



SATI AND SHIVA

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SATI AND SHIVA



BRAHMA WANTED THE ASCETIC SHIVA TO GET MARRIED. VISHNU ADVISED HIM TO SERVE THE GODDESS UMA, BEG HER TO TAKE BIRTH ON EARTH, AND BECOME SHIVA'S CONSORT.

BRAHMA DID AS HE WAS ADVISED AND UMA WAS BORN TO HIS SON-THE CHIEF PRAJAPATI, DAKSHA.

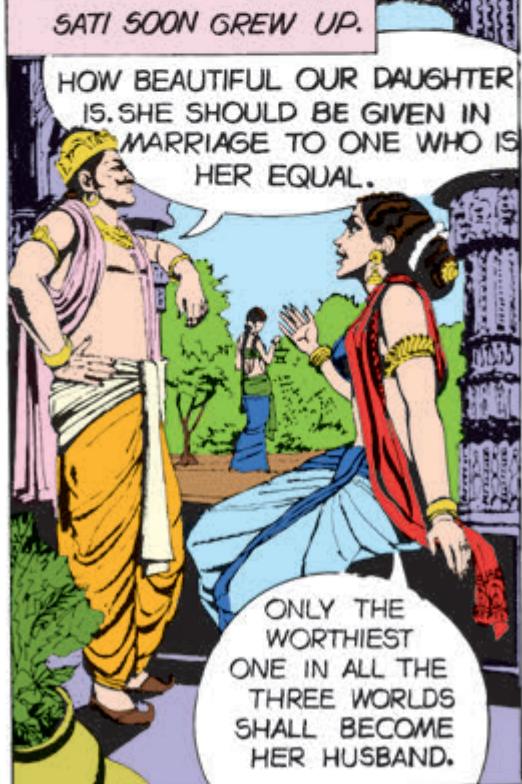


EVEN AS A YOUNG GIRL, SATI WAS A STAUNCH DEVOTEE OF SHIVA.



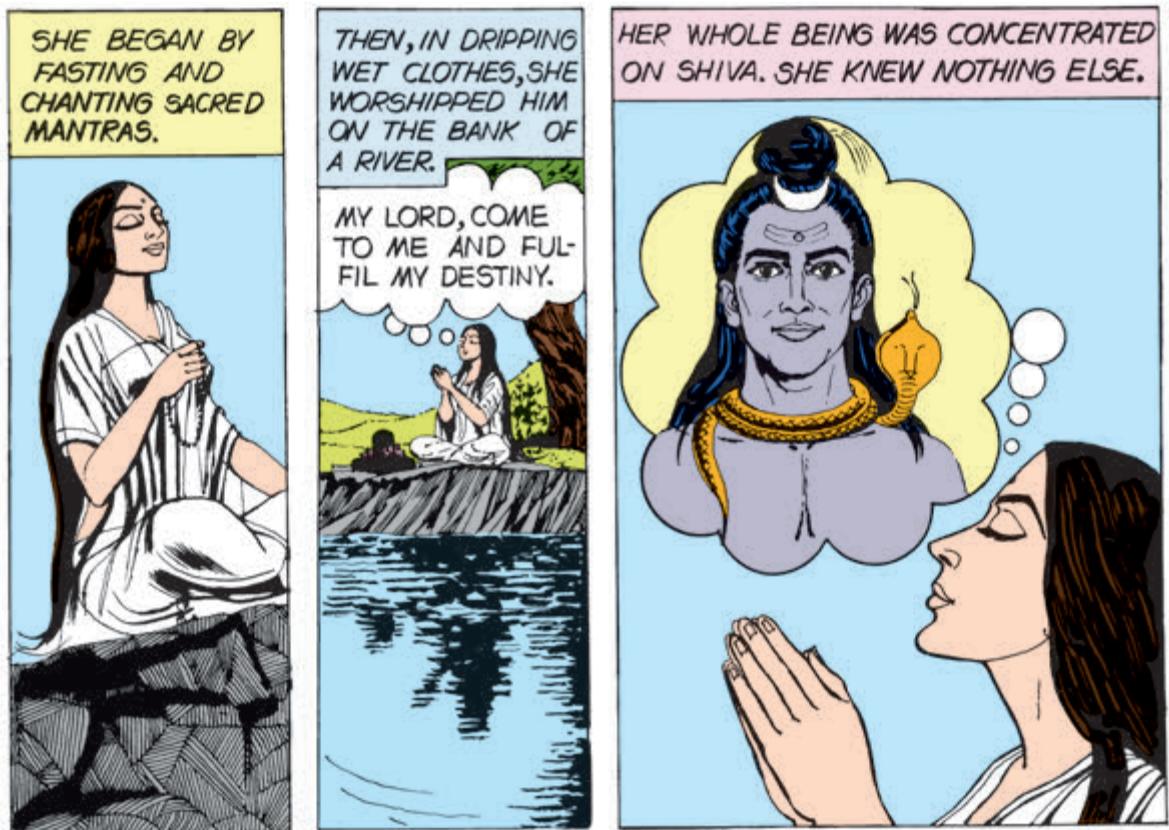
SATI SOON GREW UP.

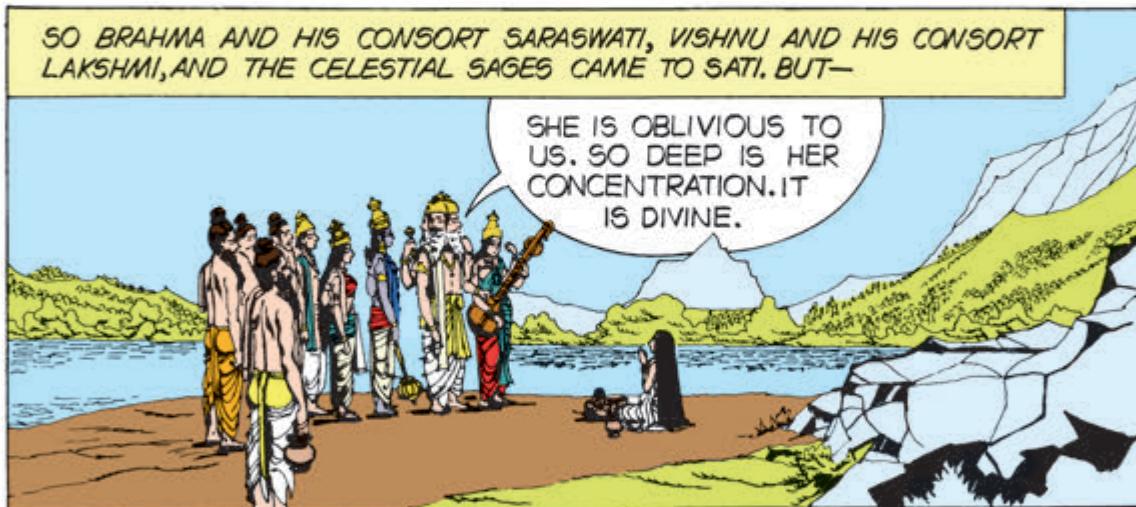
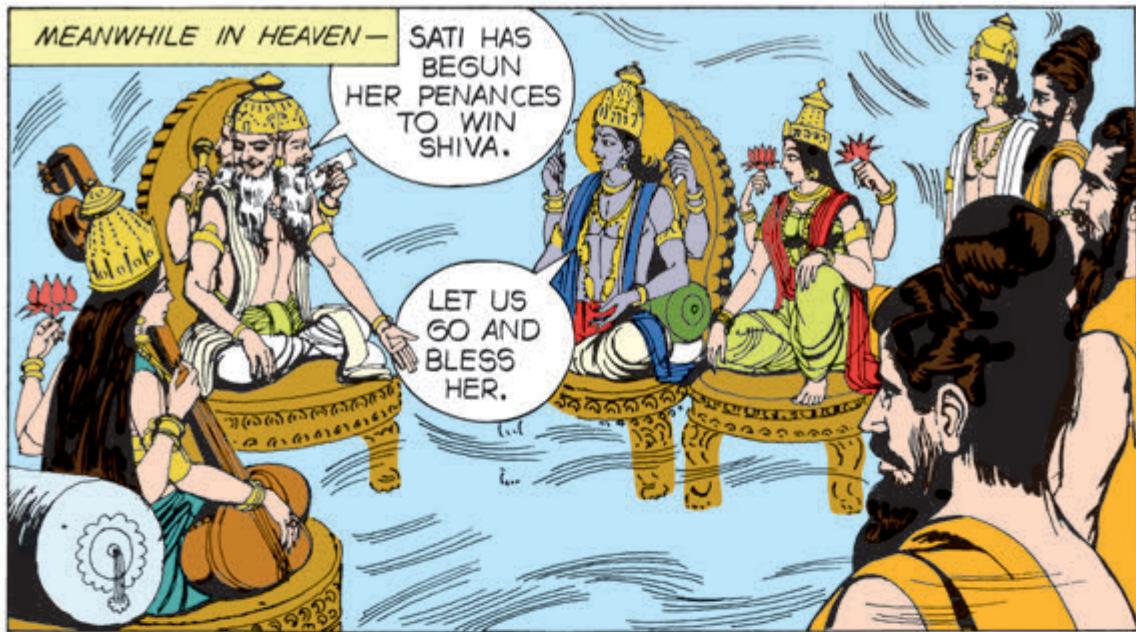
HOW BEAUTIFUL OUR DAUGHTER IS. SHE SHOULD BE GIVEN IN MARRIAGE TO ONE WHO IS HER EQUAL.



A FEW DAYS LATER, BRAHMA AND THE SAGE NARADA CAME TO VISIT DAKSHA.

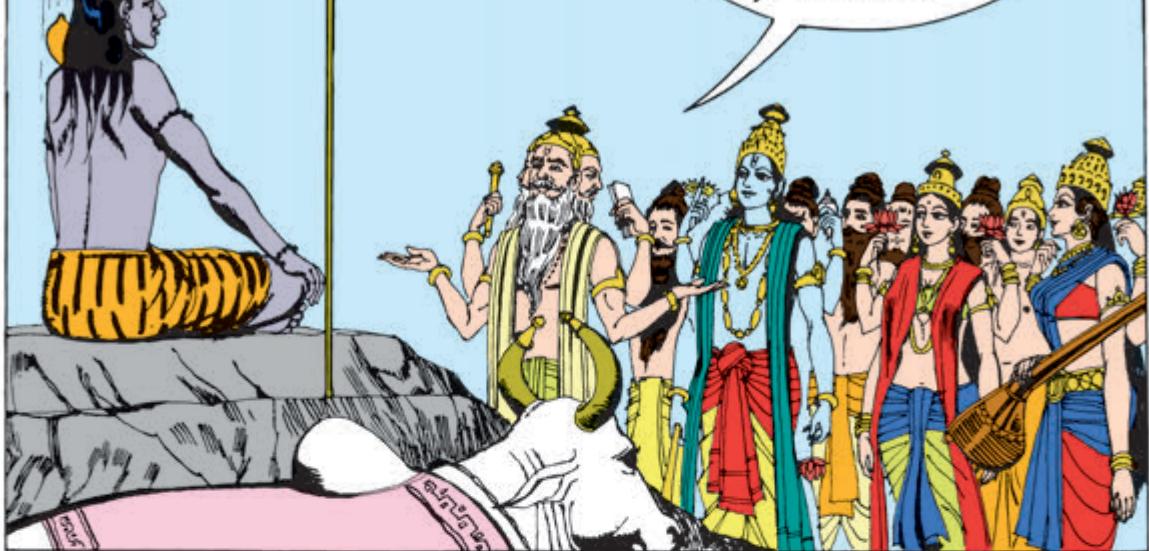






THEN THEY WENT TO SHIVA.

O SHIVA, YOU TOO ACCEPT A LOVING WOMAN FOR AN ETERNAL COMPANION AS VISHNU HAS TAKEN LAKSHMI, AND I, SARASWATI.

