



ISSUE 6

SHEKHAR KAPUR'S

DOOM

SAMSARA

BASU / CHARI



SHEKHAR KAPUR'S
DEVI™

Created by
Shekhar Kapur

Script - Samit Basu

Art - Aditya Chari

Color - Nanjan J

Letters - Ravikiran B. S. & Nilesh S. Mahadik

Cover Art - Aditya Chari & N. Sivakami

Assistant Editor - Mahesh Kamath

Editor - MacKenzie Cadenhead

Special Thanks

SIDDHARTH KOTIAN, Series Co-Conspirator

VIRGIN COMICS

Chief Executive Officer and Publisher

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MACKENZIE CADENHEAD

Chief Visionaries

DEEPAK CHOPRA, SHEKHAR KAPUR,

SIR RICHARD BRANSON

Special Thanks to:

Mark Franços, Frances Farrow, Dan Porter,

Christopher Linen, Peter Feldman,

Raju Puthukeral and Mallika Chopra

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info@virgincomics.com or (212) 584-4040. www.virgincomics.com



To fight the fallen Gōḍ Bala in his bid to control the earth, the Gōḍs resurrect their champion, the fierce female warrior, Devi.

Except things don't turn out quite as expected.

The Durapasya, Devi's followers on earth, have captured the chosen Devi incarnate, Tara Mehta, and begin the ceremony that would end Tara's life while heralding the arrival of the Devi into her body. But the ceremony is cut short by the arrival of Lord Bala's right hand man, Iyam, his ally, the apsara assassin Kratha, and inspector Rahul Singh, who alone seems intent on saving Tara's life.

As numerous deadly would-be killers battle over Tara's unconscious body, the gods complete their blessings, unaware that the ceremony has been compromised. The Devi spirit enters Tara's body in a huge surge of power and is reborn...but Tara Mehta is still alive, and very upset. Not inclined to be any god's pawn, she ignores the pleas of her followers and leaves with Rahul.

After the dust settles, Iyam and Kratha are captured by the Durapasya, and in the absence of a move from Lord Bala, matters reach an uneasy stalemate.

And no one knows what has become of the Devi...



CABINET OF SHADOWS HQ.

THE CABINET OF SHADOWS RECOGNIZES AND WELCOMES AGANTUK, HIGH COUNCILOR OF THE DURAPASYA.

I SALUTE YOU, YOUR GRACES. MUCH HAS HAPPENED SINCE OUR LAST MEETING.

Part Six
SAMBARA



WE ARE AWARE OF THE DEVI SITUATION, AND COMMEND YOUR EFFORTS IN PREVENTING THE ASSASSINATION OF THE GODDESS--AND THUS PREVENTING A CEMENTED ALLIANCE BETWEEN LORD BALA AND KRATHA.

FOR THIS YOU ARE AWARDED AN ADDITIONAL YEAR OF LIFE.



AND WHILE WE ACKNOWLEDGE--EVEN ADMIRE--YOUR DEVOTION TO WHAT YOU SEE AS THE RIGHTEOUS DURAPASYA PATH, WE MUST REMIND YOU THAT THE DURAPASYA--LIKE THE DARISE--ARE BUT ANOTHER INSTRUMENT FOR THE SUBJUGATION OF MAN, THOUGH THEIR METHODS ARE INFINITELY LESS REVOLTING.

HOWEVER, AS YOU KNOW, AGANTUK, THE DEVI IS BUT ONE OF THE FORCES THAT THE CABINET OF SHADOWS MUST TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION IN ITS PLAN FOR THE PROTECTION AND LIBERATION OF ALL HUMANITY.



I KNOW THAT. THAT'S WHY I'M HERE.

ACCEPTED. TELL US THEN, AGANTUK, WHAT NEWS OF KRATHA?



WE CAPTURED HER, ALONG WITH BALA'S HENCHMAN IYAM, THE NIGHT THE NEW DEVI WAS BORN. A MONTH AGO NOW.

UNFORTUNATELY, SHE ESCAPED THAT VERY NIGHT.



LIKE THE NEW DEVI, SHE IS STILL MISSING.



THAT IS UNFORTUNATE.

I APOLOGIZE, BUT I HAVE NOT ADMITTED DEFEAT YET.

THE ONLY REAL FAILURE HERE IS OURS, AGANTUK.



WE HAVE RECENTLY COME TO DISCOVER THAT YOUR ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN INTERFERING WITH THOSE OF ANOTHER OF OUR AGENTS—AND THAT YOU BOTH MIGHT HAVE ALREADY SUCCEEDED IN THE TASKS GIVEN TO YOU HAD WE BUT ALLOWED YOU TO WORK TOGETHER.



IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT TIME IS RUNNING OUT FAST, WE HAVE THEREFORE DECIDED TO DEPART FROM OUR USUAL METHODS, AND ALLOW TWO OF OUR AGENTS TO MEET FACE--

DOWN BOY.

