



THE SONS OF RAMA

LUV AND KUSH – THE INVINCIBLE TWINS

Vol 503 |

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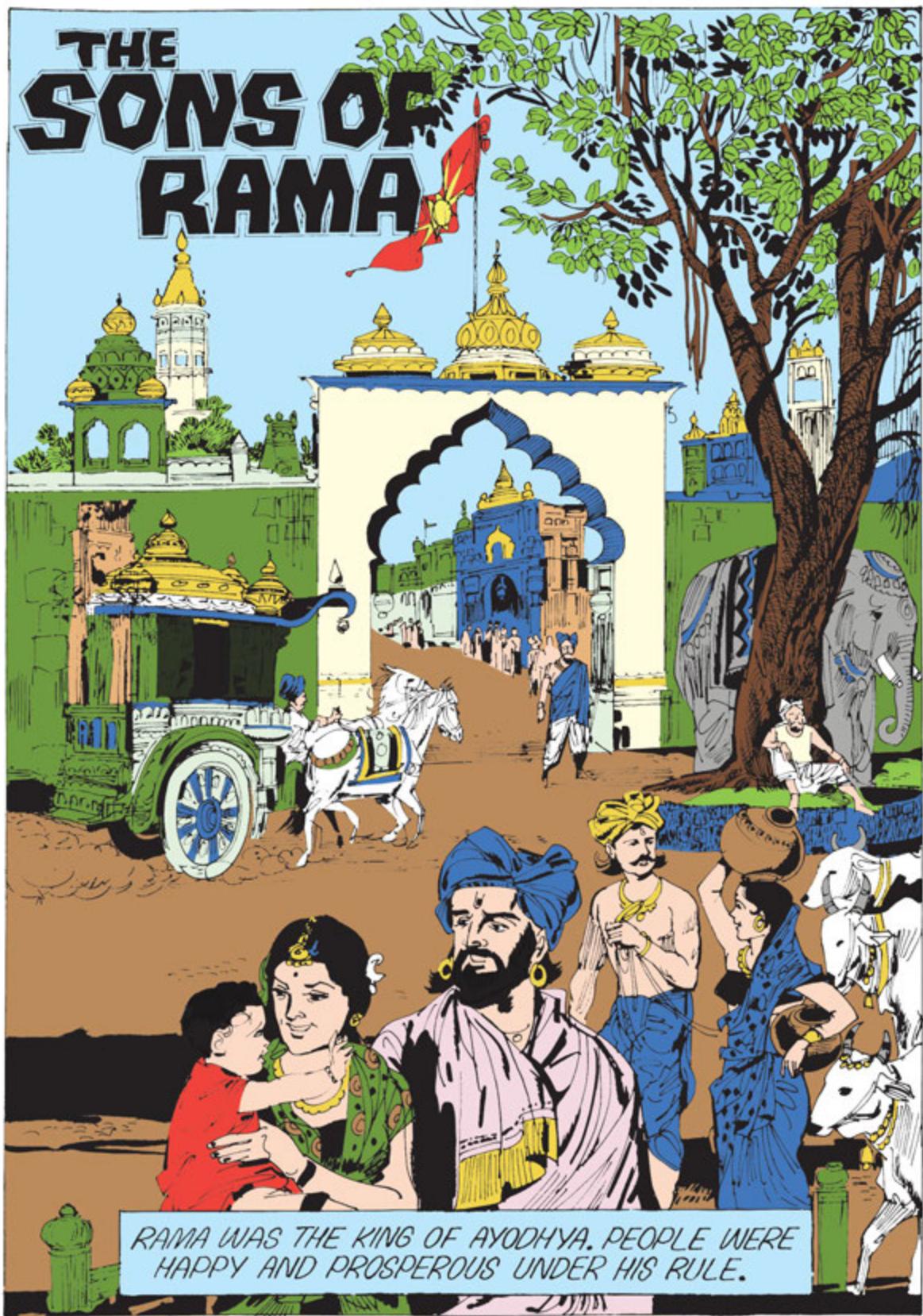
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THE SONS OF RAMA



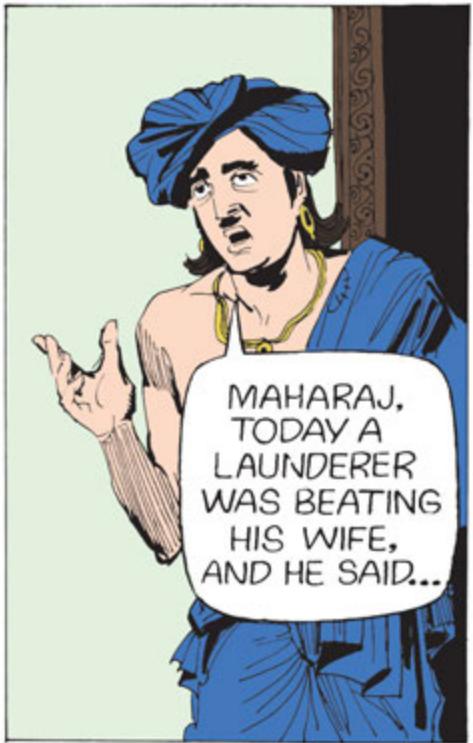
RAMA WAS THE KING OF AYODHYA. PEOPLE WERE HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS UNDER HIS RULE.

WITH HIS BROTHERS, LAXMANA, BHARATA AND SHATRUGHNA, RAMA USED TO VISIT HIS PEOPLE AND LISTEN TO THEIR PROBLEMS...



... AND EVERY EVENING WITH HIS QUEEN SITA, HE RECEIVED HIS MEN. ONE EVENING -

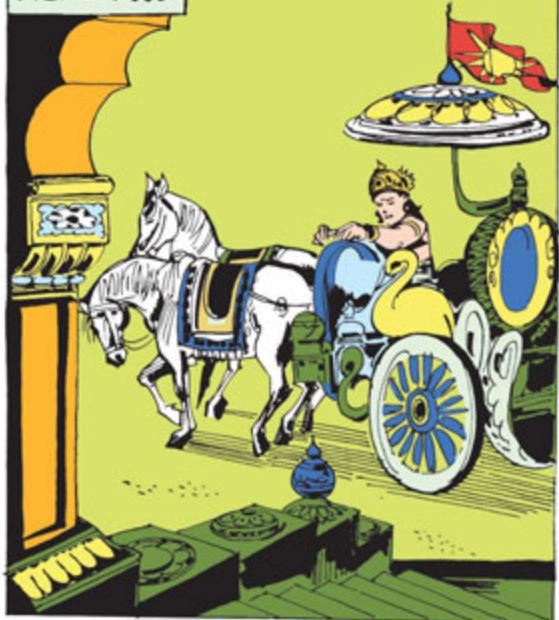




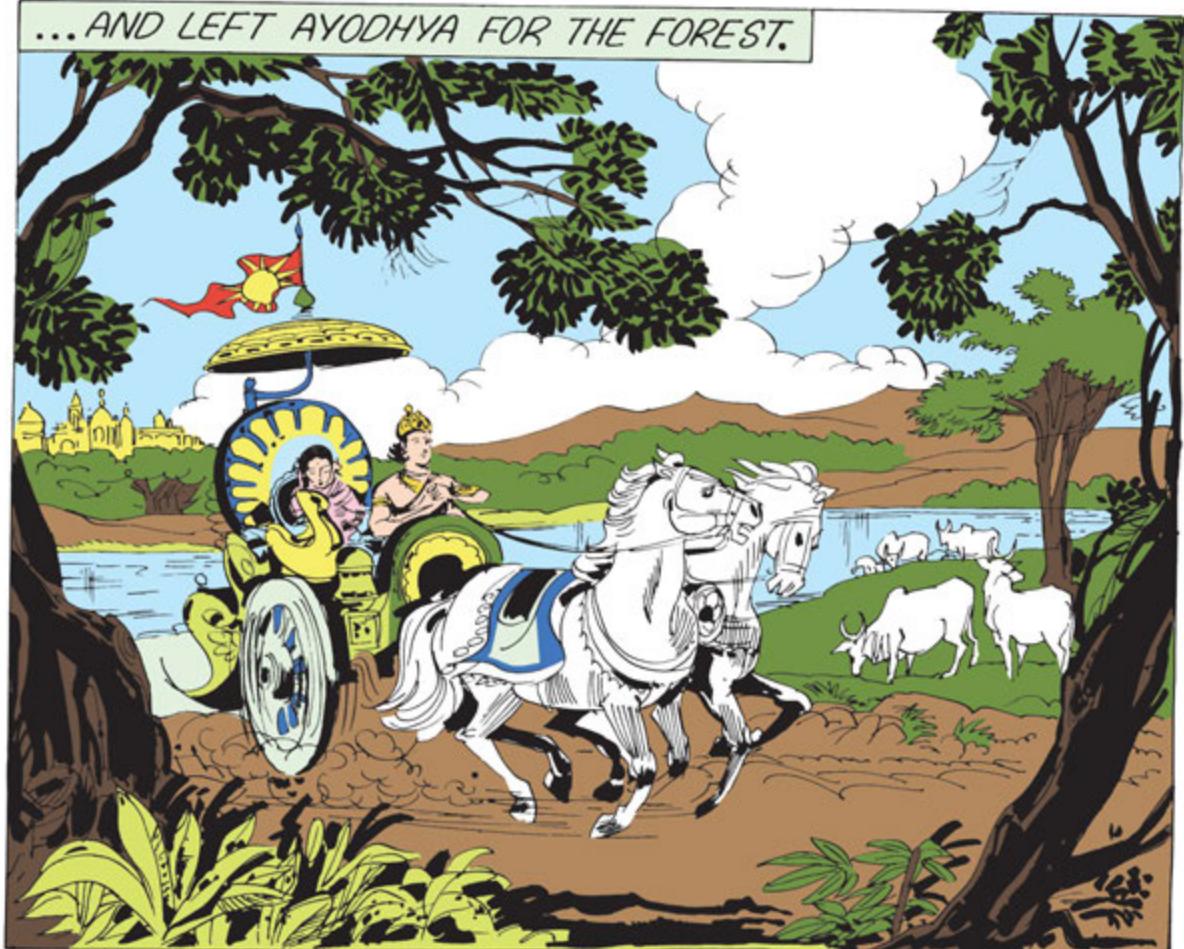
THE FOLLOWING DAY HE SENT
FOR LAXMANA.



