



# TINKLE

## DOUBLE DIGEST

No.  
**192**

₹ 120



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# DUEL OF WITS

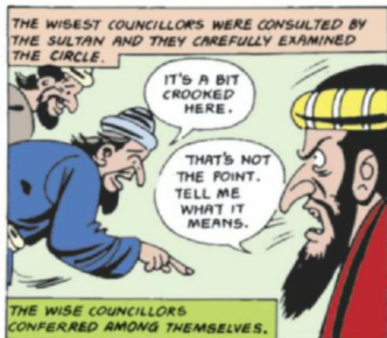
A Nasruddin Hodja Tale

Script: Prasad Iyer

Illustrations: Ram Waeerka

ONE DAY AN ENVOY FROM A NEIGHBOURING COUNTRY CAME TO THE COURT OF THE SULTAN OF BOKHARA.



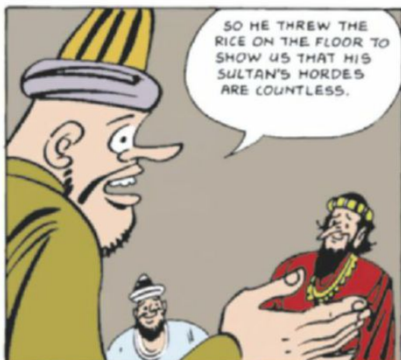




\*a toy that children play with











# ALL FOR A RUPEE

Based on a story sent by  
Darshan Shah

Illustrations:  
Goutam Sen

READERS' CHOICE

ONE DAY A MAN WAS PASSING THROUGH A FOREST, WHEN—



BUT HE BEAT EVERY ROBBER SEVERELY, GIVING AS GOOD AS HE GOT.



BUT HE WAS OUTNUMBERED.



# THE GREAT PERFORMER

This story won a consolation prize in the Fourth Tinkle Original Story Competition.

Story :  
Kalpana Bansal

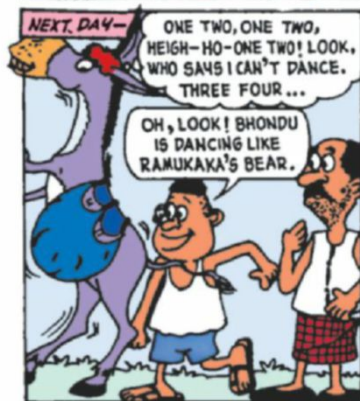
Script :  
K. L. Narayanan

Illustrations :  
Savio Mascarenhas

SALLAN, THE WASHERMAN AND HIS SON, SANGAM, WERE PREPARING TO GO HOME.

MAY I RIDE BHONDU HOME TODAY, FATHER?

NOT TODAY. HE IS ALREADY CARRYING A LOT OF WEIGHT.

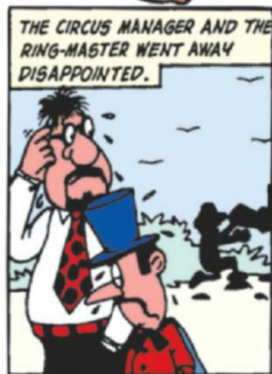








IT WAS THE MANAGER OF THE CIRCUS AND THE RING-MASTER







## Did You Know?

**Text: Shobha Rao**

**Illustrations: Goutam Sen**

One of the strangest looking trees in the world is the Baobab tree of East Africa. It has a large trunk which is almost nine metres (30 feet) in diameter, and small twisted branches. The branches look like the roots of the tree and seem disproportionate to the trunk. The entire trunk is like a water tank. It can store as much as 4000 litres of water. In periods of drought, elephants raid these for water.

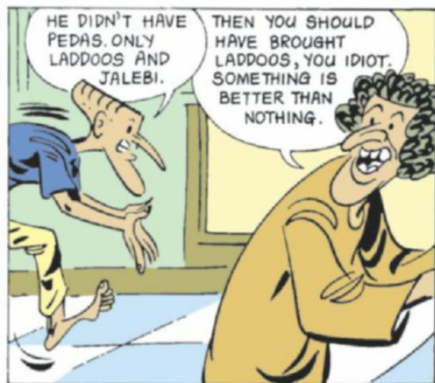
African legend has it that a god once pulled up a tree by its roots and then stuck it into the ground, upside down. And that is exactly what the Baobab tree looks like!

# SOMETHING IS BETTER THAN NOTHING

(A Suppandi Tale)

Based on a Story sent by:  
K. Poornima

Illustrations:- Ram Waekar





# BEES

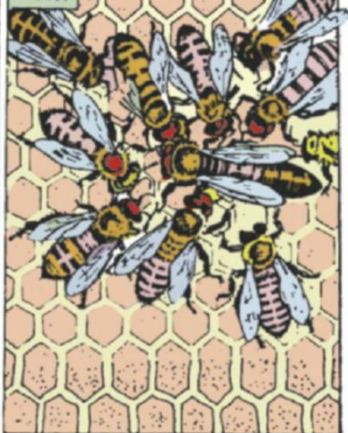
Script:  
Vaijayanti Wagle

Illustrations:  
Goutam Sen

LOOK BEHIND CREVASSES OR IN THE HOLLOW OF A TREE AND YOU MAY FIND THE HANGING COMBS OF A BEEHIVE.



A BEEHIVE IS THE HOME OF A QUEEN BEE, A FEW DRONES (MALE BEES) AND OVER 30,000 WORKERS (FEMALE BEES).

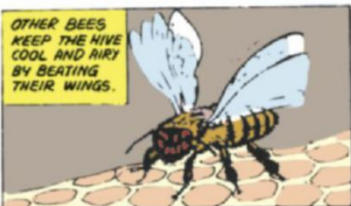


THE WORKER BEES LEAD BUSY LIVES. FOR IT IS THEY WHO LOOK AFTER THE MANY NEEDS OF THE BEEHIVE.



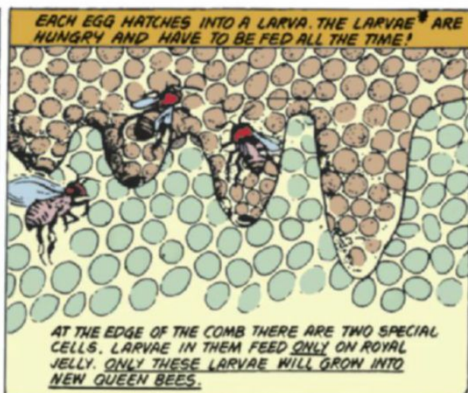
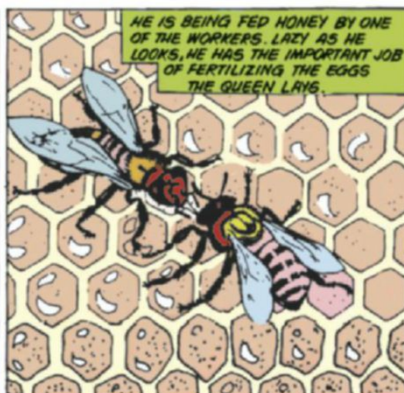
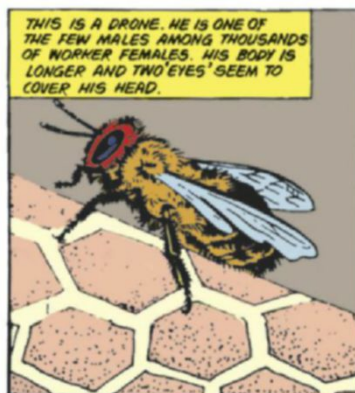
HERE ARE SOME WORKERS USING THE WAX THAT OOOZES OUT OF THEIR ABDOMENS TO BUILD NEW CELLS FOR THE BEEHIVE.

OTHER BEES KEEP THE NIVE COOL AND AIRY BY BEATING THEIR WINGS.



YET OTHERS FEED THE LARVAE WHICH HAVE HATCHED OUT OF THE EGGS THE QUEEN BEE HAS LAID. THE WORKERS FEED THE LARVAE ON ROYAL JELLY, A SPECIAL FOOD PRODUCED BY GLANDS IN THEIR HEADS, AND HONEY BREAD, A MIXTURE OF POLLEN AND HONEY.





■ PLURAL OF LARVA



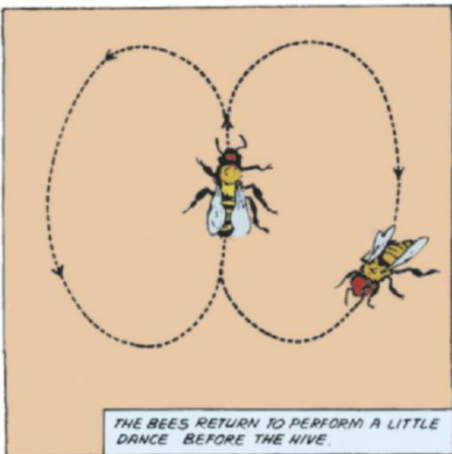
AS THE LARVAE SWELL,  
THEY WEAVE SILKY  
COCOONS AROUND  
THEMSELVES.

WRAPPED IN THEIR  
COCOONS, THE LARVAE  
BECOME PUPAE.



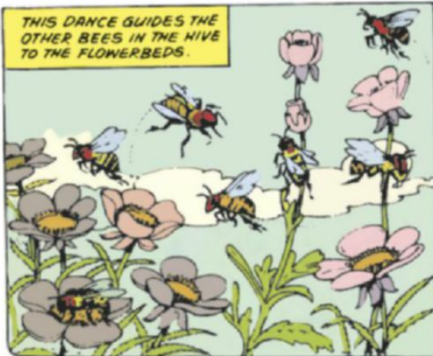
TWELVE DAYS LATER,  
OUT BUZZ THE NEW  
HONEYBEES.

THEY STRETCH OUT THEIR LEGS  
AND GAUZY WINGS AND GO TO  
WORK. FOR THE FIRST FEW DAYS,  
THEY WORK WITHIN THE NIVE.  
THEN THE BEES FLY OUT IN  
SEARCH OF FLOWERS.



THE BEES RETURN TO PERFORM A LITTLE  
DANCE BEFORE THE NIVE.

THIS DANCE GUIDES THE  
OTHER BEES IN THE NIVE  
TO THE FLOWERBEDS.



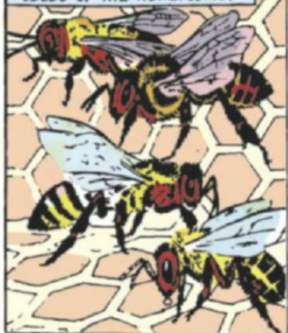
AT EACH FLOWER THE BEES COLLECT  
POLLEN ON THE TUFTS OF HAIR ON  
THEIR HINDLEGS.



THEY SUCK DEEPLY ON THE NECTAR.  
STORED IN THEIR STOMACHS, THE  
NECTAR TURNS INTO HONEY.

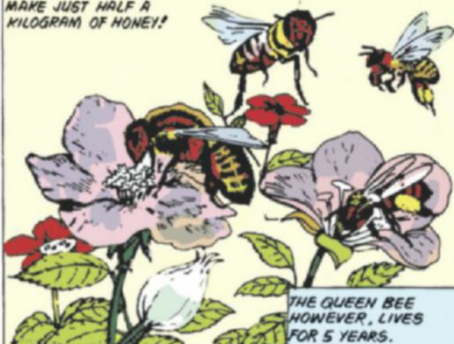


AT THE HIVE, THE POLLEN IS DEPOSITED IN PANTRY CELLS. THE HONEY IS STORED IN THE CELLS OF THE HONEYCOMB.



BACK AND FORTH TRAVEL THE HONEYBEES. THEY VISIT 35,000 FLOWERS TO MAKE JUST HALF A KILOGRAM OF HONEY!

SIX TO EIGHT WEEKS LATER, THEIR DAYS COME TO AN END.

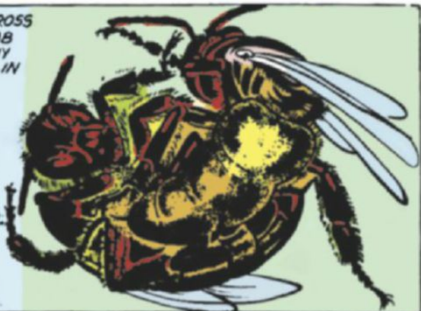


THE QUEEN BEE HOWEVER, LIVES FOR 5 YEARS.

TODAY THERE IS EXCITEMENT IN THE HIVE. A NEW QUEEN HAS EMERGED FROM ONE OF THE SPECIAL CELLS.

SHE STALKS ACROSS THE BROOD-COMB TO SEEK OUT ANY OTHER QUEENS IN THE BEEHIVE.

SHE FINDS ONE COMING OUT OF THE OTHER SPECIAL CELL. A STINGING DUEL TAKES PLACE UNTIL ONLY ONE QUEEN IS LEFT. THE RULE IS ONE QUEEN PER HIVE.



BUT WHAT ABOUT THE QUEEN MOTHER ALREADY IN THE HIVE? FOR DAYS SHE HAS BEEN PLANNING HER FLIGHT. AS THE NEW QUEEN EMERGES THE QUEEN MOTHER AND THOUSANDS OF HER WORKERS FLY AWAY FROM THE BEEHIVE IN SEARCH OF A NEW HOME.

THE NEW QUEEN IN THE OLD HIVE SETTLES DOWN AND LIFE IN THE BUSY HONEY FACTORY CONTINUES AS BEFORE.

# ANWAR

Illustrations  
V.B. Halbe

Based on a  
story sent By  
Anupam Gupta



AMMA, TELL  
ME SOMETHING  
ABOUT TORTOISES.

WELL, ALL  
RIGHT, ANWAR.  
THEY ARE VERY  
SLOW MOVERS.

AND THEY LOOK  
LIKE ROCKS WHEN  
THEY'RE ASLEEP.  
(YAWN)



UH, I'M SLEEPY  
YOU'D BETTER  
HAVE A NAP  
TOO.



AFTER A FEW HOURS —



WHERE ARE  
MY GOGGLES?  
ANWAR, LOOK  
FOR THEM!



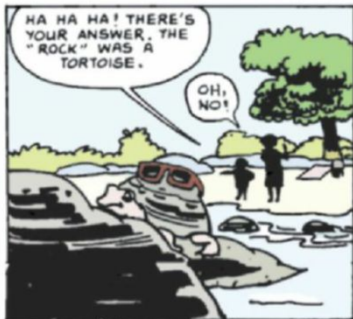
THERE, IN THE  
MIDDLE OF THE  
RIVER.

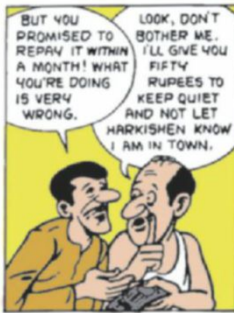
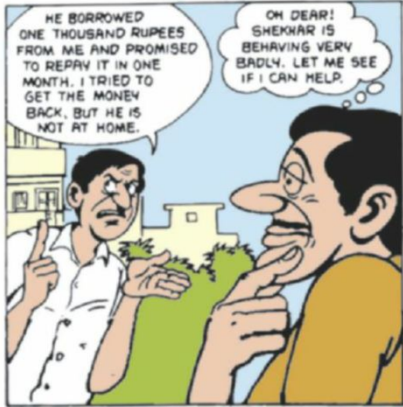
BUT... BUT...  
IT COULDN'T  
HAVE SWUM  
THERE. I'D KEPT  
IT ON A ROCK.



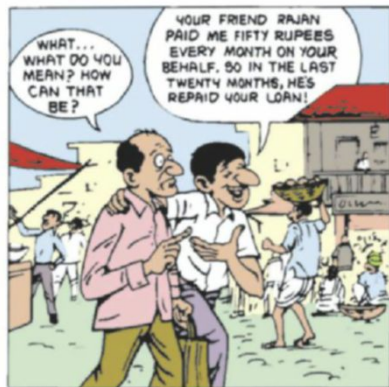
HA HA HA! THERE'S  
YOUR ANSWER. THE  
"ROCK" WAS A  
TORTOISE.

OH,  
NO!











# TWO KNIGHTS

Readers' Choice

Based on a story sent by  
Master S. Aniruddh

Illustrations: Suresh Kshirsagar

TWO KNIGHTS WERE COMING FROM OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS. SUDDENLY THEY SAW A SHIELD HANGING FROM A TREE.

LOOK AT THAT GREY SHIELD.

GREY? IT'S RED!

ANYONE CAN SEE IT IS GREY.

ANY FOOL CAN TELL IT IS RED!

GREY!  
GREY!  
GREY!

RED!  
RED!  
RED!

LET OUR SWORDS DECIDE THE COLOUR OF THE SHIELD.

I LIKE THE IDEA.

EXCUSE ME WHY ARE THE TWO OF YOU FIGHTING?

HE SAYS THAT SHIELD IS GREY AND I SAY IT IS RED.

ACTUALLY BOTH OF YOU ARE RIGHT.

EH?

HOW CAN THAT BE?

I HAVE SEEN IT FROM BOTH SIDES. IT IS GREY ON ONE SIDE AND RED ON THE OTHER!



# FIRST AID

Script: Prasad Iyer B.

Illustrations: Chandrakant R. Rane



ACCIDENTS CAN HAPPEN ANYWHERE — AT PLAY, IN THE SCHOOL, AT HOME. A KNOWLEDGE OF FIRST AID THEREFORE, CAN PREVENT A MINOR ACCIDENT FROM BECOMING SERIOUS.

FIRST AID IS THE TREATMENT GIVEN TO A SICK OR INJURED PERSON BEFORE THE DOCTOR ARRIVES.



WHEN YOU HAVE THE FACTS, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO ADMINISTER FIRST AID.

IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO HELP SOMEONE WHO IS HURT IF YOU DO NOT KNOW WHAT IS WRONG WITH HIM. SO FIRST OF ALL ASK THE VICTIM WHAT HAPPENED OR WHAT AILS HIM. IF HE IS UNABLE TO ANSWER OR IS UNCONSCIOUS, USE YOUR EYES AND HANDS FOR SIGNS OF INJURY.



THE FIRST STEP IS TO HAVE A FIRST AID KIT. GIVEN BELOW ARE SOME ITEMS THAT A FIRST AID KIT MUST INCLUDE.



KEEP ALL THESE ITEMS IN A BIG WATERPROOF BOX. YOU ARE NOW READY TO HELP WHENEVER THE NEED ARISES.