HI, SAM. RON. RUSS.



THE WOMAN YOU ARE ABOUT TO MEET HAS WORKED FOR US, WITH SUPERB RESULTS, FOR OVER A CENTURY NOW. SHE'S AN EXPERT IN HISTORICAL ARTIFACTS, INTERDIMENSIONAL POLITICS, AND NECESSARY VIOLENCE.

SHE'S HERE.

PERFECT TIMING, AS USUAL WELL, AGANTUK...



MEET AMARA GAELLE.

THE CABINET OF SHADOWS ACKNOWLEDGES AND WELCOMES AMARA GAELLE.



IT'S AN HONOUR TO BE HERE.



AGANTUK IS OUR AGENT IN THE DURAPASYA COUNCIL, AMARA. HIS IS THE TASK OF WINNING OVER THE APSARAS TO JOIN OUR BATTLE AGAINST GODS AND DEMONS ALIKE, TO AVENGE PAST INJUSTICE AND AVERT FUTURE CALAMITY.

PLEASURE.



AMARA IS OUR AGENT IN THE DAZINDI, AGANTUK. SHE HAS BEEN ASSIGNED THE TASK OF LOCATING THE SOURCE AND BRINGING IT TO US BEFORE LORD BALA FINDS IT. IT HELPS THAT LORD BALA HAS PUT HER IN CHARGE OF FINDING THE LOST ARTIFACT FOR HIM.



THE SOURCE? THE SOURCE EXISTS?



IT DOES INDEED, RIGHT HERE IN SITAPUR, SOMEWHERE AMONGST THE RUINS OF CANDAKA. WE SUSPECT THAT ITS VERY PRESENCE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR BALA'S ARRIVAL HERE, AND FOR THE SELECTION OF A SITAPUR NATIVE AS THE CURRENT GODDESS-INCARNATE. PERHAPS IT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR OUR PRESENCE HERE, TOO, IN A MOMENT THAT WILL SHAKE THE WORLD.



THE WORLD MAY BE UNAWARE OF OUR EXISTENCE AND THE EXTENT OF OUR POWER, WE MAY USE MAGIC AND SUPER-NATURAL BEINGS TO HELP US FULFILL OUR AMBITIONS, BUT WHAT BRINGS EVERYONE IN THIS ROOM TOGETHER IS SIMPLY THIS--

WE ARE ALL HUMAN.