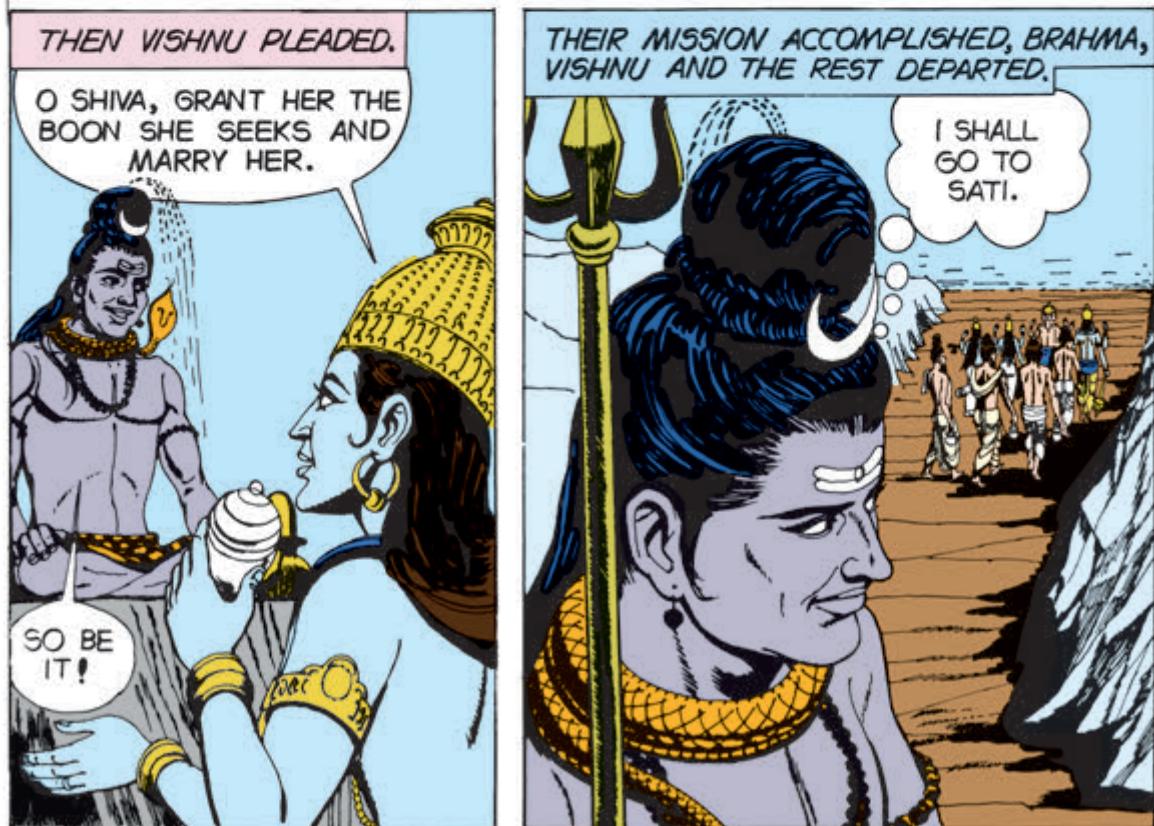
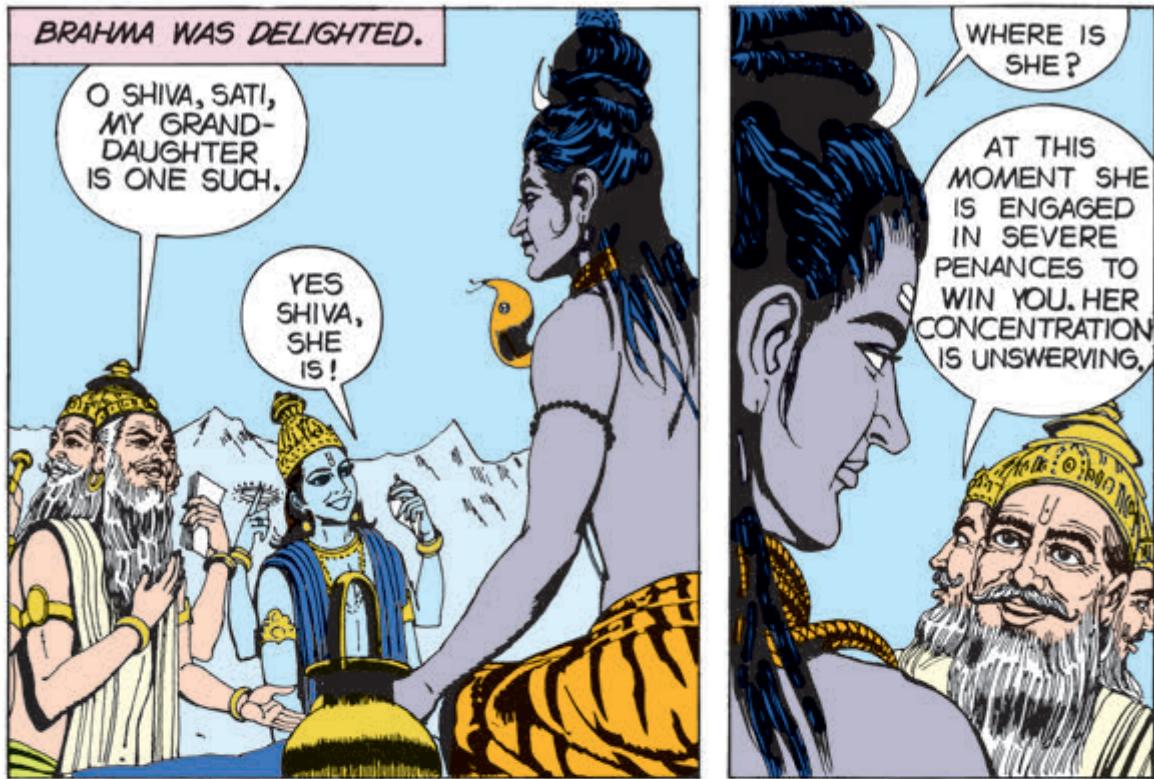


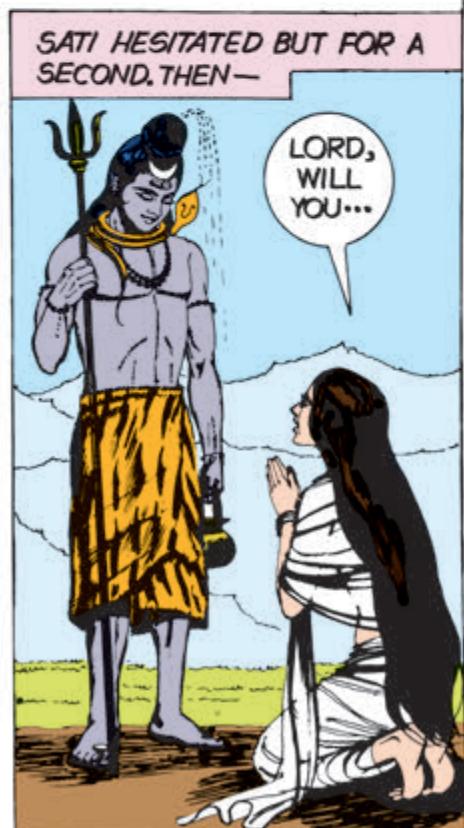
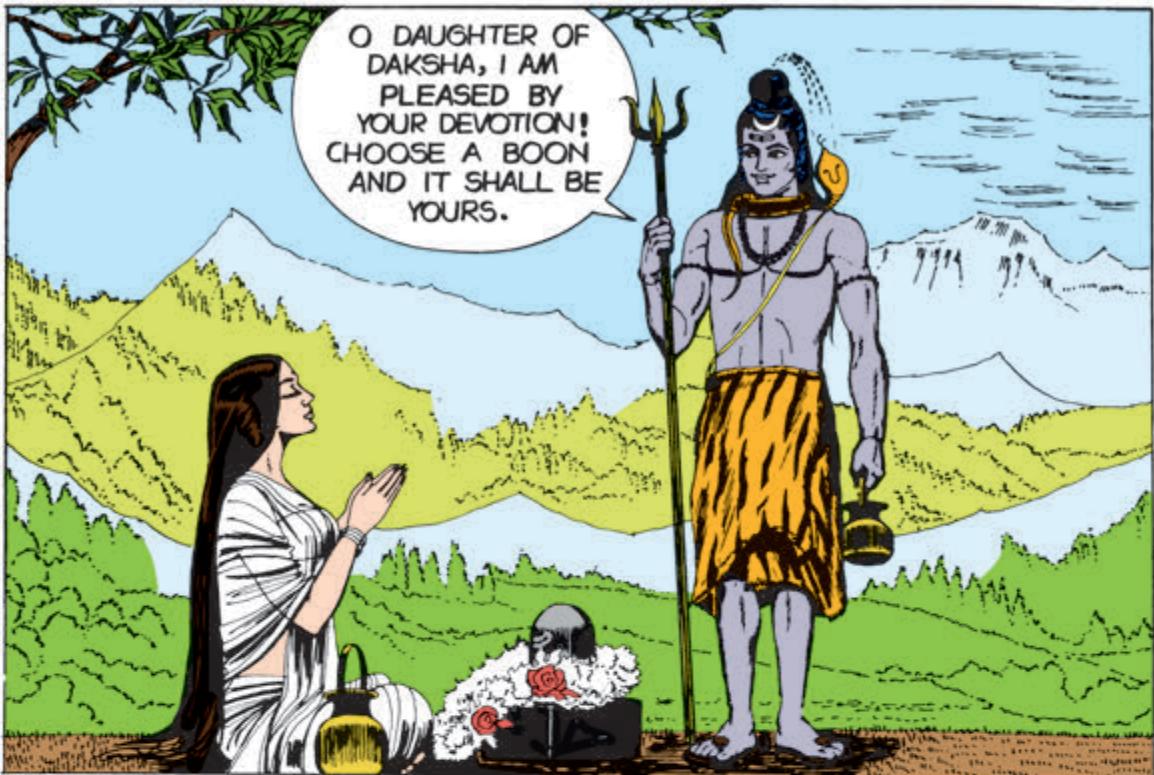
SHIVA SMILED AND WAS QUIET FOR SOME TIME. THEN—

I AM WILLING TO MARRY. BUT I AM AN ASCETIC.

IS THERE A WOMAN WHO WILL BE A YOGINI WHEN I PRACTISE YOGA AND A LOVING HOUSEWIFE WHEN I AM A HOUSEHOLDER?







BUT SHIVA DID NOT LET HER COMPLETE HER QUESTION.



BE MY CONSORT, SATI.

FOR A WHILE SATI STOOD SMILING SWEETLY AT HIM. THEN—

LORD, PLEASE TAKE ME WITH THE CONSENT AND THE BLESSINGS OF MY FATHER.

SO BE IT!



WHEN SHIVA REACHED KAILAS, HE SENT FOR BRAHMA.



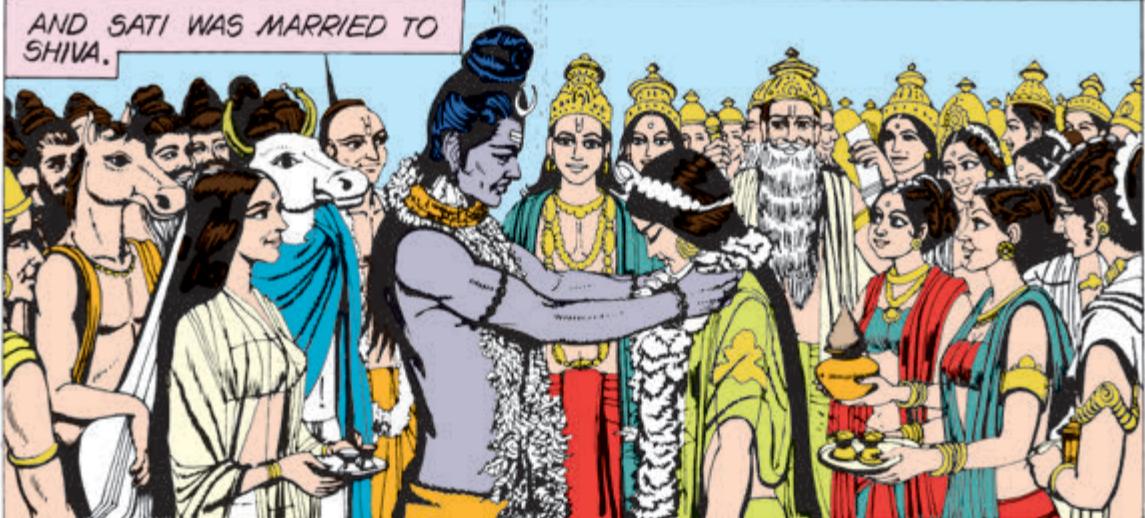
I HAVE GRANTED SATI THE BOON SHE SOUGHT. NOW YOU GO AND SPEAK TO DAKSHA.

