

AMAR  
CHITRA  
KATHA

BUMPER ISSUE No. 7  
Rs. 12/-

# Adventures of Krishna



• KRISHNA AND THE FALSE VASUDEVA  
• KRISHNA AND SHISHUPALA  
• KRISHNA AND NARAKASURA

KINGS AND SAGES, RAKSHASAS AND DEVAS ALIKE, FEARED HIM.



BUT THE GUARDS WERE HELPLESS AGAINST NARAKA AND HIS RUTHLESS HORDES.



ROUND UP THE CHARIOTS AND HORSES! SEIZE THE MAIDENS. THEY SHALL ADORN MY PALACE.



LATER, AT NARAKA'S CAPITAL, PRAGJYOTISHA—



HOW MANY MAIDENS HAVE WE CAPTURED SO FAR?

SIXTEEN THOUSAND AND ONE HUNDRED, O KING.

ENOUGH! HOW  
MANY FOUR-  
TUSKED ELEPHANTS  
DOES INDRA  
HAVE ?



THOUSANDS,  
MY LORD—ALL  
DESCENDANTS OF  
INDRA'S MOUNT,  
AIRAVATA.

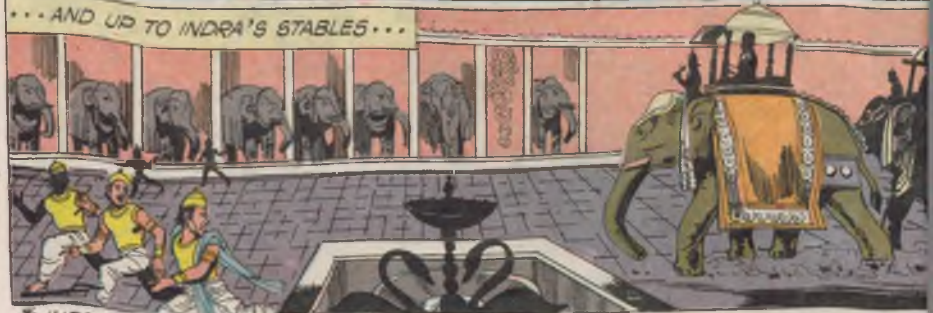
THEN ON TO  
AMARAVATI \* ! THOSE  
ELEPHANTS SHALL  
ADORN MY  
STABLES.



AS NARAKASURA RODE  
INTO AMARAVATI ...



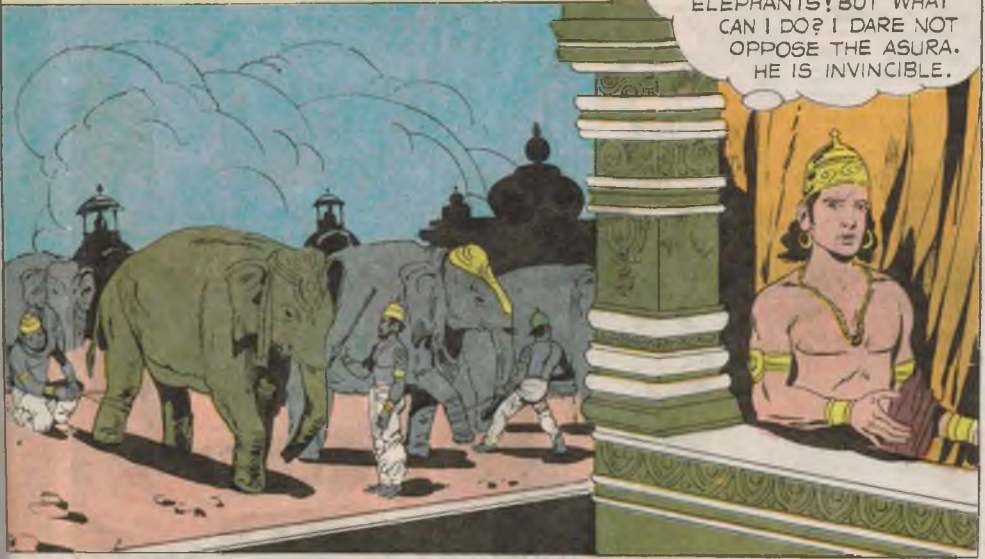
... AND UP TO INDRA'S STABLES ...



