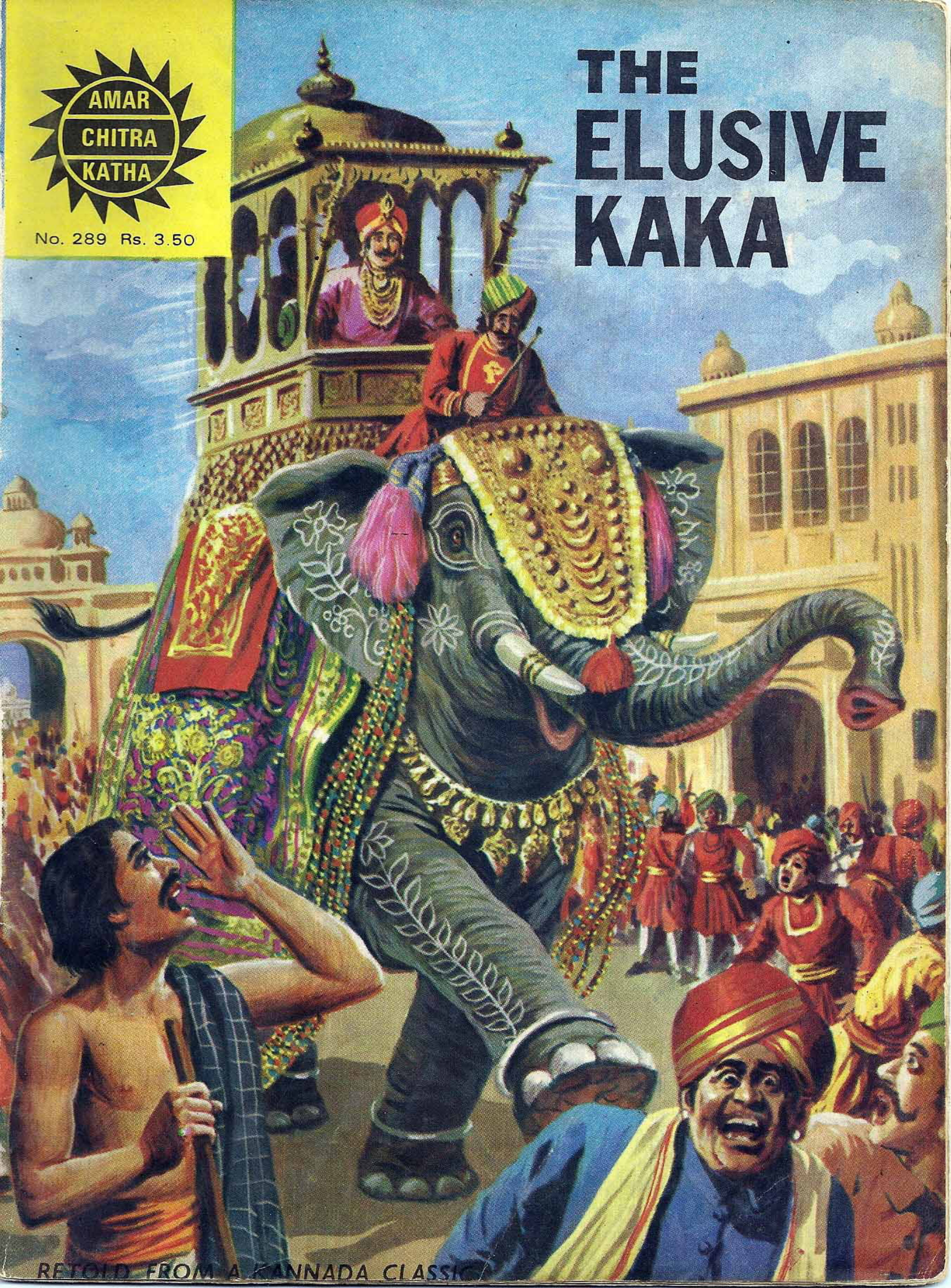




No. 289 Rs. 3.50

THE ELUSIVE KAKA



RETOLD FROM A KANNADA CLASSIC

THE ELUSIVE KAKA

The tribals are one of the most exploited social groups of our country. Even those who profess sympathy for them, are often unpardonably ignorant of their values which recognise the importance of preserving the balance of nature. Being the children of nature, as it were, they instinctively – and wisely so – fear urbanisation for the ecological disturbance that it brings in its wake. If they had a choice, and much more, a voice in the matter, they would reject it outright as the hero of our Chitra Katha does.

Shri Masti Venkatesha Iyengar (1891 –), who writes under the pen name Srinivasa, is considered the father of the short story in Kannada. He has also made his mark as a poet, novelist, critic and playwright.

This chitra katha has been adapted from his play, KAKANA KOTE.

We are grateful to Shri C. R. Simha for permitting our illustrator to refer to the stills from his Kannada film, KAKANA KOTE.

