

DEEPAK CHOPRA PRESENTS

india authentic

# SHIVA



MOHAPATRA | VIRGIN STUDIOS

DEEPAK CHOPRA PRESENTS

# SHIVA

india  
authentic™

CREATED BY DEEPAK CHOPRA

WRITER : SAURAV MOHAPATRA

PENCILS : VIRGIN STUDIOS

COLORS : R.C. PRAKASH,

NARASIMHA MURTHY.M.N

ASHWIN CHIKERUR

LETTERS : B.S. RAVIKIRAN

COVER ART : ABHISHEK SINGH & SURESH SEETHARAMAN

PROJECT MANAGER : S.P KARTHIKEYAN

ASSISTANT EDITOR : NEHA BAJAJ

EDITOR : MAHESH KAMATH

VIRGIN COMICS

Chief Executive Officer  
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MACKENZIE CADENHEAD

Chief Visionaries  
DEEPAK CHOPRA  
SHEKHAR KAPUR  
SIR RICHARD BRANSON

Special Thanks to:

FRANCES FARROW  
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# LORD SHIVA

AMONGST THE MOST ICONIC GODS OF THE PANTHEON, **LORD SHIVA** IS ALSO PERHAPS THE MOST REVERED AND RESPECTED DEITY IN INDIA.


HIS VISAGE CAN BE SEEN ALL OVER THE COUNTRY, FROM STATUES SITTING DEEP INSIDE CAVERNOUS CAVES AT THE TOP OF THE WORLD AMONGST THE HIMALAYAN MOUNTAIN RANGES TO THE LOWER SHORES OF THE NATION BY THE BACKWATERS OF TRIVANDRUM.

LIKewise, THE MYTHS AND LEGENDS SURROUNDING **SHIVA** ARE DIVERSE AND APLENTY. HIS MANY ATTRIBUTES – FROM HIS THIRD EYE, TO HIS BLUE THROAT, TO THE CRESCENT MOON ON HIS FOREHEAD, TO THE TIGER SKIN HE SITS ON, AND THE SERPENTS THAT HANG ON HIM – THEY ALL SIGNIFY SPECIFIC ELEMENTS TO HIS PERSONA, AND EACH IS CONCEIVED IN A MYTH THAT ONLY THE GREATEST OF SEERS COULD EVER DREAM OF.








WHAT IS...



... ONCE WAS.



FOR THE  
SEEDLING OF  
A *BEGINNING*...

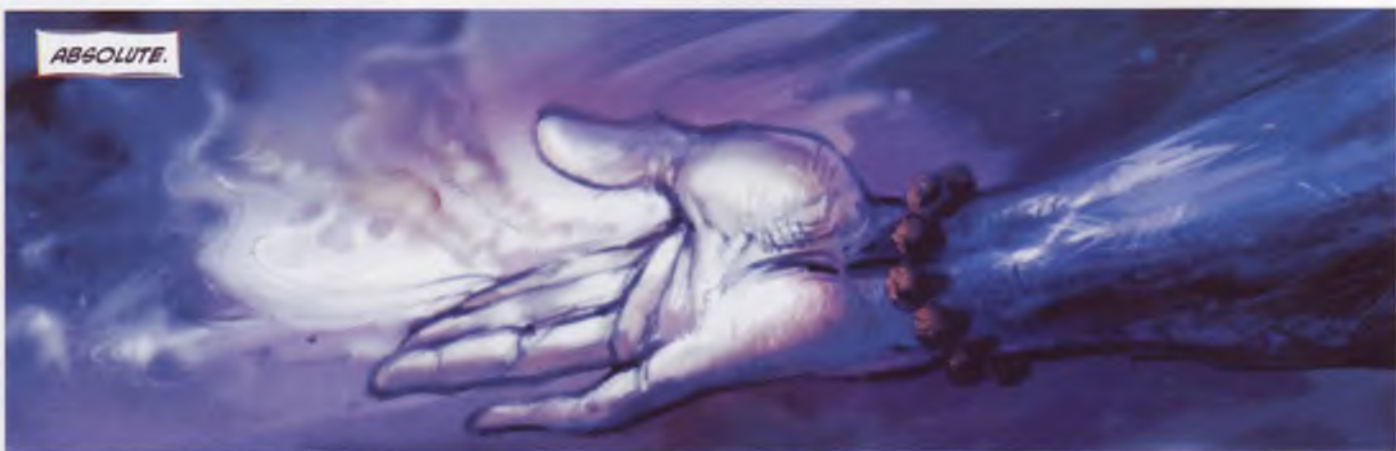


... CAN ONLY  
GROW FROM THE  
DEPTHS OF AN *END*.

