



ISSUE 1

THE TALL TALES  
OF VISHNU SHARMA  
Panchatantra.



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# THE TALL TALES OF VISHNU SHARMA

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## Panchatantra™

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I'M TOO OLD FOR THIS.

AS YOU TOLD US A FEW THOUSAND YEARS AGO, MY FRIEND.



YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT I GO THROUGH.

TRUE, MACHARBHAGE. YOU'VE ONLY TOLD US HALF A MILLION TIMES.



THIS ISN'T FUNNY.

FUNNY OR NOT, THIS IS WHAT WE DO. OUR STORY IS WHO WE ARE. OUR STORY IS *ALL* WE'VE EVER DONE, ALL WE'LL DO FOR ETERNITY. NOW, *TRANSFORM*.

ZZZZ  
AAAA  
PPPP



HMM. BUT SOMETIMES I WISH WE COULD... *CHANGE* THE STORY. WHAT IF, THIS TIME, YOU FLY ME TO THE OTHER LAKE FOR A CHANGE? I'LL CLING TO YOUR FEET AND I WON'T TALK IN MIDAIR, NO MATTER *WHAT* HAPPENS. THEN I WON'T FALL--I *WON'T DIE!* AND WE CAN MAKE IT TO THE OTHER SHORE FOR ONCE. *FORGET* THE STUPID MORAL!



FORGET THE *MORAL*? YOU SPEAK BLASPHEMY, MACHARBHAGE. THE STORY *CANNOT* CHANGE. NOT IN OUR WORLD. NOW JUMP ON. WE HAVE A *JOB* TO DO.

BUT I WANT TO *SEE* THE OTHER LAKE!

YOU STILL DON'T GET IT, DO YOU? THERE *IS* NO OTHER LAKE.

WHAT?! WHERE HAVE WE BEEN GOING ALL THESE YEARS, THEN?

OUR WORLD'S BORDERS END WHERE YOU DIE. WE'VE LOOKED IN EVERY DIRECTION FROM THE SKY. THERE IS NO OTHER LAKE. ONCE WE DROP YOU THERE IS NO REASON FOR IT TO EXIST. WE RETURN TO THE SHORE, YOU CRAWL OUT OF THE LAKE, *REBORN*, AND WE START AGAIN.

OH JOY!  
TARGET HERE. QUICK  
SHADOW!

YOU  
COULD HAVE  
TOLD ME!

IF WE HAD,  
WOULD YOU HAVE  
AGREED TO CARRY  
ON WITH OUR  
TASK?

NO.

AH BLISS!  
IN RANGE THEY  
ALL COME SWEET  
SHADOW!

BUT YOU  
MUST. TELLING THIS  
STORY IS OUR  
*DUTY*.

NO. I'M *DONE*  
WITH THE STORY. NO  
ONE'S EVEN WATCHING,  
CAN'T YOU FEEL IT? IT'S  
*SO POINTLESS!*

THAT IS  
IRRELEVANT. IF OUR  
STORY CEASES TO  
EXIST, SO WILL WE. WE  
CANNOT BREAK THE  
NARRATIVE!

HAPPY  
SMILE! COME  
SHADOW LOOK  
SITTING DUCK!

GOOSE.  
QUIET, NOW.

TO *HELL* WITH THE BLOODY  
NARRATIVE! A THOUSAND  
REBIRTHS, AND NOW YOU  
TELL ME THERE'S NO  
*OTHER LAKE?*

PLEASE. DO  
NOT DELAY US FURTHER.  
TERRIBLE RUMORS FLOAT  
IN FROM THE SKIES. LOST  
WORLDS, LOST STORIES,  
DEAD FRIENDS...

PRESCIENT  
GEESE.  
CHARMING.

WHAT?  
WHO ARE  
YOU?

NOW,  
GENTLEMEN...