\* INDRA'S CAPITAL

... INDRA COULD ONLY FUME WITH IMPOTENT FURY.

HE'S TAKING AWAY MY ELEPHANTS! BUT WHAT CAN I DO? I DARE NOT OPPOSE THE ASURA. HE IS INVINCIBLE.



THUS DID THE WICKED NARAKA HARASS THE DEVAS.



THEN FOR SOME REASON THE ASURA LAY LOW FOR A WHILE.

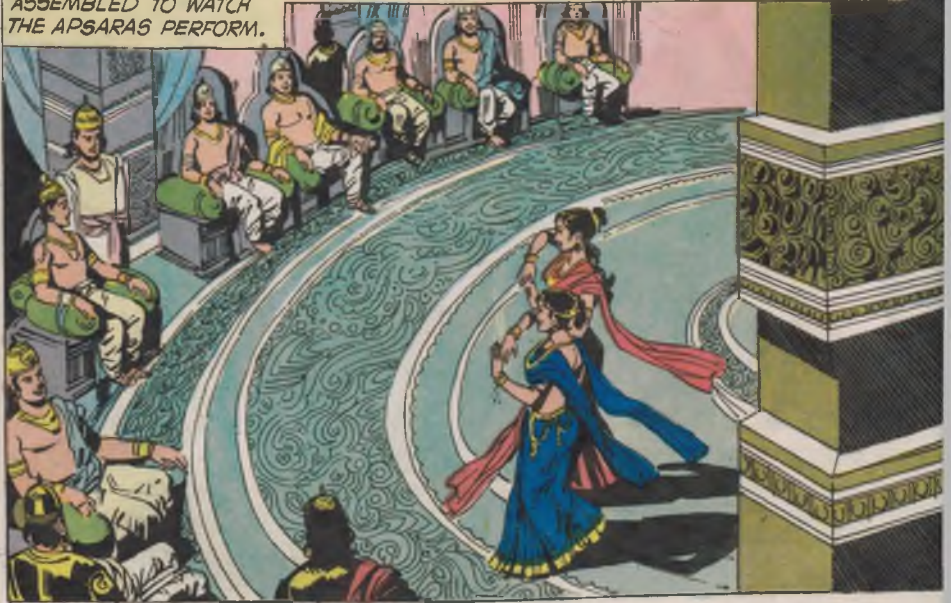
NARAKA SEEMS TO HAVE TIRED OF HIS WICKED WAYS, AT LAST.

YES. WE HAVE NOT KNOWN SUCH PEACE FOR A LONG WHILE.

WE SHALL HOLD A FEAST TO CELEBRATE OUR NEW-FOUND PEACE.



A FEW DAYS LATER, AMARAVATI, WORE A FESTIVE LOOK. THE SWEET SCENT OF THE PARIJATA BLOOMS FILLED THE AIR. ALL THE DEVAS, WEARING THEIR BEST ORNAMENTS, ASSEMBLED TO WATCH THE APSARAS PERFORM.



SUDDENLY —

IT'S THE  
EVIL ASURA!

FLEE!

FLEE!



AS THE DEVAS TRIED TO ESCAPE, NARAKASURA'S HORDES SWOOPED DOWN ON THEM.

DON'T SPARE THEM,  
ATTACK, WHILE I GO  
AND SEIZE VARUNAS\*  
UMBRELLA.



LORD OF THE HYDROSPHERE

AS NARAKA CHARGED TOWARDS VARUNA, A DAZZLING FLASH BLINDED HIM FOR A MOMENT.



THE MOTHER OF THE DEVAS HAS WORN HER PRECIOUS EAR-RINGS!



THOSE EAR-RINGS LACK LUSTRE ON YOU, O MOTHER OF THE COW-ARDLY DEVAS.



HE RUSHED FORWARD AND SNATCHED THE EAR-RINGS.