EDITOR

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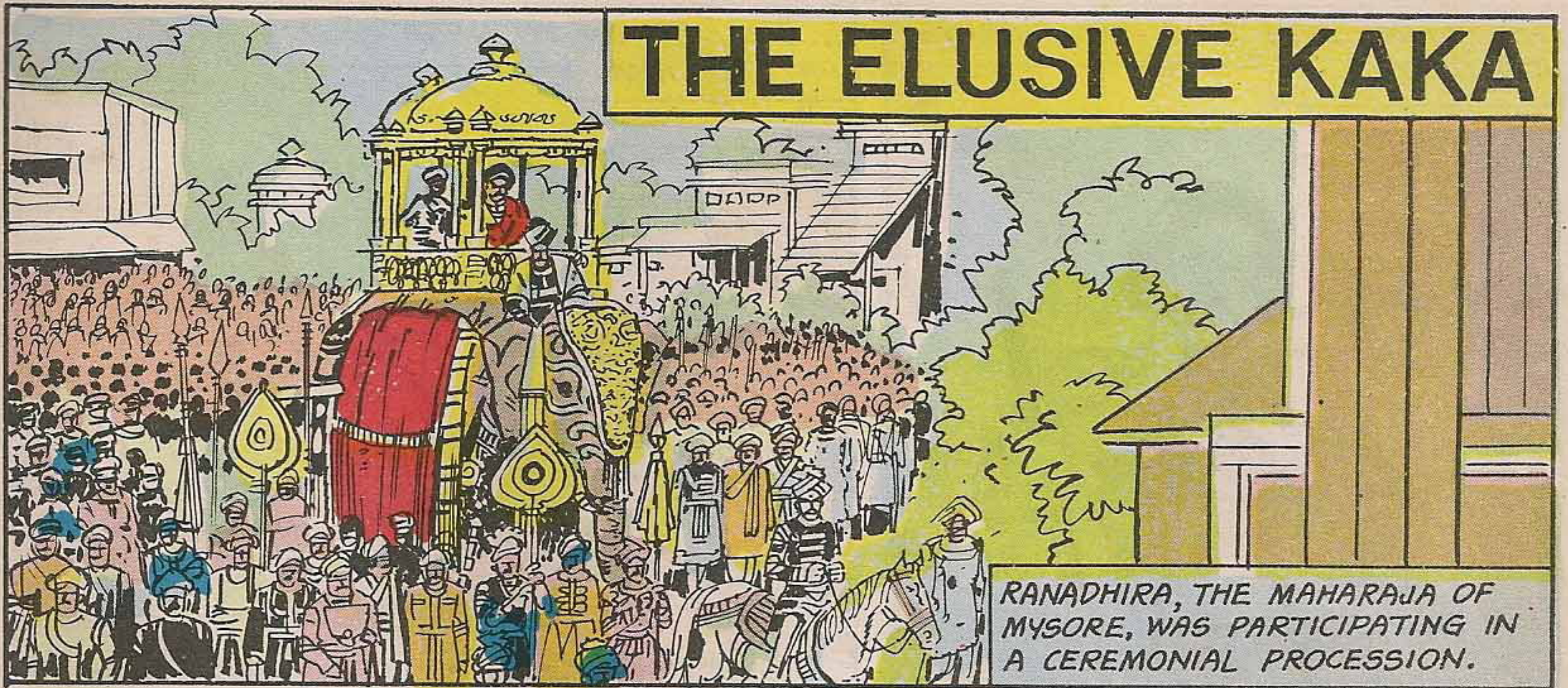
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