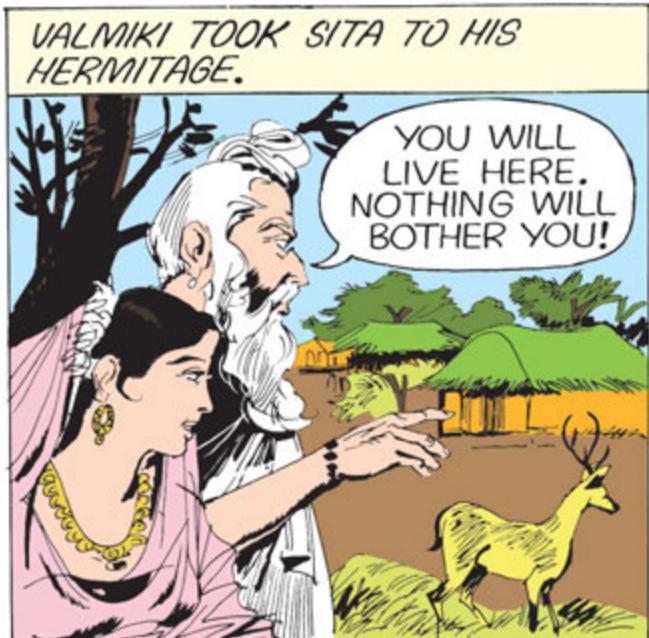
LAXMANA GOT HIS CHARIOT
READY...



...AND LEFT AYODHYA FOR THE FOREST.



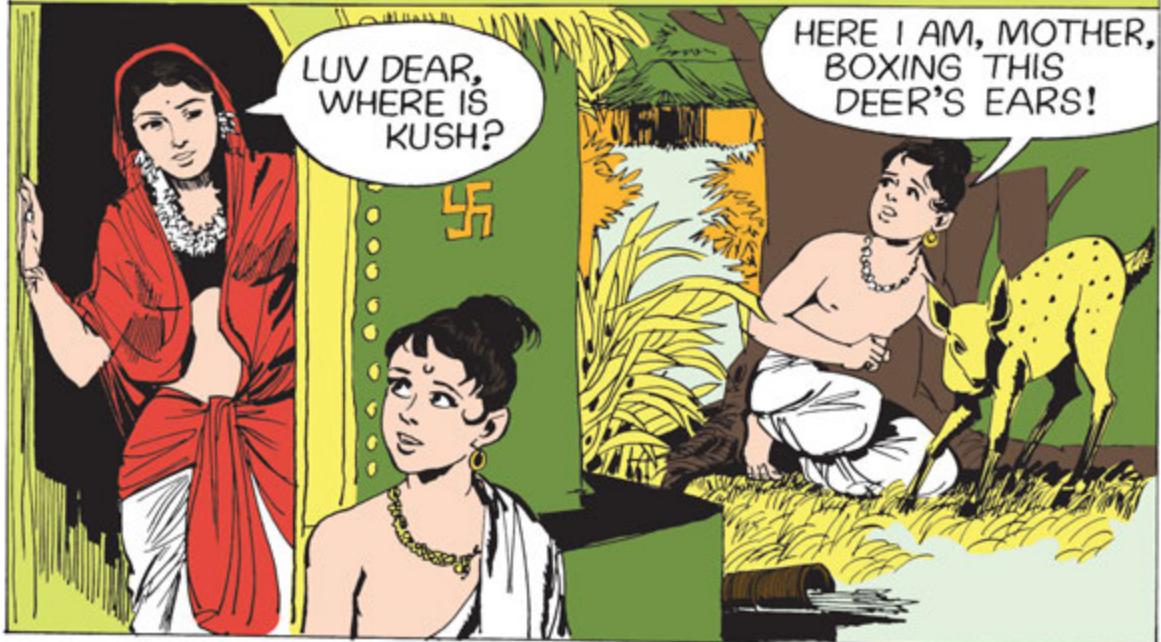




VALMIKI'S HERMITAGE BECAME SITA'S HAVEN - SHE WAS BLESSED WITH TWIN SONS.



AS TIME PASSED, SITA'S TWIN SONS, LUV AND KUSH, GREW UP.

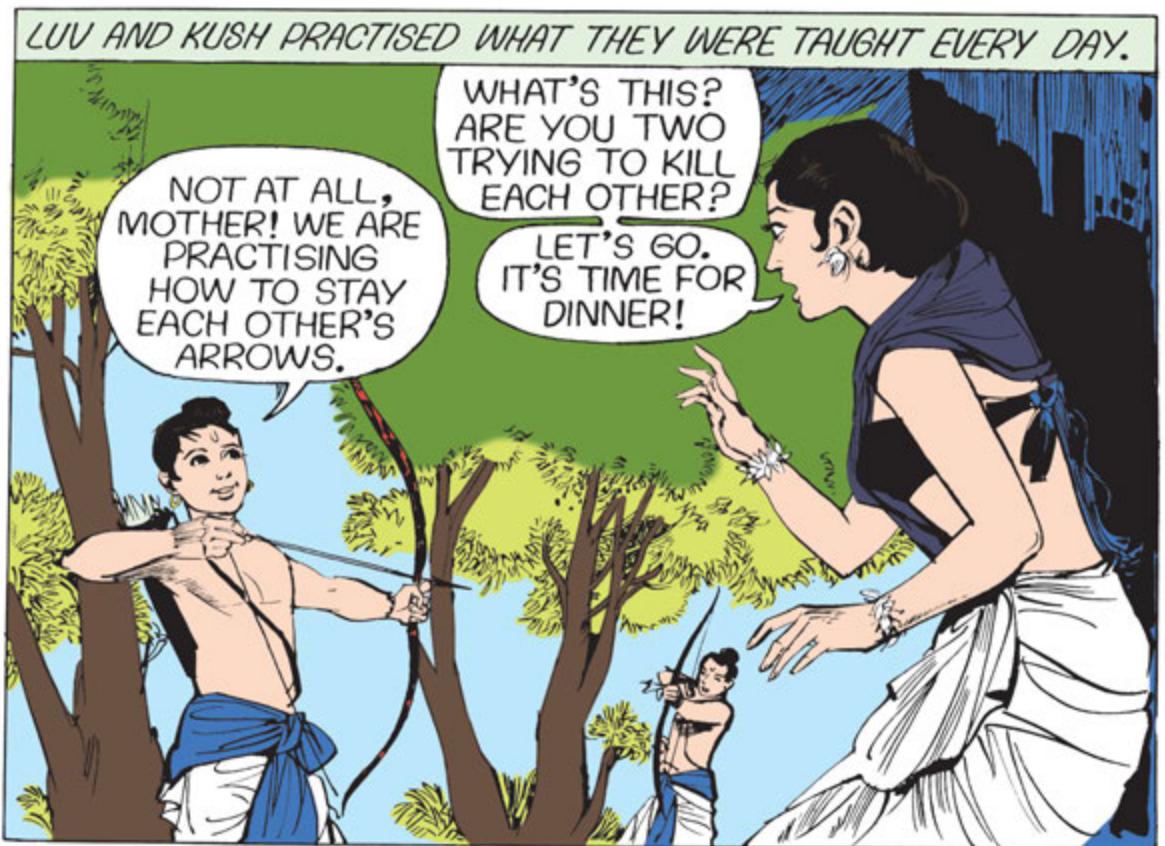


BUT THE MAHARSHI TAUGHT YOU NOT TO BE CRUEL TO ANIMALS!



MAHARSHI VALMIKI PERSONALLY ATTENDED TO THEIR EDUCATION.





VALMIKI TOLD THEM THE STORY OF THE RAMAYANA, OF HOW RAMA BROKE THE BOW OF LORD SHIVA AND MARRIED VAIDEHI.

THAT IS NOTHING.
I CAN ALSO
BREAK
A BOW.



"KAIKEYI BANISHED RAMA INTO THE JUNGLES FOR FOURTEEN YEARS."

I'M GOING INTO
THE JUNGLES TO
KEEP MY FATHER'S
PROMISE!

I WANT TO
GO WITH
YOU!



"ONE DAY AS RAMA WENT AFTER
A DEER, RAVANA KIDNAPPED
VAIDEHI."