BRAHMA SUCCEEDED IN PERSUADING DAKSHA.

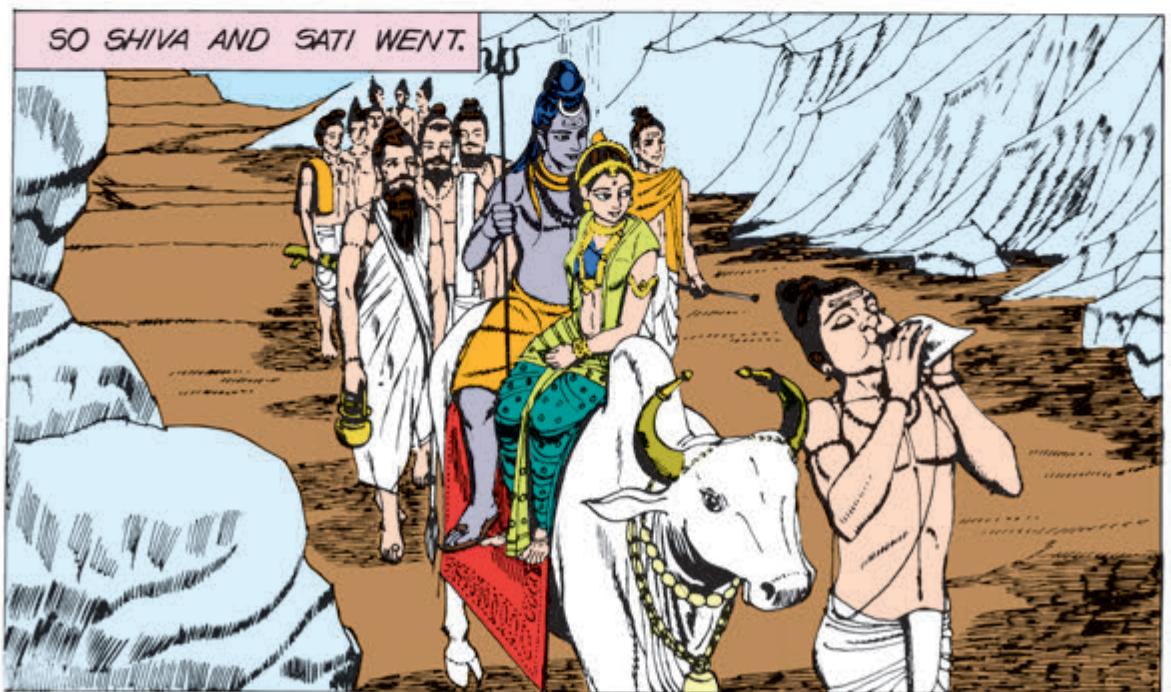
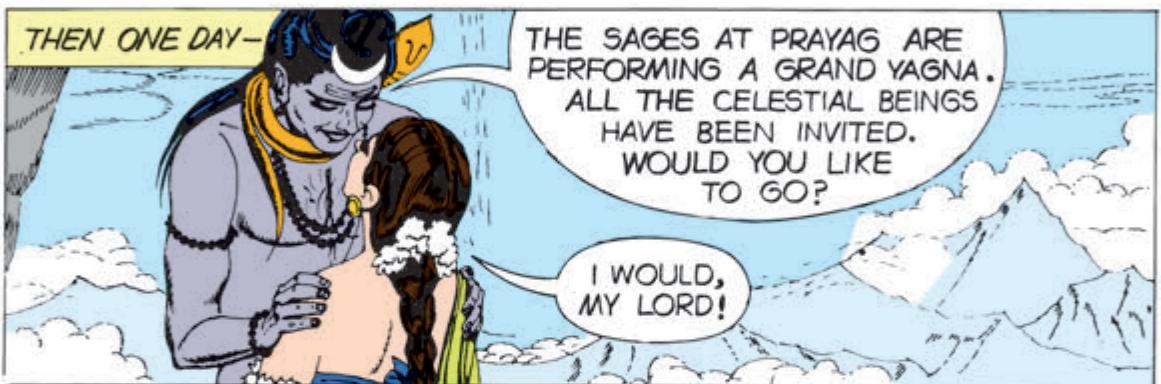
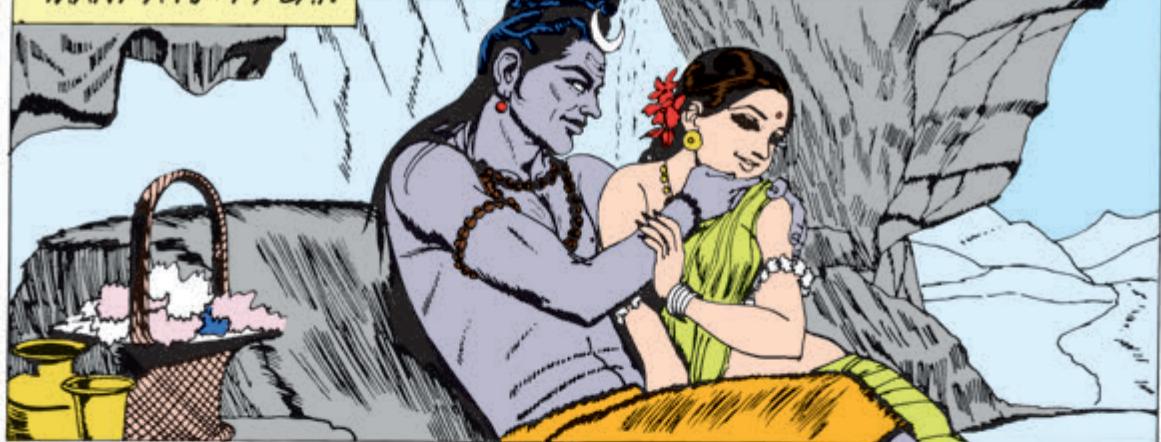


LET HIM COME TO ME ON AN AUSPICIOUS DAY AND I SHALL OFFER HIM MY DAUGHTER.

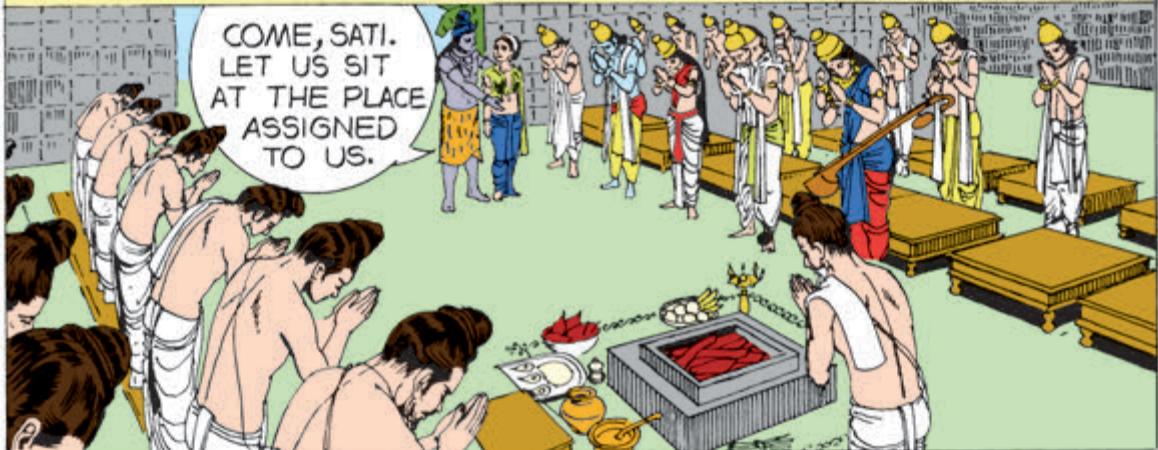
AND SATI WAS MARRIED TO SHIVA.



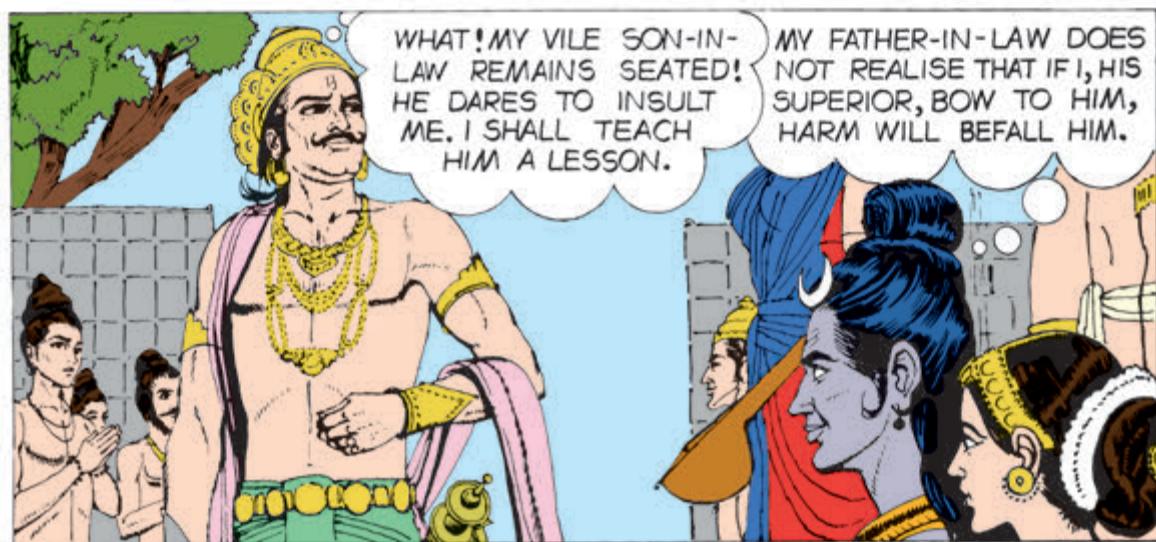
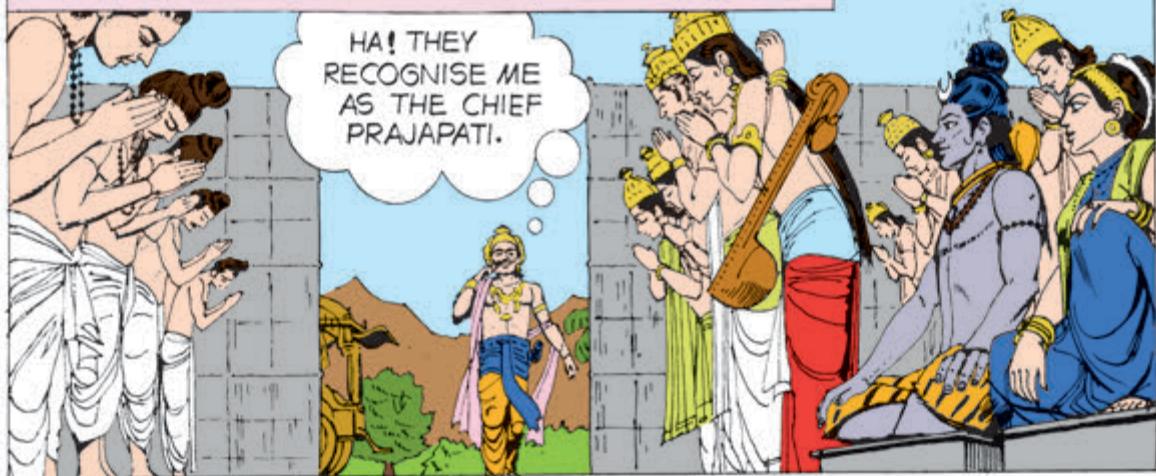
AFTER THE WEDDING, SHIVA TOOK SATI TO KAILAS WHERE THEY SPENT MANY A HAPPY DAY.



WHEN THEY ENTERED THE GROUNDS, THE DEVAS AND SAGES BOWED TO THEM.

