

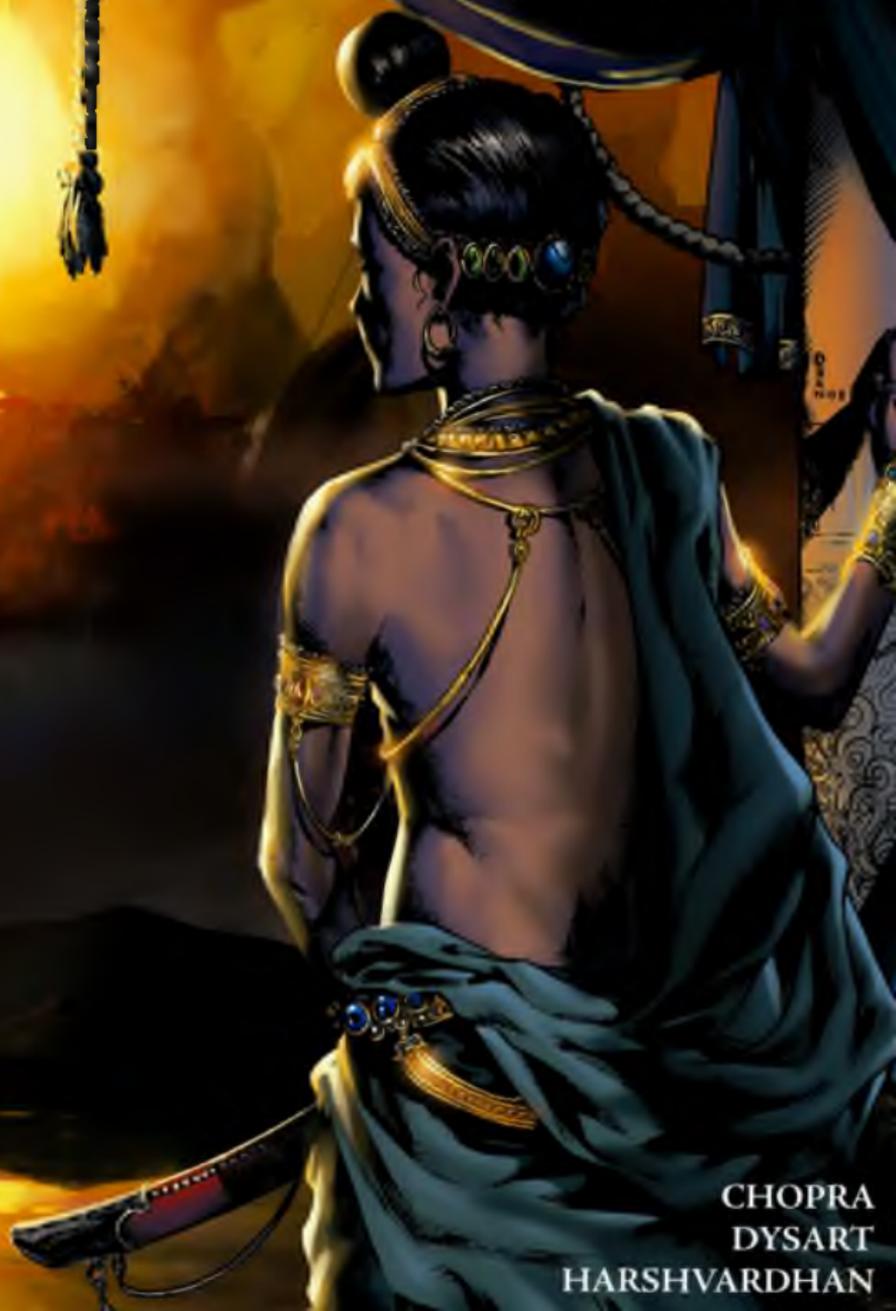


ISSUE 3

Deepak Chopra's

Buddha™

A Story of Enlightenment



CHOPRA
DYSART
HARSHVARDHAN

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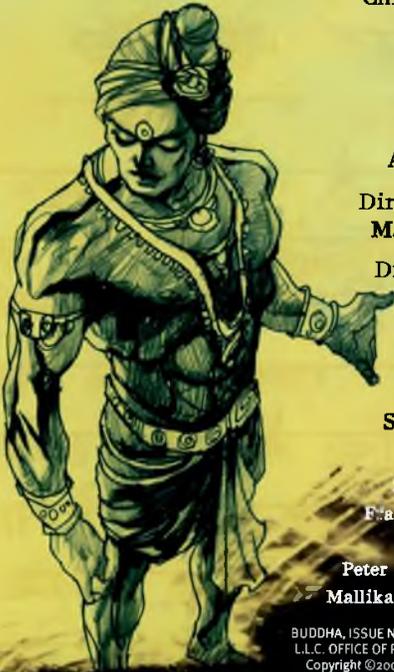
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The story so far...

As prince Siddhartha matures from a thoughtful, introspective child into a conflicted young man, he finds life within the confines of his father's palace constricting. Though his every whim is catered to, he has no real freedom, and with the introduction of his angry, violent cousin, Devadatta, he has no peace.