THAT IS  
THE TRUTH.



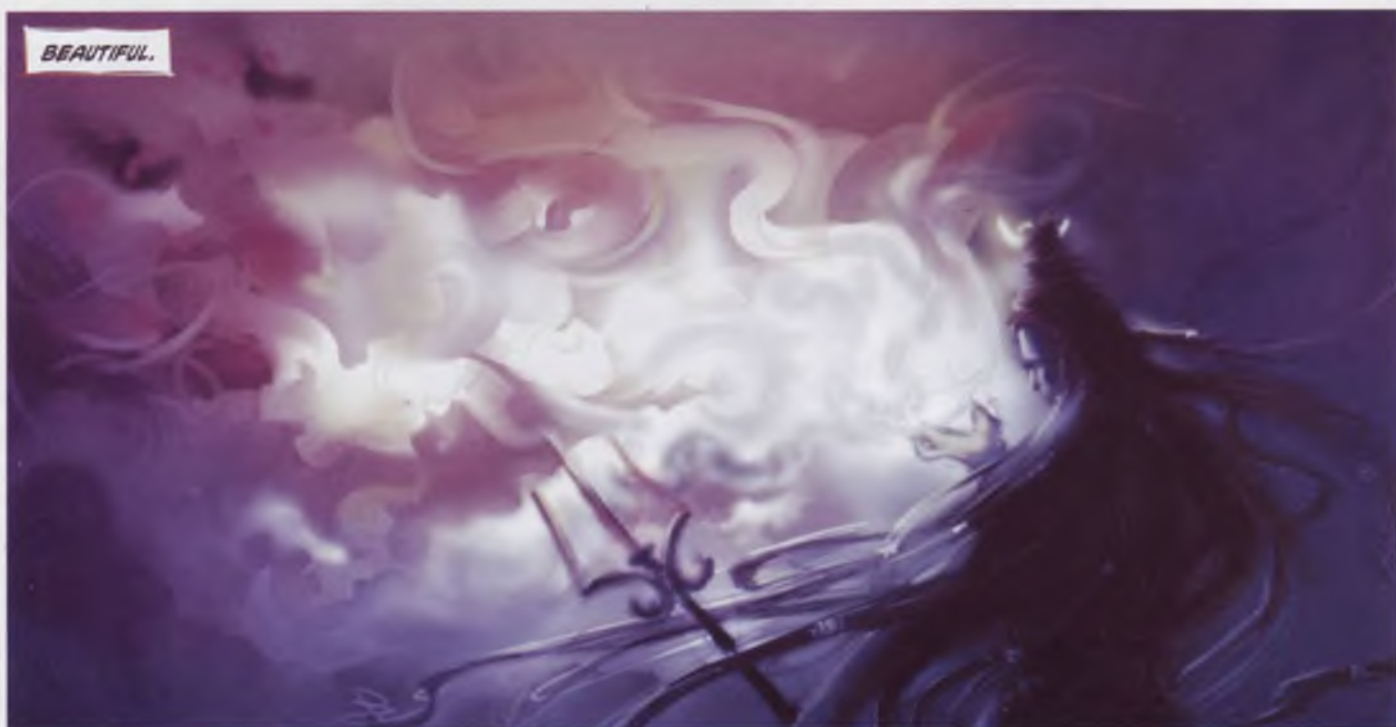
ABSOLUTE.




ULTIMATE.



BEAUTIFUL.





I AM THE *TRUTH*  
THAT HOLDS THE  
UNIVERSE  
TOGETHER.

*SATYAM.*

I AM THE  
ABSOLUTE KERNEL  
OF *REALITY*.

*SHIVAM.*

I AM THE UNION  
OF *CHAOS* AND  
*ORDER*.

*SUNDARAM.*

I AM *SHIVA*.

