



TALES OF ARJUNA

THE EXPLOITS OF AN EXCEPTIONAL WARRIOR

Vol 525 |

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C.M.Vitankar

Editor
Anant Pai

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Email: customerservice@ack-media.com

ARJUNA, THE MONKEY AND THE BOY



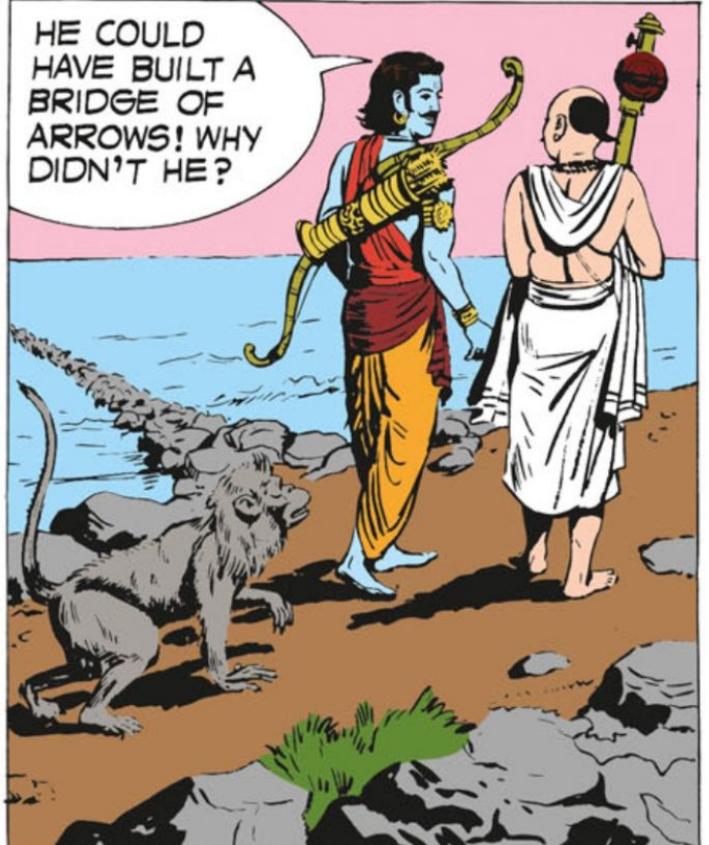
ONCE, WHILE ARJUNA WAS ON A PILGRIMAGE TO VARIOUS HOLY PLACES, HE CAME TO RAMESWARAM.*

AND THAT IS THE BRIDGE RAMA BUILT WITH THE HELP OF THE MONKEYS.

MONKEYS? BUT WHY DID A GREAT ARCHER LIKE HIM NEED THE HELP OF MONKEYS?



HE COULD HAVE BUILT A BRIDGE OF ARROWS! WHY DIDN'T HE?



THE BRAHMAN WENT HIS WAY BUT A MONKEY, WHICH WAS FOLLOWING ARJUNA, BURST OUT LAUGHING.