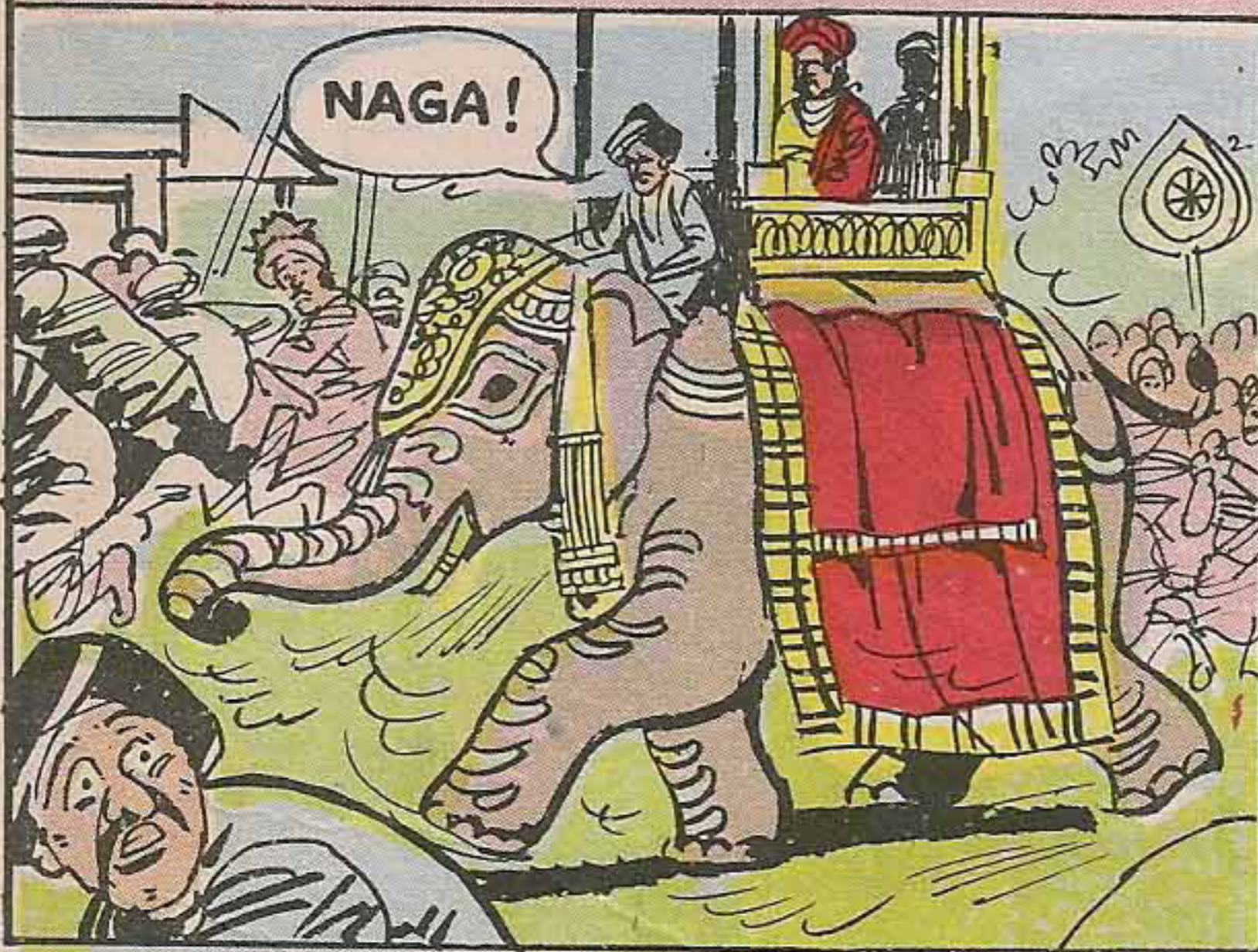
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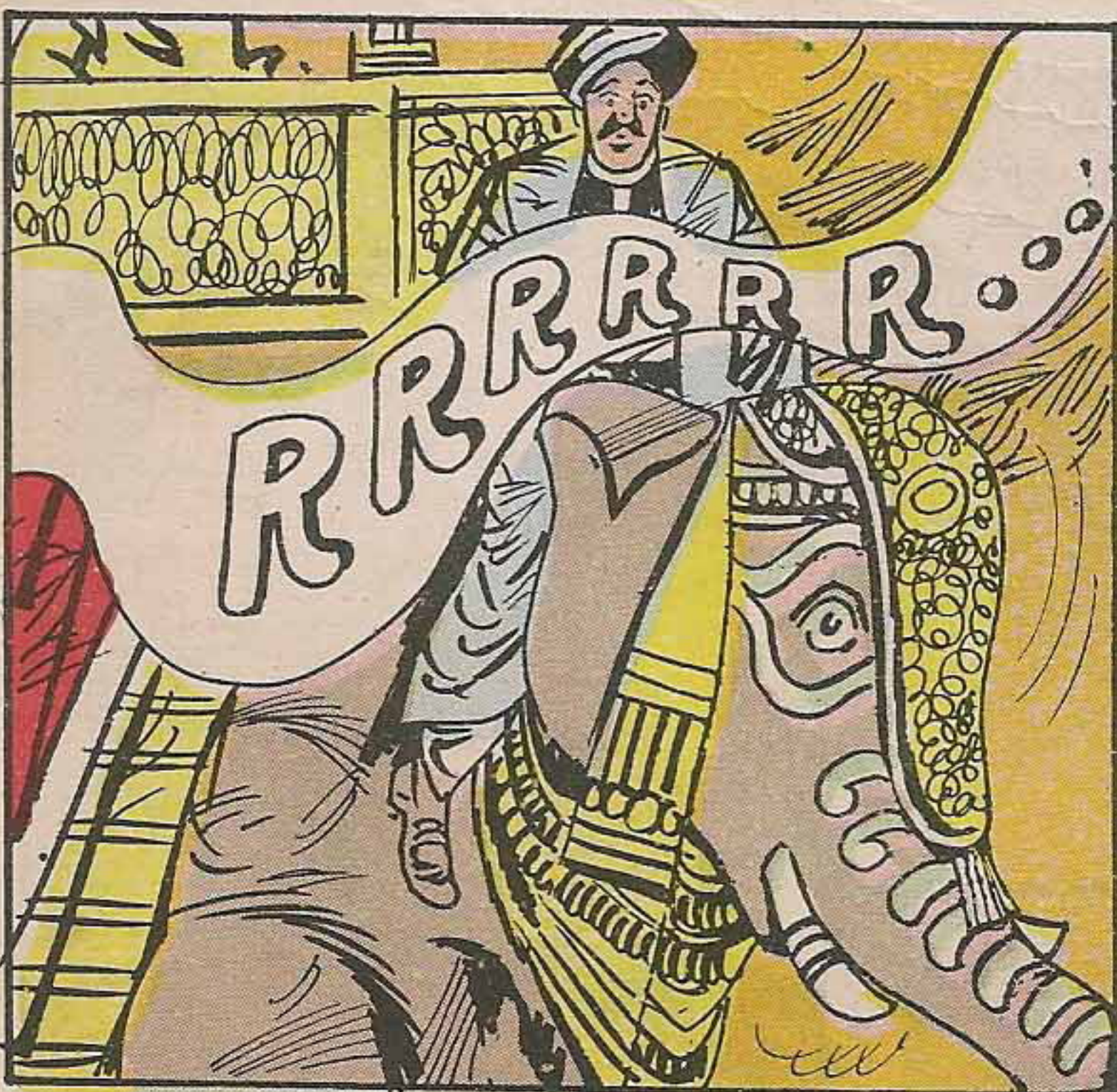


