

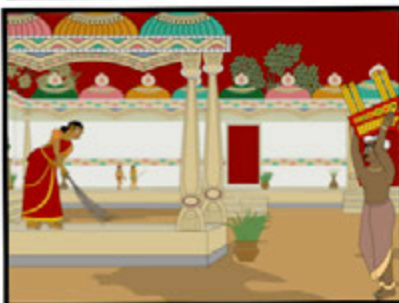
Series 2
Book 3

The Legend of
Ponnivala



The Home-Coming

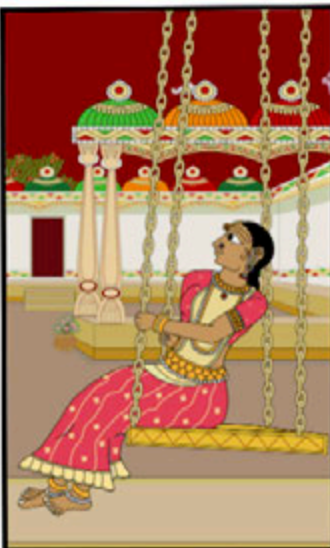
The Legend of Ponnivala



THE HOMECOMING
SERIES 2 COMIC 3

THE KING AND
QUEEN OF PONNIVALA
ARE REUNITED WITH
THEIR "LOST" SONS
PONNAR AND SHANKAR.
THE BROTHERS JOIN
THEIR LITTLE SISTER
AND THE REUNITED
FAMILY RETURN FROM
EXILE TO THEIR
PONNIVALA PALACE.
THERE THEY CLEAN AND
REBUILD THEIR LONG-
ABANDONED FAMILY
HOME. THE BOYS
LEARN HORSEMANSHIP
AND DICING, WHILE THE
SISTER DREAMS IN HER
LOVELY SWING.. ALL
THREE GROW UP TO
AGE FIFTEEN ...

WRITERS:
BRENDA BECK AND
CASSANDRA CORNALL
ARTWORK:
RAVICHANDRAN ARUMUGAM
(AND HIS DESIGN TEAM)
LAYOUT AND DESIGN:
CASSANDRA CORNALL
STEFAN HANNIGAN
ADDITIONAL LAYOUT:
PRIYADHARSHANI
GOVINDARAJAN,
PROOFREADING:
STEVEN BARIC
PUBLISHER:
PONNIVALA PUBLICATIONS
© 2012 SOFT SCIENCE
ASSOCIATES LTD





The Legend of Ponnivala

CELATTA CARRIES THE TWIN HEIRS OF PONNIVALA TO THEIR PARENTS, WHO ARE UNAWARE OF THE BOYS' EXISTENCE! SHE WALKS THROUGH FOREST AND OVER THE MOUNTAINS.



FINALLY SHE REACHES VIRAPPUR! THERE, SHE SETS THE BOYS DOWN AT THE GANESH TEMPLE.

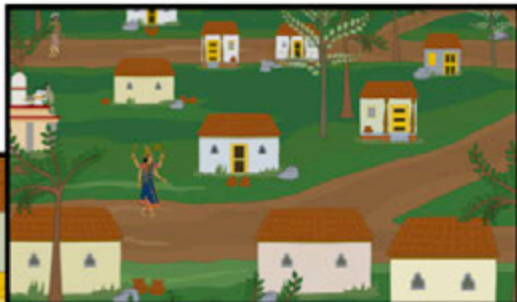


UNTIL I RETURN, YOU ARE NOT TO CROSS THESE LINES!



CELATTA LEAVES TO LOCATE THE BOYS' PARENTS.

CELATTA WALKS THE STREETS OF VIRAPPUR. SHE BEGINS CALLING OUT TO THE RESIDENTS THERE.



OH WOMEN! FIVE YEARS AGO, A LOVELY LADY AND HER HUSBAND CAME HERE.

THEY HAD THEIR BEAUTIFUL BABY DAUGHTER WITH THEM.



HAVE YOU SEEN THEM ANYWHERE?



OH LADY! WE KNOW THE COUPLE YOU ARE TALKING ABOUT!

WE WILL TAKE YOU TO THEM!

THE WOMEN LEAD CELATTA TO THE VETTUVA HORSE STABLE.

The Legend of Ponnivala

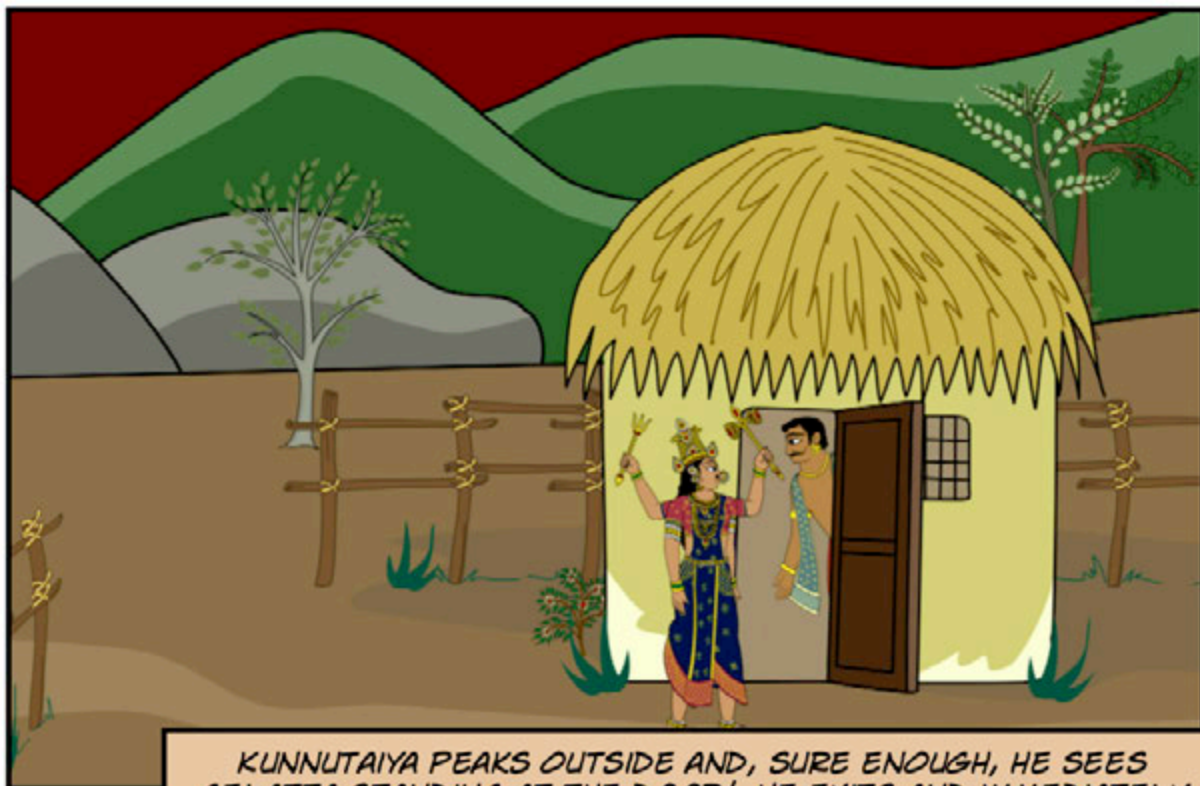
CELATTA'S SHADOW FALLS OVER THE FLOOR OF KUNNUTAIYA AND TAMARAI'S HUMBLE HOME. THEY WONDER WHO IT BELONGS TO.