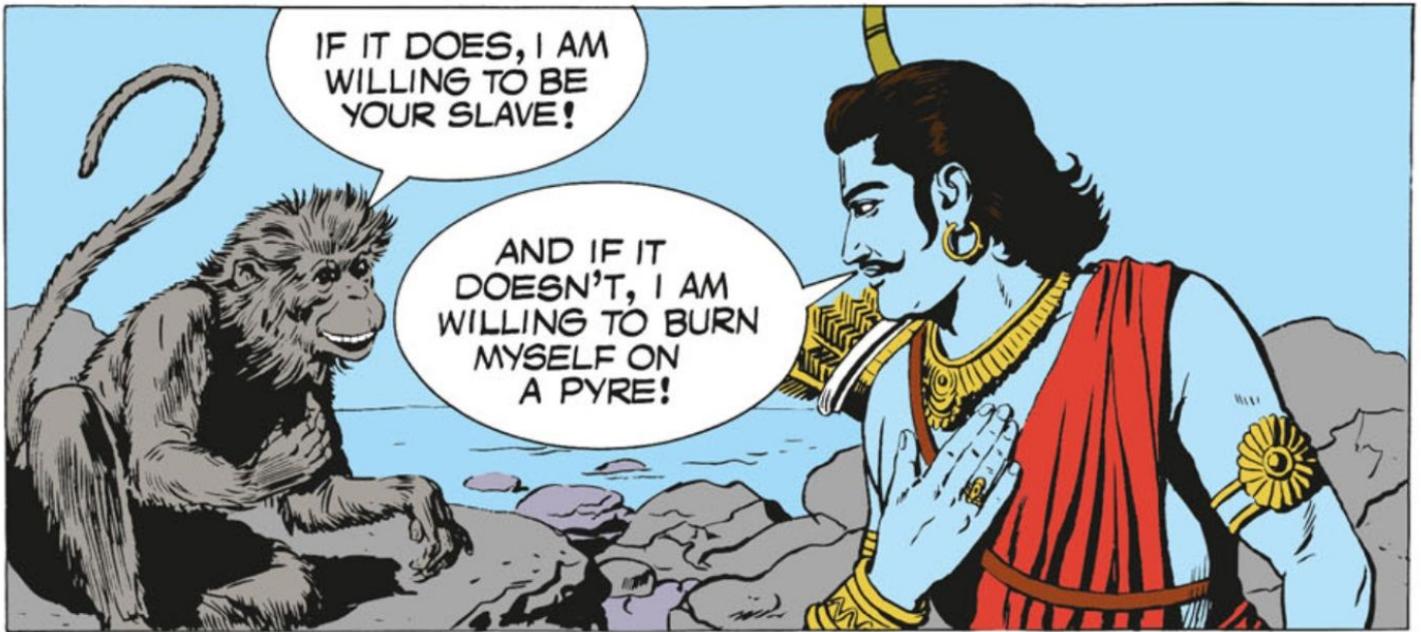


SURPRISED, ARJUNA TURNED ROUND —



ARJUNA WAS A LITTLE ANNOYED BY THE MONKEY'S AUDACITY.





IF IT DOES, I AM WILLING TO BE YOUR SLAVE!

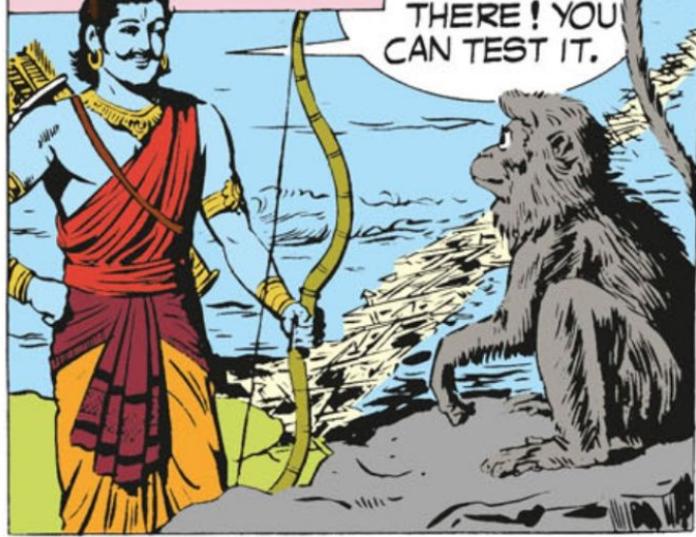
AND IF IT DOESN'T, I AM WILLING TO BURN MYSELF ON A PYRE!

SO ARJUNA SET TO WORK AND BEGAN TO BRIDGE THE WATERS BETWEEN LANKA AND THE MAINLAND WITH A SHOWER OF ARROWS.



WITH THE QUIVER OF INEXHAUSTIBLE ARROWS THAT LORD AGNI, THE GOD OF FIRE, GAVE ME, I SHOULD HAVE NO PROBLEM IN BUILDING A STRONG BRIDGE.

AS SOON AS THE BRIDGE WAS READY —



THERE! YOU CAN TEST IT.