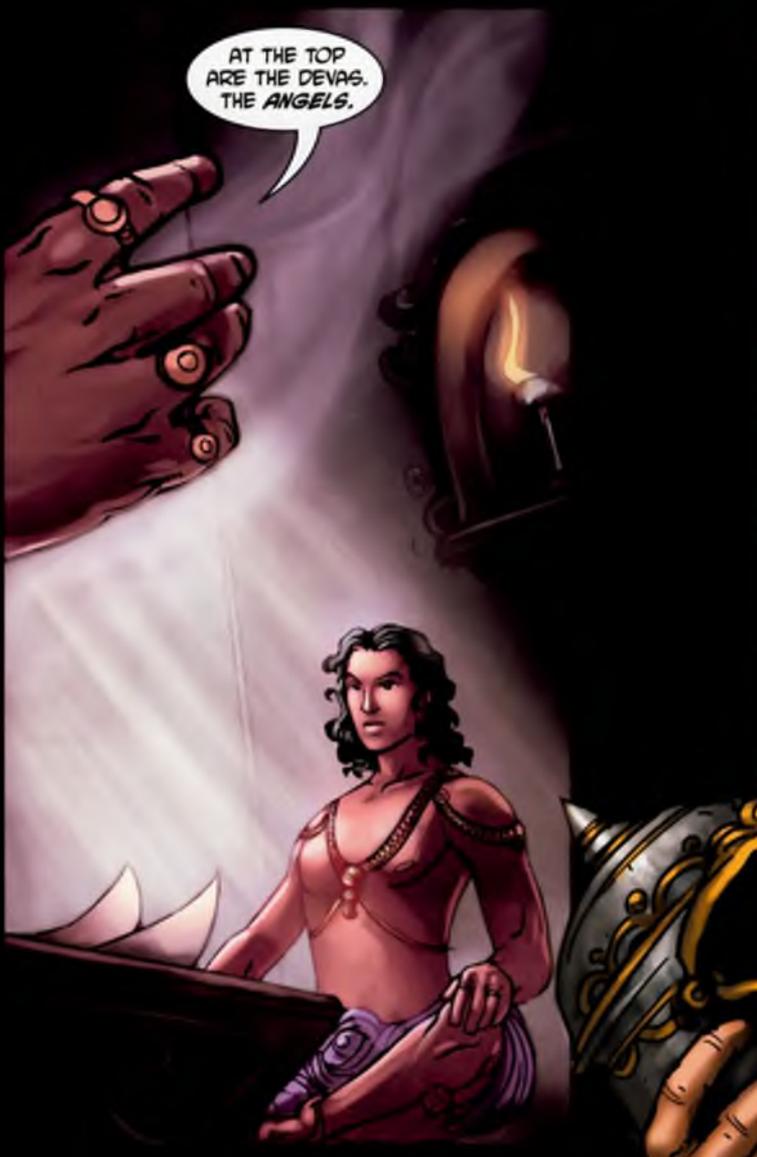
After witnessing the mercy killing of an old, sick mare, he can no longer find comfort in the simple pleasures of childhood. But it is his seemingly chance encounter with Asita the monk that will change his life forever, as he teaches the young boy what it means to truly let go. Meanwhile, Devadatta is learning a different path from the lying, vengeful demon Mara, who will stop at nothing to ensure that Siddhartha will not survive long enough to become The Enlightened One....



LISTEN NOW,
SIDDHARTHA. THE WHEEL
OF BECOMING HAS SIX
DIVISIONS.



AT THE TOP
ARE THE DEVAS.
THE *ANGELS*.



"THOSE WHO SHALL
HAVE SUPREME WORLDLY
SUCCESSSES."





THE MORNING FOLLOWING
SIDDHARTHA'S 18th BIRTHDAY
FEAST, KING SUDDHODANA
PROVIDED HIS GUESTS WITH
GAMES OF WAR.



THE ROYAL, THE WEALTHY, AND
THE RELIGIOUS WITNESSED
FIRST HAND THE KING'S
WAR MACHINE.



SUDDHODANA'S SOLDIERS
WERE ORDERED TO GIVE
AND TAKE GENUINE
WOUNDS...



...AND THREE PIECES OF
GOLD WERE OFFERED UP TO
THE BLOODIEST WARRIORS
OF THE DAY.

ALL TO DISCOURAGE ANY WHO WOULD DARE PLOT AGAINST THE PRINCE AFTER THE KING WAS GONE.

HERE, SIDDHARTHA. YOUR FAVORED STEED AWAITS.

SHE WILL TREAT YOU WELL ON THE FIELD.

THANK YOU, CHANA.

AH, KANTHAKA, YOU LOOK NERVOUS. YOU ALWAYS MIRROR MY SOUL, DON'T YOU.

YOU HAVE AN ADMIRER... BESIDES THE HORSE I MEAN.

SHE'S ONE OF YOUR LADIES IN WAITING. HER NAME IS YASHODHARA.

BROUGHT TO THE COURT, NO DOUBT, FOR YOU.

EEE!

