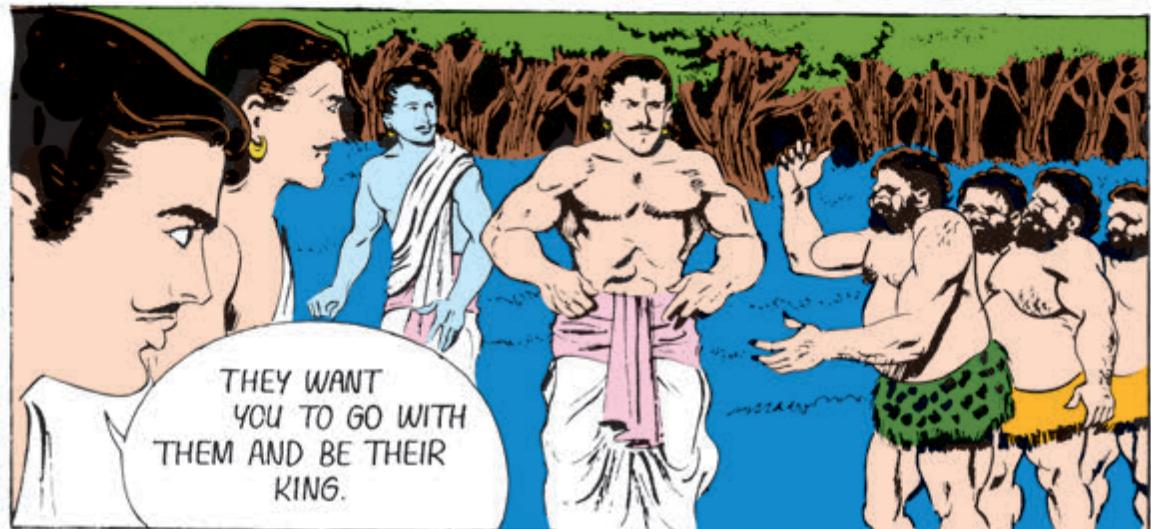
A FIERCE DUEL FOLLOWED...



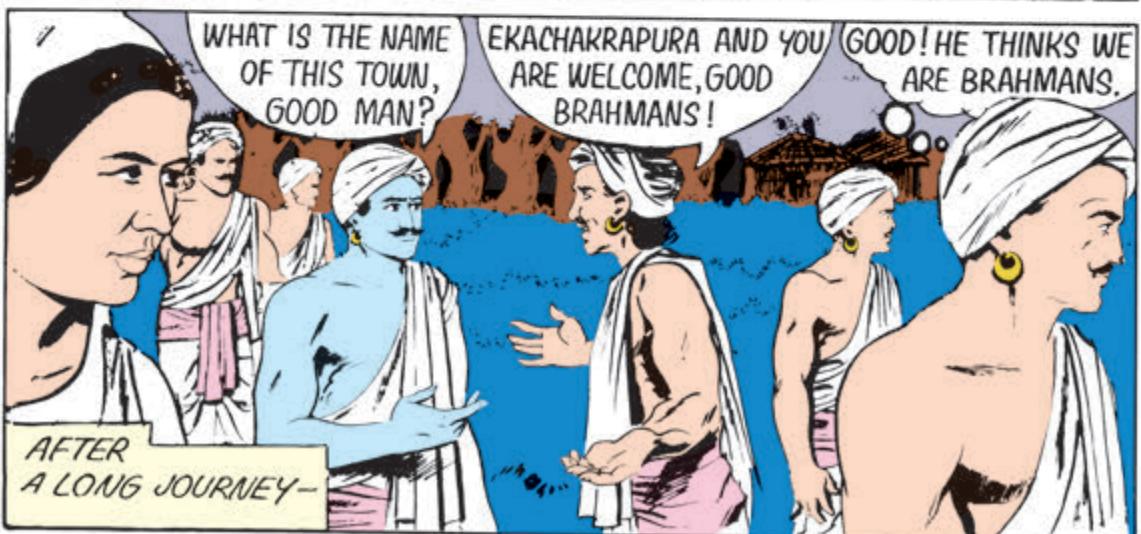
... IN WHICH HIDIMBASURA WAS KILLED.



SOON—



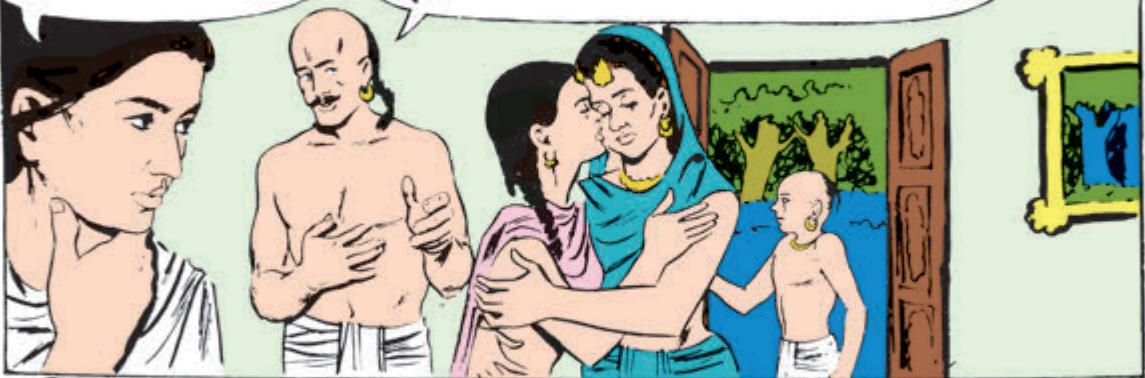
THE PANDAVAS ACCOMPANIED THEM TO THEIR VILLAGE AND THERE
BHEEMA MARRIED HIDIMBAA THE SISTER OF HIDI MBA.