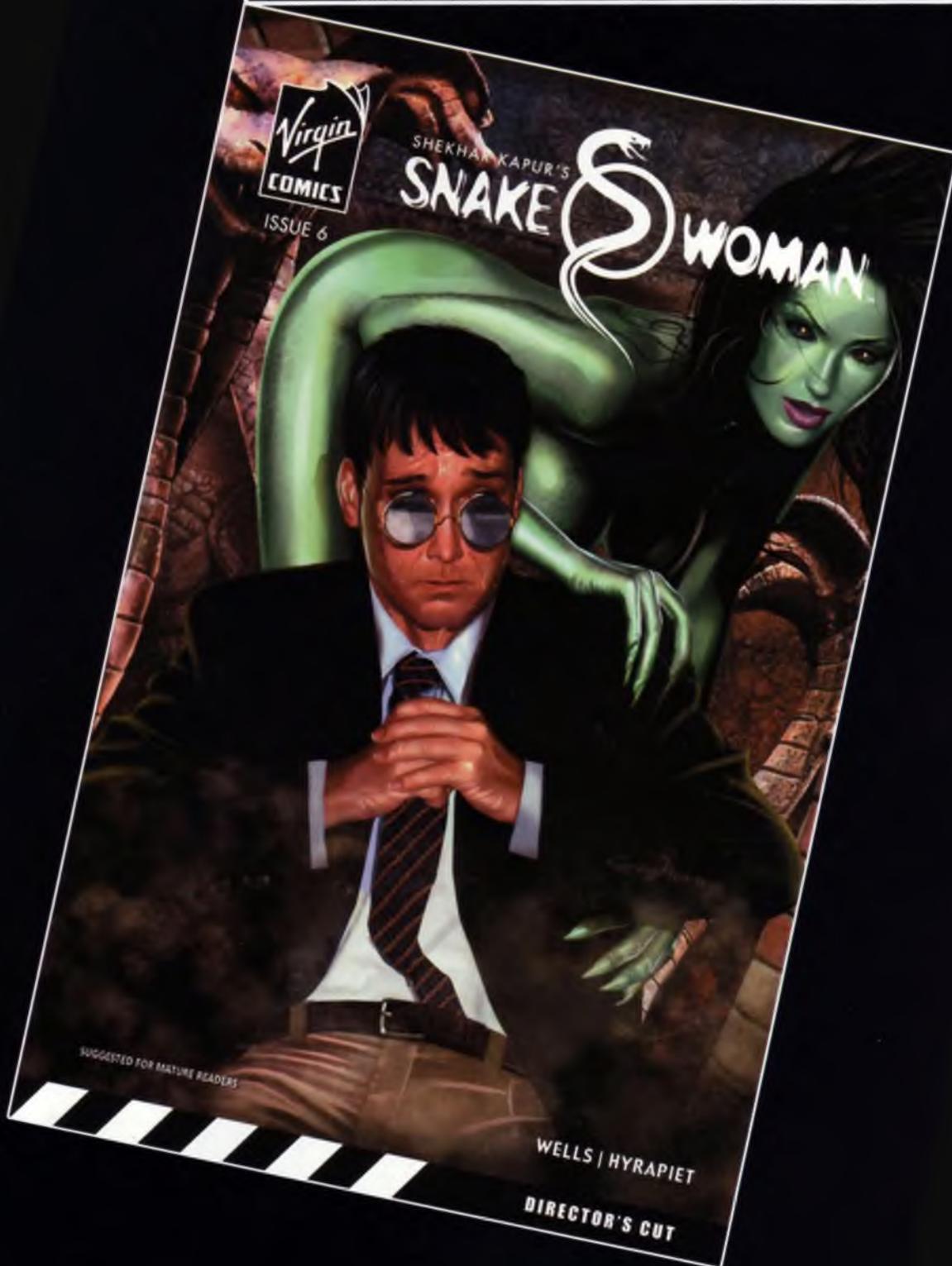


AND BEING HUMAN, WE WANT TO LIVE IN A WORLD GOVERNED BY HUMANS, FREE OF CONTROL EITHER DIVINE OR DIABOLICAL.

WE WANT OUR WORLD BACK.



ON STANDS DECEMBER 2006



Virgin
COMICS

ISSUE 6

SHEKHAR KAPUR'S

SNAKE & WOMAN

SUGGESTED FOR MATURE READERS

WELLS | HYRAPIET

DIRECTOR'S CUT

OUTSIDE
RAHUL'S APARTMENT



GOOD, YOU'RE
BACK, RAHUL. YOU
MUST BE VERY
TIRED, NO?

HELLO,
MRS. NENE. I'VE
PAID THE RENT,
RIGHT?

YES, OF
COURSE, MY DEAR
BOY. I JUST WANTED
TO TALK TO YOU.
HOW ARE YOU?

WHAT
IS IT?

ALWAYS IN A HURRY,
AREN'T YOU, BETA? ALL RIGHT.
IT'S NOT SOMETHING I WANTED TO
TALK ABOUT, BUT MRS. KHAN NEXT
DOOR, AND MRS. BANERJEE FROM
DOWN THE STREET, SAID
THAT MRS. ADVANI...



WHAT
IS IT?

THAT GIRL YOU
BROUGHT TO YOUR
FLAT YESTERDAY.
WHO IS SHE?

A FRIEND.

WHAT KIND
OF FRIEND?



WHY ARE
YOU ASKING?

WELL, BETA,
I'M A VERY MODERN
WOMAN, BUT SOCIETY,
YOU KNOW, DOESN'T
APPROVE OF...



THE STUDENT
WHO COMES OVER
TO YOUR FLAT EVERY
AFTERNOON
FOR PRIVATE
TUITIONS?

THAT'S SUCH
A SHAME.



NOW *THAT* WOULD
BE A FEAST FOR THE
SCANDAL SCAVENGERS,
WOULDN'T IT?

GOOD NIGHT,
MRS. NENE.

PASUPATI NAGAR,
EAST SITAPUR.



WHO IS
IT?

KOK
KOK
KOK
KOK

KOK
KOK



IT'S THE
COLLECTION
AGENCY.

CONGRATULATIONS.
YOUR DEBT IS
FORGIVEN.

AND THERE'S
EVEN BETTER
NEWS.



YOUR SON'S
GOT A JOB. PICK
HIM UP, BOYS.

HARI, WHAT'S
GOING ON?



DON'T
TOUCH HIM!

HARI!!



LET HIM
GO!

UM...
NO.

The "Voices" logo, which consists of a white circle with a black crescent shape inside, and the word "Voices" in a sans-serif font to the right of the circle.

Voices

A dark, atmospheric photograph of a city skyline at night, likely New Orleans, with buildings illuminated by warm lights against a dark sky.

ENIGMA

DARKNESS JUST GOT DARKER

SOME **EVILS** CANNOT BE WASHED AWAY.
SOME **WRONGS** HAVE TO BE RIGHTED.

THAT'S WHAT THE **VOODOO** PRIESTS SAY IN
NEW ORLEANS, THE CITY BY THE BAYOU.