WHAT A FINE SIGHT! THE PRINCE. ALL PACKED IN AND SWOLLEN WITH PRIDE.



WHY EVEN BOTHER? YOU COULD GO OUT THERE NAKED. NO ONE WOULD DARE TOUCH YOU.

FOR FEAR OF A KISS FROM THE CHOPPING BLOCK.



GET OUT OF MY FATHER'S STABLE! YOU'RE NOT WELCOME HERE!

KNOW YOUR PLACE, HALF-CASTE. DO NOT SPEAK TO ME.



YOU COULD CHALLENGE ME, COUSIN DEVADATTA... IF YOU WISH.

COULD I NOW? ON THE FIELD OF BATTLE? IN FRONT OF ALL YOUR FATHER'S COWERING GUESTS?



IF YOU WILL EXCUSE ME, I'M EXPECTED.



NATURALLY!

THE CARNIVAL MUST GO ON.

He will come to save us...
to destroy us... to remake us



PROJECT: KALKI

ISSUE 1
ON SALE NOW





HERE I STAND BEFORE YOU! DEDICATING MY VICTORIES TO YOUR HIGHNESS!

AND I PLEDGE THAT EVERY GLORY IN WAR, HOWEVER MANY BATTLES I AM PRIVILEGED TO FIGHT..



...WILL BE FOR YOUR HONOR AND YOUR KINGDOM! MY FATHER! MY KING!



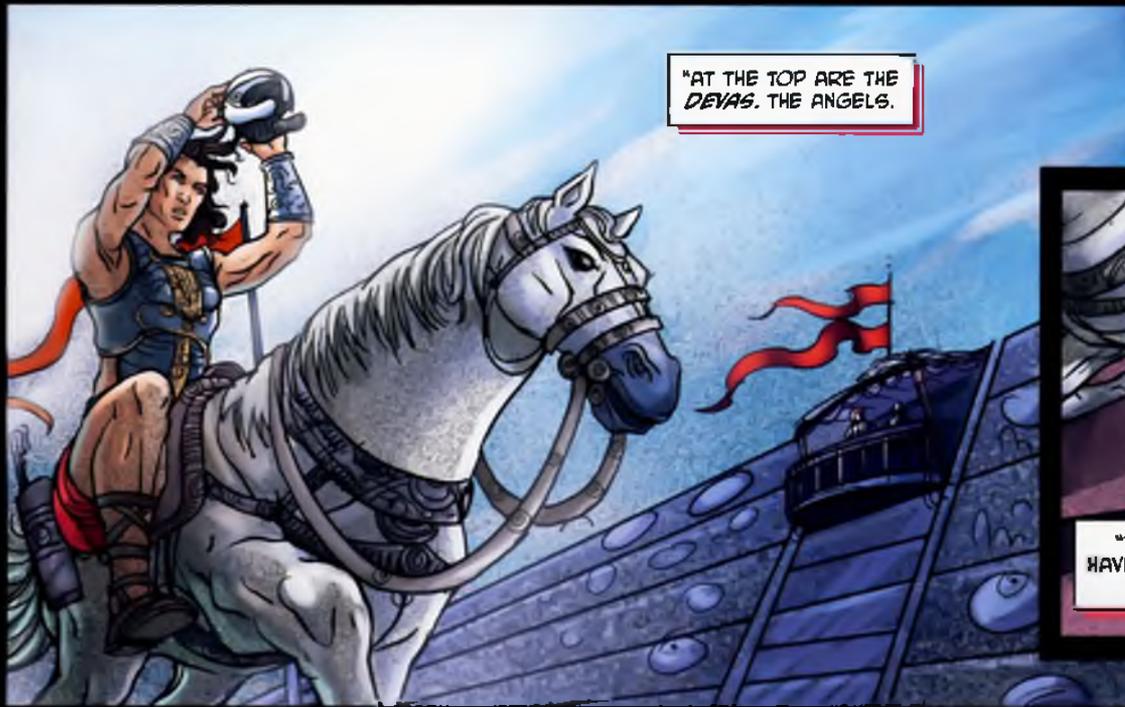
PRINCE SIDDHARTHA SHALL NOW DISPLACE FROM THEIR STEEDS NINE OF THE KING'S FINEST ARCHERS, WHILE UNDER FIRE!



"LISTEN, SIDDHARTHA, THE WHEEL OF BECOMING..."



...THE WHEEL OF BECOMING HAS SIX DIVISIONS.



"AT THE TOP ARE THE *DEVAS*. THE ANGELS.



"THOSE WHO SHALL HAVE SUPREME WORLDLY SUCCESSES.



"AT THE BOTTOM ARE THE *NARAKA*.

"THE REALM OF DEMONS AND THOSE WHOM THEY TORTURE.



"ABOVE THE *NARAKA* COME THE *PRETA*. THE HUNGRY GHOSTS.



"NEXT COME THE *HUMAN BEINGS*, BALANCED BETWEEN HEAVEN AND HELL."



"GOING DOWN FROM THE DEVAS ON THE OTHER SIDE WE HAVE THE ASURA."





COME AT ME HARDER!