IN EKACHAKRAPURA, THE PANDAVAS LIVED IN THE HOUSE OF A POOR BRAHMAN. ONE DAY—

WHAT IS THE MATTER,
GOOD BRAHMAN ?

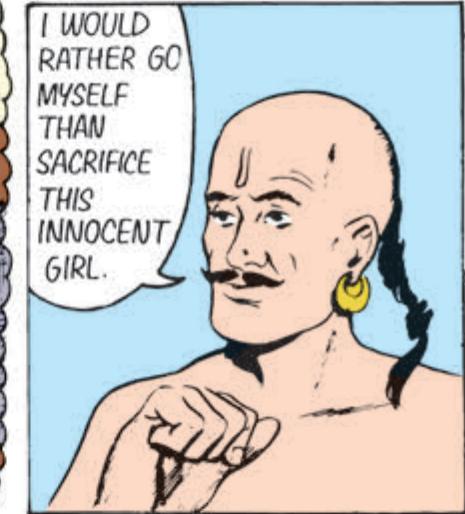
THIS LITTLE DAUGHTER OF OURS WILL
SOON BE EATEN BY BAKASURA, WHO
LIVES IN A CAVE OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE.



“HE HAS EXTRACTED TERMS UNDER WHICH
PEOPLE HAVE TO SEND HIM A CART-LOAD
OF FOOD EVERY DAY. HE EATS THE DRIVER
AND BULLOCKS ALSO, ALONG WITH THE FOOD.”



I WOULD
RATHER GO
MYSELF
THAN
SACRIFICE
THIS
INNOCENT
GIRL.



“OH, NO! IF YOU GO, WHO
WILL LOOK AFTER
THE FAMILY?
I WILL GO.”

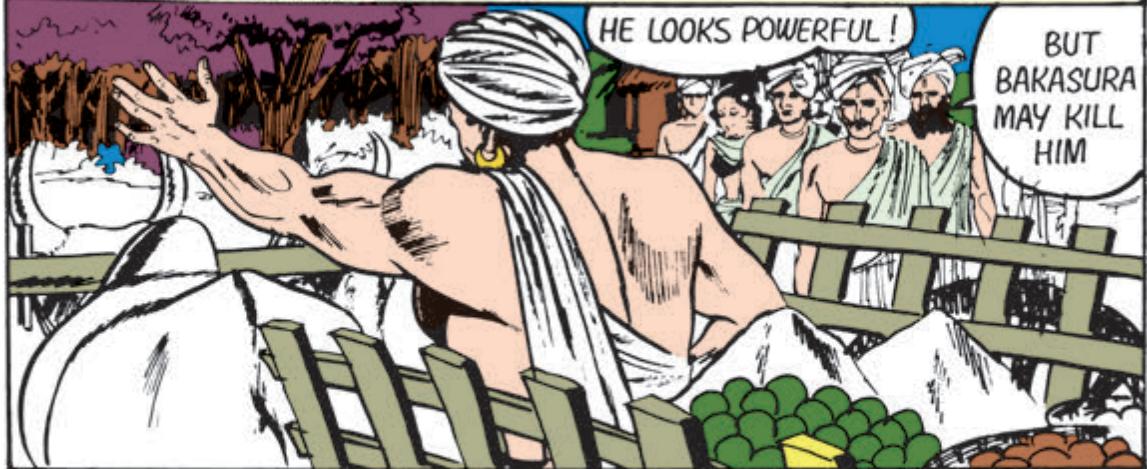
LET ME
GO, MOTHER.
I WILL KILL
THE
RAKSHASA
WITH A
STICK.

YOU MUST DO
SOMETHING ABOUT
IT, SON!

LATER—
AS YOU
WISH,
MOTHER!



BHEEMA DROVE THE CART OF FOOD TO THE BORDER OF THE TOWN. PEOPLE FLOCKED TO SEE HIM OFF.