RANADHIRA, THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE, WAS PARTICIPATING IN A CEREMONIAL PROCESSION.

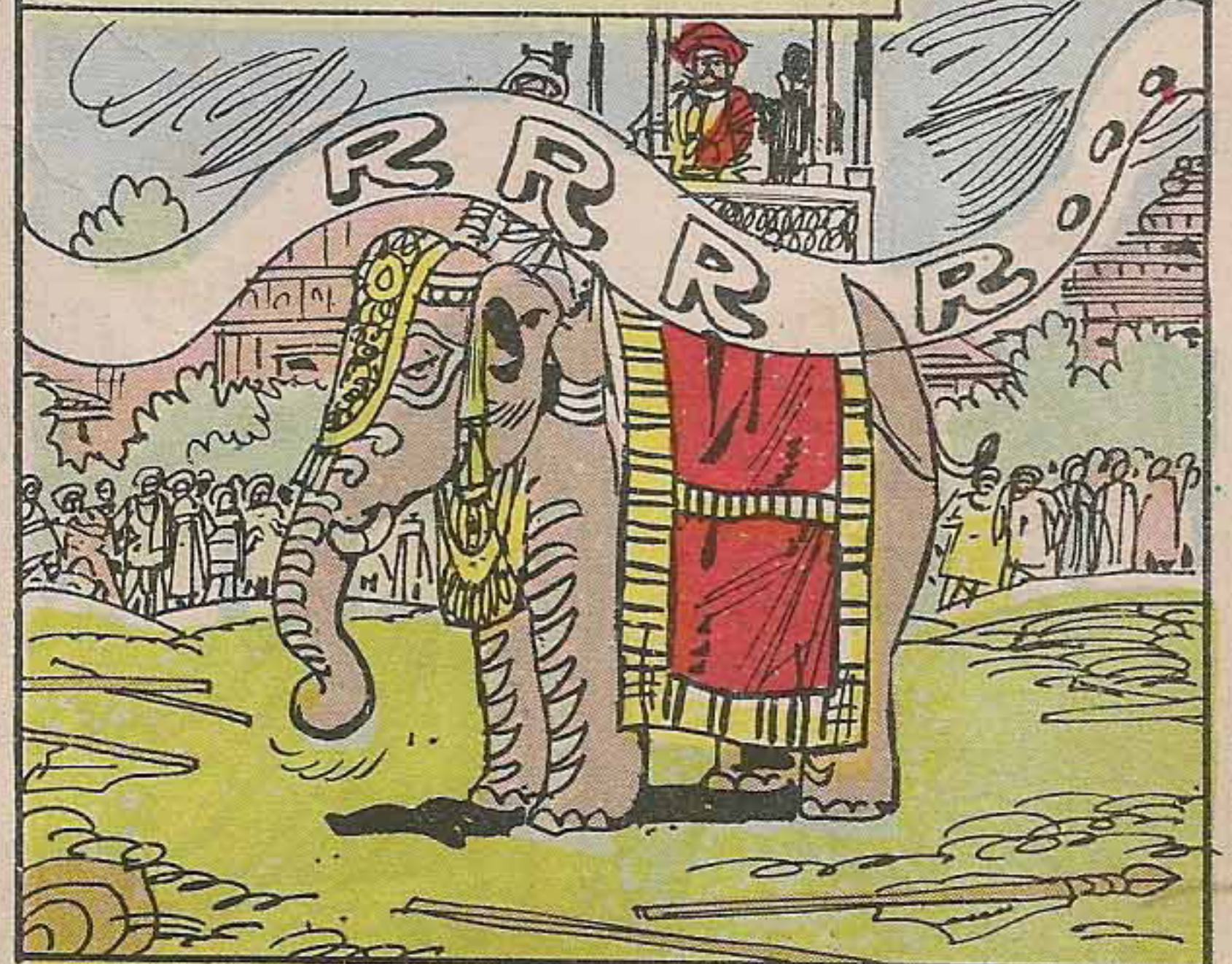
ALL OF A SUDDEN, NAGA, THE ELEPHANT HE WAS RIDING, BROKE INTO A RUN.



