



Kumbhakarna





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KUMBHAKARNA



KUMBHAKARNA WAS THE YOUNGER BROTHER OF RAVANA, THE TEN-HEADED RAKSHASA KING OF LANKA. HE WAS STRONG, BUT SAD TO SAY, HE WAS A BIG BULLY. HE LOVED TO FRIGHTEN AND HURT THOSE WHO WERE WEAKER THAN HIM.

RAVANA, DO YOU KNOW WHAT I'VE DONE TODAY? I WALKED INTO THE DANDAKA FOREST AND FRIGHTENED THE SAGES THERE! HA! HA! HA! YOU SHOULD HAVE SEEN THEM RUN!

WELL DONE,
KUMBHAKARNA!
I AM PLEASED.

BUT WHAT KUMBHAKARNA HAD DONE MADE HIS YOUNGER BROTHER VIBHISHANA UNHAPPY.

KUMBHAKARNA, WHAT HARM HAVE THOSE SAGES DONE YOU?
WHY DON'T YOU LEAVE THEM ALONE?



KUMBHAKARNA



WHEN KUMBHAKARNA TOLD RAVANA WHAT HE HAD DONE—

NO ONE CAN BEAT YOU, KUMBHAKARNA. YOU'RE THE MIGHTIEST OF THE MIGHTY.

THEN WHY DON'T WE CONQUER THE THREE WORLDS?

NOT YET. WE'RE STRONG AND POWERFUL. BUT WE MUST PRAY TO LORD BRAHMA AND GET MORE STRENGTH AND MORE POWER.

THEN LET'S DO SO.

WHAT ABOUT YOU, VIBHISHANA?

I TOO WANT TO PRAY TO LORD BRAHMA, BUT FOR A DIFFERENT REASON.

THE THREE BROTHERS WENT TO A LONELY, QUIET PLACE AND BEGAN TO PLEASE BRAHMA BY THINKING ONLY OF HIM AND NOTHING ELSE.

RAVANA, YOU WILL BE THE LORD OF THE THREE WORLDS.

BRAHMA WAS PLEASED. HE APPEARED BEFORE THEM.



KUMBHAKARNA

WHEN INDRA HEARD THAT, HE WAS WORRIED.

BEFORE BRAHMA GIVES KUMBHAKARNA A BOON, I MUST DO SOMETHING.

HE WENT TO SARASWATI, THE GODDESS OF SPEECH.

O SARASWATI,
ONLY YOU CAN
SAVE US NOW.

HOW CAN I
HELP YOU?

WHEN KUMBHAKARNA ASKS FOR A BOON, WILL YOU CAST A SPELL ON HIS TONGUE?

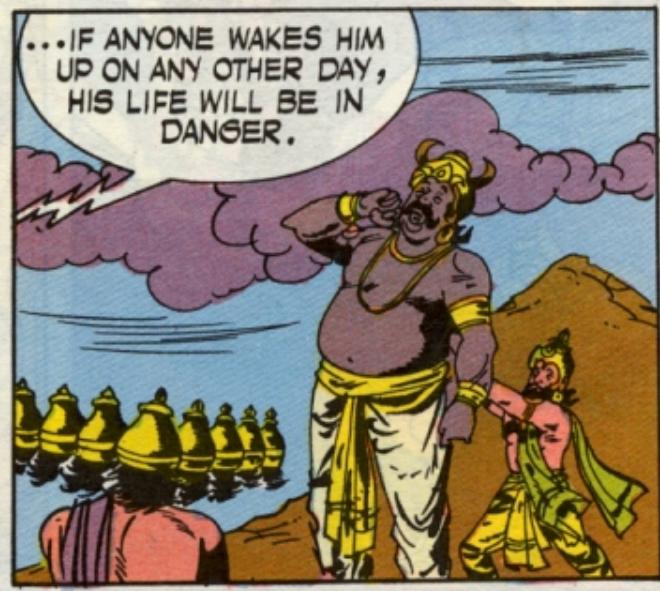
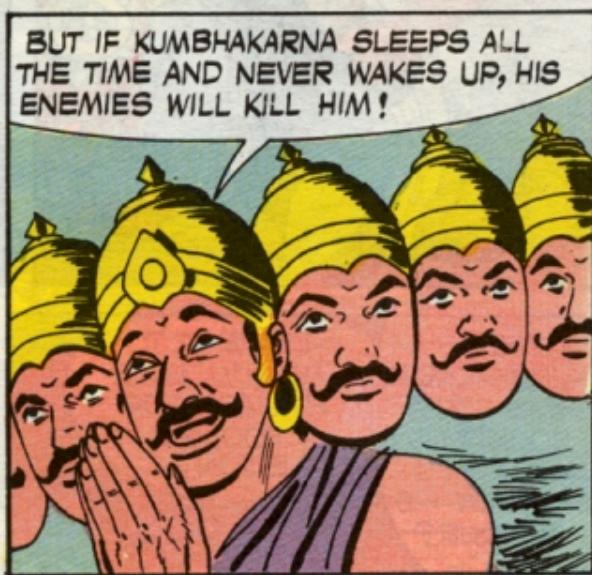
LEAVE IT TO ME. I'LL MAKE HIM ASK FOR A FOOLISH BOON.

MEANWHILE VIBHISHANA TOO HAD BEEN GIVEN A BOON. NOW IT WAS KUMBHAKARNA'S TURN.

WHAT DO YOU WANT, KUMBHAKARNA?

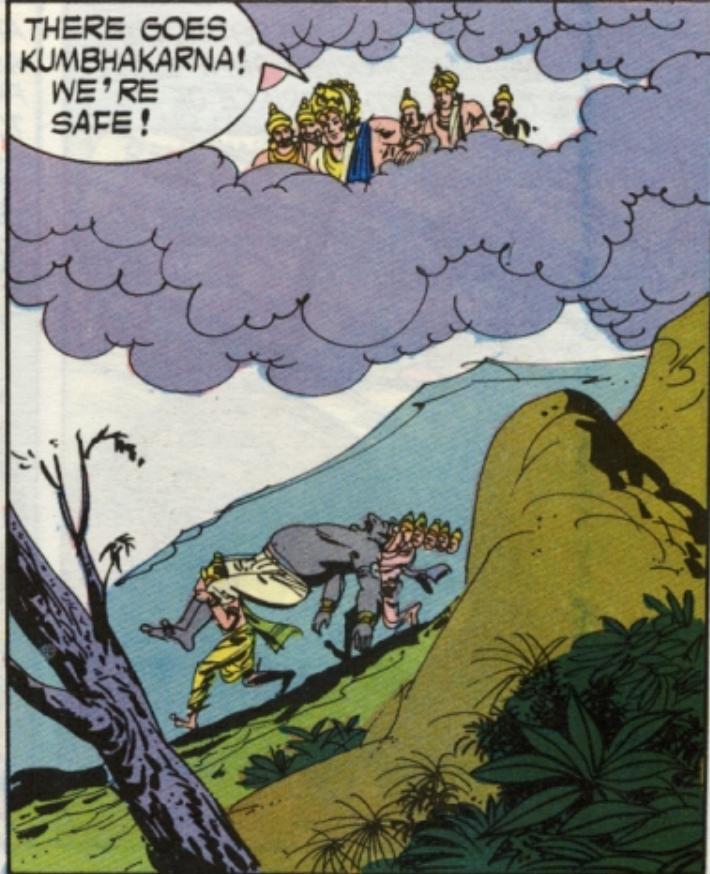
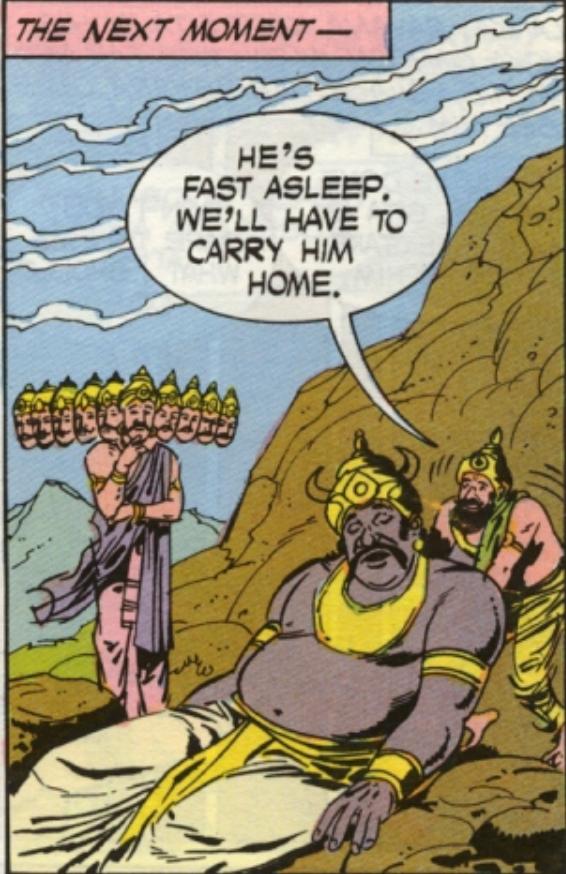