I SHALL  
KEEP  
THEM.



AND MOUNTING HIS CHARIOT...

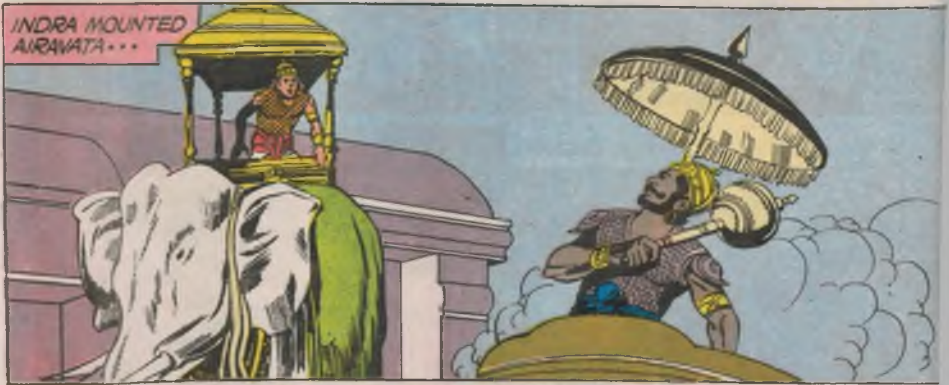


...NARAKA HEADED TOWARDS VARUNA.



BEFORE THAT DEVA KNEW WHAT WAS HAPPENING,  
NARAKA HAD SEIZED HIS UMBRELLA...





WHEN AN AGITATED INDRA BURST INTO THE PALACE AT DWARAKA, KRISHNA WAS SEATED WITH SATYABHAMA.

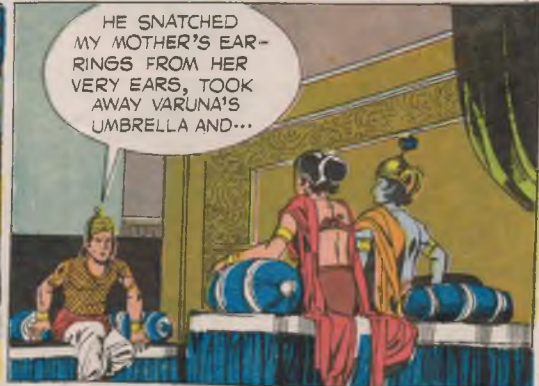
WHAT'S THE MATTER? WHY DO YOU LOOK SO PALE?

IT'S THE ASURA, NARAKA.



BHOOMI DEVI'S SON? WHAT HAS HE DONE?

HE SNATCHED MY MOTHER'S EARRINGS FROM HER VERY EARS, TOOK AWAY VARUNA'S UMBRELLA AND...



... AND DROVE ME OUT OF AMARAVATI. YOU MUST KILL THAT SINFUL WRETCH. ONLY YOU CAN DO IT.

WHERE IS HE NOW?



HE HAS GONE  
BACK TO HIS  
IMPREGNABLE  
CAPITAL, PRA-  
GJYOTISHA.



NARAKASURA  
HAS INVITED HIS  
OWN DEATH BY  
DARING TO LAY  
HIS HANDS ON  
MOTHER ADITI'S  
EAR-RINGS.



AS SOON AS KRISHNA PICKED UP HIS CONCH AND HIS  
WEAPONS, GARUDA APPEARED BEFORE HIM.



YOU WILL HAVE TO  
SURMOUNT THE BARRIERS  
OF MOUNTAINS, WEAPONS,  
WATER, FIRE AND WIND  
THAT ENCIRCLE HIS CAPITAL.  
AND THE FIVE-HEADED  
ASURA, MURA, GUARDS THE  
GATES OF HIS  
PALACE.



AS KRISHNA WAS ABOUT TO TELL INDRA THAT HE WAS AWARE OF ALL THAT, HE SAW SATYABHAMA POUTING.



WITHOUT UTTERING A WORD, HE CAUGHT THE PLEASANTLY SURPRISED SATYABHAMA BY THE WAIST...