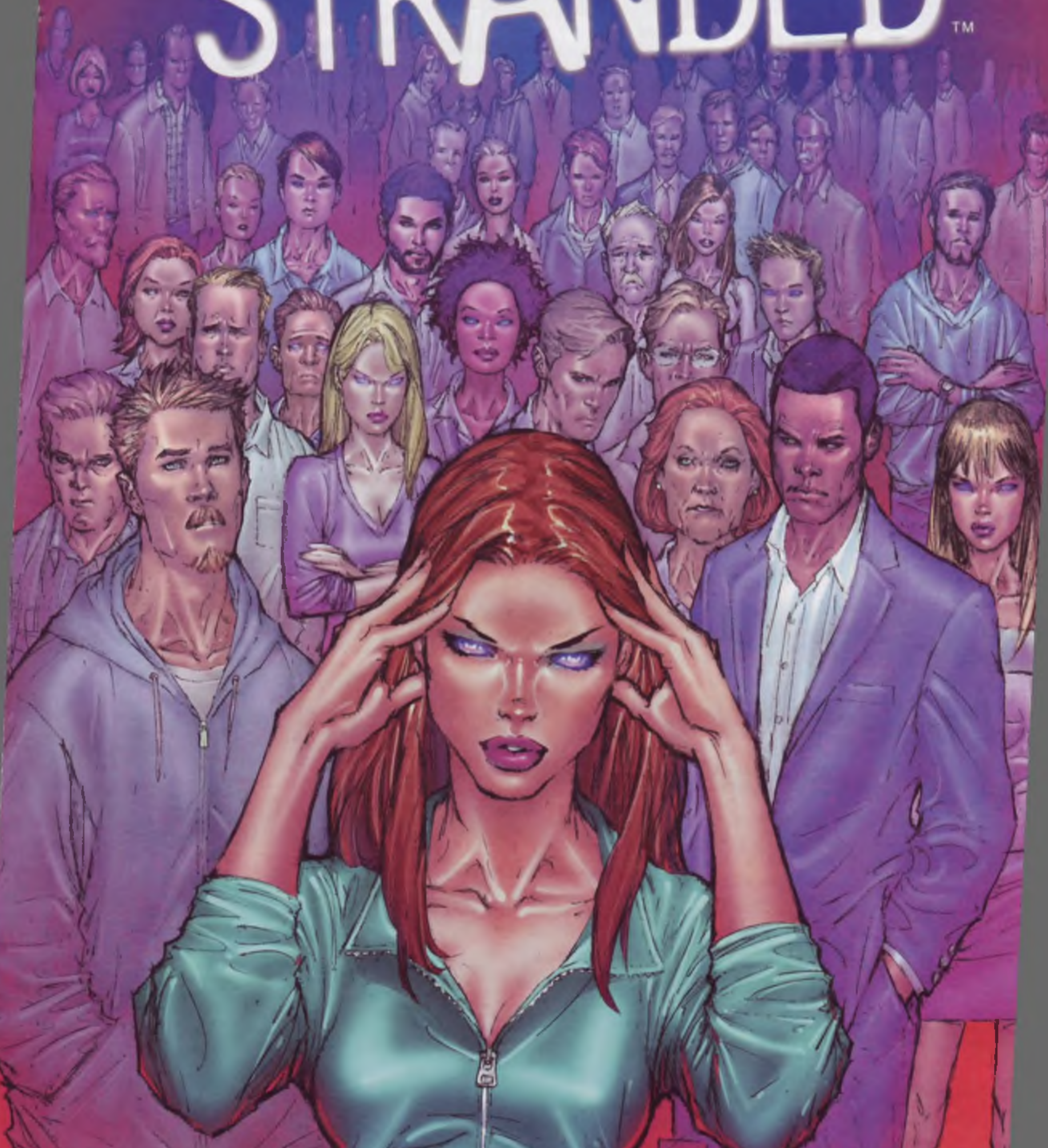


THAT WAS ALMOST... SATISFYING. BUT WE CAN'T STAND HERE GLOATING. TIME IS PRESSING, AND VICTORY IS NEAR.

THE LION HAS BEEN FOUND.

HIS SHELL IS CRACKED,  
HER GOOSE IS COOKED,  
SPEAKING TALE-BEASTS  
SEEK A BOOK,  
A HERO'S FOUND,  
A GUARDIAN'S DEAD.  
CHARIOTS FLY,  
FIRST BLOOD IS SHED.

# THE STRANDED™



**ON STANDS  
DECEMBER 2007**

ISSUE 1

 Sci Fi.

 Virgin  
COMICS

MUMBAI, NOW.

WHY WAS I NOT ONLINE FOR THE TOURNAMENT? BECAUSE I WAS AT MY GRANDFATHER'S FUNERAL. REMEMBER, DUMBASS?!

WELL, I WASN'T EVER THERE FOR THE OLD KOOK WHEN HE WAS ALIVE, LEAST I COULD DO WAS GO TODAY.

NO, HE HASN'T LEFT ME A FORTUNE. JUST A BOOK. THIS REALLY OLD PANCHATANTRA. I DIDN'T WANT TO TAKE IT, BUT MY GRANDMOTHER INSISTED. HIS DYING REQUEST, APPARENTLY.

THE PANCHATANTRA, MAN. KID'S BOOK--ANIMAL STORIES, SILLY MORALS. COBRAS, CROCODILES, THAT SORT OF STUFF.

YOU MUST HAVE READ IT WHEN YOU WERE A KID? YOU JUST FORGOT, LIKE I DID. HE USED TO BE CRAZY ABOUT IT. MY GRANDFATHER TOLD ME ALL THE STORIES WHEN I WAS TINY. TOLD THEM WELL, TOO--LIKE HE WAS IN THEM.

YEAH. HE HAD THIS WHOLE FANTASY, WHERE WE WERE THE DESCENDANTS OF THE GUY WHO WROTE THE PANCHATANTRA, AND THAT WAS WHY ALL THE ELDEST SONS IN OUR FAMILY WERE CALLED VISHNU SHARMA, GO FIGURE. HELL OF AN EXCUSE FOR GENETIC LACK OF IMAGINATION.

