

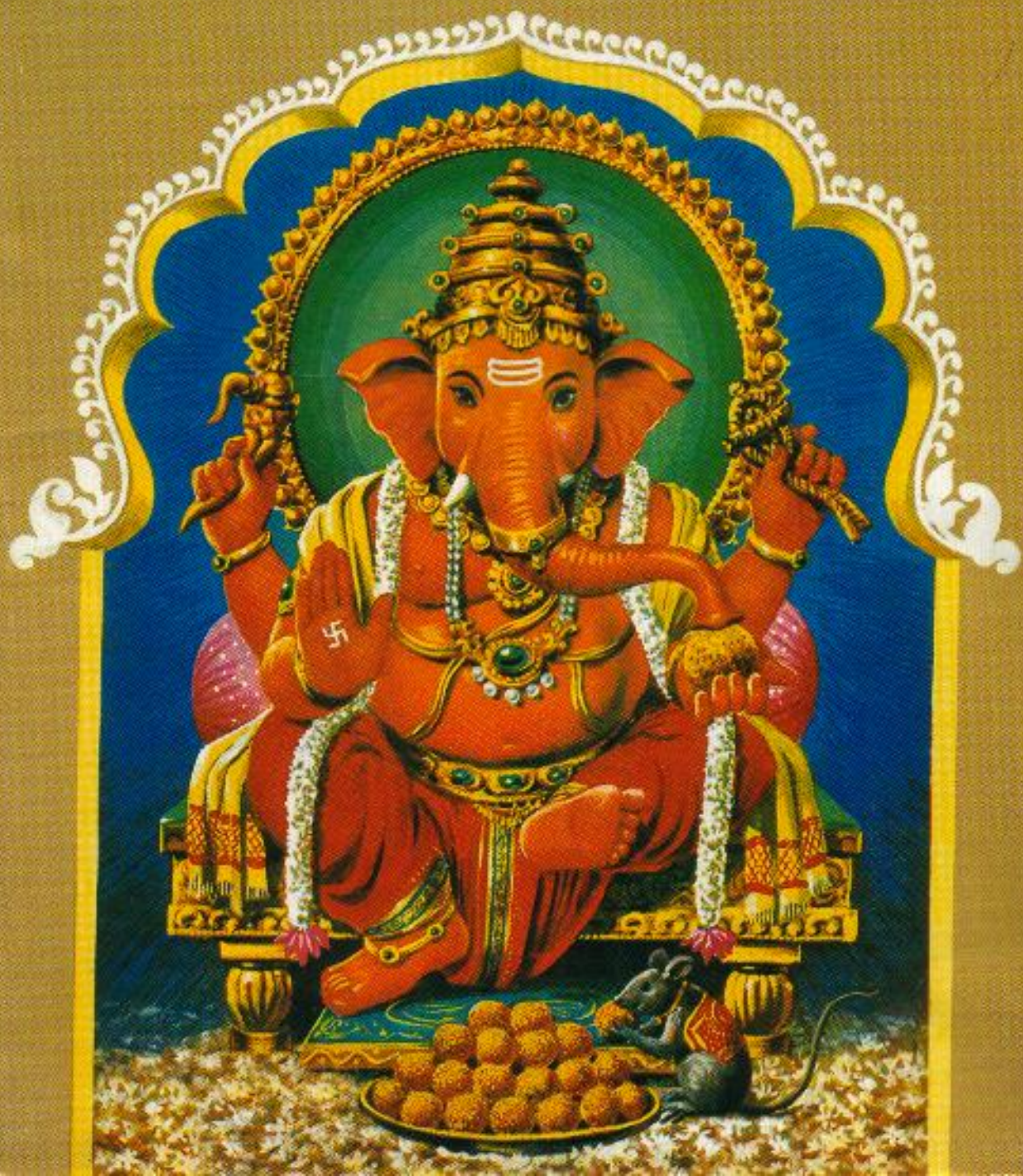


# GANESHA

THE REMOVER OF ALL OBSTACLES

Vol 509 | Rs 35

[www.amarchitrakatha.com](http://www.amarchitrakatha.com)





## The route to your roots

When they look back at their formative years, many Indians nostalgically recall the vital part Amar Chitra Katha picture books have played in their lives. It was **ACK – Amar Chitra Katha** – that first gave them a glimpse of their glorious heritage.

Since they were introduced in 1967, there are now **over 400 Amar Chitra Katha** titles to choose from. **Over 90 million copies** have been sold worldwide.

Now the Amar Chitra Katha titles are even more widely available in **500+ bookstores all across India**. Log on to [www.ack-media.com](http://www.ack-media.com) to locate a bookstore near you. If you do not have access to a bookstore, you can buy all the titles through our online store [www.theackshop.com](http://www.theackshop.com). We provide quick delivery anywhere in the world.

To make it easy for you to locate the titles of your choice from our treasure trove of titles, the books are now arranged in five categories.

### **Epics and Mythology**

Best known stories from the Epics and the Puranas

### **Indian Classics**

Enchanting tales from Indian literature

### **Fables and Humour**

Evergreen folktales, legends and tales of wisdom and humour

### **Bravehearts**

Stirring tales of brave men and women of India

### **Visionaries**

Inspiring tales of thinkers, social reformers and nation builders

#### **Script**

Kamala Chandrakant

#### **Illustrations**

C.M. Vitankar

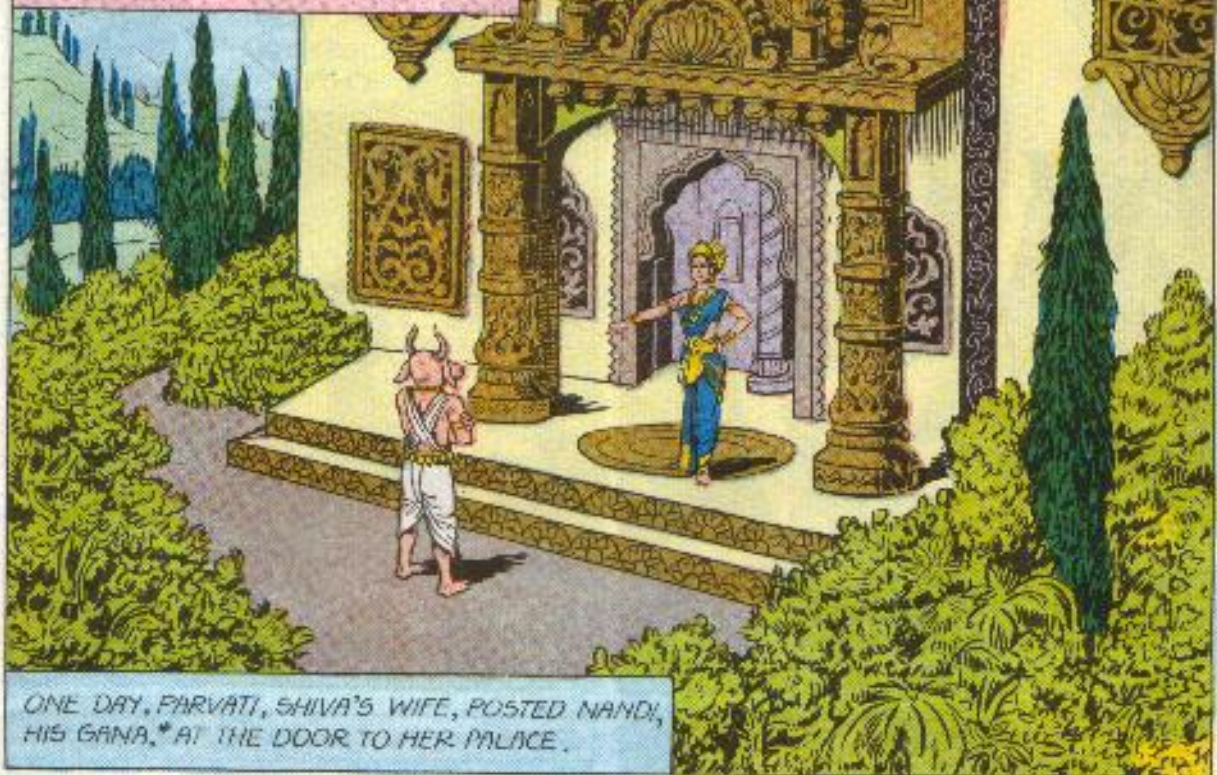
#### **Editor**

Anant Pai

## **Amar Chitra Katha Pvt Ltd**

© Amar Chitra Katha Pvt Ltd, 1975, Reprinted July 2009, ISBN 81-89999-31-1  
Published & Printed by Amar Chitra Katha Pvt. Ltd., 14 Marthanda, 4th floor,  
84 Dr. Annie Besant Road, Mumbai 400 018, India

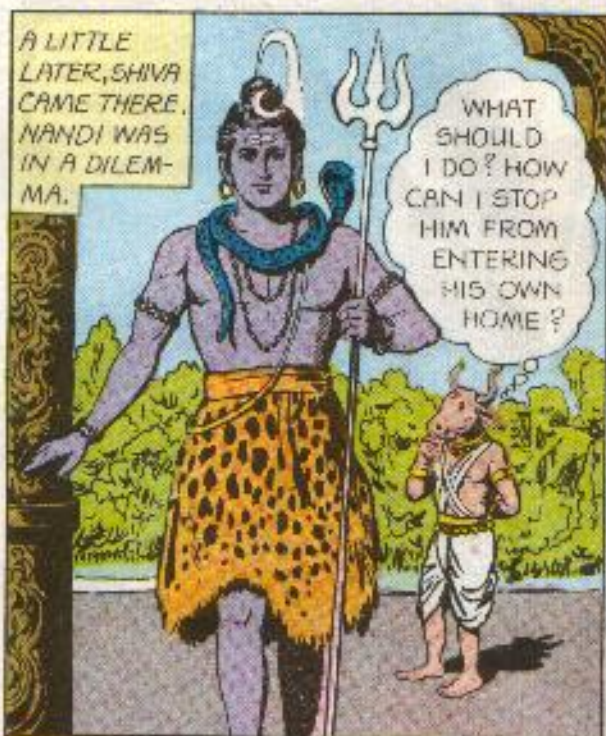
# GANESHA



ONE DAY, PARVATI, SHIVA'S WIFE, POSTED NANDI, HIS GANA,\* AT THE DOOR TO HER PALACE.