BEFORE KUMBHAKARNA COULD SPEAK, SARASWATI CAST HER SPELL!



KUMBHAKARNA

THE NEXT MOMENT—



RAVANA AND VIBHISHANA TOOK KUMBHAKARNA TO HIS PALACE AND GENTLY LAID HIM ON HIS BED.

RAVANA, AREN'T YOU SAD ABOUT KUMBHAKARNA?

NOT REALLY. ON THE DAYS HE WAKES UP, HE WILL DO WHAT OTHERS COULDN'T IN A HUNDRED YEARS.



BRAHMA'S BOON TO RAVANA ALSO CAME TRUE. HE SOON BECAME THE MASTER OF THE THREE WORLDS.

EVEN THE SUN CAN'T SHINE WITHOUT MY PERMISSION.

DON'T BOAST, RAVANA. USE YOUR STRENGTH FOR THE GOOD OF OTHERS. A GOOD KING SHOULD BE KIND, HUMBLE AND JUST.



INSTEAD OF TAKING HIS BROTHER'S ADVICE, RAVANA CARRIED AWAY SITA, THE WIFE OF RAMA, THE PRINCE OF AYODHYA.



AT LANKA, RAVANA KEPT SITA IN HIS ASHOKA GARDEN WHICH WAS FAR AWAY FROM HIS PALACE. VIBHISHANA CAME TO SEE HIM.

WHAT YOU'VE DONE IS WRONG. SITA IS RAMA'S WIFE. TAKE HER BACK TO HIM.

DON'T YOU DARE TELL ME WHAT I SHOULD DO!



IF YOU DON'T TAKE SITA BACK TO RAMA, I'LL GO AWAY FROM LANKA.

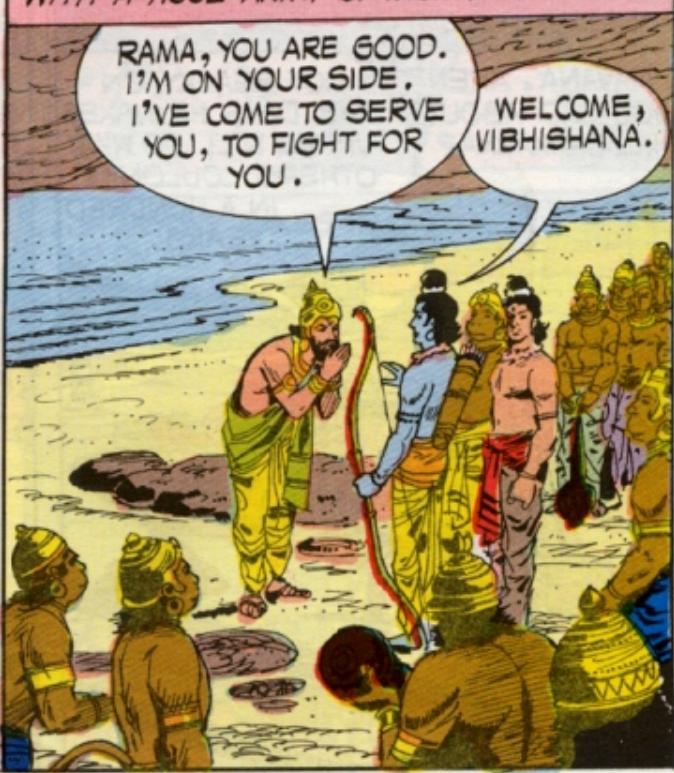
AND I WON'T STOP YOU!



VIBHISHANA LEFT AND WENT TO RAMA WHO WAS MARCHING TOWARDS LANKA WITH A HUGE ARMY OF MONKEYS.

RAMA, YOU ARE GOOD.
I'M ON YOUR SIDE.
I'VE COME TO SERVE
YOU, TO FIGHT FOR
YOU.

WELCOME,
VIBHISHANA.



KUMBHAKARNA

WITH THE HELP OF THE MONKEYS,
RAMA BUILT A BRIDGE ACROSS THE
SEA TO LANKA. HIS BROTHER
LAKSHMANA WAS VERY HAPPY.

WE'LL SOON DEFEAT
RAVANA AND RESCUE
SITA.

IT WILL BE
DIFFICULT. BUT
WE'LL SUCCEED.



AT LANKA —

MY LORD,
RAMA AND HIS
MONKEYS ARE
CROSSING THE
SEA. THEY'LL
SOON BE ON OUR
SHORES.

LET
BHASMALOCHANA
FIGHT THEM
BACK.

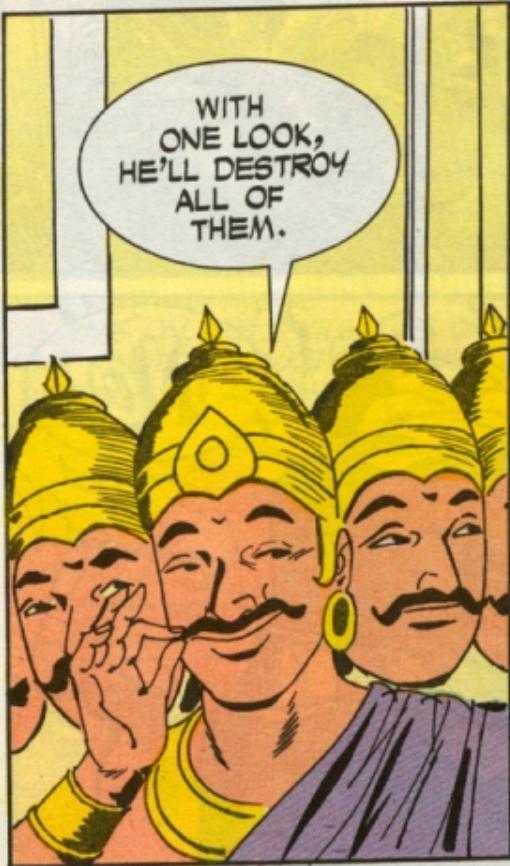


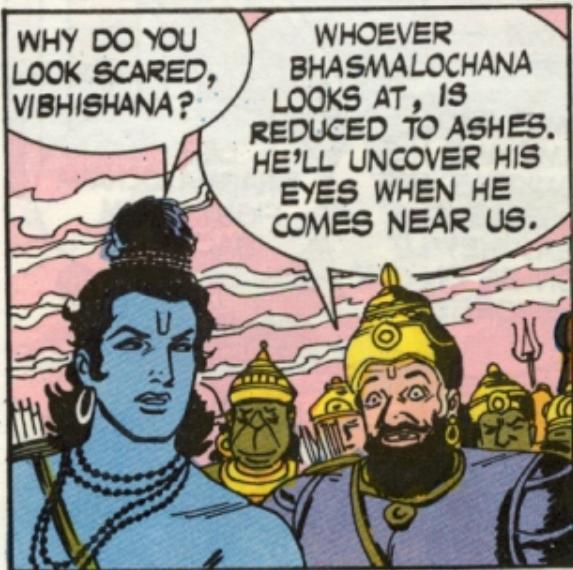
WHEN RAMA AND HIS ARMY REACHED THE
SHORES OF LANKA —

WITH
ONE LOOK,
HE'LL DESTROY
ALL OF
THEM.