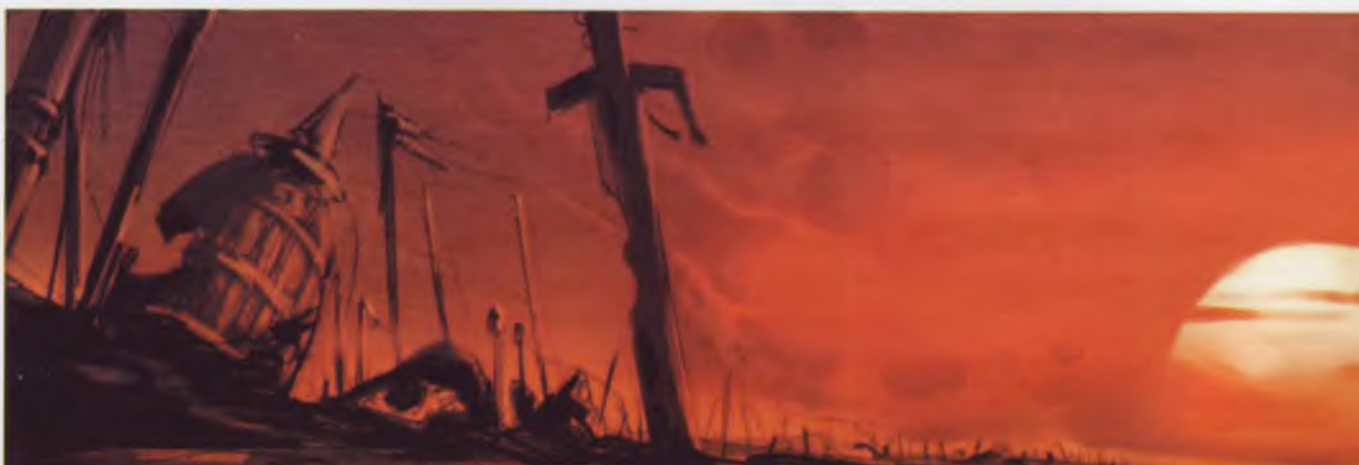
THE TRUE NATURE OF  
ANY FORM OF *ORDER*  
IS *CHAOS*.



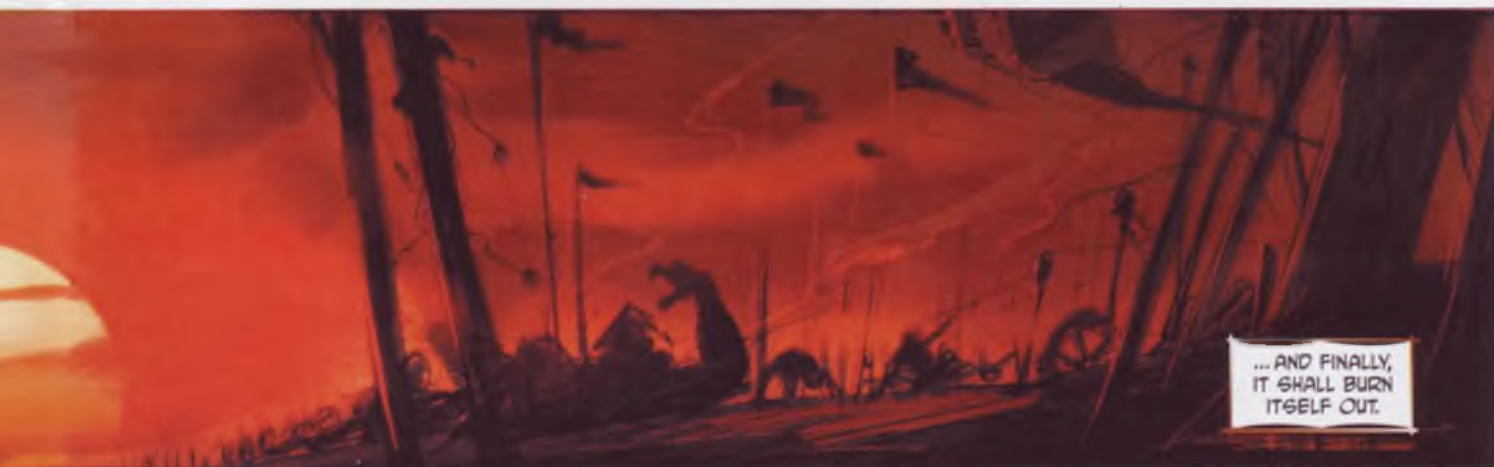
LEFT TO  
ITSELF, *ORDER* SHALL  
LEAD TO *CHAOS*.



