

KRISHNA: THE ENCHANTER

PAREEKSHIT INTERRUPTED THE NARRATION OF SHUKADEVA.



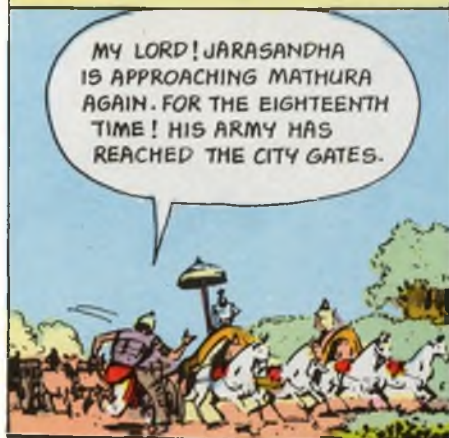
WHEN KRISHNA RETURNED TO MATHURA HE AND BALARAMA DECIMATED THE ENTIRE ARMY OF KALAYAVANA.

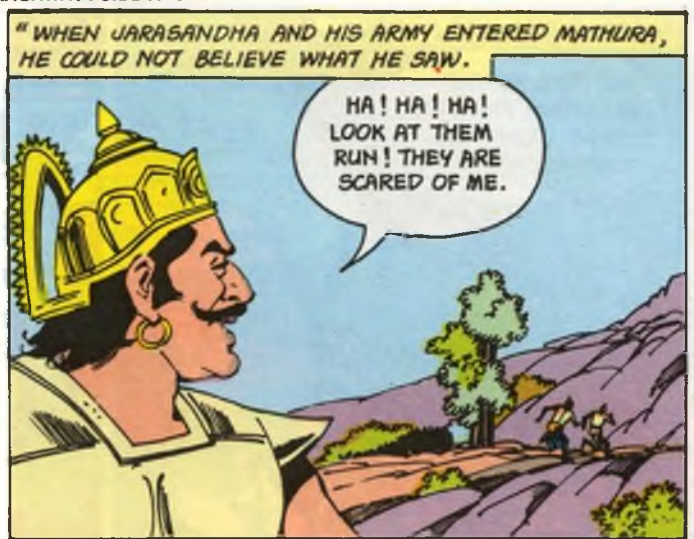
"ON KRISHNA'S BIDDING, THE YADAVA SOLDIERS TOOK ALL THE PRECIOUS OBJECTS BELONGING TO THE DEFEATED ARMY.



"JUST AS THE OXEN LADEN WITH THE TREASURE WERE BEING LED AWAY —

"SEVENTEEN TIMES JARASANDHA HAD ATTACKED MATHURA AND SEVENTEEN TIMES KRISHNA AND BALARAMA HAD DRIVEN HIM AWAY. BUT ON THIS OCCASION KRISHNA THOUGHT OF A DIFFERENT PLAN.





"JARASANDHA WAS FURIOUS.

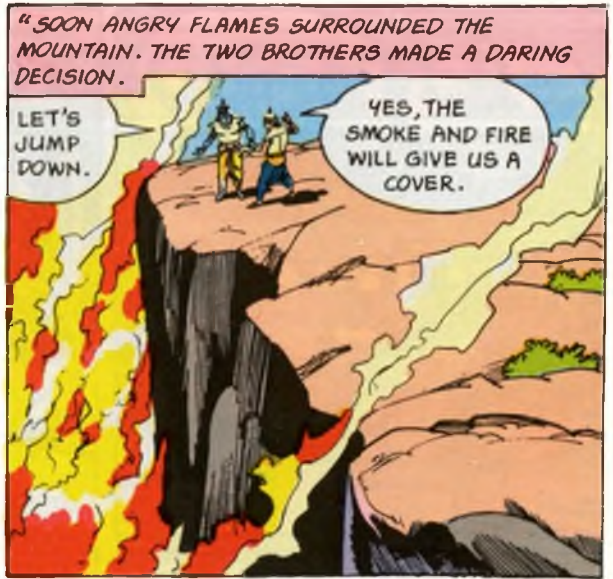
SET FIRE TO THE MOUNTAIN FROM ALL SIDES. DON'T LET THEM ESCAPE ALIVE.



"SOON ANGRY FLAMES SURROUNDED THE MOUNTAIN. THE TWO BROTHERS MADE A DARING DECISION.

LET'S JUMP DOWN.

YES, THE SMOKE AND FIRE WILL GIVE US A COVER.



"WITH A HUGE LEAP, THEY REACHED THE FOOT OF THE HILL.

JARASANDHA AND HIS MEN ARE LOOKING FOR US ON THE SLOPES. LET'S RUN!

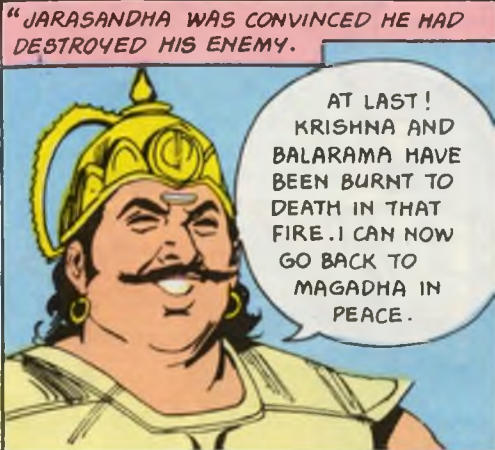


"KRISHNA AND BALARAMA THEN SWIFTLY MADE THEIR WAY TO DWARAKA.



"JARASANDHA WAS CONVINCED HE HAD DESTROYED HIS ENEMY.

AT LAST! KRISHNA AND BALARAMA HAVE BEEN BURNT TO DEATH IN THAT FIRE. I CAN NOW GO BACK TO MAGADHA IN PEACE.



"IN DUE TIME BALARAMA WAS MARRIED TO KING RAIVATA'S DAUGHTER REVATI.