WHO IS THAT STRANGE
WARRIOR RIDING
TOWARDS US? WHY
HAS HE COVERED
HIS EYES?

IT'S
BHASMALOCHANA!





RAMA QUICKLY CREATED MILLIONS OF MIRRORS AND AIMED THEM AT BHASMA LOCHANA.



BEFORE BHASMA LOCHANA COULD UNCOVER HIS EYES, THE MIRRORS HAD SURROUNDED HIM.



WHEN THE TERRIBLE RAKSHASA OPENED HIS EYES, HE FELT HUNDREDS OF EYES BURNING INTO HIM. THEY WERE THE REFLECTIONS OF HIS OWN FIERY EYES!



AND THE NEXT MOMENT, BHASMALOCHANA WAS BURNT TO ASHES.

WICKED
BHASMALOCHANA
IS DEAD! VICTORY
TO RAMA!



AFTER THAT, MANY RAKSHASAS CAME TO FIGHT RAMA. BUT ALL OF THEM WERE KILLED BY HIM. AT LAST RAVANA HIMSELF CAME.

RAVANA, GET READY TO DIE. NO ONE CAN SAVE YOU!



RIDING ON THE SHOULDERS OF HANUMAN, THE MIGHTY MONKEY-WARRIOR, RAMA LET FLY HIS ARROWS.

RAVANA TOO TOOK AIM...

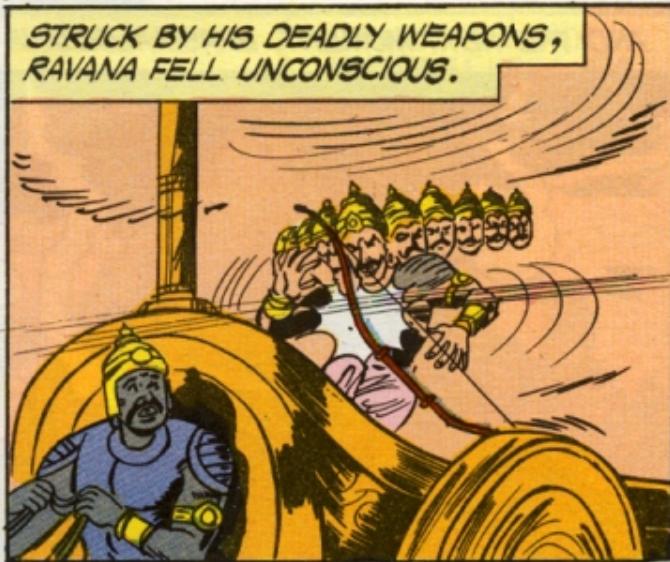


...AND SHOT AT RAMA.

BUT RAMA WAS TOO
QUICK FOR HIM.

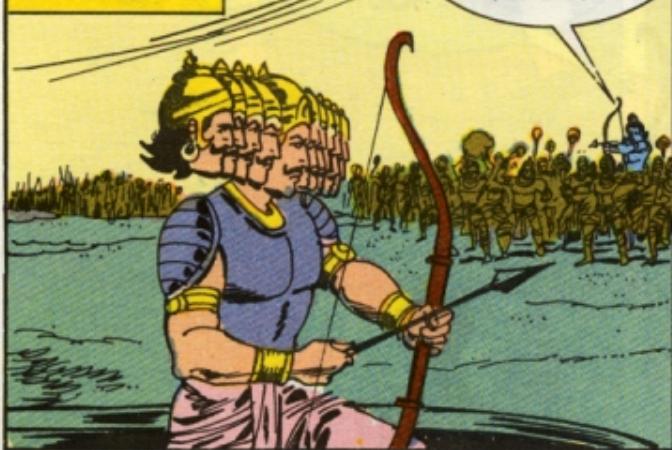


STRUCK BY HIS DEADLY WEAPONS,
RAVANA FELL UNCONSCIOUS.



AFTER A WHILE, HOWEVER,
HE WAS ON HIS FEET
AGAIN. BUT—

TAKE CARE OF
YOUR CROWNS,
RAVANA.

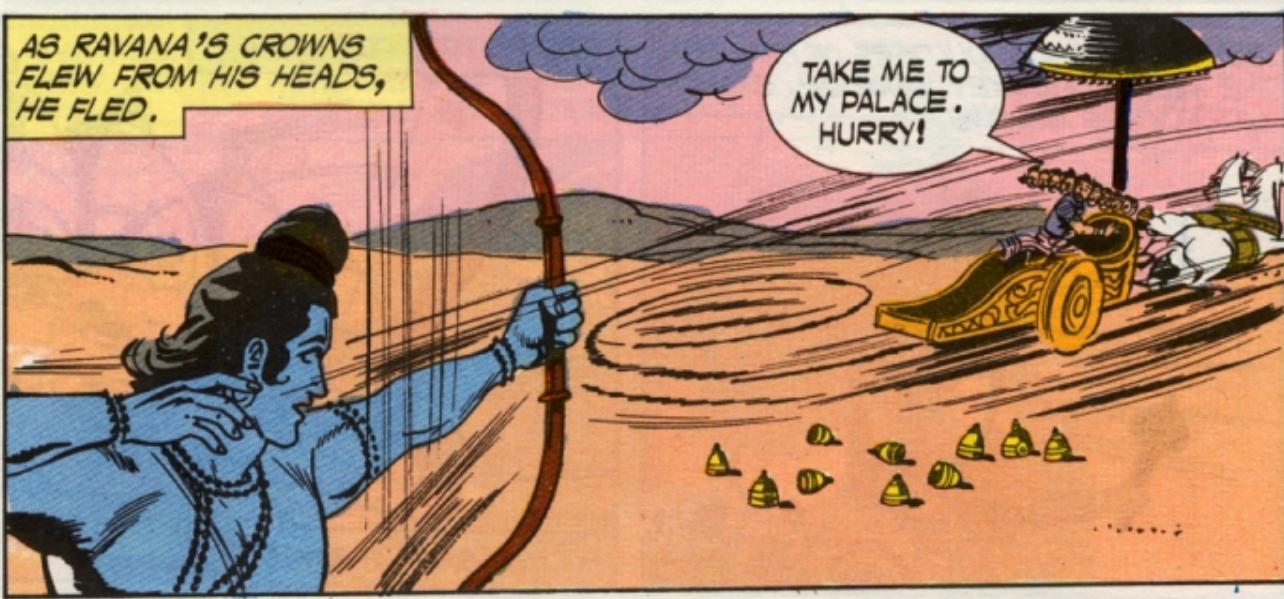


THE NEXT MOMENT RAMA FLUNG
A CRESCENT-SHAPED WEAPON AT
HIM.