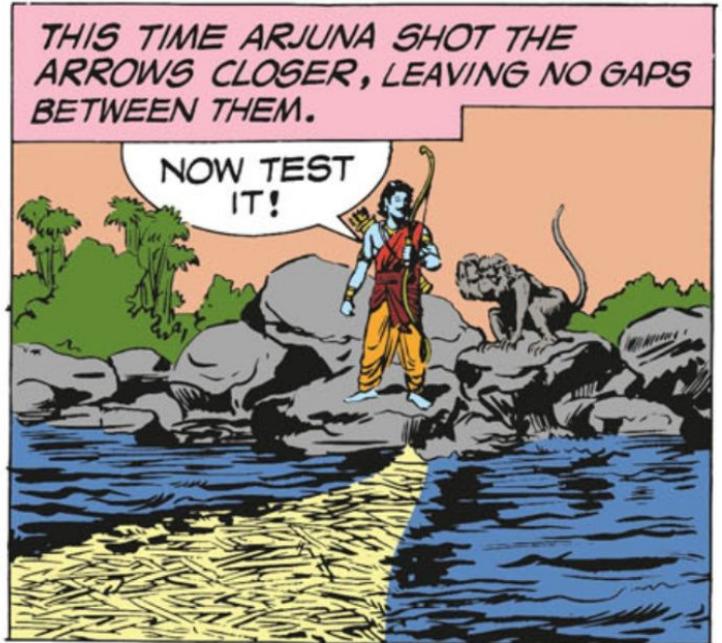
THE MONKEY HAD BARELY TOUCHED THE BRIDGE...





...WHEN IT COLLAPSED!

NO! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
I'LL TRY AGAIN.



THIS TIME ARJUNA SHOT THE ARROWS CLOSER, LEAVING NO GAPS BETWEEN THEM.

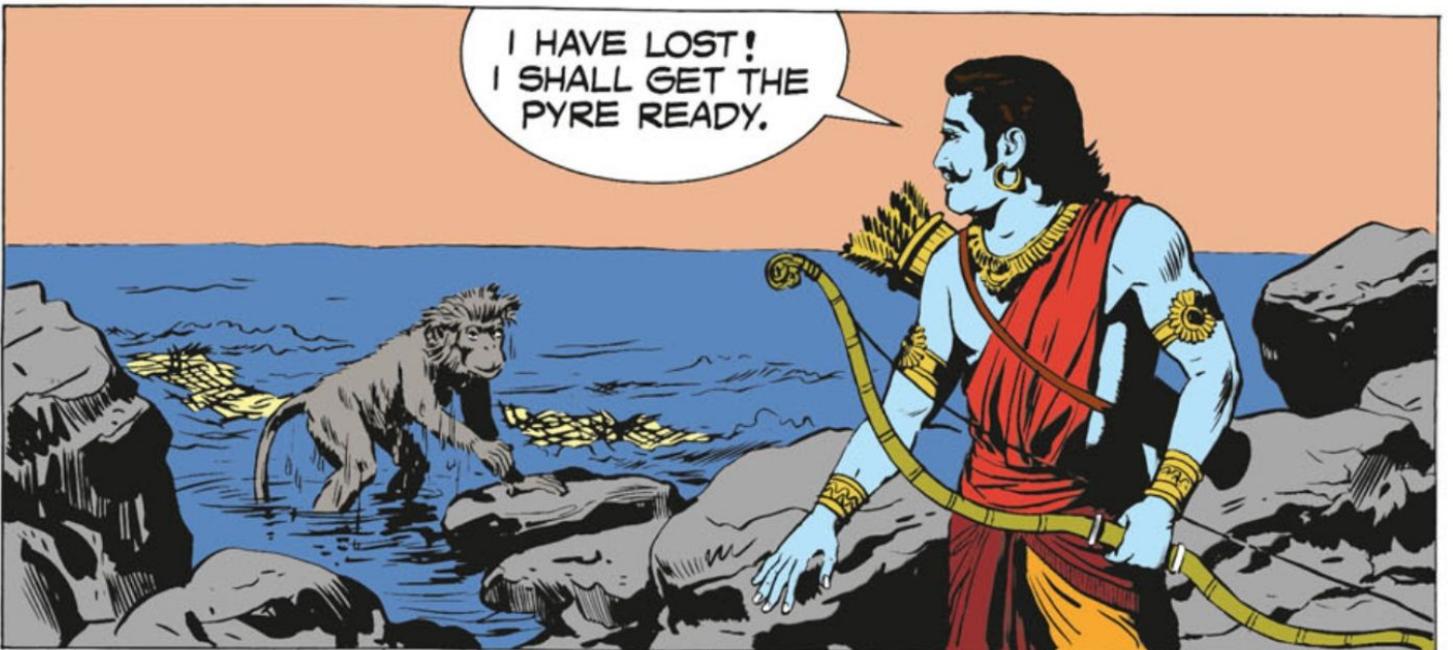
NOW TEST IT!