ANY MAN WHO DRAWS MY BLOOD IN A FAIR FIGHT TODAY WILL BE FORGIVEN BY THE KING!



"THEN THERE ARE THE ANIMALS."



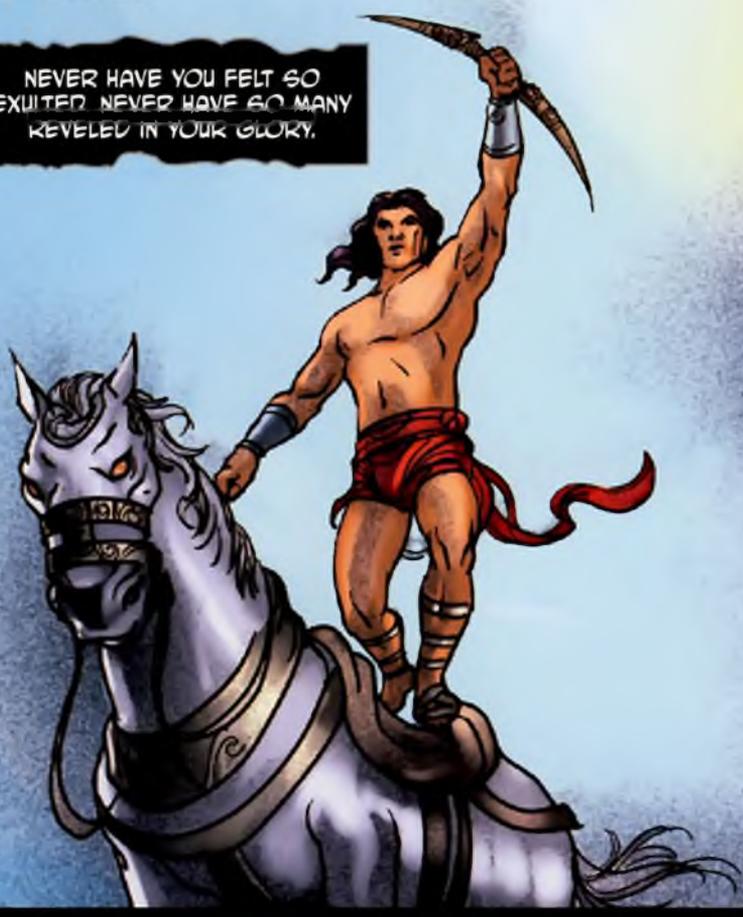
YEAAAAAHHHH!!

YEAAAAAHHHH!!

YEAAAAAHHHH!!

YES...THAT'S
IT, MY PRINCE.

NEVER HAVE YOU FELT SO
EXCITED? NEVER HAVE SO MANY
REVELED IN YOUR GLORY.



LOOK
CHILD, THERE...



>GHNNAAGH...<

LOOK UPON WHAT
YOU HAVE DONE.



NGGGH...



NO!

"INDIA'S ANSWER TO LORD OF THE RINGS"

—THE TIMES OF INDIA

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Drawn by
Alex Ross



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DO SOMETHING!
FATHER!

AMAZING.
SOMEONE WAS
ACTUALLY HURT.



FIRE
THE STAGE
MANAGER!

PHH...LOOK
AT YOU, YOU COULDN'T
HAVE FOUGHT FOR
REAL...



...I SEE
THAT NOW.

YOU WANT
TO FIGHT ME,
DEVADATTA?



COME THEN.
CHALLENGE ME NOW,
OR CHALLENGE ME
NO MORE!



I...



GOOD!
I ACCEPT YOUR
CHALLENGE.



CALM
YOURSELVES.
THERE'S NO REASON
FOR THIS.



IT IS MY
RIGHT, FATHER. I AM
CHALLENGED!



YOU WANT
TO MAKE A SHOW
OF VIOLENCE FOR
THESE PEOPLE,
FATHER?!



YOU WANT
THEM TO KNOW
FEAR?!



SWORD
AND DAGGER!
SWORD AND
DAGGER!!



...HUMAN
BEINGS, BALANCED
BETWEEN HEAVEN
AND HELL.



SWORD AND
DAGGER.



S-SO BE
IT. IF THE PRINCE
DEEMS IT.



IT WAS AT THIS MOMENT
THAT SIDDHARTHA, HIS
FATHER, AND DEVADATTA
ALL CAME TO THE SAME
REALIZATION.

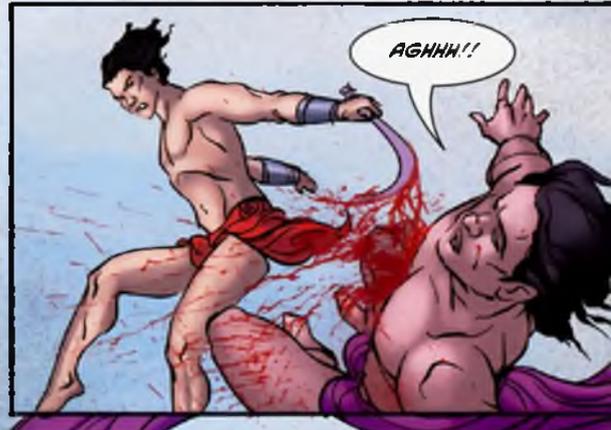


IN GIVING IN TO
CONFLICT...