"KRISHNA HAD SET HIS HEART ON RUKMINI, THE LOVELY DAUGHTER OF BHEESHMAKA, KING OF VIDARBHA.



"SINCE THE TIME SHE WAS A LITTLE GIRL, RUKMINI HAD HEARD OF THE EXPLOITS OF KRISHNA.



"RUKMINI HAD FIVE BROTHERS — RUKMI, RUKMARATHA, RUKMABAHU, RUKMAKESHA AND RUKMAMALI.



"RUKMINI WAS HEARTBROKEN.



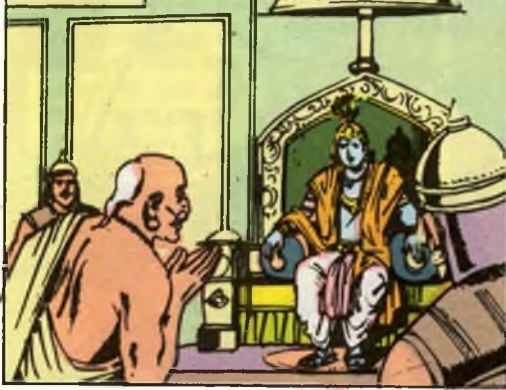
"SHE WAS PLUNGED IN GLOOM FOR A WHILE.



"SHE THOUGHT OF A WAY OUT AND SENT FOR AN OLD TRUSTED BRAHMIN.



"THE OLD BRAHMIN SET OUT FOR DWARAKA AT ONCE. ON REACHING THE ROYAL PALACE HE BEHELD KRISHNA SEATED ON A GOLDEN THRONE.



"KRISHNA RECEIVED THE BRAHMIN WITH DUE RESPECT.

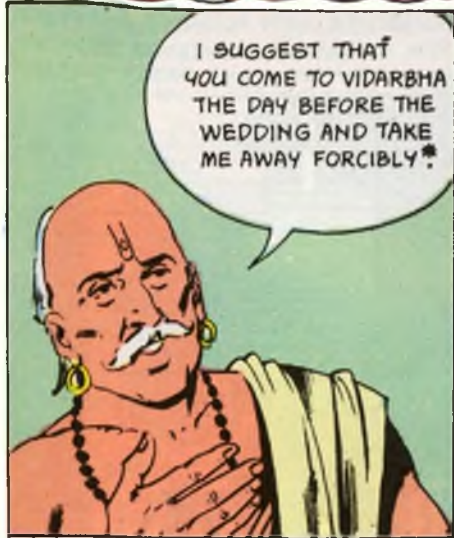
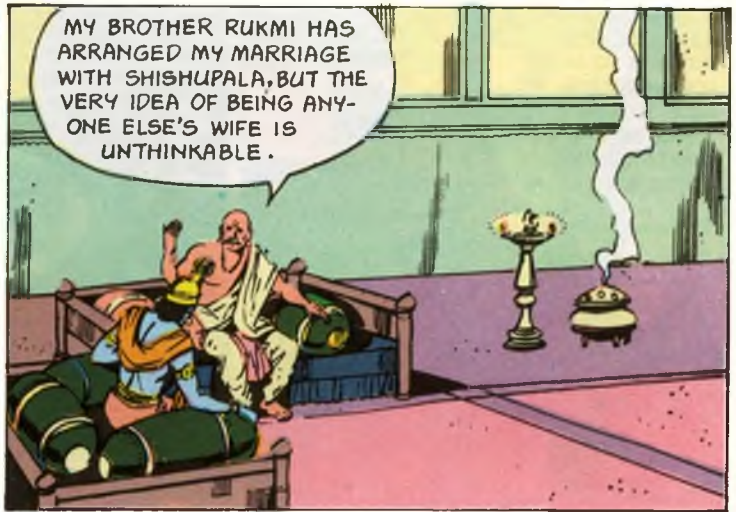


"AFTER THE BRAHMIN HAD BEEN FED AND REFRESHED, KRISHNA ASKED HIM THE PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT.



"THE BRAHMIN DUTIFULLY REPEATED THE LONG MESSAGE GIVEN BY RUKMINI.





"KRISHNA CONFESSED—

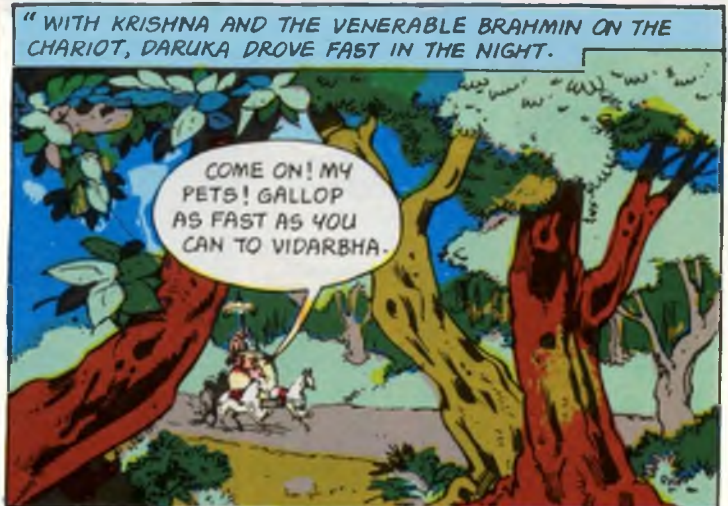


* SUCH A MARRIAGE WAS CALLED 'RAKSHASA VIVAHA' AND HAD SOCIAL SANCTION.



HURRY UP AND PREPARE TO LEAVE FOR VIDARBHA. WE HAVE TO REACH THERE BEFORE NIGHTFALL DAY AFTER TOMORROW.

I'LL BE READY AT ONCE.



"WITH KRISHNA AND THE VENERABLE BRAHMIN ON THE CHARIOT, DARUKA DROVE FAST IN THE NIGHT.