A STRING OF BRUTAL MURDERS GRIPS A **BATTERED CITY**.
AND NOW SOMETHING — **SOME BEING** — IS HAUNTING IT.

SOME CALL IT A **MONSTER**.
OTHERS A **RESTLESS SOUL**

TORMENTED BY THE **NIGHTMARE** OF
A CENTURIES-OLD PLANTATION **MASSACRE**.

ONE COP — **HAUNTED BY HIS OWN DEMONS** — IS READY TO
TAKE ON WHATEVER IT IS.

UNTIL HE DISCOVERS HIS OWN CONNECTION TO IT.

CREATED BY **NICOLAS** AND **WESTON CAGE**

WRITTEN BY **MIKE CAREY**



WHAT DO YOU WANT? TAKE ANYTHING!

EASY, LADY. YOU'RE LUCKY WE AREN'T FEELING ROMANTIC TONIGHT.



WE'LL TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOUR BOY. BETTER THAN YOU DID, ANYWAY.

NOW GET OUT OF OUR WAY.

THWAK



I'LL CALL THE POLICE!

YOU DO THAT.



AND WHY STOP THERE? CALL THE NEIGHBORS. CALL THE GODS. CALL PIZZA DELIVERY. NO ONE WILL LISTEN.

IT'S SIMPLE. NO ONE CARES ABOUT YOU OR YOUR SON.

NO ONE WILL HELP YOU.





SLEEP FOR A FEW CENTURIES, AND HAVE DANGEROUS-LOOKING MEN GET YOU FOOD WHEN YOU WAKE UP. THIS IS THE GOOD LIFE.

RAHUL... IT'S SO GOOD OF YOU TO LET ME STAY--BUT TELL ME, HOW LONG HAVE I BEEN HERE?



JUST SINCE YESTERDAY. IT WASN'T SAFE WHERE YOU WERE BEFORE. AND THERE WAS NOWHERE ELSE TO TAKE YOU.



WHERE WAS I? IN A HOSPITAL?

NO, IN A MORGUE.

WHAT?

SORRY, IT WAS THE ONLY SAFE PLACE I COULD THINK OF. THE MORTICIAN'S A GOOD FRIEND, AND HIS WIFE'S A NURSE. IT'S NOT AS WEIRD AS IT SOUNDS.

WELL, ACTUALLY IT IS. BUT CONSIDER WHERE YOU WERE BEFORE THAT.



DON'T REMIND ME.

SORRY.

AND HOW LONG WAS I OUT IN THE MORGUE?

A MONTH. WELL... TARA WAS OUT FOR A MONTH.



WHAT? A MONTH?

AND WHAT ON EARTH DOES 'TARA WAS OUT' MEAN?

DAVE STEWART'S

WALK IN



VIRGIN VOICES LINE
PREMIERE ISSUE

COVER BY CELIA CALLE
SCRIPT BY JEFF PARKER



ON STANDS DECEMBER 2006



WELL--WEIRD STUFF WAS HAPPENING IN THE MORGUE. YOU'D TALK IN YOUR SLEEP, ABOUT HOW YOU WERE A GODDESS GRANTED POWERS BY THE GODS. YOU'D CHANT IN LANGUAGES WE DIDN'T UNDERSTAND. AND THAT WAS THE EASY BIT.

CORPSES SOMETIMES WOULD BURST INTO FLAMES IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, AND YOUR EYES WOULD BE KIND OF... BURNING. YOU ALMOST SET THE WHOLE MORGUE ON FIRE A FEW TIMES.

WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER?



I REMEMBER WALKING OUT OF THAT TEMPLE WITH YOU. AND I REMEMBER WAKING UP HERE, THERE ARE SOME SCATTERED FLASHES OF BEING IN A CAR, OF BEING IN A BIG ROOM WITH PEOPLE LOOKING DOWN AT ME, A FEW VIVID DREAMS... BUT NOTHING CLEAR.



SHOULD I GO SEE A REAL DOCTOR? SOMEONE GOOD WITH LIVING PEOPLE?

I WOULDN'T ADVISE IT. EVERY RAT IN THE CITY SEEMS TO BE LOOKING FOR YOU. AND EVERY POLICEMAN IN THE PAY OF THE UNDERWORLD, TOO.



I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU TO WAKE UP, SO I COULD ASK YOU...

WHY IS EVERYONE AFTER YOU, TARA MEHTA? WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?





DEVI...

UGH

WHAT THE HELL?



THANK THE GODS! YOU WERE LISTENING!

THEY'VE TAKEN MY SANJAY! MY SON!

WHO'S 'THEY'?

WHY AM I THE ONLY PERSON HERE WHO SEEMS SURPRISED BY THE CHANGE OF SCENE?



WE'LL BOTH GO INTO SHOCK LATER, TARA. SOMETHING'S WRONG HERE.

YES, SOMETHING'S WRONG! I WAS THERE!