THIS IS STRONGER THAN I EXPECTED! I'LL WALK A BIT FURTHER.

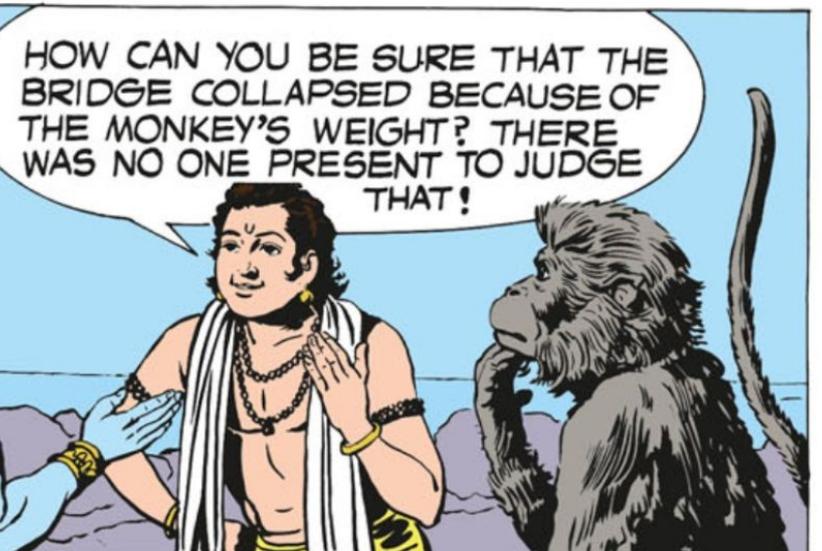