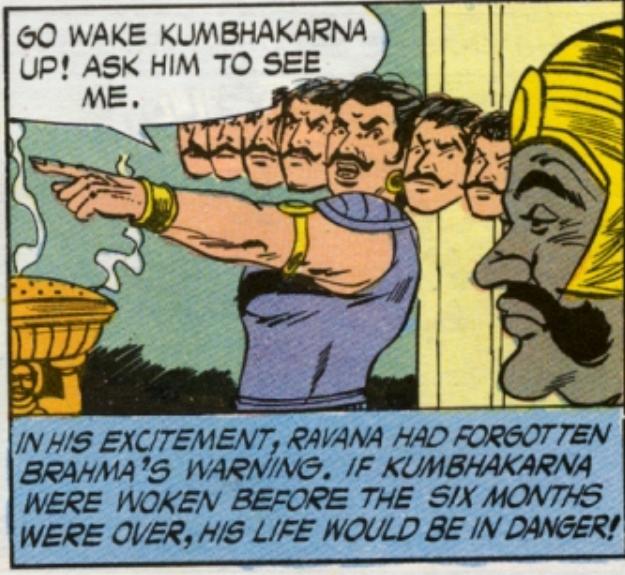
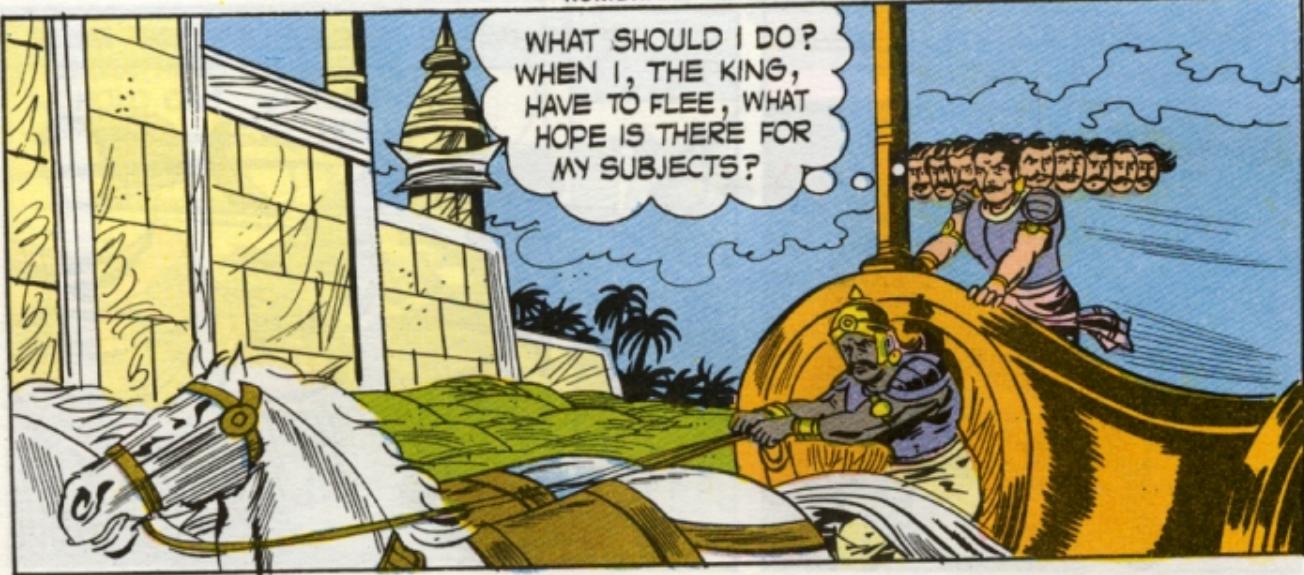


AS RAVANA'S CROWNS
FLEW FROM HIS HEADS,
HE FLED.

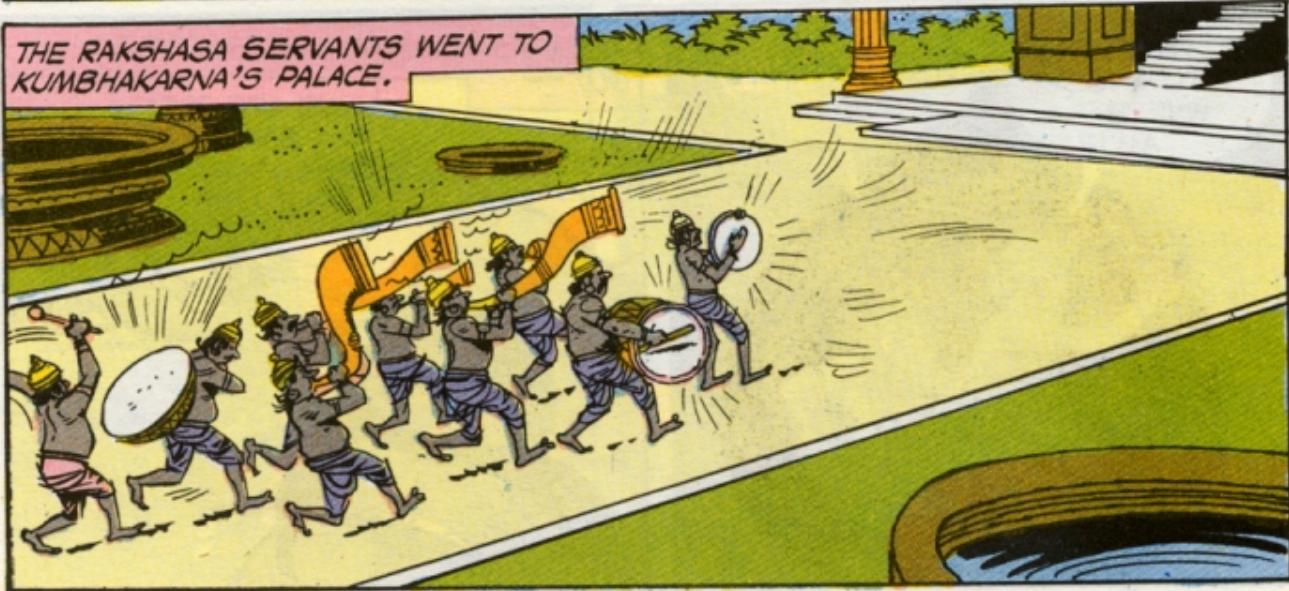
TAKE ME TO
MY PALACE.
HURRY!



KUMBHAKARNA



THE RAKSHASA SERVANTS WENT TO
KUMBHAKARNA'S PALACE.

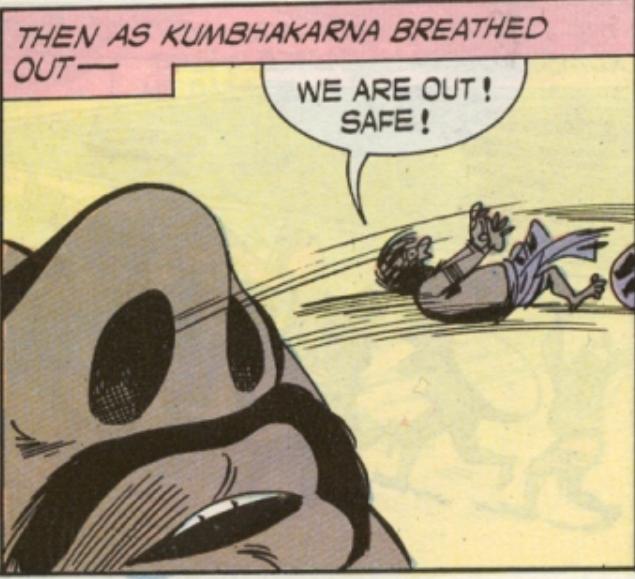
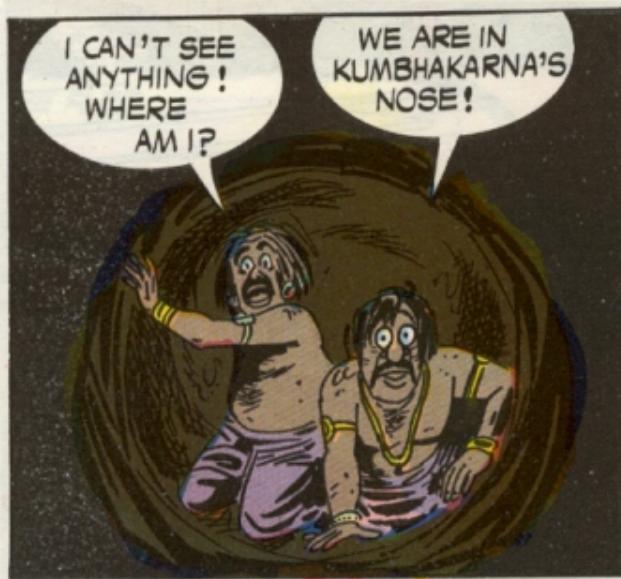


KUMBHAKARNA WAS FAST ASLEEP.
AS HE BREATHED OUT...