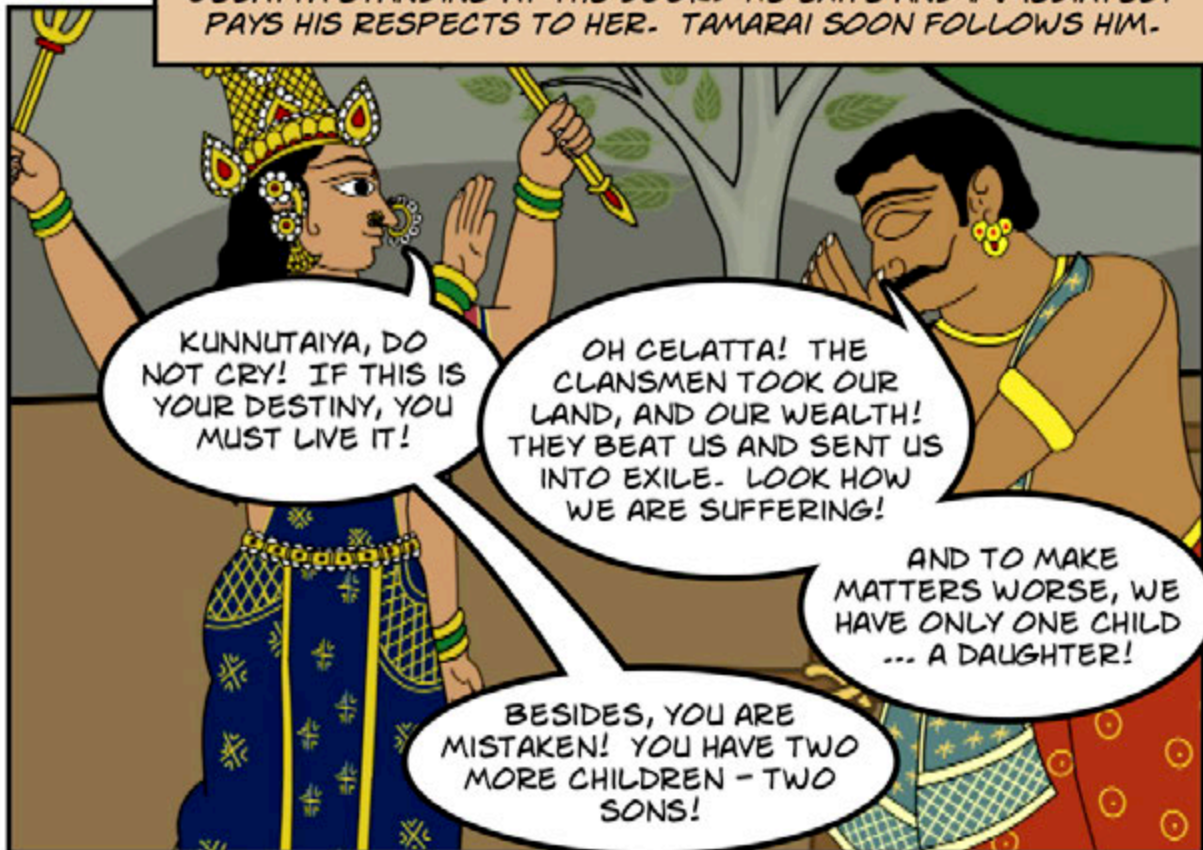
OH WOMAN! NO ONE HAS VISITED THIS HUT IN FIVE YEARS! BUT NOW I SEE A SHADOW. GO AND SEE WHO HAS COME!



OH LORD! IT IS OUR OWN FAMILY GODDESS, CELATTA!



KUNNUTAIYA PEAKS OUTSIDE AND, SURE ENOUGH, HE SEES CELATTA STANDING AT THE DOOR! HE EXITS AND IMMEDIATELY PAYS HIS RESPECTS TO HER. TAMARAI SOON FOLLOWS HIM.

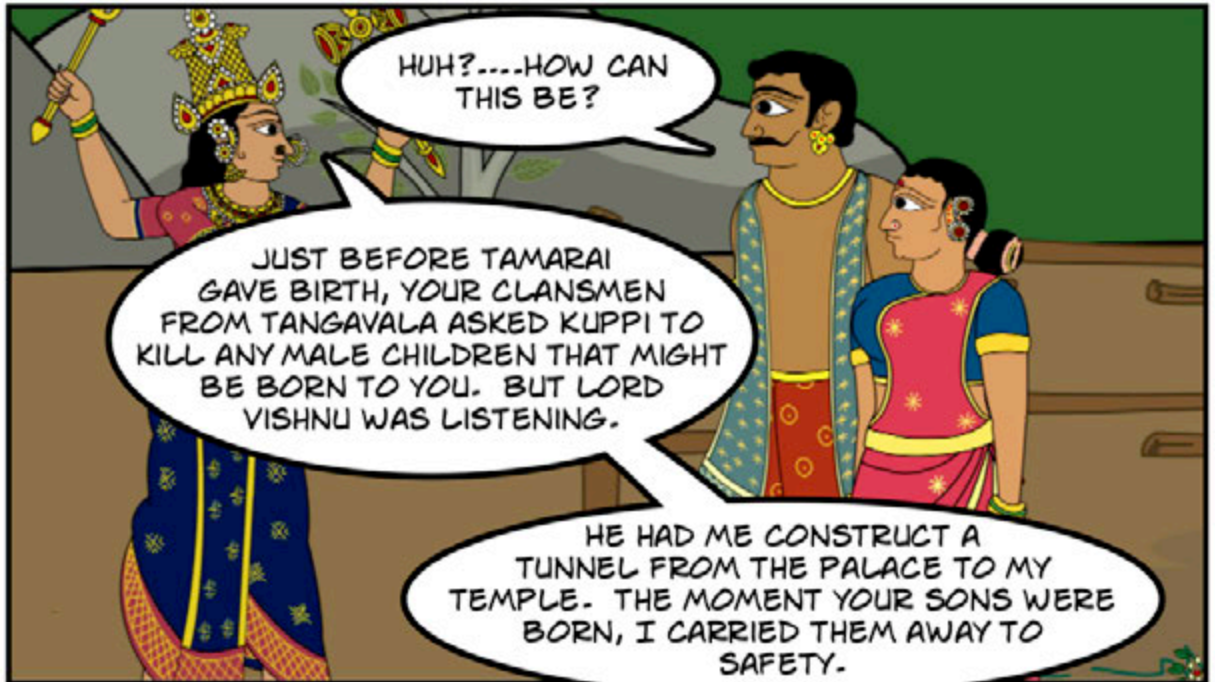


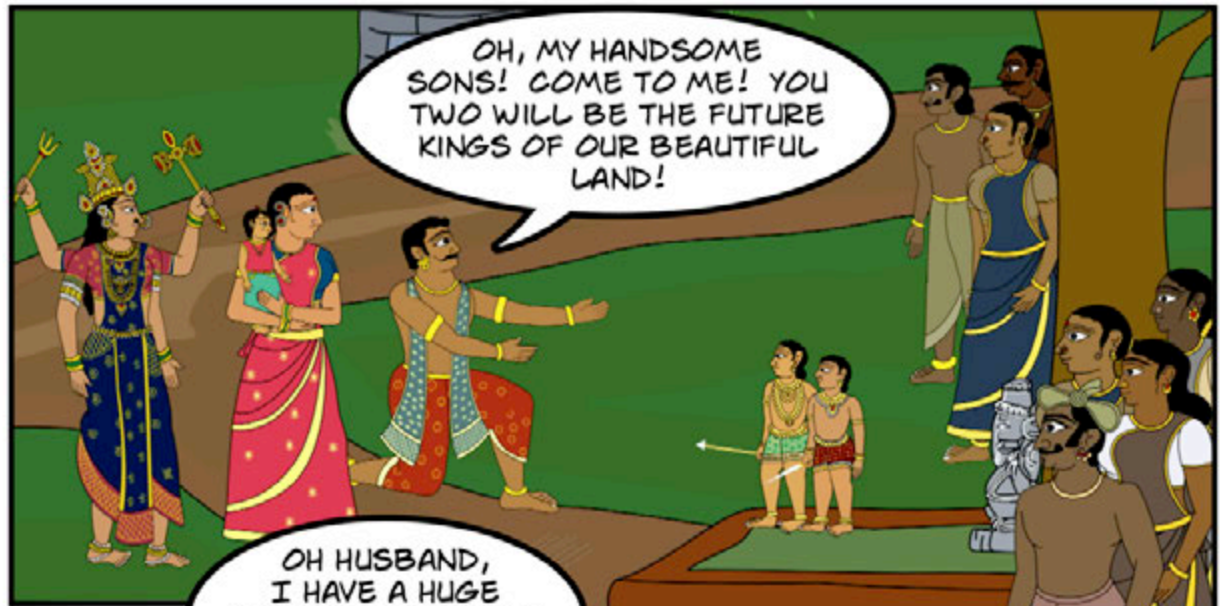
KUNNUTAIYA, DO NOT CRY! IF THIS IS YOUR DESTINY, YOU MUST LIVE IT!

OH CELATTA! THE CLANSMEN TOOK OUR LAND, AND OUR WEALTH! THEY BEAT US AND SENT US INTO EXILE. LOOK HOW WE ARE SUFFERING!

AND TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE, WE HAVE ONLY ONE CHILD ... A DAUGHTER!

BESIDES, YOU ARE MISTAKEN! YOU HAVE TWO MORE CHILDREN - TWO SONS!





OH, MY HANDSOME SONS! COME TO ME! YOU TWO WILL BE THE FUTURE KINGS OF OUR BEAUTIFUL LAND!



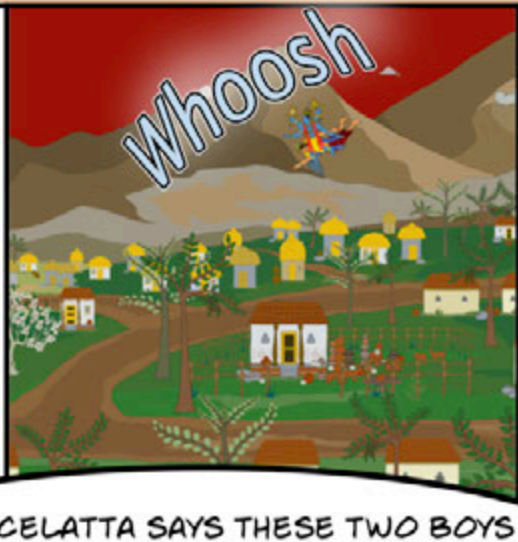
OH HUSBAND, I HAVE A HUGE DOUBT! CAN THESE TWO BOYS TRULY BE OURS?