COME ON! MY PETS! GALLOP AS FAST AS YOU CAN TO VIDARBHA.



"KUNTINAPURA, THE CAPITAL OF VIDARBHA BORE A FESTIVE LOOK. THE STREETS HAD BEEN CLEANED. COLOURFUL BUNTING AND BANNERS FLUTTERED IN THE BREEZE.



"PEOPLE BEDECKED THEMSELVES WITH FLOWERS, ORNAMENTS AND BRIGHT NEW CLOTHES. THE AROMA OF INCENSE PERVADED THE AIR AS THE BRAHMINS CHANTED HYMNS FROM THE VEDAS.



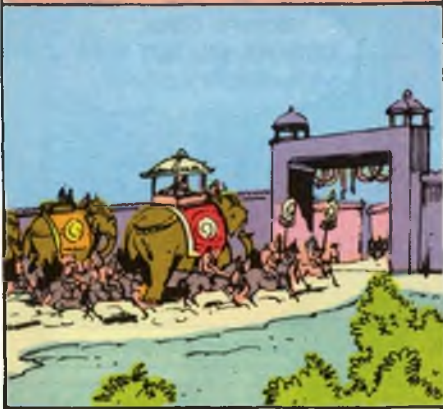
"AFTER A CEREMONIAL BATH, RUKMINI WAS DRESSED IN NEW CLOTHES AND GLITTERING ORNAMENTS.

YOU LOOK SO BEAUTIFUL. LET ME TIE THIS AUSPICIOUS THREAD ON YOUR WRIST.

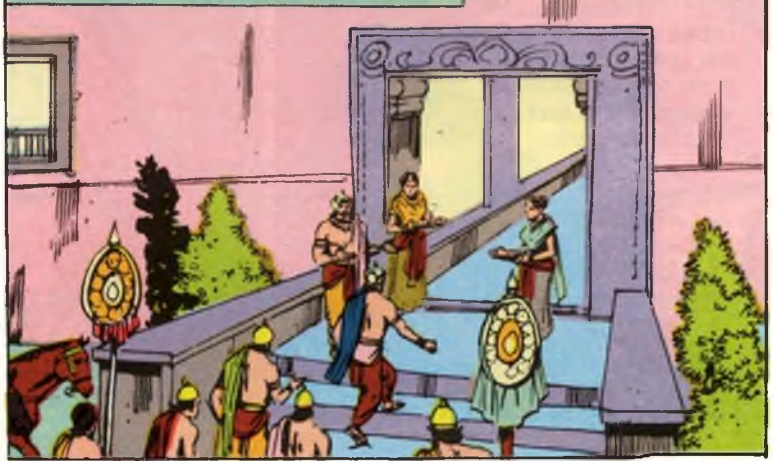


"MEANWHILE, TRADITIONAL RITES WERE ALSO PERFORMED ON THE BRIDEGROOM, SHISHUPALA.

"ACCOMPANIED BY A LARGE ARMY OF DECORATED CHARIOTS, ELEPHANTS, HORSES AND SOLDIERS, THE GROOM'S PARTY REACHED KUNDINAPURA.



"BHEESHMAKA WELCOMED THEM WITH DUE HONOUR AND LED THEM TO THEIR APPOINTED PALACES.



"WITH SHISHUPALA CAME JARASANDHA, DANTAVAKRA, VIDURATHA AND PAUNDRAKA, ALL OF WHOM, AS ALLIES OF SHISHUPALA, HATED KRISHNA.



"BY NOW RUKMINI WAS SICK WITH WORRY."



"WHEN SHE OPENED HER EYES, SHE CAUGHT SIGHT OF THE OLD BRAHMIN."



"SHE HURRIED UP TO HIM."



"RUKMINI'S HEART OVERFLOWED WITH HAPPINESS."



"THE NEWS OF KRISHNA'S ARRIVAL REACHED BHEESHMAKA."



"BALARAMA WITH HIS ARMY HAD BY NOW CAUGHT UP WITH KRISHNA. THEY TOO WERE WARMLY RECEIVED BY BHEESHMAKA."



"THE NEWS OF KRISHNA'S ARRIVAL SPREAD QUICKLY."



"THEY THROGGED THE PALACE WHERE KRISHNA WAS STAYING."



"FOLLOWED BY A GROUP OF SOLDIERS, RUKMINI MADE HER WAY TO THE TEMPLE OF GODDESS PARVATI."



"SHE SEEMED LOST IN THOUGHT AS SHE WALKED ALONG WITH HER ATTENDANTS AND RELATIVES."



"THE OLDER WOMEN GUIDED HER IN THE RITUALS."



"IN A SOFT VOICE, RUKMINI SAID—"



"DEVOTEDLY RUKMINI WORSHIPPED THE GODDESS, WITH OFFERINGS OF SANDAL-PASTE, GARLANDS, FRUITS AND SWEETS. THEN SHE STEPPED OUT OF THE TEMPLE.



"WHEN THE KINGS ASSEMBLED IN THE CITY BEHELD HER BEAUTIFUL FORM AS SHE EMERGED FROM THE TEMPLE, THEY STOOD ENRAPTURED.



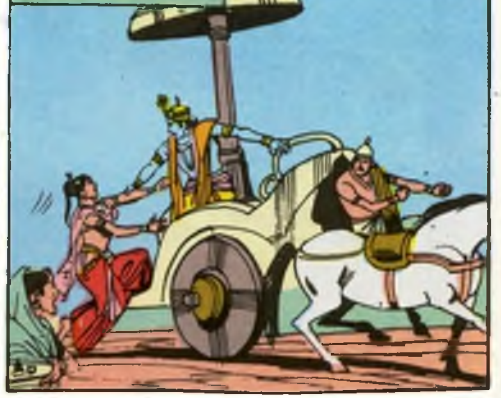
"BUT IGNORING THEIR AMAZED LOOKS, RUKMINI WALKED ON, GENTLY LIFTING THE TRESSES FALLING ON HER PRETTY FACE. SHE LOOKED UP AT LAST...



