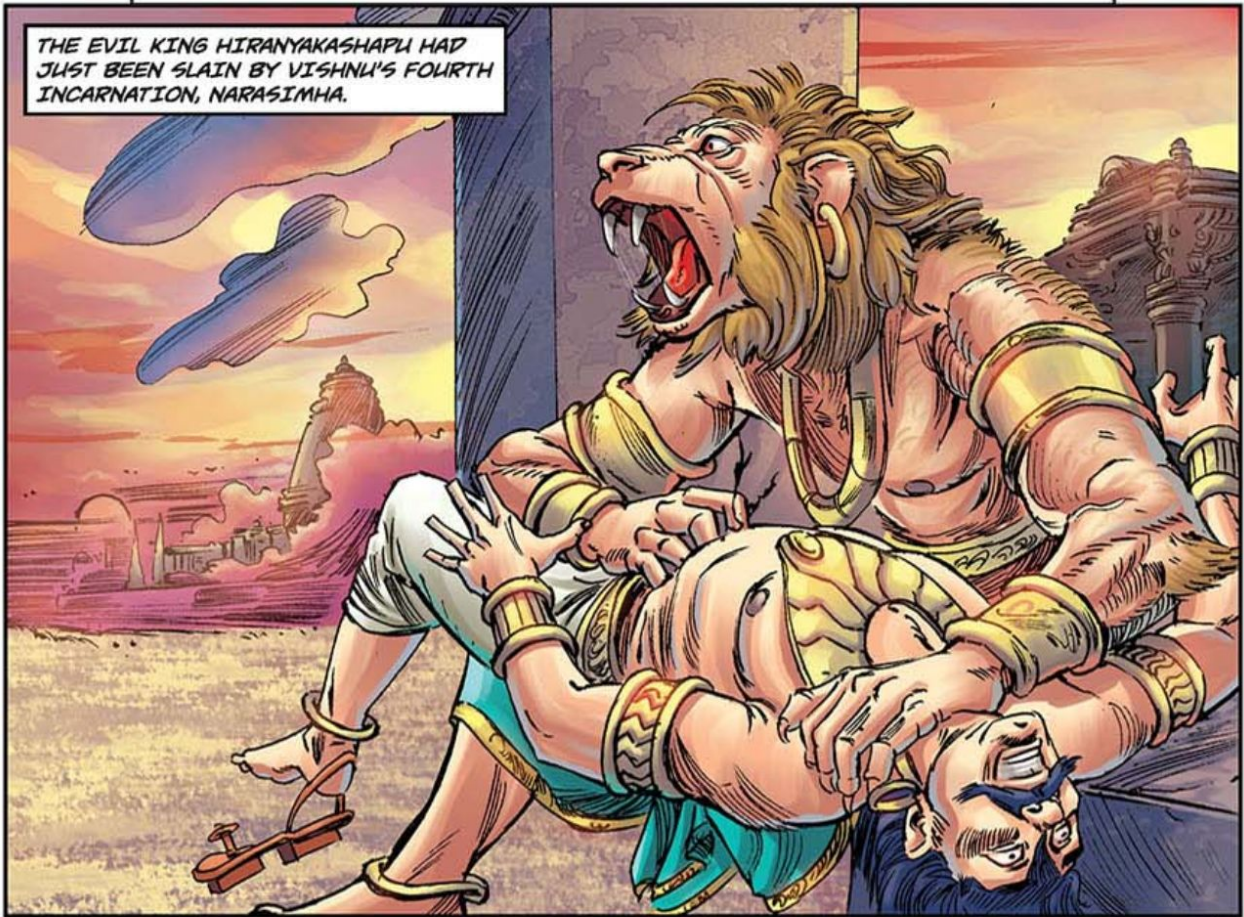


GANDABERUNDA AND SHARABHA

THE EVIL KING HIRANYAKASHAPU HAD JUST BEEN SLAIN BY VISHNU'S FOURTH INCARNATION, NARASIMHA.



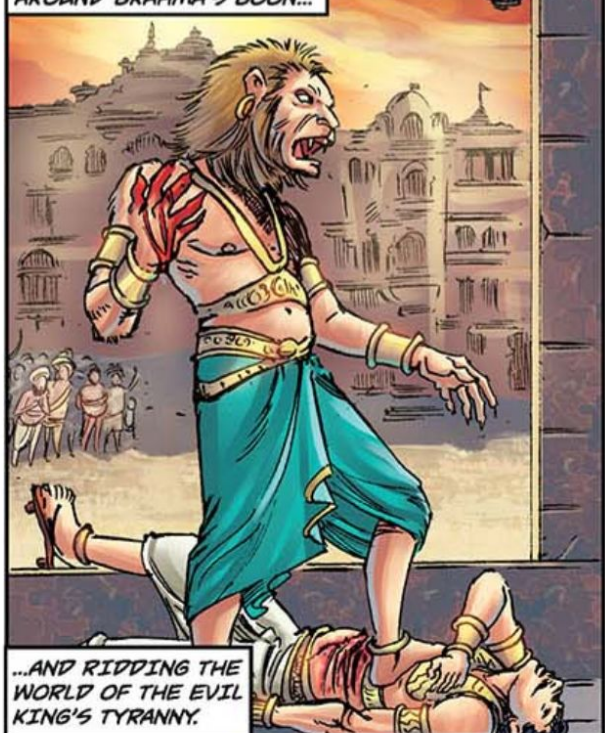
HIRANYAKASHAPU HAD ONCE ASKED BRAHMA FOR A BOON TO MAKE HIM INVINCIBLE.

