

ARMAGARH, THE SPLENDOR OF HUMAN EXCELLENCE. SITUATED IN THE NORTH EAST OF ARYAVARTA. IN AN AGE OF SHADOWS AND DARKNESS, THIS GREAT CITY IS LIKE A SHINING LANCE.

A LANCE THAT TEARS THROUGH THE NOXIOUS CLOUDS THAT COVER THE WORLD AND BRING THE GLORIOUS SUNLIGHT TO ITS REALM.





BUT WHERE THERE IS LIGHT, DARKNESS ALWAYS LURKS IN THE CORNERS.



THREE WEEKS AGO WE LOST OUR OUTPOST IN THE VALLEY OF SAYAN-CHAR. THE ASURA CONQUEST IS GROWING MORE AMBITIOUS BY THE DAY. OUR ARMIES WERE WIPED OUT COMPLETELY.

"WE WILL BE SENDING ANOTHER AKSHAUHINI", LED BY SOME OF OUR FINEST KSHATRIYA WARRIORS, TO RECLAIM THE TERRITORY. SAYAN CHAR IS NOT TO BE COMPROMISED.



"A GROUP OF ARMAGARHIAN SCOUTS REPORTED A MASSIVE CONGREGATION OF ASURAS IN THE SOUTH OF THE CHITRAKUT RANGES. THIS IS FOOTAGE TRANSMITTED BY THE TEAM BEFORE THEY WERE DISCOVERED.

"WE BELIEVE IT IS LORD RAVAN HIMSELF. THIS IS ALARMIN. WE MUST STRENGTHEN OUR OUTPOSTS."



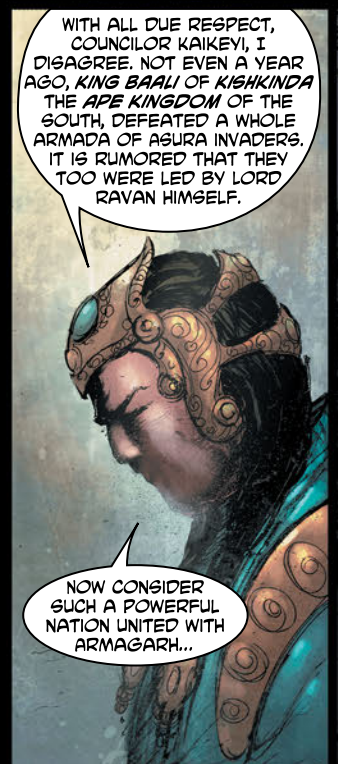
WHAT SAY YOU, MAHARAJ DASHRATH?



I SUGGEST WE CONTACT THE OTHER KINGDOMS OF ARYAVARTA. THE ASURA MENACE THREATENS TO DEVASTATE OUR TRADE ROUTES AND MINES. IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE THEY'RE RIGHT OUTSIDE THESE WALLS.  
WE CANNOT FIGHT THEM ALONE.




WHAT?! I STRONGLY PROTEST AGAINST THIS. WE MUST MAINTAIN OUR RACIAL SUPREMACY. WE CANNOT BEG FOR ASSISTANCE FROM HALF-BEAST CREATURES.  
I DISAGREE, AND I THINK THE MAJORITY OF COUNCILORS AND SUB-COUNCILORS WILL AGREE.



WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, COUNCILOR KAIKEYI, I DISAGREE. NOT EVEN A YEAR AGO, KING BAALI OF KISHKINDA THE APE KINGDOM OF THE SOUTH, DEFEATED A WHOLE ARMADA OF ASURA INVADERS. IT IS RUMORED THAT THEY TOO WERE LED BY LORD RAVAN HIMSELF.

NOW CONSIDER SUCH A POWERFUL NATION UNITED WITH ARMAGARH...