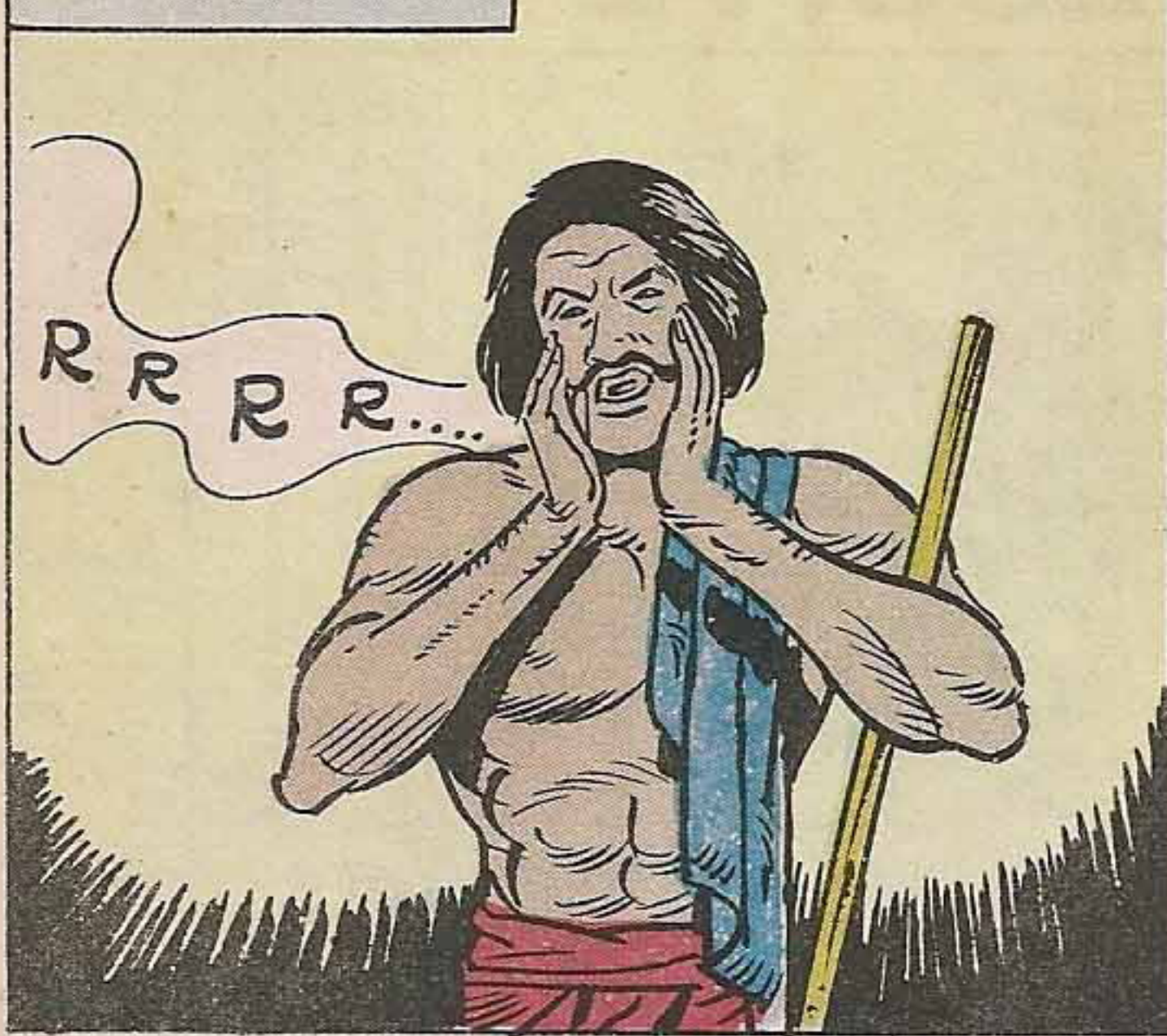
THE CROWD PANICKED AND RAN HELTER-SKELTER.



THE STRANGE SOUND SEEMED TO HAVE A SOOTHING EFFECT ON NAGA.