HELP ME, DEVI! YOU CAN CATCH THEM, THEY JUST LEFT!



SOMEONE'S KIDNAPPED YOUR SON. RIGHT. COME ON, TARA.

HANG ON A SECOND!



OK. NOW WOULD BE A GOOD TIME TO TELL ME WHAT OTHER TRICKS YOU HAVE UP THOSE SLEEVES.

COOL OUTFIT, BY THE WAY.

WHAT THE HELL AM I WEARING?

RIGHT.



FREEZE!

TARGET LOCATED.
OH, CRAP THE DEVIL!



MOVE.

STOP THEM, TARA!

HOW?



I DON'T KNOW! WHAT CAN YOU DO?

DO? I DON'T KNOW, EITHER!

GET BACK INSIDE THEN.



BAALAAAAA!!

**EXPERIENCE THE UNKNOWN
WITH THE SHAKTI LINE OF TITLES**



ON STANDS EVERY MONTH



IVAM'S ABSENCE HAS BEEN SOMETHING OF A MIXED BLESSING.

THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT I REALLY THINK I KNOW WHERE THE SOURCE IS BURIED, AND HAVE NO DOUBT THAT I CAN KEEP INSTRUCTING THE SUBWAY PROJECT EXCAVATORS TO INVESTIGATE EVERY OTHER DIRECTION VERY THOROUGHLY.

THAT IS WONDERFUL, AMARA. WHAT IS THE BAD NEWS?

BALA IS MORE PARANOID THAN EVER. I CONVINCED HIM IVAM AND KRATHA WERE PLOTTING AGAINST HIM, AND NOW HE DOESN'T TRUST ME EITHER.

I'M QUITE SURE I'M BEING WATCHED VERY CLOSELY ANY TIME I'M NEAR THE CONSTRUCTION SITE. WHICH MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO VERIFY WHETHER MY GUESS ABOUT THE SOURCE'S LOCATION IS CORRECT.



SO YOU'RE SENDING BALA'S DIGGERS ON FALSE LEADS?

YES. I'M ALSO CONSTRUCTING A VERY WELL-MAPPED SUBWAY SYSTEM FOR SITAPUR IN THE PROCESS, PRO BONO, I MIGHT ADD.



TRAINS RUNNING THROUGH THE HEART OF CANDAKA SEEMS...WRONG. THERE ARE MANY THINGS BURIED IN THOSE RUINS THAT SHOULD STAY BURIED.



TRUE, AGANTUK.

IT WOULD ALSO BE BEST FOR HUMANKIND IF THE SOURCE COULD REMAIN HIDDEN FOR ALL ETERNITY. BUT WE CAN'T IGNORE OUR PROBLEMS BY KEEPING THEM BURIED AWAY. OBJECTS THAT POWERFUL--AND THE ENTOMBED MONSTERS YOU FEAR--HAVE A HABIT OF FINDING THEIR WAY TO THE SURFACE AT THE WORST POSSIBLE TIMES.



THINK ABOUT IT. MILLENNIA OF UNANSWERED HUMAN PRAYERS, LOCKED IN A SINGLE VESSEL. AND BALA SEEKS IT RELENTLESSLY.

IN HIS HANDS, IT COULD SPELL DOOM FOR US ALL. EVEN IN THE GODS' HANDS, STRENGTH OF SUCH MAGNITUDE WOULD DO MORE HARM THAN GOOD.



SO WHEN YOU FIND THE SOURCE, WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO WITH IT?

I THINK IT SHOULD BE DESTROYED.

BEEN READING TOLKIEN AGAIN, HAVE YOU?



WE CONFESS WE HAVE STILL NOT DECIDED WHAT TO DO WITH THE SOURCE ONCE AMARA BRINGS IT TO US.

FORTUNATELY THE TEMPTATION OF USING IT TO INCREASE POWER OURSELVES DOES NOT EXIST—ONLY GODS OR DEMONS COULD HARNESS ITS POWER, AND WE ARE NEITHER.



IT IS IMPERATIVE, THOUGH, THAT NONE OF THE CELESTIAL BEINGS INVOLVED IN THE BATTLES RAGING ABOVE OUR HEADS EVER HAVE ACCESS TO ITS POWER.

DESTROYING IT WOULD BE CHILDISH—WE HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THE CONSEQUENCES WOULD BE, IN WHAT FORM ITS POWER RELEASED WOULD MANIFEST ITSELF.



WHEN YOUR DEVI CHOOSES TO REVEAL HERSELF AND FIGHT BALA, WE ARE QUITE CERTAIN THAT ONE OF HER RESPONSIBILITIES WILL BE FINDING THE SOURCE, AND SURRENDERING IT TO THE GODS.