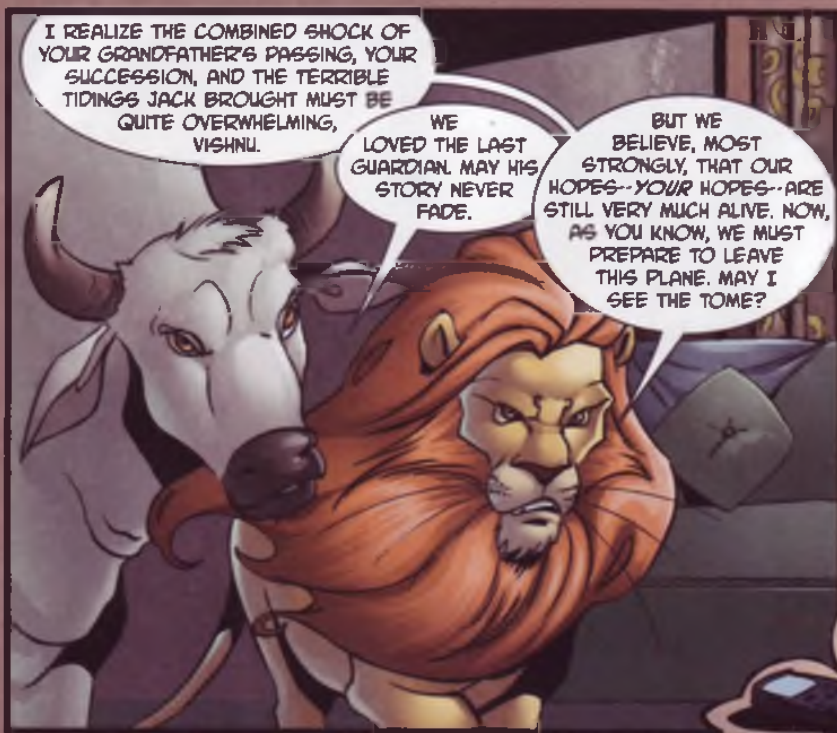
THOUGH THE OLD BOY HAD ENOUGH IMAGINATION FOR TWENTY PEOPLE. HE USED TO PRETEND THAT ANIMALS FROM THE BOOK TOOK HIM ON ADVENTURES--HE'D GO ON ABOUT HOW HE HAD TO TEACH ME SECRETS. I SWEAR, IT'S TRUE.

DON'T LAUGH.

HE'S DEAD.







I REALIZE THE COMBINED SHOCK OF YOUR GRANDFATHER'S PASSING, YOUR SUCCESSION, AND THE TERRIBLE TIDINGS JACK BROUGHT MUST BE QUITE OVERWHELMING, VISHNU.

WE LOVED THE LAST GUARDIAN. MAY HIS STORY NEVER FADE.

BUT WE BELIEVE, MOST STRONGLY, THAT OUR HOPES--YOUR HOPES--ARE STILL VERY MUCH ALIVE. NOW, AS YOU KNOW, WE MUST PREPARE TO LEAVE THIS PLANE. MAY I SEE THE TOME?



I GET IT! THIS IS WHERE I'D START FROTHING AT THE MOUTH IF I DIDN'T HAVE CABLE. WHERE'S THE CAMERA?



WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

NO, SERIOUSLY, YOU ALMOST HAD ME FOR A MOMENT. ARE YOU GUYS, LIKE, ROBOTS? 3-D PROJECTIONS? IT'S DAMN IMPRESSIVE.



LEO...HE'S SPOUTING NONSENSE. I DON'T THINK HE KNOWS WHO WE ARE, OR EVEN WHO HE IS.

OR HE COULD JUST BE STUPID.

IMPRESSIVE AND SASSY! WHY ME, THOUGH? WEIRD.



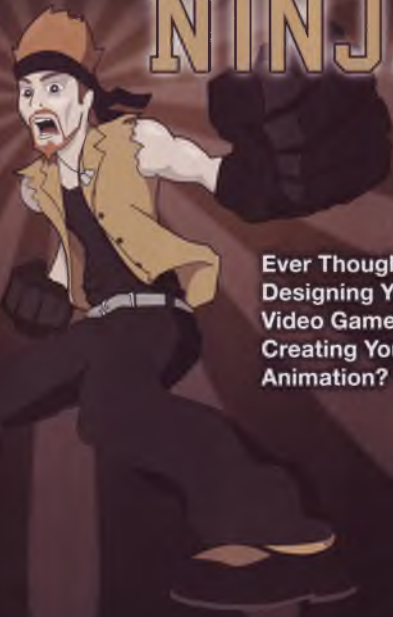
VISHNU. DO YOU TRULY NOT KNOW WHO WE ARE?

NORMALLY, I'D ENJOY THIS, BUT NOT TODAY. LAY OFF, OK?

SHOW SOME RESPECT, BOY! YOU ADDRESS THE KING!

PISS OFF, MUFASSA. NO SALE.

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PEACE, NANDY. VISHNU, WHAT IS WRONG?

WHAT'S WRONG?! OH, NOTHING. JUST A FEW TALKING ANIMALS IN MY HOUSE.

BRILLIANT. HE REALLY *DOESN'T* KNOW.

HAPPENS ALL THE TIME. CALL ME WHEN THE TRIP'S OVER, YEAH?

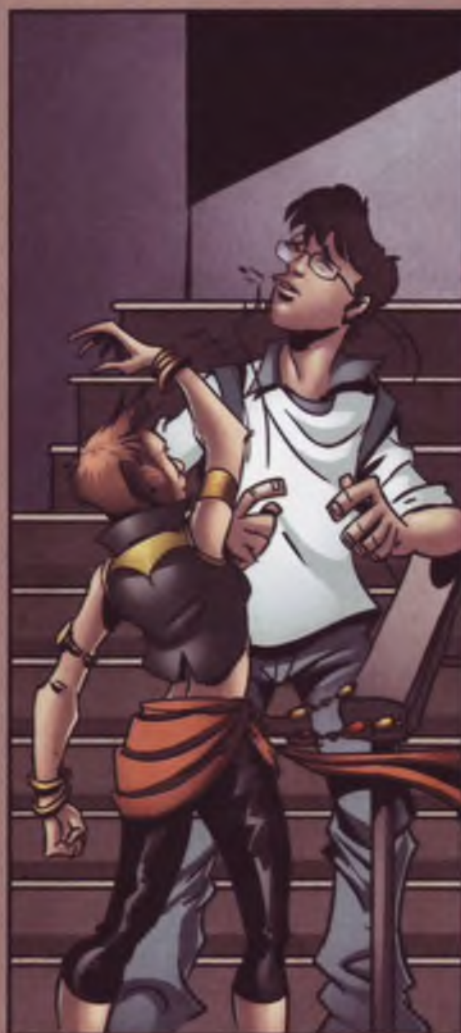
DISBELIEF, SHOCK, FEAR I CAN UNDERSTAND. BUT *INDIFFERENCE?* PERHAPS HE'S UNDER A SPELL.