....THE RAKSHASAS WERE SWEPT OFF THEIR
FEET...



...AND AS HE BREATHED IN, THEY WERE PULLED TOWARDS HIS NOSTRILS.



KUMBHAKARNA

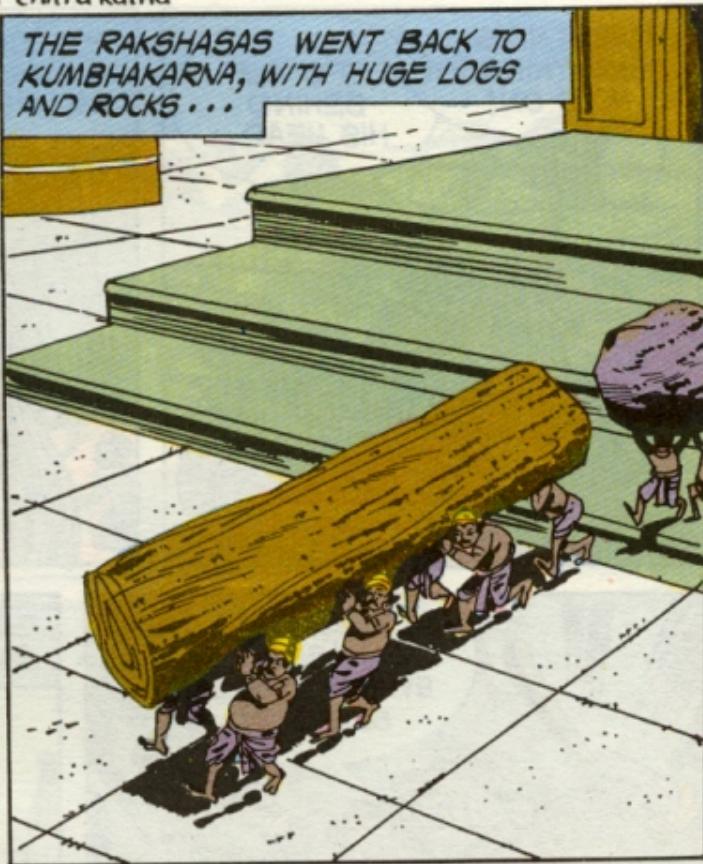


THE RAKSHASAS WENT BACK TO RAVANA.

ALL OUR
EFFORTS HAVE FAILED.
KUMBHAKARNA IS
STILL ASLEEP.

TRY
BEATING
HIM.

THE RAKSHASAS WENT BACK TO KUMBHAKARNA, WITH HUGE LOGS AND ROCKS ...



... WHICH THEY FLUNG AT THE SLEEPING RAKSHASA.



THEN THEY BROUGHT ELEPHANTS AND MADE THEM WALK ON HIM.

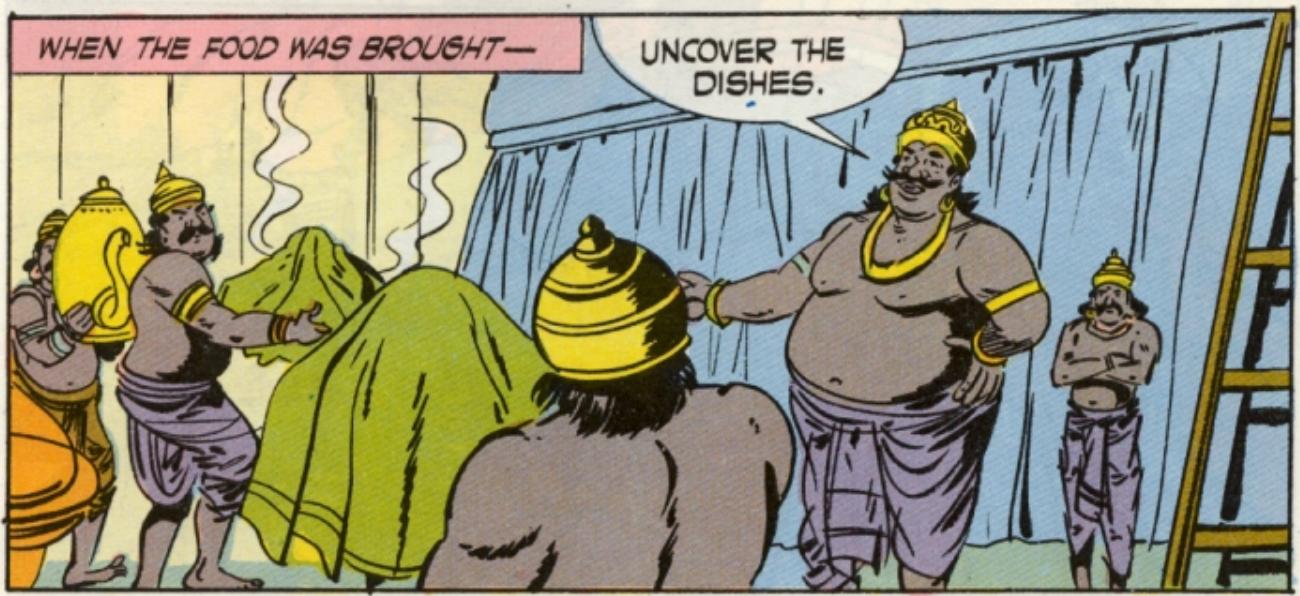
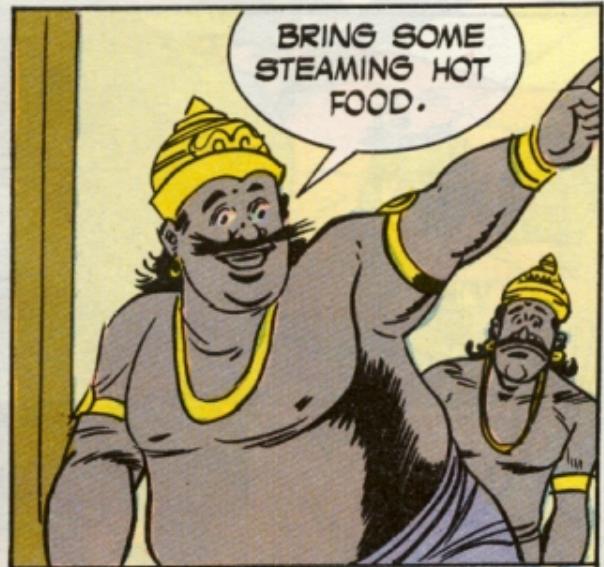


HOURS LATER —

THE ELEPHANTS
ARE TIRED.
THEY NEED
REST.

TAKE THEM
AWAY! LET'S
DRAG HIM OUT
OF BED.

WE'LL HAVE
TO THINK OF
SOMETHING
ELSE.