... AND HER GAZE FELL DIRECTLY ON KRISHNA.



"BEFORE ANY ONE KNEW WHAT WAS HAPPENING, KRISHNA REACHED WHERE RUKMINI STOOD.



"AND LIFTING HER UP, PLACED HER ON HIS CHARIOT.



"LIKE A LION TAKING AWAY HIS SHARE FROM THE SURROUNDING JACKALS, KRISHNA SPED AWAY WITH RUKMINI."



"BALARAMA AND HIS ARMY FOLLOWED THEM SWIFTLY."



"WHEN JARASANDHA AND THE OTHER KINGS RECOVERED FROM THE SHOCK OF THE QUICK PACE OF EVENTS, THEY CRIED —

"FIE ON US! WE WERE LEFT HOLDING OUR BOWS WHILE THAT COWHERD WOUNDED OUR PRIDE AND WENT AWAY WITH RUKMINI."

"COME, DON YOUR ARMOUR."



"THE KINGS AND THEIR ARMIES FOLLOWED KRISHNA'S TRAIL, WITH THEIR BOWS STRUNG IN READINESS."



"SKILLED AS THEY WERE IN ARCHERY, JARASANDHA'S SOLDIERS SOON COVERED KRISHNA'S ARMY WITH A SHOWER OF ARROWS."



"THE SOLDIERS OF BALARAMA'S ARMY VALIANTLY RESPONDED TO THE ATTACK."



"RUKMINI TURNED TO KRISHNA WITH HER BEAUTIFUL EYES WIDENED IN FEAR."



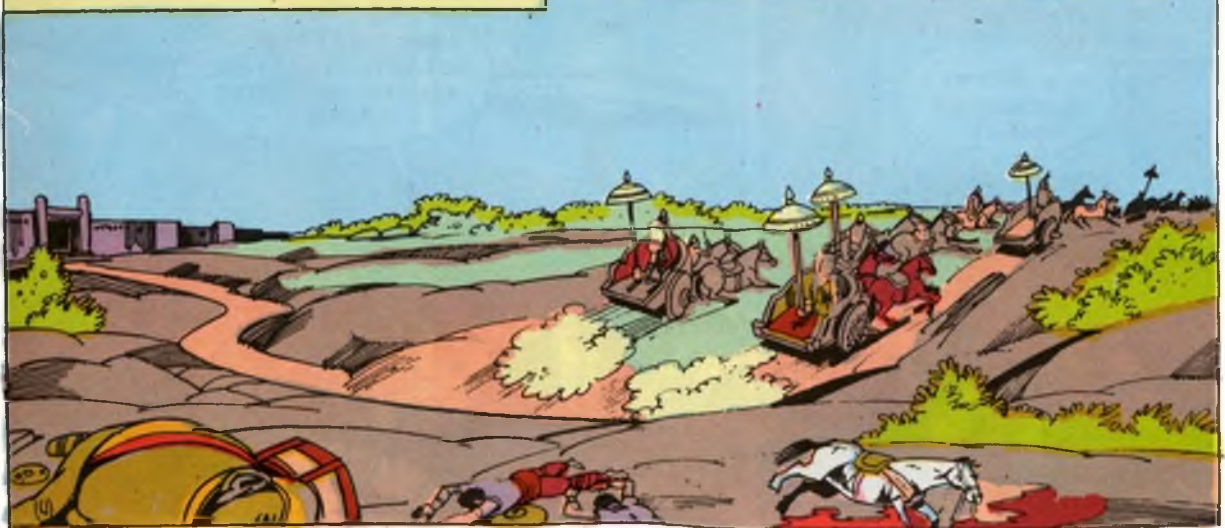
DON'T BE AFRAID,
O BEAUTIFUL ONE! JUST
WATCH HOW YOUR ARMY
DESTROYS THE ENEMIES.



"TRUE TO KRISHNA'S WORDS, THE YADAVA ARMY CHIEFS LIKE GADA AND BALARAMA ANNIHILATED THEIR FOES. SOON THE PATH WAS STREWN WITH FALLEN HORSES, ELEPHANTS AND BROKEN CHARIOTS."



"THE SIGHT OF SO MANY OF THEIR SOLDIERS SLAIN IN BATTLE PUT FEAR INTO THE HEARTS OF THEIR KINGS. JARASANDHA AND HIS ALLIES FLED."



"SHISHUPALA COULD NOT GET OVER THE FACT THAT HIS BRIDE-TO-BE HAD BEEN KIDNAPPED. HE WAS STRICKEN WITH SORROW AND SHOCK."



"JARASANDHA TRIED TO CONSOLE HIM."



"THUS CONSOLED BY HIS FRIENDS, SHISHUPALA RETURNED TO HIS CAPITAL. BUT RUKMI'S ANGER KNEW NO BOUNDS."



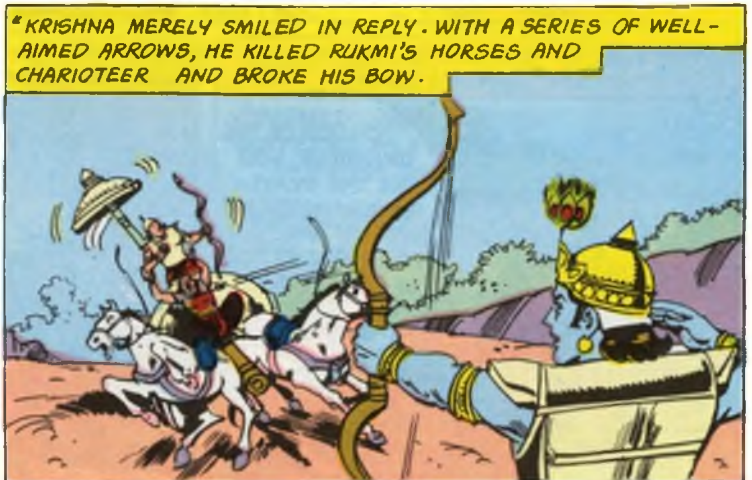
"HE PUT ON HIS ARMOUR AND GATHERED HIS WEAPONS TO FOLLOW KRISHNA."