HERE ARE SOME SITUATIONS THAT MAY HAPPEN AND THE WAYS IN WHICH TO DEAL WITH THEM.

**CHOKING** CHOKING USUALLY OCCURS WHEN A MORSEL OF FOOD GOES DOWN THE "WRONG WAY."



## Remedy:

BEND THE PATIENT OVER THE BACK OF A CHAIR, OR ACROSS YOUR KNEES, AND POUND HIM ON HIS BACK, JUST BELOW THE SHOULDERS, TILL HIS WINDPIPE IS CLEARED. IF THIS DOES NOT WORK, THEN USE YOUR FINGER TO PULL OUT THE OBJECT BLOCKING HIS THROAT.

### DIZZINESS

THERE ARE MANY CAUSES FOR DIZZINESS—CHIEFLY, SHORTAGE OF BLOOD SUPPLY TO THE BRAIN.



**Remedy:**  
WHEN A PERSON FEELS DIZZY, LOOSEN HIS CLOTHING FIRST. THEN MAKE HIM SIT DOWN WITH HIS HEAD BETWEEN HIS KNEES. AS SOON AS HE RECOVERS, GIVE HIM SMALL SIPS OF COLD WATER.

### STINGS AND ANIMAL BITES

STINGS FROM INSECTS OR PLANTS CAUSE ONLY A SLIGHT SWELLING.



**Remedy:**  
COOL THE AFFECTED SKIN WITH CALAMINE LOTION OR STROKE IT WITH A PAD SOAKED IN AN ANTISEPTIC SOLUTION.



HOWEVER ANIMAL BITES ARE MORE SERIOUS. THE MOUTHS OF ANIMALS ARE ALWAYS FULL OF GERMS AND SO CAN CAUSE INFECTION.



**Remedy:**  
WASH THE BITTEN PORTION GENTLY WITH AN ANTISEPTIC SOLUTION AND COVER WITH A DRESSING. THEN IMMEDIATELY TAKE THE VICTIM TO A DOCTOR.

### DUST IN THE EYE

THIS IS VERY COMMON AND CAN HAPPEN TO US EVERY DAY.

#### Remedy:

SPLASH WATER INTO THE EYES AND BLINK RAPIDLY. IF THIS DOES NOT GET THE DUST PARTICLE OUT, SOAK A PIECE OF COTTON-WOOL IN WATER AND GENTLY MOVE IT OVER THE EYE BALL, TILL THE OFFENDING DUST PARTICLE IS REMOVED.



### SPLINTERS

SPLINTERS OF WOOD CAN OFTEN PUNCTURE AND ENTER THE SKIN. THEY CAN BE QUITE PAINFUL, BUT AT THE SAME TIME THEY CAN BE EASILY REMOVED.



**Remedy:**  
DIP A NEEDLE IN ANTISEPTIC SOLUTION AND THEN GENTLY PRISE THE SPLINTER UPWARDS.

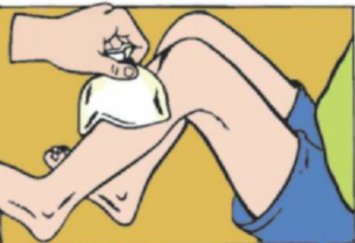


WHEN ONE END OF THE SPLINTER EMERGES, PULL IT OUT WITH A PAIR OF TWEEZERS. THEN APPLY SOME ANTISEPTIC ON THE AFFECTED PART.



**BRUISES AND SPRAINS** BRUISES AND SPRAINS ARE NEVER VERY SERIOUS, BUT THEY ARE OFTEN VERY PAINFUL AND CAUSE SWELLINGS.

**Remedy:** FILL A POLYTHENE BAG WITH ICE CUBES. THEN ADD SOME SALT AND TIE UP THE BAG. WRAP THE BAG IN A THIN PIECE OF CLOTH AND KEEP IT GENTLY OVER THE BRUISE OR THE SPRAINED PART. THIS WILL HELP REDUCE THE SWELLING AND BRING RELIEF.



### MINOR CUTS AND GRAZES

SMALL CUTS AND GRAZES USUALLY STOP BLEEDING BY THEMSELVES AS THE BLOOD CLOTS AND SEALS THE WOUND.

**Remedy:** IN ANY CASE, CLEAN THE CUT WITH A SWAB OF COTTON-WOOL, DIPPED IN ANTISEPTIC SOLUTION AND THEN PUT A DRESSING ON IT.



### DEEP CUTS AND WOUNDS

HOWEVER, PROMPT ACTION IS REQUIRED TO DEAL WITH DEEP CUTS AND WOUNDS.

**Remedy:** SWIFTLY MAKE A PAD WITH A CLEAN PIECE OF CLOTH AND PRESS IT OVER THE WOUND TO STANCH THE FLOW OF BLOOD. IF BLOOD SEEPS THROUGH, PRESS ANOTHER PAD OVER THE FIRST PAD. ONCE THE FLOW OF BLOOD IS REDUCED, BANDAGE THE WOUND AND TAKE THE PATIENT TO A DOCTOR.



### CLOTHES ON FIRE

THIS HAPPENS VERY OFTEN DURING FESTIVALS LIKE DIWALI. SOMETIMES SUCH ACCIDENTS CAN PROVE FATAL.

#### Remedy:

QUICKLY PULL THE PATIENT DOWN ONTO THE GROUND. THEN POUR WATER DIRECTLY ON THE PLACE WHERE THE CLOTHES ARE BURNING. IF WATER IS NOT AVAILABLE, SMOOTHER THE FLAMES WITH A BLANKET. THEN RUSH THE PATIENT TO A DOCTOR.



### FRACTURES AND BROKEN BONES

FRACTURES AND BROKEN BONES CAUSE THE VICTIM GREAT PAIN, SO IT IS IMPORTANT TO PREVENT THE BROKEN LIMB FROM BEING MOVED.

#### Remedy:

PLACE A PADDING AGAINST EACH SIDE OF THE BROKEN LIMB TO PREVENT IT FROM MOVING. THEN COVER THE PATIENT WITH A BLANKET TO KEEP HIM WARM AND SEND FOR A DOCTOR.



BUT REMEMBER IN EVERY CASE IT IS ESSENTIAL TO REMAIN CALM AND COOL. IF THE SITUATION CANNOT BE HANDLED BY YOU, DO NOT HESITATE TO CALL THE DOCTOR OR AN AMBULANCE.

# SPEARING THE MOON!

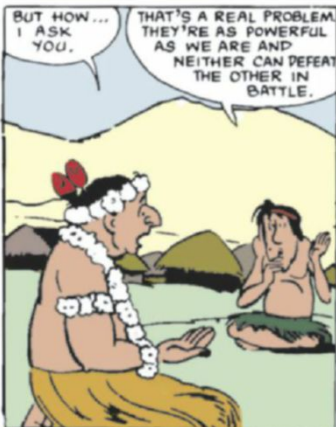
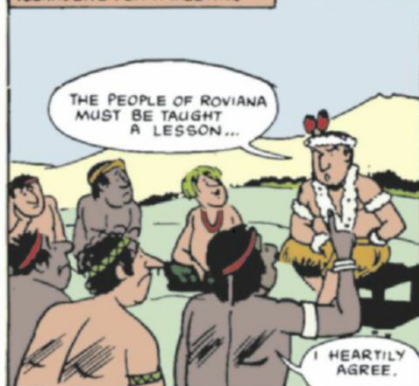
Based on a story from  
the Solomon Islands

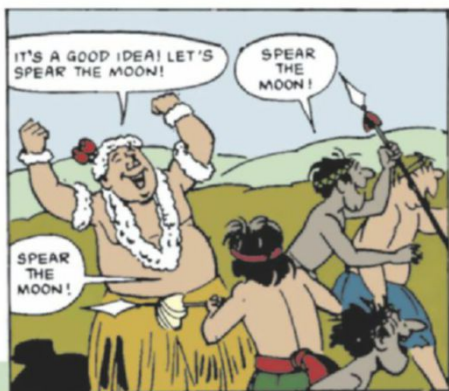
Script:  
Prasad Iyer  
Illustrations:  
V B. Halbe

LONG AGO THE PEOPLE OF THE NEIGHBOURING ISLANDS OF SIMBO AND ROVIANA WERE AT WAR WITH EACH OTHER.

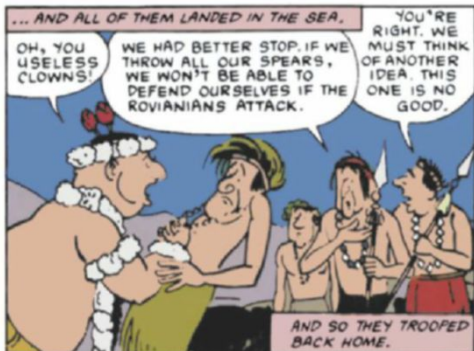
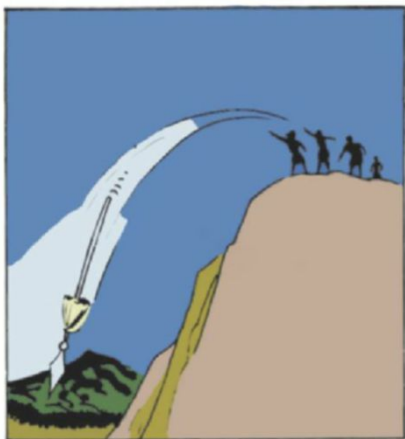


ONE DAY THE SIMBO CHIEF CALLED ALL THE ISLANDERS FOR A MEETING —



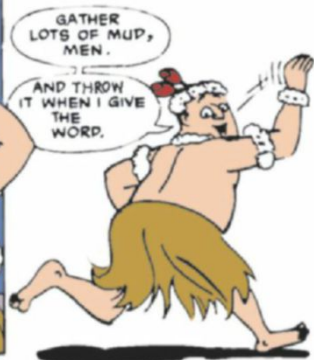
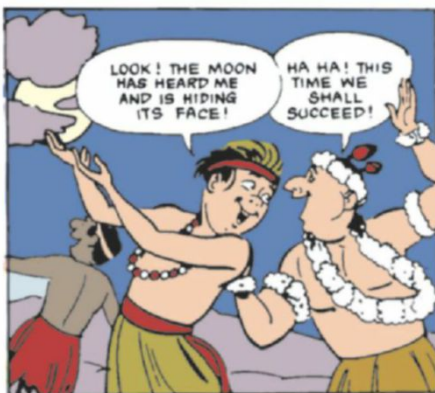
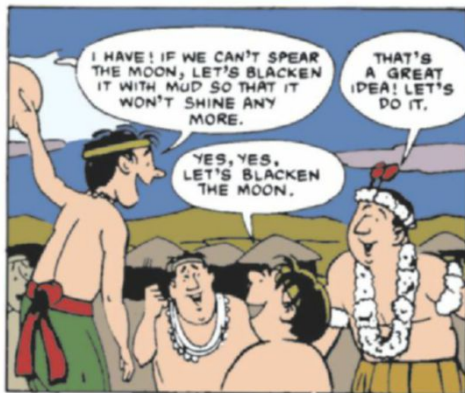




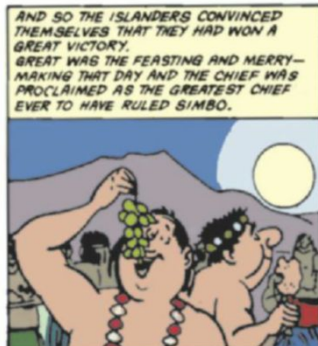
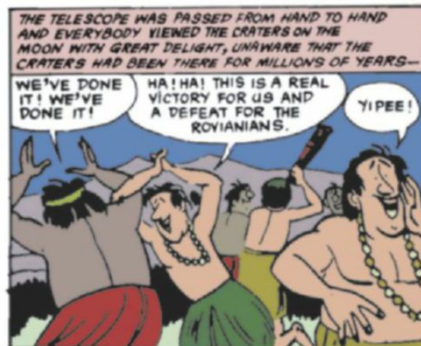
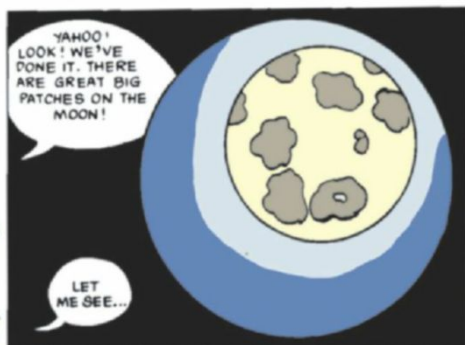




A FEW DAYS LATER, THE CHIEF CALLED ANOTHER MEETING.

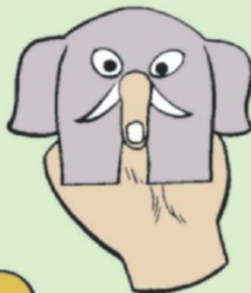


IT WAS A FIERCE  
BOMBARDMENT—



# Make Your Own Finger Puppets

You can have a lot of fun with these easy-to-make finger puppets.  
You will need three pieces of cardboard, each 11 cm. x 16 cm.



Draw a pattern of an elephant. Cut it out. Make a hole in the middle, large enough to put your finger through. Paint the eyes, the tusks and the body of the elephant. Put your finger through the hole to serve as the elephant's trunk.



Draw a pattern of a seal and cut it out. Make two holes at the bottom large enough for your fingers to fit in. Paint the seal as shown.



Draw and cut a pattern of an octopus. Make five holes for your five fingers. Now the octopus has all his eight tentacles to wriggle around with.

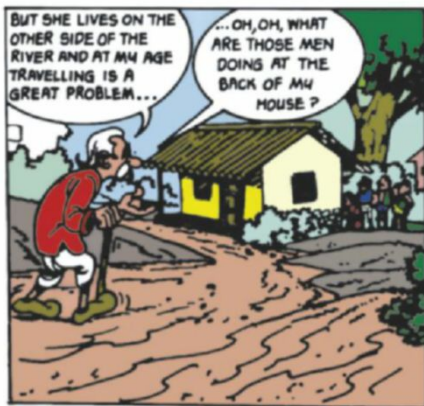


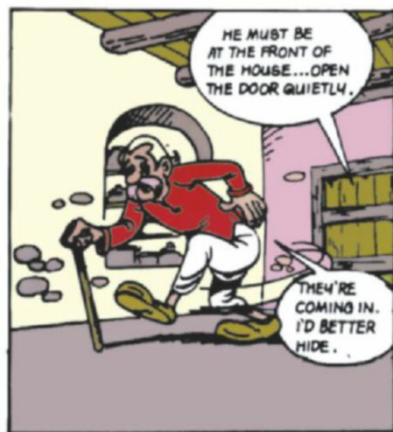


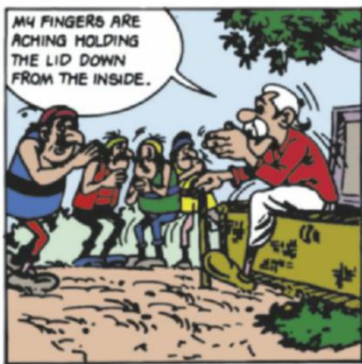
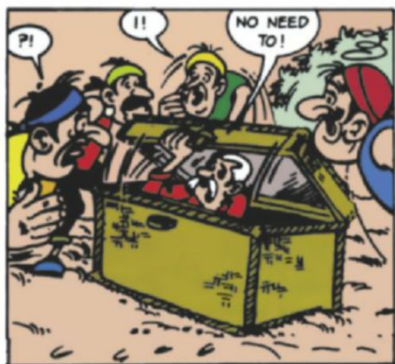
# THE HELPFUL THIEVES

Adapted from an Assamese Folktale

Script :  
Luis Fernandes  
Illustrations :  
Anand Mande







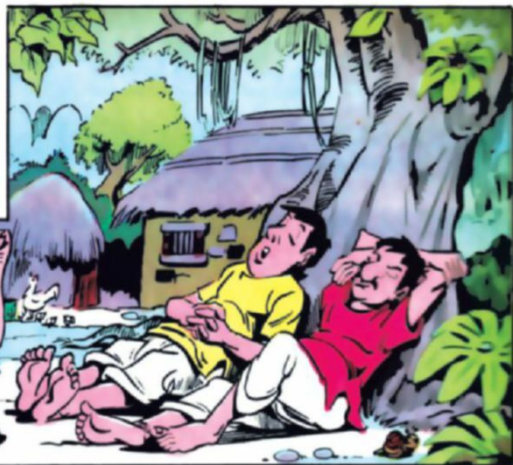


# THE TREASURE -HUNTERS

Readers' Choice

Based on a story sent by  
Master Adil T. Fakhir

Illustrations:-T.G. Shetty



IN A CERTAIN VILLAGE THERE  
WERE TWO YOUNG MEN WHO  
WERE LAZY AND ABSOLUTELY  
GOOD FOR NOTHING—



THEY DID NOT EVEN  
BOTHR TO LOOK  
AFTER THEIR  
AILING FATHER—



ONE DAY—

T...TH...  
THERE...  
THAT...AH!

?

FATHER IS  
POINTING TOWARDS  
THE  
COWSHED

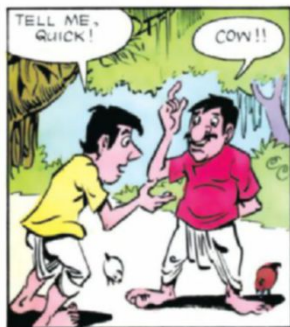


TH...THE...  
THERE...THAT  
...AH!