...AND SWUNG HER ONTO GARUDA.



HE THEN SEATED HIMSELF BEHIND HER.



GARUDA SOARED INTO THE AIR.



AS THEY NEARED PRAGJYOTISHA, GARUDA'S BEAK SUDDENLY HIT SOMETHING HARD.



WHICHEVER WAY HE TURNED, HUGE MOUNTAINS ROSE BEFORE HIM, BLOCKING HIS PATH.



KRISHNA WAS UNPERTURBED. HE SWUNG OUT HIS MACE...



... AND WITHIN MINUTES THE MOUNTAINS WERE SHATTERED.



FLY ON, GARUDA! WE'VE BROKEN THE FIRST BARRIER.

FILLED WITH RENEWED ENERGY, GARUDA FLEW ON.



SUDDENLY —



LORD! SAVE ME!

THIS FIRST ARROW WAS FOLLOWED BY A BARRAGE OF WEAPONS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

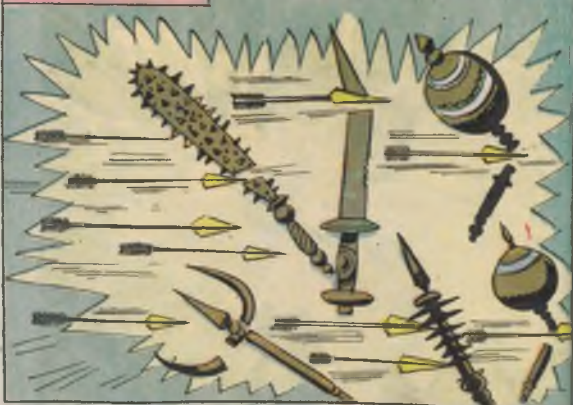


WAIT, GARUDA. DON'T TRY TO BREAK THROUGH.

KRISHNA SHOT THE ARROWS FROM HIS INEXHAUSTIBLE QUIVER, IN SUCH QUICK SUCCESSION...



... THAT EVERY SINGLE WEAPON WAS DESTROYED BEFORE IT COULD REACH ANYWHERE NEAR GARUDA OR SATYABHAMA.



THAT'S THE LAST OF THEM! YOU MAY PROCEED, GARUDA.

GARUDA, FLAPPED HIS WINGS HARD...



...AND FLEW ON...





... ONLY TO BE PUSHED BACK BY A SUDDEN SURGE OF HUGE WAVES OF WATER.



GARUDA!  
LORD! IT'S THE  
DELUGE!

UNPERTURBED, KRISHNA  
RAISED HIS FINGER.



THE NEXT MOMENT HIS FLYING DISCUS  
CUT THROUGH THE WAVES...



... BREAKING THEM INTO GENTLE,  
LIFE-GIVING RAIN.



REFRESHED BY THE COOL SHOWERS,  
GARUDA WAS ABOUT TO FLY ON WHEN...



...A HUGE BLAZE EVAPORATED THE RAIN  
AND...



...SENT OUT LEAPING TONGUES OF FLAME  
TO SCORCH THE INTRUDERS.



BUT THE WHIRLING DISCUS WITH ITS  
INCREASING MOMENTUM CUT THROUGH  
THE FLAMES.