"JUMPING ON TO HIS CHARIOT HE SAID—



"UNAWARE OF THE DIVINE POWERS OF KRISHNA, RUKMI SPED AHEAD OF HIS ARMY TO CONFRONT KRISHNA ALONE.



"RUKMI PICKED UP BOW AFTER BOW, ONLY TO HAVE THEM BROKEN BY KRISHNA'S SHARP ARROWS. HE THEN TRIED OTHER WEAPONS—THE MACE, THE JAVELIN, THE SHAKTI* AND THE SHIELD.



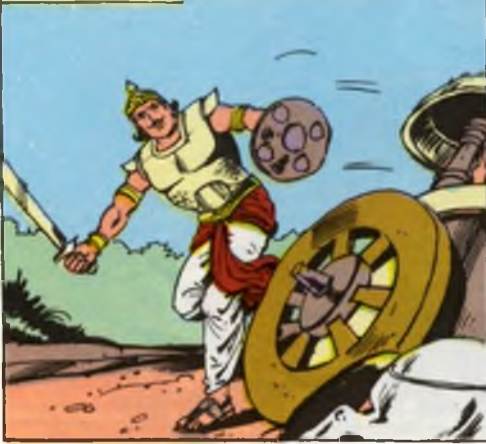
"BUT KRISHNA DESTROYED ALL OF THEM WITH EASE. RUKMI'S ANGER AND FRUSTRATION KNEW NO BOUNDS.



* A POWERFUL WEAPON.

amar chitra katha

"SWORD IN HAND, RUKMI JUMPED DOWN FROM HIS CHARIOT AND CHARGED AT KRISHNA, LIKE A MOTH FLYING TOWARDS A FLAME.



"BUT KRISHNA'S ARROWS REDUCED HIS SWORD AND SHIELD TO PIECES.



"WHEN KRISHNA TOOK UP HIS OWN SWORD AND ADVANCED TOWARDS RUKMI —



"RUKMINI'S VOICE WAS CHOKED WITH EMOTION AND SHE WAS TREMBLING WITH FEAR.



FOR HER SAKE, I'LL SPARE HIS LIFE BUT I MUST TEACH HIM A LESSON.



"FIRST KRISHNA TIED RUKMI UP.



"WITH HIS SWORD KRISHNA SHAVED OFF PATCHES OF HAIR FROM RUKMI'S HEAD AND MOUSTACHE."



"BY THEN, BALARAMA AND THE YADAVA ARMY ARRIVED ON THE SCENE, AFTER HAVING DESTROYED RUKMI'S SOLDIERS. BALARAMA WAS SHOCKED TO SEE RUKMI'S DISFIGURED STATE."



DISFIGURING A RELATIVE IS AS BAD AS KILLING HIM.



"ADDRESSING RUKMINI, BALARAMA SAID —

NOBLE ONE, DON'T THINK ILL OF US BECAUSE OF WHAT HAPPENED. YOUR BROTHER SUFFERED AS A RESULT OF HIS OWN DEEDS."



ALAS! THE DHARMA OF THE KSHATRIYAS* IS SUCH THAT A MAN MAY KILL HIS OWN BROTHER IN WAR.



YET IT IS NOBLE, KRISHNA, TO FORGIVE THE WORST ACT OF YOUR RELATIVES. LET HIM GO; DON'T KILL HIM. HIS OWN GUILT WILL DESTROY HIM.



* THOSE BELONGING TO THE WARRIOR CASTE.

"TO CONSOLE RUKMINI HE SAID —



IT IS FOR HIS OWN GOOD THAT YOUR BROTHER HAS BEEN PUNISHED.

"RUKMI COULD NOT GET OVER HIS HUMILIATION.



HOW CAN I RETURN TO MY CAPITAL IN THIS STATE? I WILL HAVE TO FIND ANOTHER PLACE TO LIVE.

"RUKMI BUILT A CITY WHICH HE NAMED BHOJKAT.



I SHALL NOT ENTER KUNDINAPURA TILL I SLAY THAT WICKED KRISHNA AND RESCUE MY LITTLE SISTER.

"AFTER REACHING DWARAKA THE FORMAL WEDDING CEREMONY OF KRISHNA AND RUKMINI WAS PERFORMED WITH DUE POMP.





"PRADYUMNA WAS VERY GOOD-LOOKING AND WAS IN FACT AN INCARNATION OF KAMADEVA, THE GOD OF LOVE."



"WHEN PRADYUMNA WAS JUST TEN DAYS OLD, A DEMON NAMED SHAMBARASURA KIDNAPPED HIM."



"THE WICKED DEMON THREW PRADYUMNA INTO THE SEA."

HE WAS DESTINED TO BE MY FOE! I MUST GET RID OF HIM.



"A HUGE FISH SWALLOWED THE TINY BABY. BUT SOON—"

WHAT A FINE FISH! I WILL PRESENT IT TO OUR KING SHAMBARASURA.



"WHEN SHAMBARASURA'S COOK CUT OPEN THE BIG FISH, HE WAS ASTONISHED.



MAYAVATI WAS IN FACT RATI, THE WIFE OF KAMDEVA. WHEN SHE LEARNT FROM NARADA THAT THE BABY WAS NONE OTHER THAN AN INCARNATION OF HER HUSBAND, KAMADEVA, MAYAVATI WAS THRILLED. DAYS SPED BY AND SOON PRADYUMNA GREW UP TO BE A YOUNG MAN.



"MAYAVATI NARRATED THE STORY OF HIS BIRTH TO PRADYUMNA.



"AS ADVISED BY MAYAVATI, PRADYUMNA PURPOSELY PICKED UP A FIGHT WITH SHAMBARASURA.