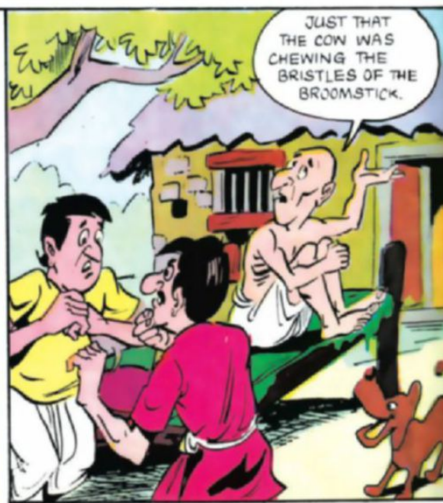
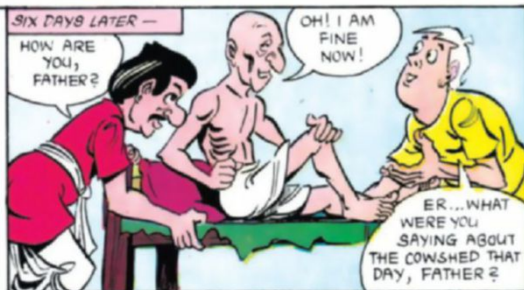
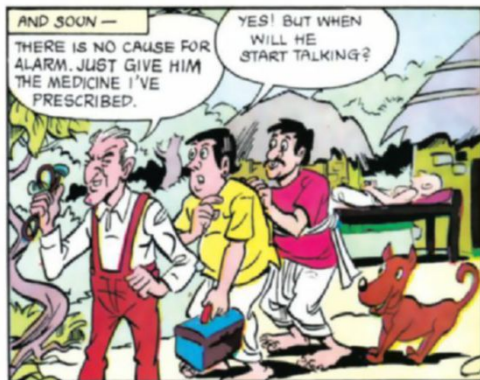
HE IS  
TRYING TO TELL  
US SOMETHING  
ABOUT THE  
COWSHED

MAYBE HE IS  
SAYING THERE  
IS SOMETHING  
IN IT. WHAT  
COULD IT BE?

I  
KNOW!









IT  
HAPPENED  
TO ME.....

In September 1984 during one of the holidays, I was flying my kite outside my compound. I wanted my kite to go high into the air. I left the thread loose and started running backwards. There was a ditch full of muck near by. I fell straight into it and started sinking. I tried my level best to free myself, but could not. Minutes rolled by and I started sinking into the ditch. I then heard my

mother calling me. I shouted for help but she could not hear me.

I shouted for help over and over again and in the end she heard me and pulled me out of the ditch. My mother then bathed me with hot water which had been perfumed. But it took two days and repeated baths before I could be free from the smell. I can still vividly recall the incident.



One evening as I was out strolling, I happened to see an elderly woman trying to cross the road in spite of the heavy traffic. I thought of helping her.

So I went up to her and took hold of her hand. Seeing this, she thought

that I was a thief and started screaming. Immediately a crowd gathered and questioned me. It was only when I told the woman that I was trying to help her cross the road that she realised her mistake.



# Shikari Shambu

Based on a story  
sent by Sanjay Pai

Illustrations :  
V.B. Halbe



\*Did you know: Shambu's rifle is a tranquilizer  
used to put animals to sleep.







# "FARE" ENOUGH

—a Suppandi tale

READERS' CHOICE

Based on a story sent by  
Master K.S. Mukund

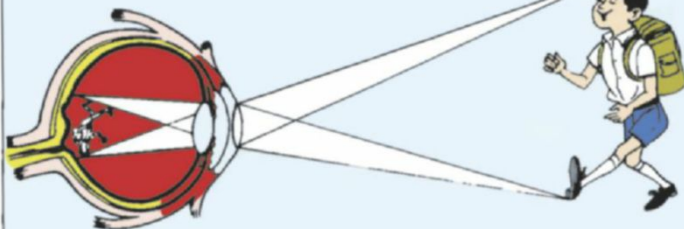
Illustrations:  
Ram Waerker



# OPTICAL ILLUSIONS

Script: Prasad Iyer  
Illustrations: Anand Mande

WE SEE AN OBJECT WHEN LIGHT FROM THAT OBJECT FALLS ON THE RETINA OF THE EYE. BUT SEEING IS NOT JUST A MATTER OF LIGHT ENTERING THE EYES. THE IMAGES FORMED ON THE RETINA HAVE TO BE CONSTANTLY INTERPRETED AND IT IS THE BRAIN THAT DOES THIS WORK.

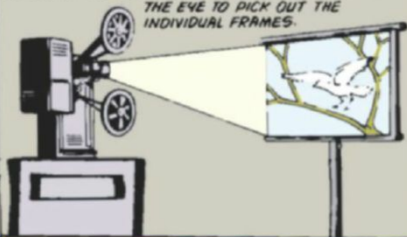


BUT SOMETIMES THE BRAIN IS MISTAKEN IN ITS INTERPRETATION OF AN IMAGE. WHEN THIS HAPPENS IT IS CALLED AN OPTICAL ILLUSION.

ONE OF THE SIMPLEST FORMS OF OPTICAL ILLUSIONS THAT WE COME ACROSS IN EVERYDAY LIFE IS THAT OF THE CINE FILM. A CINE FILM CONSISTS OF A LONG SERIES OF PICTURES EACH SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHER.



WHEN THE FILM IS RUN THROUGH THE PROJECTOR AT THE RATE OF 24 FRAMES PER SECOND, THE EYE GETS THE IMPRESSION OF CONTINUOUS MOVEMENT. THIS IS BECAUSE THE FILM IS RUNNING TOO QUICKLY FOR THE EYE TO PICK OUT THE INDIVIDUAL FRAMES.

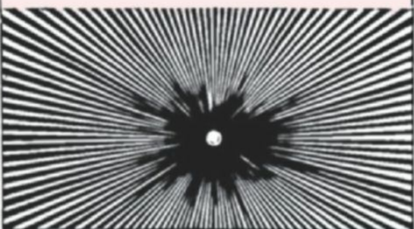


THE LAW OF PERSPECTIVE IS ANOTHER EXAMPLE. WHEN AN OBJECT RECEDES INTO THE DISTANCE IT APPEARS TO GROW SMALLER AND SMALLER. AS A RESULT, ROADS AND RAILWAY TRACKS GIVE THE ILLUSION OF DRAWING TOGETHER NEAR THE HORIZON.



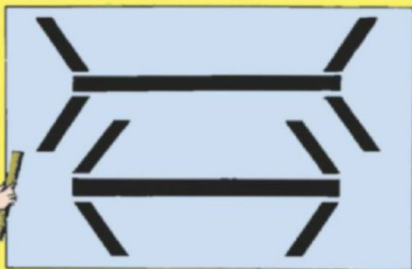
HERE ARE SOME OPTICAL ILLUSIONS THAT WILL BOGGLE YOUR MIND.

JUST STARE AT THE CENTRE OF THIS PICTURE FOR SOME TIME. YOU WILL DISCOVER THAT THE LINES APPEAR TO MOVE IN A PECULIAR WAY.

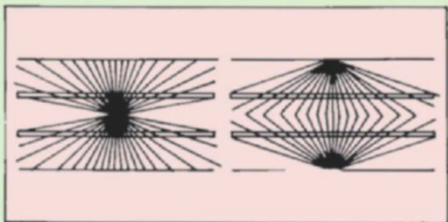




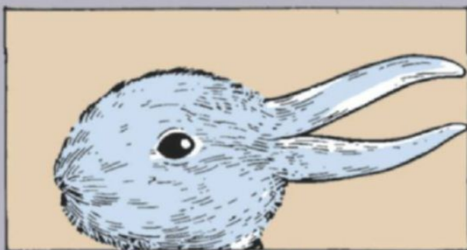
TAKE A LOOK AT THIS PICTURE. THE PARALLEL LINES APPEAR TO BE OF DIFFERENT LENGTHS BUT ACTUALLY THEY ARE BOTH OF THE SAME LENGTH. OR ARE THEY?  
(WHY DON'T YOU USE A RULER AND FIND OUT?)



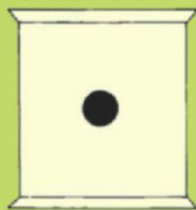
NOW LOOK AT THE TWO HOLLOW PARALLEL LINES IN BOTH THE FIGURES. ARE THEY STRAIGHT OR ARE THEY SLIGHTLY CURVED?  
(NO MARKS FOR GUESSING!)



OH, DEAR! THIS IS A MOST CONFUSING FIGURE. IS IT A BIRD WITH ITS BEAK OPEN? OR IS IT A RABBIT WITH ITS EARS TILTED BACK?



DO YOU WANT TO MAKE THIS FIGURE LOOK BIGGER?



JUST DRAW SOME CIRCLES NEAR THE CORNERS— AND THERE YOU ARE!



IN THIS DRAWING THE SLANTING LINES ARE ABSOLUTELY STRAIGHT AND UNBROKEN. BUT DO THEY LOOK LIKE THAT TO YOU?

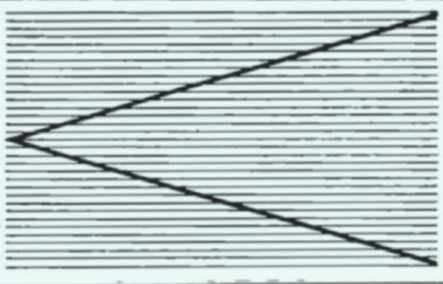


Figure A

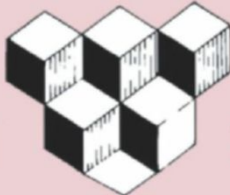


Figure B

NOW HERE, FIGURE A APPEARS TO HAVE THREE CUBES AND FIGURE B SEEMS TO HAVE FIVE. TURN THE PAGE UPSIDE DOWN. FIGURE A NOW APPEARS TO HAVE FIVE CUBES AND FIGURE B, THREE CUBES. BUT HOW CAN THIS HAPPEN? (PSST! THIS HAPPENS BECAUSE WE EXPECT OBJECTS TO BE LIT FROM ABOVE!)



WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF THIS PICTURE? DO YOU SEE A WHITE VASE OR TWO DARK FACES?



HAD ENOUGH OR DO YOU WANT SOME MORE?



WELL, JUST ONE MORE AND WE WILL CALL IT A DAY. HERE, THE EYE IS DECEIVED INTO ESTIMATING THAT THE CENTRE CIRCLE OF FIGURE A IS BIGGER THAN THE CENTRE CIRCLE OF FIGURE B, THOUGH THEY ARE BOTH OF THE SAME SIZE.



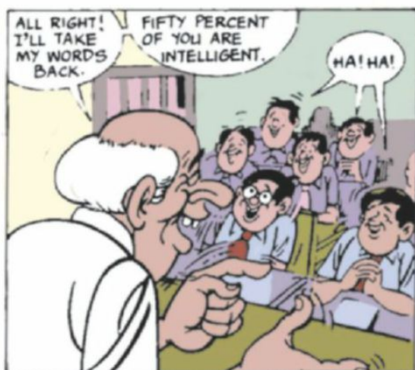
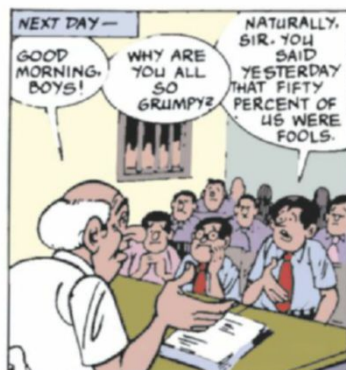
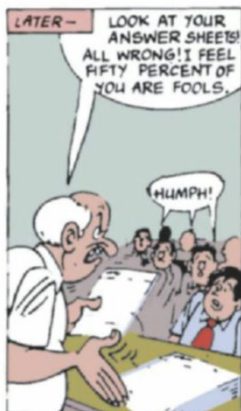
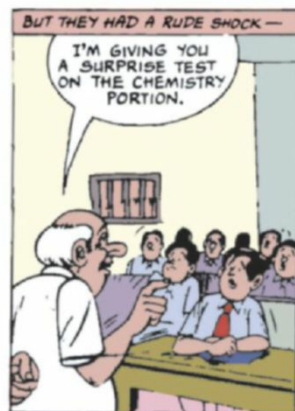
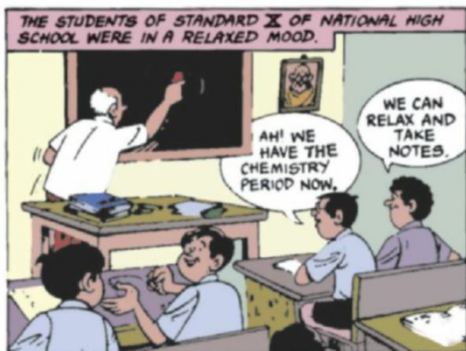
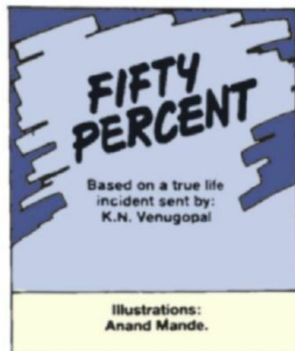
Figure A



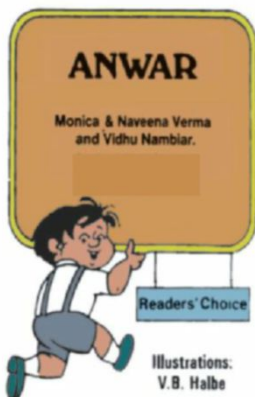
Figure B

THE REASON FOR THIS IS THAT THE EYE ESTIMATES THE SIZE OF AN OBJECT BY COMPARING IT WITH THE SIZES OF THE OBJECTS AROUND IT









# WEAVING WONDERS

Based on an Italian folktale

Script:  
Adil Rangoonwalla

Illustrations:  
Ram Waeerker

ONCE UPON A TIME THERE WAS A GIRL WHO LOVED TO EAT—

MOTHER, CAN I HAVE ANOTHER BOWL OF SOUP?

OH, YOU GREEDY GIRL!



THAT'S THE SEVENTH!



A YOUNG MAN PASSING BY THEIR HOUSE WAS FILLED WITH CURIOSITY.



SEVENTH OF WHAT?



SEVENTH SPINDLE OF HEMP THAT SHE HAS SPUN.

BUT THAT'S NOTHING TO GET ANGRY ABOUT!

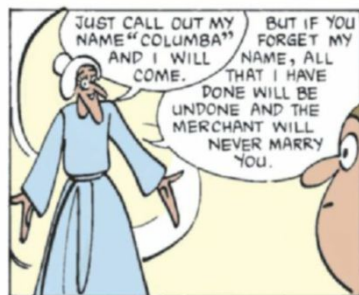
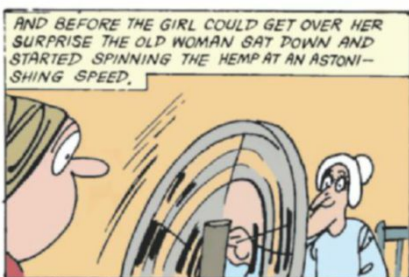


YES! BUT WOULD I NOT LIKE TO SEE HER DOING SOMETHING ELSE? FROM DAWN TO DUSK SHE SPINS, SPINS AND SPINS. SHE DOESN'T EVEN TALK TO ANYONE!











WHEN THE MERCHANT RETURNED HE WAS DELIGHTED TO SEE THAT ALL THE HEMP HAD BEEN SPUN.



THE MERCHANT TOOK HER TO A VERY BIG ROOM.



IF YOU CAN DO THAT I WILL SURELY MARRY YOU.



AS HAD HAPPENED THE FIRST TWO TIMES THE GIRL HAD NOT SPUN EVEN A FRACTION OF THE HEMP TILL THE EVE OF THE DAY THE MERCHANT WAS DUE TO RETURN. THEN —



WHO ARE YOU?

COLUMBURA'S THE NAME ... NOW STAND ASIDE AND LET ME WORK.



AND BY DAWN THE NEXT DAY —



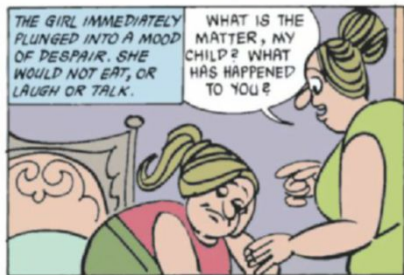
THEN YOU MUST CALL ME FOR YOUR WEDDING. JUST CALL OUT MY NAME AND I WILL COME.



WHEN THE MERCHANT ARRIVED —













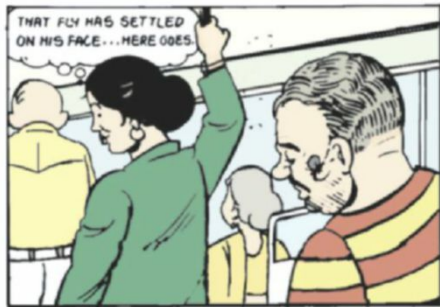
Readers' Choice

# SWATTING A FLY

Illustrations :  
Suresh Kshirsagar



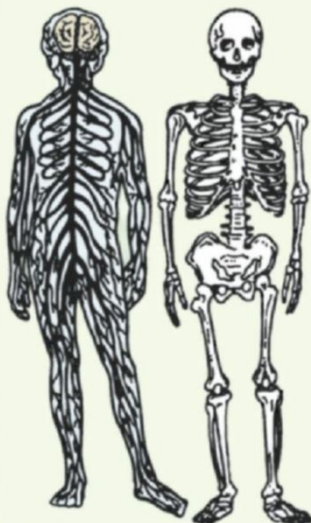
Based on a story  
sent by  
Tshewang Dem



# GROWING UP

Script: Luis Fernandes  
Illustrations: Anand Mande

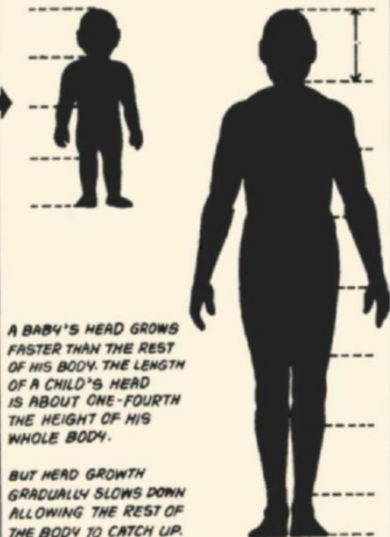
IF YOU ARE TEN YEARS OLD YOUR BRAIN, SPINAL CORD AND NERVES HAVE ALMOST STOPPED GROWING AS THEY HAVE ALMOST REACHED THE STAGE OF FULL DEVELOPMENT.



The brain and the nervous system develop faster than...

...the skeletal system

BONES DEVELOP MORE SLOWLY. YOUR SKELETON WILL NOT REACH ITS FINAL SIZE UNTIL YOU ARE 16 OR 17 OR MORE.



A BABY'S HEAD GROWS FASTER THAN THE REST OF HIS BODY. THE LENGTH OF A CHILD'S HEAD IS ABOUT ONE-FOURTH THE HEIGHT OF HIS WHOLE BODY.