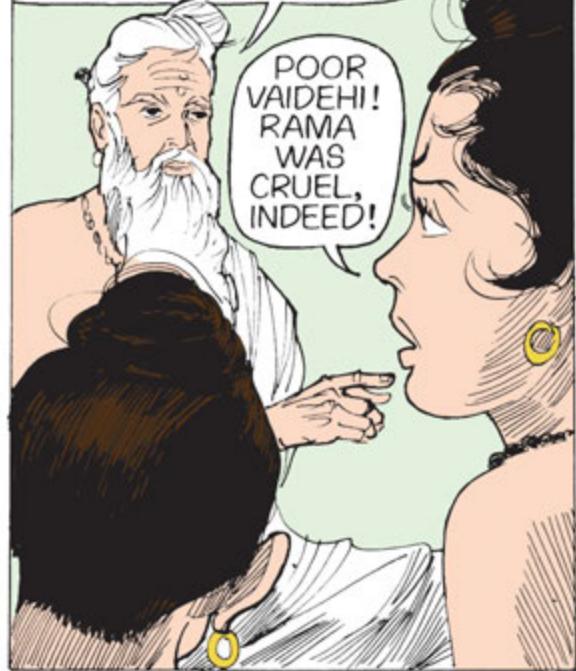
"IN THE BATTLE THAT FOLLOWED,
RAVANA WAS KILLED BY RAMA."



"AFTER SPENDING FOURTEEN YEARS IN EXILE, RAMA RETURNED TO AYODHYA AND WAS CROWNED KING."



"ONE DAY, BECAUSE OF WHAT A LAUNDERER SAID, RAMA BANISHED VAIDEHI!"



"VALMIKI TAUGHT THEM OF
"YAJNA" AND SUCH OTHER
MATTERS TOO.

"SWAHA"

"SWAHA"

"SWAHA"

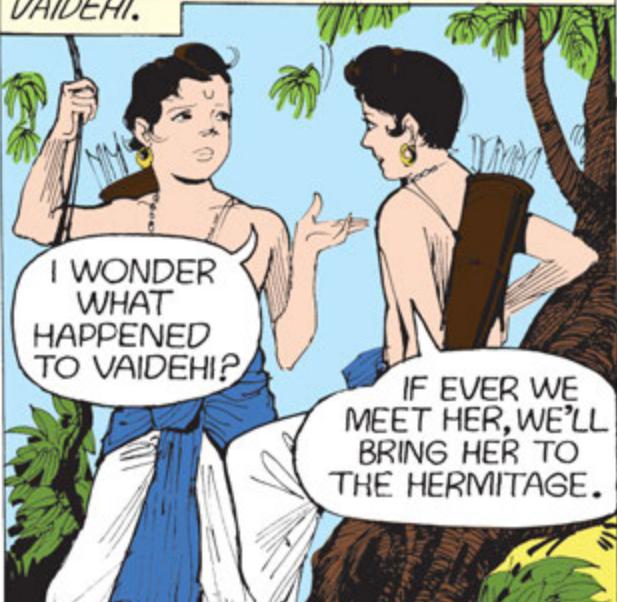


"EVERY DAY THEY PRACTISED THE ARTS
OF WAR. THEY ALSO TALKED ABOUT
VAIDEHI."

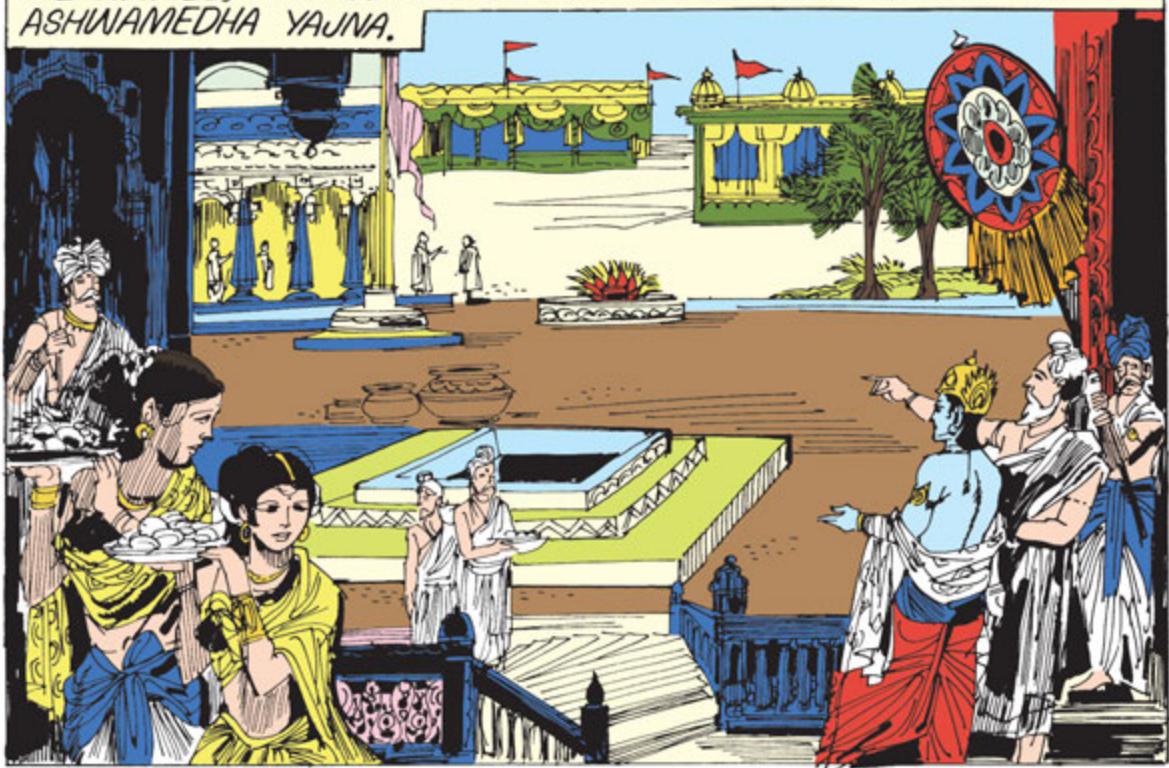
I WONDER
WHAT
HAPPENED
TO VAIDEHI?

IF EVER WE
MEET HER, WE'LL
BRING HER TO
THE HERMITAGE.

THEY DID NOT REALISE THAT
VAIDEHI WAS NONE OTHER
THAN SITA, THEIR MOTHER.



MEANWHILE, IN AYODHYA RAMA PREPARED TO PERFORM THE ASHWAMEDHA YAJNA.



AS PEOPLE PASSED BY HIS ROYAL PALACE -



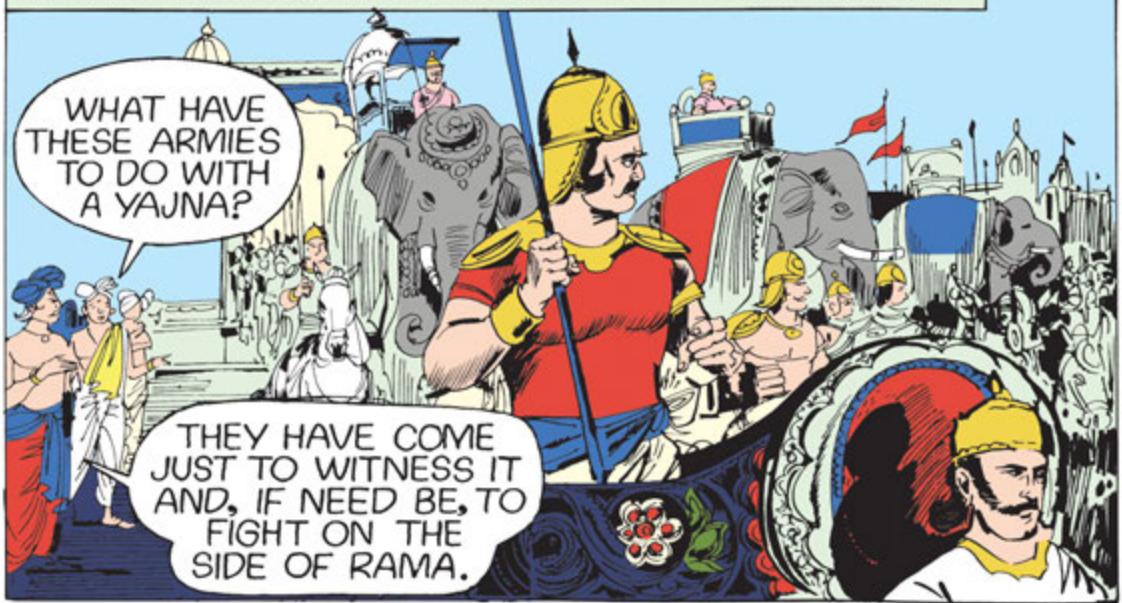
ALL WERE INVITED TO THE YAJNA.

THE GREAT SAGES, VISHWAMITRA AND NARADA ARE HERE TOO.