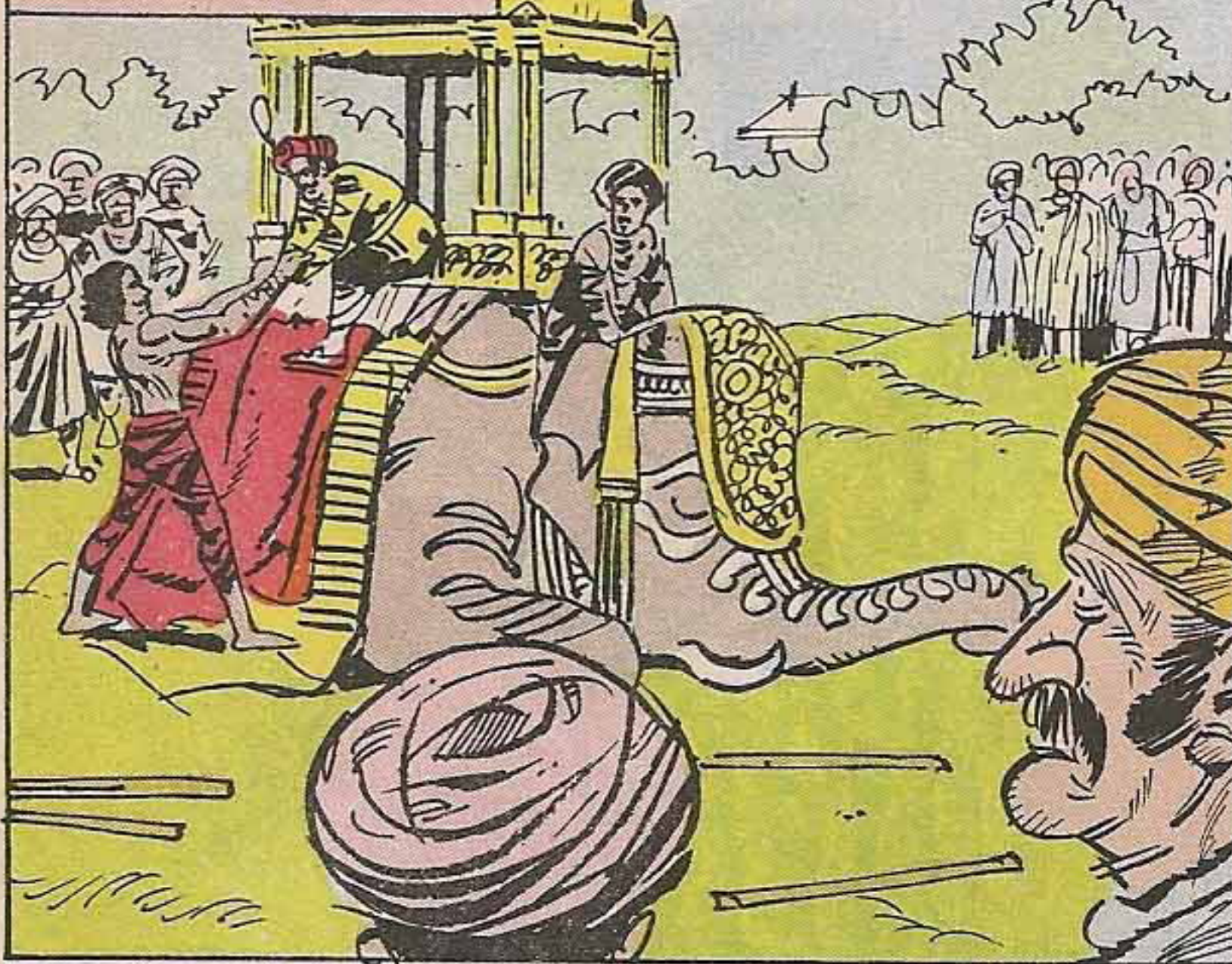
THE YOUNG MAN WHO WAS MAKING THE SOUND...



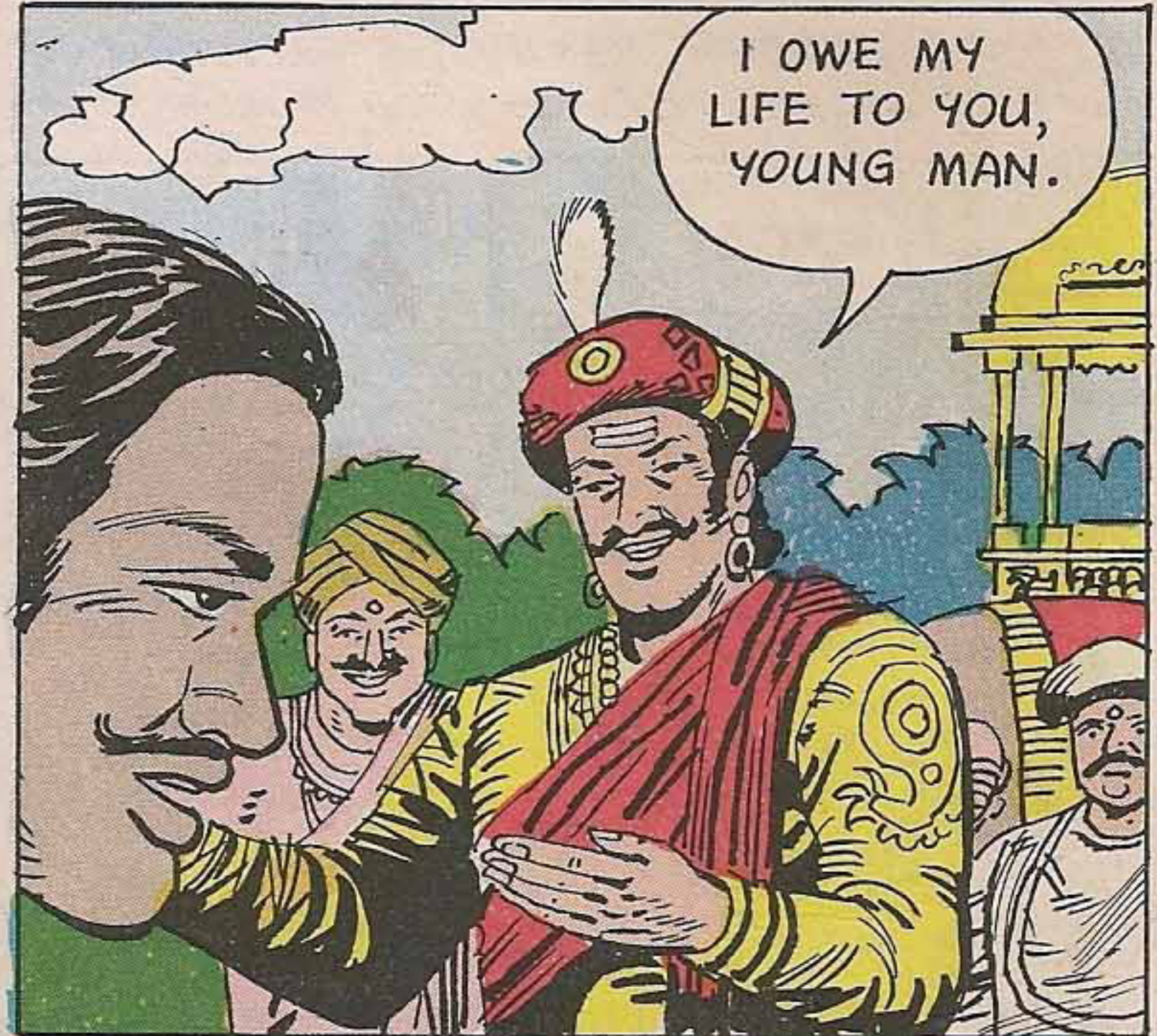
... WALKED UP TO NAGA AND PATTED HIM.