VISHNU, WAIT. YOU DO NOT WISH TO CONVERSE WITH US BECAUSE WE ARE ANIMALS?

THAT IS EASILY REMEDIED. *TRANSFORMATIONS.*



DOES THIS HELP?





THANK THE GODS. THE TOME IS SAFE.



AND WE HAVE *EVERYTHING* WE NEED. CAN WE LEAVE NOW?



YOU FORGET THE GUARDIAN.

AND YOU SHOULD, TOO. THIS BOY IS NO SAVIOR. HE'S USELESS. WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO TRAIN HIM, AND WE'LL KILL OURSELVES TRYING TO SAVE HIM IF THINGS GO WRONG.

BUT WE NEED HIM FOR THE SUMMONING.



WHY? THE STORYWORLDS ARE UNITED IN THE TOME, AND WITH IT WE CAN SURELY SUMMON THE WHOLE ZOO.

WE'RE NOT COMPLETELY CERTAIN OF THAT, BANDRA. WHAT IF IT DOESN'T WORK WITHOUT THE GUARDIAN?



I DON'T KNOW, LEO. I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE THAT THIS BOY IS OUR GREAT HOPE.

I UNDERSTAND. BUT OUR ENTIRE EXISTENCE IS AT STAKE. THE GUARDIAN, UNTRAINED OR NOT, IS OUR LINK TO THIS WORLD. TO LEAVE HIM HERE FOR OUR ENEMIES TO FIND WOULD BE FOOLISHNESS.

NANDY?



I AGREE WITH LEO.

I'M STUNNED. WHY DID I EVEN ASK?

THE TOME-HEIR'S BLOODLINE MUST BE PROTECTED, EVEN IF IT INVOLVES IMMEDIATE RISK.

AND THE ALTERNATIVE WOULD INVOLVE RISKING LEO'S DISPLEASURE. PICK HIM UP, THEN LET'S GO HOME.



WHAT ABOUT HIS WEAPONS, LEO? IF HE KNOWS NOTHING OF HIS DESTINY, CHANCES ARE HE DOESN'T HAVE THEM ANYWAY.

TRUE. PERHAPS WE SHOULD SEEK OUT THE LAST GUARDIAN'S DWELLING. WHO KNOWS... WE MIGHT EVEN FIND JACK THERE.



ENOUGH ABOUT JACK! I SUSPECT HE'S DEAD, LEO, OR TURNED TRAITOR. NOTHING ELSE CAN EXPLAIN HIS DISAPPEARANCE. FORGET THE WEAPONS. WE SHOULD GO NOW. EVERY MINUTE IN THIS WORLD FILLS ME WITH DREAD.

CALM YOURSELF, BANDRA. LET'S WAKE THE BOY.



>HUNNNH!<

WE'LL BEGIN AGAIN.

LATER



SO I'M SUPPOSED TO BELIEVE THAT YOU GUYS ARE THE ANIMALS MY GRANDFATHER USED TO TALK ABOUT, AND THAT HE WASN'T CRAZY?

NO MORE THAN YOU ARE.

THAT'S THE BIT I'M WORRIED ABOUT.



I CANNOT BLAME YOU FOR BEING WORRIED. THE SIGHT OF US MUST BE TERRIFYING.

NAH. I GAME ONLINE--I'VE SEEN FAR WORSE THAN YOU LOT.

LET'S GO, LEO.