BUT HEAD GROWTH GRADUALLY SLOWS DOWN ALLOWING THE REST OF THE BODY TO CATCH UP. IN AN ADULT THE HEAD ACCOUNTS FOR LESS THAN ONE-EIGHTH OF THE PERSON'S HEIGHT.

BY THE TIME YOU ARE 14 OR 15 YOU MAY GROW TO BE AS LARGE AS A MAN WHO IS IN HIS TWENTIES. BUT YOU WILL NOT HAVE HIS STRENGTH. HIS MUSCLES ARE ALREADY DEVELOPED WHILE YOURS WILL STILL BE DEVELOPING.



FEET SOMETIMES REACH THEIR FINAL SIZE BEFORE THE REST OF THE BODY. SO DON'T DESPAIR IF YOUR FEET ARE TOO LARGE. THE REST OF THE BODY WILL EVENTUALLY CATCH UP WITH THEM AND THEN THEY WON'T APPEAR TO BE SO BIG.



A TINY PEA-SIZED ORGAN CALLED THE PITUITARY GLAND, SITUATED UNDER THE BRAIN, RELEASES A CHEMICAL WHICH SEES TO IT THAT WE GROW NORMALLY.

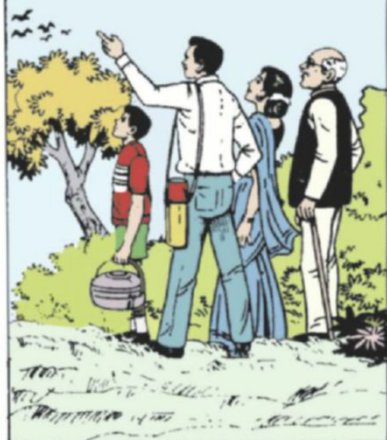
Location of Pituitary gland



IN SOME RARE CASES, THE PITUITARY GLAND PRODUCES TOO LITTLE OF THE CHEMICAL AND THE PERSON CANNOT GROW TO THE HEIGHT HE WOULD HAVE GROWN NORMALLY. HE TURNS INTO A DWARF (SOME PEOPLE, HOWEVER, ARE BORN DWARFS).



IF THE SENIOR MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY ARE OF AVERAGE HEIGHT YOU TOO ARE LIKELY TO GROW TO AVERAGE HEIGHT. IF THEY ARE TALL YOU TOO ARE LIKELY TO BE TALL.



SOMETIMES, AGAIN IN VERY RARE CASES, THE PITUITARY GLAND PRODUCES TOO MUCH OF THE CHEMICAL AND THE PERSON GROWS LARGER AND TALLER THAN HE WOULD HAVE NORMALLY GROWN, SOMETIMES ATTAINING A HEIGHT OF MORE THAN 2.40 METRES. THE TALLEST MAN OF WHOM WE HAVE RECORDED

EVIDENCE WAS THE AMERICAN, ROBERT WADLOW, WHO GREW TO A HEIGHT OF 2.68 METRES.

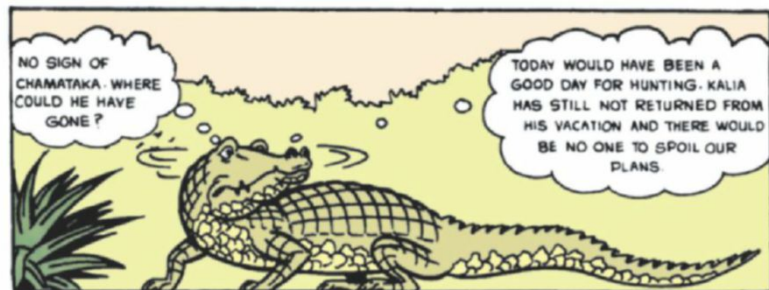


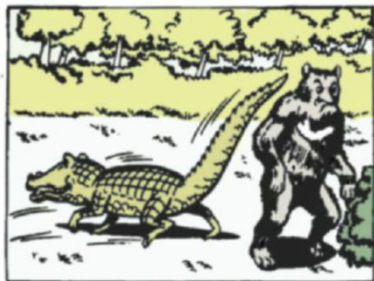


# Kalia THE CROW

Script:  
Luis Fernandes  
Illustrations:  
Prasad Iyer









Readers' Choice

# A RUPEE'S WORTH

Based on a story sent by  
Jayani Babla

Illustrations : Suresh Kshirsagar

ONCE UPON A TIME THERE  
WAS A MERCHANT WHO  
HAD THREE SONS .

I'M BECOMING OLD . IT'S TIME  
I DECIDED WHICH OF MY  
SONS SHOULD INHERIT THE  
SHOP . BUT HOW WILL I CHOOSE  
FROM AMONG THEM ?



AH, I HAVE IT . I'LL PUT  
THEM THROUGH A TEST  
AND WHOEVER SUCCEEDS  
WILL GET THE SHOP .



THE MERCHANT CALLED HIS SONS -

MY SONS, IT'S  
TIME I DECIDED  
WHO SHOULD  
RUN THE SHOP.



I SHOULD GET THE  
SHOP . AFTER ALL, I'M  
THE ELDEST.

WHAT! A DUFFER LIKE  
YOU IN CHARGE OF  
THE SHOP! HEE HEE  
HEE!



NO! I MUST INHERIT THE  
SHOP . I'M CLEVERER THAN  
YOU .

NO! THE SHOP MUST  
COME TO ME . I'M THE  
SHREWDEST IN THE  
FAMILY .

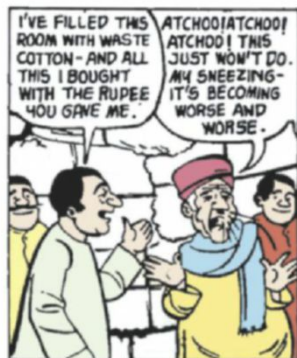
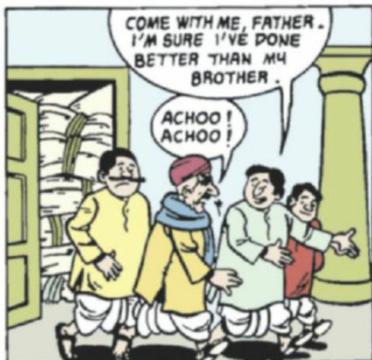


AND SO THEY BEGAN  
QUARRELLING -



STOP IT AT ONCE ! I'LL GIVE A  
RUPEE TO EACH ONE OF YOU .  
I WANT YOU TO BUY A  
RUPEE'S WORTH OF  
SOMETHING WITH WHICH -  
YOU CAN FILL AN ENTIRE  
ROOM OF OUR HOUSE .  
NOW GO !





# OUTSTANDING BIRDS OF INDIA

Script: Luis Fernandes • Illustrations: Ajit Vasakar

THE SMALLEST INDIAN BIRD IS TICKELL'S FLOWERPECKER. THE BIRD IS NO LARGER THAN A MAN'S THUMB.

Tickell's Flowerpecker



AMONG THE LARGEST ARE THE SARUS CRANE WHICH STANDS AS TALL AS A MAN...



Sarus Crane

...AND THE BEARDED VULTURE FOUND IN THE HIMALAYAS. THE BEARDED VULTURE HAS A WINGSPAN OF ABOUT 2.80 METRES.



Bearded Vulture

THE BEST TALKING BIRD YOU COULD FIND IN OUR COUNTRY AND PERHAPS ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD, IS THE HILL MYNAH.



Hill Mynah

IT CAN MIMIC THE CALLS OF OTHER BIRDS AND ALSO, HUMAN SPEECH. BUT IT NEVER IMITATES OTHER BIRDS IN THE WILD. SUCH MIMICRY IT LEAVES TO THE RACKET-TAILED DRONGO.



Racket-tailed Drongo

THE DRONGO IMITATES NOT ONLY CALLS BUT EVEN THE COMPLETE SONGS OF OTHER BIRDS. NOBODY KNOWS WHETHER IT DOES THIS OUT OF A SENSE OF FUN OR WHETHER IT DERIVES SOME BENEFIT FROM SUCH IMITATIONS.



OUR MOST COMMON BIRDS ARE THE CROW AND THE HOUSE SPARROW.

OUR READERS IN ASSAM, HOWEVER, MAY BE MORE FAMILIAR WITH THE TREE SPARROW — A BIRD THAT SELDOM ENTERS HOUSES.



House Sparrow

OUR RAREST BIRDS ARE THE PINKHEADED DUCK, THE MOUNTAIN QUAIL AND JERDON'S COURSER. WHILE JERDON'S COURSER RENEWED ACQUAINTANCESHIP WITH ORNITHOLOGISTS IN 1986, THE OTHER TWO HAVE NOT BEEN SEEN FOR SEVERAL DECADES AND MAY HAVE BECOME EXTINCT.



Jerdon's Courser



Pinkheaded Duck



Mountain Quail

THE GREYWINGED BLACKBIRD, THE MALABAR WHISTLING THRUSH AND THE SHAMA ARE OUR BEST SONGSTERS, ALL THREE CAPABLE OF WHISTLING RICH AND LONG-SUSTAINED MELODIES.



MALES OF THE PHEASANT FAMILY ARE AMONG THE MOST COLOURFUL BIRDS ONE COULD FIND IN OUR COUNTRY. THE MAGNIFICENT PEACOCK BELONGS TO THIS FAMILY.



Peacock



Monal Pheasant



Blood Pheasant



Eared Pheasant



Mrs Hume's Barred Back Pheasant



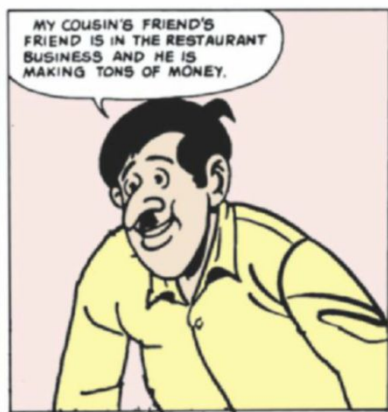
Red Junglefowl

# THE DUMBBELLS



TREBLE TROUBLE

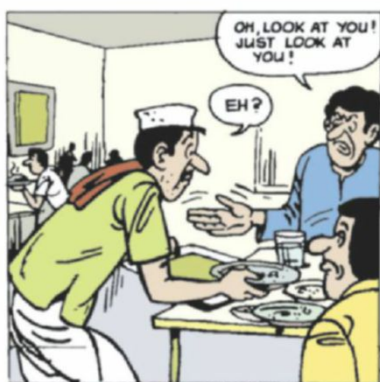
Script: Luis Fernandes  
Illustrations: Anand Mande

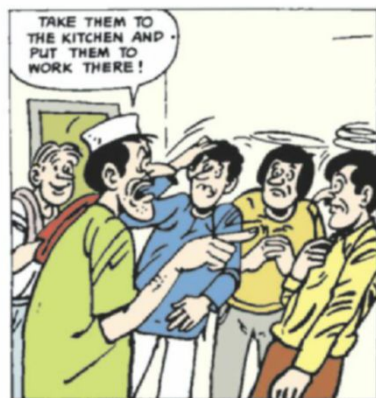
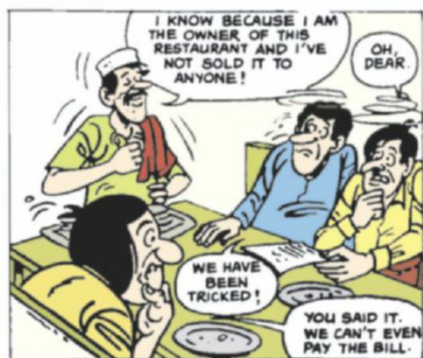
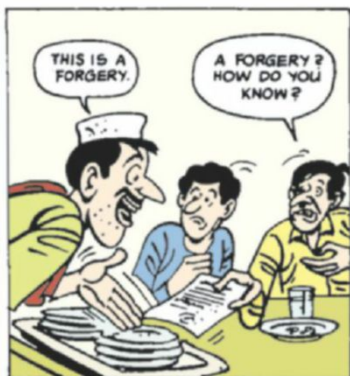














# DID YOU KNOW?

Script:  
Prasad Iyer  
Illustrations:  
Ajit Vasaiakar

UNTIL THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY, THE COMMON PEOPLE IN EUROPE DID NOT USE PLATES TO EAT FROM— A THICK SLICE OF STALE BREAD WAS USED INSTEAD.



SIBERIANS, TILL THE LAST CENTURY, USED SOLID BLOCKS OF TEA AS MONEY ...



... THE ANCIENT AZTECS USED COCOA BEANS AS CURRENCY.



TODAY TEA BAGS ARE FAIRLY COMMON. BUT THEY WERE DISCOVERED QUITE BY ACCIDENT. A TEA MERCHANT IN EUROPE GAVE CUSTOMERS SAMPLES OF HIS TEA IN SMALL SILK BAGS.



THE CUSTOMERS DID NOT KNOW HOW TO OPEN THE BAGS, SO THEY DIPPED THEM IN BOILING WATER... AND THE FIRST TEA BAGS CAME INTO BEING.



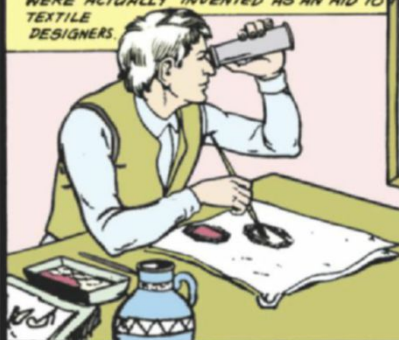
COFFEE WAS ACTUALLY USED AS A MEDICINE IN ARABIA IN MEDIEVAL TIMES. IT WAS ONLY IN THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY THAT PEOPLE DRANK IT FOR PLEASURE.



THOMAS ADAMS WAS TRYING TO FIND A WAY TO USE A SUBSTANCE CALLED CHICLE IN THE RUBBER INDUSTRY. HE POPPED A BIT OF CHICLE INTO HIS MOUTH AND WHILE CHEWING IT, IT SUDDENLY OCCURRED TO HIM THAT OTHER PEOPLE MIGHT LIKE TO CHEW IT TOO. THAT WAS HOW THE CHEWING GUM INDUSTRY GOT STARTED.



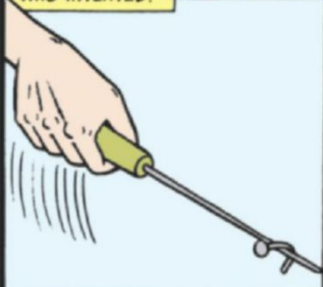
MOST OF US THINK OF KALEIDOSCOPES AS TOYS AND USE THEM AS SUCH. BUT THEY WERE ACTUALLY INVENTED AS AN AID TO TEXTILE DESIGNERS.



PETROL WAS ORIGINALLY USED NOT AS A FUEL BUT AS A MEDICINE TO TREAT A VARIETY OF AILMENTS LIKE CHOLERA, TOOTH-ACHE AND CORNS.



THE SCREWDRIVER WAS ACTUALLY INVENTED TO PULL OUT TWISTED NAILS LONG BEFORE THE SCREW WAS INVENTED.



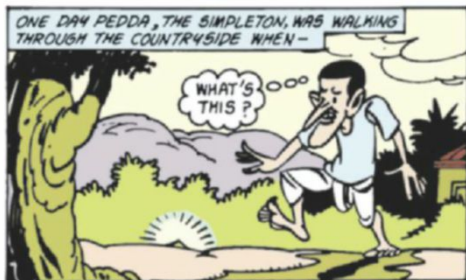
THE YO-YO IS A TOY THAT IS POPULAR WITH CHILDREN IN THE WEST.



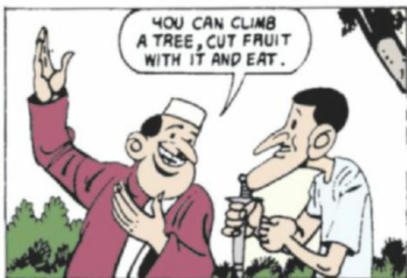
BUT IT WAS USED AS A LETHAL WEAPON IN THE PHILIPPINES IN THE 16TH CENTURY.

# A SIMPLETON'S LUCK

Script: Luis Fernandes  
Illustrations: Ram Waeerker

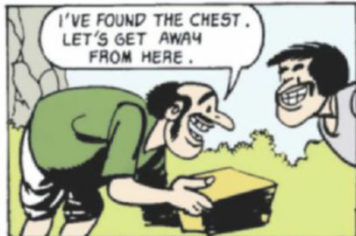








THE MISER'S HOUSE WAS SITUATED ON THE TOP OF A SMALL HILL. AS HE NEARED THE SLOPE THAT DESCENDED TO THE ROAD BELOW -











# Bright Idea

-a Suppandi tale

Script: Adil Rangoonwala  
Illustrations: Ram Waeekar





# THE OVERPRICED BANANA

Based on a story sent by  
Anant G. Hegde

Illustrations: Suresh Kshirsagar

AT A TEA SHOP IN THE VILLAGE OF DHARESHWAR —



THREE RUPEES FOR A CUP OF TEA!



GRRR! IT'S SHEER ROBBERY! BUT WHAT CAN WE DO? HE OWNS THE ONLY TEA-SHOP IN THESE PARTS!