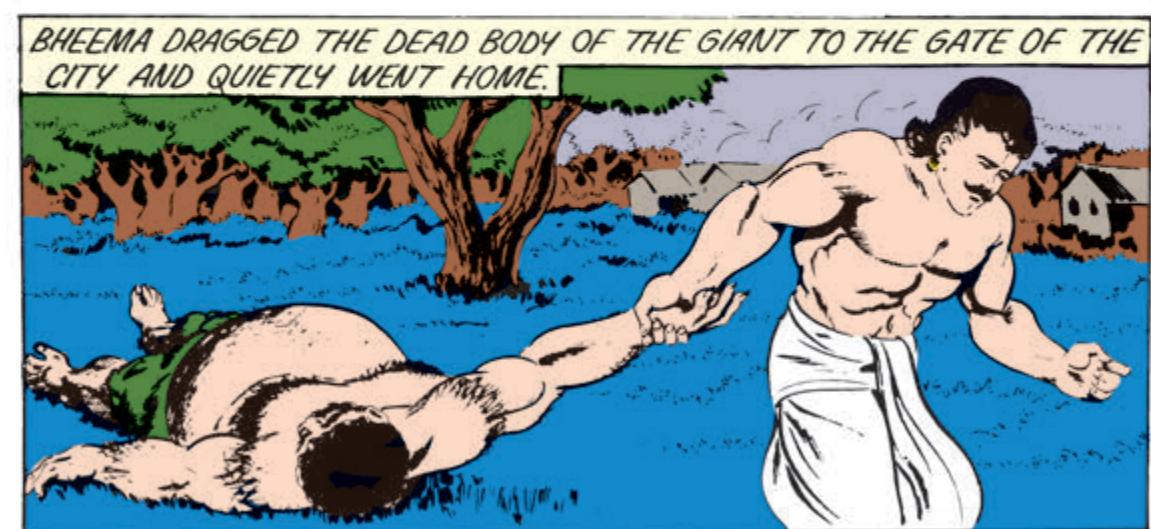


WHEN BHEEMA REACHED THE MOUTH OF THE CAVE, HE UNYOKED THE OXEN AND SAT DOWN TO A HEARTY MEAL.

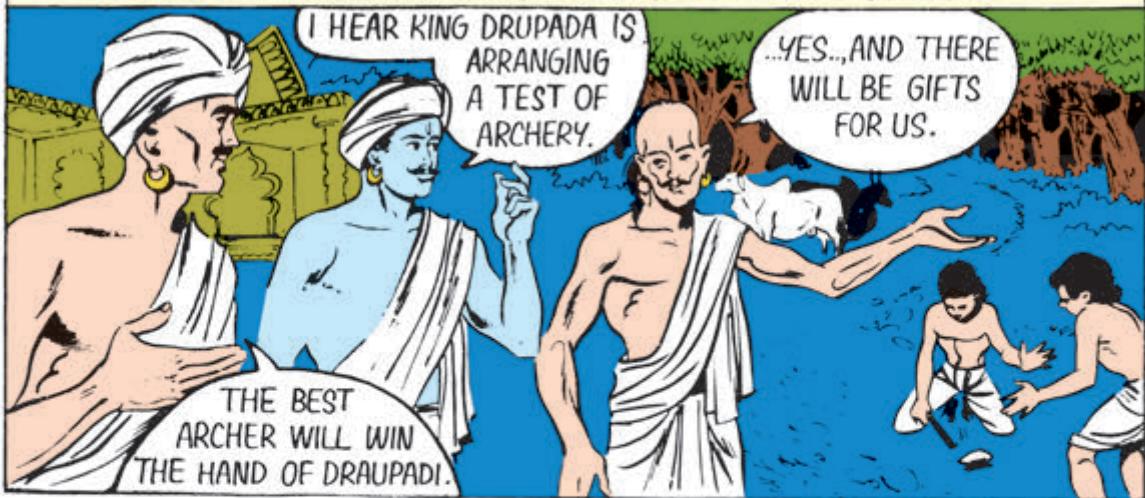


WHEN BAKASURA CAME OUT OF THE CAVE, HE WAS ENRAGED AT WHAT HE SAW.





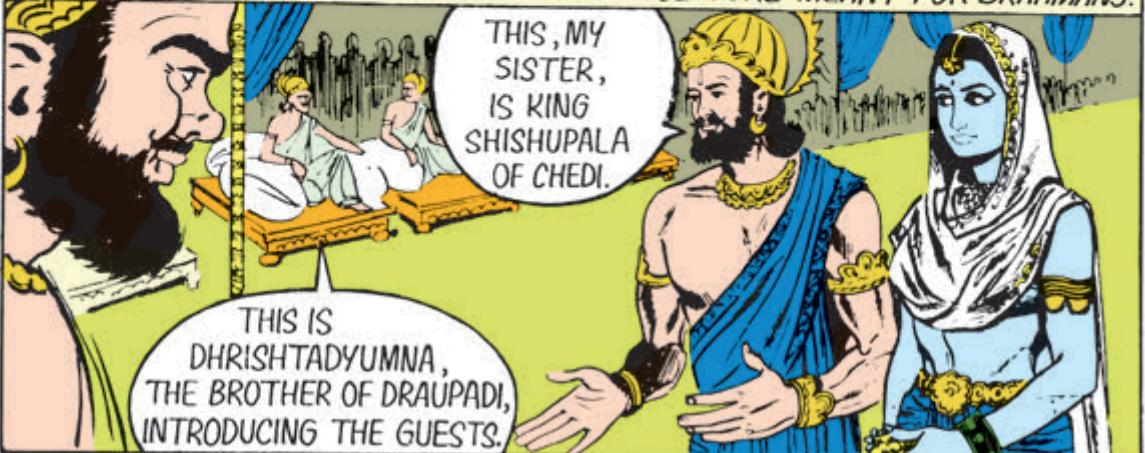
A FEW DAYS LATER THE PANDAVAS HEARD EXCITING NEWS—



THE PANDAVAS SOON REACHED THE CAPITAL WHICH WAS GAILY DECORATED.