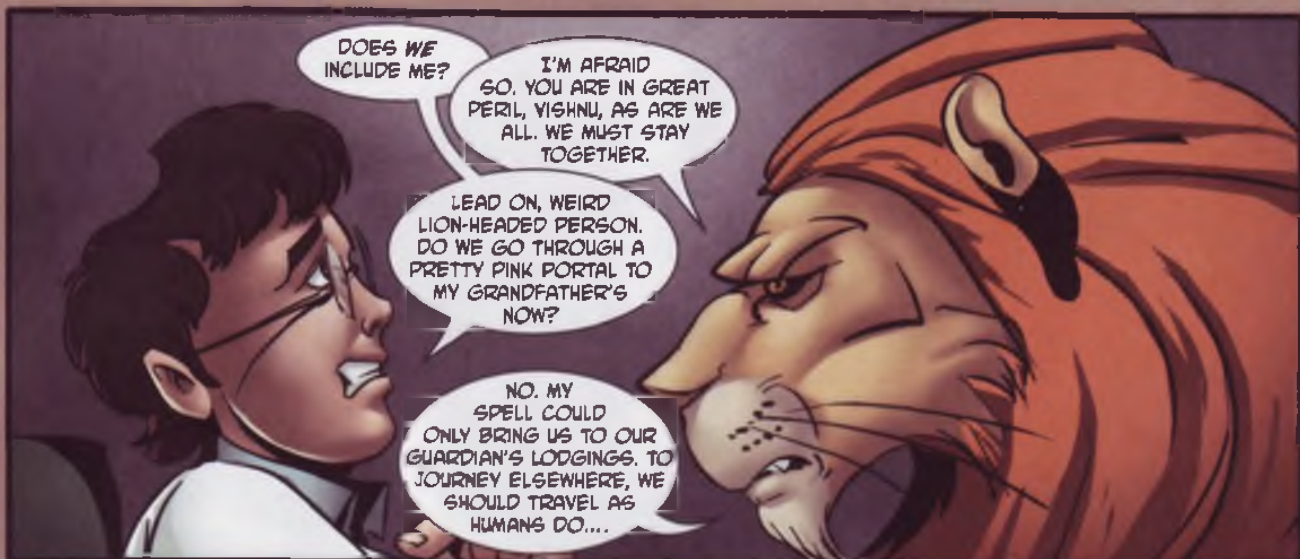


I SUPPOSE YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOUR MAGICAL TOME-HEIR WEAPONS, EITHER?

WEAPONS? ME?

WELL, THERE'S MY PIGEON-SCARING CRICKET BAT.

THEN WE NEED TO GO TO THE LAST GUARDIAN'S HOUSE, TO FIND YOUR WEAPONS AND HOPEFULLY OUR TALE-BROTHER.



DOES WE INCLUDE ME?

I'M AFRAID SO. YOU ARE IN GREAT PERIL, YISHNU, AS ARE WE ALL. WE MUST STAY TOGETHER.

LEAD ON, WEIRD LION-HEADED PERSON. DO WE GO THROUGH A PRETTY PINK PORTAL TO MY GRANDFATHER'S NOW?

NO. MY SPELL COULD ONLY BRING US TO OUR GUARDIAN'S LODGINGS. TO JOURNEY ELSEWHERE, WE SHOULD TRAVEL AS HUMANS DO...



AND YOU WANT ME TO COME WITH YOU FREAKS, AGAINST ALL LOGIC, EVEN THOUGH YOU MIGHT BE A PAEDOPHILE RING THAT JUST DRUGGED ME?

YES.

NOT THE PAEDOPHILE PART.

OK BUT I'M NOT PROMISING TO RUN AWAY TO FAIRYLAND OR THE ZOO OR WHEREVER--I'M JUST TAKING YOU TO MY GRANDFATHER'S HOUSE BECAUSE SO FAR NOTHING BETTER'S COME UP.

ACCEPTED.



COOL. THE AUTO RICKSHAW DRIVER MIGHT FIND ANIMAL-HEADED PEOPLE A LITTLE WEIRD, THOUGH.

THAT IS EASILY REMEDIED.



I UNDERSTAND THIS MUST BE VERY CONFUSING FOR YOU, VISHNU.

COMPLETELY WORLD-ALTERING AND BRAIN-FRYING, YES. CONFUSING WORKS, TOO..

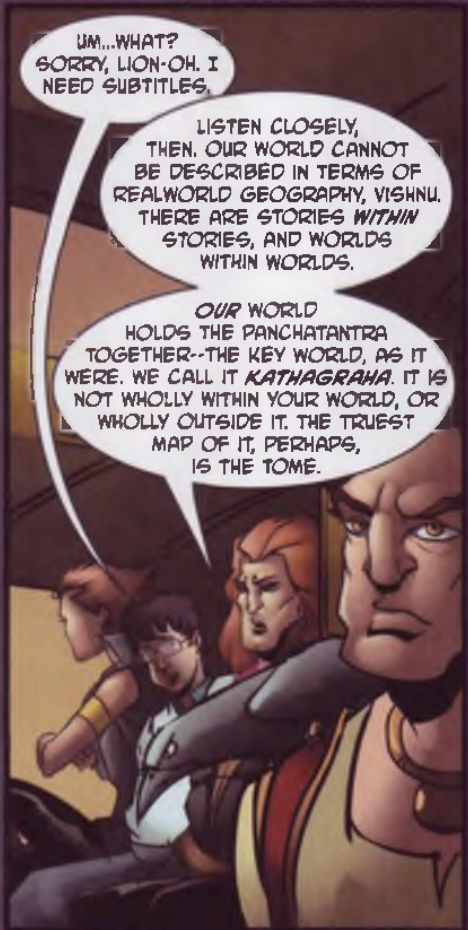


OK, QUESTION.

OF COURSE. ASK SEVERAL.

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU?

WE'RE...TALE-BEINGS, CHARACTERS FROM THE STORIES IN THE PANCHATANTRA. ANIMALS, MOSTLY, THOUGH OUR FORMS ARE FLUID, LIKE OUR STORIES. AND OUR STORIES ARE OUR WORLDS.



UM...WHAT? SORRY, LION-OH. I NEED SUBTITLES.

LISTEN CLOSELY, THEN. OUR WORLD CANNOT BE DESCRIBED IN TERMS OF REALWORLD GEOGRAPHY, VISHNU. THERE ARE STORIES *WITHIN* STORIES, AND WORLDS *WITHIN* WORLDS.

OUR WORLD HOLDS THE PANCHATANTRA TOGETHER--THE KEY WORLD, AS IT WERE. WE CALL IT *KATHAGRAHA*. IT IS NOT WHOLLY WITHIN YOUR WORLD, OR WHOLLY OUTSIDE IT. THE TRUEST MAP OF IT, PERHAPS, IS THE TOME.