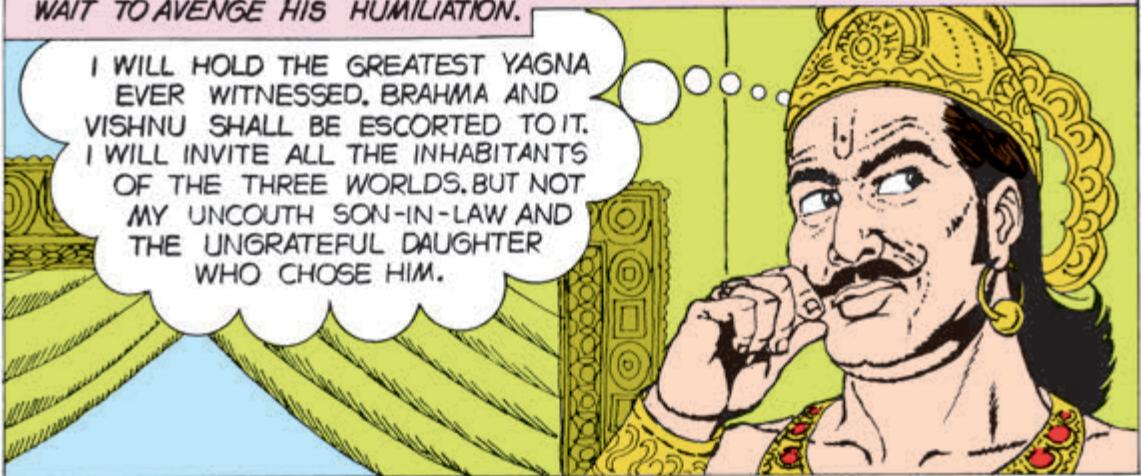


AS SOON AS THEY WERE SEATED, DAKSHA ENTERED.



AFTER THE SACRIFICE WHEN DAKSHA REACHED HIS ABODE, HE COULD HARDLY WAIT TO AVENGE HIS HUMILIATION.

I WILL HOLD THE GREATEST YAGNA EVER WITNESSED. BRAHMA AND VISHNU SHALL BE ESCORTED TO IT. I WILL INVITE ALL THE INHABITANTS OF THE THREE WORLDS. BUT NOT MY UNCOUTH SON-IN-LAW AND THE UNGRATEFUL DAUGHTER WHO CHOSE HIM.



A FEW DAYS LATER—

WHERE ARE THEY GOING IN SUCH HASTE—AND DECKED IN THEIR FINEST ATTIRE?

I'LL FIND OUT.

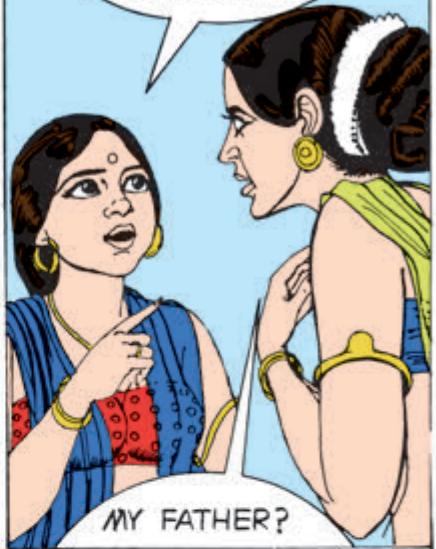


WHEN SHE LEARNT THAT THEY WERE ON THEIR WAY TO DAKSHA'S GRAND YAGNA—



SHE RETURNED TO SATI.

THEY ARE ON THEIR WAY TO A GRAND YAGNA, YOUR FATHER IS PERFORMING.



SATI WAS SURPRISED.

HOW COULD FATHER FORGET TO INVITE US?

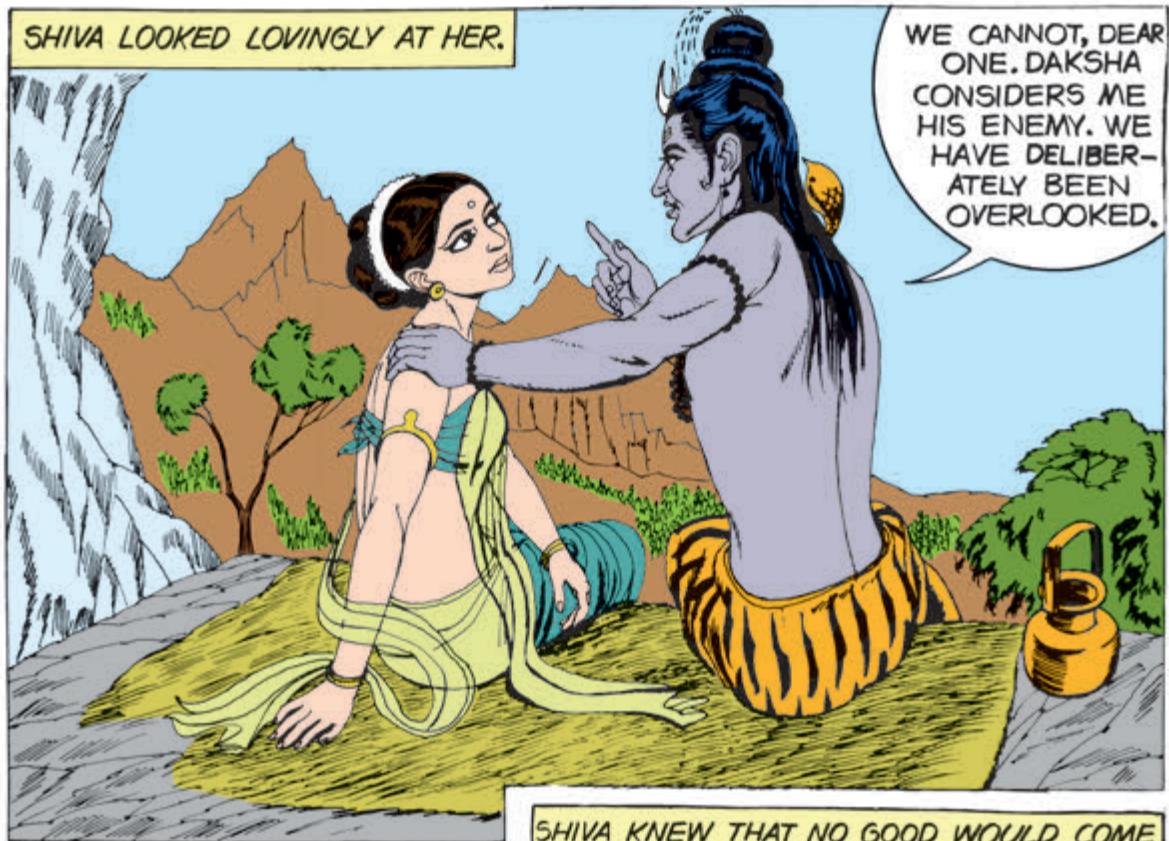


SHE WENT TO SHIVA AND TOLD HIM ABOUT THE SACRIFICE.

LET US GO TO MY FATHER'S SACRIFICIAL HALL.



SHIVA LOOKED LOVINGLY AT HER.



BUT SATI PERSISTED.

ALL THE SAME
I WOULD LIKE
TO GO.

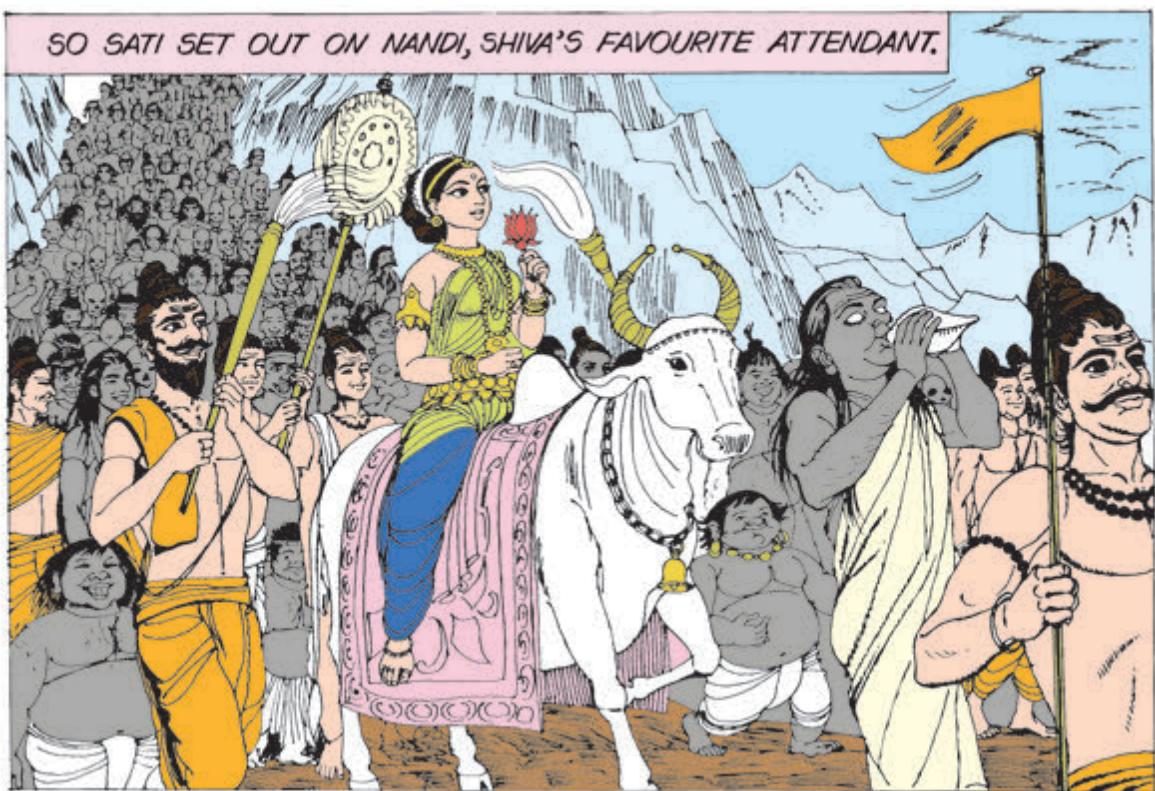


SHIVA KNEW THAT NO GOOD WOULD COME OF HER VISIT. BUT SHE WAS HIS EQUAL.

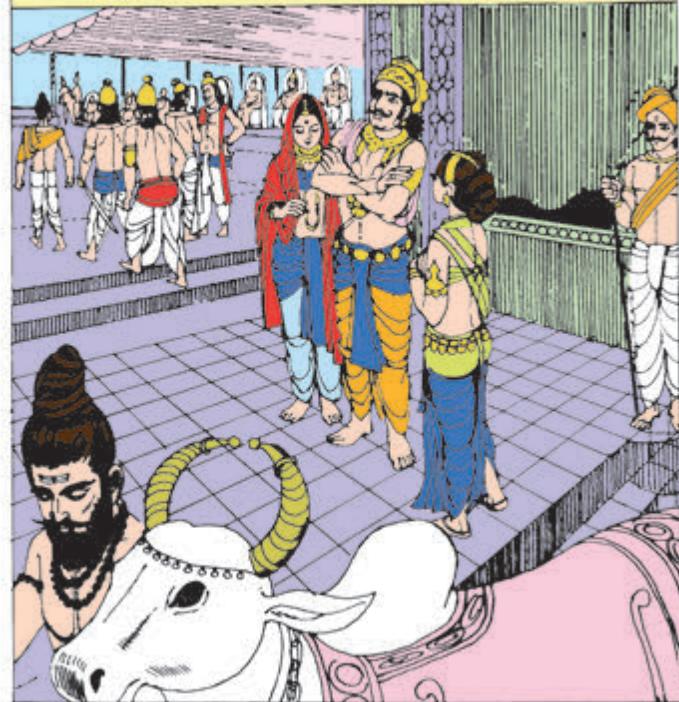
I WILL NOT COME. BUT IF YOU
REALY MUST GO, I WILL
WILLINGLY SEND YOU
—AND IN ROYAL SPLEN-
DOUR. NANDI, MY AT-
TENDANT, WILL CARRY
YOU THERE.



SO SATI SET OUT ON NANDI, SHIVA'S FAVOURITE ATTENDANT.



AT THE GATES OF DAKSHA'S ABODE, SATI DISMOUNTED AND WALKED UP TO HER FATHER. BUT HE IGNORED HER PRESENCE.