THEN HE HELPED THE RAJA TO GET OFF THE ELEPHANT.

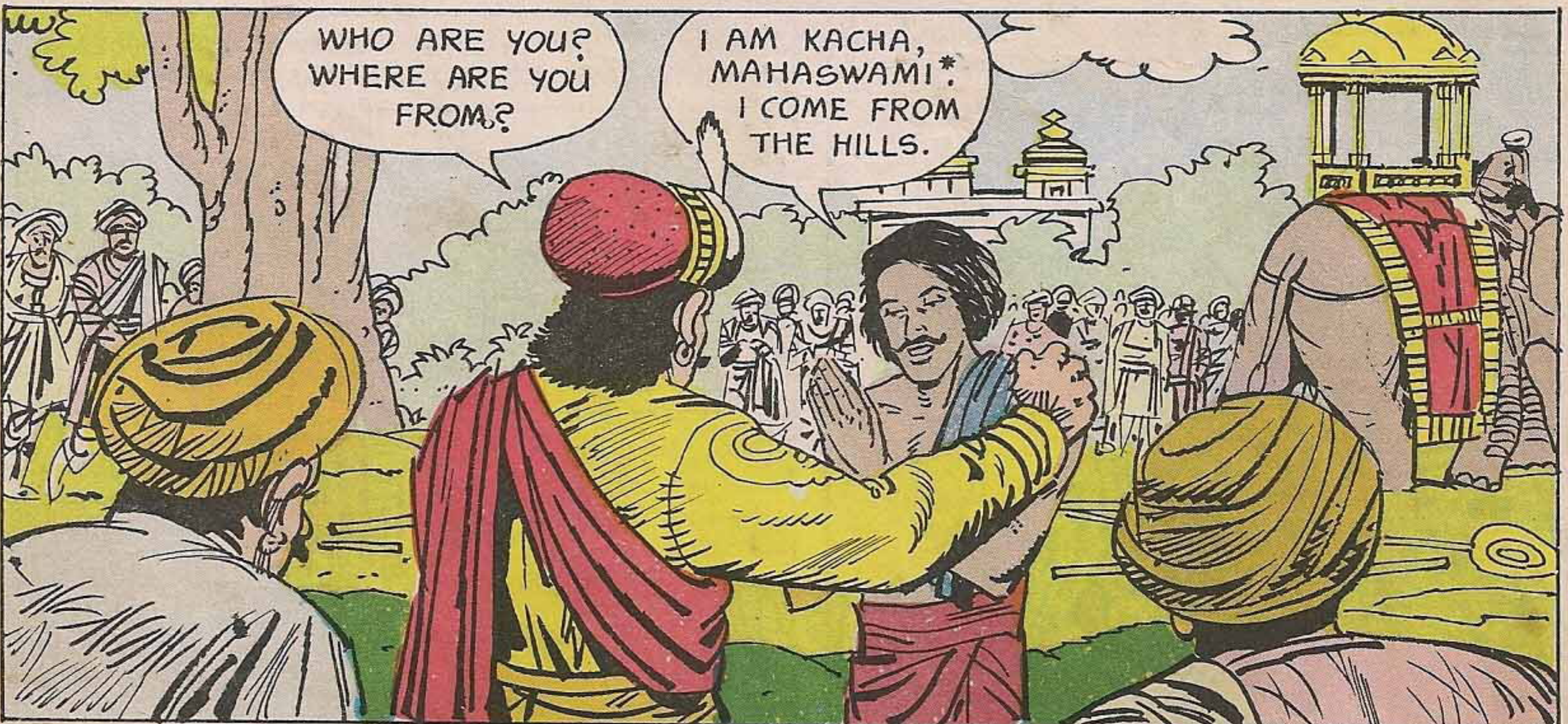


I OWE MY LIFE TO YOU, YOUNG MAN.