I AM GOING TO HAVE MY BATH. DO NOT LET ANYONE ENTER AND DISTURB ME.



A LITTLE LATER, SHIVA CAME THERE. NANDI WAS IN A DILEMMA.

WHAT SHOULD I DO? HOW CAN I STOP HIM FROM ENTERING HIS OWN HOME?

\* ATTENDANT.

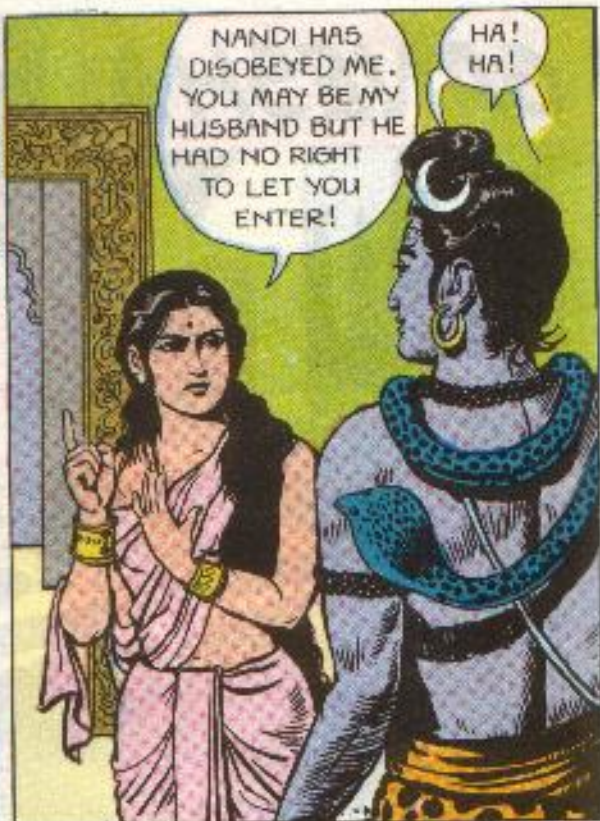
SHIVA ENTERED THE PALACE AND STRODE INTO THE INNER ROOMS.



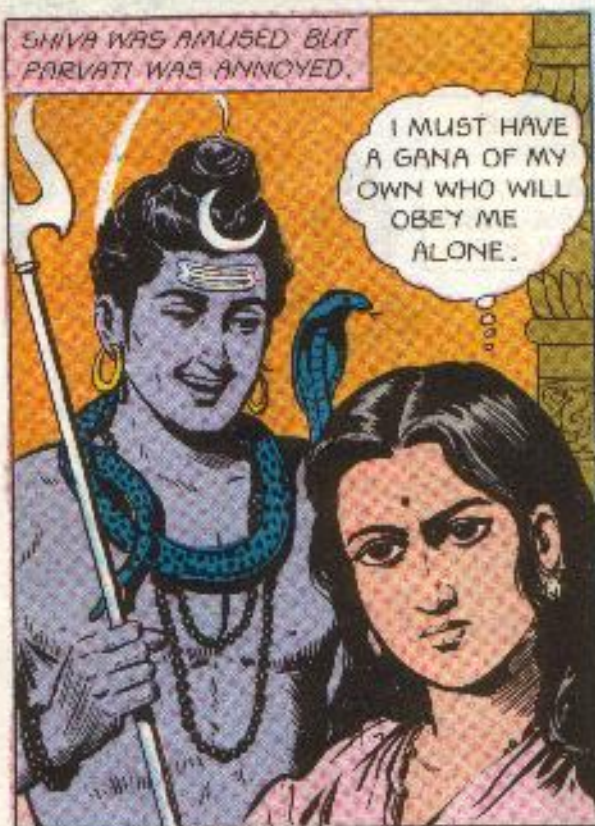
MY LORD, HERE? BUT NANDI WAS TOLD...

NANDI HAS DISOBEYED ME. YOU MAY BE MY HUSBAND BUT HE HAD NO RIGHT TO LET YOU ENTER!

HA!  
HA!

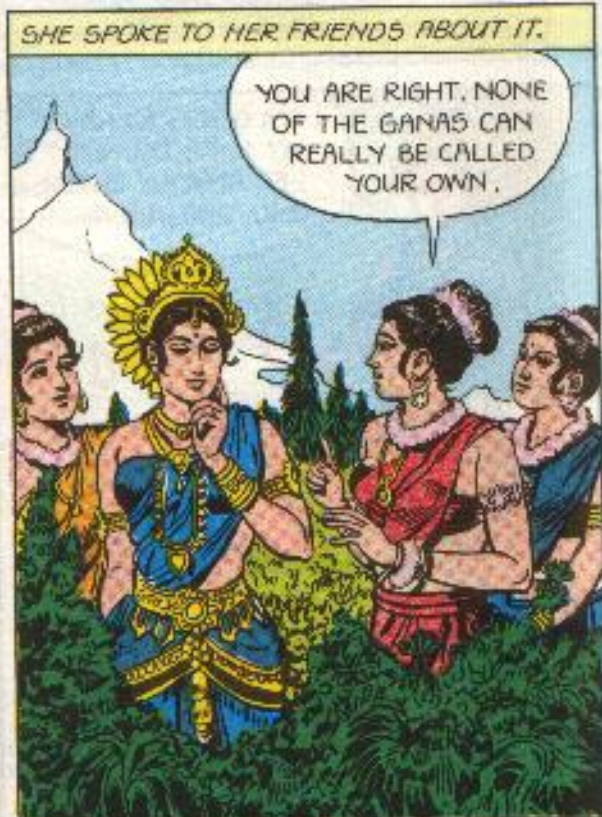


SHIVA WAS AMUSED BUT PARVATI WAS ANNOYED.



I MUST HAVE A GANA OF MY OWN WHO WILL OBEY ME ALONE.

SHE SPOKE TO HER FRIENDS ABOUT IT.



YOU ARE RIGHT. NONE OF THE GANAS CAN REALLY BE CALLED YOUR OWN.

ONE OF THEM HAD AN IDEA.

WHY DON'T YOU CREATE  
A GANA WHO WILL OWE  
FIRST ALLEGIANCE  
TO YOU?

A GOOD  
SUGGESTION.  
I SHALL.



SHE GATHERED THE SAFFRON PASTE  
FROM HER OWN BODY AND CREATED A BOY.



WHEN SHE FINISHED, SHE GAZED IN ADMIRATION AT HER OWN CREATION.

HOW HANDSOME  
HE IS! HOW  
STRONG HE  
LOOKS!



SHE DECKED HIM WITH ORNAMENTS  
AND BLESSED HIM, THEN —

YOU ARE MY  
SON — MY  
VERY OWN  
SON, I HAVE  
NONE ELSE  
TO CALL MY  
OWN.



COMMAND  
ME, MOTHER.  
WHAT  
SHOULD I DO?

TAKE THIS  
STAFF AND  
FOLLOW ME.



SHE LED HIM TO THE DOOR.

STAND HERE AND LET NO  
ONE ENTER WITHOUT  
MY PERMISSION.



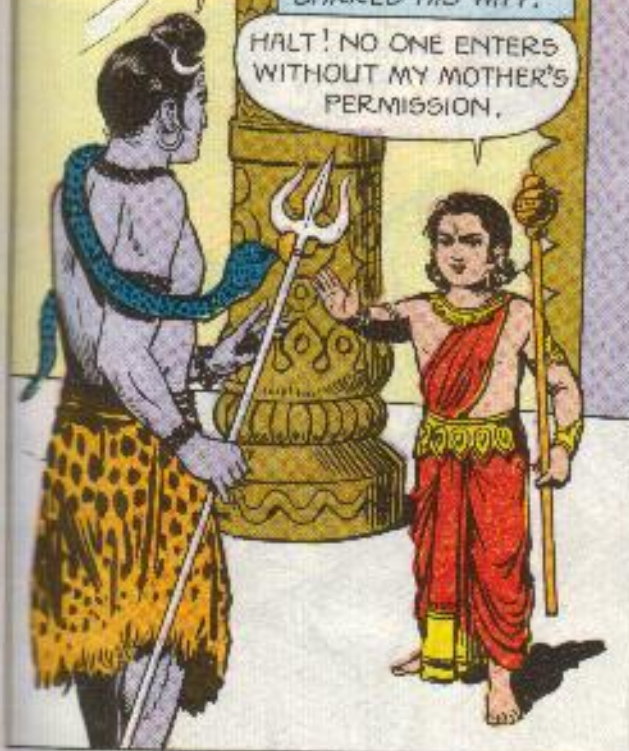
A LITTLE LATER —

WHO COULD THAT  
BOY BE? I HAVE  
NEVER SEEN  
HIM BEFORE.