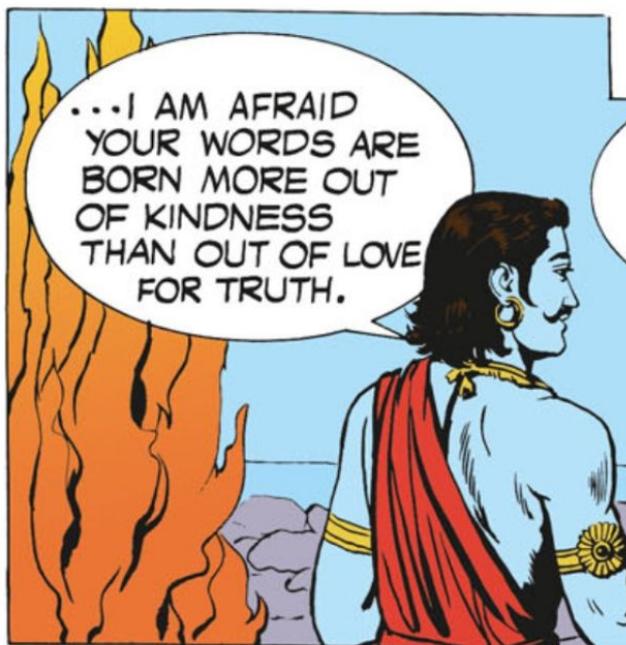
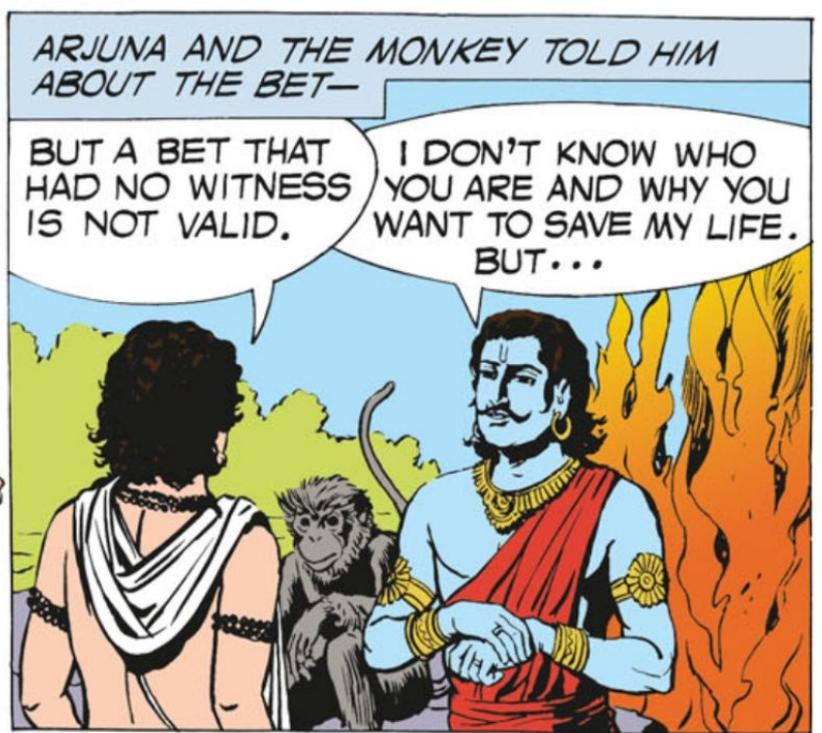
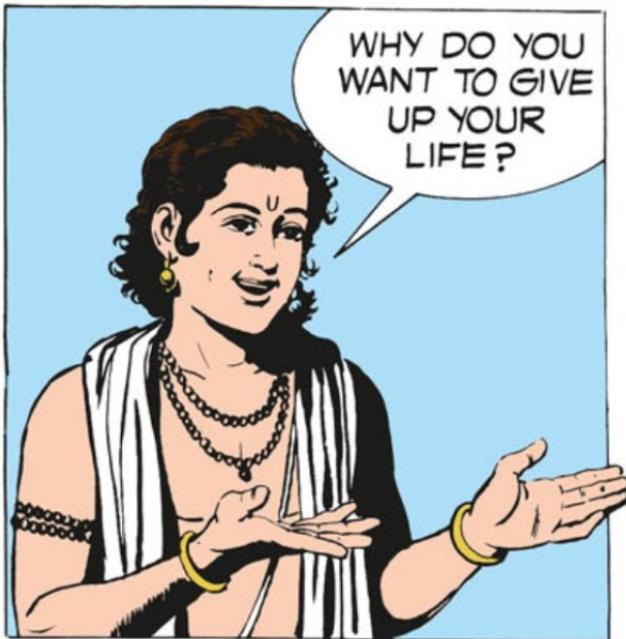