YET SATI, EVER DUTIFUL, BOWED TO HER PARENTS.

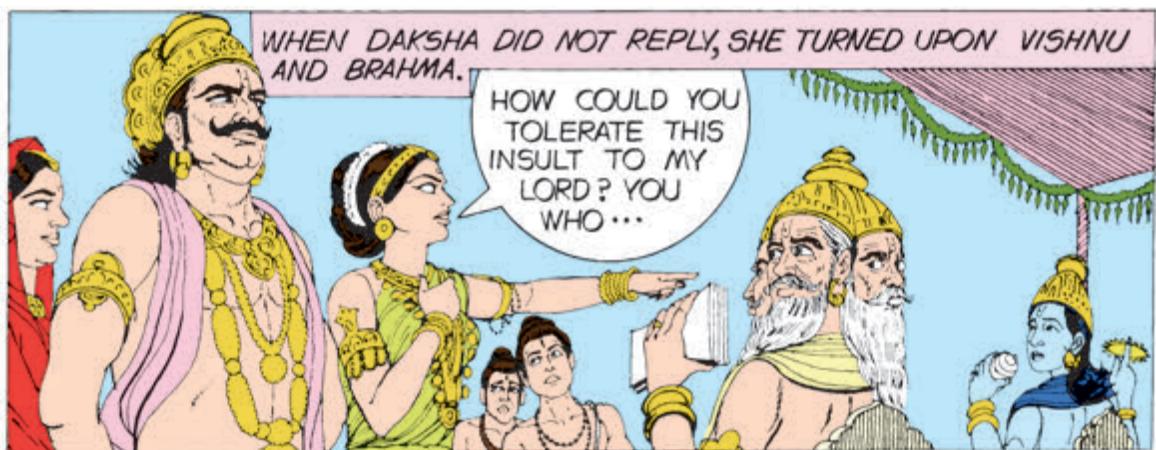


THEN—



WHEN DAKSHA DID NOT REPLY, SHE TURNED UPON VISHNU AND BRAHMA.

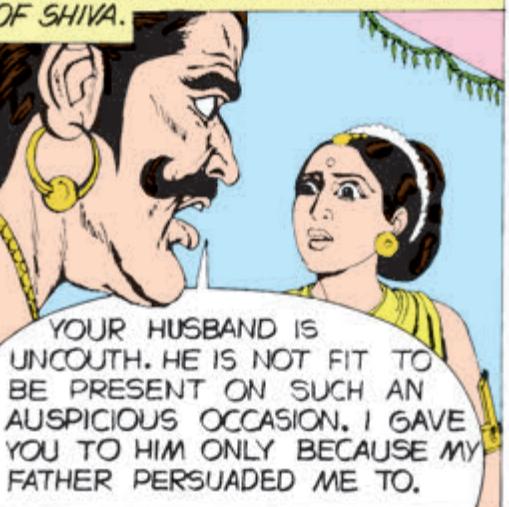
HOW COULD YOU
TOLERATE THIS
INSULT TO MY
LORD? YOU
WHO ...

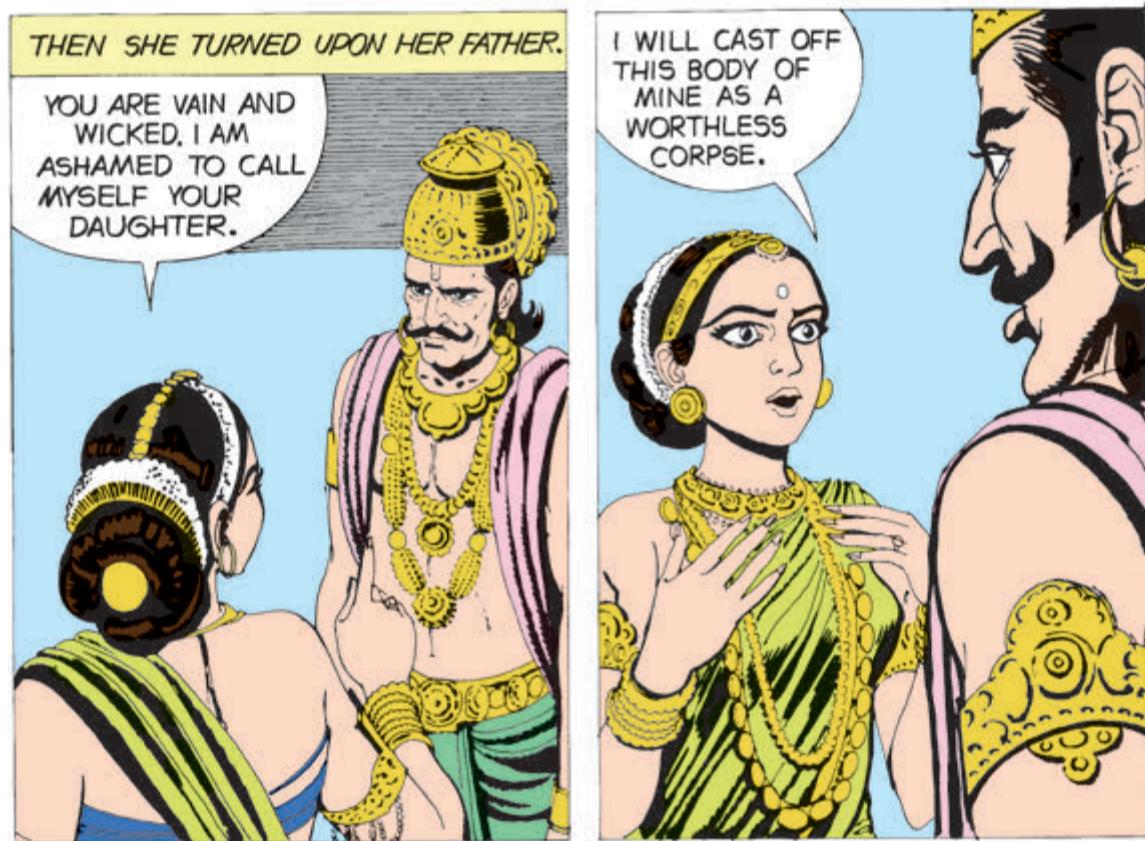
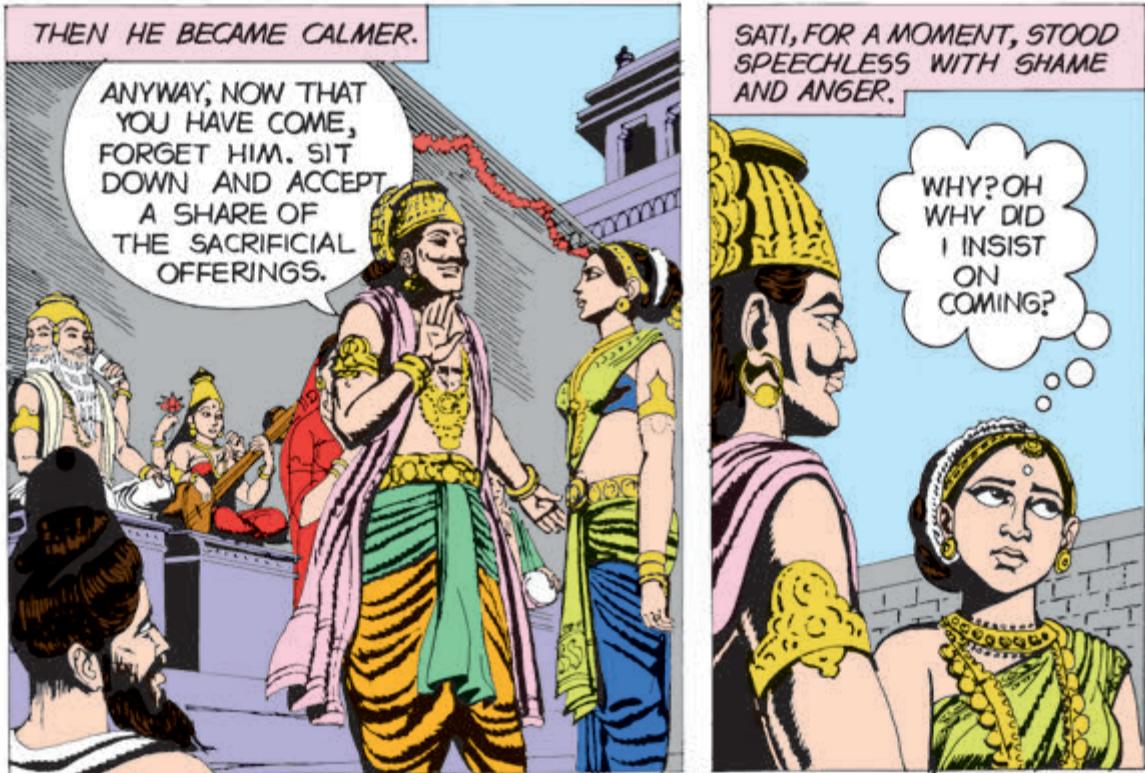


BUT DAKSHA CRUELLY CUT HER SHORT.

SATI! I'VE HAD
ENOUGH OF YOUR
IMPUDENCE. YOU MAY
GO OR STAY. WHY
DID YOU COME
AT ALL?

HIS ANGER MOUNTED AS HE SPOKE
OF SHIVA.





THEN, BECOMING CALMER,
SHE FIXED HER MIND ON
HER LORD.

MY LORD,
I SHALL COME BACK
TO YOU WHEN I AM RE-
BORN OF A FATHER I CAN
RESPECT.



AND INVOKING YOGIC FLAMES, SATI IMMOLATED HER BODY IN THEM.



ALAS! SHIVA'S
BELOVED HAS
GIVEN UP
HER BODY.

ALAS!

ALAS!

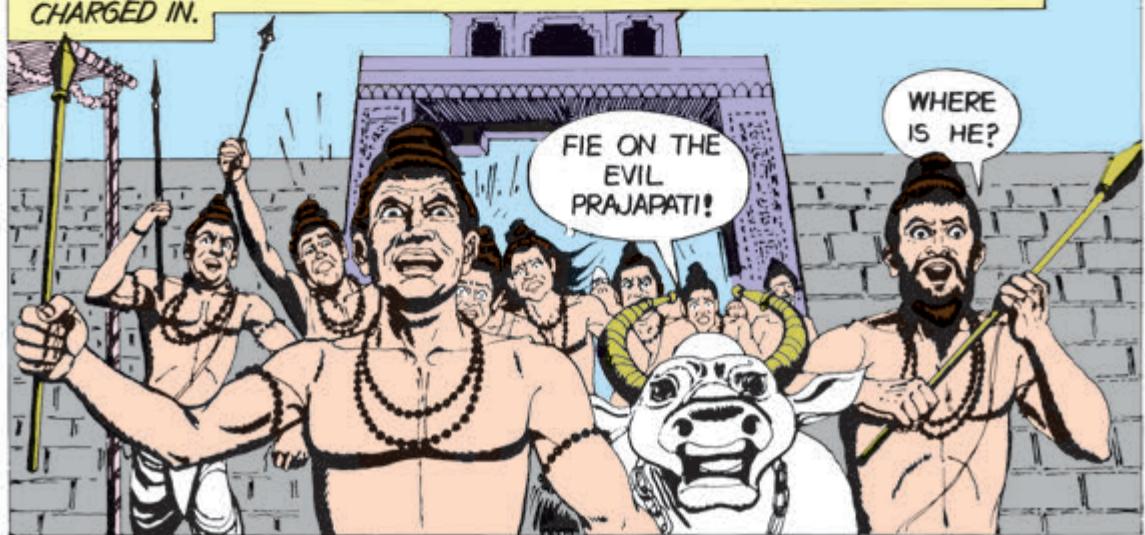
CRUEL
DAKSHA
WILL HAVE
TO PAY
FOR THIS.