...EACH MAN FOUND HIMSELF SUDDENLY AND COMPLETELY TRAPPED BY THE OTHERS.



YEAHHHH!



AGHHH!!



NOW IT ENDS, THE TAUNTING! THE BELITTLING!



THE VANITY!

YES YES THIS IS FREEDOM.



THE JEALOUSY!

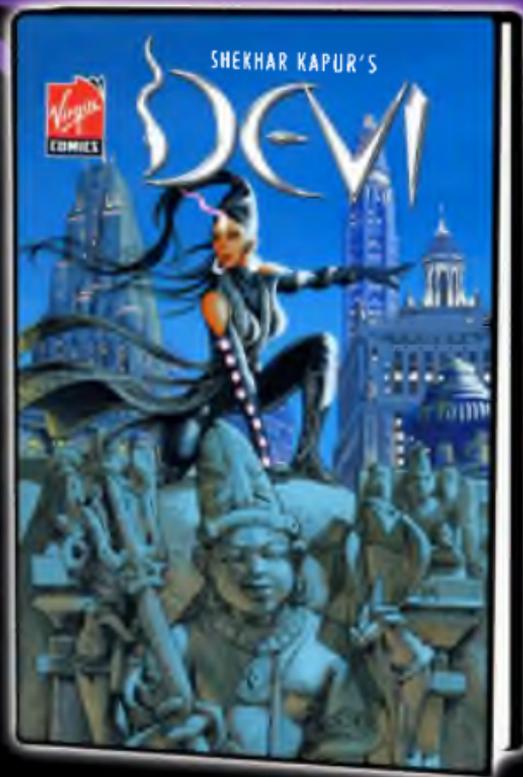
THIS IS WHAT THE GODS FEEL WHEN THEY MEET DEATH.



YNNHHHAA!K

YES, THAT'S IT!

**BETWEEN THE DIVINE AND
THE DIABOLICAL,
THERE IS...**



DEVI

**VOLUME 4 TRADE PAPERBACK
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imaginative comic on the
subject of goddesshood since
Alan Moore's *Promethea*."**

—ComicCritique.com

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GO ON.
KILL THE BOY
YOUR FATHER SENT
AS LONG AS HE'S
AROUND.

WHERE
AM I? WH-WHO
ARE YOU?!



I AM THE
SON YOUR FATHER
ALWAYS WANTED. THE
ONE YOU COULD
BECOME.



DECEIVER.
TELL ME YOUR
NAME!



I AM THE
ONE WHO GAVE
YOU THE WORLD
GIVING YOU TO THIS
WORLD.

I'VE COME
TO BRING YOU PEACE.
I HAVE THE ANSWERS
YOU CRAVE.



KILL THE BOY. MAKE
YOUR FATHER PROUD.
MAKE ME PROUD.

BECOME THE KING YOU
ARE DESTINED TO BE.



WHAT ARE
YOU DOING, MY
PRINCE?

REMEMBERING
SOMETHING. SOMEONE
ONCE SHOWED ME
A PLACE.

A PLACE
OF TOTAL
SURRENDER.

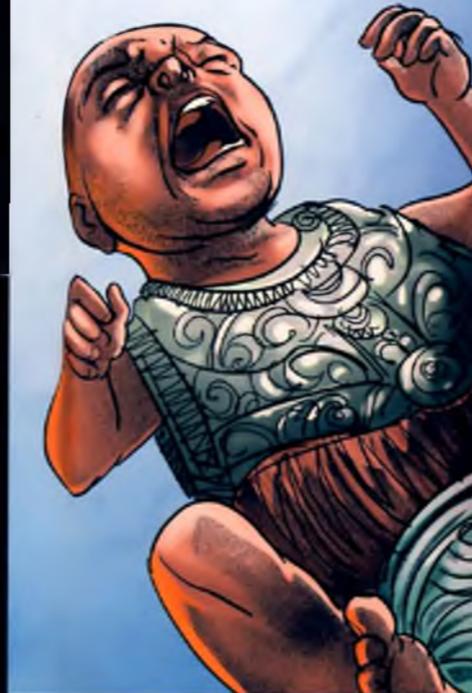
A PLACE WHERE
DEMONS CANNOT
FOLLOW.

IT HAD BEEN MANY
YEARS. BUT THE VOID
REMEMBERED
SIDDHARTHA...

...AND IT GLADLY,
EFFORTLESSLY,
GRANTED HIM
VISIONS...



MOTHER.



FATHER.



ENEMY.



DEMON.



THE WHEEL OF
BECOMING, OF LIFE
AND DEATH, HAS SIX
DIVISIONS.

YOU MAY ASCEND
TO BECOME BETTER,
YOU MAY DESCEND TO
BECOME WORSE.