KUNNUTAIYA IMMEDIATELY WELCOMES THE BOYS INTO HIS ARMS. BUT TAMARAI IS NOT SO QUICK. SHE CALLS UPON VISHNU FIRST, TO ASK FOR HIS ADVICE ON THE MATTER.



OH VISHNU, LORD OF CONJEEPURAM! YOU MUST COME HERE RIGHT AWAY!

VISHNU HEARS TAMARAI'S CALL. HE IMMEDIATELY MOUNTS HIS GARUDA BIRD, AND FLIES TO VIRAPPUR.



LORD, CELATTA SAYS THESE TWO BOYS ARE MINE. BUT I HAVE DOUBTS. I WANT PROOF THAT HER WORDS ARE TRUE!



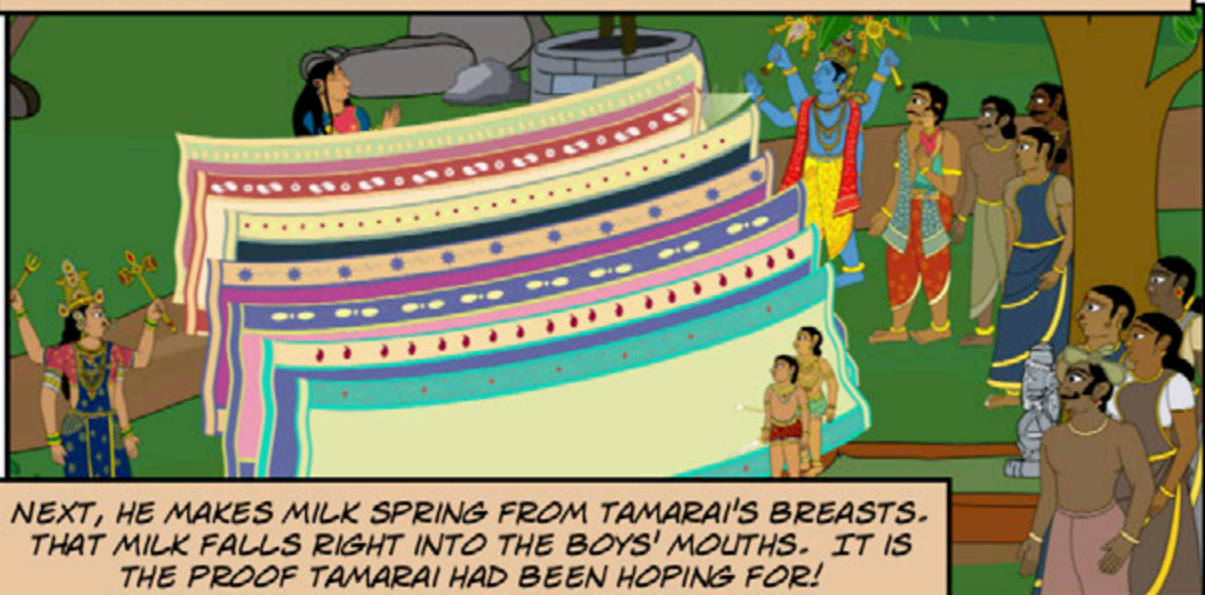
OK, TAMARAI! YOU SHALL RECEIVE PROOF. BUT FIRST YOU MUST GO BATHE!

TAMARAI GOES TO A NEARBY RIVER AND BATHES. THEN SHE RETURNS TO THE GANESH TEMPLE, WHERE VISHNU IS WAITING. HE DESCRIBES HIS TEST. IF THE BOYS ARE HER TRUE SONS, MILK WILL SPRING FROM TAMARAI'S BREASTS AND FALL INTO THEIR MOUTHS.



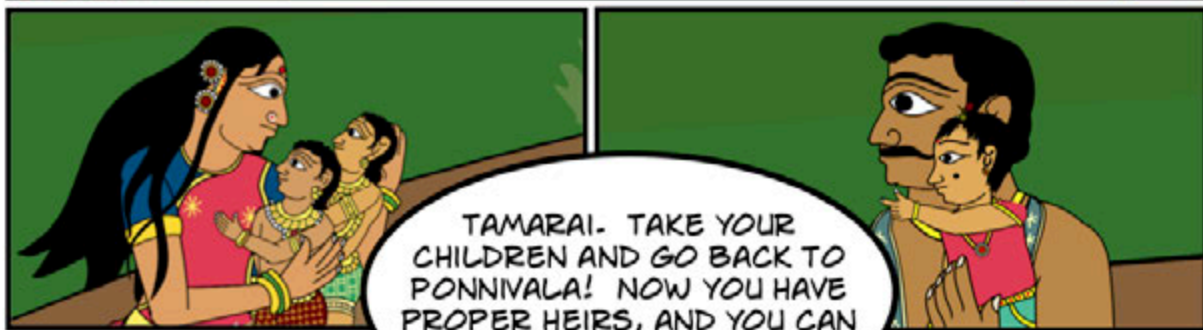


FIRST, VISHNU CREATES SEVEN VEILS BETWEEN TAMARAI AND THE BOYS.



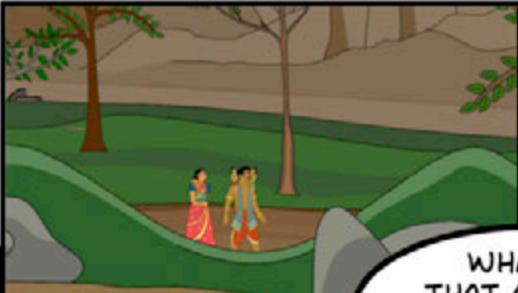
NEXT, HE MAKES MILK SPRING FROM TAMARAI'S BREASTS. THAT MILK FALLS RIGHT INTO THE BOYS' MOUTHS. IT IS THE PROOF TAMARAI HAD BEEN HOPING FOR!





THE RE-UNITED FAMILY SET OFF FOR THEIR HOME IN PONNIVALA. AFTER FIVE ARDUOUS YEARS, THE KING AND QUEEN ARE FINALLY IN A POSITION TO RECLAIM WHAT IS RIGHTFULLY THEIRS!





THE FAMILY MAKES ITS WAY THROUGH THE FOREST. ON THE PATH THEY FIND A SLEEPING SHE-BOAR AND HER BABY. THE ROYAL COUPLE KNOW RIGHT AWAY THAT THEY MUST BE CAUTIOUS, THAT THE BOAR COULD BE DANGEROUS!



WHAT IS THAT ANIMAL, SLEEPING OVER THERE?

LOOK, THERE IS A LITTLE BABY BESIDE IT!

ZZZZZZ...

ZZZZZZ...

THAT IS A HUGE FOREST BOAR! SHE IS VERY STRONG AND WILL EASILY GET ANGRY.

HEY, YOU! BOAR! WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

SHH! THAT'S THE SAME FEMALE BOAR THAT CURSED ME YEARS AGO, WHEN I WAS ON MY WAY TO DO PENANCE IN FRONT OF LORD SHIVA!

HER SON WAS BORN OF THE SAME GIFT THAT LORD SHIVA GAVE US! BUT WE MUST BE CAREFUL!

THAT SHE-BOAR UTTERED A CURSE THAT WHEN YOU ARE BOTH SIXTEEN, HER SON WILL DESTROY OUR WHOLE KINGDOM!

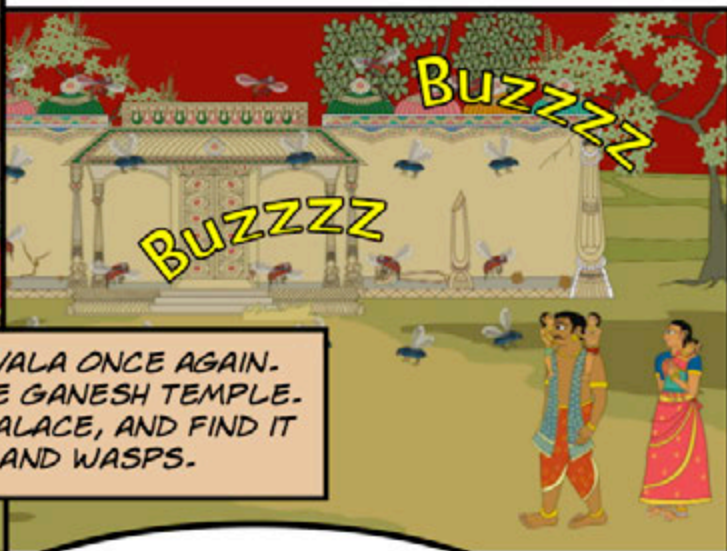
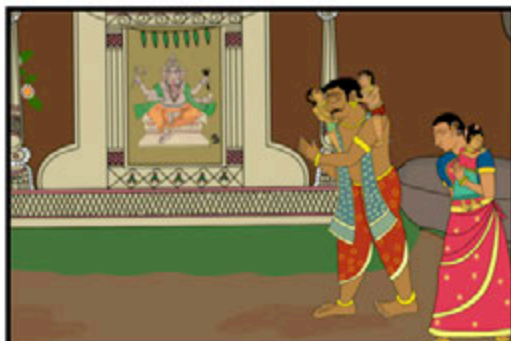
AT THE SOUNDS OF THE VOICES, THE BABY BOAR AWAKENS, AND JUMPS IN SURPRISE. HE WATCHES THE INTRUDERS CAREFULLY.