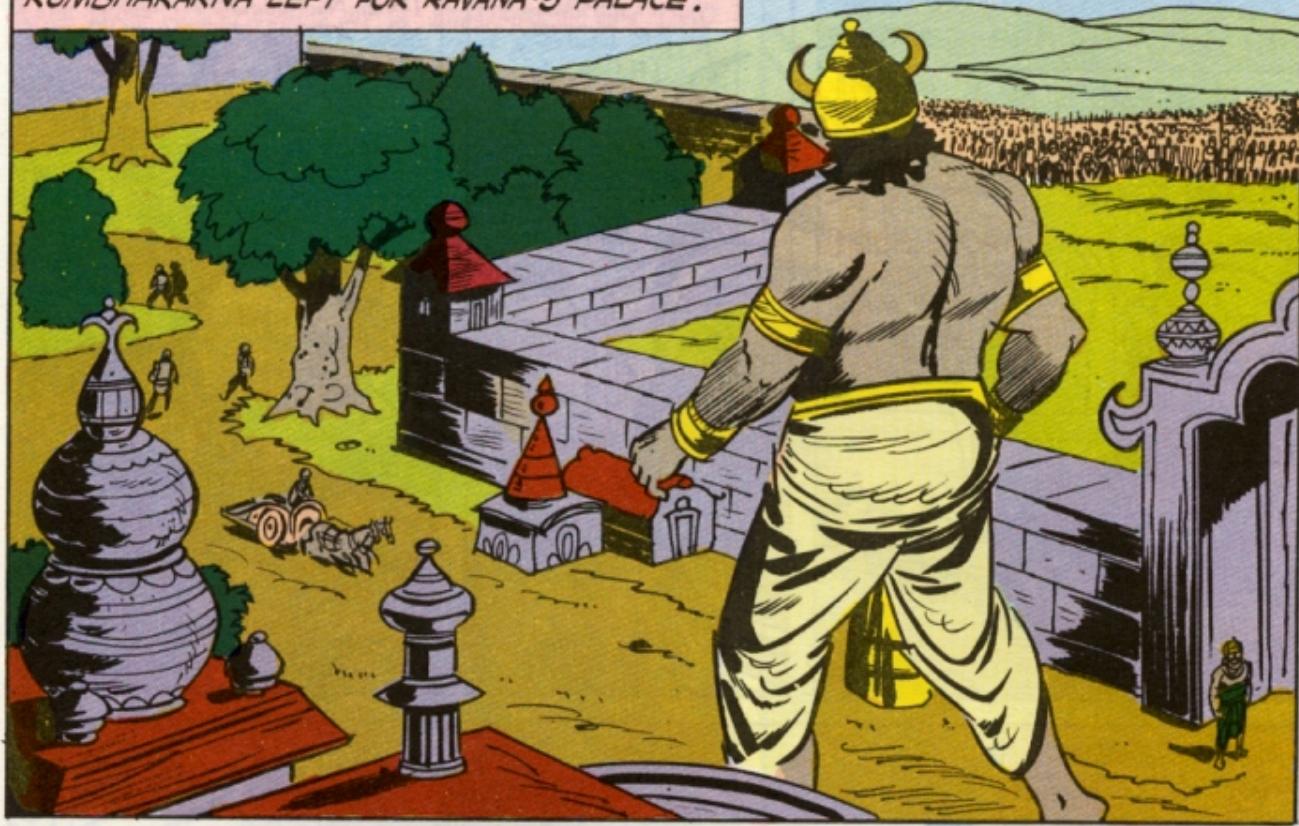


THE NEXT MOMENT—

HO! HUM!**YAWN**WHO DARES
DISTURB MY
SLUMBER?THE LORD OF
LANKA WISHES
TO SEE YOU.I'M HUNGRY.
I MUST WASH AND
EAT, FIRST.THE RAKSHASAS QUICKLY
SET HUGE PILES OF FOOD
BEFORE HIM.



KUMBHAKARNA LEFT FOR RAVANA'S PALACE.



WHAT CAN I
DO FOR
YOU?

WHO ARE YOU
AFRAID OF? WHY
THIS BATTLE WITH
MEN AND
MONKEYS?

IT'S A
LONG
STORY...



RAVANA TOLD KUMBHAKARNA ALL ABOUT HIS WAR WITH RAMA.

RAMA SEEMS TO BE A GREAT MAN. WHAT IF HE'S LORD VISHNU IN HUMAN FORM?

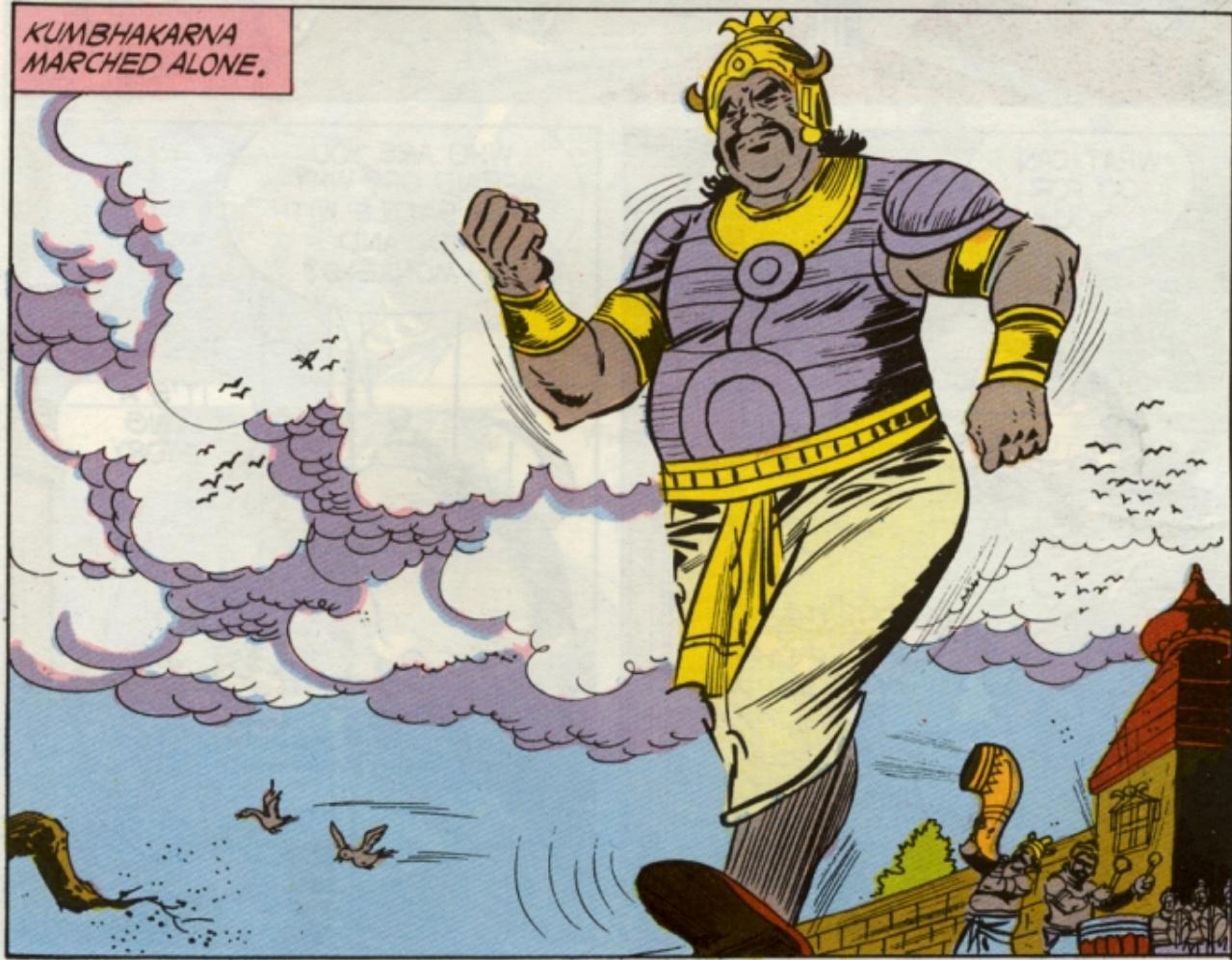
IMPOSSIBLE! HE'S ONLY A CUNNING MAN. HE MUST BE KILLED.

IT SHALL BE DONE. I'LL KILL OUR ENEMIES AND PROTECT OUR CITY.