ONE DAY —



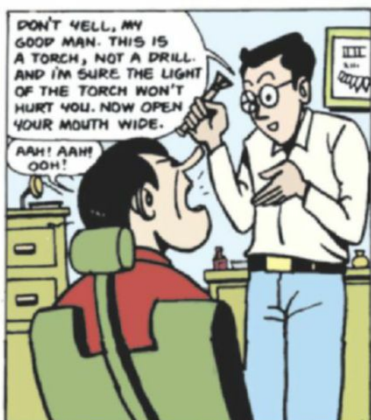


READERS' CHOICE

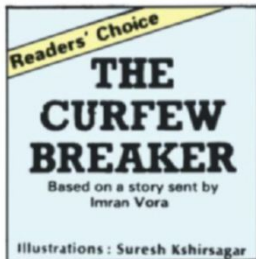
# Painful Cavity

Based on a story sent by  
Parag Dewan

Illustrations  
Anand Toraskar



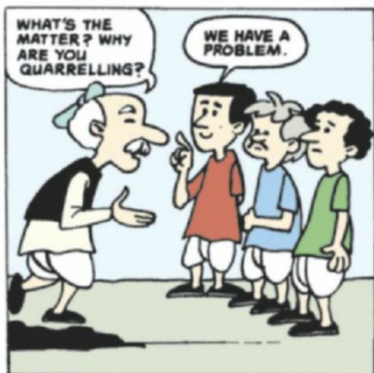




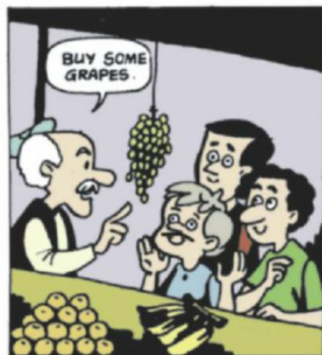
# THREE IN ONE

Script: Luis Fernandes  
Illustrations: R.A. Sheikh





WHEN THE OLD MAN LEARNT WHAT THE QUARREL WAS ABOUT—





# ANWAR

Based on a story sent by  
Mir Shueb Ali Khan

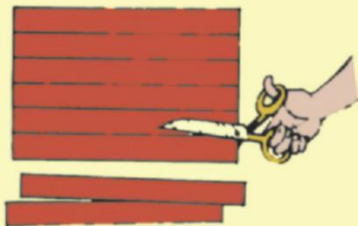


Illustrations: V.B. Halbe

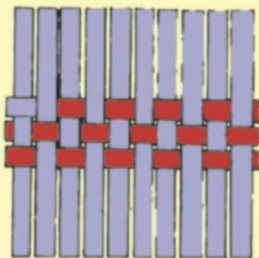


## Make Your Own TABLE MATS

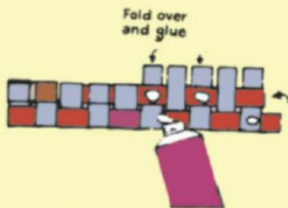
You will need: differently coloured papers, a pair of scissors and a bottle of glue.



1. Cut out 10 strips each measuring 30 cm x 3 cm from the different coloured papers. Cut out 8 more strips each measuring 36 cm x 3 cm



2. Arrange the shorter strips beside each other vertically. Then weave the longer strips through the vertically laid out strips as shown, leaving 3 cm at the edge.



3. Fold over the ends all round the mat and stick them down with the glue.



Your table mat is ready. Make some more and place them on your table to make it look really festive !

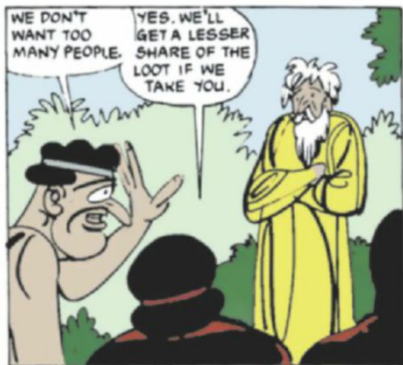
# THE THREE THIEVES

—An Indian Folktale

READERS' CHOICE

Based on a story sent by:  
Master Mehul Shah

Illustrations:  
Ram Waeerkar













# SERPENTINE FACTS

Script: Prasad Iyer  
Illustrations: Ajit Vasaiakar

SINCE TIME IMMEMORIAL SNAKES HAVE FASCINATED MAN. THEY HAVE ALWAYS BEEN PRESENT IN THE FOLKLORE OF MANY LANDS...



...AND ARE VENERATED BY MANY CULTURES. SNAKES COME IN ALL SHAPES AND SIZES.

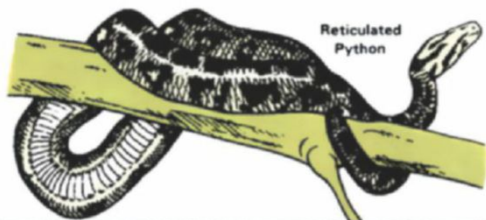


THE SHORTEST KNOWN SNAKE IS THE THREAD SNAKE WHICH IS FOUND ON THE ISLANDS OF THE WEST INDIES. IT MEASURES ONLY ABOUT 11-12 CM. IN LENGTH.



Thread Snake

ON THE OTHER HAND THE LONGEST OF ALL SNAKES, THE RETICULATED PYTHON, OFTEN MEASURES OVER 10 METRES IN LENGTH, AND WEIGHS ABOUT 120 KG—NEARLY TWICE THE WEIGHT OF A MAN!



Reticulated Python

BUT WHEN IT COMES TO WEIGHT, A PYTHON IS EASILY ECLIPSED BY THE ANACONDA, THE ANACONDA, A LARGE SNAKE FOUND IN SOUTH AMERICA, MAY WEIGH NEARLY TWICE AS MUCH AS A PYTHON OF THE SAME LENGTH.



Anaconda

A SPECIMEN SHOT IN BRAZIL WAS ESTIMATED TO HAVE WEIGHED 227 KG.

SNAKES ARE WRONGLY REPUTED TO MOVE VERY FAST. THERE ARE STORIES OF SNAKES OVERTAKING GALLOPING HORSES AND MAKING A MEAL OF THEM. BUT THESE ARE WILD EXAGGERATIONS. THEY ARE ACTUALLY VERY SLOW MOVERS, EXCEPT WHEN THEY LUNGE AT THEIR PREY.

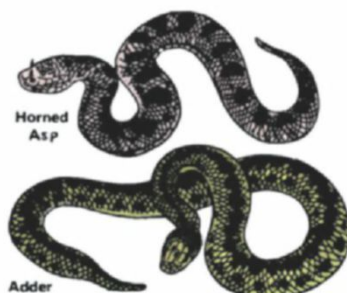
Black Mamba



THE FASTEST MOVING LAND SNAKE IS THE SLENDER BLACK MAMBA WHICH CAN MOVE ONLY AT A SPEED OF ABOUT 11 KMPH

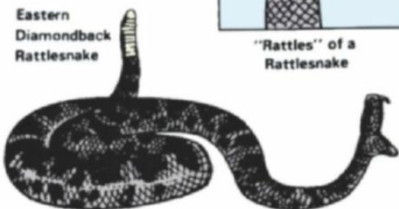
MANY SNAKES ARE VENOMOUS. THESE SNAKES HAVE POISON GLANDS AND THEY KILL THEIR PREY BY INJECTING POISON INTO THEM. OUT OF THE 2500 ODD SPECIES OF SNAKES FOUND ON THE EARTH, ONLY ABOUT 150 POSSESS VENOM STRONG ENOUGH TO KILL A MAN.

THE HEAVIEST OF THE VENOMOUS SNAKES IS THE EASTERN DIAMONDBACK RATTLESNAKE WHICH MAY WEIGH ABOUT 13 KG. THE RATTLESNAKE HAS A SET OF "RATTLES" ON ITS TAIL WHICH MAKE A CLATTERING SOUND AS IT MOVES AND HENCE THE NAME.



Horned Asp

Adder



Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake

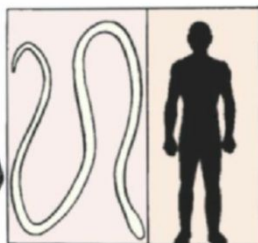
"Rattles" of a Rattlesnake

BUT THE UNDISPUTED KING OF THE VENOMOUS SNAKES IS THE MAJESTIC KING COBRA (THOUGH IT IS NOT THE MOST VENOMOUS). A KING COBRA MAY MEASURE ABOUT 5-6 METRES IN LENGTH. AND A LARGE ONE MAY CONTAIN ENOUGH VENOM TO KILL THIRTY MEN.

THE MOST VENOMOUS LAND SNAKE IS THE TIGER SNAKE OF AUSTRALIA. A BIG ONE MAY HAVE ENOUGH VENOM TO KILL 400 PEOPLE.



King Cobra



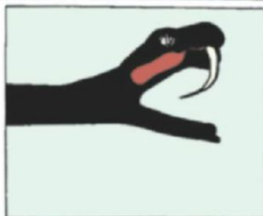
Tiger Snake

BUT THE EARTH'S MOST VENOMOUS SNAKE (HYDROPHIS BELCHERI) IS A SEA SNAKE.

SNAKES INJECT VENOM THROUGH THEIR FANGS. THE GABOON VIPER HAS THE LONGEST FANGS OF ANY SNAKE. THEY MAY MEASURE UP TO 5 CM IN LENGTH.



Gaboon Viper



SNAKE - VENOM IS USEFUL IN TREATING VARIOUS AILMENTS OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM.

# TAX EVASION

—A Burmese folktale

Script:  
Prasad Iyer

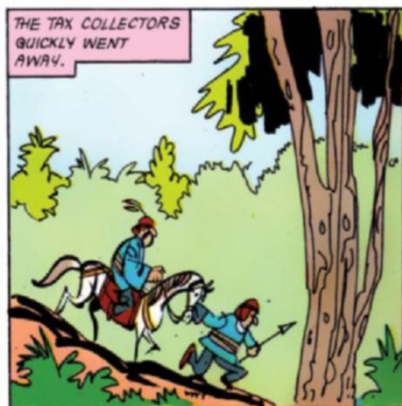
Illustrations:  
Ram Waerkar

ONCE UPON A TIME THERE WAS A GREEDY KING.  
ONE DAY —









# GREAT PRETENDERS

Script: Luis Fernandes • Illustrations: Ajit Vasaiakar

What can a defenceless butterfly do to avoid being eaten by a bird? It can pretend to be one of the foul-tasting butterflies which birds don't eat.



Butterflies 3, 4 and 5, can be eaten without harm by birds. But they resemble the inedible ones (1 and 2) so closely that they are often mistaken for them and left alone. All 5 species are from the country of Guatemala.

The female of the species of butterfly called 'viceroy,' for example, goes around dressed like a monarch, a butterfly which birds avoid eating because it gives them a stomach-ache or worse.



Viceroy



Monarch

The idea that some butterflies mimic other kinds of butterflies to protect themselves was first put forward by an English scientist, H.W. Bates in 1862. Today scientists know that besides butterflies there are scores of other animals that benefit from such mimicry (it is called Batesian mimicry): a harmless animal, trying to pass off as one belonging to a dangerous variety.



Flies especially are talented mimics. Some of them pass off as honeybees and wasps, insects which birds don't eat.



Robber fly

Drone fly

Honey fly



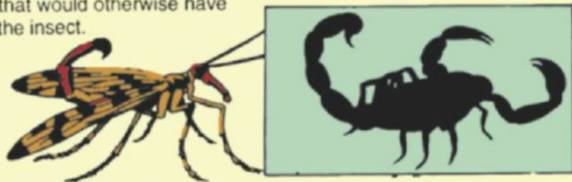
Wasp fly

Saw fly



The scorpion fly prefers to mimic a more frightful creature: the scorpion.

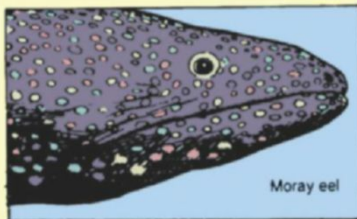
Its body ends in what looks exactly like a scorpion's sting. The sting frightens off many creatures that would otherwise have made a meal of the insect.



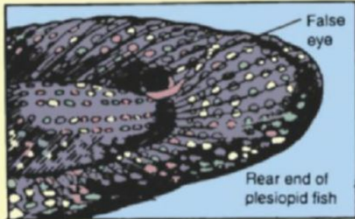
Some small spiders mimic ants in order to escape attack by other spiders. Spiders have four pairs of legs while ants have only three. Spiders who are trying to pass themselves off as ants hold their two front legs in the air so that the legs resemble the antennae of the ants.



The plesiopid fish often makes use of Batesian mimicry to protect itself. When pursued, the fish darts into a crevice but leaves its rear end out. Its rear bears a remarkable resemblance to the head of the white-spotted moray eel, one of the deadliest creatures of the sea. The predator beats a hasty retreat.

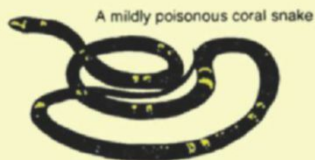


Moray eel

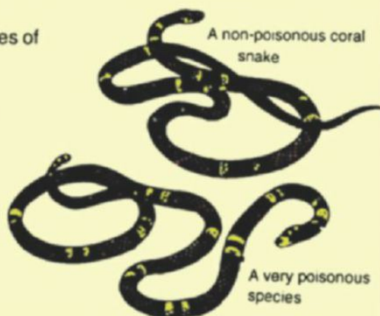


Rear end of plesiopid fish

In the reptile world, the venomous species of coral snakes have numerous mimics.



A mildly poisonous coral snake



A non-poisonous coral snake

A very poisonous species

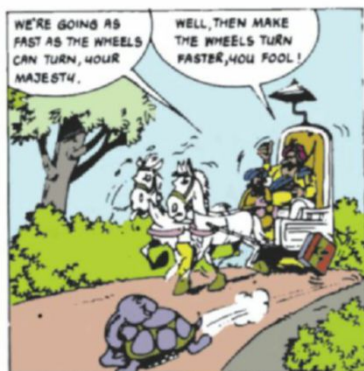
# A FOOLISH ORDER

Script : Prasad Iyer  
Illustrations : Anand Mande

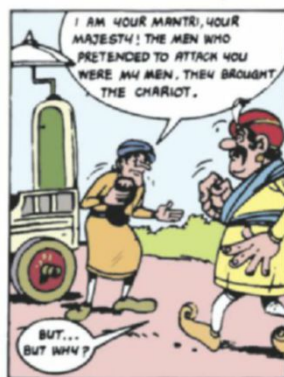
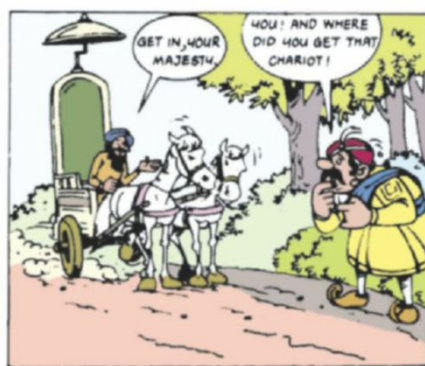
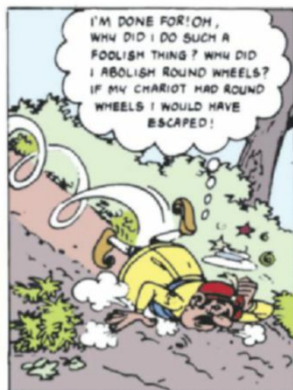
THE RULER OF BONGA, KING MURKHA, WAS IN A FOUL TEMPER.



AND SO ALL ROUND OBJECTS IN THE KINGDOM  
ASSUMED DIFFERENT SHAPES.







# A TOUGH MOUTHFUL

Readers' Choice

Based on a story sent by A. S. Sudharshan

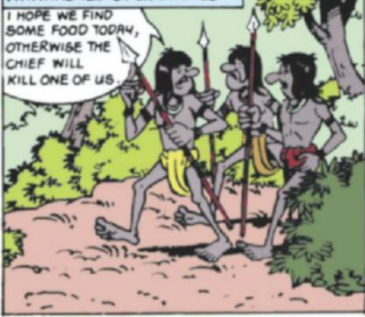
Illustrations: Anand Mande

ONCE A SHIPWRECKED MAN WAS WASHED ASHORE ON AN ISLAND...



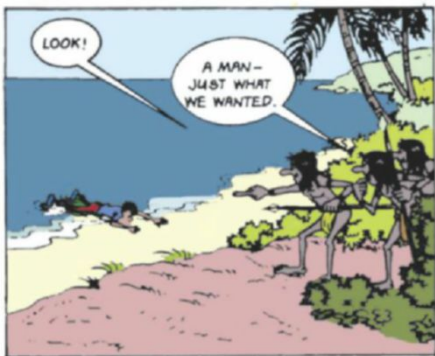
...INHABITED BY CANNIBALS--

I HOPE WE FIND SOME FOOD TODAY, OTHERWISE THE CHIEF WILL KILL ONE OF US.

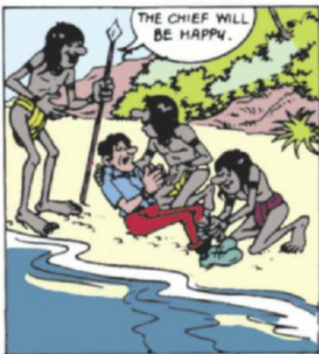


LOOK!

A MAN - JUST WHAT WE WANTED.

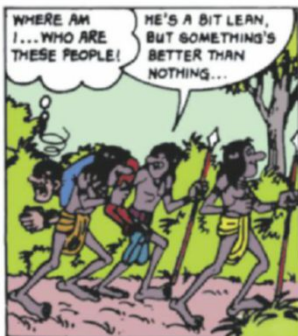


THE CHIEF WILL BE HAPPY.



WHERE AM I... WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE!

HE'S A BIT LEAN, BUT SOMETHING'S BETTER THAN NOTHING...



... CANNIBALS!



I MUST DO SOMETHING BEFORE I WIND UP IN THEIR COOKING POT.







# THE DOG FAMILY

Script: Luis Fernandes  
Illustrations: Prasad Iyer

THE DOG FAMILY INCLUDES NOT ONLY THE SEVERAL BREEDS OF DOMESTIC DOGS BUT ALSO JACKALS, FOXES, COYOTES AND WOLVES. ALL MEMBERS OF THE DOG FAMILY ARE FLESH-EATERS. MOST OF THEM HAVE LONG TAILS, PROMINENT EARS, A HIGHLY DEVELOPED SENSE OF SMELL AND CLAWED FEET.

TWO DOMESTIC DOGS



THE DINGO, FOUND IN AUSTRALIA, IS ONE OF THE VERY FEW DOGS IN THE WORLD THAT IS UNABLE TO BARK (THOUGH IT CAN WHINE AND HOWL VERY LOUDLY). ANOTHER PECULIARITY OF THE DINGO IS THAT, UNLIKE OTHER DOGS, IT CANNOT LOWER ITS EARS.



THE BASENJI OF CENTRAL AFRICA IS ANOTHER DOG THAT CANNOT BARK.



THE MANED WOLF OF SOUTH AMERICA, HAS LONG SLENDER LEGS. IT IS SAID TO RUN FASTER THAN ANY OTHER MEMBER OF THE DOG FAMILY. THE ANIMAL IS RARELY SEEN BECAUSE IT HUNTS AT NIGHT.