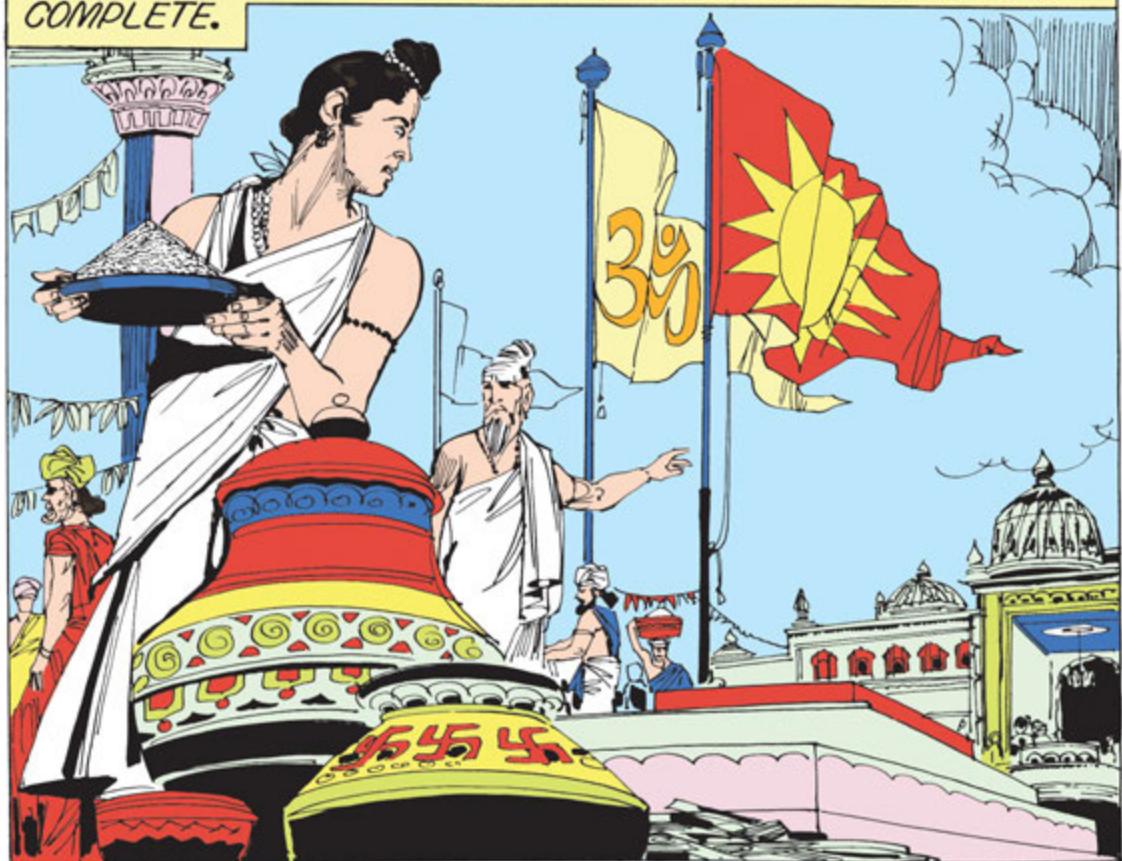
THEY ARE STAYING WITH THE SAGE VASHISHTHA.



RULERS FROM ALL AROUND CAME WITH THEIR ARMIES.



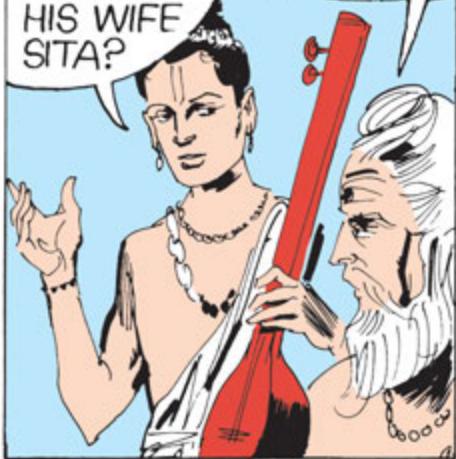
THE YAJNASHALA WAS DECORATED; PREPARATIONS WERE NOW COMPLETE.



BUT NARADA HAD SOMETHING TO SAY TO VISHWAMITRA.

HOW CAN RAMA PERFORM THE YAJNA WITHOUT HIS WIFE SITA?

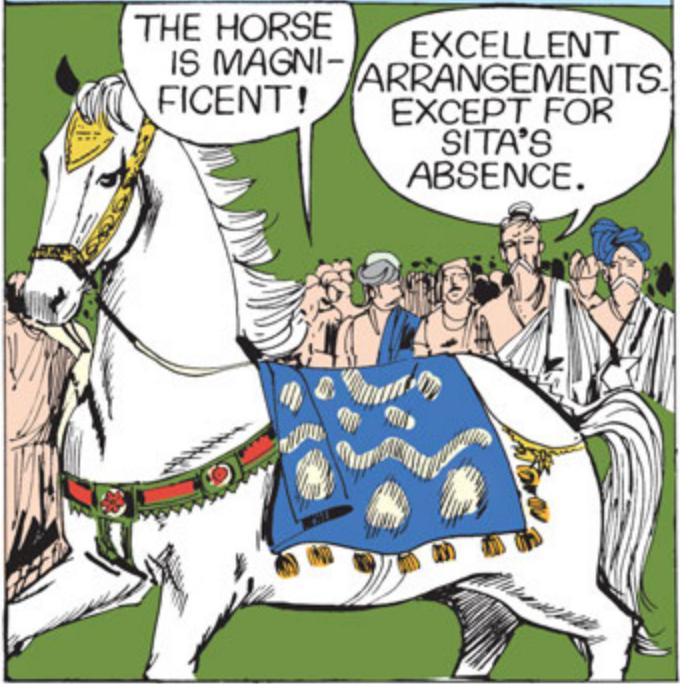
HE WILL HAVE TO USE A GOLDEN STATUE OF HER!



A WHITE HORSE WITH BLACK EARS WAS GOT READY FOR THE YAJNA.

THE HORSE IS MAGNIFICENT!

EXCELLENT ARRANGEMENTS. EXCEPT FOR SITA'S ABSENCE.



THE MENTION OF SITA SET RAMA THINKING.

I SHOULD SEND LAXMANA TO LOOK FOR SITA.

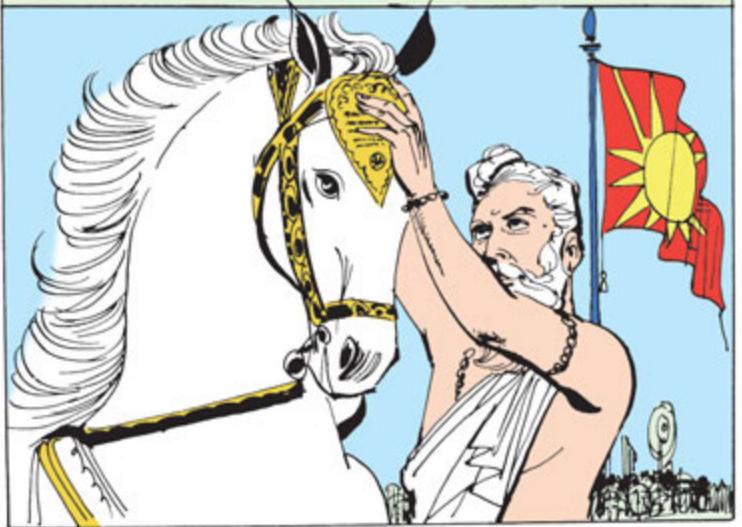


NO, MY PEOPLE MAY NOT LIKE IT. A GOLDEN STATUE WILL HAVE TO DO!

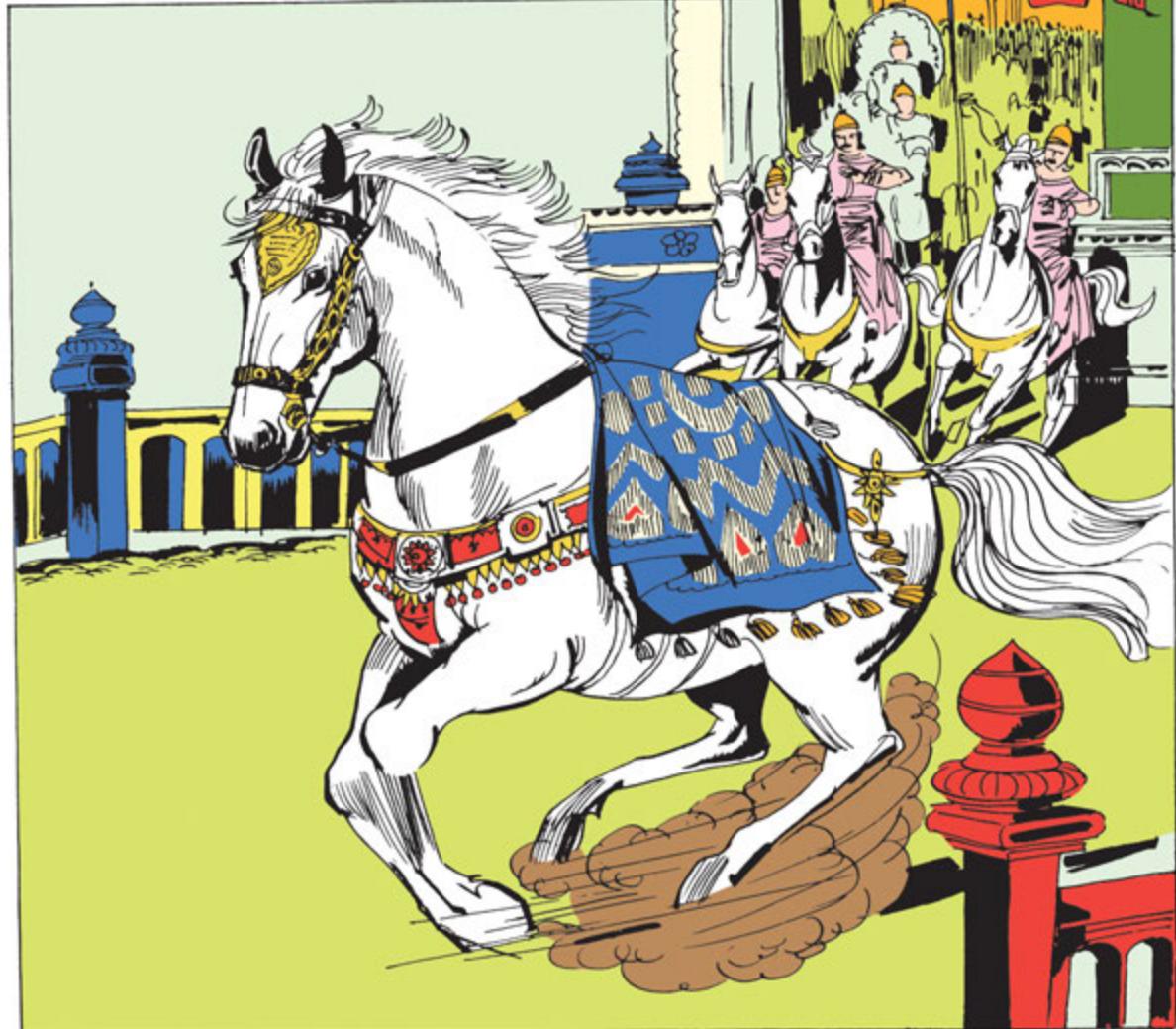
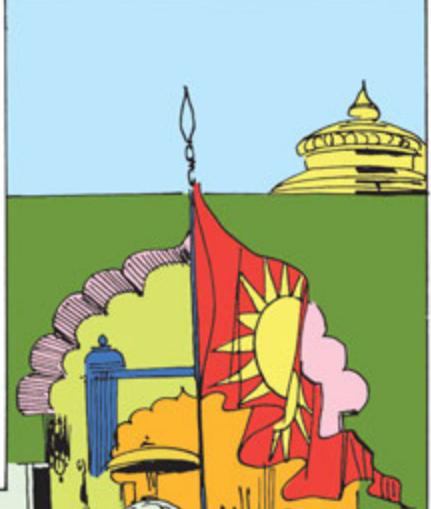