MY GRANDFATHER'S PANCHATANTRA?

YES. IT IS THE FIRST PRINTED REALWORLD PANCHATANTRA IN EXISTENCE, THE FIRST ATTEMPT TO DRAW *KATHAGRAHA* IN THE MATERIALS OF THIS WORLD. IT IS A SUPREMELY SACRED ARTIFACT, FOR IN IT OUR FORERUNNERS FIRST CAME TO LIFE.



CAME TO LIFE? PUSH PAUSE. THIS IS BIG-TIME FLUFFY BUNNY TERRITORY. SO ALL BOOKS ARE ALIVE, AND THEIR CHARACTERS ARE BOUNCING AROUND LIKE YOU GUYS?

YES. AND NO. MOST STORIES NEVER LEAVE THEIR OWN STORYWORLDS--THEY SIMPLY DON'T KNOW THEY HAVE A CHOICE.


WE WOULDN'T HAVE, EITHER, EXCEPT THAT JACK SHOWED US HOW ALL WOULD BE LOST UNLESS WE LEFT. ALL MAY YET BE LOST. WE ARE IN GRAVE DANGER, VISHNU.






YOU KEEP SAYING THAT. WHAT DANGER?

OUR BRETHREN IN KATHAGRAHA ARE DYING--SWIFTLY, RUTHLESSLY BUTCHERED BY OUR ENEMIES, ABOUT WHOM WE KNOW NOTHING, SAVE THAT THEY ARE NUMEROUS AND DEADLY AND USE THE SILVERFISH AS THEIR EMBLEM.



WE NEED TO UNITE ALL OF KATHAGRAHA TO FIGHT THIS THREAT BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE. FOR THIS, WE NEED TO PERFORM A SUMMONING, A MERGING OF TALES UNDER THE LIGHT OF THE FULL MOON--THIS VERY NIGHT.

THAT IS WHY WE NEEDED THE TOME. THAT IS WHY WE ENTERED YOUR WORLD AGAIN, FACING GREAT PERIL. FOR YOUR WORLD IS A FICKLE ONE, WHERE OUR STORIES ARE BARELY EVEN REMEMBERED.



EVEN YOU, OUR GUARDIAN, HAVE FORGOTTEN US. AND THE MORE PEOPLE FORGET OUR STORIES, THE WEAKER WE BECOME, AND THE EASIER TO DESTROY.

BUT LET US NOT SPEAK OF SUCH THINGS NOW. THERE IS STILL HOPE. WE HAVE YOU AND THE TOME. WE WILL PERFORM THE SUMMONING TONIGHT.

WE COULD HAVE MISSED YOU ENTIRELY, OR OUR ENEMIES MIGHT HAVE FOUND YOU FIRST. AND THEN OUR DEBT TO YOUR GRANDFATHER COULD NEVER HAVE BEEN REPAID.

WHAT DEBT?

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YOUR GRANDFATHER DEDICATED HIS WHOLE LIFE TO KEEPING US ALIVE. HE ALMOST SINGLE-HANDEDLY KEPT US FROM EXTINCTION'S JAWS. HE WAS THE NOBLEST, TRUEST GUARDIAN IN CENTURIES. YET HE DIED ALONE, WITHOUT EVEN CALLING US FOR HELP, SO EAGER WAS HE TO KEEP US OUT OF DANGER.

WE MUST PROTECT OURSELVES IN HIS HONOR, AND HIS BLOODLINE IN HIS DEBT.







HE'S NOT ALONE.



ELISHAOTIS!  
RIGHT, I'M ALL ANNOYED NOW. ANY LAST REQUESTS?

BOY WIZ GO BOOM.

BOY WIZ SUPER GOOD.



I HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY, BOY WIZARD.

WHAT IS IT, PUSBYKING?



RRRRRRRAAOUUURRRR



MONKEY  
SEE, MONKEY  
DO.



GO  
BACK! HELP  
THEM!

CAN'T  
MUST GUARD  
THE TOME.

BUT  
THEY'LL DIE!

AND  
IF I DO...



...SO  
WILL YOU.



I THOUGHT  
YOU DIDN'T LIKE  
ME.

I DON'T  
FOLLOWING  
INSTRUCTIONS.

AND AS FOR  
LEO AND NANDY,  
YES, THEY'RE IN  
TROUBLE...

...BUT I  
DOUBT THEY'RE  
DEAD YET.

SHEKHAR KAPUR'S



ISSUE 16



TM



LR

ON STANDS DECEMBER 2007





WELL, BROTHER BULL...

MAY I HOLD YOUR COAT?

YES, BROTHER LION?

WHY, THANK YOU.



SUCH CARNAGE. SO MUCH BLOOD. PERHAPS WE SHOULD TURN VEGETARIAN.

I AM VEGETARIAN.

OF COURSE.



BIG!

STRONG!

HORNY!

I AM VERY UPSET.





SHOULD I KILL HIM?

NO, LET HIM BE. HE'S JUST A BOY.



AS YOU SAY, MY LORD.

LET'S FIND BANDRA AND GET OUT OF HERE.

AND WHAT OF VISHNU? WILL HE COME WITH US?

TO BE HONEST, I DO NOT KNOW. HE SEEMS STRANGELY... DETACHED.



URGH!



YET MY HEART TELLS ME HE WILL TAKE UP OUR CAUSE.



AFTER ALL, IT IS IN HIS BLOOD.