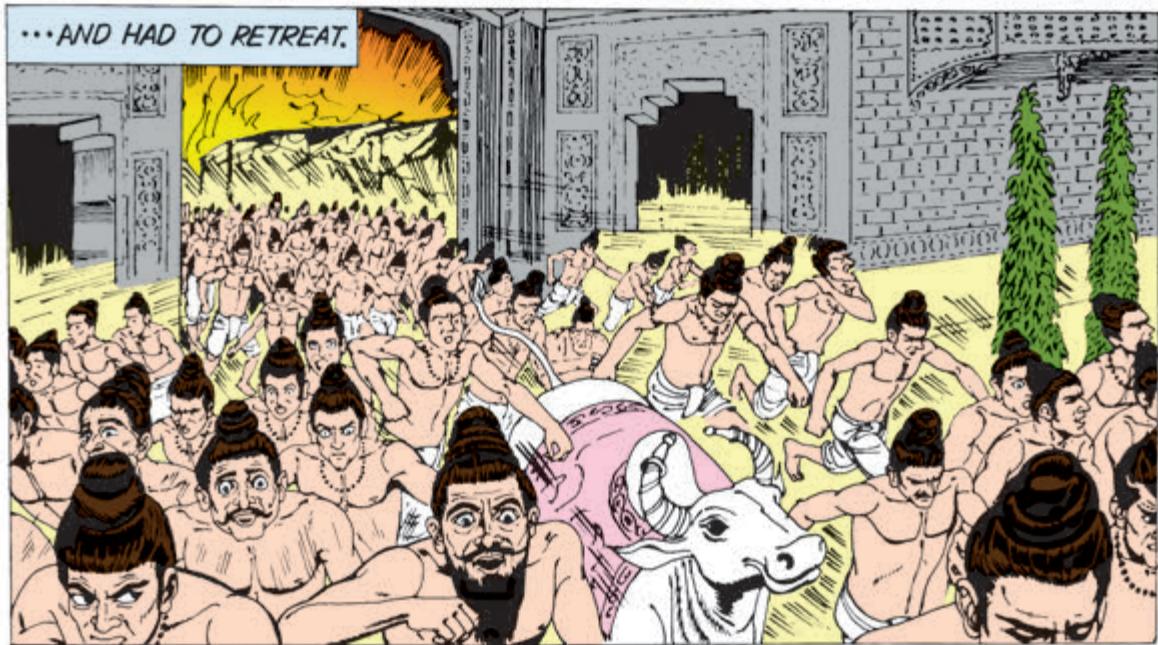
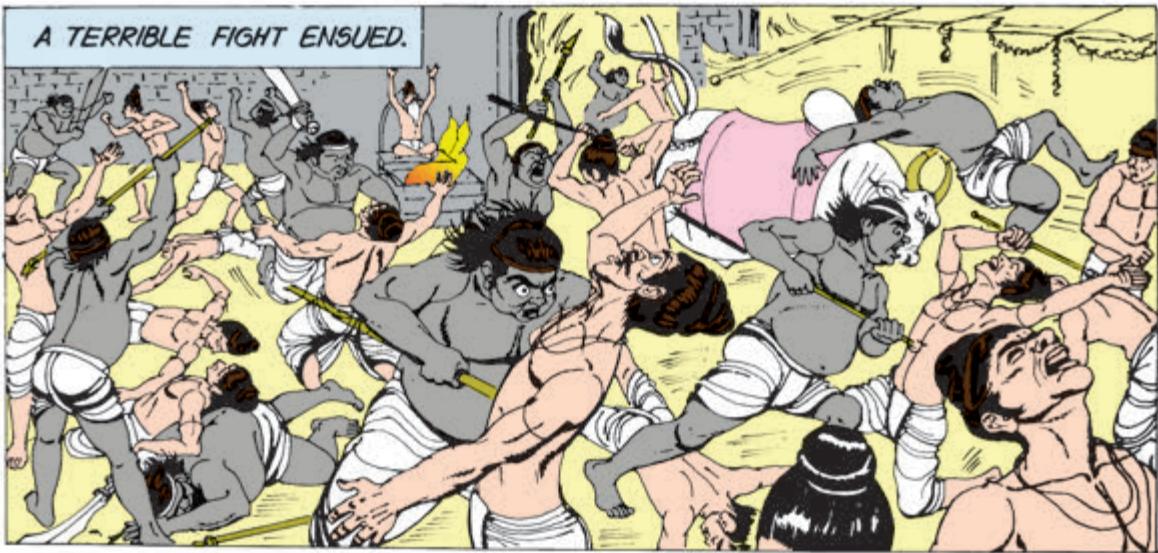
HER ATTENDANTS, WHO WERE WAITING OUTSIDE, HEARD THESE CRIES AND CHARGED IN.

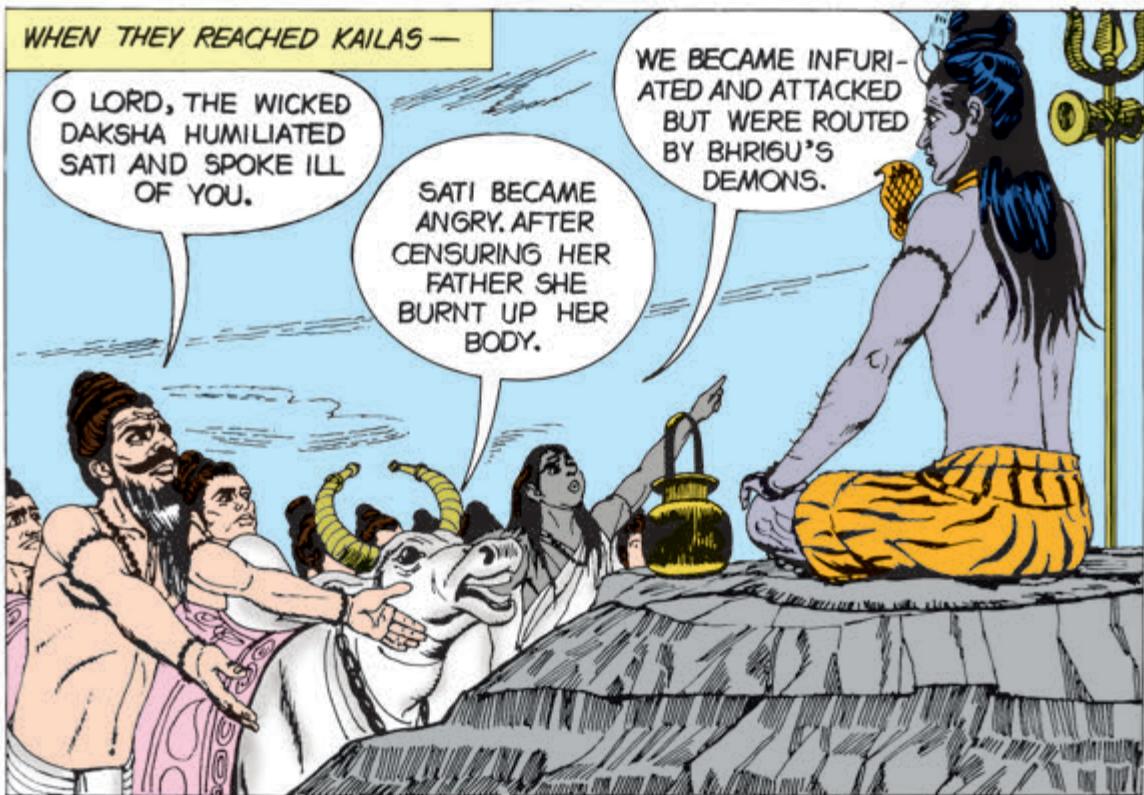
FIE ON THE
EVIL
PRAJAPATI!

WHERE
IS HE?







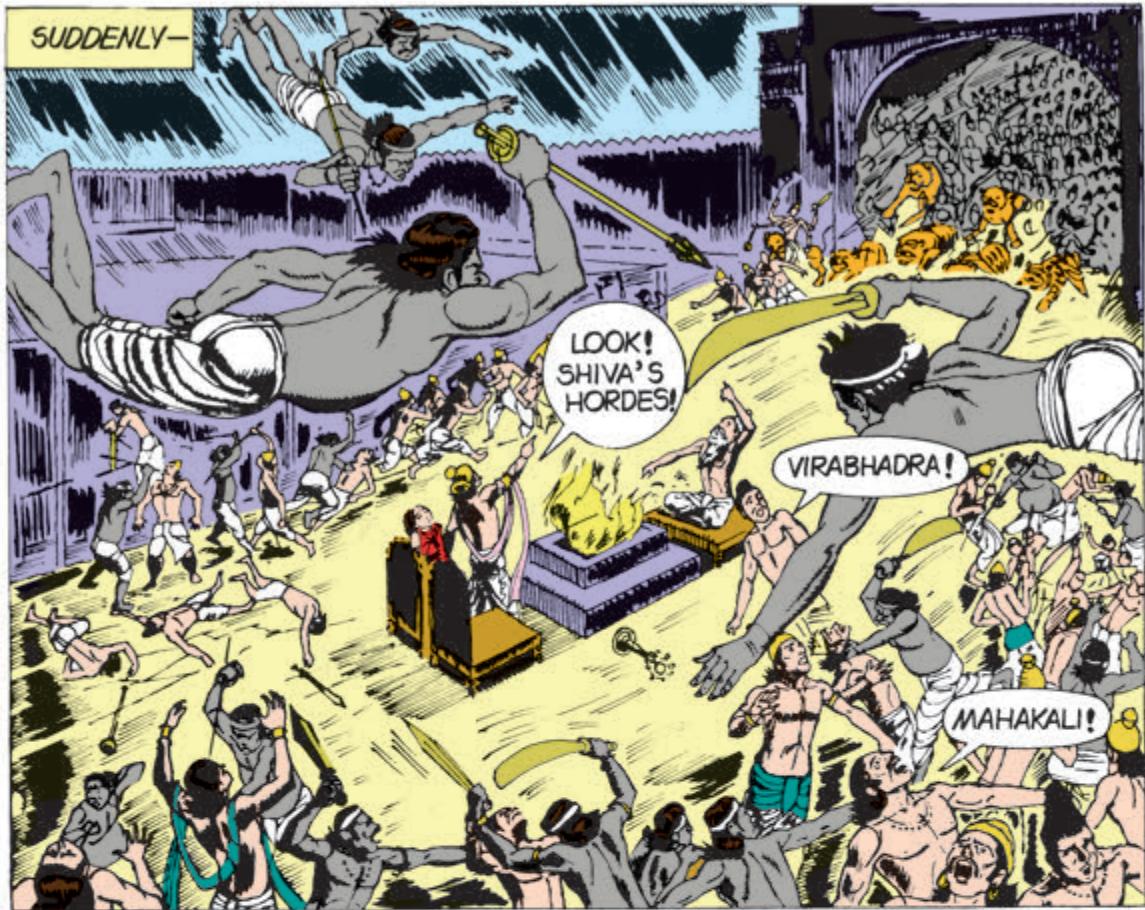






WHILE VIRABHADRA ADVANCED, A NUMBER OF BAD OMENS WERE SEEN BY DAKSHA AND HIS GUESTS. A CELESTIAL VOICE CURSED DAKSHA.



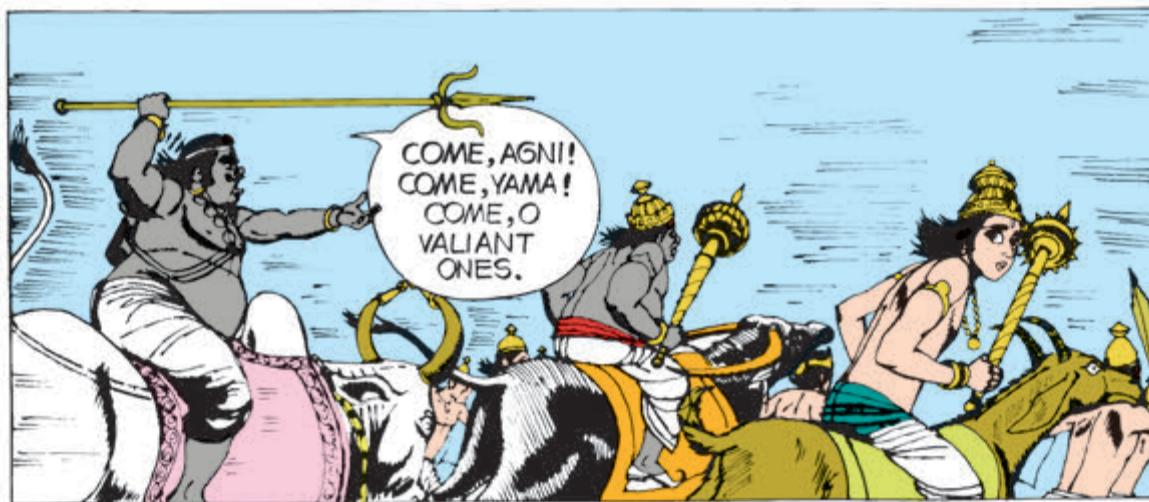


DAKSHA APPEALED TO INDRA,
KING OF THE DEVAS.