DON'T WORRY, MOTHER! WE WILL KILL THAT BABY BOAR RIGHT AWAY. WE ARE NOT AFRAID!



COME ON, BOYS! WE SHOULD LEAVE THOSE FOREST ANIMALS IN PEACE. WE MUST HURRY BACK TO OUR OWN LANDS NOW. I AM EAGER TO SEE THE OLD PALACE!



SOON THE FAMILY IS IN PONNIVALA ONCE AGAIN. THEY FIRST GO AND PRAY AT THE GANESH TEMPLE. THEN THEY RETURN TO THEIR PALACE, AND FIND IT KEPT SAFE BY BEETLES AND WASPS.



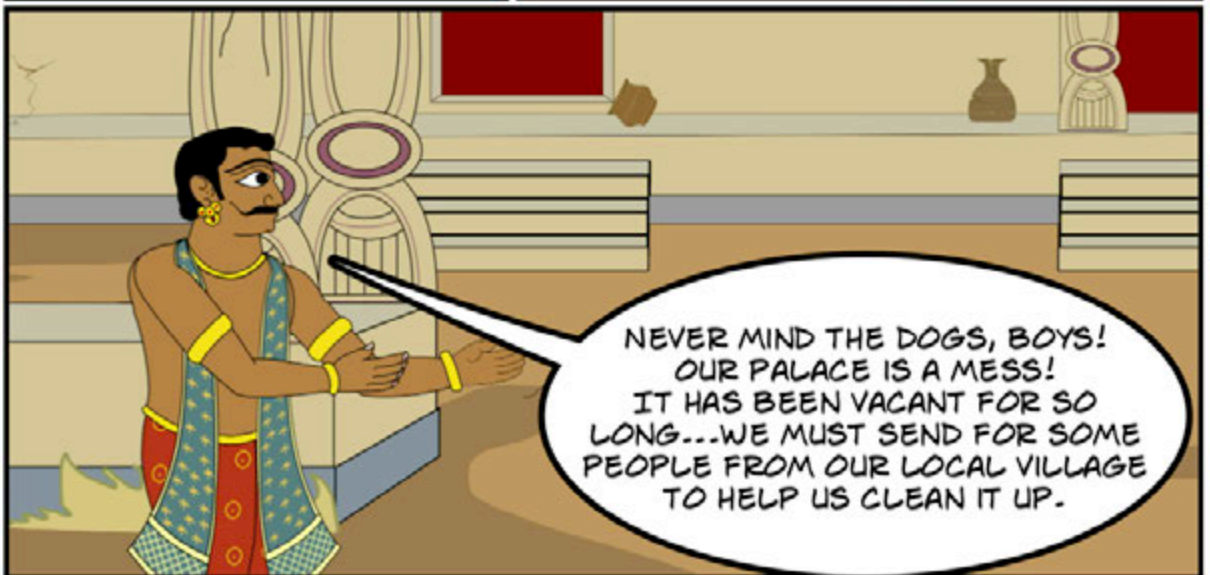
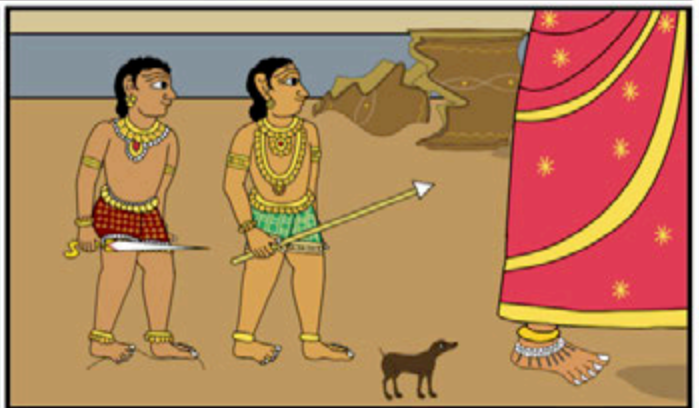
OH LORD! OH VISHNU! IT IS TIME TO REMOVE THE BEETLES AND WASPS THAT HAVE BEEN GUARDING OUR PALACE!

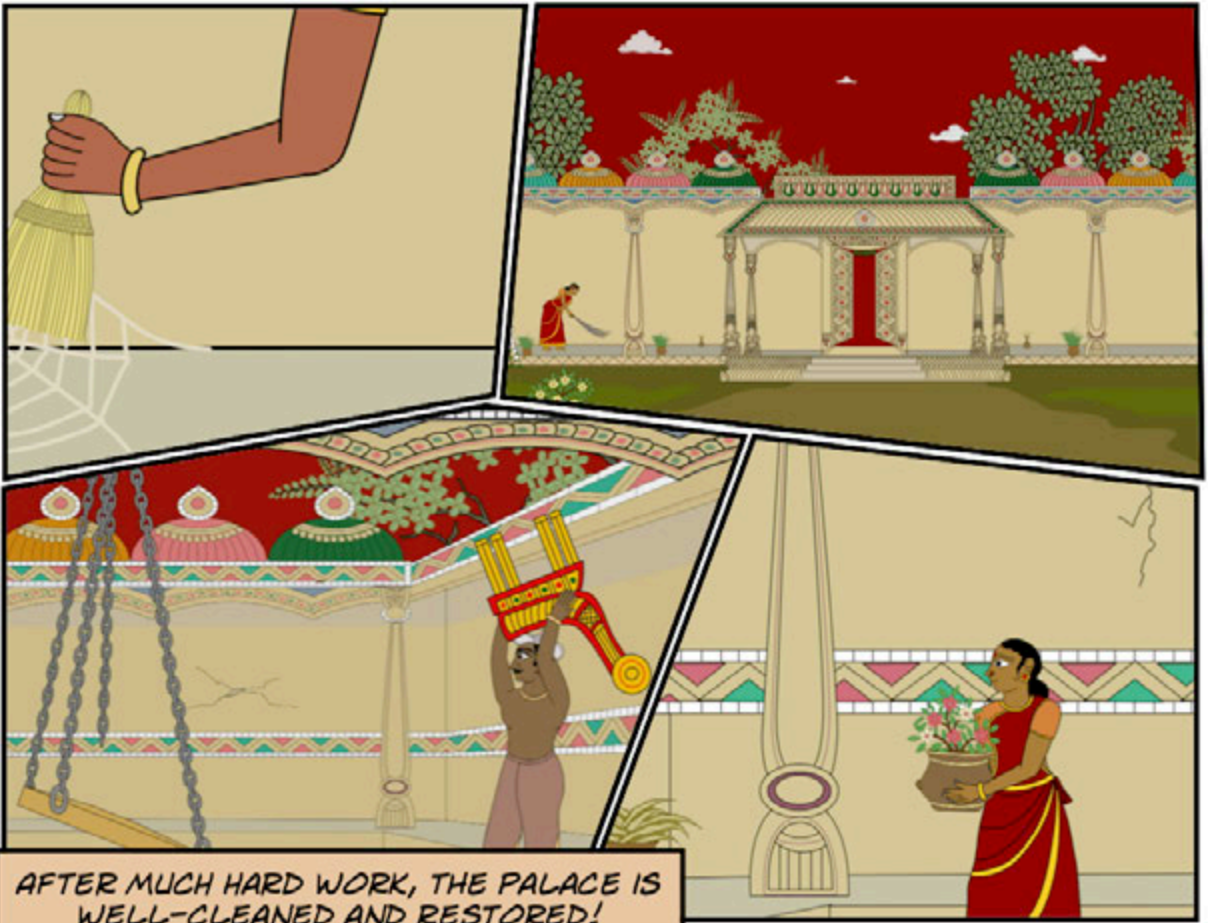
LORD VISHNU REMOVES THE BEETLES AND WASPS



IT'S WONDERFUL TO BE HOME AT LAST!

KUNNUTAIYA KICKS OPEN THE DOOR, AND THEY GO INSIDE. THERE, THEY SEE THAT THE PALACE DOG HAS GIVEN BIRTH TO A TINY EARLESS SHE-PUP!