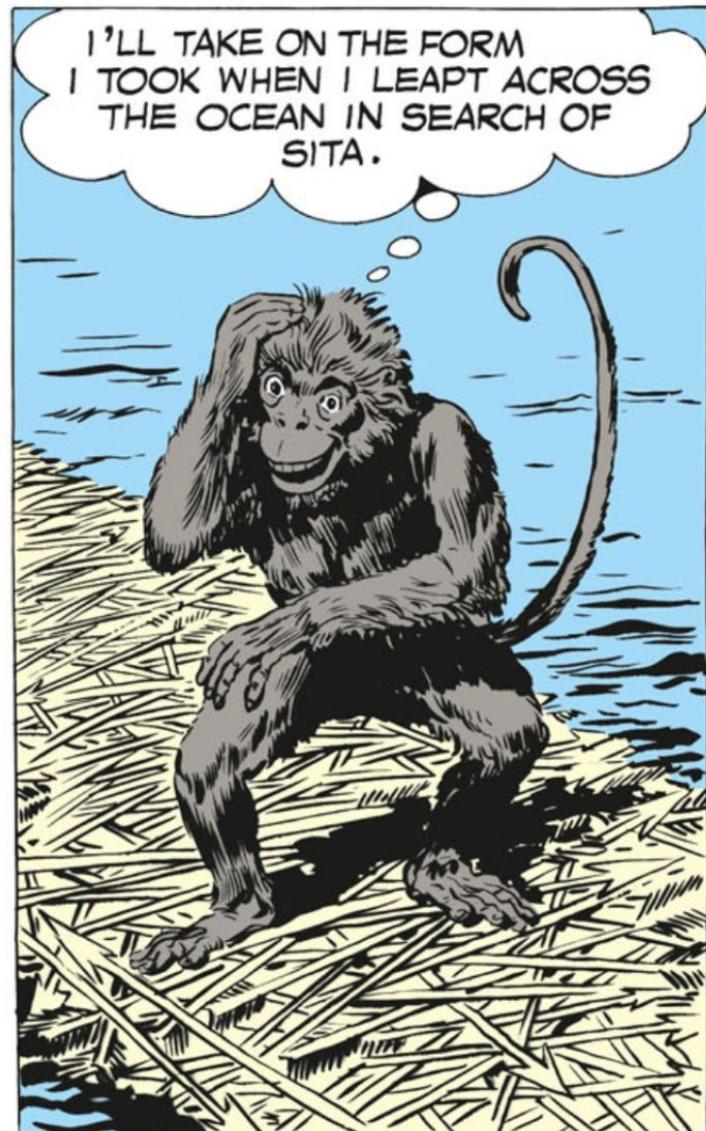
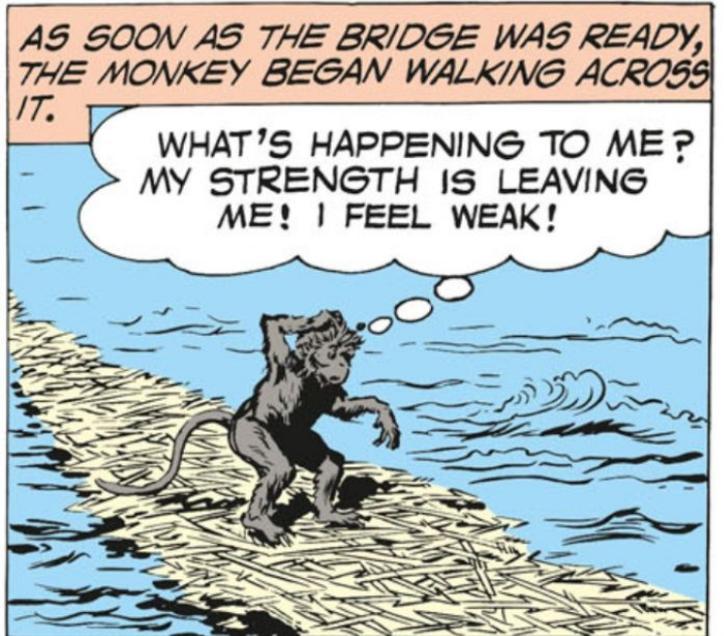
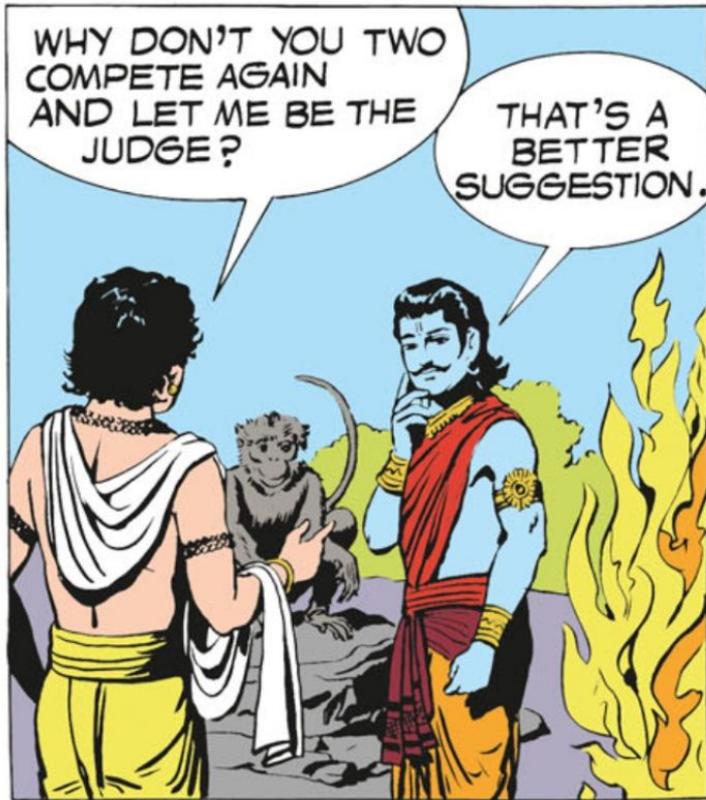
BUT HE HAD HARDLY TAKEN A FEW MORE STEPS WHEN —