COLLECTED EDITIONS

RAMAYAN 3392 AD



DEVI



JOHN WOO'S
7 BROTHERS



SHEKHAR KAPUR'S
SNAKE WOMAN



DEEPAK CHOPRA'S
INDIA AUTHENTIC



THE SADHU



GUY RITCHIE'S
GAMEKEEPER



WESTON CAGE
& NICOLAS CAGE'S
VOODOO CHILD



DAVE STEWART'S
WALK IN



ON SALE NOW
VIRGINCOMICSSTORE.COM

ONE WEEK
LATER.



CHANA!



AH, SIDDHARTHA!
YOU'RE UP AND WELL.
EXCELLENT.

I WAS
BEGINNING TO
WORRY THAT THE
HEAT STROKE HAD
GOTTEN TO YOU
FOR GOOD.



I KILLED A
MAN BY ACCIDENT,
CHANA. AND ALMOST KILLED
ANOTHER ON PURPOSE. IT
WEIGHS ON ME.

DEVADATTA
IS HARDLY A MAN.
MORE LIKE A SNAKE,
OR A PIG.

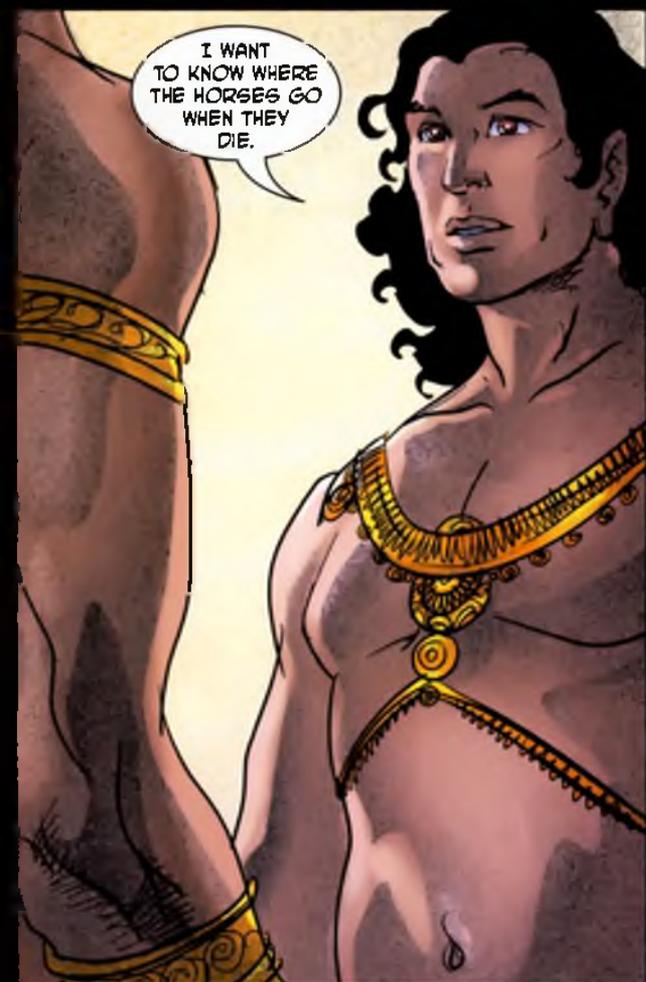


I CAN'T EXPLAIN
WHAT HAPPENED TO ME
OUT THERE. I-I FELT LIKE I
WAS PART OF SOMETHING.
SOMETHING BIGGER THAN
ALL OF THIS.

I'VE BEEN
TRYING TO RECREATE
IT IN MY BED CHAMBERS
EVER SINCE. BUT I CAN'T
FIND THAT PLACE
AGAIN.

THAT...BEAUTIFUL
EMPTY SPACE...





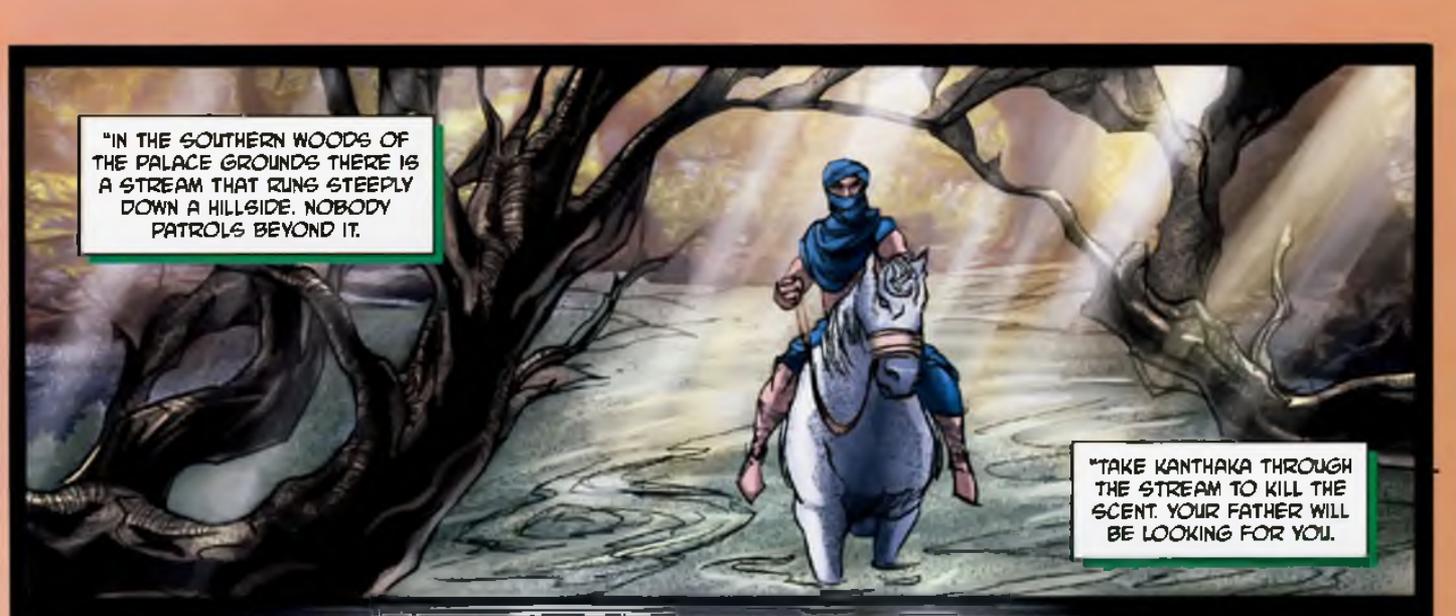
WITCHBLADE DEM.