THIS IS POTENTIALLY AS DANGEROUS AS BALA FINDING IT. IT WOULD ENSURE STABILITY IN THE HEAVENS, AND A BRUTAL AND SWIFT END TO ANY HUMAN INSURRECTION.

I UNDERSTAND, AMARA, YOU SAY YOU KNOW WHERE THE SOURCE IS AND BALA'S SPIES PREVENT YOU FROM TAKING IT?

YES.

WELL, PERHAPS I CAN ARRANGE A... DISTRACTION THAT WOULD ENSURE THAT THEY TAKE THEIR EYES OFF YOU. FOR A WHILE.



COMING SOON FROM THE ASURA ANALOGUES

AFGHANISTAN, 2001 - DEVASTATED BY WAR AND TERRORISM.
IT IS SAID THAT THIS LAND BREEDS TERROR. NOT UNTRUE.
FOR CENTURIES, MILLENNIA SOMETHING SINISTER HAD BEEN BURIED DEEP
BENEATH THE ROCKS AND SAND, UNTIL THE MILITANTS UNRAVELED ITS SECRET.
NOW, SOMETHING IMMENSELY MORE EVIL AND DANGEROUS THAN
TERRORISTS IS RAPIDLY SPREADING.

WHO WILL STOP THEM?

FIVE MEN...

STORM...ROCKS...BLOOD...SAND...GUNS...FANGS...TERROR...COURAGE...DEMONS...
DEATH...

VIRULENTS







TAKE
COVER!! MOVE
OUT!!



YOU ALL
RIGHT?

I'M
PERFECT.
YOU?

I MIGHT
HAVE BROKEN
A LEG OR
SOMETHING.

STILL, HELL
OF A TIME
TO DISCOVER
YOUR
POWERS, TARA.

THANKS,
BABE, BUT I'M
NOT TARA.

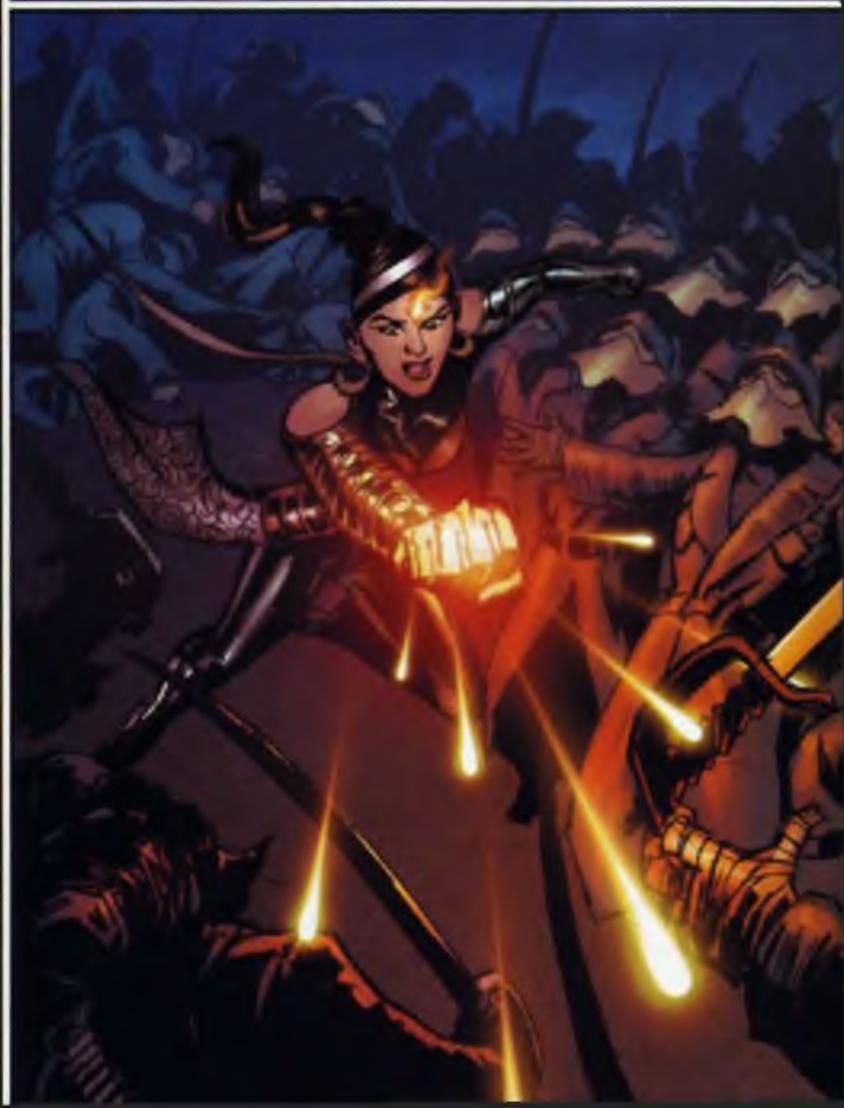
TARA'S
LEFT THE BUILDING
FOR A BIT.