I'VE NO DOUBT ABOUT IT. YOU ARE MIGHTY AND FEARLESS. I'M SURE YOU'LL SUCCEED.



KUMBHAKARNA MARCHED ALONE.



HE WAS FOLLOWED AT A DISTANCE BY TWO THOUSAND SLAVES CARRYING A HEAVY IRON ROD, THE WEAPON OF THE MIGHTY RAKSHASA.



THE EARTH SHOOK UNDER HIM...



...AND THE WAVES ROSE HIGH IN THE OCEAN.



THE MONKEY-WARRIORS TREMBLED WITH FEAR.



NEELA, A MIGHTY MONKEY, UPROOTED A HUGE SAL TREE...



... RAN TOWARDS KUMBHAKARNA...



... AND HURLED IT AT HIM.



BUT IT WAS THE TREE THAT BROKE INTO BITS!



KUMBHAKARNA

SUGREEVA, THE MONKEY-KING,
CHALLENGED KUMBHAKARNA
TO A FIGHT.

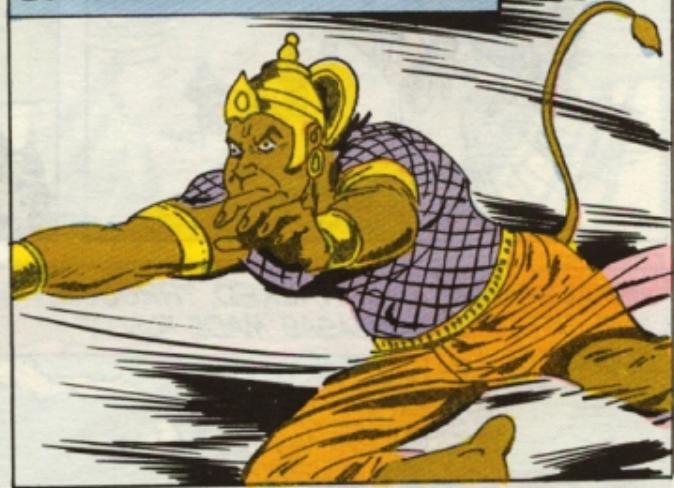
HEY! KUMBHAKARNA,
WHY DON'T YOU FIGHT
WITH ME? I'LL KILL
YOU WITH ONE
BLOW.



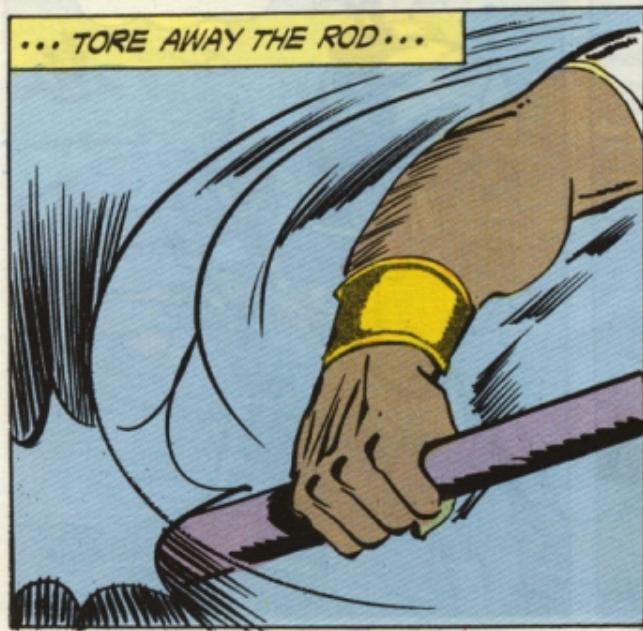
KUMBHAKARNA HELD OUT HIS HAND
FOR THE MIGHTY IRON ROD.



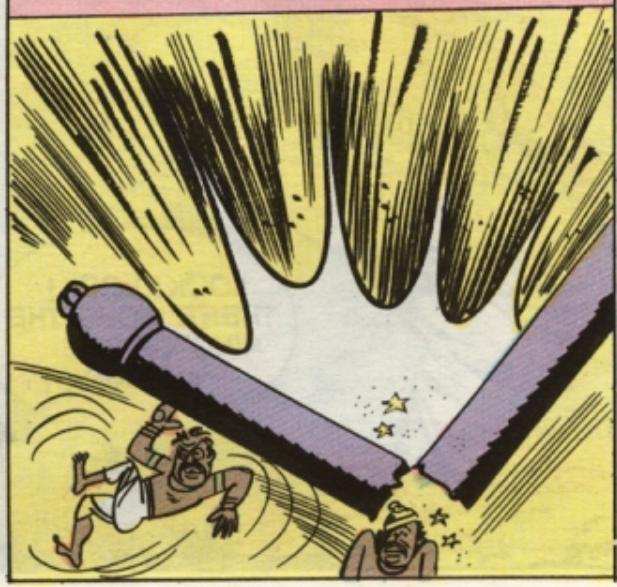
BUT SUGREEVA SPRANG UP...



...TORE AWAY THE ROD...



...AND DASHED IT TO THE GROUND.



THE NEXT MOMENT KUMBHAKARNA
PICKED HIM UP...



... AND MARCHED OFF TOWARDS
RAVANA'S PALACE.



AS KUMBHAKARNA WALKED THROUGH
THE CITY, THE RAKSHASAS MADE FUN OF
SUGREEVA.



I MUST
SAVE MYSELF
SOMEHOW!



KUMBHAKARNA

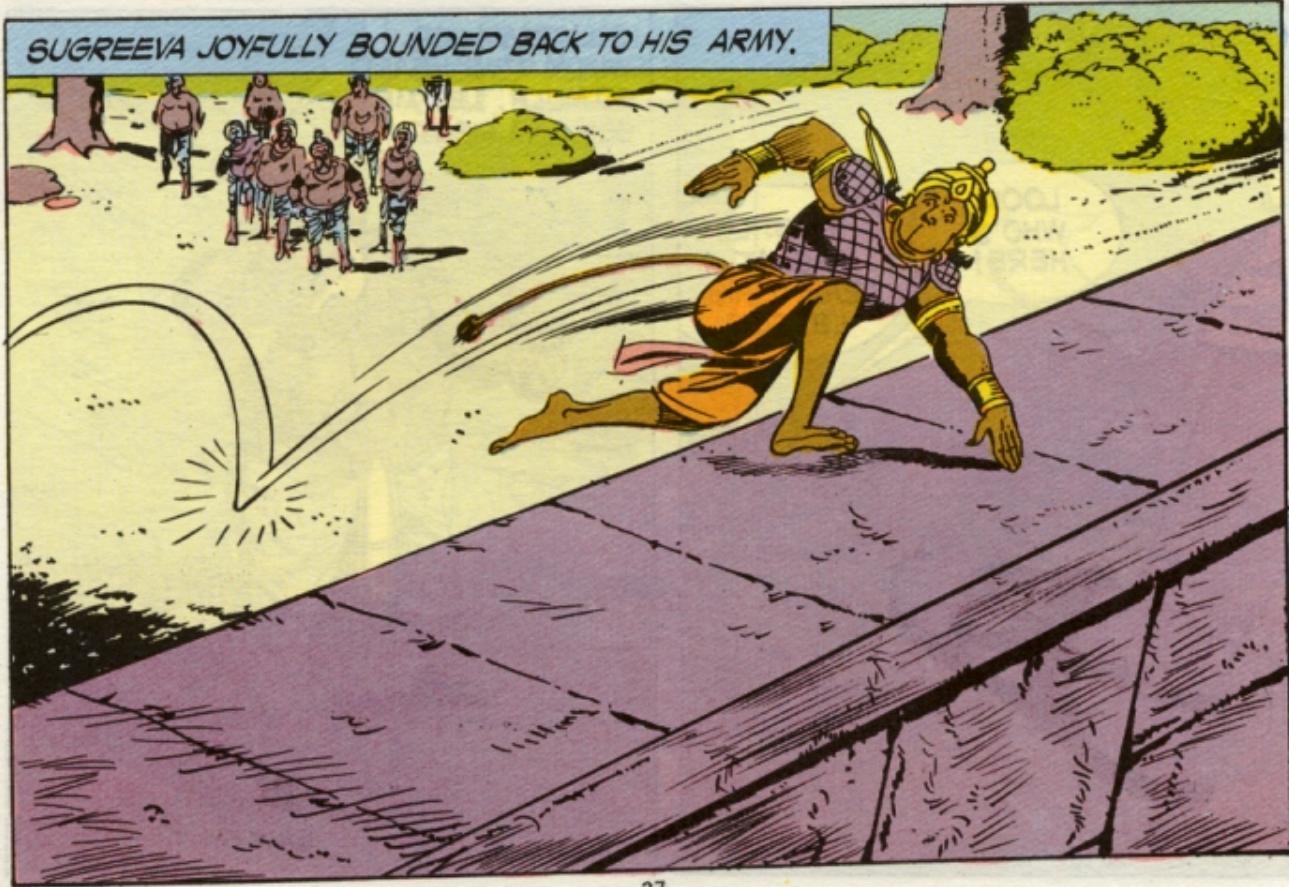
SUDDENLY, SUGREEVA TORE OFF KUMBHAKARNA'S EAR.