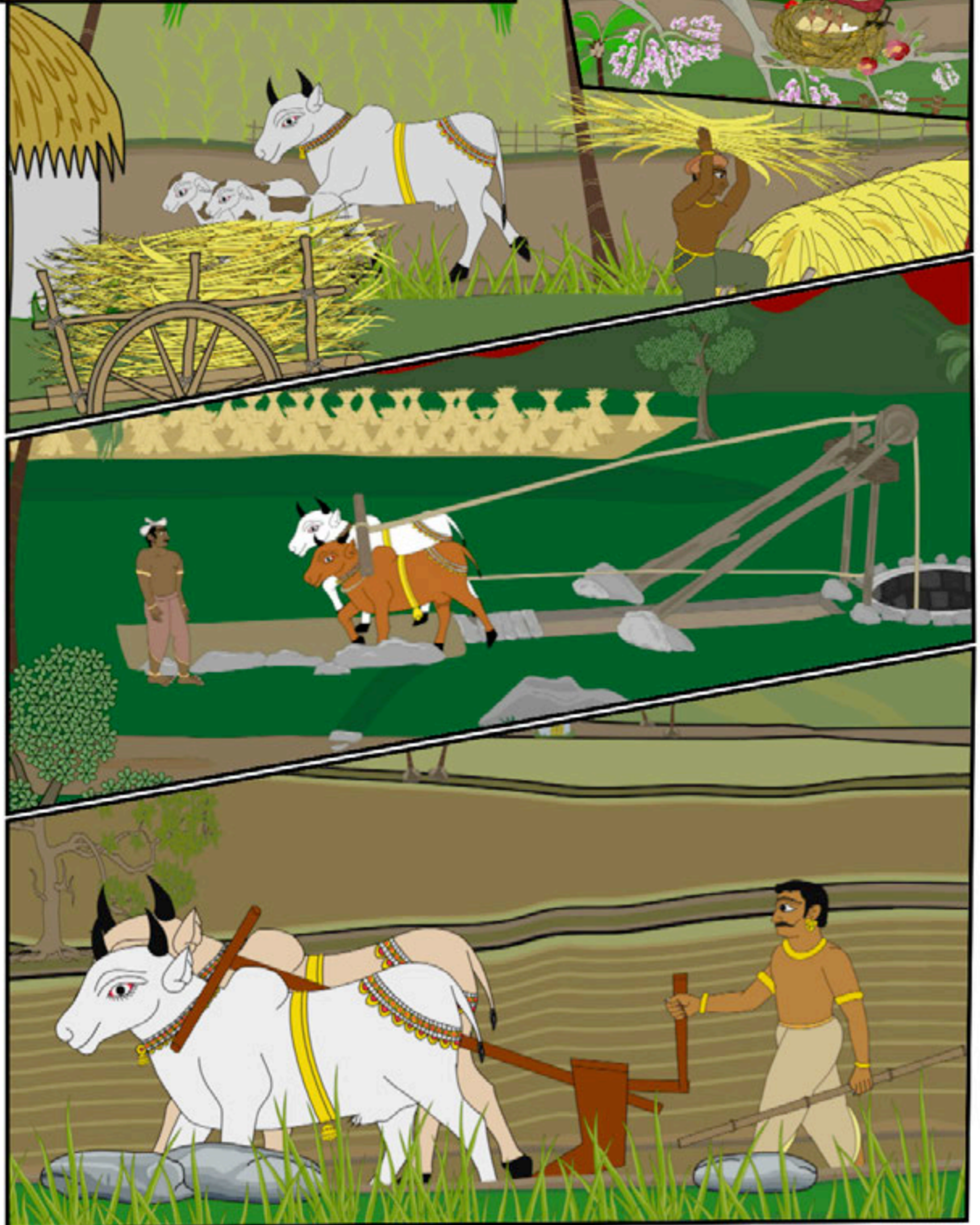




AFTER MUCH HARD WORK, THE PALACE IS WELL-CLEANED AND RESTORED!



IT IS ONCE AGAIN A PROSPEROUS TIME. WITH THE RULING FAMILY BACK, CULTIVATION OF THE LAND RESUMES.



BACK IN THE PALACE THE BOYS HAVE MANY QUESTIONS FOR THEIR MOTHER ...

MOTHER! ARE THERE ANY PALACE ANIMALS AROUND HERE?

ARE THERE ANY HORSES WE CAN RIDE?

OH BOYS! GO SEE IF THERE ARE SOME CALVES IN OUR BIG PASTURE! LOOK AND SEE IF YOU CAN FIND TWO FOALS BORN RECENTLY TO OUR MARE!

BUT FIRST FIND SHAMBUGA, THE SON OF OUR SERVANT WOMAN IN PONNIVALA. HIS JOB WILL BE TO LOOK AFTER YOU BOTH!

OK MOTHER! WE WILL GO LOOK FOR HIM RIGHT AWAY!

The Legend of Ponnivala



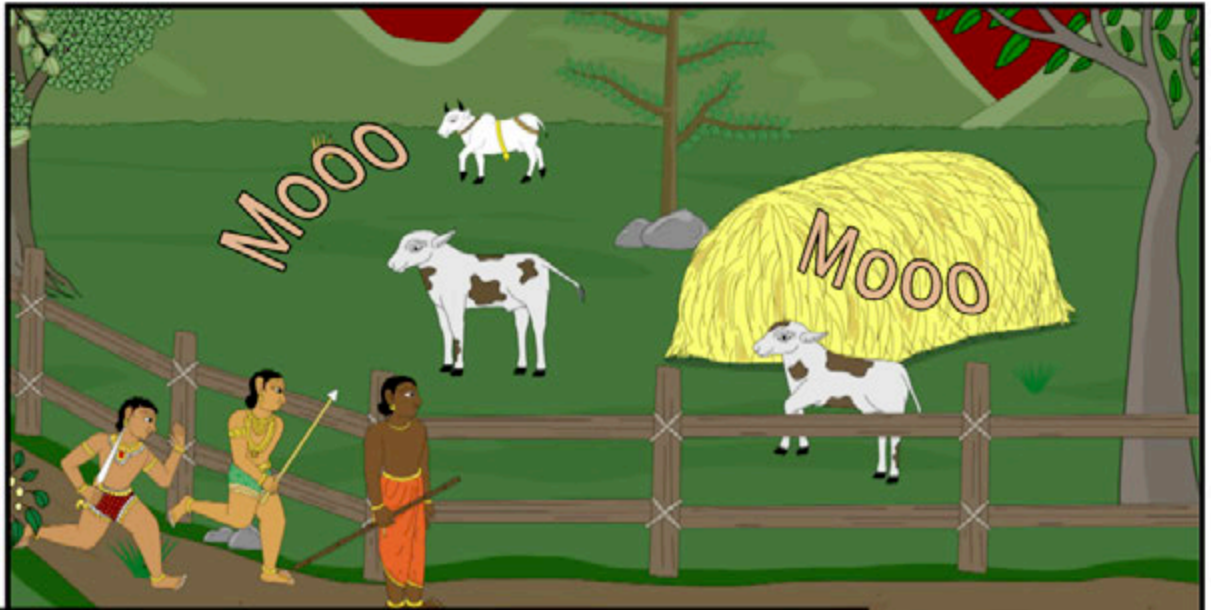
THE BOYS RUN QUICKLY TO THE MAIN STREET IN PONNIVALA. THEY CALL OUT FOR SHAMBUGA.

OH SHAMBUGA!
WHERE ARE YOU?

HOW CAN I
SERVE YOU?

WE WANT TO SEE
THE COWS, AND RIDE
THE HORSES!

OK!
FOLLOW ME!

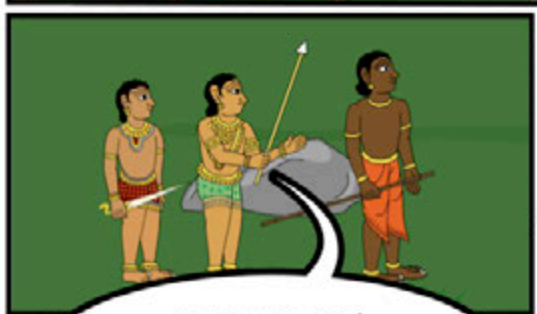


SHAMBUGA LEADS THE BOYS TO THE COW PASTURE FIRST. THERE, THEY PET THE LITTLE CALVES.