End *of* Story



Because some old stories
never lose their bite.





ONE STEP CLOSER AND I KILL THE CHILDREN.

BUT YOU WERE GOING TO DO THAT ANYWAY.

WHAT?

BESIDES...



THAT WOULD MAKE ME REALLY SAD. YOU WOULDN'T WANT THAT, WOULD YOU?

FREEZE. I'LL KILL THEM, I SWEAR.



THEN YOU'LL NEVER KNOW HOW I'D REWARD YOU IF YOU DIDN'T.



HOW?



LIKE THIS.



GUY RITCHIE

ANDY DIGGLE



**GAME
KEEPER**





ALWAYS INVIGORATING, EXERCISE. YOU HAVING A GOOD TIME?

ROLICKING. SO... THIS IS HOW IT WORKS? SHE'S JEKYLL, YOU'RE HYDE? YOU TAKE OVER WHEN SHE NEEDS TO FIGHT?



THE DEVI GOES WHERE SHE IS MOST NEEDED. AND AS FOR HOW IT WORKS, IT WORKS HOW EVER I WANT IT TO WORK.

I AM A GODDESS, YOU KNOW.

MOVES. MYSTERIOUS WAYS. TRYING TO FIGURE ME OUT IS WHAT YOU DO.



WELL, PARDON ME, YOUR DIVINENESS, BUT WHAT THE HELL WERE YOU DOING?

YOU COULD HAVE KILLED THOSE KIDS.



I DON'T DO EXPLANATIONS, RAHUL. INDIVIDUAL MORTAL LIVES HAVE ALWAYS BEEN ACCEPTABLE SACRIFICES.

THOUGH THE LIFE I SHARE THIS BODY WITH IS, I CONFESS, FASCINATING IN THE SPIRIT OF SCIENTIFIC CURIOSITY.



IS IT LIKE THIS FOR ALL OF YOU? DO YOU ALL SWEAT, AND HUNGER, AND WANT? ARE YOU ALL SO POWERLESS, SO PASSIONATE, SO SMALL?

WE'RE MADE IN YOUR IMAGE, RIGHT? THAT WOULD CERTAINLY EXPLAIN HUMAN CRAZINESS.

I'VE NEVER FELT THIS WAY BEFORE.





OH, GOD.

LITERALLY. IS THIS... TARA?

YES... I WAS THERE ALL ALONG, EVEN WHEN SHE WAS IN CHARGE. IT FELT...

OH, GOD.



SHE'S SOMETHING, ALL RIGHT.

YEAH. WELL, I AM TOO, NOW.

MEANING?

MEANING I JUST LEARNED HOW A GODDESS DOES WHAT SHE DOES.



BUT THIS IS AMAZING! THIS IS JUST WHAT SITAPUR NEEDED! YOU CAN REALLY CHANGE THINGS! GOD, I SOUND LIKE A SCHOOLBOY. BUT IT'S SO--

STOP. I DON'T WANT TO HEAR THIS.



I CAN'T DO THIS, RAHUL. I CAN'T GO AROUND SAVING PEOPLE AND KILLING OTHERS. IT'S NOT ME, I DON'T CARE IF THE GODS CHOSE ME.

SITAPUR WILL HAVE TO SAVE ITSELF.



I NEED TO GET OUT OF HERE.

ON STANDS JANUARY 2007



ISSUE 7

SHEKHAR KAPUR'S
DEVI



BASU | CHARI



WE HATE YOUR ATTENTION?
 I APOLOGIZE BY SOME TERRIBLE NEWS



THIS IS A WAR, AND CASUALTIES ARE INEVITABLE. WE ALL KNOW THIS. WE HAVE ALL KILLED.

AMARA, AFTER EXTRACTING THE SOURCE, YOU MUST BRING IT TO US IMMEDIATELY. ANY DELAY IS DANGEROUS. BE BALD COME AFTER YOU.



AGANTUK, WE WILL BE HAPPY TO SEND SOME OF OUR OWN NON-HUMAN SOLDIERS TO ASSIST ANONYMOUSLY IN THIS VENTURE.