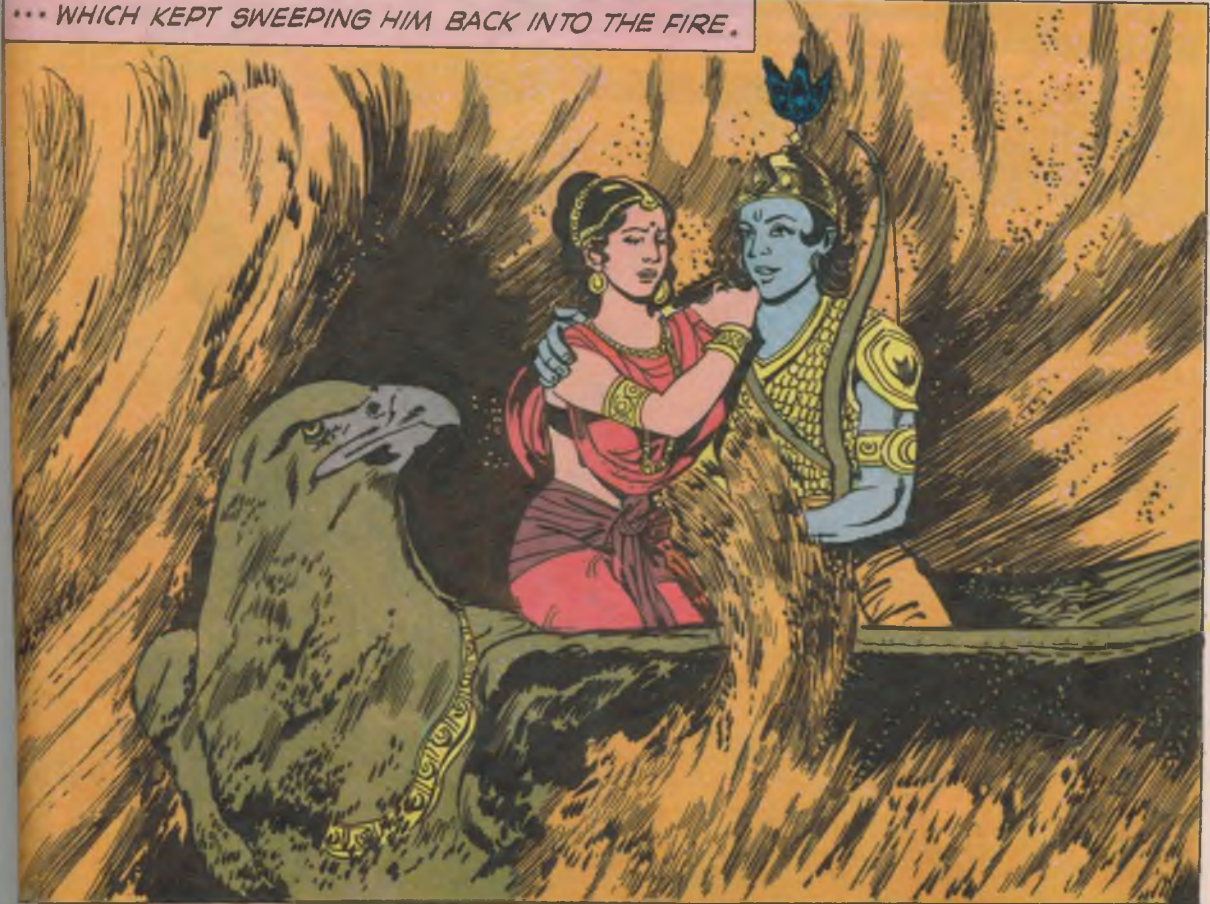
GARUDA DARTED FORWARD . . .



. . . ONLY TO BE CONFRONTED BY THE WILDEST OF GALES . . .



. . . WHICH KEPT SWEEPING HIM BACK INTO THE FIRE . . .



BUT THE DISC, WHOSE MOMENTUM NOW MATCHED THAT OF THE CYCLONIC WINDS, WHIRRED THROUGH THE CURRENTS IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION.



THUS THE STORMY WINDS WERE TAMED AND GARUDA FLEW ON.