CAN'T...  
MOVE!

KOLDSTONE  
STUN!!!

YES, I  
KNOW. THAT'S SORT  
OF THE POINT.

SPARE HIM.  
KILL ME.

NANDY,  
NO!

DON'T BICKER,  
BOYS. I'LL KILL  
YOU BOTH.

LOOK HERE, SIMBA.  
LOOK HERE, COWBOY. LOOK  
AT THE BADGE. AT THE *SILVERFISH*  
ON THE BADGE. AND FEEL PROUD  
THAT THE VERY LAST WORDS  
YOU HEAR ARE...

AUUUUUGH.

DEEPAK CHOPRA PRESENTS *india* authentic™  
**KARTIKKEYA**



ON STANDS JANUARY 2008





DID I MISS ANYTHING?

TO BE CONTINUED...

# INSIDE VIRGIN COMICS

## Welcome to *The Tall Tales of Vishnu Sharma*

Who is Vishnu Sharma and what sorts of tall tales is he telling? That's a good question, and one that provokes many different answers. *The Tall Tales of Vishnu Sharma: Panchatantra* is the latest series from our Shakti imprint, spotlighting the best of India. Created by two of India's most promising comic talents, Samit Basu (*Devi*) and Ashish Padlekar (*Walk In*), *Tall Tales* mines the stories of the *Panchatantra*—India's precursor to *Aesop's Fables*.

But this ain't your Mother Goose's story. In these tall tales the characters of antiquity are being exterminated by other creations of fiction whose strength lies in their mass-market appeal, and whose bloodlust for the rebel *Panchatantra* characters is as real as the paper this is printed on. The fable-characters' great hope is the titular Vishnu Sharma, descendant of the first *Panchatantra* storyteller, but a total child of his time. He's too busy playing in online tournaments to worry about fighting storybook wars. But when a none-too-fictional talking Lion, Monkey and Bull arrive at his doorstep, Vishnu must choose between following in his ancestors' footsteps by protecting the tales of the *Panchatantra*, or silently standing by as they disappear into storybook history.

Fantasy? Sure. Fiction? Not entirely. Around the world, the indigenous mythologies of great cultures are being forgotten. In Mexico and Brazil, Ethiopia and Norway, in China and in India, the effort to maintain our cultural identity in an increasingly integrated world has become a great struggle. The stories of our ancestors are dying out as younger generations are seduced by the Pokemons, the Harry Potters and the Samurai Jacks that are, for better or worse, becoming our new planetary myths. *Tall Tales* reclaims these stories by giving them a booming voice. So be it the wit of the Monkey, the might of the Bull or the ROAR of the Lion, *The Tall Tales of Vishnu Sharma: Panchatantra* is bringing the battle to us. And like Vishnu, it'll be up to you to decide what you're willing to fight for.... See you on the inside.

—The Chief & the Virgin Comics  
Editorial Team





# Jenna Jameson's *SHADOW HUNTER*

So, you think you know what to expect from my new comic book, *SHADOW HUNTER*? Well, I've got news for you. You haven't seen anything like this before.

My name, Jenna Jameson, is pretty much synonymous with sensuality. But there's a lot more to me than that. I'm all about risk-taking. Pushing the envelope. Surprising people. I believe that women are powerful, amazing, intelligent creatures. And like any creature we have a dark side. A side that's flawed and vulnerable but strong and, of course, sexy.

This is one of the reasons I'm so attracted to horror stories. They get right to the heart of the human condition. Sure, there are often monsters and demons and creepy crawlies, but that's what makes them great. I mean, when other folks go back to their hotel rooms at night and watch me, I go back and watch horror films. I'm addicted to them.

*SHADOW HUNTER* came partly out of my love of horror, and partly out of the idea of the human condition and doing what is expected of us. Not necessarily as women, but as people. All of us have the potential to be "good" and to be "bad". It's all in shades of gray. Sometimes we're feeling sweet and sometimes we're not. And we all make choices every day. Each one of them reflects a little bit about who we are. Our choices define us.

For our heroine, I wanted a character everyone could relate to. She's a young woman on the verge of figuring out who she is. Her life has been kind of tumultuous and she's struggled a bit. I mean, who wouldn't when you've been seeing visions of demons for as long as you



can remember? She's creative and a bit edgy, has a distinct sense of style, and a really big heart.

So when she finds out her family is from Hell, literally, it's just a bit shocking. But learning about her origins gives her a new strength and a sense of purpose.

Not to mention the fact that she gets to kick demon butts and carry a seriously badass sword. All while trying to save the world. What girl wouldn't want that?

So check out my book. I guarantee it's going to defy your expectations.

**JENNA JAMESON**

# jenna jameson's SHADOW HUNTER

ALL MY LIFE I'VE HAD VISIONS OF A VAST ARMY AMONG DEMONS AND MONSTERS

IT'S NO COINCIDENCE I WAS SUGGLED FROM FAMILY TO FAMILY. I THOUGHT TELLING MY FOSTER MUMS ABOUT THE BLUE DEMONS WANTING ME TO FIGHT WITH THEM WOULD MAKE US CLOSER.

IT DIDN'T

THESE VISIONS BECAME FAMILIAR TO ME, LIKE A SECRET FAMILY. SO I DIDN'T MIND WHEN I HAD TO GO TO A NEW HOME.