TO SHIVA'S ASTONISHMENT, THE YOUTH  
BARRED HIS WAY.

HALT! NO ONE ENTERS  
WITHOUT MY MOTHER'S  
PERMISSION.



SHIVA WAS TAKEN ABACK.

FOOLISH BOY! DO  
YOU KNOW WHO  
I AM? MOVE OUT  
OF MY WAY.



WITHOUT UTTERING A WORD, THE YOUTH  
STRUCK SHIVA  
WITH HIS STAFF.



SHIVA WAS FURIOUS.

FOOL! I AM  
SHIVA,  
PARVATI'S HUSBAND.  
HOW DARE YOU  
FORBID ME TO  
ENTER MY OWN  
HOME!

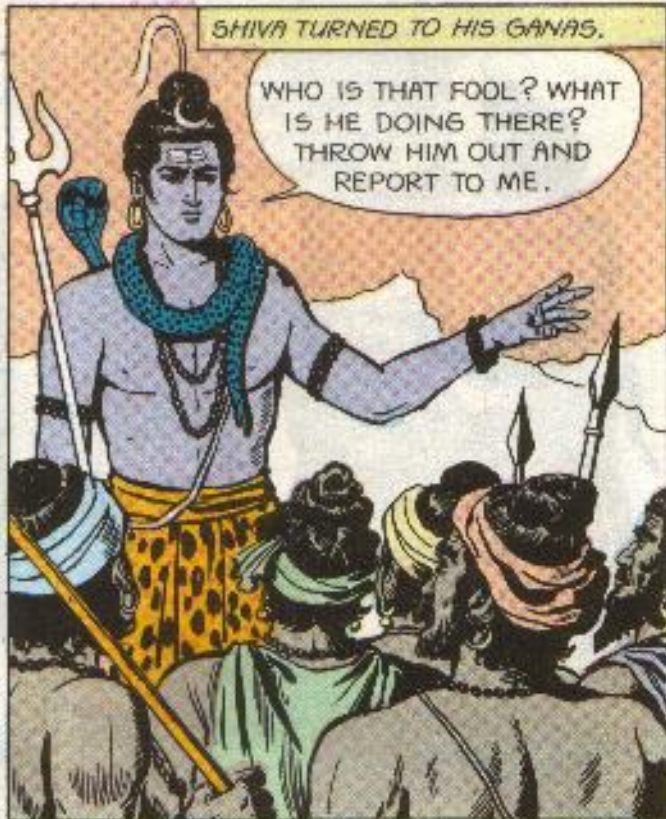


BUT THE YOUTH ONLY RAISED HIS STAFF AND HIT SHIVA ONCE AGAIN.



SHIVA TURNED TO HIS GANAS.

WHO IS THAT FOOL? WHAT IS HE DOING THERE? THROW HIM OUT AND REPORT TO ME.



SHIVA LEFT AND THE GANAS TURNED UPON THE YOUTH.

GET AWAY WITH YOU OR YOU WILL RECEIVE A TASTE OF MY VALOUR.

YOU GET AWAY FROM HERE, IF YOU VALUE YOUR LIFE.

YOU SEEM TO FORGET THAT WE ARE SHIVA'S GANAS.



THE YOUTH STOOD STILL FOR A WHILE. HE WAS PUZZLED.



MEANWHILE, INDOORS PARVATI HAD HEARD THE COMMOTION. SHE SENT HER FRIEND OUT.



THE FRIEND SOON RETURNED.



PARVATI HESITATED FOR A MOMENT.





I REPEAT, SHIVA SHALL NOT ENTER WITHOUT MY MOTHER'S PERMISSION.



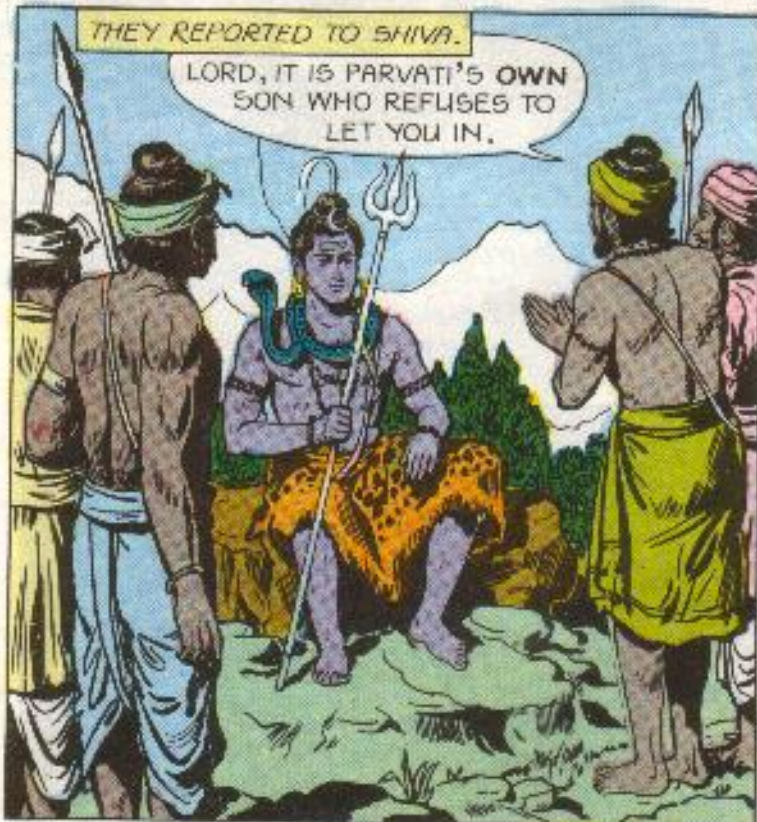
NOW, THE GANAS WERE DOUBTFUL.

HE IS PARVATI'S SON. WHAT SHOULD WE DO? WOULD SHIVA STILL WANT US TO THROW HIM OUT?



THEY REPORTED TO SHIVA.

LORD, IT IS PARVATI'S OWN SON WHO REFUSES TO LET YOU IN.



ALAS, PARVATI! YOU HAVE GONE TOO FAR. YOU HAVE LEFT ME WITH NO ALTERNATIVE.



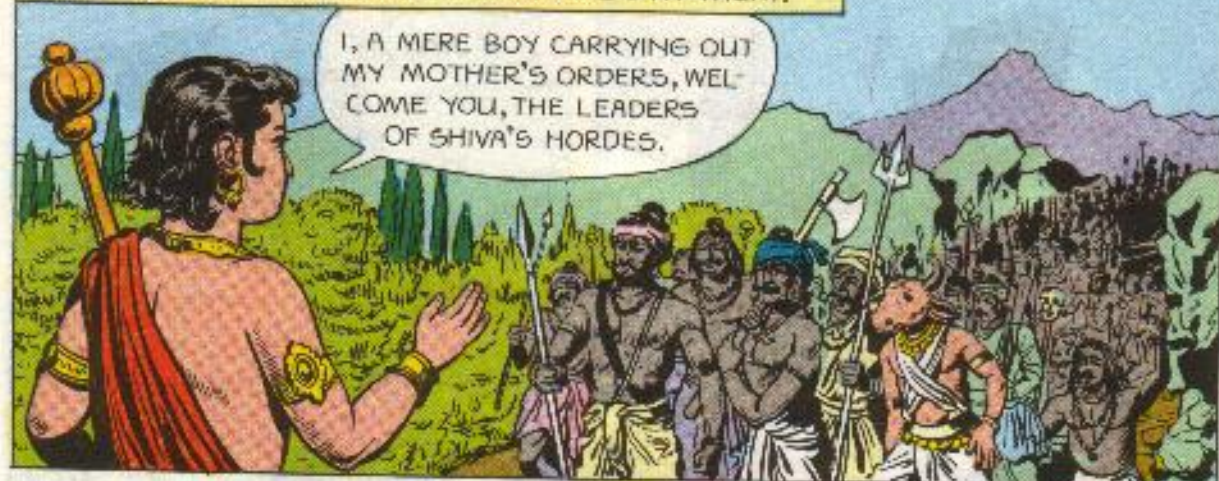
IF I TELL MY GANAS TO WITHDRAW, IT WILL BE SAID THAT I WAS SUBSERVIENT TO MY WIFE. MY GANAS WILL HAVE TO FIGHT HIM.

HE TURNED TO HIS GANAS.

ALL OF YOU ARE MY OWN, INCLUDING PARVATI'S SON. SO A BATTLE MAY NOT SEEM PROPER TO YOU.