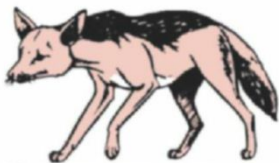


WOLVES, EXCEPT FOR CERTAIN BREEDS OF DOMESTIC DOGS, ARE THE LARGEST MEMBERS OF THE DOG FAMILY. IN INDIA, WOLVES ARE A PUNG BREED AND CAN BE FOUND ONLY IN PLACES WHERE THE POPULATION IS SPARSE SUCH AS IN RAJASTHAN AND LADAKH. YOUNG CAPTIVE WOLVES ARE EASY TO TAME. THE WOLF IS SAID TO BE THE ANCESTOR OF ALL DOMESTIC DOGS.



IF A GROUP OF DOMESTIC DOGS IS ALLOWED TO GO WILD IT DEVELOPS THE SAME SOCIAL STRUCTURE AS A WOLF PACK.

JACKALS TOO ARE MEMBERS OF THE DOG FAMILY. THEY ARE FOUND IN MOST OF AFRICA AND SOUTHERN ASIA, INCLUDING INDIA.



THE HOWLING OF JACKALS AS THEY COME OUT OF THEIR BURROWS IS A SOUND WELL KNOWN TO THOSE WHO HAVE LIVED IN VILLAGES.



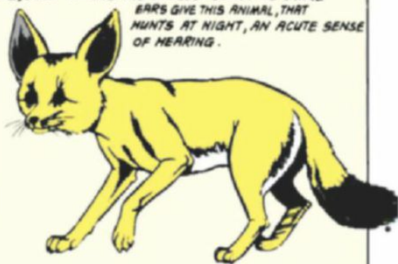
JACKALS USUALLY COME OUT AT NIGHT BUT IN COOL AND CLOUDY WEATHER THEY MAY COME OUT BY DAY ALSO.

THE RACCOON DOG OF JAPAN IS THE ONLY DOG THAT HIBERNATES IN WINTER.



THE FENNEC OR AFRICAN DESERT FOX IS THE TINIEST OF ALL FOXES (WEIGHS ABOUT 1.5 KG. AND IS 38 CM LONG). BUT IT HAS THE LARGEST EARS. THE LARGE

EARS GIVE THIS ANIMAL, THAT HUNTS AT NIGHT, AN ACUTE SENSE OF HEARING.



AFRICAN HUNTING DOGS ARE AMONG THE MOST SAVAGE KILLERS OF THE AFRICAN WILD.



THEY HUNT IN PACKS.



A PACK WILL CHASE A HERD OF ANTELOPE OR ZEBRA FOR MILES. FINALLY WHEN ONE OF THE ANIMALS SHOWS SIGNS OF FATIGUE, THE ENTIRE PACK WILL CONVERGE ON THE UNLUCKY CREATURE.

AND ATTACKING IT FROM ALL SIDES...



...WILL COMMENCE FEEDING ON IT EVEN BEFORE IT IS DEAD.



## TWO MISERS

Based on a story sent by MISHA JAIN

Readers' Choice

ILLUSTRATIONS C D RANE

ONCE THERE LIVED TWO MISERS. THEY WERE FOND OF BOASTING...

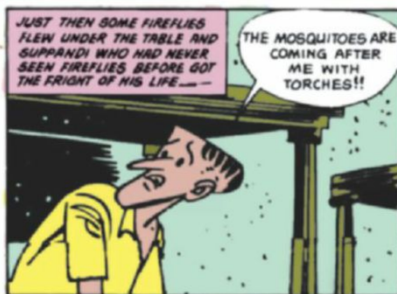
YOU KNOW I'M VERY ECONOMICAL. WHEN I EAT A CHAPRTTI, I RUB IT ON THE OUTSIDE OF A POT OF GHEE AND THEN I EAT THAT WAY THE GHEE LASTS FOR MONTHS.



## MOSQUITO TROUBLE

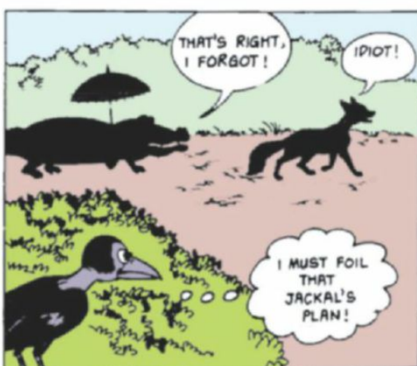
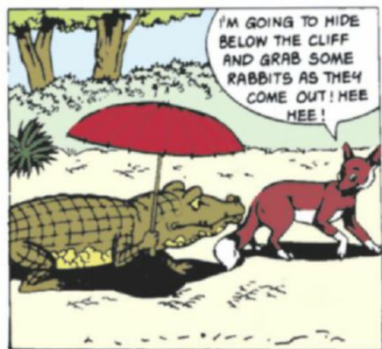
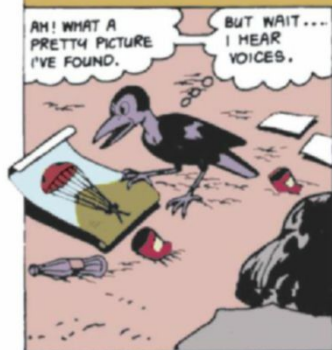
—A SUPPANDI TALE

• Illustrations Ram Waeerker



# Kalia THE CROW

Script and Illustrations:  
Prasad Iyer









READERS' CHOICE

## CALL IT A REWARD

Based on a story sent by  
Parag S. Bagwe

Illustrations: Suresh Kshirsagar

BHOLA THOUGHT HE WAS A GOOD  
SINGER.

LA LA  
LA!



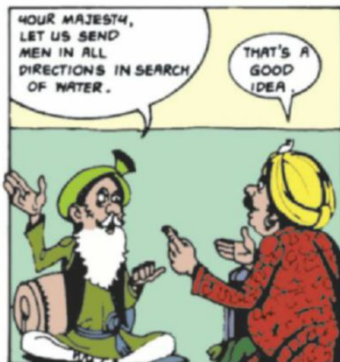
Readers' Choice

# DISCOVERY OF WELLS

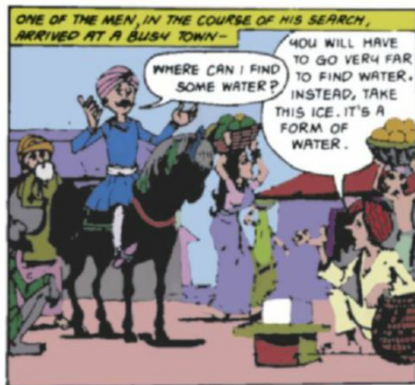
Illustrations : Buddhadev.

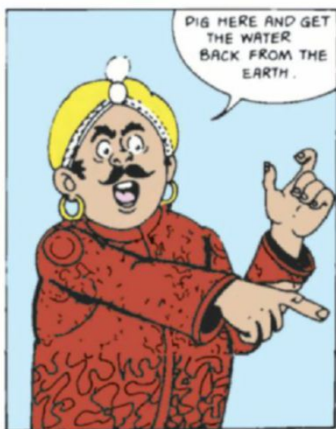
Based on a story sent by  
Sanjay Pai

ONCE UPON A TIME IN A REMOTE KINGDOM  
PLAGUED BY DROUGHT...









## It Happened To Me

There was great hustling and bustling in our school for the Founder's Day celebrations. I was to take part in the Fancy Dress competition. I had kept my costume a secret. We had to wear our costume at home and then come to school. I decked myself in the guise of a priest. I had a bowl of water and flowers in one hand and in the other I carried a bell. I painted "V" marks on my forehead, arms and on my chest.

Usually a priest would never go on a cycle so I decided to walk to school. It was only a 10-minute walk from my house.

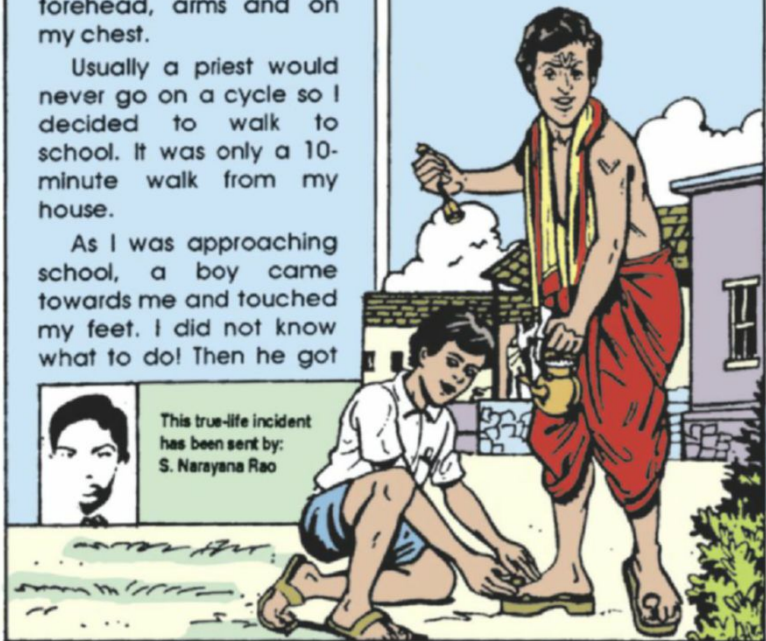
As I was approaching school, a boy came towards me and touched my feet. I did not know what to do! Then he got

up and gave me 20 paise and stretched out his palm to receive the holy water. I gave him some and muttered some gibberish so that he would not grasp the words clearly.

Later on I came to know the reason why the boy was such a devotee. He had wanted to be blessed because he was going to appear for his matriculation examination that day!



This true-life incident has been sent by:  
S. Narayana Rao





# WHAT IS AVAXHOME?

# AVAXHOME-

the biggest Internet portal,  
providing you various content:  
brand new books, trending movies,  
fresh magazines, hot games,  
recent software, latest music releases.

Unlimited satisfaction one low price  
Cheap constant access to piping hot media  
Protect your downloads from Big brother  
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18 years of seamless operation and our users' satisfaction

All languages  
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One site



AvaxHome - Your End Place

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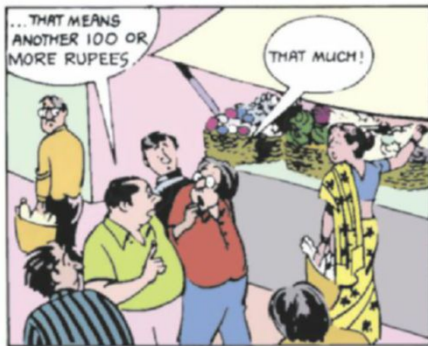
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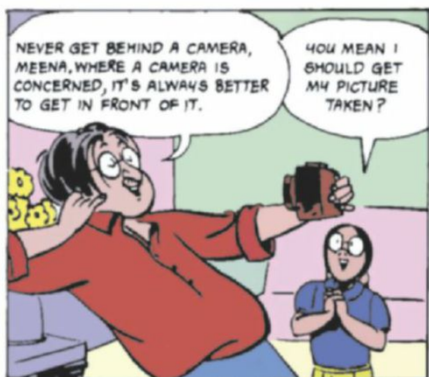
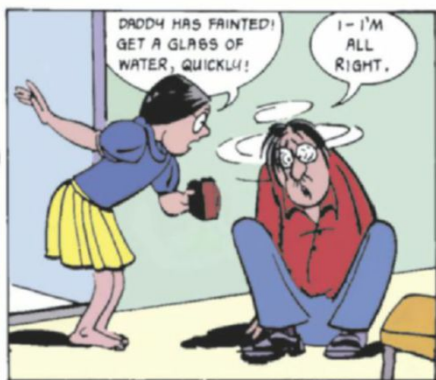
MYNAH

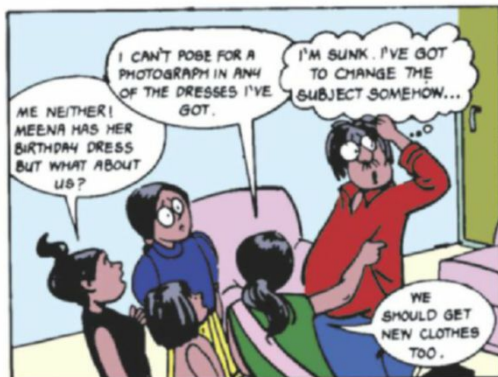
MO

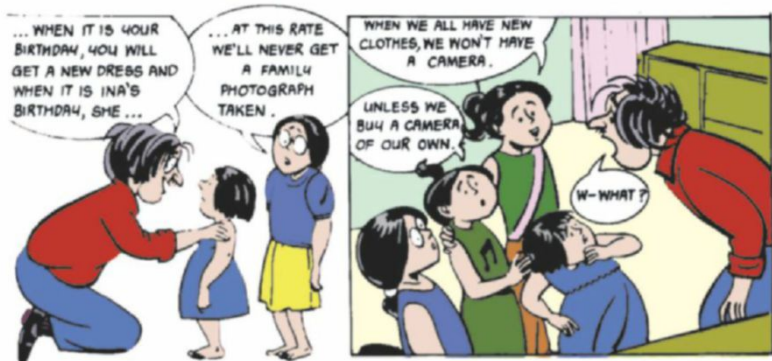
Script:  
Luis M. Fernandes  
Illustrations:  
V.B. Halbe











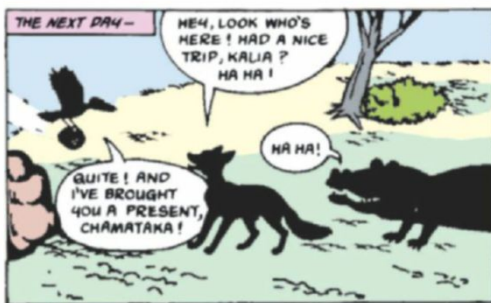




# Kalia The Crow

Script and Illustrations Prasad Iyer









# THE CLEVER THIEF

An Indian Folktale

Script: Luis Fernandes  
Illustrations: Ram Waekar

THE ARCHITECT WHO HAD BUILT THE KING'S TREASURE HOUSE LAY ON HIS DEATHBED.

MY SONS, I HAVE SOMETHING TO TELL YOU.

COME CLOSER.

THE TREASURE-HOUSE I BUILT FOR THE KING IS IMPENETRABLE... OR THAT IS WHAT EVERYONE THINKS...

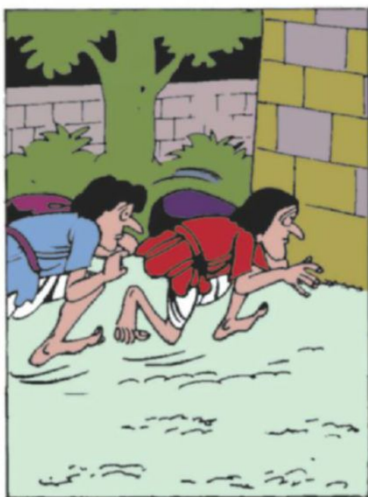
BUT THERE IS ONE LOOSE BRICK IN IT BY REMOVING WHICH ONE CAN GAIN ENTRY.

WHICH IS THE BRICK, FATHER?

I'LL TELL YOU, BEND DOWN... NO ONE ELSE MUST HEAR.

AND THE FATHER TOLD THEM THE SECRET.

SOME TIME AFTER THEIR FATHER HAD DIED, THE BROTHERS DECIDED TO MAKE USE OF THE SECRET HE HAD TOLD THEM.









IN THE END THE YOUNG MAN DID AS HIS BROTHER HAD SUGGESTED AND WENT AWAY WITH A HEAVY HEART. THE NEXT DAY WHEN THE THEFT AND THE BODY OF THE THIEF WAS DISCOVERED —

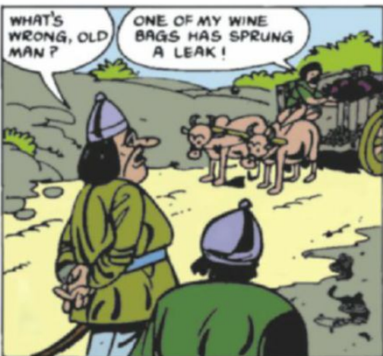


THE BODY OF THE DEAD THIEF WAS HUNG AT THE GATE OF THE CITY.

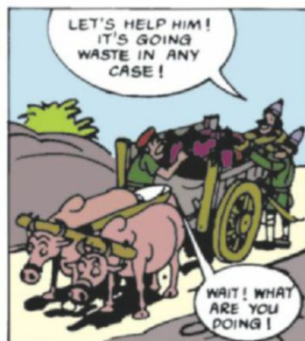


HE WOULD BE A FOOL IF HE DID ...

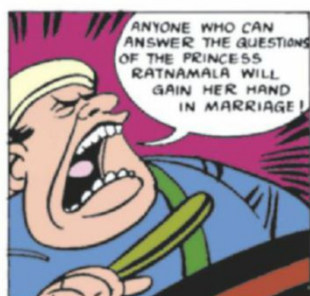
... KNOWING THAT HE WOULD CERTAINLY BE CAUGHT ... WHAT'S THAT? SOMETHING'S COMING THIS WAY!



ONE OF MY WINE BAGS HAS SPRUNG A LEAK!













# A DOSE OF HIS OWN MEDICINE

A Nasruddin Hodja Tale

Script: Adil Rangoonwala

Illustrations: Ram Waeerkar

ONCE NASRUDDIN HODJA WAS RETURNING FROM A DISTANT PLACE. ALONG THE WAY HE MET AHMED WHO OFFERED TO HELP HIM AND HODJA GLADLY ACCEPTED HIS OFFER.

AHMED IS NOT SO BAD AFTER ALL. BY TAKING CARE OF HALF OF MY GOODS, HE HAS RELIEVED ME OF HALF MY BURDEN.



BUT— I AM NOT WASTING MY TIME AND ENERGY FOR NOTHING, HODJA. JUST WAIT AND SEE. HEE HEE!



AFTER SOME TIME— AHMED, LET'S HAVE OUR LUNCH AND FEED THE HORSES TOO. THEY MUST BE AS TIRED AS WE ARE.



TIRED? NONSENSE! MY HORSE NEVER TIRES OF WORK.

YOUR HORSE? WHAT DO YOU MEAN, YOUR HORSE? BOTH THE HORSES, AS YOU KNOW WELL, BELONG TO ME.



NOT ANY MORE! THE ONE I HAVE BEEN LEADING IS MINE.