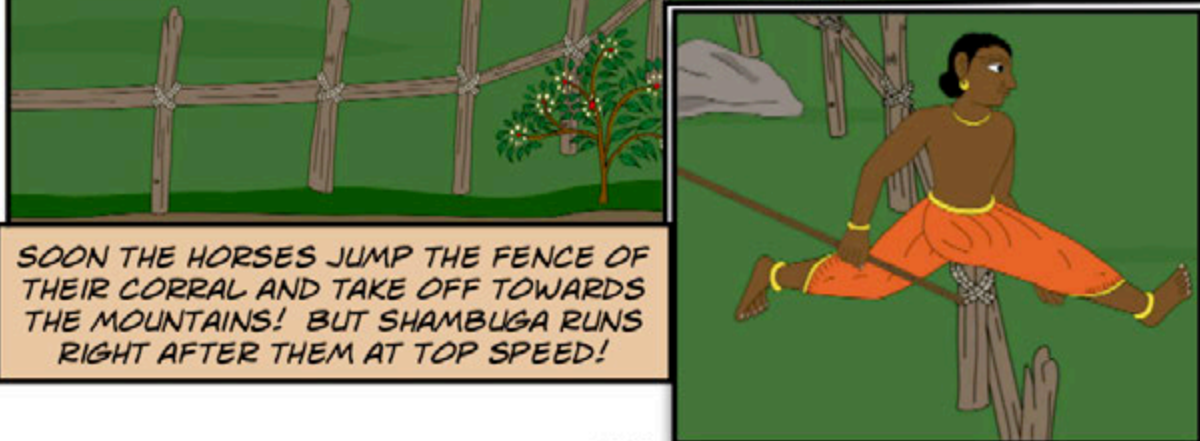


The Legend of Ponnivala

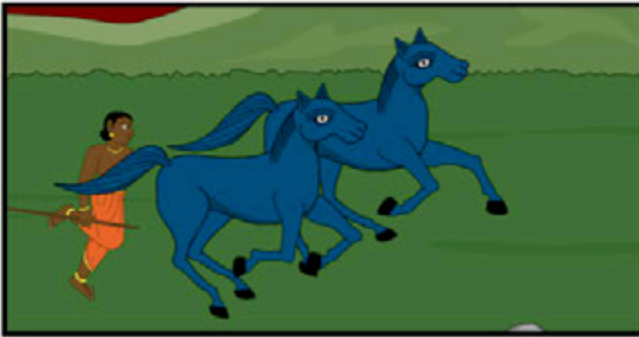
NEXT, THE BOYS GO TO THE HORSE PASTURE. WHEN THEY JUMP THE FENCE, THE HORSES TAKE OFF IN FRIGHT!



SHAMBUGA!
LET'S RUN AND CATCH
THOSE TWO COLTS!



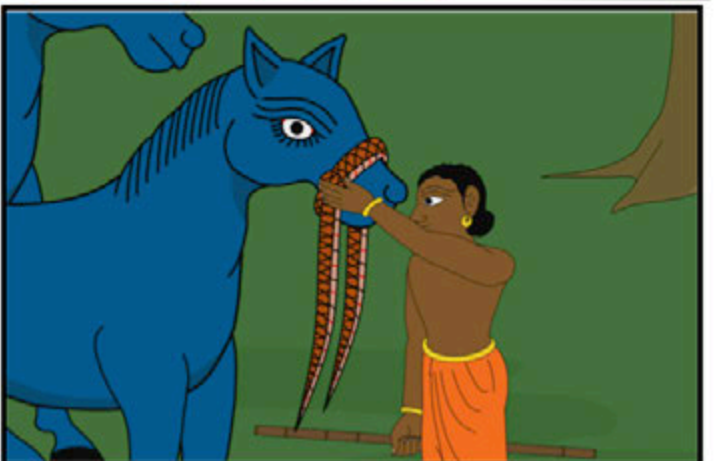
SOON THE HORSES JUMP THE FENCE OF
THEIR CORRAL AND TAKE OFF TOWARDS
THE MOUNTAINS! BUT SHAMBUGA RUNS
RIGHT AFTER THEM AT TOP SPEED!

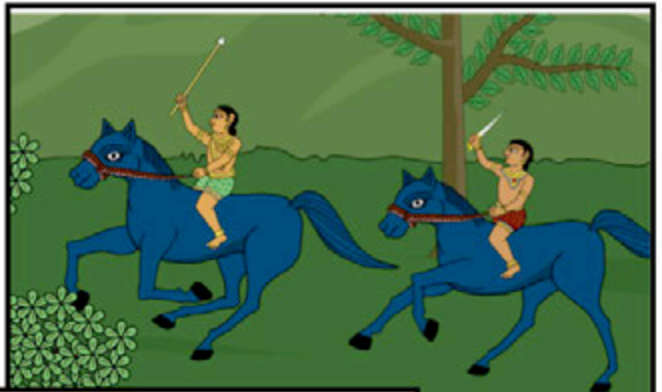


IN NO TIME AT ALL, SHAMBUGA CATCHES RIGHT UP TO THE TWO FRISKY ANIMALS! HE STOPS THEM, AND WAITS FOR THE TWIN BROTHERS TO CATCH UP.

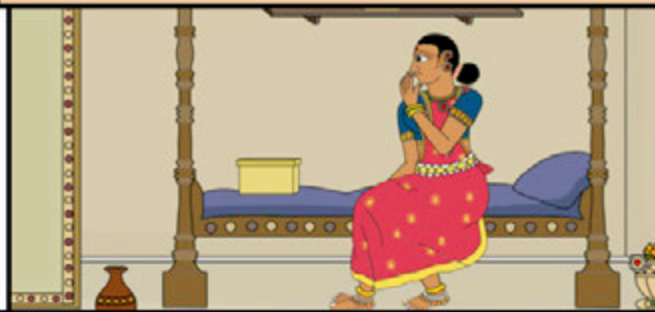


SHAMBUGA ASKS THE BROTHERS TO HOLD THE HORSES. THEN HE GOES AND FINDS TWO SNAKES. HE SKINS THEM, AND TURNS THEIR SKIN INTO HALTERS AND REINS FOR THE COLTS.

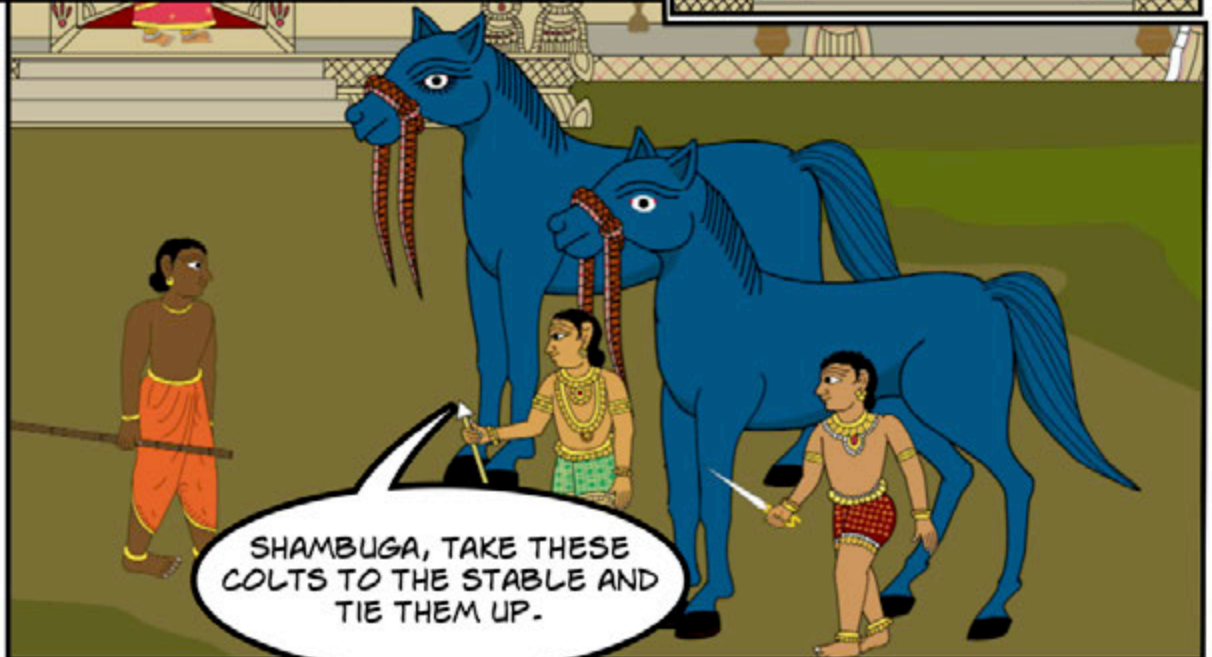




THE BROTHERS THEN MOUNT THEIR HORSES, AND HAVE FUN RIDING HOME. THEY ARE ACCOMPANIED BY SHAMBUGA.



THE HORSES' HOOVES THUNDER AS THEY GALLOP. TAMARAI FEELS THE EARTH TREMBLE FROM HER RESTING PLACE. SHE GOES OUTSIDE TO SEE WHAT IS GOING ON, AND SEES HER SONS RIDE TOWARD THE PALACE!



SHAMBUGA, TAKE THESE COLTS TO THE STABLE AND TIE THEM UP.



OH LORD! IT HAS BEEN THREE MONTHS! YOU SAID YOU WOULD COME TO PONNIVALA AND NAME MY SONS!

THREE MONTHS PASS. TAMARAI CALLS AGAIN FOR LORD VISHNU, AND HE QUICKLY APPEARS BEFORE HER.

OH LADY TAMARAI, BLESSINGS ON YOU AND YOUR HUSBAND!



LORD! VISHNU! YOU SAID THAT IN THREE MONTHS TIME, YOU WOULD NAME MY CHILDREN.