INDRA IMMEDIATELY MOUNTED HIS
ELEPHANT AND LED THE DEVAS.

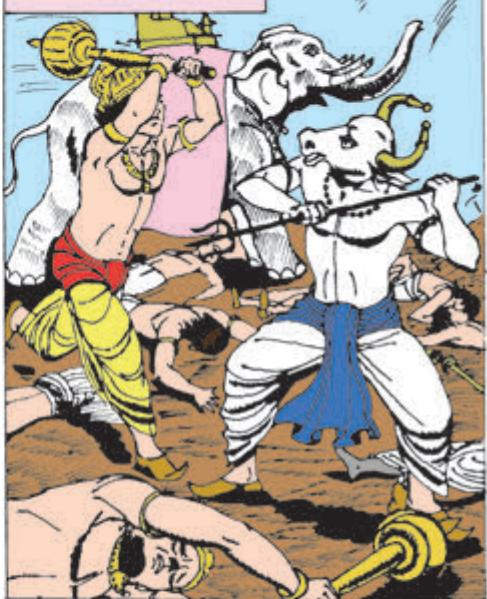




MANY OF THE DEVAS AND CELESTIAL SAGES DESERTED AND FLED TO HEAVEN.



BUT INDRA DID NOT GIVE UP. HE ATTACKED NANDI.



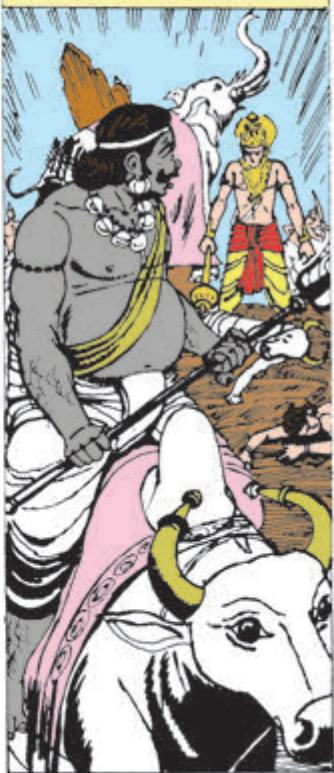
NANDI PIERCED HIM WITH HIS TRIDENT.



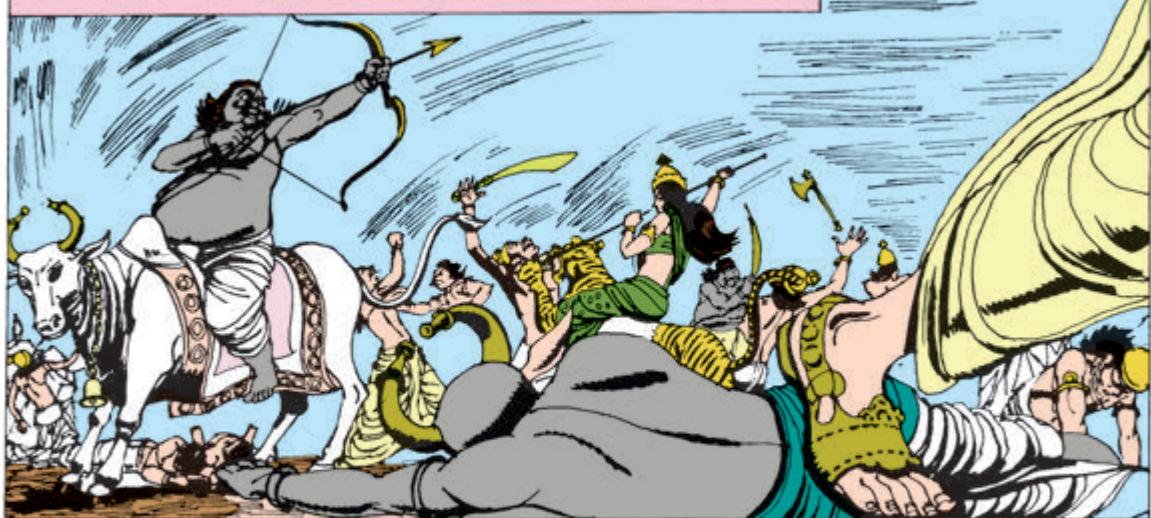
INDRA RETALIATED WITH HIS THUNDERBOLT, AND NANDI FELL.



VIRABHADRA WAS FURIOUS TO SEE SHIVA'S FAVOURITE LYING UNCONSCIOUS.



HE DREW HIS BOW AND LET FLY HIS DEADLY ARROWS.

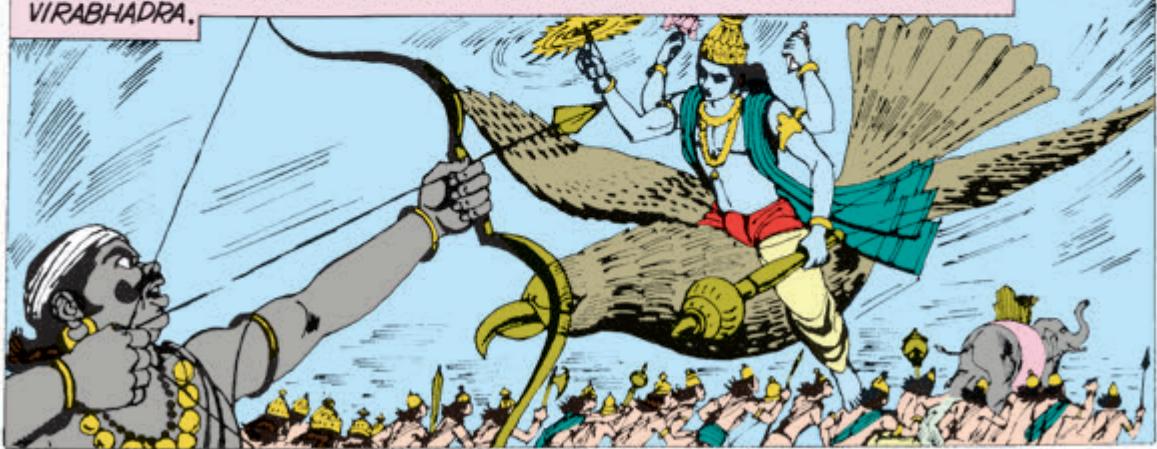


SEVERELY WOUNDED, EVEN INDRA HAD TO FLEE.

LOOK! OUR
LEADER IS
RETREATING.
WE ARE
LOST.



THEN VISHNU CAME FORWARD, TOOK INDRA'S POSITION AND FACED VIRABHADRA.



BUT VIRABHADRA CHARGED WITH HIS TRIDENT AND VISHNU FELL UNCONSCIOUS.



LEAVING HIM THERE, VIRABHADRA WENT IN SEARCH OF DAKSHA.



HE TORE OFF DAKSHA'S HEAD AND...



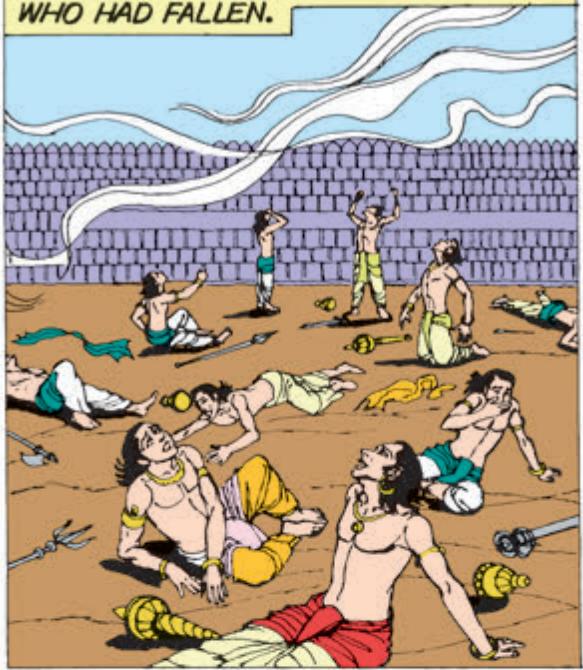
...THREW IT INTO THE SACRIFICIAL FIRE.



HIS TASK ACCOMPLISHED, HE RETURNED TO KAILAS.



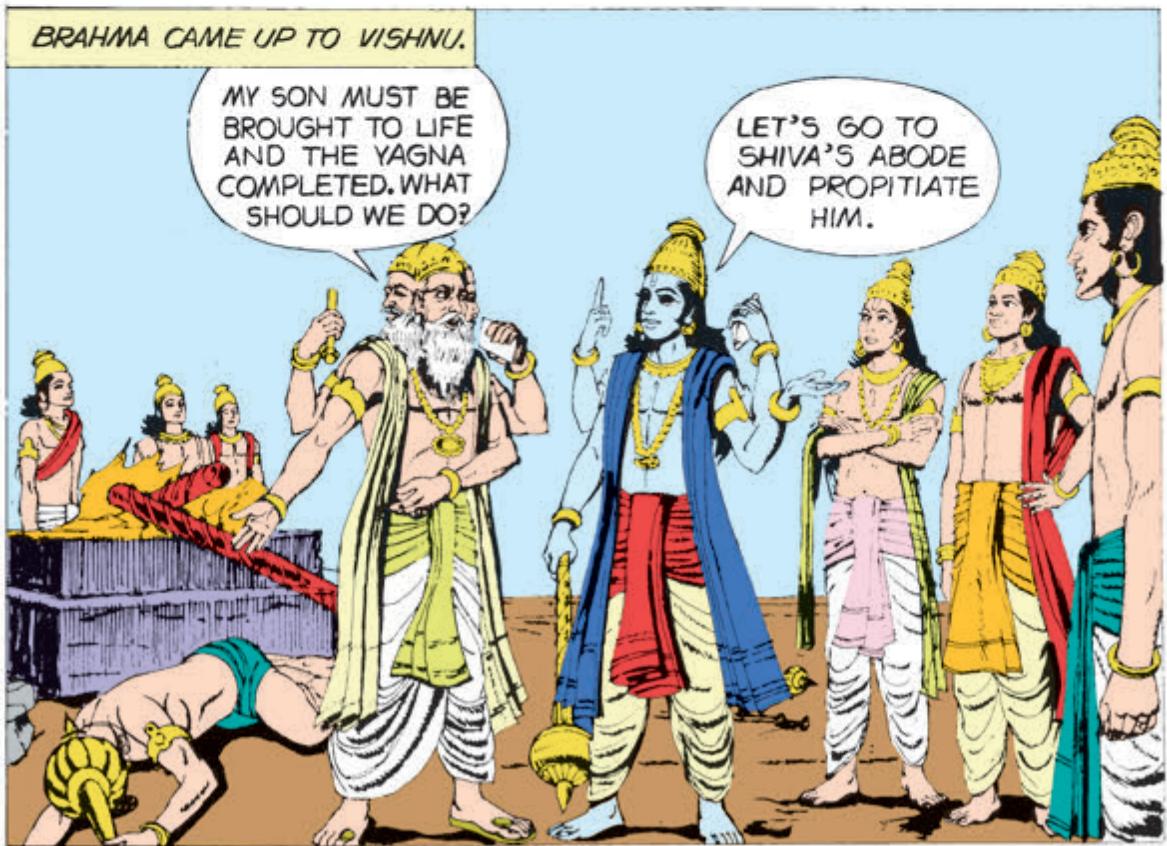
AS VIRABHADRA LEFT, COOL FRAGRANT BREEZES BLEW, REVIVING ALL THOSE WHO HAD FALLEN.



BRAHMA CAME UP TO VISHNU.