SOON—

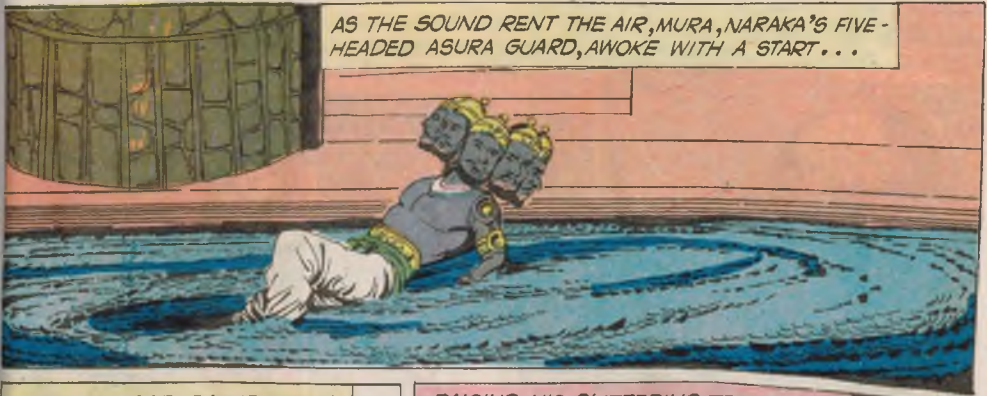


AH! THE OUTER GATES OF NARAKA'S PALACE! THERE LIES MURA, DEEP IN SLEEP. I SHALL ROUSE HIM OUT OF HIS COMPLACENCY.

KRISHNA RAISED HIS CONCH AND SENT OUT A TRIUMPHANT BLARE.



AS THE SOUND RENT THE AIR, MURA, NARAKA'S FIVE-HEADED ASURA GUARD, AWOKE WITH A START...



... TO SEE GARUDA HOVERING ABOVE HIM.



IT'S KRISHNA!  
HE'S COME TO  
SLAY NARAKA.  
BUT HE'LL HAVE  
TO KILL ME  
FIRST.

RAISING HIS GLITTERING TRIDENT ...



... MURA CHARGED TOWARDS KRISHNA.



BUT WITH TWO ARROWS SHOT IN QUICK SUCCESSION...



... KRISHNA SPLIT THE WEAPON INTO THREE BEFORE IT COULD TOUCH THEM.



THEN HE SENT HIS STINGING ARROWS INTO THE FIVE GAPING MOUTHS OF THE ASURA.



ROARING WITH PAIN, MURA FLUNG HIS MACE AT KRISHNA...



... ONLY TO HAVE IT BLASTED AGAIN KRISHNA'S RAISED ONE.



INSIDE THE PALACE, THE CLASH OF THE MACES AWOKE NARAKA.



HE WALKED UP TO THE WINDOW AND LOOKED OUT. HE WAS ALARMED BY THE SIGHT THAT MET HIS EYES.



AS NARAKA WATCHED, MURA RUSHED FORWARD BLINDLY TO CRUSH KRISHNA.



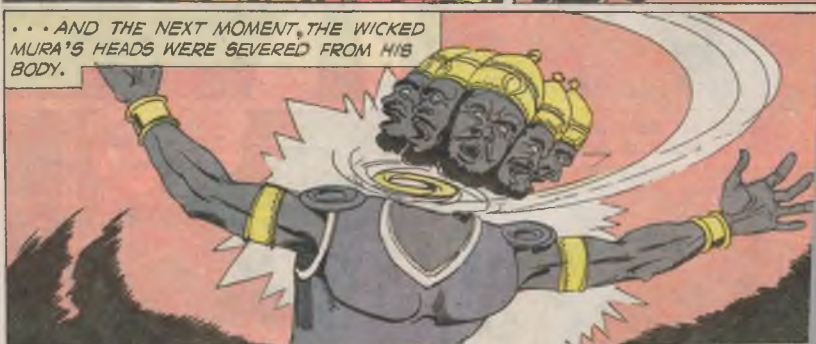
BUT SMILING ALL THE WHILE, WITH ONE ARM PROTECTIVELY AROUND SATYABHAMA, KRISHNA RAISED HIS FINGER.



HIS DISCUS CAME SAILING THROUGH THE AIR...



... AND THE NEXT MOMENT, THE WICKED MURA'S HEADS WERE SEVERED FROM HIS BODY.



HEARING HIS ROARS AS HE FELL, MURA'S SEVEN SONS CAME RUSHING OUT WITH MACES, SWORDS AND CLUBS.





BUT KRISHNA ROUTED THEM IN NO TIME.