IT SHALL START  
AS A *SPARK*...









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ONCE THE DUST  
SETTLES...

...A DELICATE  
BALANCE IS  
BORN.

KING OF  
GODS.

LORD OF  
DEMONS.

ORDER RETURNS  
AS A TRUCE.

THE ENEMY IS NOT WHAT  
STANDS BEFORE YOU, BUT  
THAT WHICH HAS CLAIMED YOUR  
COMRADES. *DEATH* IS YOUR  
TRUE ENEMY.

BUT DEATH CAN BE  
OVERCOME. IF YOU CHURN  
THIS PRIMORDIAL OCEAN, IT  
SHALL GIVE YOU *AMRIT*, THE  
NECTAR OF LIFE. THEN YOU  
NEED NOT FEAR DEATH  
AGAIN.

AND THUS,  
OPPOSITES COME  
TOGETHER.



TOILING FOR  
A COMMON  
GOAL.



BUT THE  
BALANCE IS  
FRAGILE...



...BRITTLE.



IT TAKES ONLY  
A HINT OF  
HARDSHIP...



... A SLIVER OF  
DISAPPOINTMENT...



...FOR CHAOS TO  
SEEP THROUGH.



ALL THAT HAS  
BEEN ACHIEVED...



...ALL THE STRIDES  
MADE FORWARD...



...TOTTER ON THE  
EDGE OF OBLIVION.



THE MOMENT  
PASSES...



...AND ABSOLUTE  
ANARCHY IS HELD  
BACK ONCE  
MORE...



...BY A THIN  
GOSSAMER  
STRAND...

...OF HOPE.



THE OCEAN OPENS UP ITS SECRETS TO THE TOILERS.

IT GIVES FORTH UNTO THEM GIFTS FROM ITS DEPTHS.

SWEET SURA, THE MISTRESS OF INTOXICATION.

NUBILE APSARAS WHO BRING WITH THEM THE GIFT OF MUSIC AND DANCE.

KAUSTUBHA, THE MOST PRECIOUS OF JEWELS.

UCHHAISHRAVAS, THE MIGHTIEST OF STEEDS.

KAMADHENU, THE MOTHER BOVINE.

KALPA VRIKSHA, THE TREE OF WISHES.

LAKSHMI, THE GODDESS OF WEALTH AND FORTUNE.





BUT THE OCEAN  
ALSO HOLDS *SECRETS*.



DEEP WITHIN ITS  
DARK DEPTHS...




... WHERE THE LIGHT  
OF CREATION *NEVER*  
SHINES.



BEFORE IT GIVES UP  
*AMRIT*, THE NECTAR  
OF LIFE,




...THE OCEAN  
UNLEASHES *HALAHAL*,  
THE DEADLIEST OF  
TOXINS.



THE TOXIN IS  
BORN OF THE PRIMAL  
DARKNESS AND MAKES  
NO DISTINCTION BETWEEN  
THE *DIVINE*...




... AND THE  
*INFERNAL*.



THE SWIRLING  
MIST OF CATAclysm  
UNITES ALL.





SAVE US, O GOD  
OF GODS. DELIVER US FROM  
THESE DEADLY MISTS OF  
HALAHAL.

THIS UNIVERSE  
WORKS ON A SIMPLE  
PRINCIPLE.



A FINE  
BALANCE.



ONE THAT  
HOLDS IT ALL  
TOGETHER.



OF  
POWER...




... AND  
RESPONSIBILITY.







ONE'S STATION AND DESTINY IN THE SCHEME OF THINGS ARE DECIDED BASED ON HOW WELL ONE UNDERSTANDS THIS.




FOR THE  
TRULY MIGHTY...




... THOSE THAT  
ARE BLESSED WITH  
IMMENSE POWER...



IT IS *ESSENTIAL*  
TO BE *HUMBLE*.



IT IS THE DUTY  
OF THE POWERFUL NOT  
TO INTERFERE WITH THE  
NATURAL COURSE  
OF THINGS.



BUT TO FACILITATE  
WITH A GENTLE NUDGE,  
THE WORKINGS OF  
DESTINY.