BUT IF WE DON'T ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE, WE MAY BE MISUNDERSTOOD. GO! FIGHT AND DEFEAT HIM. IT SHOULD BE EASY.

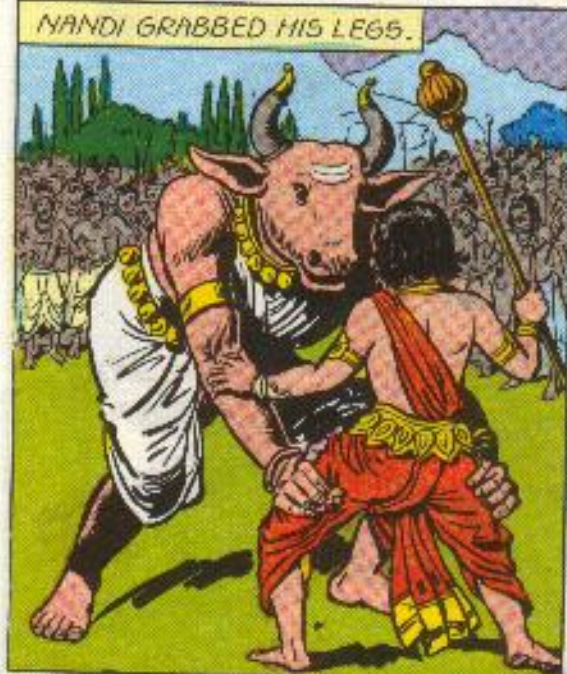
SO THE GANAS, FULLY ARRAYED FOR WAR, WENT BACK TO THE BOY. HE WAS AMUSED WHEN HE SAW THEM.



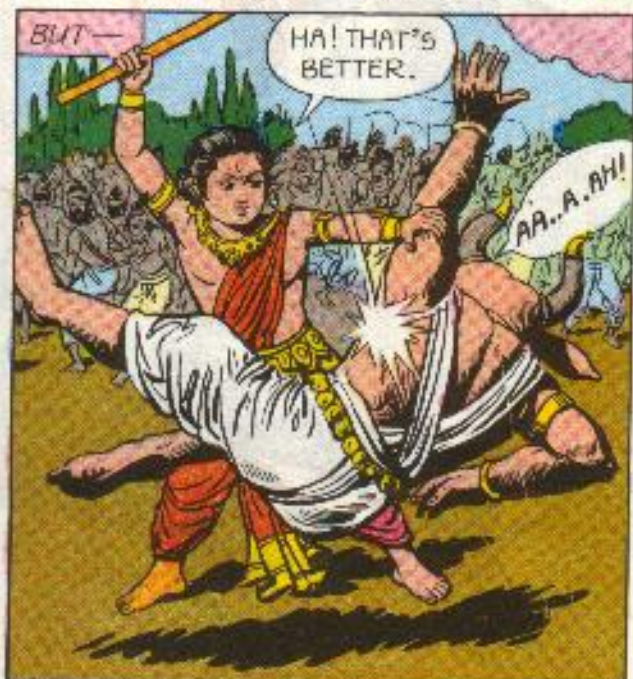
THE GANAS RUSHED AT HIM.



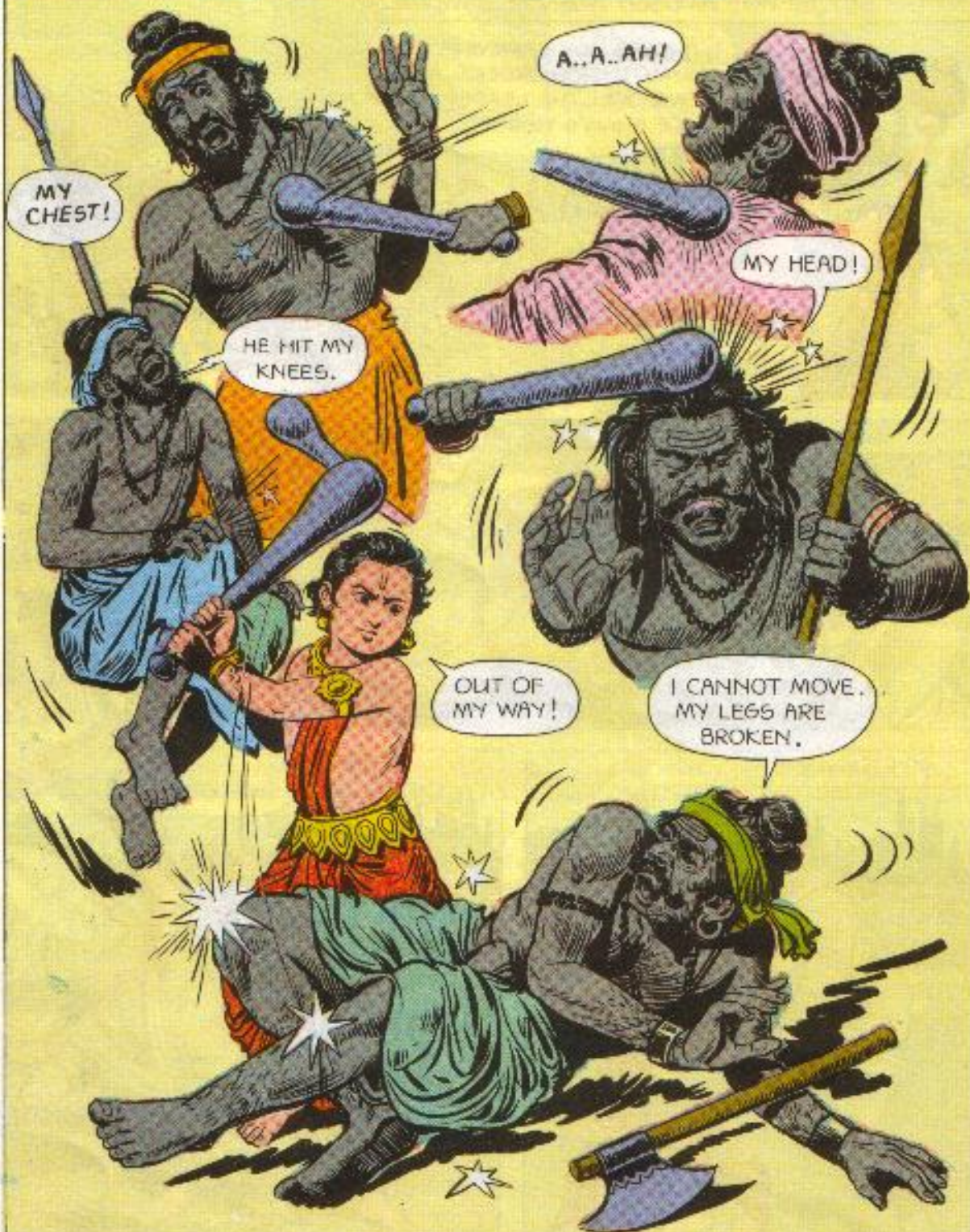
NANDI GRABBED HIS LEGS.



BUT—



THEN THE BOY SEIZED AN IRON CLUB AND WHIRLED IT ABOUT.



MANY OF THE GANAS FELL.



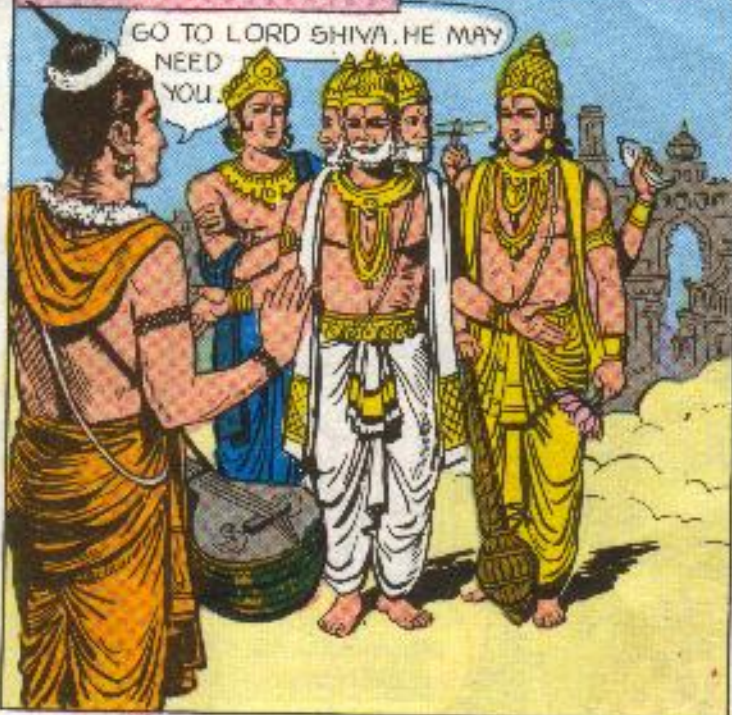
THE REST FLED AS FAST AS THEY COULD.



THE BOY ONCE AGAIN TOOK HIS POST AT THE DOOR.



MEANWHILE, WHEN BRAHMA, VISHNU AND INDRA HEARD THE UPROAR, THEY TALKED THE MATTER OVER WITH SAGE NARADA.