Virgin
COMICS

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THE EPIC CROSSOVER CONTINUES
JUNE 2008



"IN THE SOUTHERN WOODS OF THE PALACE GROUNDS THERE IS A STREAM THAT RUNS STEEPLY DOWN A HILLSIDE. NOBODY PATROLS BEYOND IT.

"TAKE KANTHAKA THROUGH THE STREAM TO KILL THE SCENT. YOUR FATHER WILL BE LOOKING FOR YOU.



"EVENTUALLY YOU'LL COME TO AN OLD ROAD.

"IT WILL LEAD YOU A HALF-DAY'S JOURNEY TO A PLACE CALLED THE FORGOTTEN CITY.



"KNOWN BY ITS INHABITANTS AS THE KING'S CITY.



"THE REST IS FOR YOU TO DISCOVER ON YOUR OWN, MY PRINCE."



WH-WHAT'S
WRONG WITH YOU
PEOPLE? WHAT
AILS YOU?



HE'S
ROYALTY!





"DEATH. THIS IS DEATH," HE THINKS.

PRINCE!

"ALL OF US."

ARE YOU THE KING'S SON?

YOUR FATHER CAST US OUT UPON YOUR BIRTH!! LEFT US WITH NOTHING!

LESS THAN NOTHING!

"ALL OF US WILL BECOME LIKE THEM."

HOW COULD HE HAVE EVER IMAGINED HE HAD SUFFERED?

BETTER YOUR MOTHER HAD DIED SOONER, BASTARD CHILD!

BETTER YOU'D NEVER BEEN BORN, SIDDHARTHA!

TO BE CONTINUED...

SPOTLIGHT ON SHAKTI

Shakti, an ancient Sanskrit word pronounced “shuk-TEE”, has many meanings. Upon my latest Google search, I found over 3.6 million entries. Some say Shakti is the divine embodiment of power. Others claim Shakti is a bolt of electricity bestowed by the Gods to those seeking their benevolence.

To us, the comics that are part of the Shakti imprint showcase a generation of South Asian creators who are using their own imaginations and modern sensibilities to craft stories that feel fresh and original, yet intimately familiar. But Shakti does not merely retell classic tales. Our Shakti stories re-imagine the myths of old, in all their epic and fantastic glory, while boldly proclaiming their relevance in the world today.

In *Ramayan 3392 A.D.*, we re-imagined India’s greatest epic... the adventures of Prince Rama, his brother Lakshman and Seeta, the daughter of Mother Earth, as they battle their nemesis Ravan in a futuristic, post-apocalyptic world. *Shekhar Kapur’s Devi* tells the story of an omnipotent goddess reincarnated into the body of an inhibited modern woman.

Shakti also draws from the spiritual wisdom of Deepak Chopra (who happens to be my dad) who, in *India Authentic*, explores the lives of Hindu Gods

and Goddesses as archetypal embodiments of our own instincts. In *Deepak Chopra’s Buddha*, a comic series adapted from his *New York Times* bestselling novel, we follow the story of a young prince destined to become The Enlightened One. Shakti has even dusted off the pages of the *Panchatantra*, an ancient Indian book of animal fables, with *The Tall Tales*, where the *Panchatantra* and its characters are threatened by modern-day anime sociopaths and evil boy wizards.

Our mission with Shakti is simple: to give readers a taste of the rich storytelling that goes back thousands of years. We also hope that each book feels fresh, provocative, and unlike anything fans have previously experienced. We realize that we’re asking a lot for folks to enter into an alien world, one with strange names and exotic settings. It’s uncomfortable—at first. But trust me, it gets easier. Remember the first time you held a Japanese Manga in your hands?

These aren’t your parents’ comics. But then again, that’s why we’re making them.