ENOUGH! I HAVE PERMITTED ENOUGH CARNAGE. LET US RIDE OUT AND FINISH THAT IMPUDENT YADAVA WHO DARES DISPLEASE ME — THE INVINCIBLE NARAKASURA! FOLLOW ME ON YOUR ELEPHANTS.

MOUNTED ON HIS ELEPHANT AND LEADING HIS HORDES, NARAKASURA THUNDERED TOWARDS THE GATES OF HIS PALACE.



GARUDA FLEW AT THE ELEPHANTS AND ATTACKED THEM WITH BEAK, WING AND CLAW.



THE FRIGHTENED ELEPHANTS  
TURNED AWAY...



... AND BEGAN RUNNING BACK TOWARDS  
THE PALACE. NARAKASURA WAS LIVID WITH  
RAGE.

YOU VILE  
BIRD! YOU WILL  
NOT ESCAPE  
THIS POWERFUL  
WEAPON OF  
MINE.



AND NARAKA HURLED THE WEAPON AT GARUDA.



BUT WHEN THAT MIGHTY WEAPON TOUCHED GARUDA, IT DID NOT HAVE THE FORCE OF EVEN A GARLAND OF FLOWERS.



NARAKA TOOK UP HIS MACE TO HURL IT AT KRISHNA.



BUT BEFORE HE COULD HURL IT, A WHIRRING SOUND DISTRACTED HIM AND HE LOOKED UP.





A-A-AH!

THE MIGHTY NARAKABURA ROLLED OFF HIS ELEPHANT, DEAD.



FROM THE HEAVENS, A SHOWER OF FLOWERS FELL UPON KRISHNA.

AH! WELL DONE!

WELL DONE!

MEANWHILE FOLLOWED BY A YOUNG ASURA, BHOOMI DEVI CAME TOWARDS KRISHNA WITH ADITI'S EAR-RINGS AND VARUNA'S UMBRELLA.

COME, BHAGADATTA, LET US PRAISE THE LORD AND SEEK HIS PROTECTION.



PLACING THE STOLEN ARTICLES AT HIS FEET, BHOOMI DEVI SANG HYMNS IN PRAISE OF KRISHNA. THEN —

O LORD! THIS IS NARAKA'S SON, BHAGADATTA. HE PLACES HIMSELF AT YOUR FEET. PLEASE PROTECT HIM.



KRISHNA SMILED.

DO NOT FEAR, BHOOMI DEVI. HE SHALL BE INSTALLED ON HIS FATHER'S THRONE. COME, LET US ENTER THE PALACE.



WHEN KRISHNA ENTERED THE PALACE, THE 16,100 MAIDENS CAPTURED BY NARAKA GREETED HIM.



KRISHNA TURNED TO BHAGADATTA.



KRISHNA THEN INSPECTED NARAKA'S TREASURY.

HAVE ALL THIS WEALTH SENT TO DWARAKA.

NEXT HE WENT TO NARAKA'S STABLES.

THESE FOUR-TUSKED DESCENDANTS OF AIRAVATA SHOULD BE RETURNED TO INDRA.

SATYABHAMA, NOW LET US GO AND DELIGHT MOTHER ADITI BY RETURNING HER STOLEN EAR-RINGS. VARUNA, TOO, SHALL HAVE HIS CELESTIAL UMBRELLA, BACK.

THEN, MOUNTED ON GARUDA THEY FLEW TOWARDS AMARAVATI TO DELIVER THE STOLEN GOODS.

# KRISHNA AND NARAKASURA



IN HIS VARAHA AVATAR, VISHNU LIFTED BHOOMI DEVI FROM THE DEPTHS OF THE OCEAN. SOON AFTER THAT A SON WAS BORN TO BHOOMI DEVI, HE CAME TO BE KNOWN AS NARAKASURA. THOUGH HE WAS THE SON OF A DIVINITY AND A VIRTUOUS MOTHER, NARAKA UNFORTUNATELY TURNED OUT TO BE A VICIOUS ASURA...

... WHO TOOK PLEASURE IN TERRORISING THE INHABITANTS OF ALL THE THREE WORLDS.



\* BOAR INCARNATION