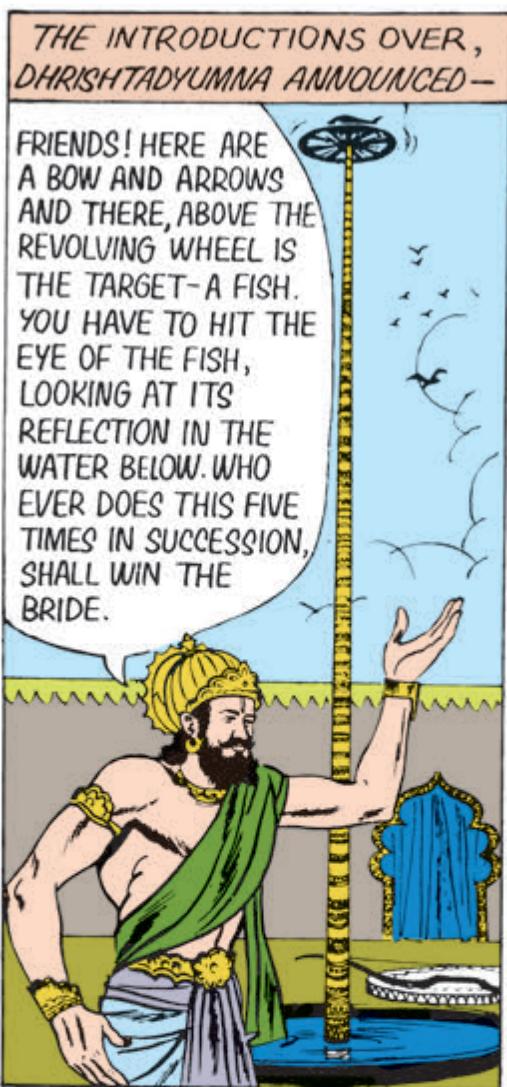


IN THE PALACE HALL, HUNDREDS OF PRINCES WERE SEATED. THE PANDAVAS TOOK THEIR SEATS IN THE ENCLOSURE MEANT FOR BRAHMANS.



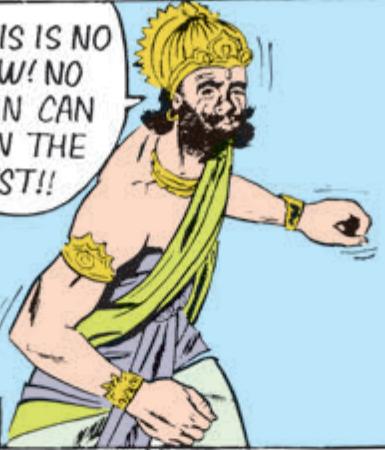
THE INTRODUCTIONS OVER,
DHRISHTADYUMNA ANNOUNCED—

FRIENDS! HERE ARE A BOW AND ARROWS AND THERE, ABOVE THE REVOLVING WHEEL IS THE TARGET-A FISH. YOU HAVE TO HIT THE EYE OF THE FISH, LOOKING AT ITS REFLECTION IN THE WATER BELOW. WHO EVER DOES THIS FIVE TIMES IN SUCCESSION, SHALL WIN THE BRIDE.

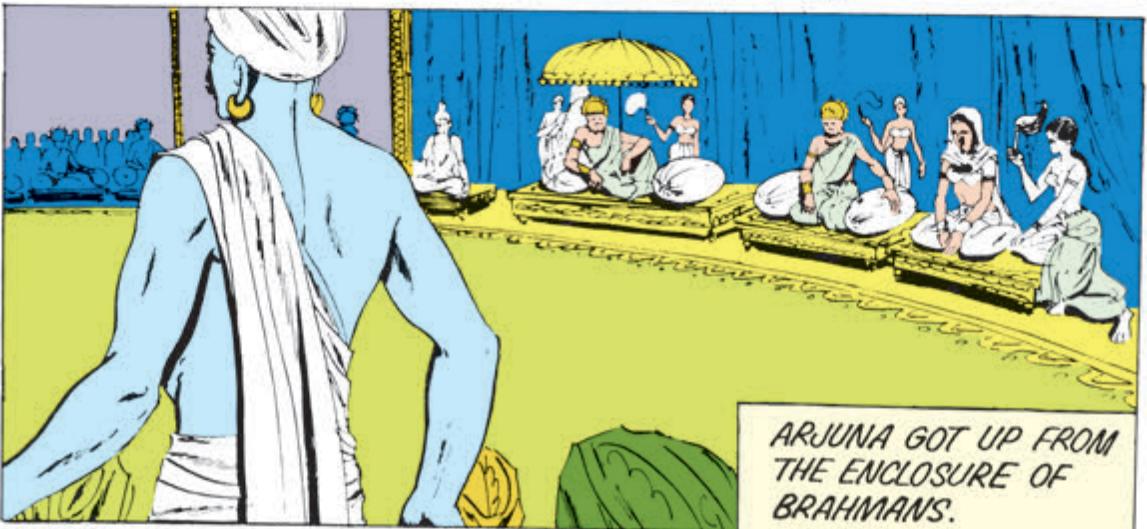


THE PRINCES TRIED ONE AFTER ANOTHER BUT NONE COULD LIFT THE HEAVY BOW.

THIS IS NO BOW! NO MAN CAN WIN THE TEST!!