Gotham Chopra
Editor-In-Chief



DEEPAK CHOPRA & SHEKHAR KAPUR PRESENT

Ramayana

RELOADED

India's answer to *The Lord of the Rings*, *Ramayana* (pronounced *ruh-MY-an*) follows the epic adventures of the mighty warrior, Prince Rama, who, along with his brother and the daughter of Mother Earth, set out on a perilous journey to end the treacherous reign of Ravan, a monstrous being attempting to wipe out what little is left of humanity in this post-apocalyptic retelling of one of the greatest tales every told.



SHEKHAR KAPUR'S

DEVI

Devi (*day-VEE*) follows the story of Tara Mehta, a young woman whose body was fused with the spirit of a divine warrior and became a living goddess more powerful than any other deity. As mankind's champion, Devi protects the earth and her own city of Sitapur from supernatural scourges and criminal elements alike.

THE TALL TALES OF VISHNU SHARMA.

Some books have lives of their own. So it is with the Panchatantra, an ancient Indian book wherein fabled animals live in harmony with one another. But now assassins seek to destroy their world and corrupt the minds of story-lovers worldwide. To ensure their survival, three heroes—a lion, a bull, and a monkey—must convince a craven, video-gaming teen named Vishnu Sharma to accept his destiny as protector of the Panchatantra.





Deepak Chopra's
Buddha
A Story of Enlightenment

Awaken. Seek truth. Stumble. Begin again. This is the simple yet profound message from the inspiring man who achieved Enlightenment and showed the world a way for peace, understanding, and serenity. Follow young prince Siddhartha as he defies tradition and achieves his destiny as the *Buddha*. No desires, fears, or duties could prevent what was always to be: the coming of the great Awakened One.

DEEPAK CHOPRA PRESENTS

india
authentic

There exists a world beyond our mortal comprehension that tells the story of life before men came to be. These are stories of the Gods and Goddesses who now reign over humanity and wield the forces of the universe, providing balance for all existence. These are the stories that have laid the foundations of a country a billion strong, that have taught and inspired countless generations.



THE
Satanu

James Jensen's sole purpose in life was to seek vengeance on the British officer who murdered his family in 18th century India. But his life was not meant for just blood-thirsty revenge. He was destined to be a *Sadhu* (*sah-DOO*), a mystic warrior walking the path to spiritual salvation. But can James' quest for enlightenment overcome his desire for revenge?

EXPLORE THESE UPCOMING SHAKTI RELEASES



BLADE OF THE WARRIOR: KSHATRIYA

He is a prince who lost his kingdom. He is a hero who struggles to be heroic. He will go on to define a class of warriors. He is *Kshatriya* (*shut-REE-yuh*). Before the great civilizations of the world had begun, when sword and sorcery still existed and Gods walked the earth in mortal disguise, he was born to oppose an inexorable tide of darkness. When faced with the evil forces of the demonic Shaitan (*shaye-tahn*) in the form of his own brother, this warrior will face the battle of his life.

DEEPAK CHOPRA'S BEYOND

Acclaimed writer Ron Marz adapts Deepak Chopra's original science fiction story of an American businessman who is propelled across dimensions and into an adventure like no other when his wife goes mysteriously missing in India. His journey will lead him to trials both physical and metaphysical as he will stop at nothing—and go literally anywhere—to save her.



PROJECT: KALKI

The end of the world is upon us. War, famine, suffering. There's no stopping the havoc created by humans. But in a small lab in India, a geneticist has cloned the remains of what was once thought to be only a mythological figure, creating a "human" being with the power to save the world... or end it.

MUMBAI MACGUFFIN

This one-shot graphic novel is a high-octane adventure through the never-before-seen underbelly of Mumbai, as an ace CIA operative finds himself out of his element and out of his depth when tasked with recovering a downed satellite deep within the biggest slum in Asia. Nothing can prepare him for the wild and dangerous characters he encounters, including a wheelchair-ridden gangster hooked on John Wayne westerns, a brilliant bar dancer, a trigger-happy cop and a religious cult that will do ANYTHING to protect its phallic totem. Seriously.



DEEPAK GHOPRA'S



ISSUE 1
OF 4

BEYOND

**A missing woman.
A desperate man.
An adventure that takes them both ^{IR}BEYOND.**

ON SALE MAY 2008

"Encoded into the stories of the divine Pantheon of India are some of the most primal stories ever told. They chronicle our greatest aspirations, our darkest fears, and our collective experience as a species."

—DEEPAK CHOPRA

DEEPAK CHOPRA PRESENTS india authentic™

**"TRUE MYTHIC WONDER...
5 OUT OF 5 STARS."**

—Comiccritique.com

**"A THOUGHTFUL APPROACH TO
SUBJECTS RARELY BROACHED
IN COMICS."**

—Comixfan.com

**"STRANGE AND MAGICAL
AND MOVING."**

—Mike Carey

(AUTHOR OF X-Men, Voodoo Child)

**"A BEAUTIFULLY ILLUSTRATED
GRAPHIC NOVEL... A MUST READ
AND A COLLECTOR'S ITEM."**

—Desicritics.com



Also Available