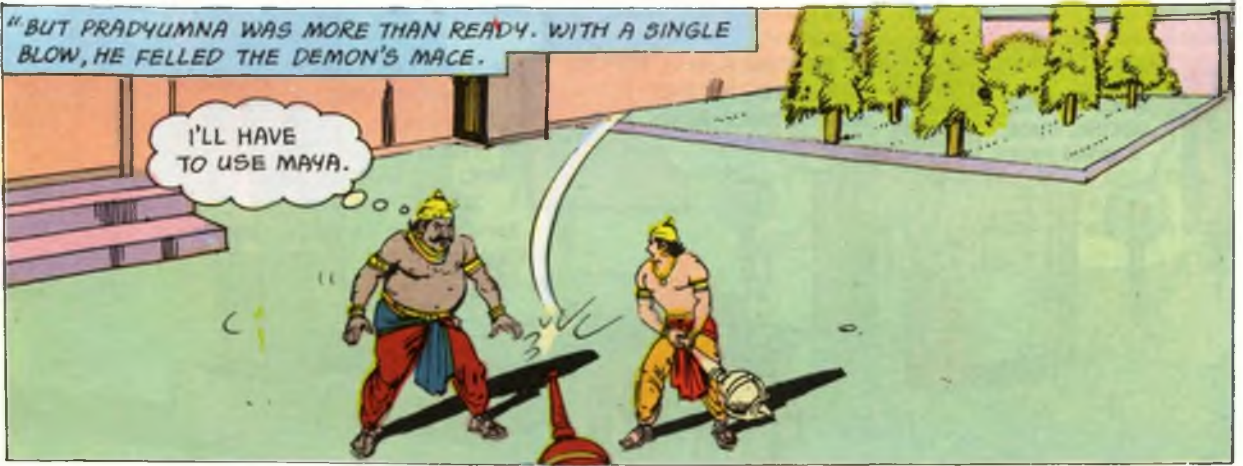


"BRANDISHING HIS MACE FEARFULLY, SHAMBARASURA CAME TOWARDS PRADYUMNA.



* GREAT + ILLUSORY POWERS.

"BUT PRADYUMNA WAS MORE THAN READY. WITH A SINGLE BLOW, HE FELLED THE DEMON'S MACE."



"SHAMBARASURA ROSE RAPIDLY IN THE AIR AND BEGAN TO RAIN WEAPONS DOWN ON PRADYUMNA."



"WITH THE HELP OF MAHA-MAYA, PRADYUMNA COULD COUNTER ALL THE WICKED MOVES OF THE ASURA. FINALLY HE TOOK UP A SHARP SWORD ..."



"MAYAVATI TOOK PRADYUMNA TO DWARAKA."



"SHE LED THE BRAVE PRADYUMNA TO KRISHNA'S PALACE."





"RUKMINI TOO NOTICED PRADYUMNA'S RESEMBLANCE TO KRISHNA."



"KRISHNA TOO CAME ON THE SCENE BUT STOOD BY SILENTLY, AS IF HE KNEW NOTHING. THEN NARADA ARRIVED THERE AND NARRATED THE PAST EVENTS."

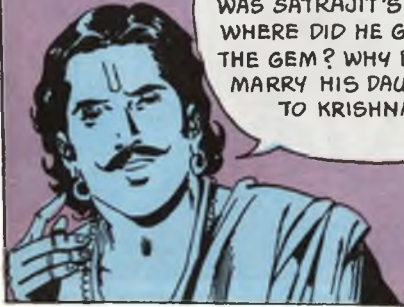


SHUKADEVA THEN NARRATED THE STORY OF KRISHNA'S MARRIAGE TO JAMBAVATI AND SATYABHAMA.



PAREEKSHIT INTERRUPTED THE NARRATION.

NO, NO, TELL ME EVERYTHING IN DETAIL. WHO WAS SATRAJIT? WHAT WAS SATRAJIT'S CRIME? WHERE DID HE GET THE GEM? WHY DID HE MARRY HIS DAUGHTER TO KRISHNA?



"IN DWARAKA THERE LIVED SATRAJIT WHO WAS A GREAT DEVOTEE OF SURYA, THE SUN GOD. ONE DAY SURYA APPEARED BEFORE HIM.



I AM PLEASED WITH YOUR DEVOTION. TAKE THIS SYAMANTAKA GEM.

"WHEN SATRAJIT WORE THE JEWEL ON HIS NECK, HE LOOKED AS RESPLENDENT AS THE SUN. WHEN HE ENTERED THE CITY —



WHAT IS THAT STRANGE GLARE? I CAN'T OPEN MY EYES!

HAS THE SUN COME DOWN TO EARTH?

LET'S GO AND TELL KRISHNA.

"THEY FOUND KRISHNA PLAYING DICE.



KRISHNA! O KRISHNA! SEE LORD SURYA IS HERE!



PERHAPS HE IS LOOKING FOR YOU.

"KRISHNA LAUGHED AND SAID —



OH THAT! IT'S NOT THE SUN. THAT'S SATRAJIT WEARING A BRILLIANT JEWEL.