KUMBHAKARNA SHRIEKED AND FLUNG HIM AWAY.



SUGREEVA JOYFULLY BOUNDED BACK TO HIS ARMY.



KUMBHAKARNA WAS FILLED WITH SHAME.

THE GREAT KUMBHAKARNA
OVERPOWERED BY A MERE
MONKEY! OH, THE
SHAME OF IT!



I SHALL GO BACK
AND DEVOUR EVERY
MONKEY ON THE
BATTLEFIELD.



LOOK,
WHO'S
HERE!

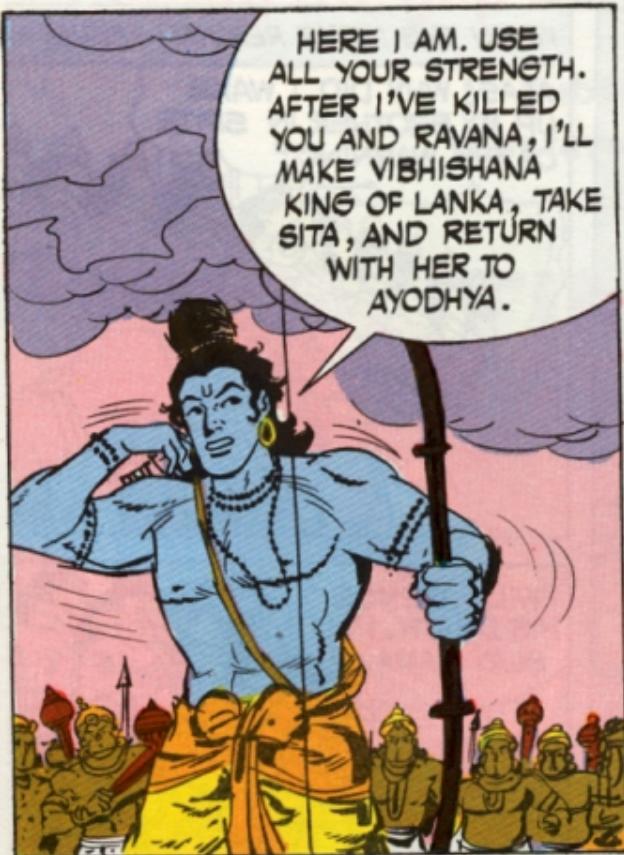
HE STILL
HASN'T
LEARNT HIS
LESSON.



CALL RAMA, OF
WHOM I'VE HEARD
SO MUCH, LET ME
SEE HIM FIGHT.



KUMBHAKARNA



THE ARROW FOUND ITS MARK.



AND KUMBHAKARNA FELL DEAD.

WHEN THE NEWS REACHED RAVANA—

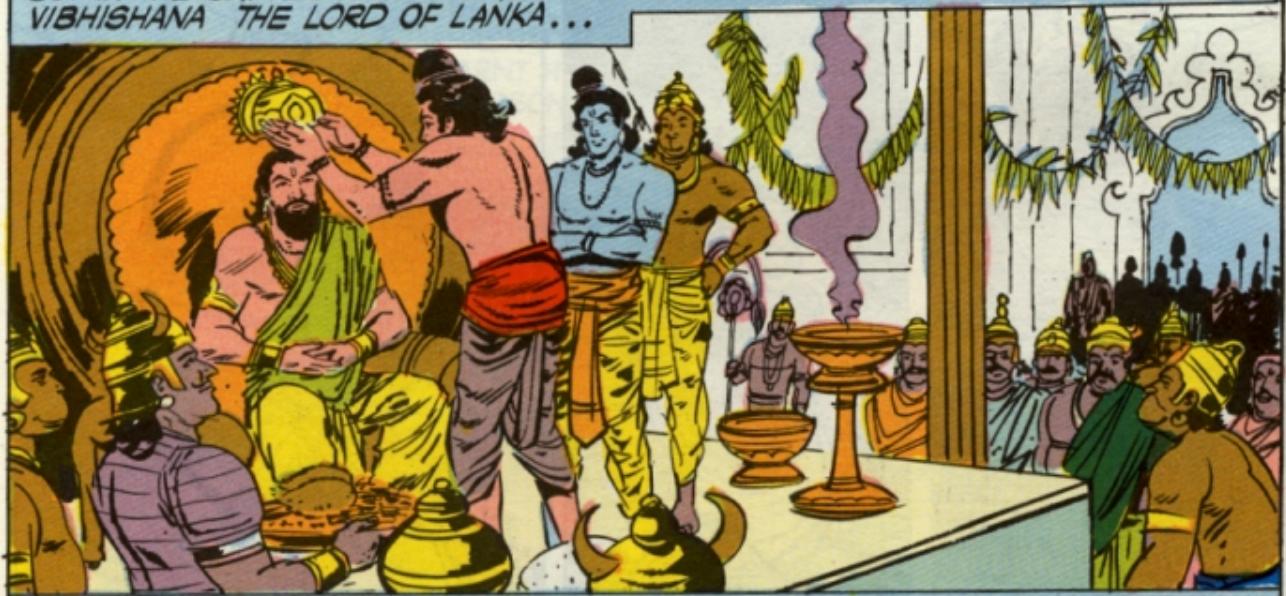
ALAS! WHY DID I WAKE UP MY BROTHER IN SPITE OF THE WARNING?



I WILL AVENGE HIS DEATH. I'LL SLAY RAMA.



BUT IN THE BATTLE WITH RAMA, IT WAS RAVANA WHO WAS SLAIN. RAMA MADE VIBHISHANA THE LORD OF LANKA...



... AND RETURNED TO AYODHYA, HIS CAPITAL, WITH SITA AND LAKSHMANA.



Illustrated Classics From India

Kumbhakarna

Valmiki's Ramayana is believed to be the first poetic work written in Sanskrit. It is therefore referred to as the Adikavya. It is said that Brahma assured Valmiki that, "as long as the mountains stand and the rivers flow, so long shall the Ramayana be read by men."

Valmiki's monumental work caught the fancy of innumerable minds after him and influenced many other great poems, plays and novels written along the same theme, in almost all the Indian languages. Among these are the Hindi, Tamil and Bengali versions of the Ramayana written by Tulsidas in the North, Kamban in the South and Krittivasa in the East.

Our story of Kumbhakarna, the gigantic younger brother of Ravana, the King of Lanka, has been derived from Krittivasa's Ramayana, written over 500 years ago. As a poet of the people, Krittivasa's story was written in simple language replete with delightful metaphors.

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