DURYODHANA FELL TO THE GROUND WHEN HE TRIED TO LIFT THE BOW. LORD KRISHNA LOOKED MEANINGFULLY AT ARJUNA, HIS COUSIN.

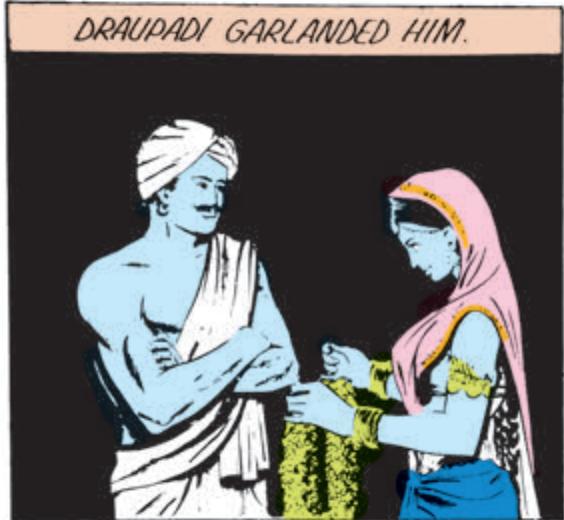


ARJUNA GOT UP FROM THE ENCLOSURE OF BRAHMANS.

WITH THE PERMISSION OF DHRISHTADYUMNA, HE LIFTED THE BOW, STRUNG IT, AND SENT FIVE ARROWS IN QUICK SUCCESSION.



DRAUPADI GARLANDED HIM.



THERE WAS AN UPROAR IN THE HALL.

DURYODHANA! WE SHOULD NOT TOLERATE THIS!

YES,
SHISHUPALA.
IT IS A
DISGRACE
TO US
ALL.



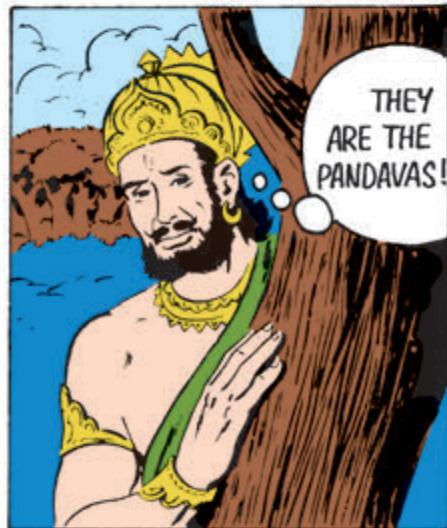
MANY OF THE PRINCES RUSHED TO THE DAIS. BHEEMA CAME TO HELP ARJUNA.



IN THE CONFUSION THAT FOLLOWED, ARJUNA AND HIS BROTHERS WITH THE NEWLY-WON-BRIDE, LEFT FOR EKACHAKRAPURA. KING DRUPADA, HOWEVER, WAS WORRIED.

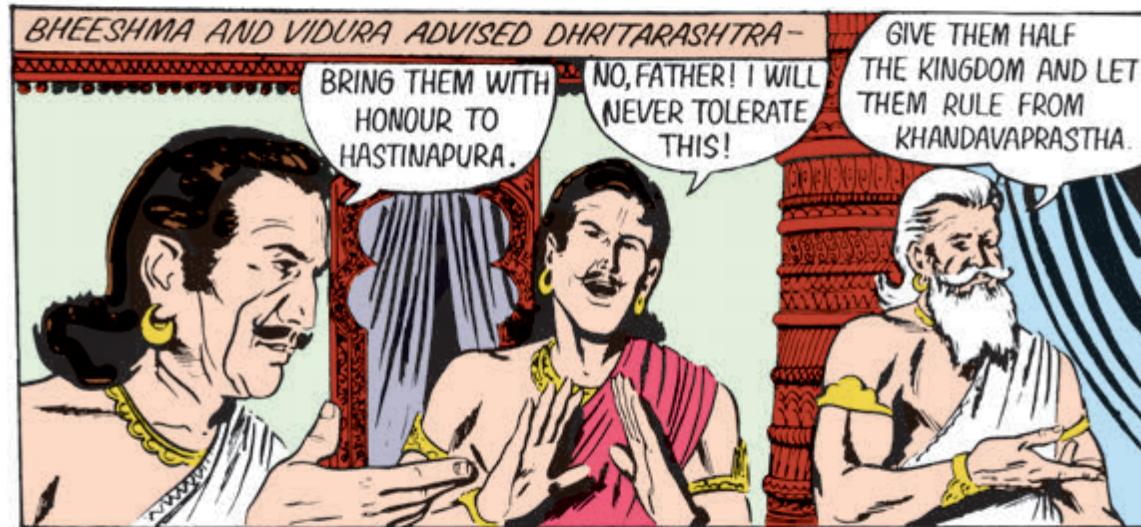
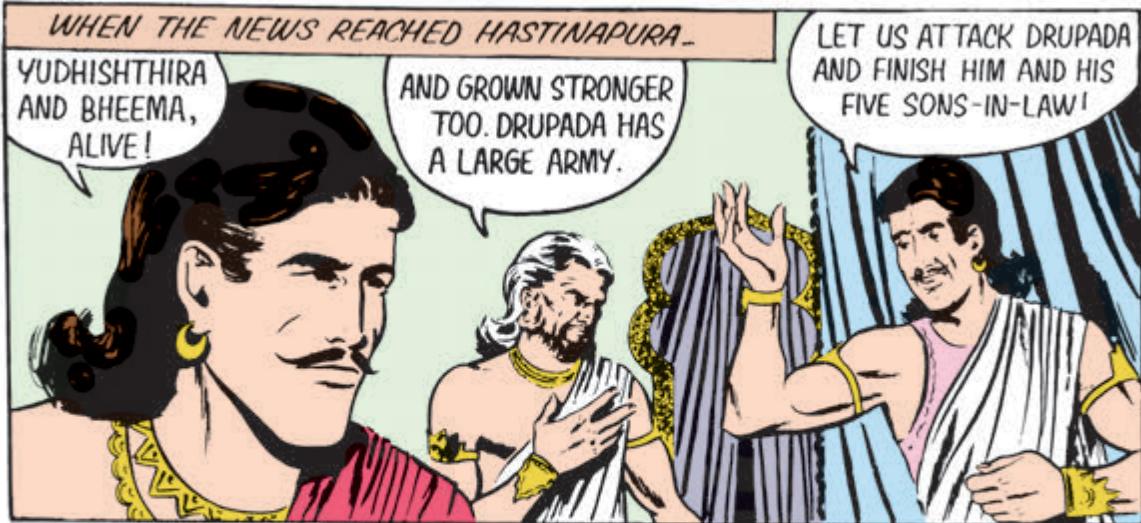