VISHWAMITRA TIED THE CEREMONIAL GOLD LEAF ON THE HORSE'S FOREHEAD.



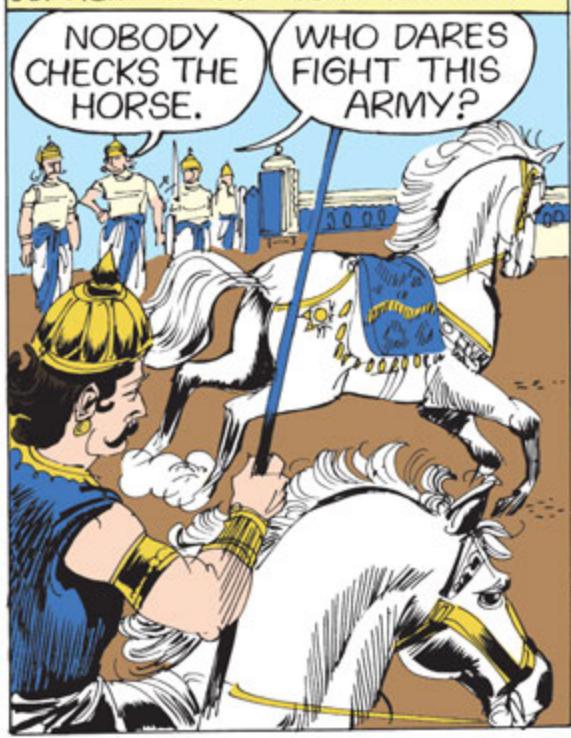
THE HORSE WAS THEN LET LOOSE AND THE ARMY FOLLOWED IT.



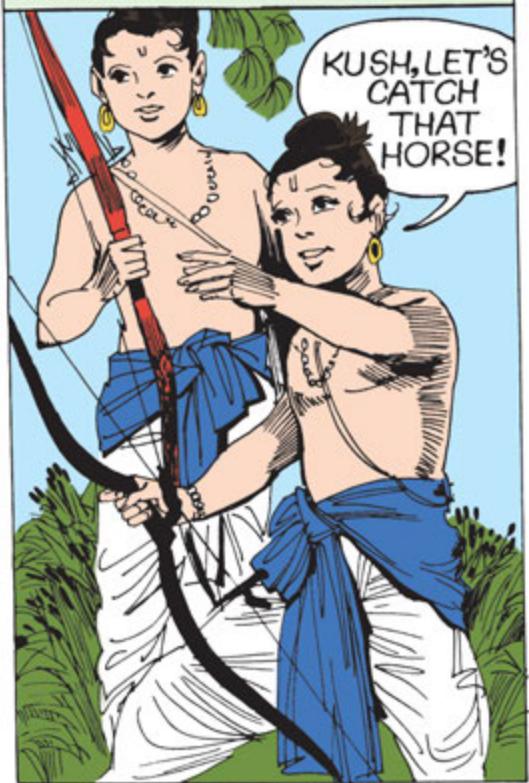
AS THE HORSE ENTERED A RULER'S DOMAIN-



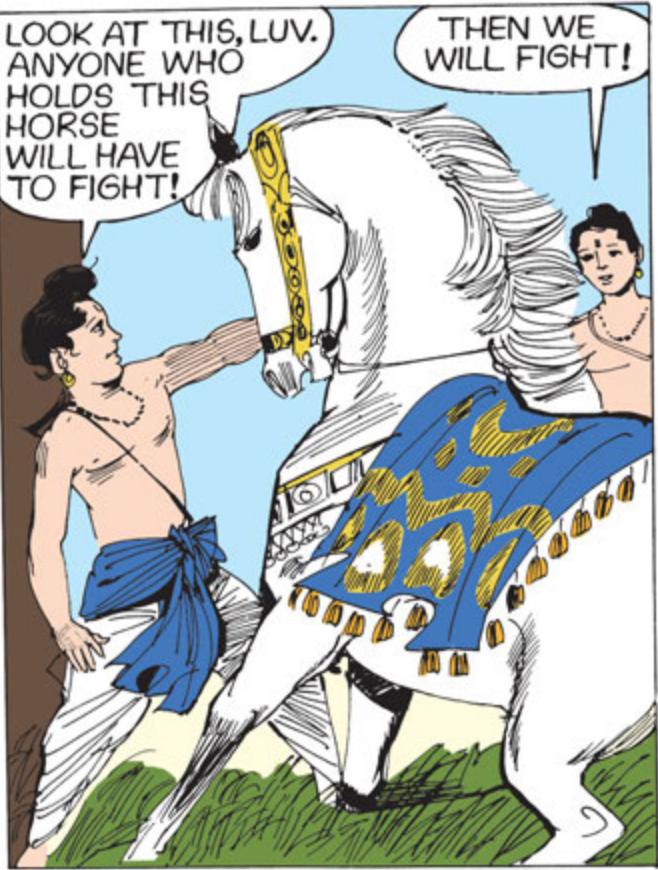
MANY A RULER ACCEPTED RAMA'S SUPREMACY WITHOUT A FIGHT.



LUV AND KUSH SAW THE HORSE FROM AFAR.



LOOK AT THIS, LUV.
ANYONE WHO HOLDS THIS HORSE WILL HAVE TO FIGHT!



LUV AND KUSH TIED THE HORSE TO A TREE.



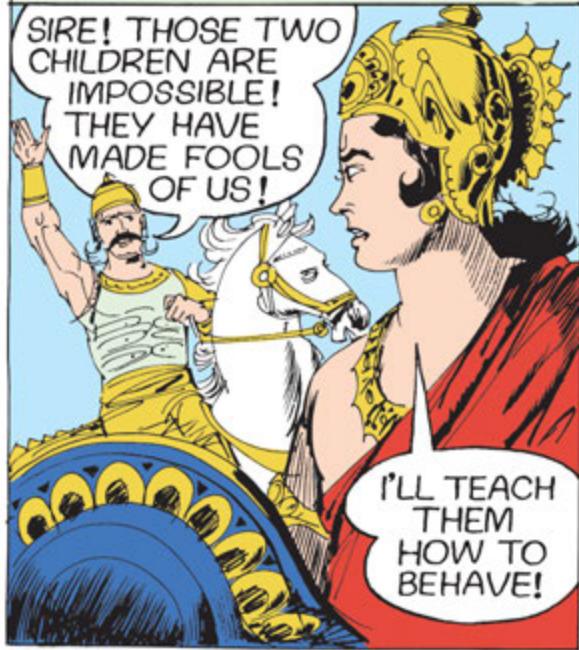
ONE OF RAMA'S SOLDIERS CAME UP TO THEM.



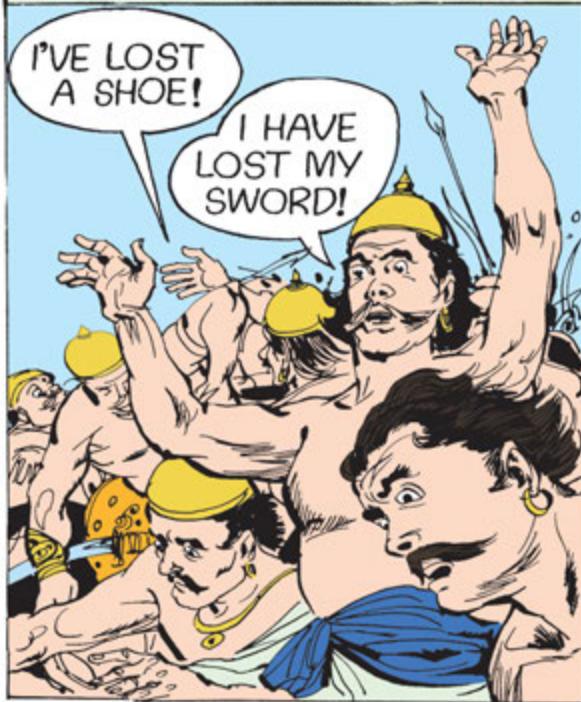
AND A TERRIBLE BATTLE FOLLOWED.



ONE OF THE SOLDIERS HASTENED BACK TO SHATRUGHNA.