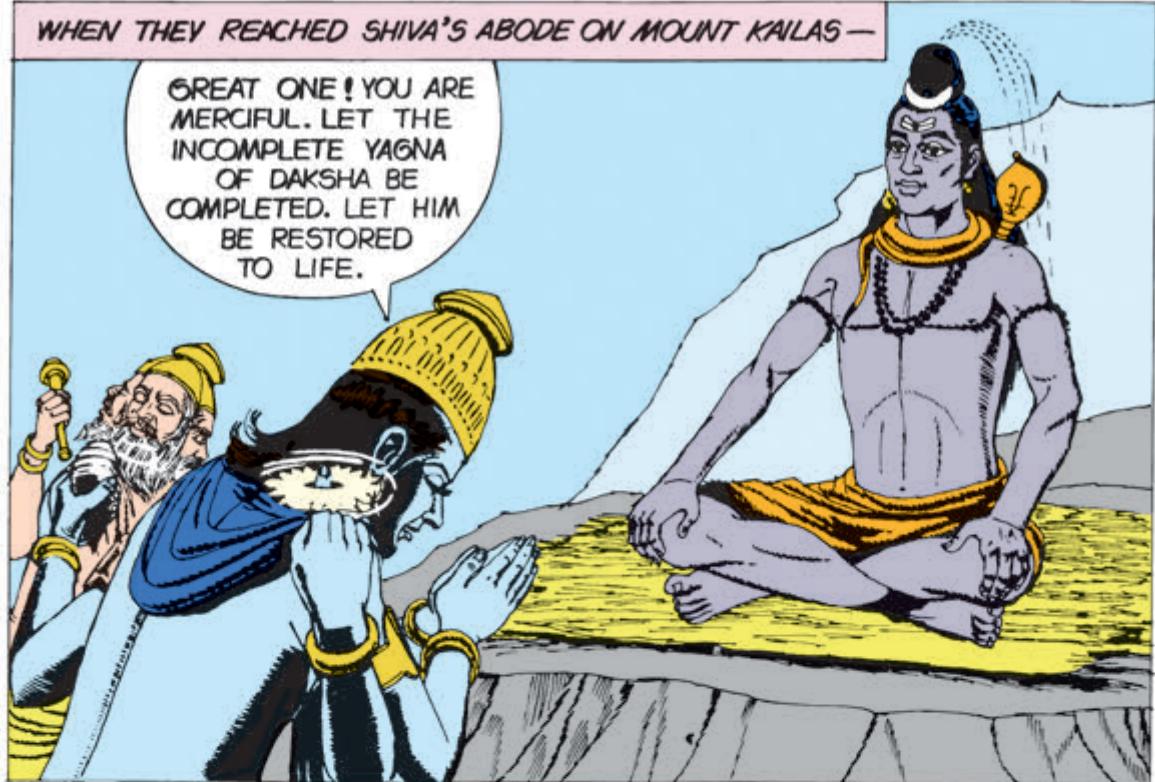
MY SON MUST BE BROUGHT TO LIFE AND THE YAGNA COMPLETED. WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

LET'S GO TO SHIVA'S ABODE AND PROPITIATE HIM.



WHEN THEY REACHED SHIVA'S ABODE ON MOUNT KAILAS —

GREAT ONE! YOU ARE MERCIFUL. LET THE INCOMPLETE YAGNA OF DAKSHA BE COMPLETED. LET HIM BE RESTORED TO LIFE.



DAKSHA ALLOWED HATE TO BECOME HIS MASTER. IF ONE HATES ANOTHER IT WILL RECOIL ON ONESELF. DAKSHA SHALL BE REVIVED, BUT WITH THE HEAD OF A GOAT.



THEN COME TO THE SACRIFICIAL ALTAR WITH US, O LORD.

I SHALL

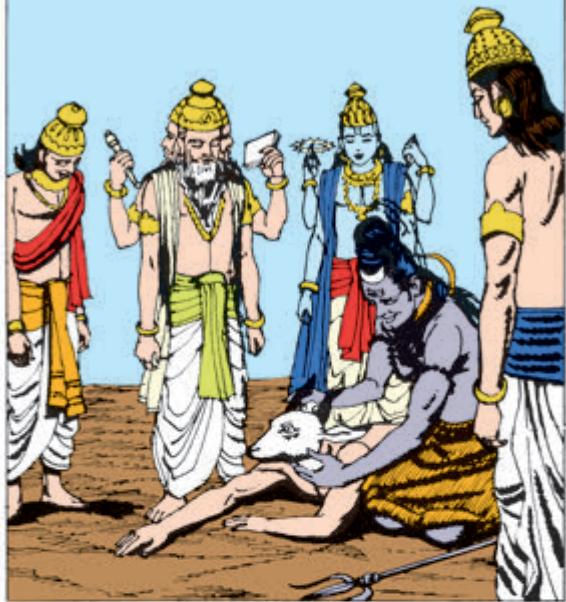


WHEN THEY REACHED THE VENUE OF THE SACRIFICE -

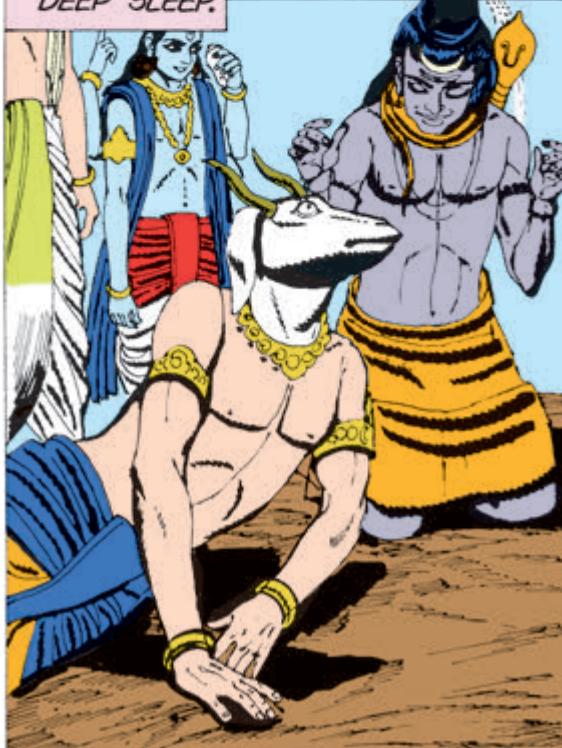
BRING ME THE HEAD OF THE SACRIFICIAL GOAT.



THE HEAD WAS BROUGHT. SHIVA JOINED IT TO DAKSHA'S NECK



DAKSHA SLOWLY AROSE AS IF FROM A DEEP SLEEP.



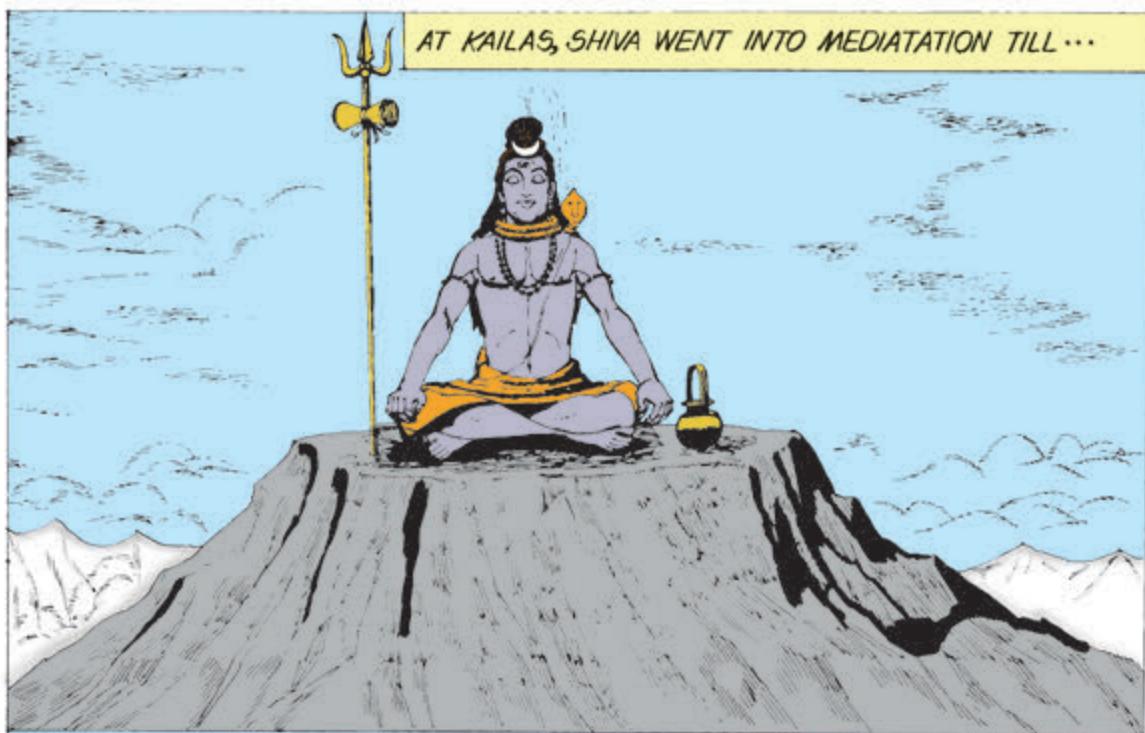
WHEN HE SAW SHIVA, HE BOWED BEFORE HIM.



WITH SHIVA'S PERMISSION AND GRACIOUS BLESSINGS, DAKSHA COMPLETED THE YAGNA.



AT KAILAS, SHIVA WENT INTO MEDITATION TILL...



...SATI, TRUE TO HER WORD, WAS REBORN AS PARVATI TO HIMAVAN, A FATHER SHE COULD LOVE AND RESPECT AND WHO LOVED AND RESPECTED HER. AND AS PARVATI SHE WOODED AND WON SHIVA, NEVER TO BE SEPARATED FROM HIM AGAIN.

WHICH OF THE ACKS HAVE YOU STILL NOT READ?

<p>EPICS AND MYTHOLOGY <i>Best known stories from the Epics and the Puranas</i></p> <p>Abhimanyu Agastya Andhaka Aniruddha Aruni And Uttanka Ashwini Kumars Ayappan Bahubali Bhanumati Bheema And Hanuman Bheeshma Chandrahasa Dasharatha Dhruba 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</p>	<p>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 Suyamantaka Gem Tirupati Tripura Uloopi Vaishno Devi Vali Vishwamitra Yayati</p> <p>VISIONARIES <i>Inspiring tales of thinkers, social reformers and nation builders</i></p> <p>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 Jayaprakash Narayan Jim Corbett Jnaneshwar Kabir Kalidasa Lal Bahadur Shastri Lokmanya Tilak M. 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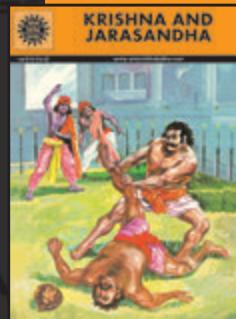
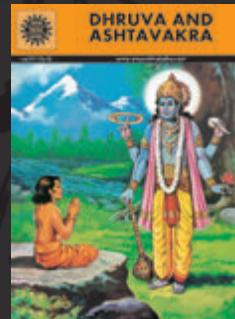
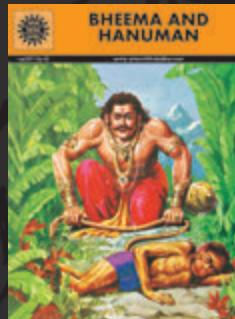
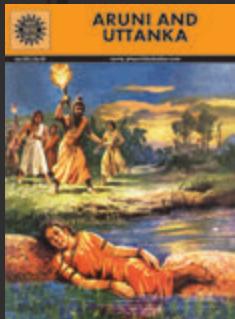


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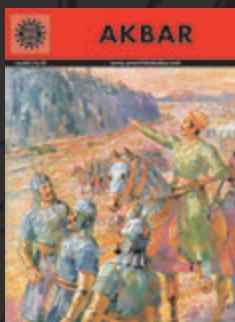
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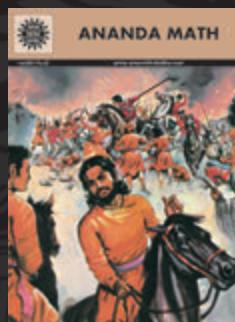
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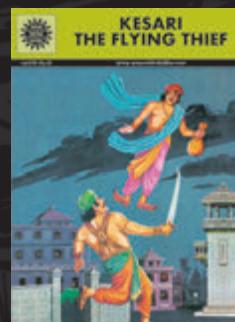
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