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AND NEVER TO  
BE SWAYED FROM  
THIS PATH...



...NO MATTER HOW  
TEMPTING THE  
PRIZE MAY SEEM.





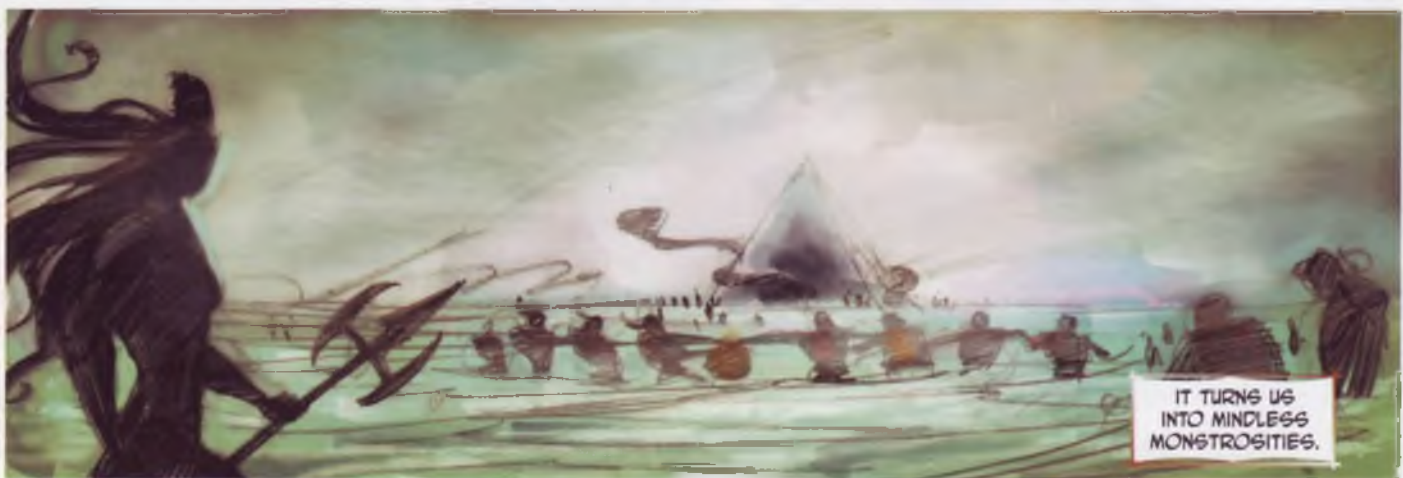
GREED IS  
THE SIGN OF A  
LESSER MIND...



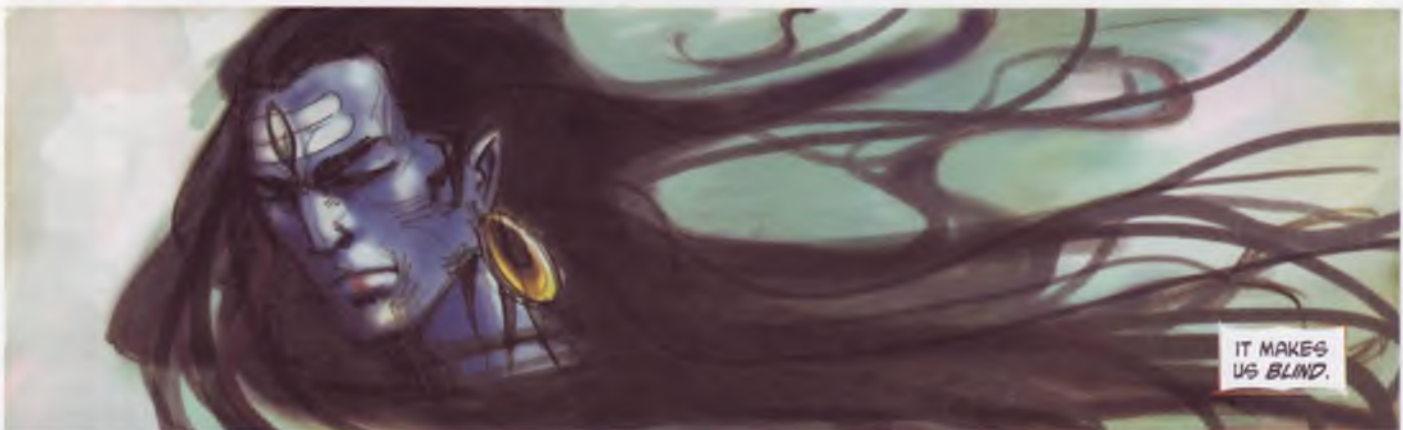
... AND  
DESIRE, THE  
CATALYST.