AS SHATRUGHNA FELL, RAMA'S ARMY FLED IN DISARRAY.



SOME OF THE SOLDIERS WENT UP TO RAMA.



RAMA WAS DISTURBED.



LAXMANA MARCHED WITH THE ARMY.

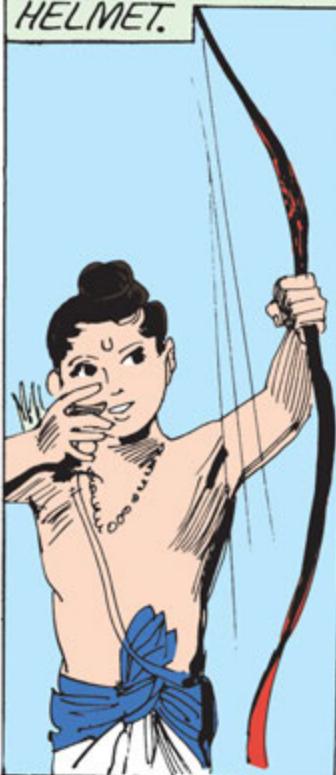


LAXMANA WAS LOST IN THOUGHT.





...WHICH TOOK OFF WITH LAXMANA'S
HELMET.



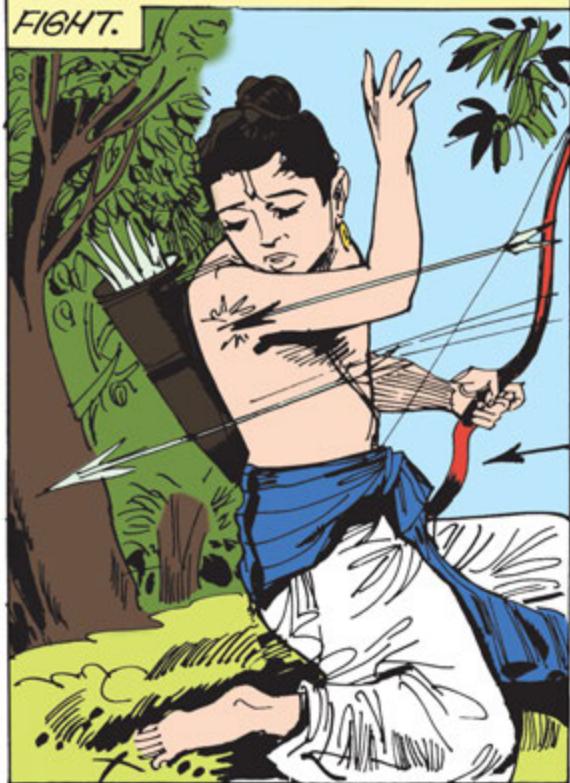
...THE SOLDIERS WHISPERED
AMONGST THEMSELVES.



KUSH AND LAXMANA ENGAGED IN A FURIOUS BATTLE.



KUSH WAS WOUNDED IN THE FIGHT.



ENRAGED, LUV CHALLENGED LAXMANA TO A DUEL.



LUV HAD HIS REVENGE. LAXMANA FELL UNCONSCIOUS.

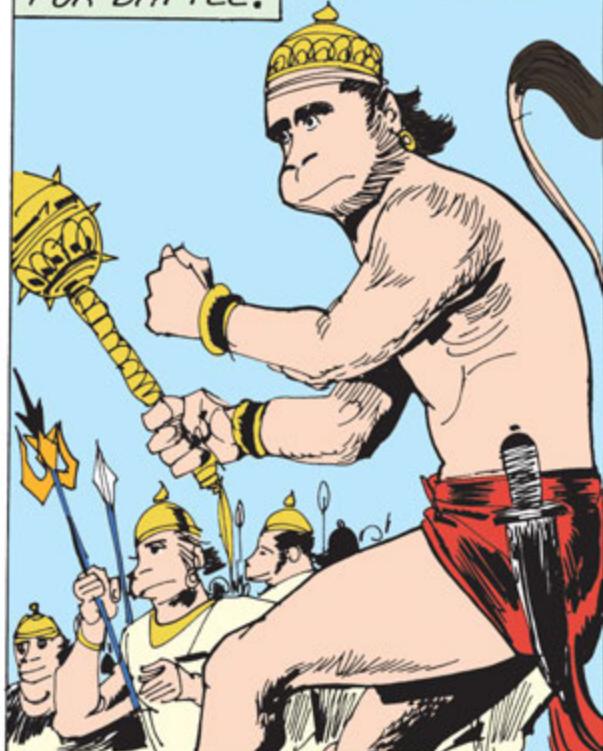


RAMA WAS VERY UPSET WHEN HE HEARD THE NEWS.

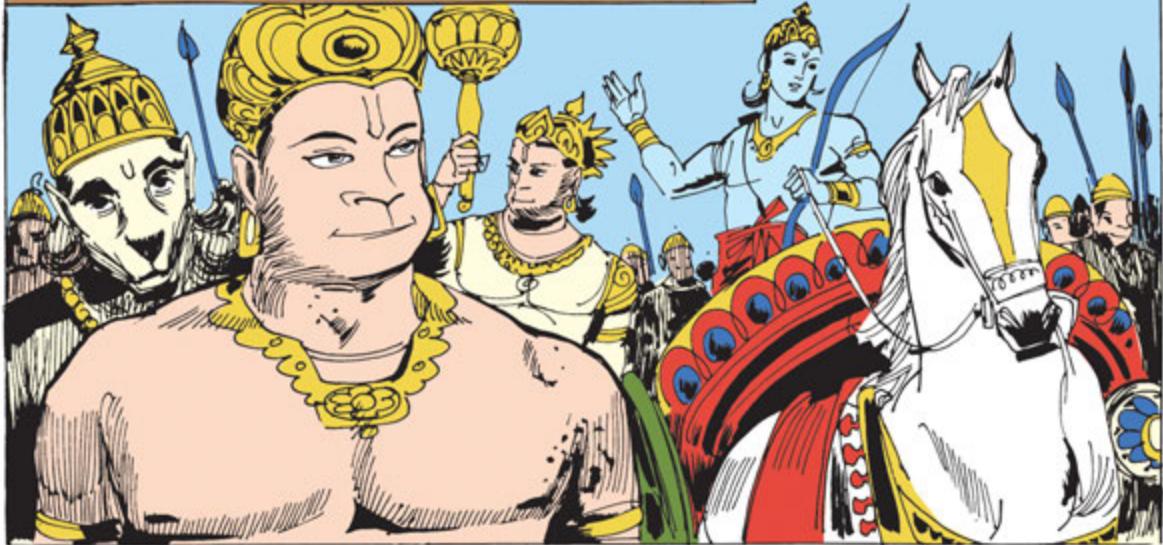
NOW BHARATA,
YOU MUST GO
WITH THE
MONKEY
FORCES.



AND THE MONKEYS PREPARED FOR BATTLE.



HANUMAN ALSO ACCOMPANIED BHARATA.



LUV AND KUSH EXCHANGED MEANINGFUL LOOKS.

SAY, LET'S MAKE MONKEYS OUT OF THESE MONKEYS!

THE SOONER THE BETTER!



INSTANTLY AN ARROW STRUCK HANUMAN'S MACE.



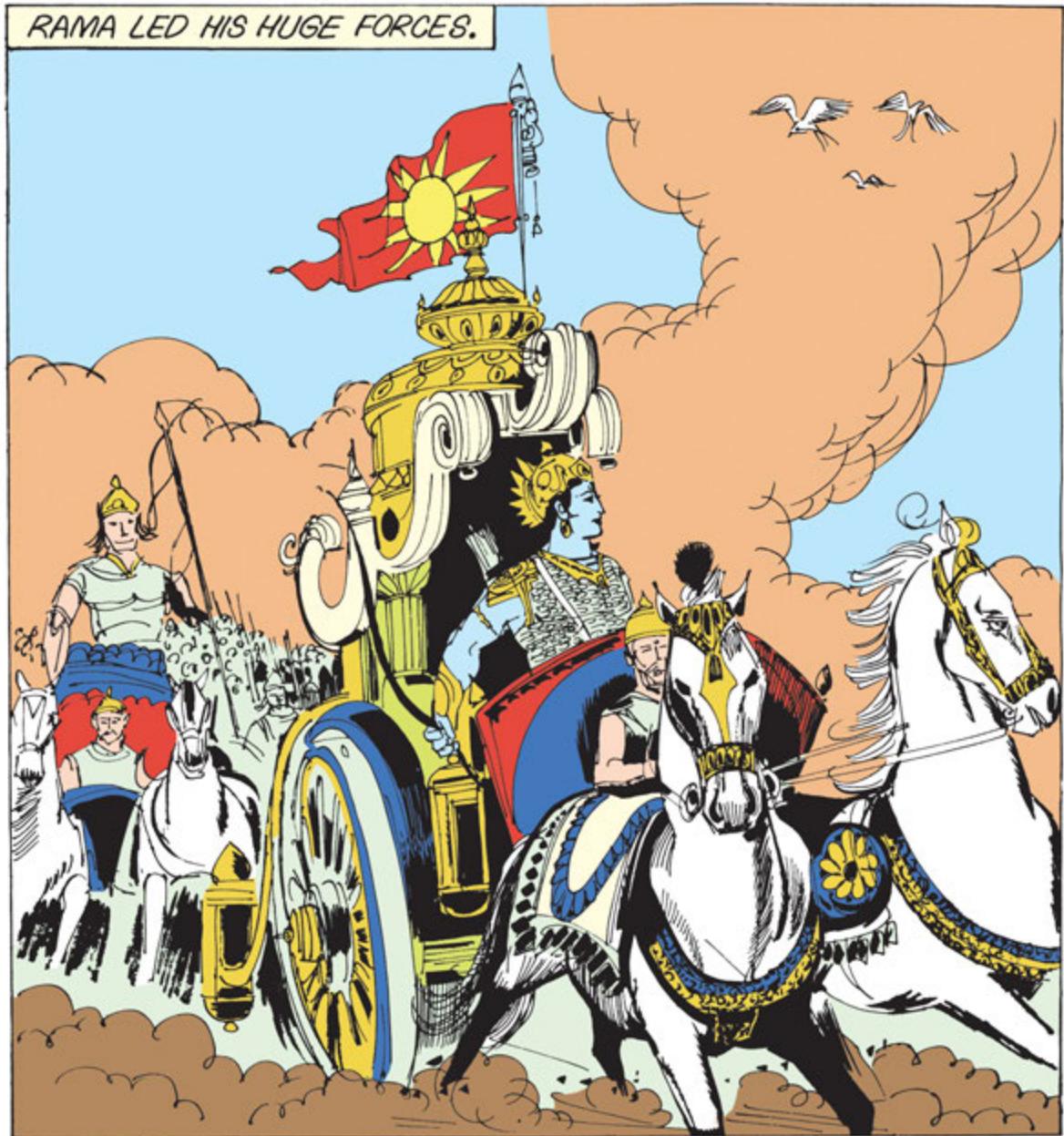
THE MONKEY FORCES WENT INTO ACTION AGAINST LUV AND KUSH.