AFTER ALL IT HAS TROD IN MY FOOTSTEPS FOR SO MANY MILES

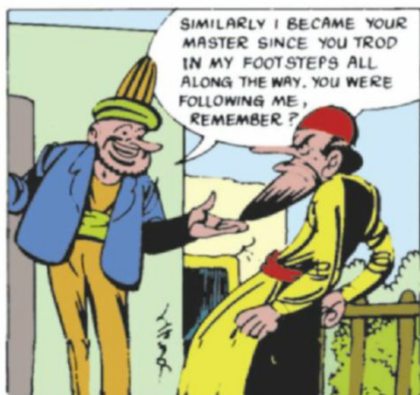
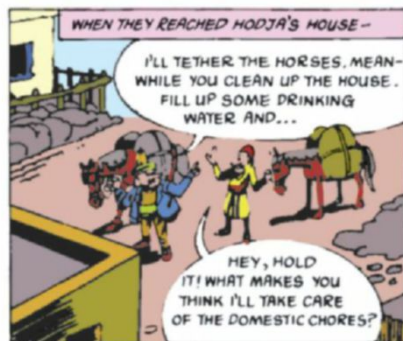
AND YOU KNOW THE OLD SAYING. THE SLAVE TREADS IN HIS MASTER'S FOOTSTEPS.

OH, SO THAT'S WHY HE WAS SO EAGER TO HELP ME ON THIS TRIP.



WELL, I'M NOT GOING TO LET HIM CHEAT ME OUT OF A HORSE.





# THE WISE FOOLS

Script: Adil Rangoonwala

Illustrations: Teegies

TWO FOOLS WENT TO A TEACHER  
OF THE VILLAGE SCHOOL.

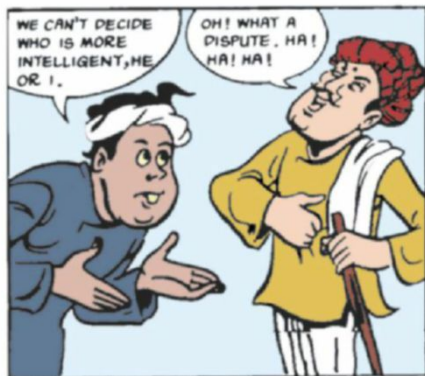
MASTERJI, WE  
HAVE COME TO YOU  
WITH A DISPUTE.

WHAT  
IS IT?



WE CAN'T DECIDE  
WHO IS MORE  
INTELLIGENT, ME  
OR I.

OH! WHAT A  
DISPUTE. HA!  
HA! HA!



NOW HOW DO  
WE GO ABOUT  
IT?

YOU KNOW  
BEST.



ALL RIGHT. EACH OF YOU TELL  
ME HOW YOU SOLVED A MAJOR  
PROBLEM IN YOUR LIFE.



YOU  
FIRST.

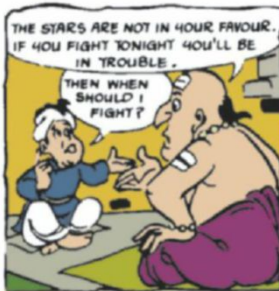
AS YOU  
WISH.







"I SNEAKED OUT THROUGH THE BACK DOOR AND WENT STRAIGHT TO AN ASTROLOGER".



TEN DAYS LATER I SCoured THE NEIGHBOURHOOD FOR THE THIEF BUT HE WAS NOWHERE TO BE FOUND.

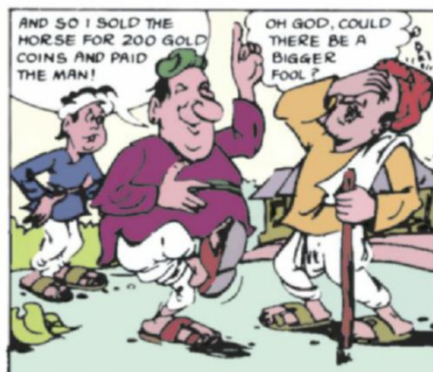


THAT'S MY STORY, MASTERJI.





"JUST THEN A BRILLIANT IDEA STRUCK ME"



# A CLEVER RUSE

Based on a story sent by Shubhojit Saha

Illustrations: Anand Mande

THE FORTRESS OF RAJA SURYA KUMAR WAS BESIEGED BY THE ARMY OF HIS ARCH-ENEMY.



MAHARAJ! THE WAR HAS LASTED A FULL YEAR. THERE'S NO FOOD LEFT. THE PEOPLE ARE STARVING.

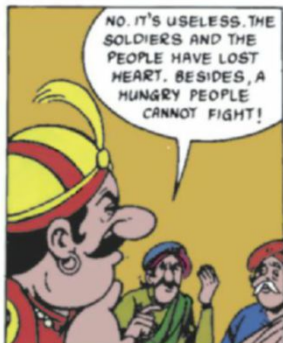


WHAT DO YOU THINK WE SHOULD DO?

WE MUST SURRENDER!



WHAT A COWARDLY SUGGESTION! WE MUST FIGHT ON!



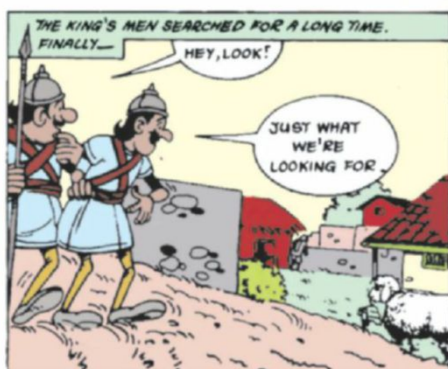
NO. IT'S USELESS. THE SOLDIERS AND THE PEOPLE HAVE LOST HEART. BESIDES, A HUNGRY PEOPLE CANNOT FIGHT!

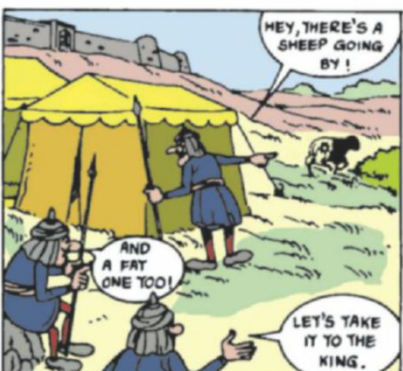
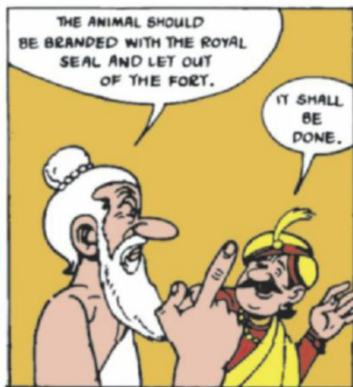


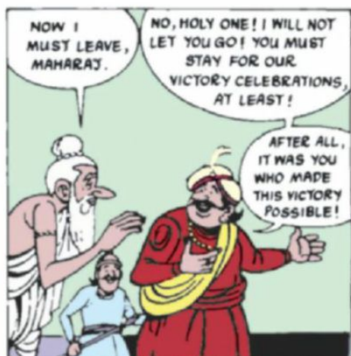
WE MUST RESORT TO CUNNING. I KNOW A HERMIT WHO COULD HELP US.

BRING HIM HERE AT ONCE!











Readers  
Choice

# THE PENNY- PINCHING PHOTOGRAPHER

Based on a story sent by:  
Master B.N. Vijay Krishna

Illustrations:  
V.B. Haibe



# ON THE MOVE

READERS' CHOICE

Based on a story sent by  
Lalu Varghese

Illustrations:  
Shiva Hiremath



## BIR SINGH AND SUNDERBAI

BIR SINGH, THE CROWN PRINCE OF VALLABHIPURA, LOST TRACK OF HIS COMPANIONS WHILE HUNTING. HOT AND TIRED, HE DECIDED TO REST FOR A WHILE IN A GARDEN FULL OF SHADY TREES.



SUDDENLY HE HEARD SOMEONE SING.



BY THE TIME HE REACHED THE SPOT, THE SONG WAS OVER AND A DISCUSSION WAS ON.

WITHOUT A MOTHER OR A WIFE, MEN ARE LOST AND YET THEY HAVE NO RESPECT FOR WOMEN.

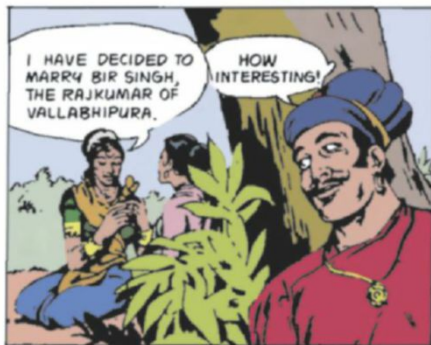
HOW MEN TREAT WOMEN DEPENDS VERY MUCH ON THE WOMEN THEMSELVES.

HOW TRUE!



I HAVE DECIDED TO MARRY BIR SINGH, THE RAJKUMAR OF VALLABHIPURA.

HOW INTERESTING!



AND IF HE DOES NOT TREAT ME AS I EXPECT HIM TO...







A FEW DAYS LATER, A PRIEST CAME TO THE PALACE OF RAJA KESARI SINGH.

THE RAJA OF VALLABHIPURA SEEKS THE HAND OF YOUR DAUGHTER RAJKUMARI SUNDERBAI FOR HIS SON RAJKUMAR BIR SINGH.



RAJA KESARI SINGH READILY ACCEPTED THE PROPOSAL SINCE IT HAD COME FROM A FAMILY OF EQUAL RANK.



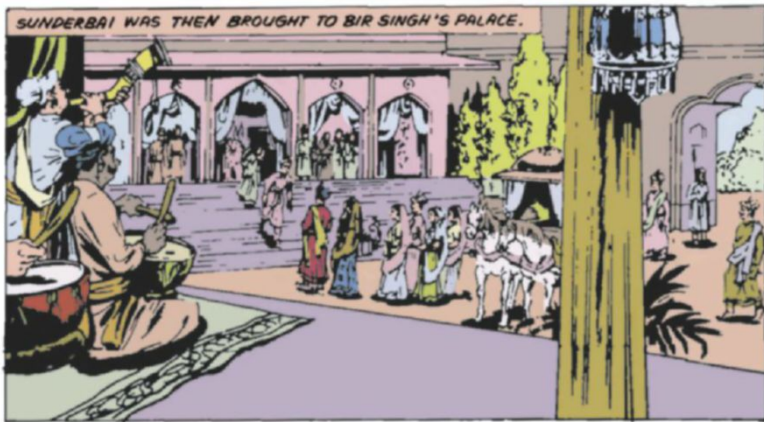
AS SUNDERBAI WAS ABOUT TO LEAVE FOR HER HUSBAND'S HOME —

SUNDERBAI, MY PRECIOUS CHILD, MAKE USE OF THIS RING IF THE NEED ARISES.

I WILL, FATHER.



SUNDERBAI WAS THEN BROUGHT TO BIR SINGH'S PALACE.



THAT EVENING SUNDERBAI WAITED IN HER ROOM FOR BIR SINGH.



MANY DAYS PASSED BUT BIR SINGH DID NOT COME TO HER.



THEN ONE DAY —

PRINCESS, THERE IS A FESTIVAL AT THE TEMPLE. WHY DON'T YOU GO TO IT? IT WILL CHEER YOU UP.



AS SUNDERBAI LEFT FOR THE TEMPLE WITH HER MAIDS —

I'LL FOLLOW HER AND SEE WHAT SHE DOES.



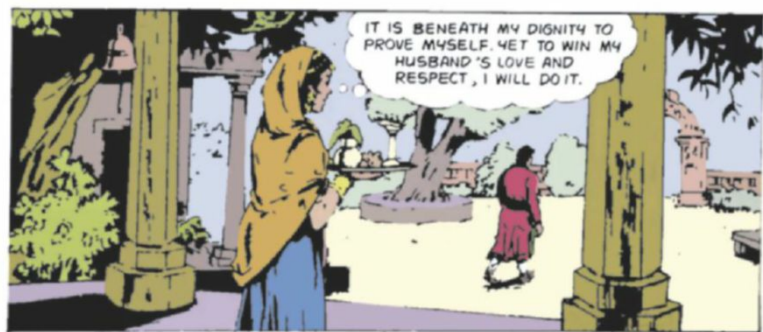
INSIDE THE TEMPLE, SUNDERBAI PRAYED TO PARVATI.

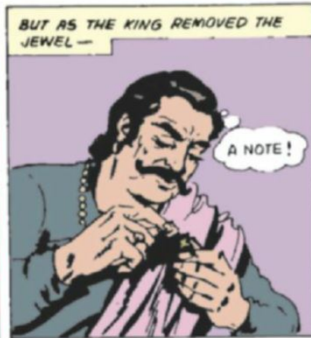
OH GODDESS, BLESS MY HUSBAND IN EVERY WAY.



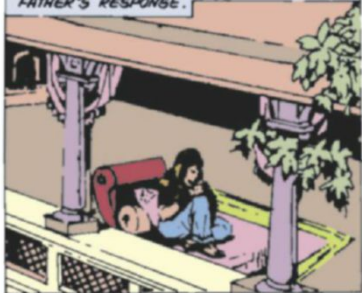


FINISHING HER PRAYERS SHE TURNED TO LEAVE WHEN —

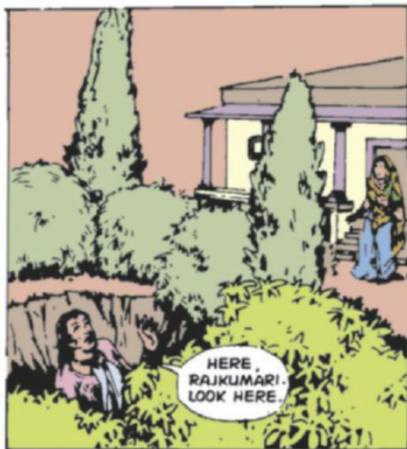




SUNDERBAI IMPATIENTLY WAITED FOR HER FATHER'S RESPONSE.



THEN ONE DAY —



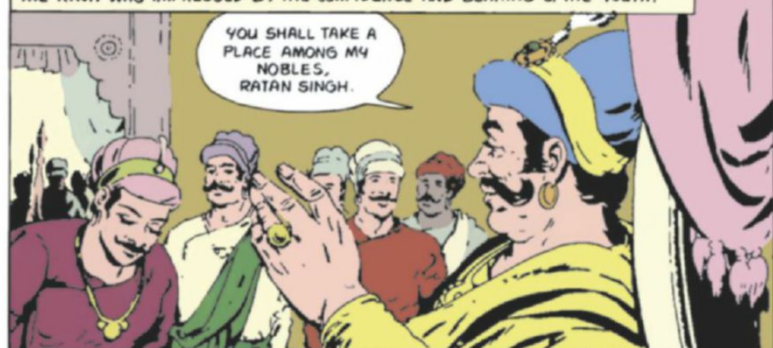




TWO DAYS LATER A HANDSOME YOUTH PRESENTED HIMSELF BEFORE THE RAJA OF VALLABHIPURA.



THE RAJA WAS IMPRESSED BY THE CONFIDENCE AND BEARING OF THE YOUTH.



RATAN SINGH SOON WON THE ADMIRATION OF THE RAJA AND BIR SINGH.



YOU RIDE  
VERY WELL,  
RATAN.

I HAVE  
BEEN  
TRAINED.  
BIR SINGH.



OVER THE DAYS BIR SINGH DEVELOPED  
A DEEP AFFECTION FOR THE YOUTH.

AND ONE DAY HE TOLD RATAN ALL ABOUT  
SUNDERBAI.

ARE YOU IN  
LOVE WITH ANY  
OTHER  
RAJKUMARI?

NO! NO! I LOVE  
SUNDERBAI.



AND ONLY HER,  
BUT I WANT TO  
TEST HER TO  
SEE IF SHE  
LIVES UP TO  
HER BOAST.

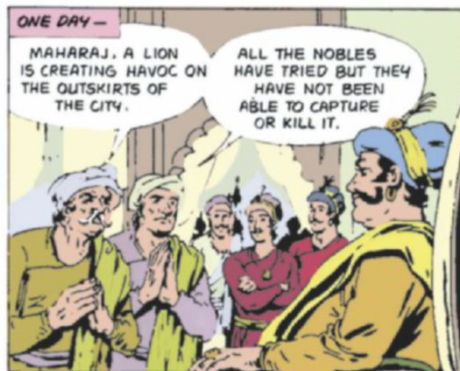
DO YOU  
THINK SHE  
WILL?



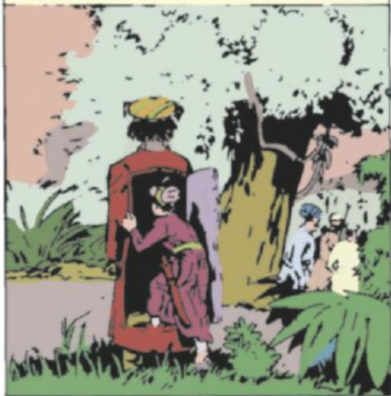
IF SHE IS A TRUE  
RAJPUT WOMAN,  
SHE WILL.







WHEN THE IMAGE WAS INSTALLED, RATAN SINGH SENT THE MEN AWAY AND GOT INTO IT.



AT MIDNIGHT THE LION CAME.



IT RUSHED AT THE IMAGE AND TRIED IN VAIN TO KNOCK IT DOWN.



RATAN SINGH WAITED FOR THE RIGHT OPPORTUNITY TO ATTACK. WHEN IT CAME HE SLIPPED OUT...



... AND WITH A SINGLE BLOW OF HIS SWORD, KILLED THE BEAST.



THE RAJA WAS VERY PLEASED.



RATAN SINGH,  
I HONOUR YOU WITH  
THIS ROBE AND A GRANT  
OF LAND FOR YOUR  
COURAGEOUS ACT.

ONE DAY THE RAJA DECIDED TO GO TO A FAR-OFF JUNGLE TO HUNT.

ISN'T BIR SINGH JOINING US?

NO, HE IS NOT FEELING WELL.



IT WAS WHEN THE PARTY WAS RESTING THAT A HORSEMAN CAME RIDING TOWARDS THEM.

MAHARAJ, ALL IS LOST!



WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? WHAT HAS HAPPENED?

MAHARAJ, AFTER YOU LEFT WE WERE SUDDENLY ATTACKED. VALLABHIPURA HAS BEEN TAKEN OVER BY MARAUDERS.