IT CREATES A  
RABID FRENZY.



IT TURNS US  
INTO MINDLESS  
MONSTROSITIES.



IT MAKES  
US BLIND.

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FOR TRUE  
STRENGTH OF SOUL  
IS IN NOT GIVING  
INTO...



...AND WALKING  
AWAY FROM  
TEMPTATION.




IT STARTS AS  
A HARD LONELY  
TREK...




...BUT ONE IS BOUND  
TO FIND *KINDRED*  
*SOULS*...




...OTHERS WHOSE  
THOUGHTS RESONATE  
WITH ONE'S OWN.




IT IS INDEED  
TRUE.



HAVING UNLIMITED  
POWER IS MORE A  
BANE THAN A BOON.



THE LURE OF  
TEMPTATION MUST  
BE RESISTED AT  
ALL TIMES.



THE JOURNEY  
TO FIND  
ONE-SELF...

... BEGINS WITH  
LOSING ONE'S  
SELF.



THE END

# INSIDE VIRGIN COMICS

Is it September already? Is the summer already gone? Wow—that was fast. Here at Virgin Comics, we've had a summer full of excitement, celebrating our one-year anniversary, finding new partners to play and create with, and building out our business so we have stuff to celebrate at our two-year anniversary and beyond.

Along the way, we've also been asking the oh-so-existential question: "who are we?"

You see, it's not just our own corporate adolescence we are dealing with, it's also the fact that, you, our audience, and even some of our partners, are asking that question in an effort to figure us out. We get that our projects aren't exactly classifiable into one overarching category. We generate stories that stem from great Asian mythos (*Ramayan 3392 AD*, *Devi*) and then tap into the creative minds of some of the coolest filmmakers and creators on the planet (Guy Ritchie's *Gamekeeper*, Dave Stewart's *Walk In*), churning out a fusion of eastern, western, and admittedly bizarre elements of storytelling. See, we're obsessed with funky stories and funky creative partners and resist anything that puts us in a box. So as we continue down this path of self-discovery, we search for more ways to expand our creative horizons to further perplex, inspire and excite our audiences, our partners and ourselves.

In that spirit, we've partnered with Studio 18, one of India's premiere film and television studios to create a line of graphic novels, as well as animation, games, and movies that cater to the teen horror genre. We thought it would be fitting to expand on our crazy fictional fantasies and delve into the wildly horrific, dark and twisted world of thrillers. For centuries India has enchanted the world with its entrancing and spiritually-minded stories, so it's about time we turned up the freak factor.

*Eat the Dead*, included in the following pages as a sneak peek, is the first from our India Horror imprint, the premiere of our truly "graphic" graphic novels. It's a story about what lurks in the shadows of our pasts, what happens when our karmic duties defy the laws of "humane" nature, and the dark deeds one must do to rectify their wrongs. And then, there's also one crazy looking beast of a woman who's not interested in playing nice. I won't tell you more, because it's wrong to ruin a great story, but I can say that this comic is a true testament to what we represent here at Virgin Comics... you'll never know what to expect next.

See you on the inside....

—The Chief  
and the Virgin Comics Editorial Team



# EAT THE IDEAD



ON STANDS  
SEPTEMBER 2007

# EAT THE IDEAD™




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# EAT THE IDEAD



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# VISHNU

THE NARASIMHA AVATAR

ON STANDS OCTOBER 2007



EXPERIENCE THE UNKNOWN



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A muscular man with a dark, metallic-looking skin tone is shown from the chest up. He is wearing a black leather outfit with gold-colored buckles and a spiked collar. He is breaking through a dark metal helmet with his right hand, which is clenched in a fist. The background is a fiery orange and red, with yellow lightning bolts striking down. The man's left arm is also visible, wearing a black leather gauntlet with a metal cuff. The overall style is reminiscent of a comic book cover or a promotional image for a heavy metal band.

**METAL DAVE**

**DCP**