THEY WENT ACCORDINGLY AND BOWED  
BEFORE SHIVA.

LORD, WE ARE  
HERE TO DO  
YOUR BIDDING.



SHIVA TOLD THEM ALL..

... AND HE DARES TO  
PREVENT ME FROM  
ENTERING MY OWN  
HOME.

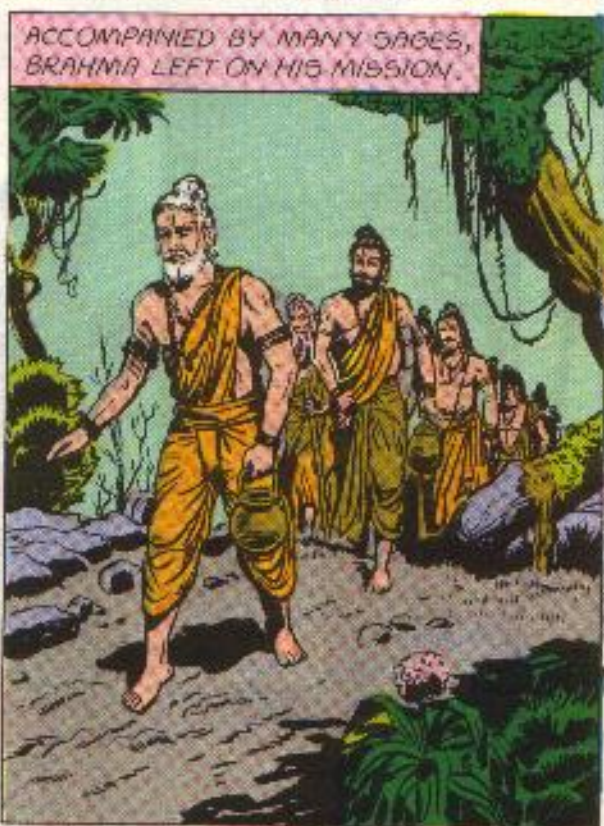


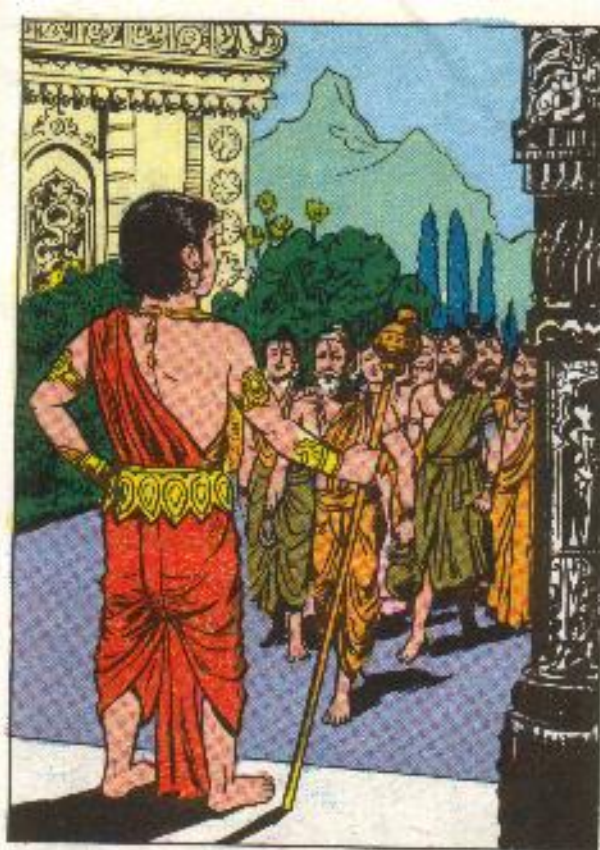
O BRAHMA, GO  
THERE AND TRY  
TO BRING HIM  
UNDER CONTROL.



I SHALL GO  
DISGUISED AS  
A BRAHMAN.

ACCOMPANIED BY MANY SAGES,  
BRAHMA LEFT ON HIS MISSION.

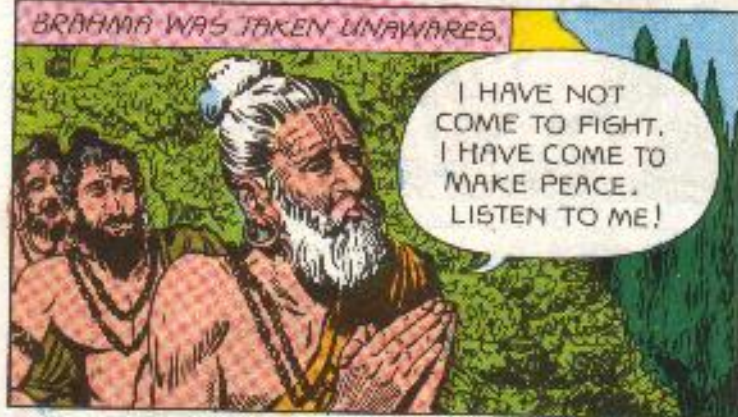




AS THEY NEARED HIM, THE YOUTH  
SUDDENLY JUMPED FORWARD AND —

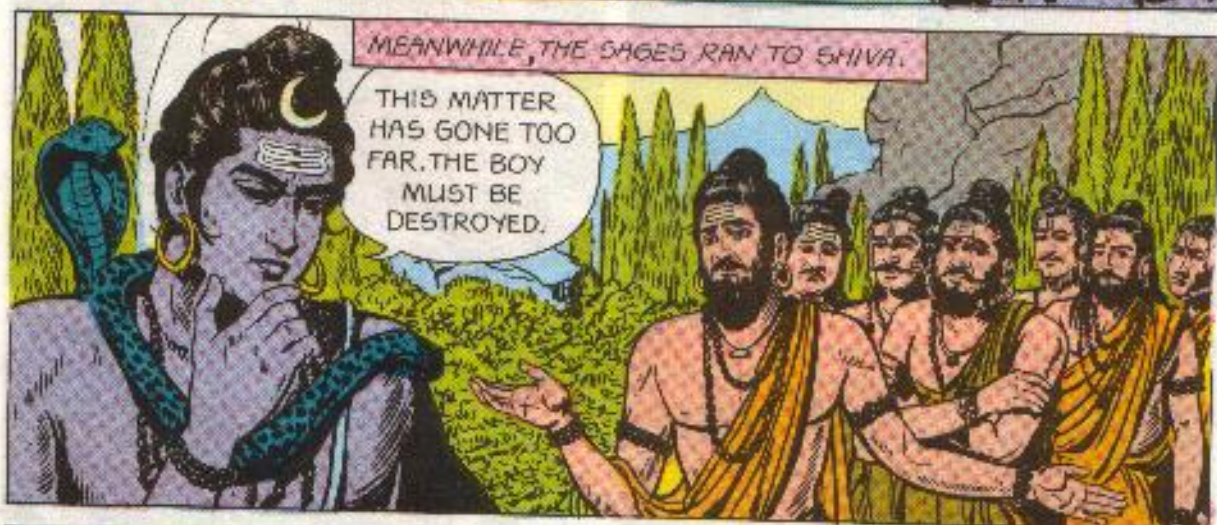


BRAHMA WAS TAKEN UNAWARES.



FOR AN ANSWER, THE YOUTH  
LIFTED HIS CLUB MENACINGLY.





HE SENT FOR HIS SON, KARTIKEYA, AND INDRA, THE KING OF THE DEVAS.



THE DEVAS, LED BY INDRA, AND THE GANAS, BY KARTIKEYA, FELL UPON THE BOY FROM ALL DIRECTIONS.



BUT THE BOY FACED THEM VALIANTLY.



MEANWHILE, PARVATI LEARNED OF ALL THAT HAD HAPPENED. SHE WAS FURIOUS.



HOW DARE THEY HARASS MY SON!

THEN AND THERE SHE CREATED THE TWO SHAKTIS, KALI AND DURGA.



KALI STOOD  
BETWEEN THE  
BOY AND THE  
ENEMY, OPENING  
HER MOUTH  
WIDE, SHE  
SWALLOWED  
THEIR WEAPONS.



...AND HURLED THEM BACK.



DURGA TOOK THE FORM  
OF LIGHTNING...



...AND DESTROYED THE ENEMIES' WEAPONS  
BEFORE THEY COULD REACH THE BOY.



BETWEEN THE TWO OF THEM THEY  
DID NOT LET A SINGLE WEAPON  
COME ANYWHERE NEAR THE BOY'S  
SWINGING CLUB.



INDRA AND HIS DEVAS WERE COMPLETELY ROUTED.



EVEN KARTIKEYA,  
WHO HAD KILLED  
THE INVINCIBLE  
TARAKASURA,  
WAS HELPLESS.



THEY HELD COUNCIL.

WHAT SHOULD  
WE DO?