IT HAS BEEN AT LEAST THAT SINCE WE RETURNED TO OUR PALACE. THE TIME IS NOW UPON US!

OK! INVITE PEOPLE FROM ALL THE REVENUE VILLAGES TO ASSEMBLE AT THE CELATTA TEMPLE THIS FRIDAY! I WILL MEET YOU THERE!

The Legend of Ponnivala



OH LORD, HOW MAY I HELP?

KUNNUTAIYA CALLS FOR SHAMBUGA'S FATHER. THE HUGE MAN IS INSTRUCTED TO GO TO EACH AND EVERY REVENUE VILLAGE AND ISSUE INVITATIONS TO THE NAMING CEREMONY.



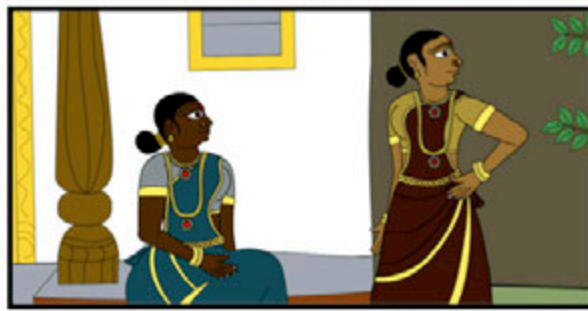
TAM! TAM! TAM!



TAM! TAM! TAM!



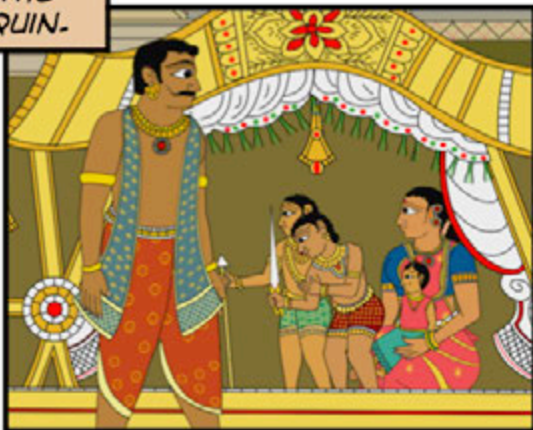
WHAT IS THAT NOISE?



THIS FRIDAY, THE KING AND QUEEN WILL HOST A NAMING CEREMONY FOR THEIR SONS, AT THE CELATTA TEMPLE. ONE PERSON FROM EACH FAMILY SHOULD COME, AND BRING OFFERINGS FOR THE GODDESS.

THE ASSISTANT'S DRUM ALERTS EVERYONE IN THE VILLAGE TO HIS PRESENCE. HE SPREADS THE GOOD NEWS AMONGST THEM ALL.

ON THE DAY OF THE NAMING CEREMONY, THE WHOLE FAMILY CLIMBS INTO THE PALANQUIN.



THE WHOLE FAMILY BATHES IN THE RIVER. AFTERWARDS, THEY ARE CARRIED TO THE TEMPLE OF CELATTA.



The Legend of Ponnivala

A LARGE CROWD IS GATHERED. VISHNU AND CELATTA ARRIVE, AND EVERYONE PAYS THEIR RESPECTS. GENEROUS OFFERINGS ARE LAID OUT.



OH BROTHER, WHAT SHALL WE NAME THIS ELDER BOY?

THE BOY WITH THE GOLDEN GLOW SHALL BE CALLED PONNAR! PONNAR! PONNAR!

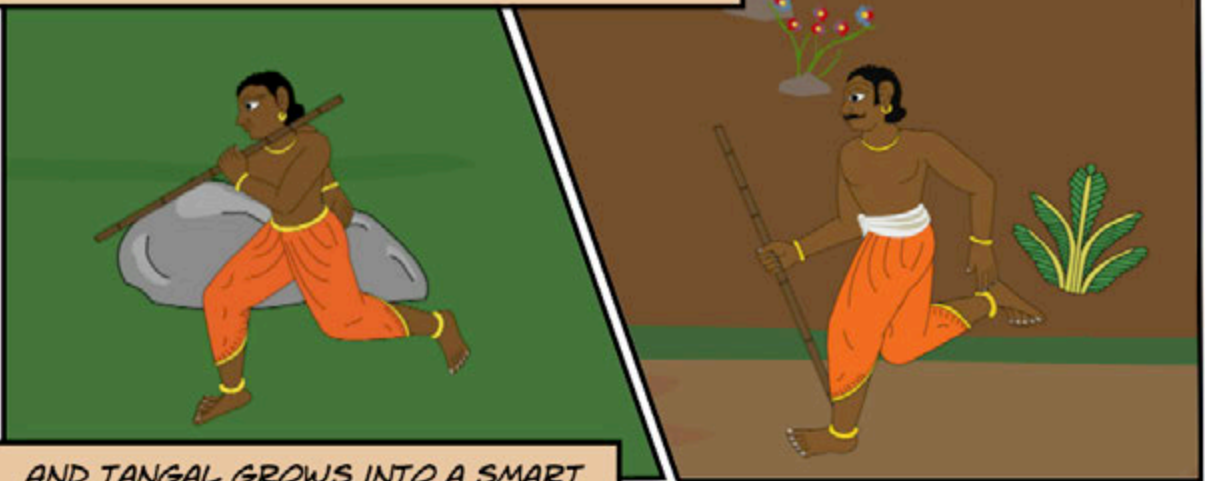
AND THE SECOND BOY?

HE SHALL BE CALLED SHANKAR! SHANKAR! SHANKAR!

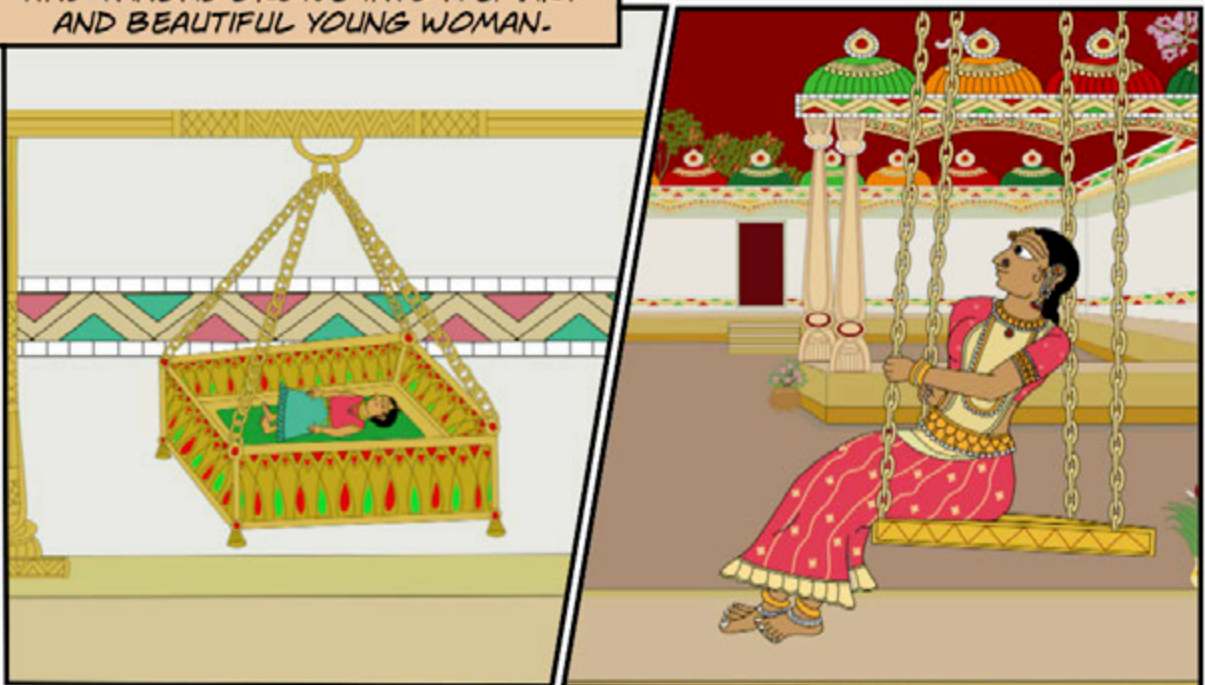
TEN YEARS PASS. THE BOYS GROW INTO STRONG YOUNG MEN.



SHAMBUGA GROWS INTO A HUGE, POWERFUL, AND STEADFASTLY LOYAL ASSISTANT.



AND TANGAL GROWS INTO A SMART AND BEAUTIFUL YOUNG WOMAN.



The Legend of Ponnivala



THE TEMPLES AND PALACE OF PONNIVALA ARE RENOVATED. THE NEW SPLENDOR REFLECTS THE PROSPERITY OF THE TIMES. ALL IS WELL.



THE BROTHERS GROW FOND OF RIDING THEIR HORSES. WHEN THEY RETURN FROM RIDING, THEY USUALLY RETIRE TO THEIR GAME ROOM TO PLAY DICE. IT IS THEIR FAVOURITE PASS-TIME.