HERE WE GO,

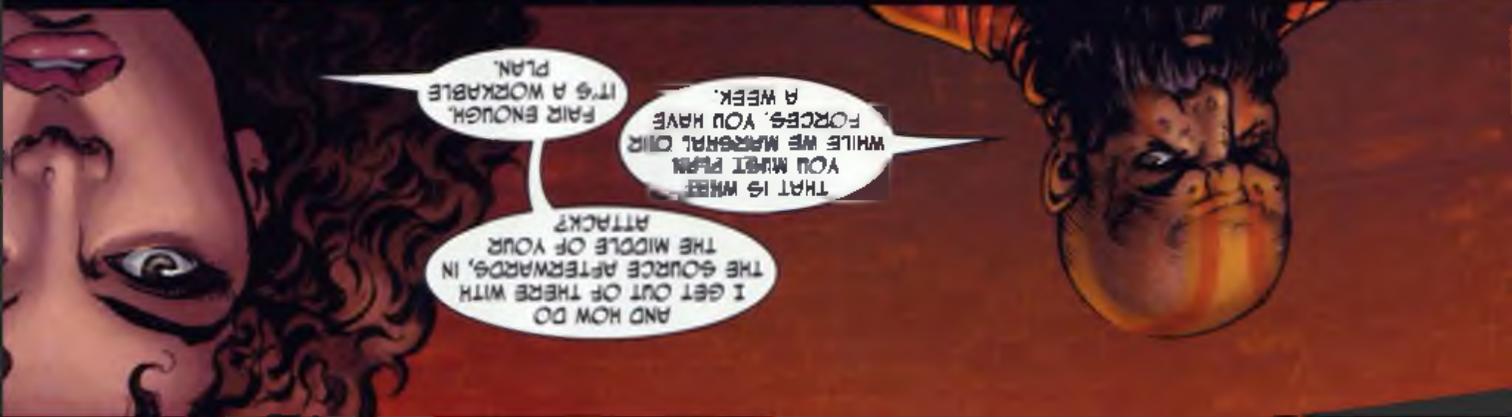
AGAIN



MY ONLY WORRY IS THAT THE WORST OF THE FIGHTING WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE HEART OF THE PLAN--AND A LOT OF INNOCENT BYSTANDERS WILL BE KILLED.

PERHAPS WE SHOULD CONSIDER SOMETHING LESS DIRECT.

THAT WILL NOT BE NECESSARY. THIS SCHEME IS SUFFICIENT.



AND HOW DO I GET OUT OF THERE WITH THE SOURCE AFTERWARDS, IN THE MIDDLE OF YOUR ATTACK?

THAT IS WHERE YOU MUST FIGHT WHILE WE MARCH OUR FORCES. YOU HAVE A WEEK.

FAIR ENOUGH. IT'S A WORKABLE PLAN.



IYAM HAS
ESCAPED.

TO BE CONTINUED.

INSIDE VIRGIN COMICS

HEY...UM..VIRGINS...

Yeah, that doesn't sound so great and we'd love your help coming up with something to call our ever-growing legion of fans. We'll be setting up a place on virgincomics.com where you can offer up your thoughts, so please visit the site and let us know what you think. We could use the help as we've been busy working on the books.

Indeed, it's hard to believe that it was only July when we put out our first comic (*Devi* #1). Of course, even getting that in the stores was the culmination of a lot of work, started a year ago by our editorial staff, both here in the US and India, as well as the rest of the team. But here we are, the new year approaching, with multiple series on the shelves (*Devi*, *Snake Woman*, *The Sadhu*, *Ramayan 3392 AD*, and *John Woo's Seven Brothers*) and a new lot on its way (*Dave Stewart's Walk In*, *Virulents*, *End of Story*, and *Guy Ritchie's GameKeeper*).

In keeping with our original vision, we'll continue to focus on the comic book first but always with the intention of taking each of our stories into that brave new digital and electronic world – games, animation, films, television. And in our first few months, we're making good on that vision. In Asia, you'll very soon be able to catch *The Sadhu*, *Devi*, and *Ramayan* on your cell phones – first as a mobile game, and then, a mobile comic! Check this space for news of similar projects in the US.

But the biggest news to date is our first Hollywood dance-superstar actor Nicolas Cage is set to play the Sadhu in a film evolving out of our comic, *The Sadhu*. We're not going to lie to you – this is **TOTALLY AWESOME** for us. Again, it's been a unified effort to produce a book that would even catch the attention of such a talented actor and comic aficionado as Nic. But for the two of us in

particular, being in a room with Nic and pitching *The Sadhu* to him personally – "You've seen the *Ninja* and the *Samurai* – now see *The Sadhu*" – it will definitely make for one of the best moments in the growing history of Virgin Comics.

Don't get us wrong – our eyes are wide open on this one. We know that it takes a veritable perfect storm to get a movie of this scale made these days. Still, getting where we've got and having the support of our growing fan base feels good and makes us more confident that this crazy dream of creating a comic book company that could serve as the womb for so much more may not be so crazy after all.

In the coming months, we'll continue to keep you up to date on what's happening on the inside of Virgin Comics – challenges, successes, and wacky scenarios – that are the heart of any start-up company. Thanks for continuing on this wild ride with us and keep an eye open for more news soon.

GOTHAM CHOPRA
Editor-in-chief

SHARAD DEVARAJAN
Publisher



ON STANDS DECEMBER 2006



EXPERIENCE THE UNKNOWN



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METAL DAVE

DCP