BHARATA ALSO FELL AND HANUMAN HURRIED BACK TO RAMA.



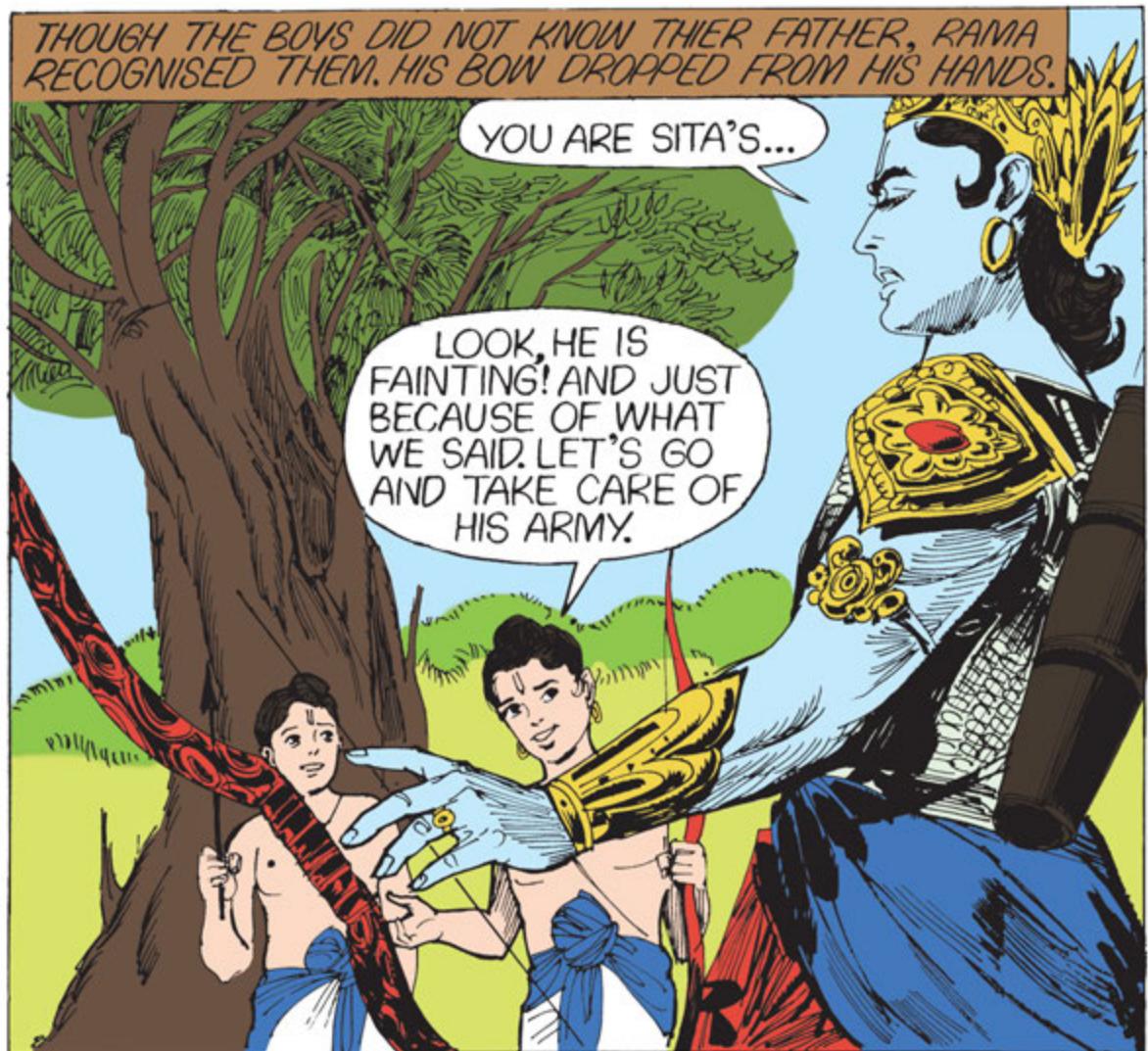
RAMA LED HIS HUGE FORCES.



RAMA DECIDED TO FIND OUT ABOUT THE CHILDREN.



THOUGH THE BOYS DID NOT KNOW THEIR FATHER, RAMA RECOGNISED THEM. HIS BOW DROPPED FROM HIS HANDS.



SOON LUV AND KUSH HAD THE MONKEYS AT THEIR MERCY.



THEY TIED HANUMAN NEAR THE HORSE.



THE MONKEYS DEALT WITH LUV AND KUSH RETURNED TO RAMA.



LET'S TAKE AWAY HIS CROWN.



WITH THE HORSE AND THE CROWN, LUV AND KUSH APPROACHED THEIR MOTHER.

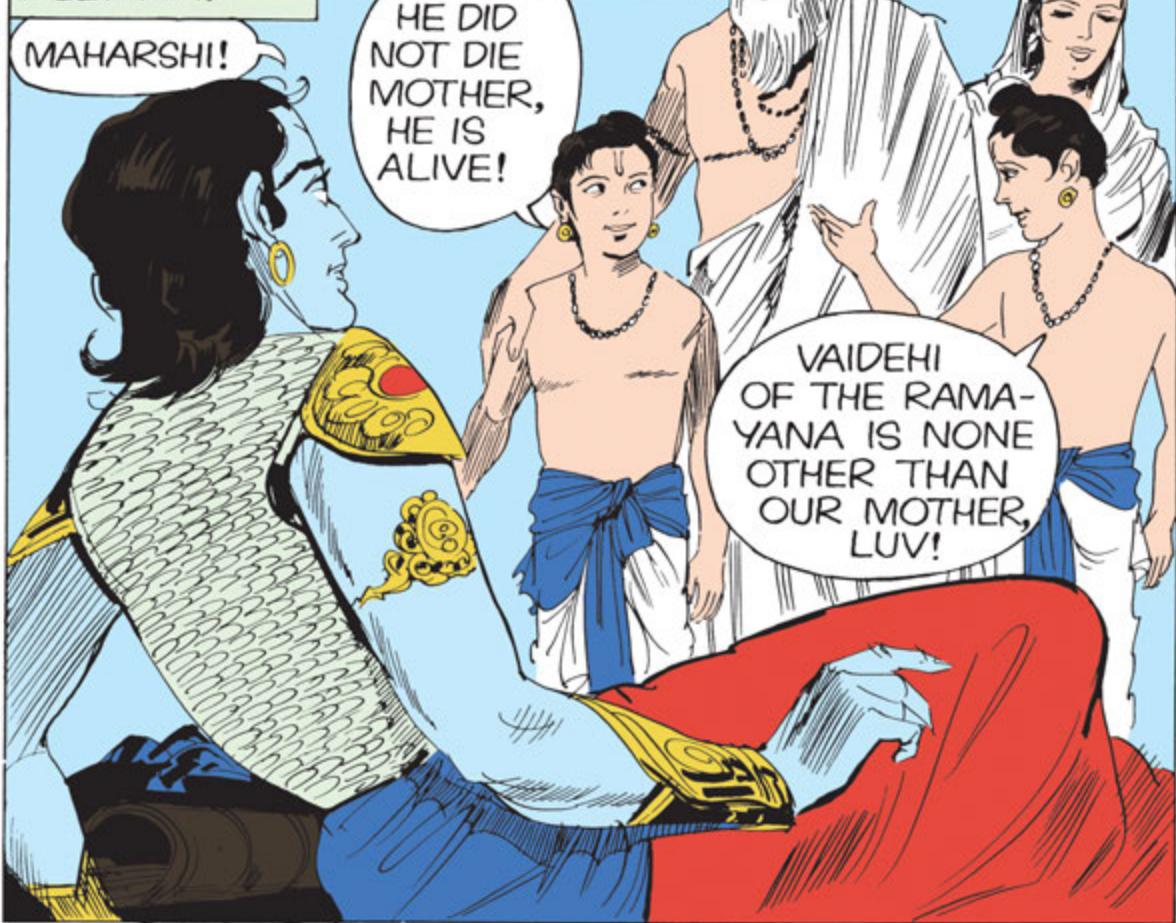


WE HAVE BROUGHT HOME PRECIOUS BOOTY, MOTHER!