I WISH THAT NO MAN OR BEAST BE ABLE TO SLAY ME, THAT I BE IMMORTAL DURING DAY AND NIGHT AND THAT NO WEAPON BE STRONG ENOUGH TO KILL ME.

SO BE IT.



VISHNU'S FORM WAS NEITHER MAN NOR BEAST. NARASIMHA HAD KILLED HIRANYAKASHAPU WITH HIS CLAWS AT DUSK, THUS FINDING A WAY AROUND BRAHMA'S BOON...



...AND RIDDING THE WORLD OF THE EVIL KING'S TYRANNY.

WITH THE KILLING OF HIRANYAKASHAPU, NARASIMHA HAD TASTED BLOOD.

HE LOST SIGHT OF HIS PURPOSE AND CONTINUED ON A FEARFUL RAMPAGE.

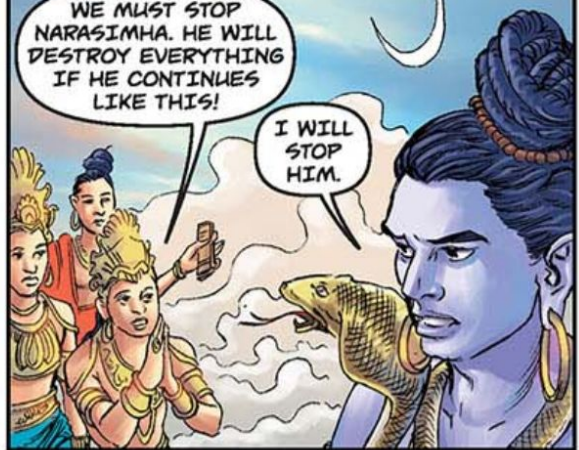
ROAR!



THE GODS WENT TO SHIVA.

WE MUST STOP NARASIMHA. HE WILL DESTROY EVERYTHING IF HE CONTINUES LIKE THIS!

I WILL STOP HIM.



SHIVA TOOK THE FORM OF SHARABHA, A HALF-BIRD, HALF-LION BEING...



...AND APPROACHED NARASIMHA.

HIS RAGE WILL BE DIFFICULT TO CONTROL.



I WILL ENVELOP HIM IN MY WINGS TO CALM HIM DOWN.



BUT THE ACT ANGERED NARASIMHA...

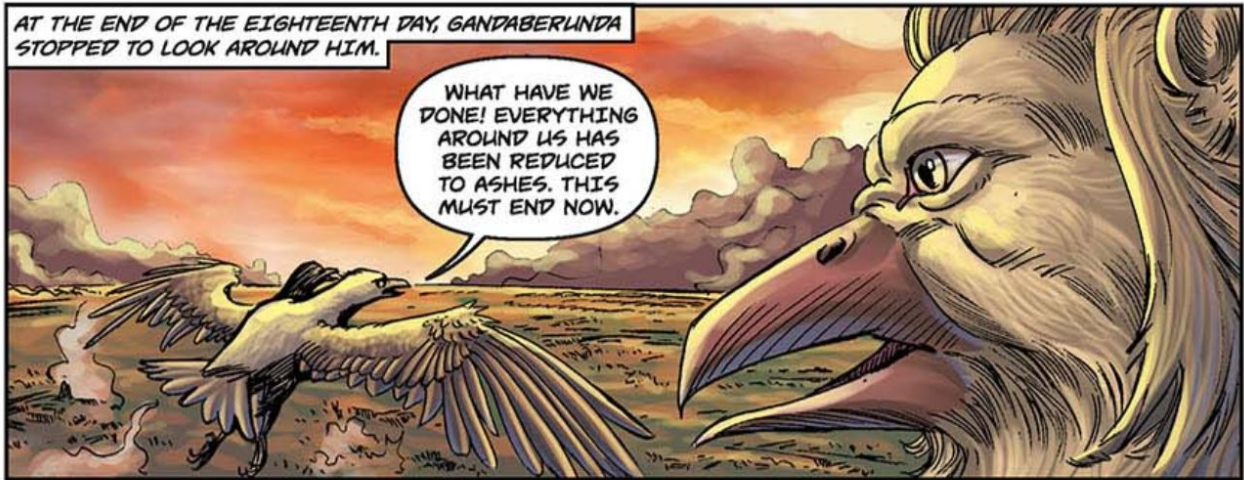


...AND FROM HIS BODY EMERGED A CREATURE, BIGGER AND MORE FEARSOME THAN SHARABHA.





AT THE END OF THE EIGHTEENTH DAY, GANDABERUNDA STOPPED TO LOOK AROUND HIM.



WHAT HAVE WE DONE! EVERYTHING AROUND US HAS BEEN REDUCED TO ASHES. THIS MUST END NOW.

HE SPLIT INTO TWO.



A CALM AND PEACEFUL VISHNU EMERGED FROM THE CENTRE OF THE FEARSOME BEAST.

AT THIS, SHIVA TOO RESUMED HIS FORM.



LET US GO BACK, MY FRIEND.

YES, LET'S.

PEACE WAS FINALLY RESTORED.