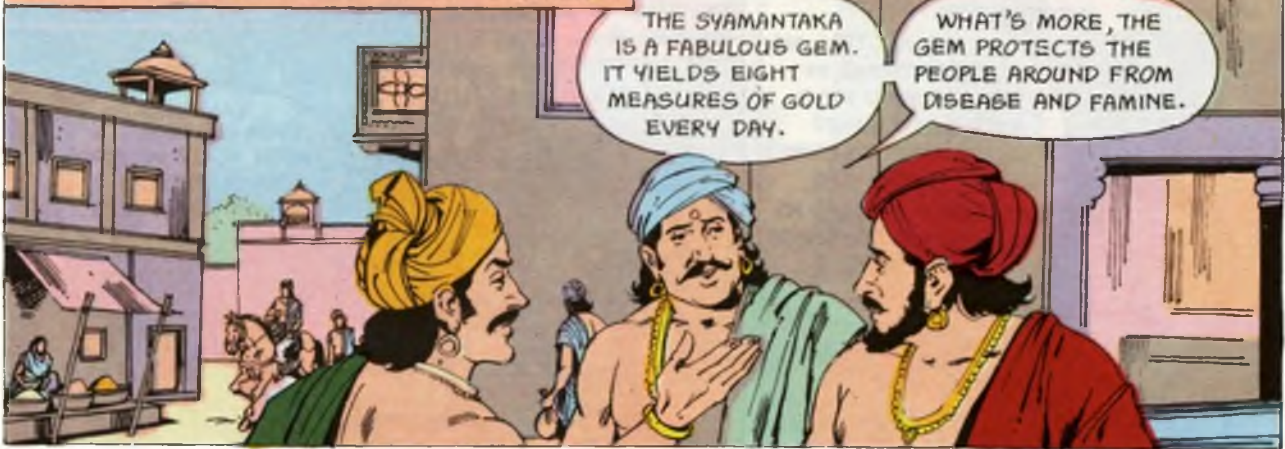
"AFTER DISPLAYING THE SYAMANTAKA GEM TO HIS PEOPLE, SATRAJIT HAD IT INSTALLED IN A SMALL PRAYER ROOM.



"SOON THE FAME OF THE GEM BEGAN TO SPREAD."

THE SYAMANTAKA IS A FABULOUS GEM. IT YIELDS EIGHT MEASURES OF GOLD EVERY DAY.

WHAT'S MORE, THE GEM PROTECTS THE PEOPLE AROUND FROM DISEASE AND FAMINE.



"ONE DAY KRISHNA VISITED SATRAJIT."

EVERYONE IN DWARAKA IS TALKING ABOUT YOUR FANTASTIC GEM.

YES, IT IS INDEED EXTRAORDINARY.



NOW THAT YOU HAVE ENOUGH GOLD, WHY DON'T YOU GIVE THE GEM TO OUR KING, UGRASENA?

WHY SHOULD I? IT BELONGS TO ME.



"THOUGH HE REFUSED TO GIVE IT TO THE KING, SATRAJIT GAVE THE GEM TO HIS BROTHER PRASENA."

I'LL KEEP IT JUST FOR A DAY.

BE CAREFUL WHILE YOU GO HUNTING.



"WHILE HE WAS OUT HUNTING, PRASENA WAS KILLED BY A LION."



"THE LION WAS FASCINATED BY THE BRILLIANCE OF THE GEM AND TOOK IT AWAY TO HIS DEN. JUST THEN —



"IT WAS JAMBAVAN, THE BEAR WHO HAD ATTACKED THE LION. JAMBAVAN GAVE THE GEM TO HIS LITTLE SON TO PLAY WITH.



"MEANWHILE IN DWARAKA, SATRAJIT WAS GETTING ANXIOUS ABOUT HIS BROTHER.



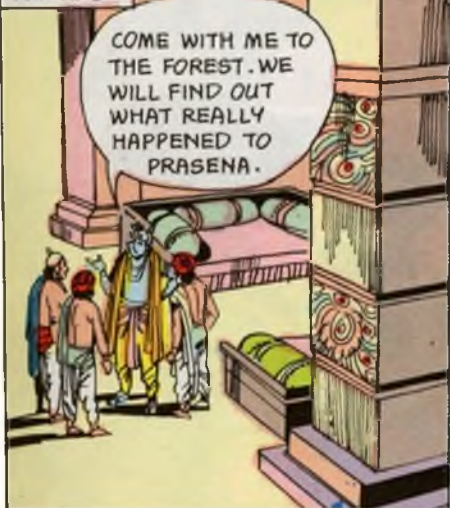
"SATRAJIT'S WORDS OF ACCUSATION TRAVELLED FROM MOUTH TO MOUTH.



"KRISHNA TOO HEARD OF IT.



"HE CONFIDED IN SOME OF HIS FRIENDS.



"SOON KRISHNA AND HIS COMPANIONS FOUND THE BODIES OF PRASENA AND HIS HORSE.



"FOLLOWING THE LION'S TRACK THEY REACHED A CAVE ON THE MOUNTAIN SIDE.



"KRISHNA SAID —



"WHEN HE ENTERED THE DARK CAVE —



"QUIETLY KRISHNA APPROACHED THE CUBS; BUT THE MOTHER SENSED HIS PRESENCE.



"HER CRY BROUGHT JAMBAVAN THERE AND HE ANGRILY ATTACKED KRISHNA.



"LIKE TWO EAGLES FIGHTING OVER A PIECE OF MEAT, KRISHNA AND JAMBAVAN FOUGHT EACH OTHER.



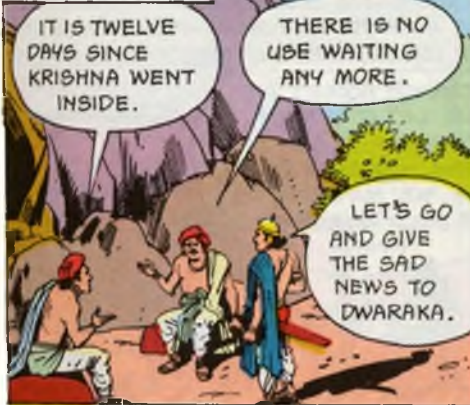
"THEY FOUGHT WITH ROCKS AND WITH TREE TRUNKS.



"THEN THEY WRESTLED WITH EACH OTHER, BUT SO STRONG AND WELL-MATCHED WERE THE TWO THAT THE FIGHT WENT ON AND ON.



"KRISHNA'S COMPANIONS NOW BEGAN TO LOSE PATIENCE.



IT IS TWELVE DAYS SINCE KRISHNA WENT INSIDE.

THERE IS NO USE WAITING ANY MORE.