THERE WERE ALWAYS MONSTERS, BUT SOMETIMES I'D SEE A VAGUE MATERNAL FIGURE. I IMAGINED SHE WAS MY BIRTH MOM.

WAS SHE THE LEADER? SEEING HER MADE ME FEEL PART OF SOMETHING, NEVER REALLY ALONE.

SHE CALLED ME AND THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERED.

I ALWAYS GIVEN UP CONTROL. THE IMAGINATION BIOLOGICAL. UNCONSCIOUS... NO, SO MORE WAS THE BACK SEAT TO SOME AUTHORITY FIGURE.

THESE VISIONS BECAME FAMILIAR TO ME, LIKE A SECRET FAMILY. SO I DIDN'T MIND WHEN I HAD TO GO TO A NEW HOME.

THERE WERE ALWAYS MONSTERS, BUT SOMETIMES I'D SEE A VAGUE MATERNAL FIGURE. I IMAGINED SHE WAS MY BIRTH MOM.

ESPECIALLY IF IT'S NOT EVEN REAL!

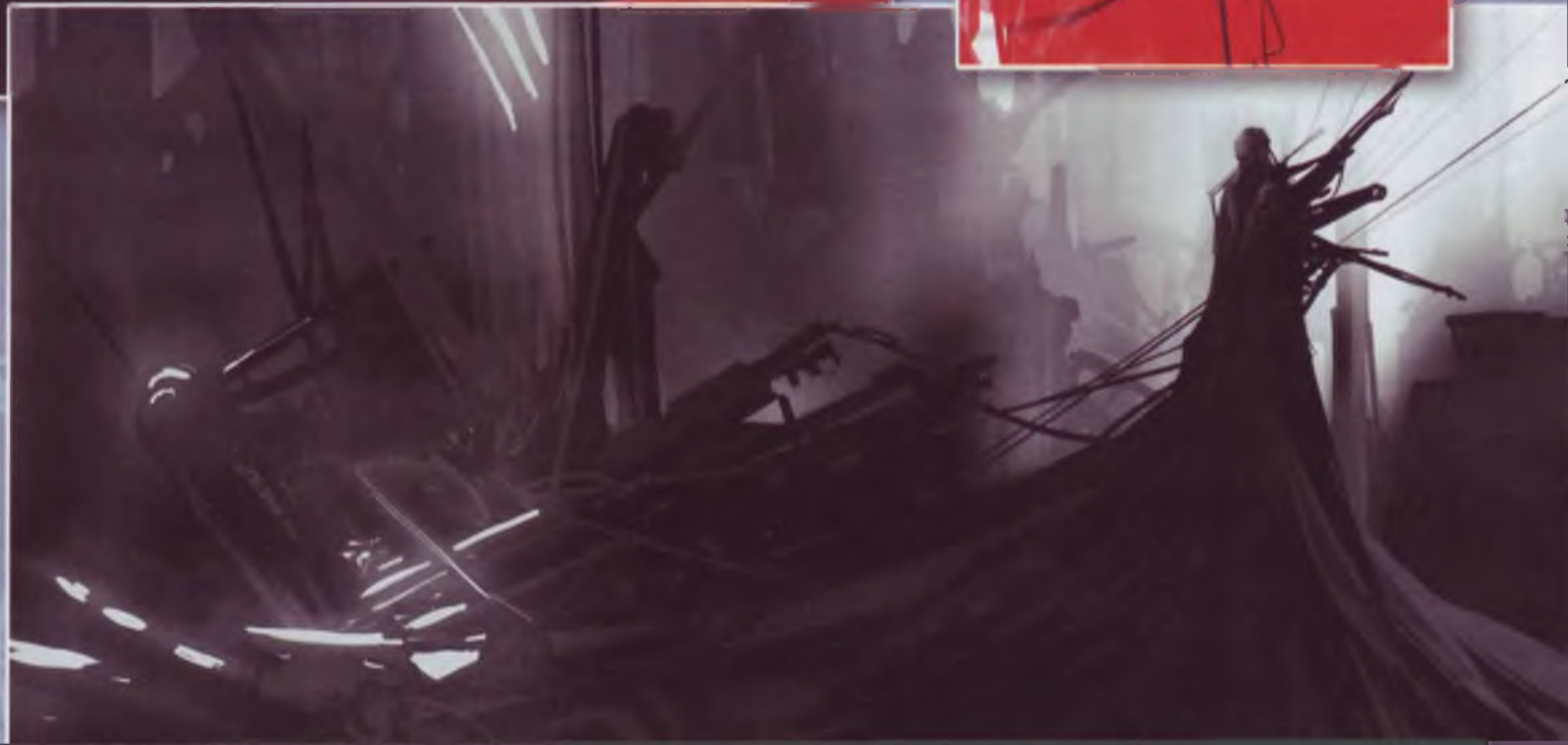
THIS HAS GOT TO BE A HALLUCINATION.

DOCTOR! I WANT TO WAKE UP NOW!

TO BE CONTINUED...



jenna jameson's  
**SHADOW HUNTER**™



SUGGESTED FOR MATURE READERS

ON STANDS  
DECEMBER 26

Greg Horn

# Jenna Jameson's SHADOW HUNTER



Virgin  
COMICS  
ISSUE 4

WESTON CAGE & NICOLAS CAGE'S  
**VOODOO CHILD**

SPECIAL WRAP AROUND COVER



VARIANT COVER BY DEAN RIBEN-HYRAPIL

**ON STANDS DECEMBER 2007**

# COALITION COMIX



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