ARJUNA WAS EAGER TO BREAK THE NEWS TO HIS MOTHER.



DHRISHTADYUMNA TOLD HIS FATHER ALL THAT HE SAW IN EKACHAKRAPURA.

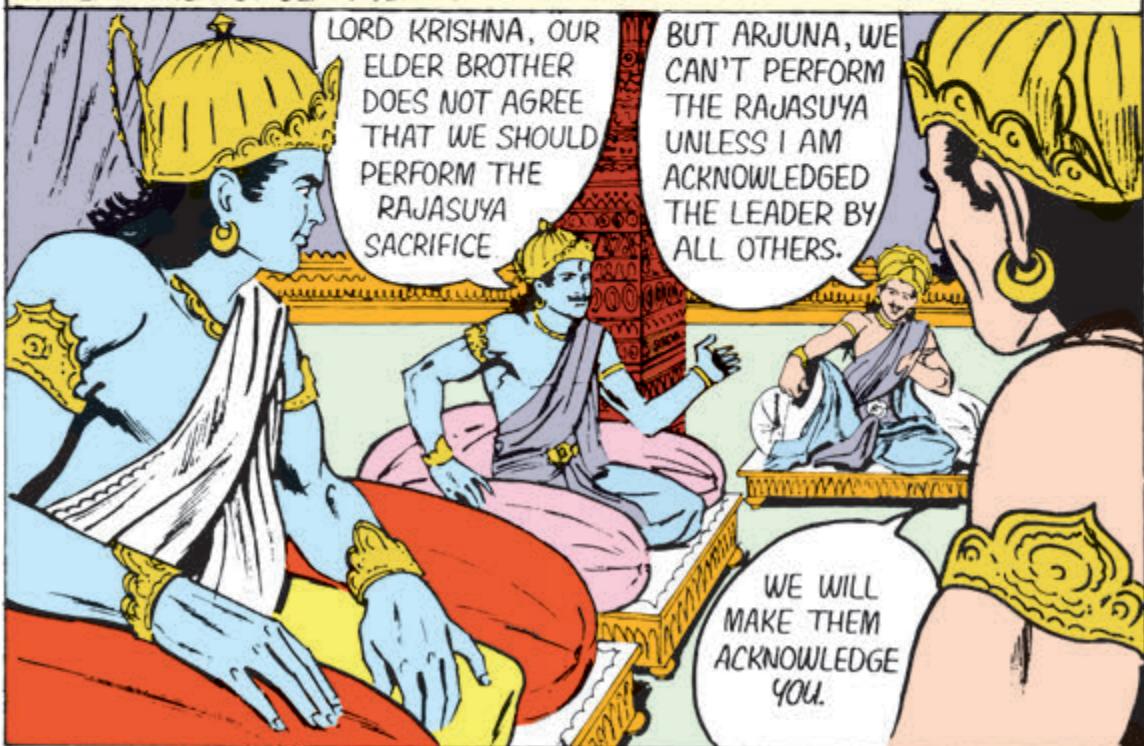


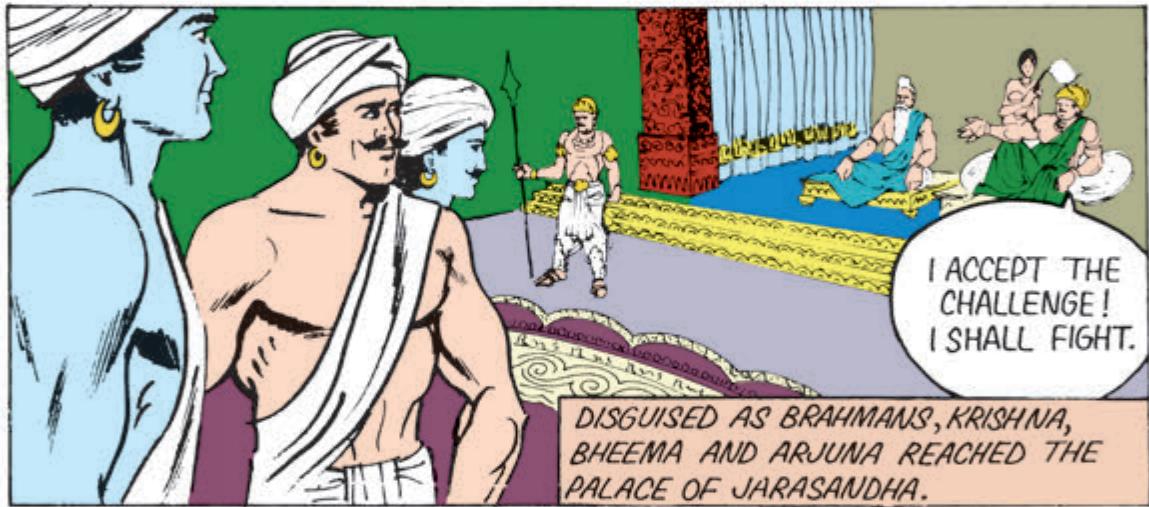


A FEW DAYS AFTER THEIR TRIUMPHANT RETURN, THE PANDAVAS LEFT FOR KHANDAVAPRASTHA TO BUILD A NEW CITY.