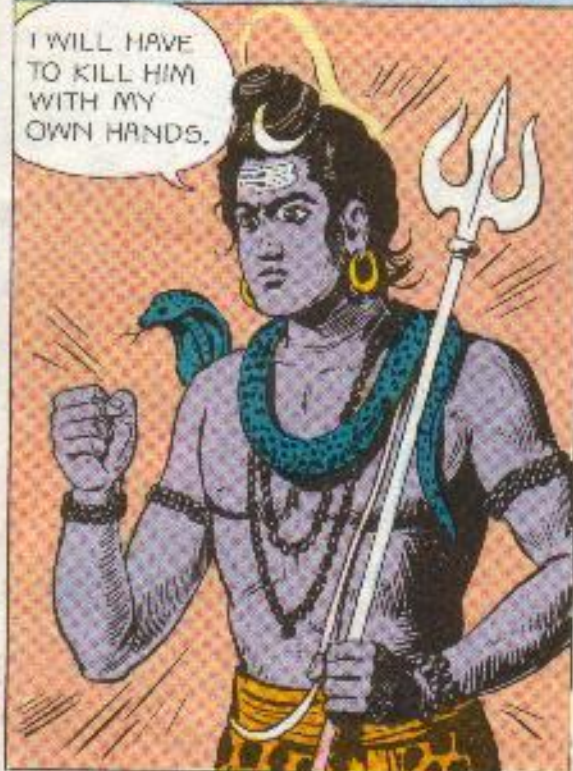
LET US GO  
BACK TO  
SHIVA.



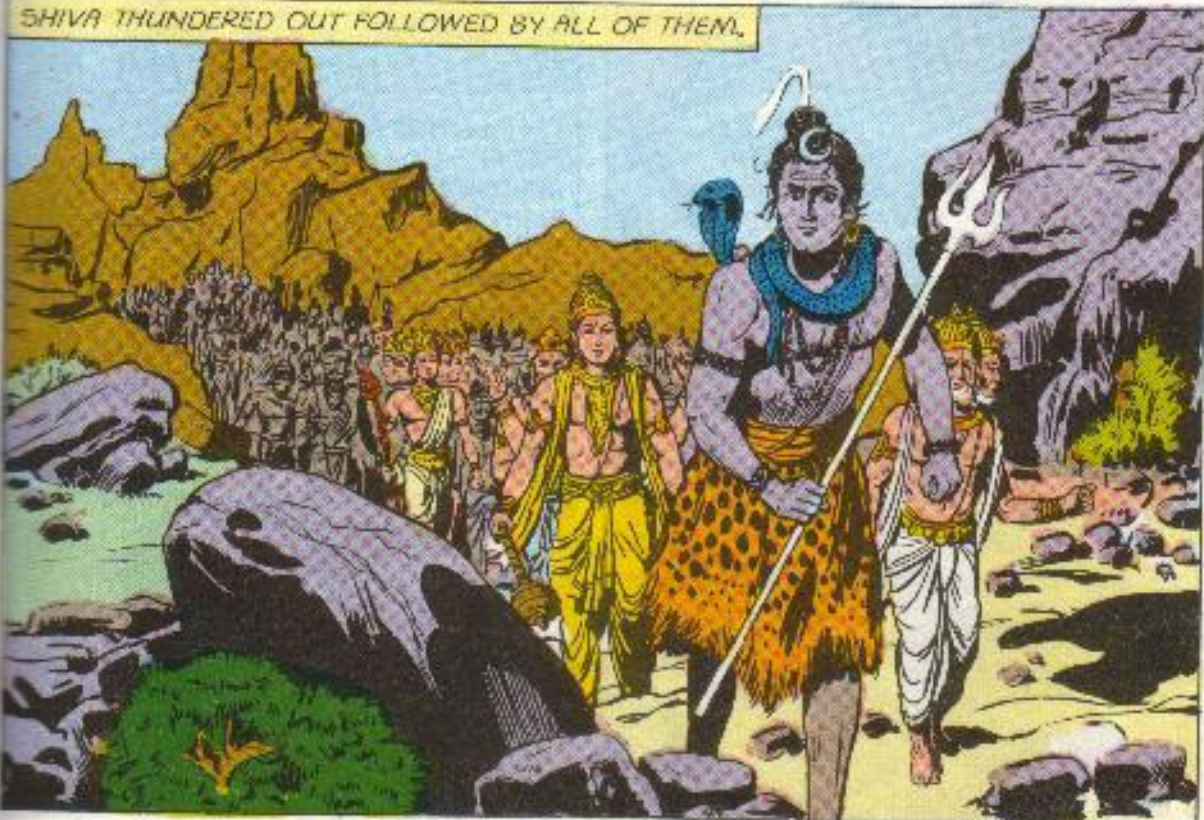


THEIR PRAISE ONLY INFURIATED SHIVA.

I WILL HAVE TO KILL HIM WITH MY OWN HANDS.



SHIVA THUNDERED OUT FOLLOWED BY ALL OF THEM.



UNPERTURBED BY THE SIGHT OF SHIVA, THE BOY ATTACKED!  
ALL THE CHIEF GODS. ONE BY ONE THEY FELL.



AS SHIVA WATCHED HIM  
FIGHT, HE WAS AMAZED.



HE IS INVINCIBLE.  
HE CAN ONLY BE  
KILLED BY CUNNING.  
I MUST WATCH FOR  
AN OPPORTUNITY.

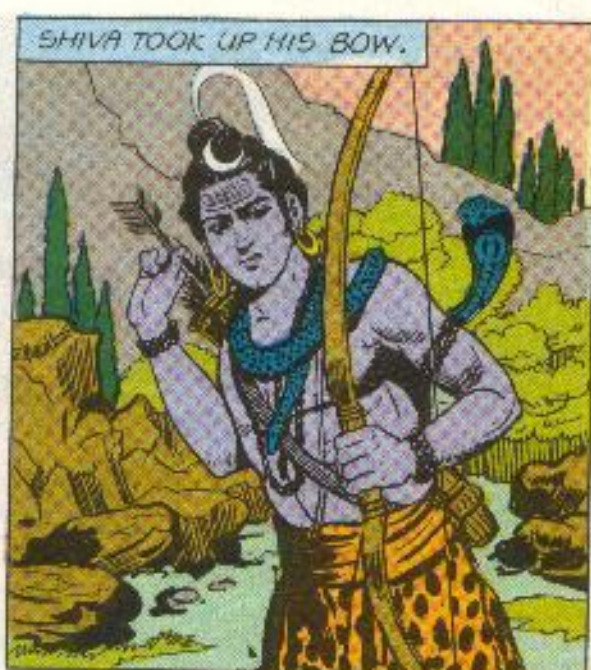
THE SAME THOUGHT HAD STRUCK  
VISHNU TOO. HE SPOKE TO SHIVA.

I SHALL USE MY  
POWERS OF  
DELUSION TO  
FIGHT HIM, IF  
YOU PER-  
MIT ME.

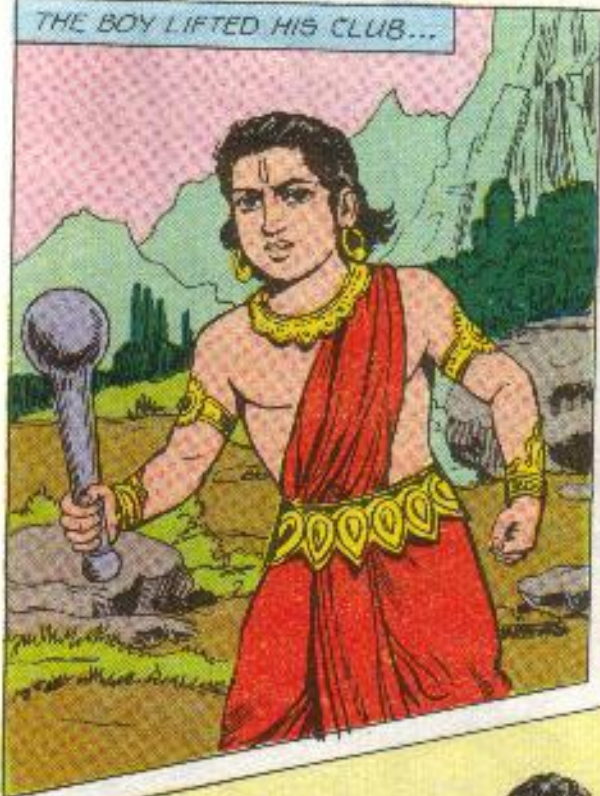
YOU MAY.  
THAT IS THE  
ONLY WAY.







THE BOY LIFTED HIS CLUB...



...BUT IT WAS CUT IN TWO BY VISHNU'S DISCUS.



THE BOY HURLED THE PIECE THAT WAS LEFT IN HIS HAND...