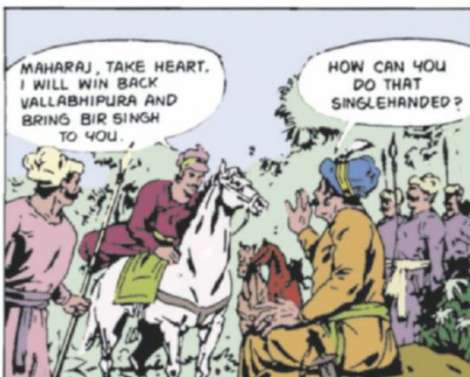
AND ...AND BIR SINGH HAS BEEN TAKEN CAPTIVE.

NO! OH, MY SON!



MAHARAJ, TAKE HEART. I WILL WIN BACK VALLABHIPURA AND BRING BIR SINGH TO YOU.

HOW CAN YOU DO THAT SINGLEHANDED?

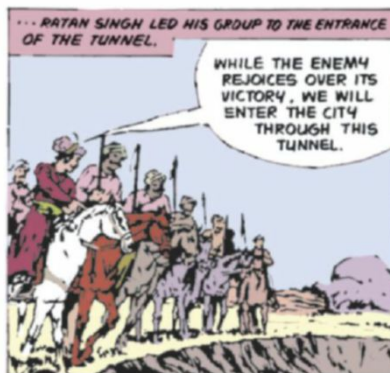
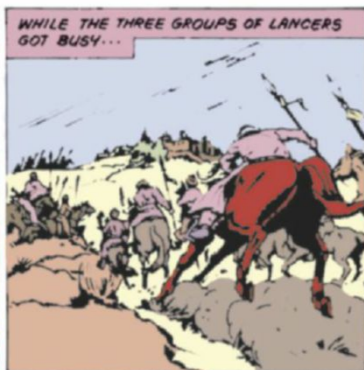


RAJA KESARI SINGH IS MY KINSMAN. I WILL TAKE HIS HELP.



RATAN SINGH RODE OUT TOWARDS SHALYA...





RATAN SINGH THREW OPEN THE GATES OF THE FORT, MORE TROOPS POURED IN...



...AND THE ENEMY WAS SOON VANQUISHED.

RATAN SINGH THEN FREED BIR SINGH...



...AND TOOK HIM TO HIS FATHER.



RATAN, HOW CAN I REWARD YOU FOR SAVING MY KINGDOM AND MY HEIR?

IT WAS MY DUTY, MAHARAJ.

MAHARAJ, I WOULD LIKE TO MEET SOME OLD FRIENDS WHO HAVE COME TO SEE ME. MAY I...

YOU MAY GO, RATAN.

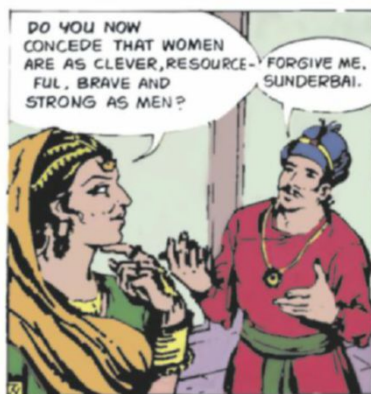
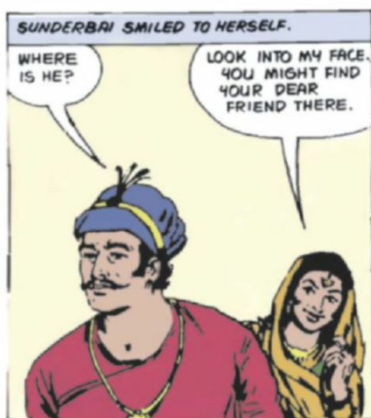
BUT BE BACK SOON.



BIR SINGH WAITED IMPATIENTLY FOR RATAN SINGH. AT LAST HE WENT TO LOOK FOR HIM.



AH! I WILL ASK THEM. THEY MIGHT KNOW.





# ANWAR

Based on a story sent by  
Nivedita Singh



Illustrations : V. B. Halbe

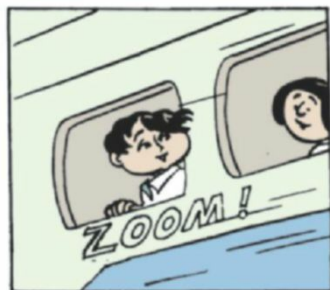
ALL RIGHT, CHILDREN.  
GET INTO THE BUS  
ONE AT A TIME.



ANWAR, YOU ARE THE  
MONITOR. SEE THAT THEY  
STAND IN A QUEUE.



NOBODY SHOULD PUT  
HIS OR HER HEAD OUT  
OF THE WINDOW. IS  
THAT CLEAR?



ANWAR! HOW DARE YOU PUT YOUR  
HEAD OUT OF THE WINDOW, YOU  
NAUGHTY BOY! AND TO THINK I  
MADE YOU THE CLASS-  
MONITOR.



WHAT SORT OF AN EXAMPLE  
IS THAT TO THE OTHER  
CHILDREN?



BUT,  
TEACHER..

I PUT MY HEAD  
OUT TO SEE THAT NONE  
OF THE OTHERS HAD  
THEIRS OUT.



# The best son

Story Dinesh Shrivastava

Illustrations Buddhadev

ONE DAY, AT THE VILLAGE WELL, THE WOMEN WERE TALKING ABOUT THEIR SONS.

YOU KNOW, MY SON IS A GREAT WRESTLER! WHY, JUST THE OTHER DAY HE DEFEATED THE WELL-KNOWN WRESTLER LATHARAM! WHAT A BOY!



WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT WRESTLING? MY SON IS AN ACE SINGER! EVEN PEOPLE FROM THE TOWN INVITE HIM TO SING.



SINGING AND WRESTLING... BAH! MY SON IS AN ASTROLOGER. PEOPLE COME TO HIM FROM ALL OVER TO HAVE THEIR FUTURE PREDICTED. THEY ALMOST WORSHIP HIM.



ARE YOU THREE GOING TO STAND HERE PRAISING YOUR SONS ALL DAY? LET'S GO!



THE THREE PROUD MOTHERS FELT HURT.

SHE TOO HAS A SON, DOESN'T SHE?

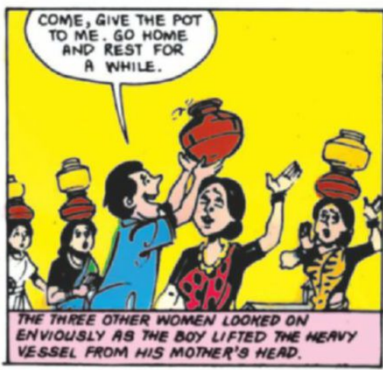
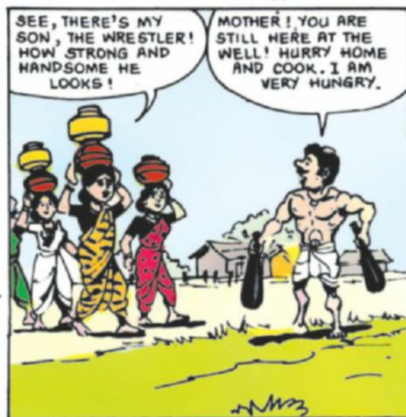
OH SHE DOES! BUT HE'S NOT WORTH MUCH. JUST GOES TO STUDY AND COMES BACK HOME. THAT'S ALL.



AH BUT MY SIMPLE SON IS BETTER THAN ALL YOUR GIFTED BOYS.

SOUP GRAPES!









## The Cat Who Washed His Face

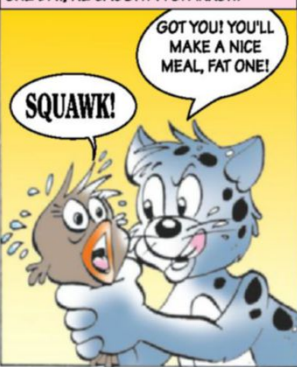
Story: Jubel D'Cruz Script: Tanushree Vaccharajani  
Illustrations: Archana Amberkar



MANY YEARS AGO, THERE WAS A CAT WHO PREYED ON LITTLE BIRDS WHO CAME TO PECK AT GRAINS IN THE FIELDS.



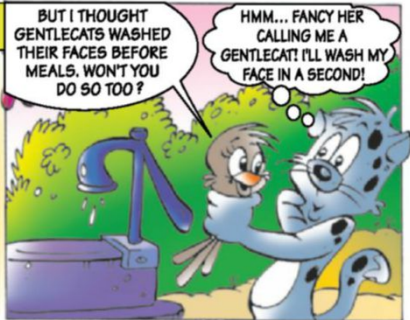
ONE DAY, HE CAUGHT A SPARROW.



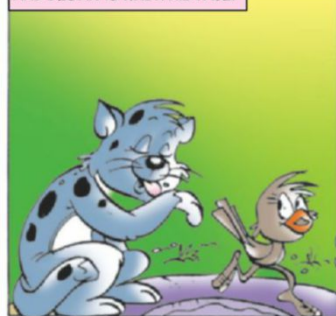
THE SPARROW WAS HOWEVER, VERY COURAGEOUS. IT THOUGHT OF A PLAN TO OUTWIT THE CAT.



BUT I THOUGHT GENTLECATS WASHED THEIR FACES BEFORE MEALS. WON'T YOU DO SO TOO?



THE FOOLISH CAT SET THE SPARROW DOWN AND BEGAN TO WASH HIS FACE.



AT THAT MOMENT THE CLEVER SPARROW FLEW AWAY, MUCH TO THE CAT'S DISAPPOINTMENT.

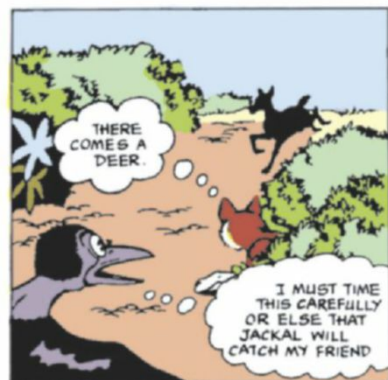
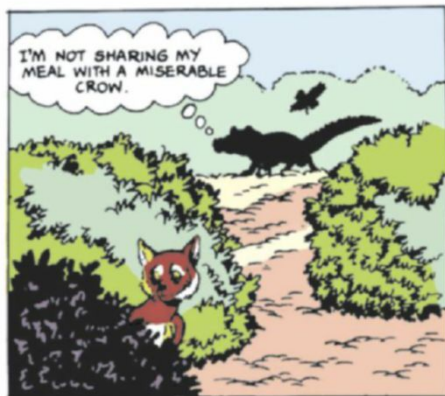


# KALIA THE CROW

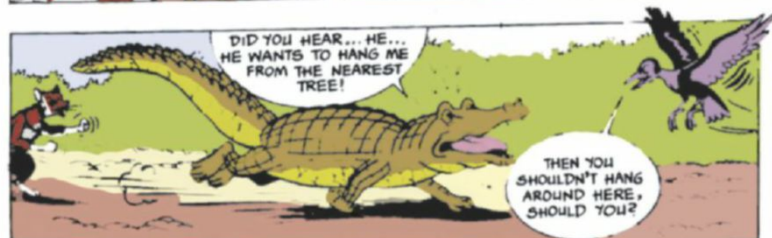
## THE ROPE TRICK

Script & Illustrations  
Prasad Iyer









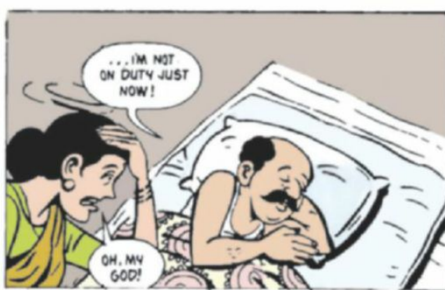
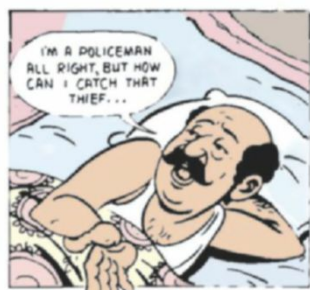
**Readers' Choice**

# OFF DUTY!

Based on a story sent by Sandhya Pai

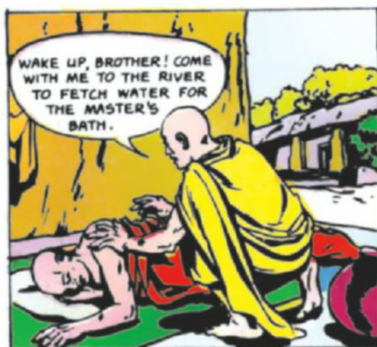
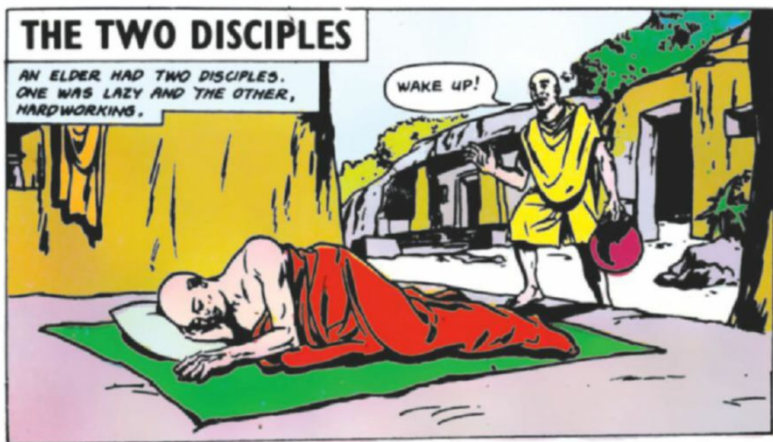


Illustrations: Anand Mande

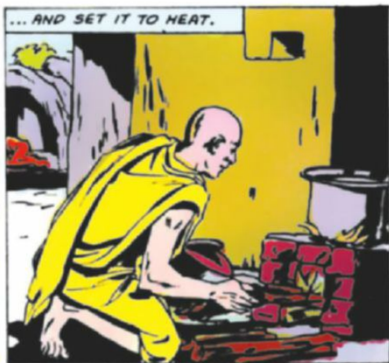


## THE TWO DISCIPLES

AN ELDER HAD TWO DISCIPLES.  
ONE WAS LAZY AND THE OTHER,  
HARDWORKING.

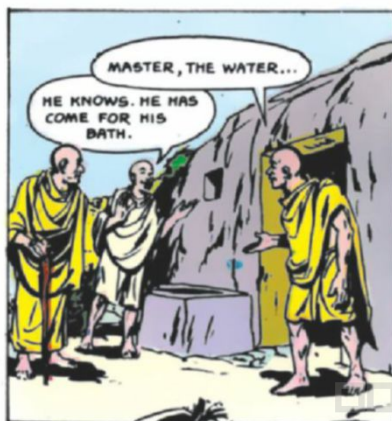
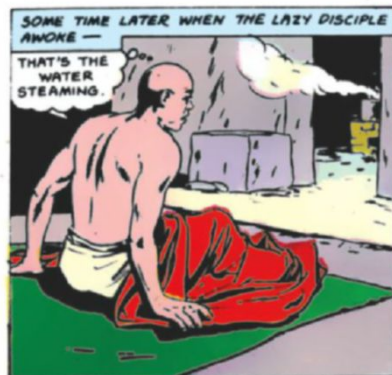


THE DUTIFUL DISCIPLE FETCHED THE  
WATER HIMSELF...

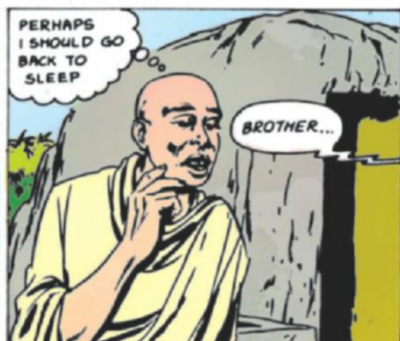


...AND SET IT TO HEAT.

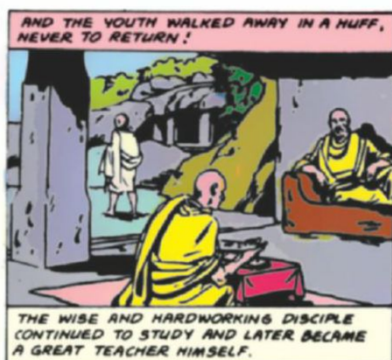
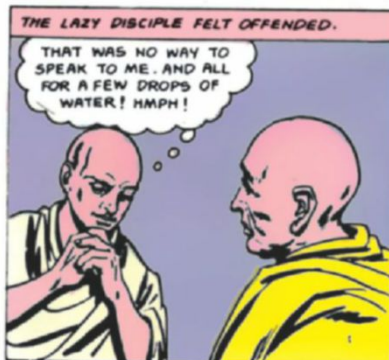
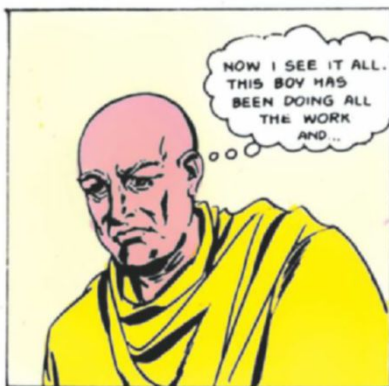
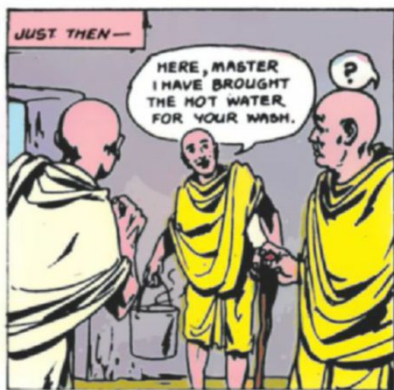
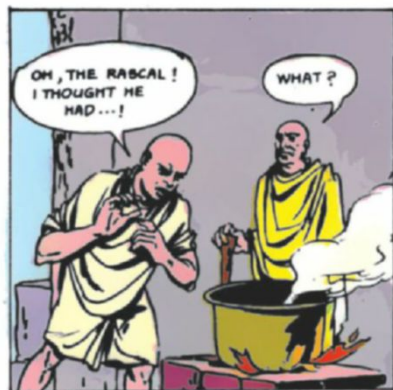












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