LET'S GO AND GIVE THE SAD NEWS TO DWARAKA.

"MEANWHILE, INSIDE THE CAVE JAMBAVAN MET HIS MATCH IN KRISHNA. AFTER 20 DAYS' CONTINUOUS FIGHT—



LORD! I KNOW WHO YOU ARE.

"KRISHNA AFFECTIONATELY PATTED JAMBAVAN AND SAID—



I CAME HERE IN SEARCH OF THE SYAMANTAKA GEM. I NEED IT TO PROVE MY INNOCENCE.



MOST HAPPILY I'LL GIVE YOU NOT ONLY THE GEM BUT ALSO MY DAUGHTER JAMBAVATI.

"KRISHNA RETURNED TO DWARAKA WITH THE GEM AND JAMBAVATI.



KRISHNA IS BACK. KRISHNA IS HERE.

WITH THE GEM AROUND HIS NECK AND A BEAUTIFUL MAIDEN WITH HIM.

"KRISHNA SUMMONED SATRAJIT TO KING UGRASENA'S COURT—



IN THE PRESENCE OF THIS GATHERING, I WANT TO RELATE HOW THE GEM CAME TO BE IN MY POSSESSION.

"SATRAJIT FELT TERRIBLY EMBARRASSED WHEN HE HEARD THE WHOLE STORY. WITH HIS HEAD HUNG LOW, HE MEEKLY ACCEPTED THE GEM BACK ON KRISHNA'S INSISTENCE."



"SATRAJIT WAS UNHAPPY AND WORRIED."



"AT LAST HE DECIDED —"

MY LOVE FOR THE JEWEL MADE ME MALIGN HIM. NOW I'LL GIVE MY JEWEL-LIKE DAUGHTER TO KRISHNA IN MARRIAGE.



I OFFER YOU MY DAUGHTER SATYABHAMA AS WELL AS THE SYAMANTAKA GEM.



"KRISHNA ACCEPTED SATYABHAMA AND MARRIED HER WITH DUE CEREMONY."

I CANNOT ACCEPT THE GEM. LET IT REMAIN WITH YOU AS A GIFT OF SURYA. HOWEVER IF YOU WISH, YOU MAY GIVE US THE GOLD PRODUCED FROM IT.



"SATYABHAMA WAS VERY BEAUTIFUL AND MANY A YOUNG MAN OF DWARAKA HAD HOPED TO MARRY HER. AMONG THEM WERE AKKURA AND KRITAVARMA."



"THEY WENT TO SHATADHANVA, ANOTHER YADAVA, WHO HAD HOPED FOR SATYABHAMA'S HAND."



"SHATADHANVA AGREED. IN THE DEAD OF THE NIGHT HE WENT TO SATRAJIT'S HOUSE. NEXT MORNING —



OH! MY POOR FATHER HAS BEEN KILLED! THE GEM HAS BEEN STOLEN!

"MEANWHILE KRISHNA AND BALARAMA HAD GONE TO HASTINAPURA. SATYA-BHAMA FOLLOWED THEM THERE.



I FEEL SO HELPLESS AND ALONE.

DON'T WORRY. WE WILL GO TO DWARAKA AND FIND THE KILLER AND THE GEM.

"SHATADHANVA WAS SCARED TO HEAR OF KRISHNA'S RETURN. HE RAN FOR HELP TO KRITAVARMA.



HELP ME! SAVE ME FROM KRISHNA.

NO! I WILL NOT CONFRONT KRISHNA.

"WHEN KRITAVARMA REFUSED TO HELP, SHATADHANVA PLEADED WITH AKRURA, BUT IN VAIN.



NO! WHO WOULD DARE TO FACE KRISHNA WHO PLAYFULLY HELD MOUNT GOVARDHANA ON HIS HAND FOR SEVEN DAYS. NOT ME!

THEN I MUST FLEE! AT LEAST KEEP THIS GEM WITH YOU.

"SHATADHANVA SPED AWAY ON HORSEBACK. BUT SOON KRISHNA AND BALARAMA WERE ON HIS TRAIL.



THERE HE IS! HE'S JUMPED OFF FROM HIS HORSE.

LET'S RUN AFTER HIM.

"KRISHNA AND BALARAMA GOT DOWN FROM THE CHARIOT AND RAN AFTER SHATADHANVA. KRISHNA AIMED HIS CHAKRA AT SHATADHANVA.



"BUT WHEN THEY SEARCHED HIM FOR THE GEM —



OH! HE DOESN'T HAVE THE GEM. WE NEED NOT HAVE KILLED HIM.

HE MUST HAVE GIVEN IT TO SOMEONE FOR SAFE KEEPING.

"KRISHNA RETURNED TO DWARAKA ALONE WHILE BALARAMA PAID A VISIT TO MITHILA. MEANWHILE AKRURA AND KRITAVARMA HAD LEFT THE TOWN.

KRISHNA HAS
KILLED
SHATADHANVA.

HE WILL COME
AFTER US NOW.
LET'S RUN
AWAY.

"KRISHNA SENT FOR AKRURA.

UNCLE, I KNOW THAT
SHATADHANVA LEFT THE
GEM WITH YOU. RIGHTFULLY
IT BELONGS TO SATRAJIT'S
DESCENDANTS AND THERE-
FORE TO MY SON.

HOWEVER YOU MAY
KEEP THE SYAMAN-
TAKA GEM. JUST ALLOW
ME TO SHOW IT TO
EVERYONE IN DWARAKA
AND CLEAR MY NAME.

HERE,
HAVE IT.

KRISHNA THEN SHOWED
THE JEWEL TO THE PEOPLE
OF DWARAKA. HAVING
CLEARED ALL DOUBTS FROM
THE MINDS OF THE PEOPLE,
HE RETURNED THE GEM
TO AKRURA.

THUS ENDS THE SIXTH SESSION OF OUR RENDERING OF THE
TENTH CHAPTER OF THE BHAGAWAT PURANA.