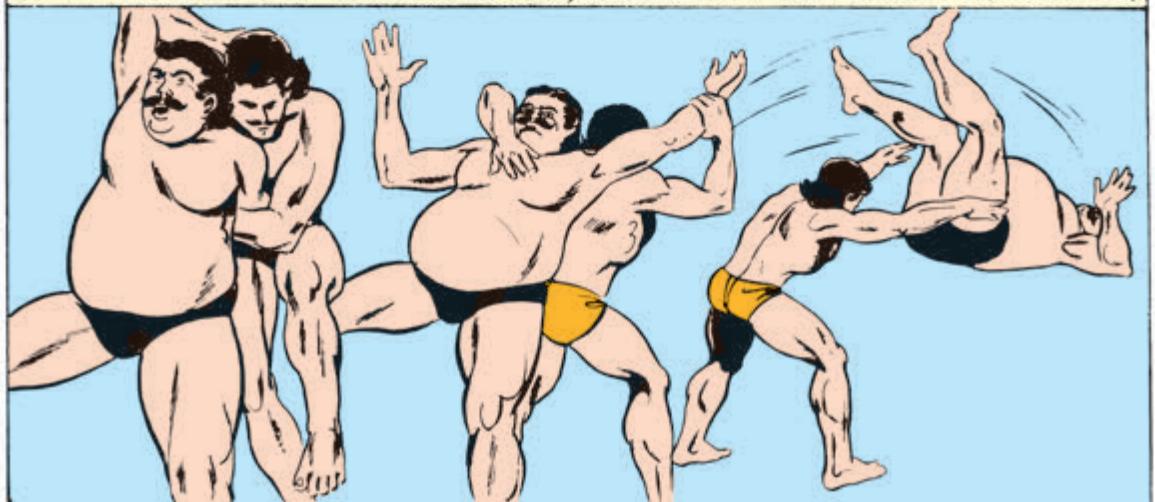


THEY RULED FROM INDRAPRASTHA FOR MANY YEARS. LORD KRISHNA WAS THEIR FRIEND AND ADVISER. ONE DAY—

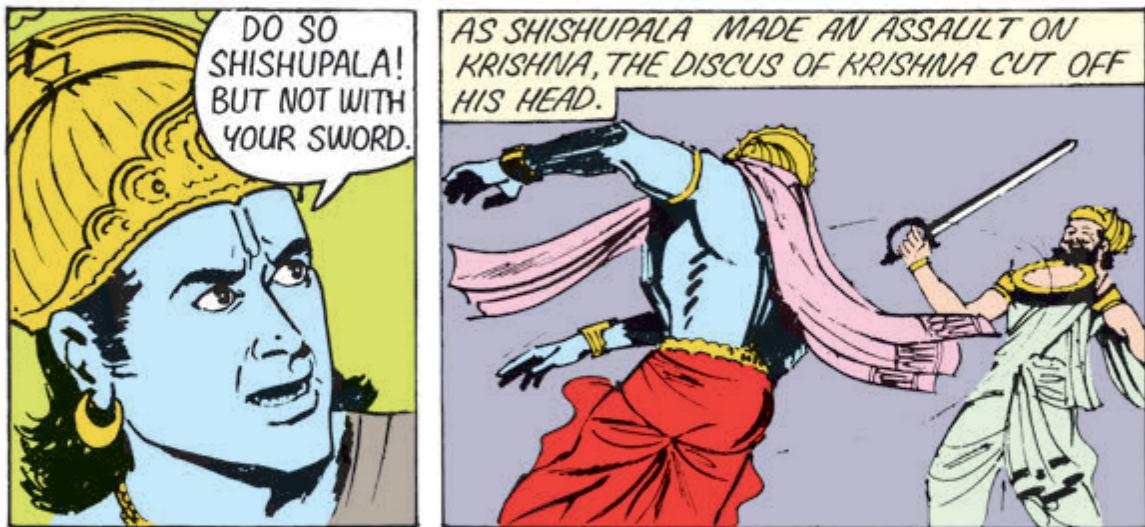




IN THE FIERCE FIGHT THAT FOLLOWED, JARASANDHA WAS KILLED BY BHEEMA.