I HAVE LOST!
I SHALL GET THE PYRE READY.

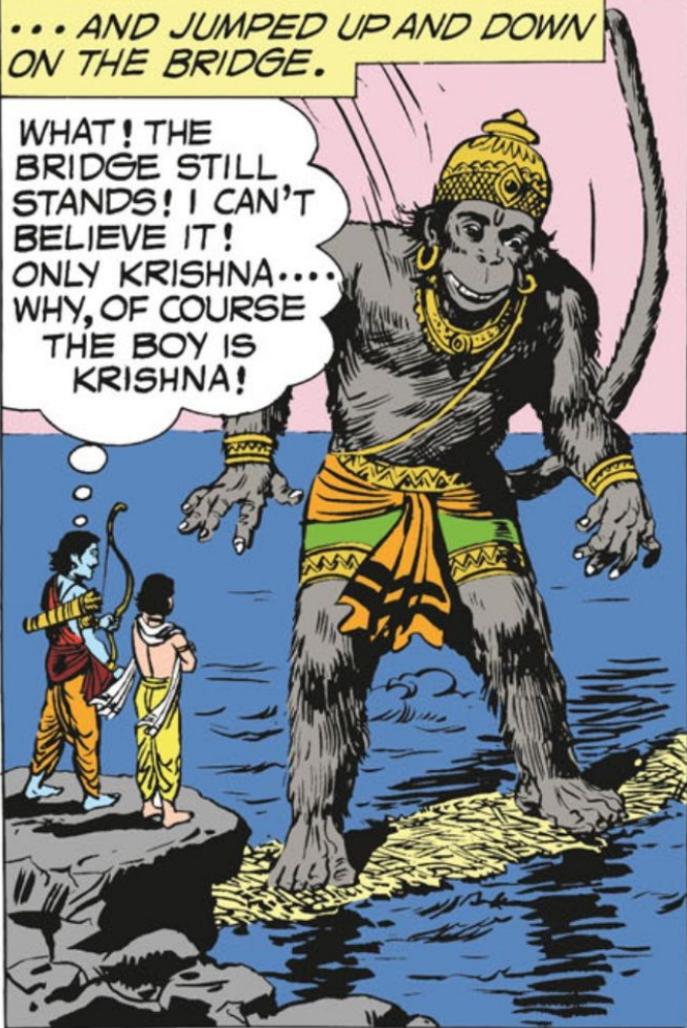
THE PYRE WAS MADE AND ARJUNA WAS ABOUT TO JUMP INTO THE FLAMES—





... AND JUMPED UP AND DOWN ON THE BRIDGE.

WHAT! THE BRIDGE STILL STANDS! I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! ONLY KRISHNA.... WHY, OF COURSE THE BOY IS KRISHNA!



AT THE SAME MOMENT, THE MONKEY, TOO, REALISED THE TRUTH.

WHAT A VAIN FOOL I HAVE BEEN. OF COURSE IT IS THE LORD HIMSELF!



RAMA!

KRISHNA!



AND LO! IN THE PLACE OF THE BOY STOOD LORD VISHNU.

YES IT IS I! BOTH OF YOU NEEDED TO BE TAUGHT A LESSON IN HUMILITY. YOU, ARJUNA, WERE TOO VAIN.



AND YOU, HANUMAN, WERE TOO PROUD OF YOUR STRENGTH.



HANUMAN, TO FULFIL THE CONDITIONS OF YOUR WAGER YOU SHALL BE ON ARJUNA'S FLAG.