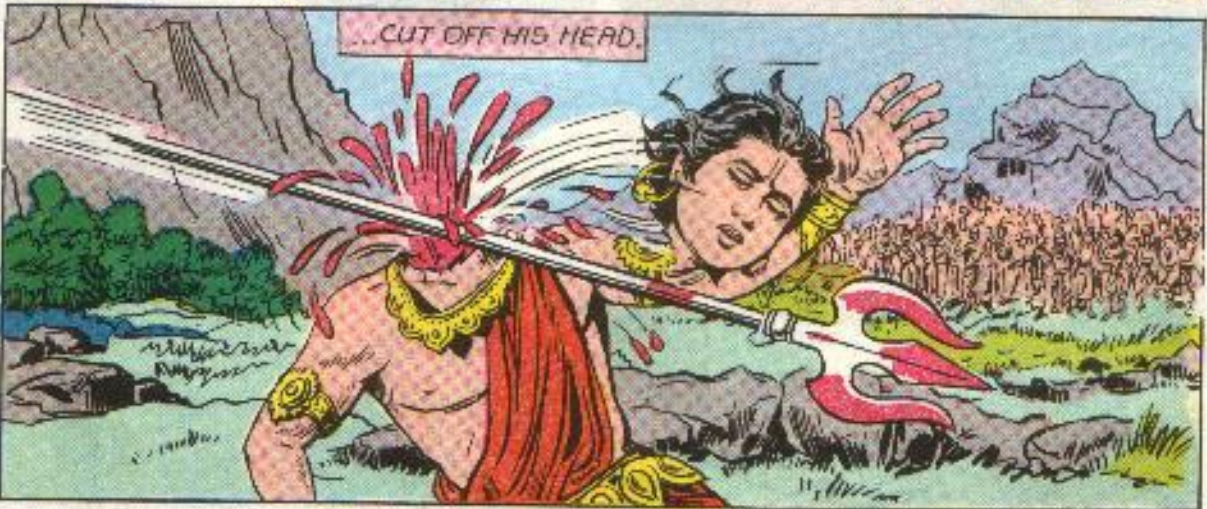
... BUT VISHNU'S MOUNT, GARUDA, CAUGHT IT AND PROTECTED HIS MASTER.



THEN, AS THE BOY PICKED UP HIS STAFF TO HIT VISHNU, SHIVA CAME UP FROM BEHIND AND...



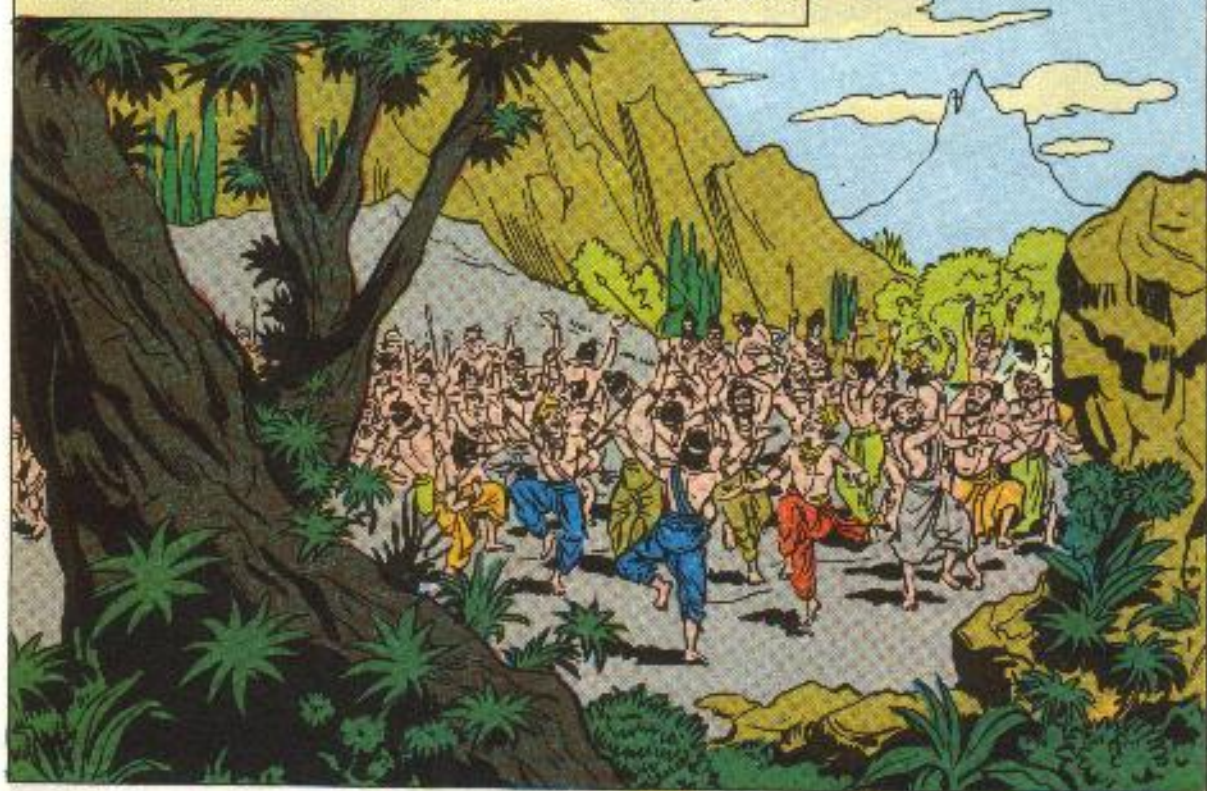
...CUT OFF HIS HEAD.



FOR A MOMENT ALL ON THE SCENE STOOD STILL, THEIR GAZE FIXED ON THE VALIANT HERO.



THEN THE DEVAS AND THE GANAS BECAME JUBILANT.



BUT SHIVA WAS TROUBLED.



ALAS! WHAT HAVE I DONE? HOW SHALL I FACE PARVATI? HE WAS CREATED BY HER. THAT MADE HIM MY SON TOO.

MEANWHILE, WHEN PARVATI LEARNT OF HER SON'S DEATH—



MY SON WAS KILLED BY UNFAIR MEANS. FOR THIS THE DEVAS AND GANAS SHALL ALL DIE.

OUT OF HER FURY, SHE CREATED HUNDREDS AND THOUSANDS OF SHAKTIS.

O MOTHER, WHAT  
IS YOUR COMMAND?

DESTROY ALL THE  
DEVAS AND GANAS.  
DEVOUR THEM.



THE SHAKTIS IMMEDIATELY SET ABOUT CARRYING OUT  
HER COMMAND. BRAHMA AND VISHNU WERE TERRIFIED.



PARVATI MUST  
BE APPEASED.

THEY PROPITIATED PARVATI AND PLEADED FOR MERCY.

O GREAT GODDESS,  
HAVE MERCY ON US.  
WE SHALL ACCOMPLISH  
WHATEVER YOU ASK  
OF US. FORGIVE US.

I WILL, BUT  
MY SON MUST  
REGAIN HIS LIFE AND  
MUST HAVE AN HONOUR-  
ABLE STATUS  
AMONG YOU.

THEY WENT TO SHIVA AND PUT  
PARVATI'S CONDITIONS BEFORE HIM.

IT SHALL BE DONE.  
FOR THE SAKE OF  
PEACE AND HAPPINESS.

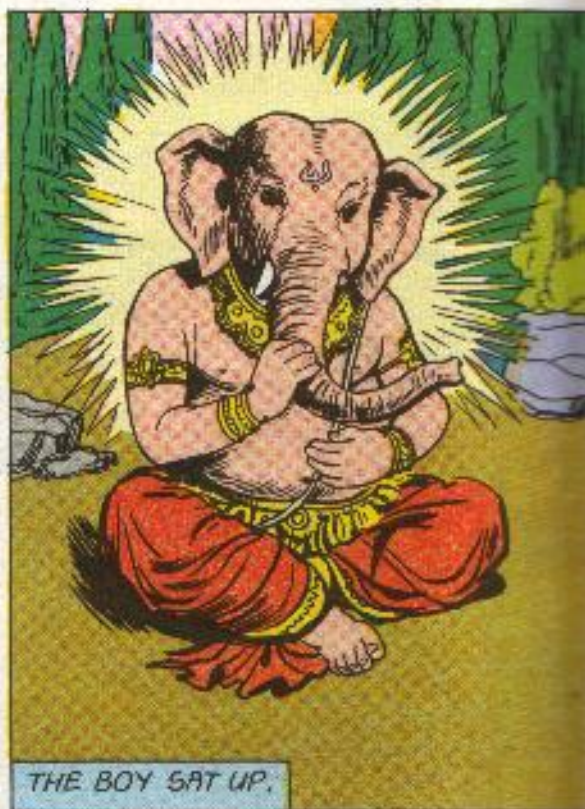
GO NORTH, BRING THE  
HEAD OF THE FIRST CREA-  
TURE THAT CROSSES  
YOUR PATH. FIT THAT  
HEAD TO THE BOY'S  
BODY AND IT WILL  
COME TO LIFE.



IT WAS A SINGLE-TUSKED ELEPHANT THAT MET THEM.