BHEEMA RETURNED IN TRIUMPH TO INDRAPRASTHA. KINGS FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY GATHERED TO ATTEND THE RAJASUYA SACRIFICE BUT-



AND THE RAJASUYA WAS COMPLETED WHICH MADE THE PANDAVAS SUPREME IN THE COUNTRY. VICTORY TO VICTORY TO YUDHISHTHIRA! KRISHNA!



WHICH OF THE ACKS HAVE YOU STILL NOT READ?

EPICS AND MYTHOLOGY <i>Best known stories from the Epics and the Puranas</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abhimanyu Agastya Andhaka Aniruddha Aruni And Uttanka Ashwini Kumars Ayappan Bahubali Bhanumati Bheema And Hanuman Bheeshma Chandrahasa Dasharatha Dhrura And Ashtavakra Draupadi Drona Elephanta Gandhari Ganesha Ganesha And The Moon Ganga Garuda Ghatotkacha Hanuman Hanuman To The Rescue Harischandra Heroes Of Hampi Indra And Shachi Indra And Shibi Indra And Virtra Jagannatha Of Puri Jayadratha Kacha And Devayani Karna Kartikeya Konark Krishna Krishna And Jarasandha Krishna And Narakasura Krishna And Rukmini Krishna And Shishupala Krishna And The False Vaasudeva Kubera Kumbhakarna Mahabharata Mahiravana Nachiketa Nahusha Nala Damayanti Pareekshit Parashurama Prabhavati Pradyumna Prahlad Purushottam Dev And Padmavati Rama Ravana Humbled Saraswati Sati And Shiva Savitri Shiva Parvati Stories of Creation Subhadra Sudama Sukanya Surya Tales From The Upanishads Tales Of Arjuna Tales Of Balarama Tales Of Durga Tales Of Indra Tales Of Narada 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tales Of Shiva Tales Of Vishnu Tales Of Yudhishtira Tapati Thanjavur The Churning Of The Ocean The Gita The Golden Mongoose The King In A Parrot's Body The Lord Of Lanka The Pandava Princes The Pandavas In Hiding The Parijata Tree The Sons Of Rama The Syanamanta Gem Tirupati Triputra Uloopi Vaishno Devi Vali Vishwamitra Yayati <p style="text-align: center;">VISIONARIES <i>Inspiring tales of thinkers, social reformers and nation builders</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adi Shankara Albert Einstein Anant Pai Babasaheb Ambedkar Basaveshwara Buddha Chaitanya Mahaprabhu Chanakya Chokha Mela Dayananda Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Das Eknath Fa Hien Ghanshyamdas Birla Guru Arjan Guru Gobind Singh Guru Nanak Guru Tegh Bahadur Hsiuen Tsang J.R.D Tata Jagadis Chandra Bose Jamsetji Tata Jawaharlal Nehru Jayaparakash Narayan Jim Corbett Jnaneshwar Kabir Kalidasa Lal Bahadur Shastri Lokmanya Tilak M. 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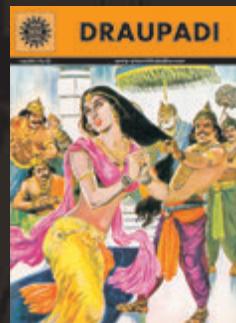
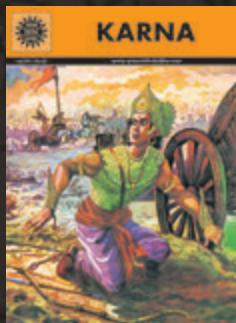
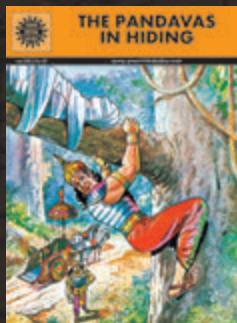


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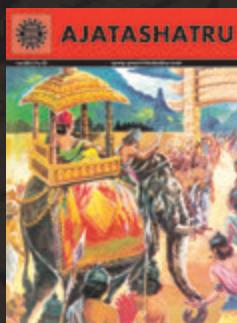
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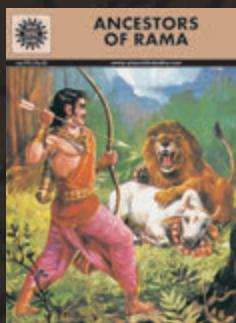
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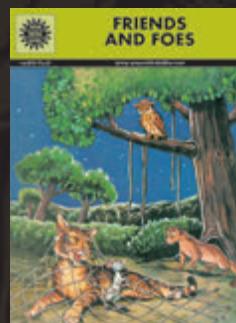
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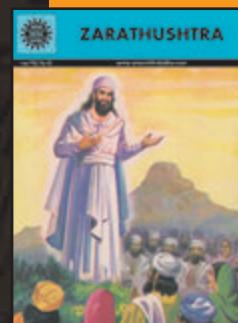
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