"THE SOUTHERN OUTPOST, KHUNDGIRI IS STILL UNDER ATTACK, BUT WITH A FRESH REINFORCEMENT OF TWO AKSHAHINIS, THEY ARE HOLDING OFF WELL. OUR PORTS ALONG THE BANK OF SARAYU ARE SECURE.

\*A LARGE UNIT OF ARMAGARHIAN TROOPS.



I HOPE THE COUNCIL WILL AGREE WITH ME. IT'S TIME TO DEPLOY YOUNG KSHATRIYAS TO THE COLONIES. THEY ARE, AFTER ALL, OUR BEST WARRIORS.



ENOUGH. WE SHALL DECIDE LATER IF WE NEED TO ALLY OUR FORCES WITH THE OTHER RACES OF ARYAVARTA. MEANWHILE FRESH BATCHES OF KSHATRIYA WARRIORS WILL BE SENT TO THE TROUBLED SETTLEMENTS TOMORROW.

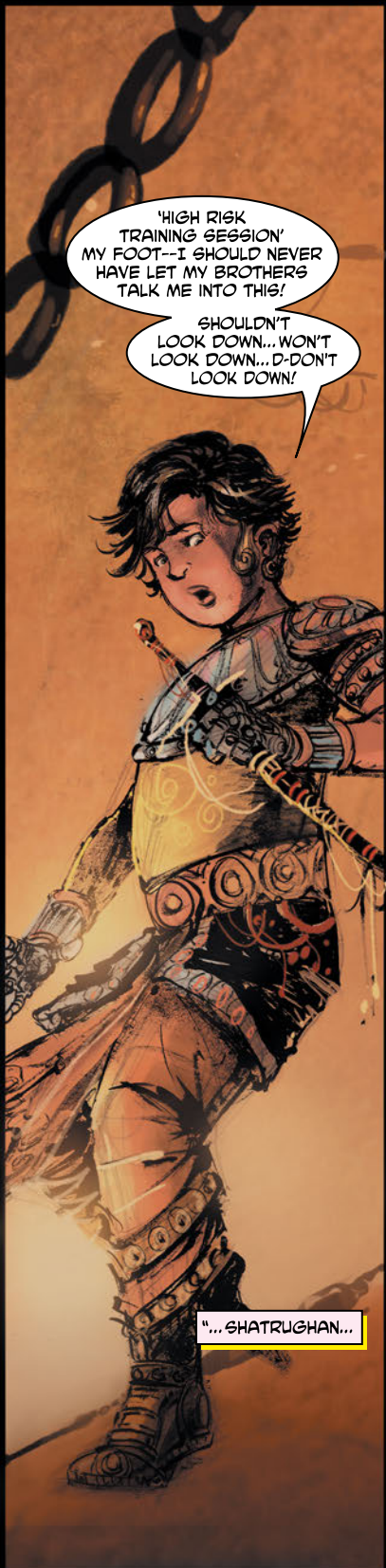
AND IN THIS NEW BATCH I WILL INCLUDE MY FOUR SONS...



DO YOU THINK YOU ARE UP TO IT, BLUE BOY? ONE WRONG MOVE AND IT'S A LONG WAY DOWN TO THE SHAKTI-KUNDALINI\*.

NOT EVEN YOUR ASHES WILL REMAIN.

"...BHARAT..."



'HIGH RISK TRAINING SESSION' MY FOOT--I SHOULD NEVER HAVE LET MY BROTHERS TALK ME INTO THIS!

SHOULDN'T LOOK DOWN... WON'T LOOK DOWN... D-DON'T LOOK DOWN!

"...SHATRUGHAN..."



UP AND READY BROTHERS...

"...LAKSHMAN..."

\*THE REACTOR WHICH PROCESSES THE ENERGY THAT CUTS THROUGH THE NOXIOUS CLOUDS AND BRINGS SUNLIGHT TO ARMAGARH.



ONCE AGAIN, FOR THE RECORD LET ME SAY THAT THIS IS A BAD IDEA--ESPECIALLY FOR YOU, LITTLE BROTHERS...