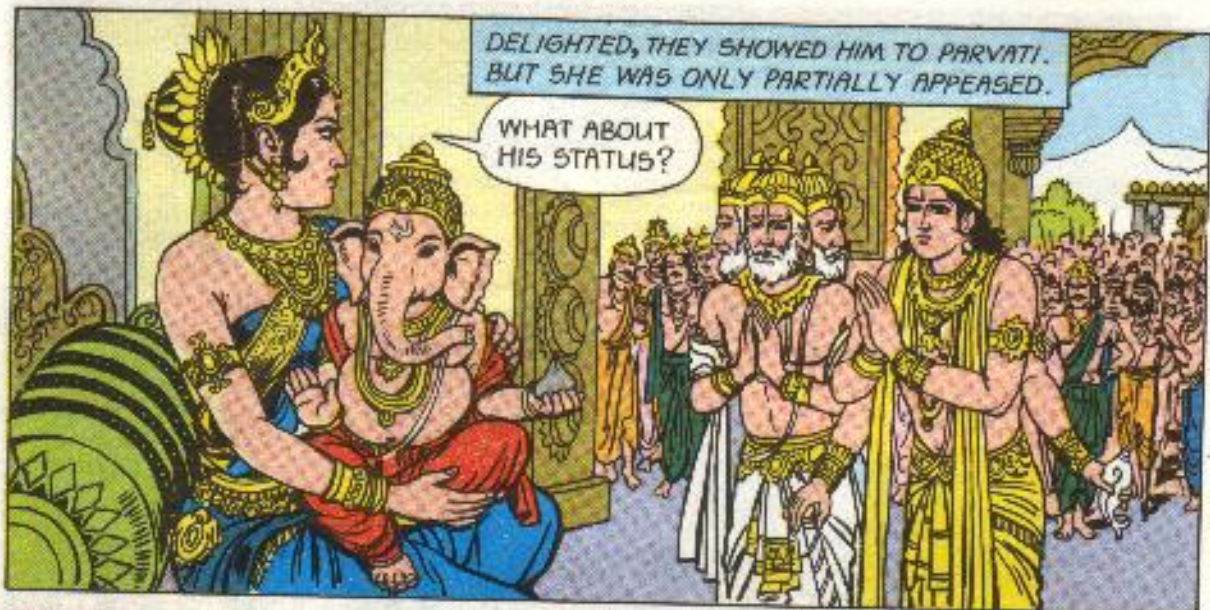
THEY BROUGHT THE HEAD BACK AND FITTED IT TO THE BODY OF THE BOY.



THE BOY SAT UP.

DELIGHTED, THEY SHOWED HIM TO PARVATI.  
BUT SHE WAS ONLY PARTIALLY APPEASED.

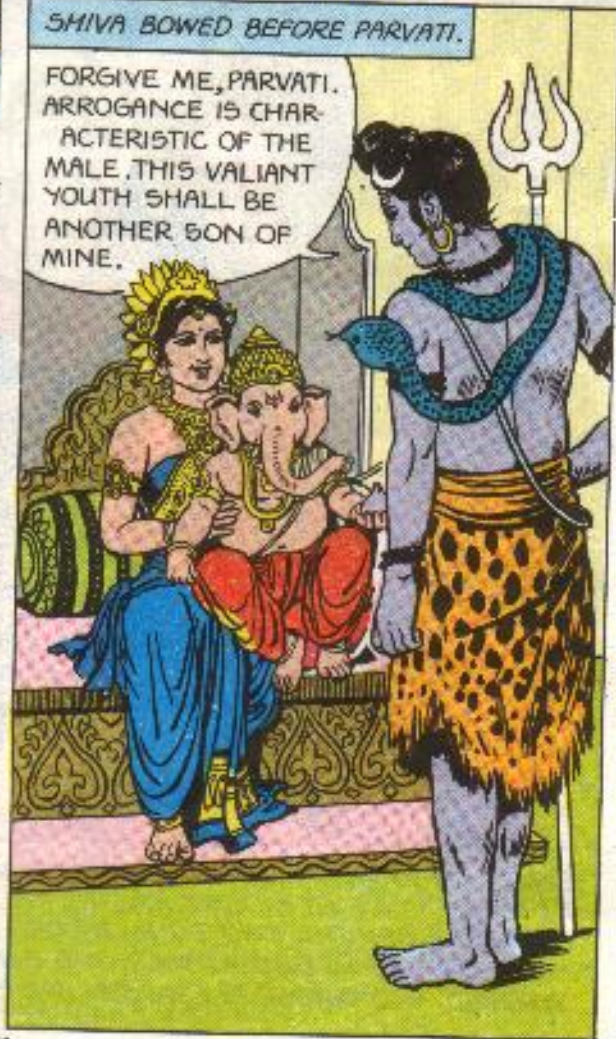
WHAT ABOUT  
HIS STATUS?



AT THAT MOMENT INDRA AND THE  
OTHER GODS LED SHIVA TO HER.

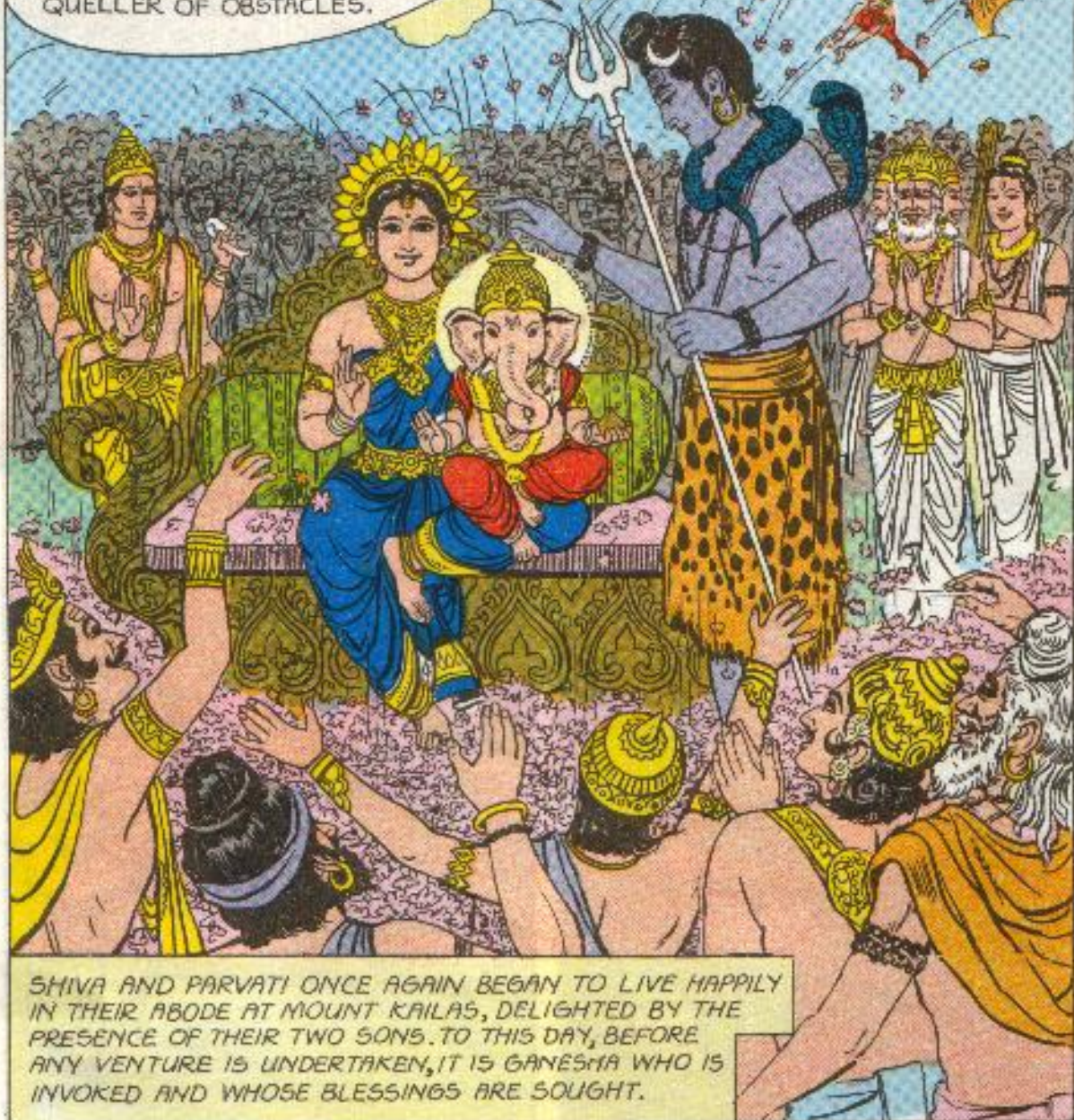
SHIVA BOWED BEFORE PARVATI.

FORGIVE ME, PARVATI.  
ARROGANCE IS CHAR-  
ACTERISTIC OF THE  
MALE. THIS VALIANT  
YOUTH SHALL BE  
ANOTHER SON OF  
MINE.



THEN SHIVA PLACED HIS HAND ON THE BOY'S HEAD.

EVEN AS A MERE BOY YOU SHOWED GREAT VALOUR. YOU SHALL BE GANESHA, THE PRESIDING OFFICER OF ALL MY GANAS. YOU SHALL BE WORTHY OF WORSHIP FOREVER. YOU SHALL ALSO BE CALLED VIGHNESHWARA, THE QUELLER OF OBSTACLES.



SHIVA AND PARVATI ONCE AGAIN BEGAN TO LIVE HAPPILY IN THEIR ABODE AT MOUNT KAILAS, DELIGHTED BY THE PRESENCE OF THEIR TWO SONS. TO THIS DAY, BEFORE ANY VENTURE IS UNDERTAKEN, IT IS GANESHA WHO IS INVOKED AND WHOSE BLESSINGS ARE SOUGHT.