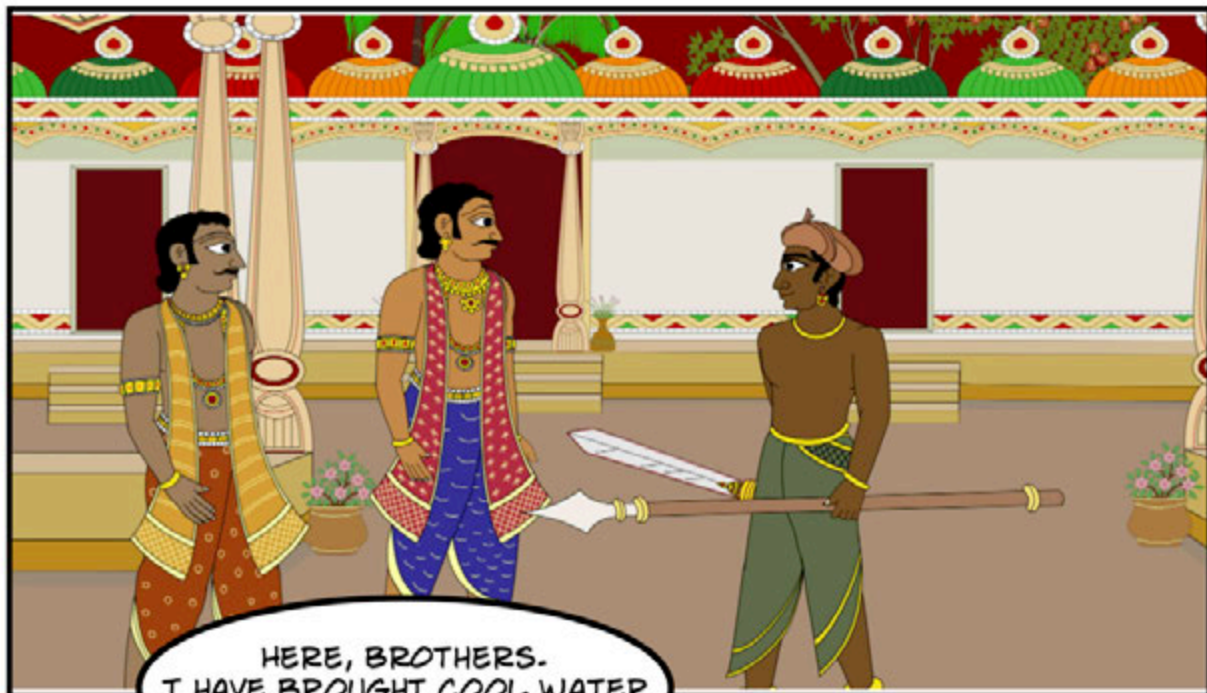


AND OF COURSE, THE BROTHER'S LOVING SISTER TANGAL IS ALWAYS THERE TO WELCOME THEM HOME.



MAN!
TAKE OUR
WEAPONS AND
STORE THEM
SAFELY!

YES, MY
LORDS!

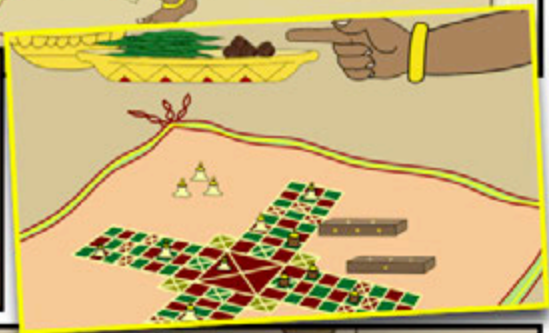


HERE, BROTHERS.
I HAVE BROUGHT COOL WATER
FOR YOU BOTH!





ON THIS DAY, THE BROTHERS PLAY DICE AS USUAL. BUT THEIR ROUTINE IS INTERRUPTED WHEN QUEEN TAMARAI CALLS FOR THEM. CURIOUS, THE TWO SONS GO TO THEIR MOTHER'S ROOM AND FIND THE WHOLE FAMILY GATHERED THERE.







FOR DAYS, TAMARAI CANNOT EAT OR SLEEP. SHE DWELLS ON THE BAD NEWS.



OH, WILL I EVER SEE WEDDING GARLANDS AROUND THE NECKS OF MY TWO SONS?



THE MALE HEIRS OF THE RULERS OF PONNIVALA HAVE STEPPED FORWARD AT LAST, AND THE RIGHTFUL POSITION OF THIS HARD-WORKING FAMILY HAS BEEN RESTORED! THE BOYS HAVE GROWN INTO FINE YOUNG MEN. BUT THEIR REFUSAL TO MARRY IS WORRISOME TO QUEEN TAMARAI. EVENTUALLY SHE ACCEPTS HER SONS' WISHES. TAMARAI SWALLOWS HER DISAPPOINTMENT AND THE COUPLE TRY TO CARRY ON. THEY OFTEN BLESS THEIR SONS. BUT IF THESE TWO HANDSOME MEN DO NOT MARRY, HOW WILL THE NAME OF THEIR FINE FAMILY LINE BE PRESERVED?



The Importance of The Legend of Ponnivala

This is an ancient epic, stemming from a long tradition of local village storytelling and passed down as a lively oral tradition. Its roots can be traced back to medieval times, well before the coming of the British to India. Its content was memorized by bards who first spent many years as apprentices. They learned from more experienced singers, eventually become leaders themselves, gaining the respect and even adulation of whole villages of eager listeners.

The primary source for this new compressed retelling is a tape recording made in 1965 over 18 consecutive nights in a village where music and song were still the primary means of after dark entertainment. At that time, electricity was scarce in the region and there were no televisions, computers, or CD players. Skilled bards provided the village entertainment, and served as the area's history teachers. They shaped the local understanding of the past by telling stories.

For the first time the Legend of Ponnivala is presented here as a connected chain of 26 short episodes. These sequential tales describe the rich past of Kongunadu through a chain of events that impact one local family. Its heroes and heroines are farmers who live in this specific cultural and geographic region. The larger Legend covers a period of roughly six centuries of South Indian medieval history. As a story it compresses what is known into three generations. Basically, the life of the grandfather covers the period from 1,000 to 1,200 CE, the father's adventures represent the events between 1,200 CE and 1,400, while the experiences of the sons match local events occurring between 1,400 CE and 1,600 CE. This is a story rich in cultural and sociological detail. Several events parallel real social upheavals documented by contemporary historical accounts.

The Legend of Ponnivala also presents a simplified template for a much larger idea - that all life is cyclical. A basic concept that underlies folk Hinduism is that cosmic rhythms move in great cycles. Each begins with the creation of a good age. Subsequently, various acts of human selfishness cause deterioration. After a considerable period, such a cycle must end, often helped by divine intervention. Via their deputies or incarnations, these deities kill all that is evil, washing and cleansing the earth and then setting in motion a new era. Our series presents a genuine folk model of how cosmic energies work. In a sense it tries to depict the very nature of human life on earth!

For website extras such as character details and name and place pronunciations unique to this graphic novel please visit the webpage below:

www.ponnivala.com/comic16

The Legend of
Ponnivala

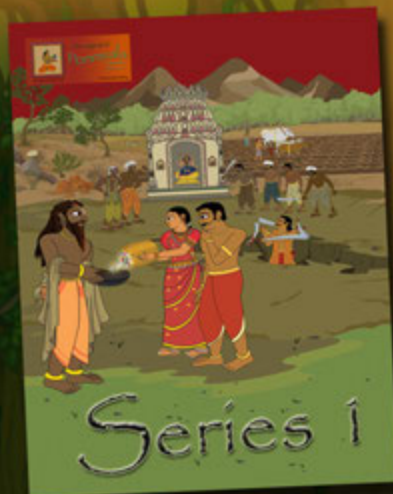
© 2012 Ponnivala Publishing





Come to Ponnivala Market

Graphic Novels - HD Movies - Games - Merchandise - Free and fun stuff!



1. In the Beginning
2. A Young Orphan
3. A Long Exile
4. A Love Match
5. A Magical Marriage
6. Roasted Seeds
7. A Thousand Beggars
8. A Cruel Curse
9. The Counter Curse
10. The Pillar of Destruction
11. A Pilgrim's Journey
12. The Gates of Heaven
13. The Book of Fate
14. The Temple Secret
15. The Truth Unveiled
16. The Home-Coming
17. Chastity Forever
18. An Overlord Angered
19. Independence Won
20. Two Swords Blessed
21. A Kidnapping Spree
22. A New Challenger
23. The Enemy Confronted
24. A Curse Revealed
25. The Great Sacrifice
26. An Epoch Ends

Collect All 26!

www.ponnivalamarket.com

Please visit our main site:

www.ponnivala.com

© 2011 Ponnivala Publishing

ISBN 978-1-92709



9781927093054