HEAVENS! NO! DID YOU KILL HIM?



AS RAMA RECOVERED CONSCIOUSNESS VALMIKI BROUGHT LUV AND KUSH TO MEET HIM.



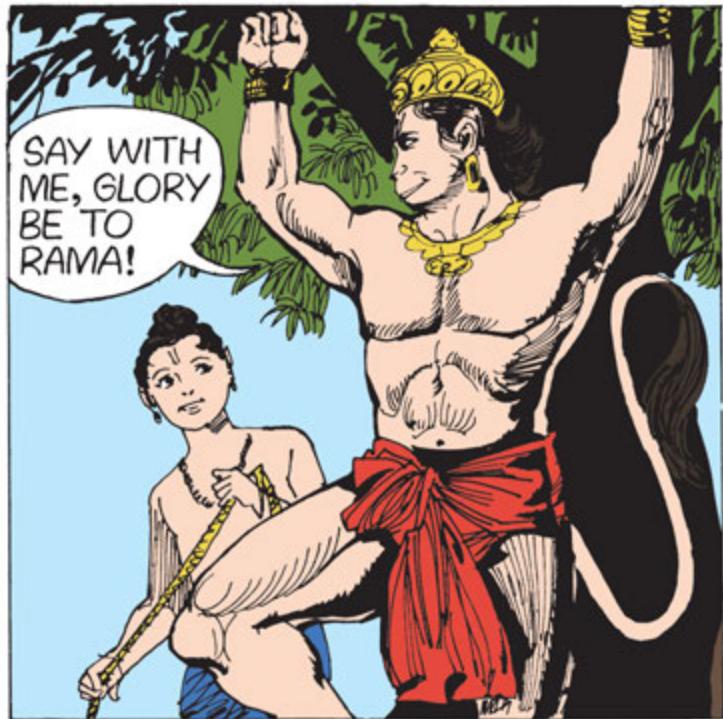
MAHARSHI!

HE DID NOT DIE MOTHER, HE IS ALIVE!

HERE ARE YOUR SONS, RAMA!

VAIDEHI OF THE RAMAYANA IS NONE OTHER THAN OUR MOTHER, LUV!

HANUMAN WAS STILL TIED UP.



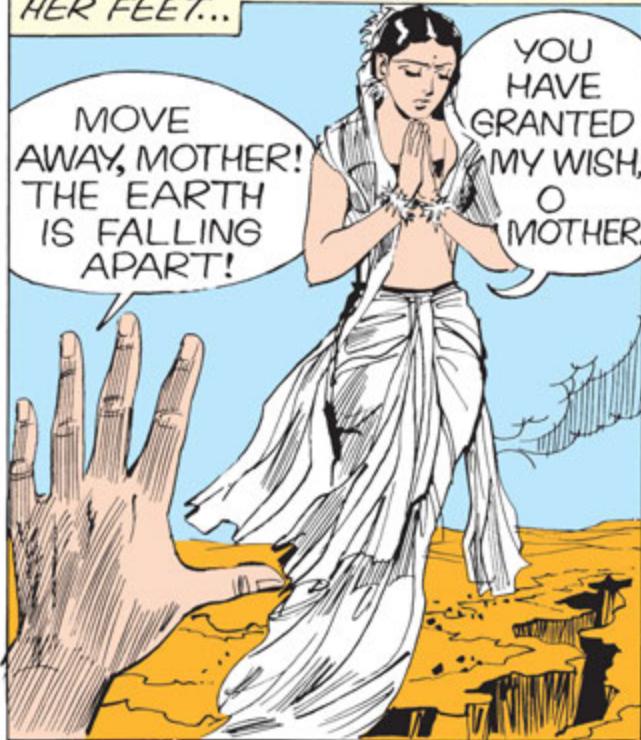
VALMIKI BROUGHT SITA FORWARD.



SITA COULD NOT BEAR THE HUMILIATION ANY MORE.



...AND THE EARTH PARTED UNDER HER FEET...

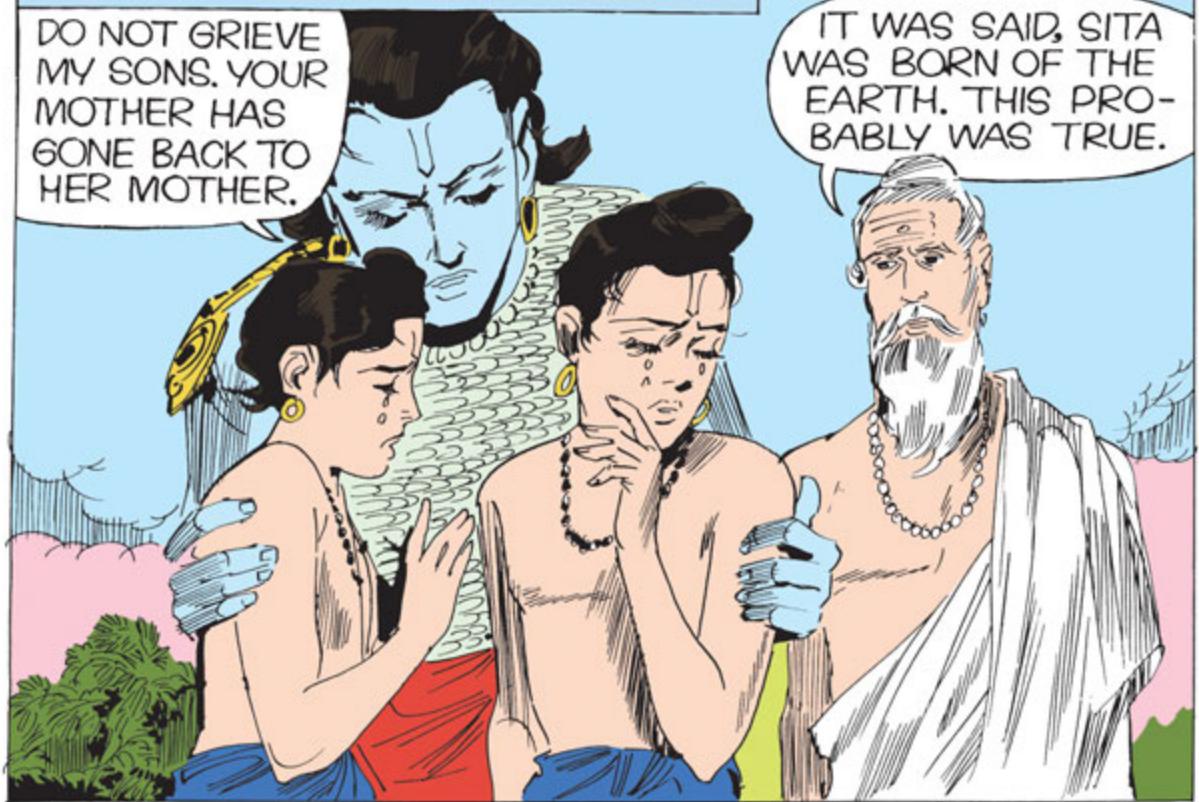


...AND SITA BEGAN TO SINK IN.



RAMA EMBRACED HIS ANGUISHED SONS.

DO NOT GRIEVE MY SONS. YOUR MOTHER HAS GONE BACK TO HER MOTHER.



WITH HIS SONS AND HIS ARMY,
RAMA RETURNED TO AYODHYA.

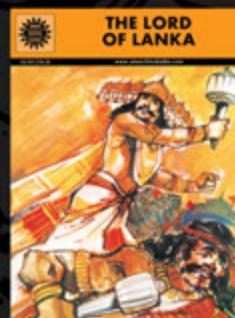
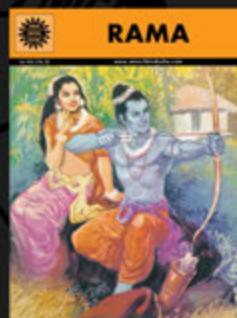
THE BOYS
PROVED
THEIR WORTH!
ONE DAY
THEY WILL
MAKE GREAT
RULERS!



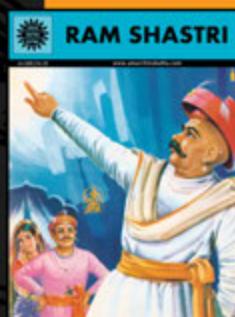
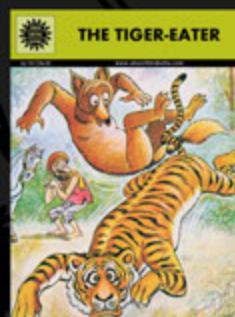
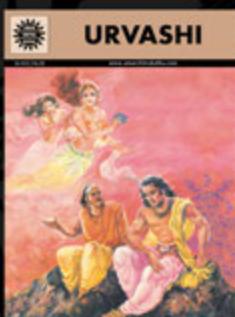
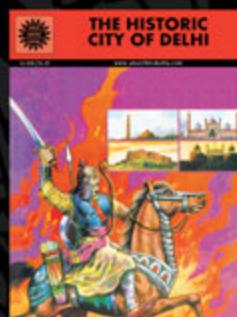
THE SONS OF RAMA

No one dared challenge the might of King Rama of Ayodhya. Famous for his valour and skill as a warrior, he confidently set out to become the King of the World. But then, his forces came up against two little boys roaming the forest wilds. Luv and Kush laughed at Rama's powerful weapons and knocked his seasoned generals off their war chariots. Little did the king realise that this young duo could effortlessly capture his soldiers as well as his heart.

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- NARAYAN MURTHY, CHIEF MENTOR, INFOSYS