WHO ARE YOU?
WHERE ARE YOU FROM?

I AM KACHA, MAHASWAMI*.
I COME FROM THE HILLS.



THE MAHARAJA TOOK THE YOUNG MAN TO THE PALACE.

I HAVE BEEN LONGING TO VISIT THE HILL DISTRICT BUT I DON'T KNOW WHEN I WILL BE ABLE TO.



TELL ME, WHY DID YOU COME TO MYSORE?

I WANTED TO GET AWAY, MAHASWAMI.



I HAD ALWAYS WANTED A CHILD. AND I GOT ONE, A DAUGHTER. BUT AS SOON AS SHE WAS BORN...



...MY WIFE DIED.

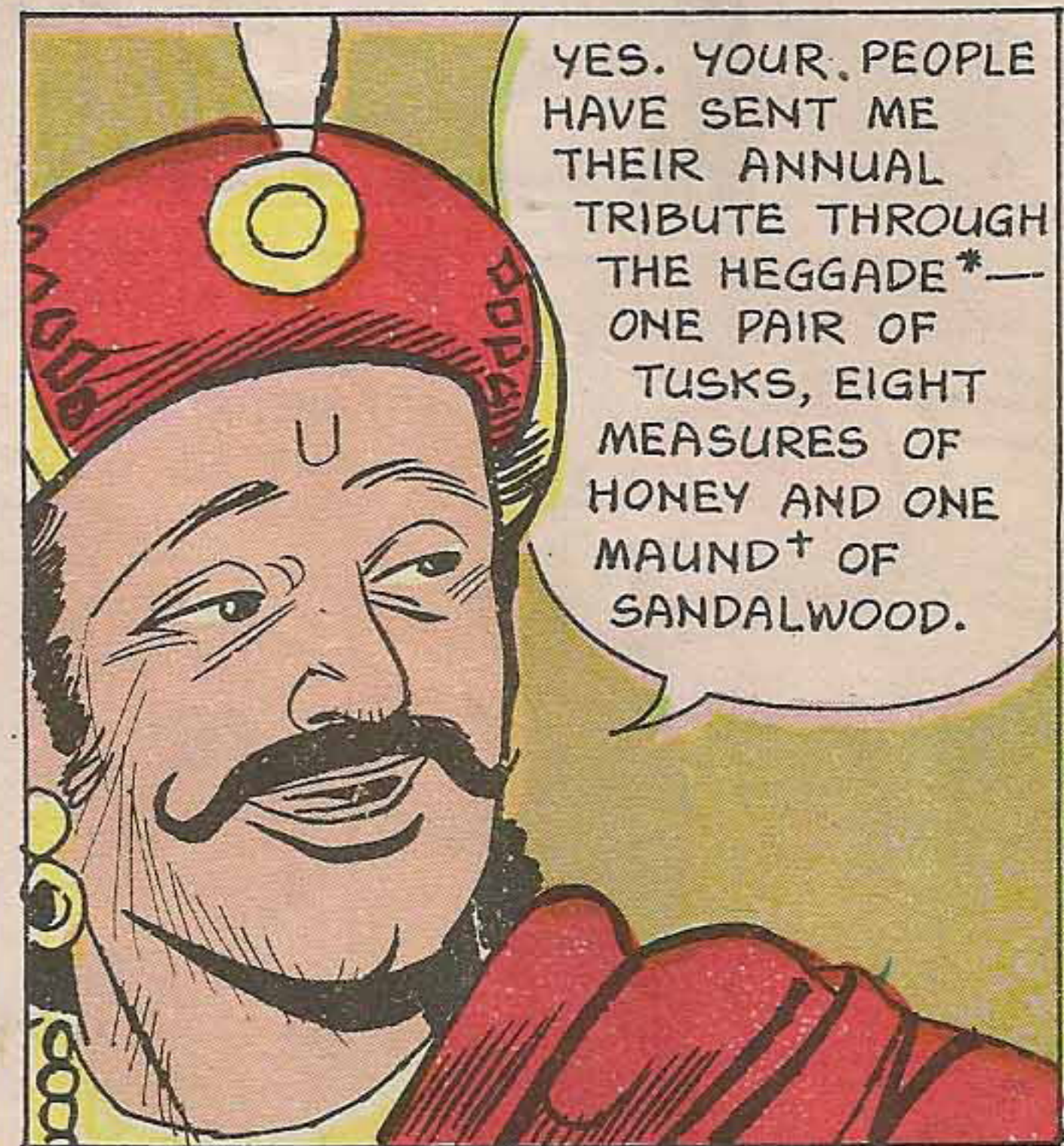


KACHA, I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL. HOWEVER, ONE DAY YOU WILL GO BACK TO YOUR PEOPLE... TO YOUR CHILD... TO THE HILLS.



MEANWHILE, I WANT YOU TO STAY IN MYSORE AND LOOK AFTER MY ELEPHANTS.

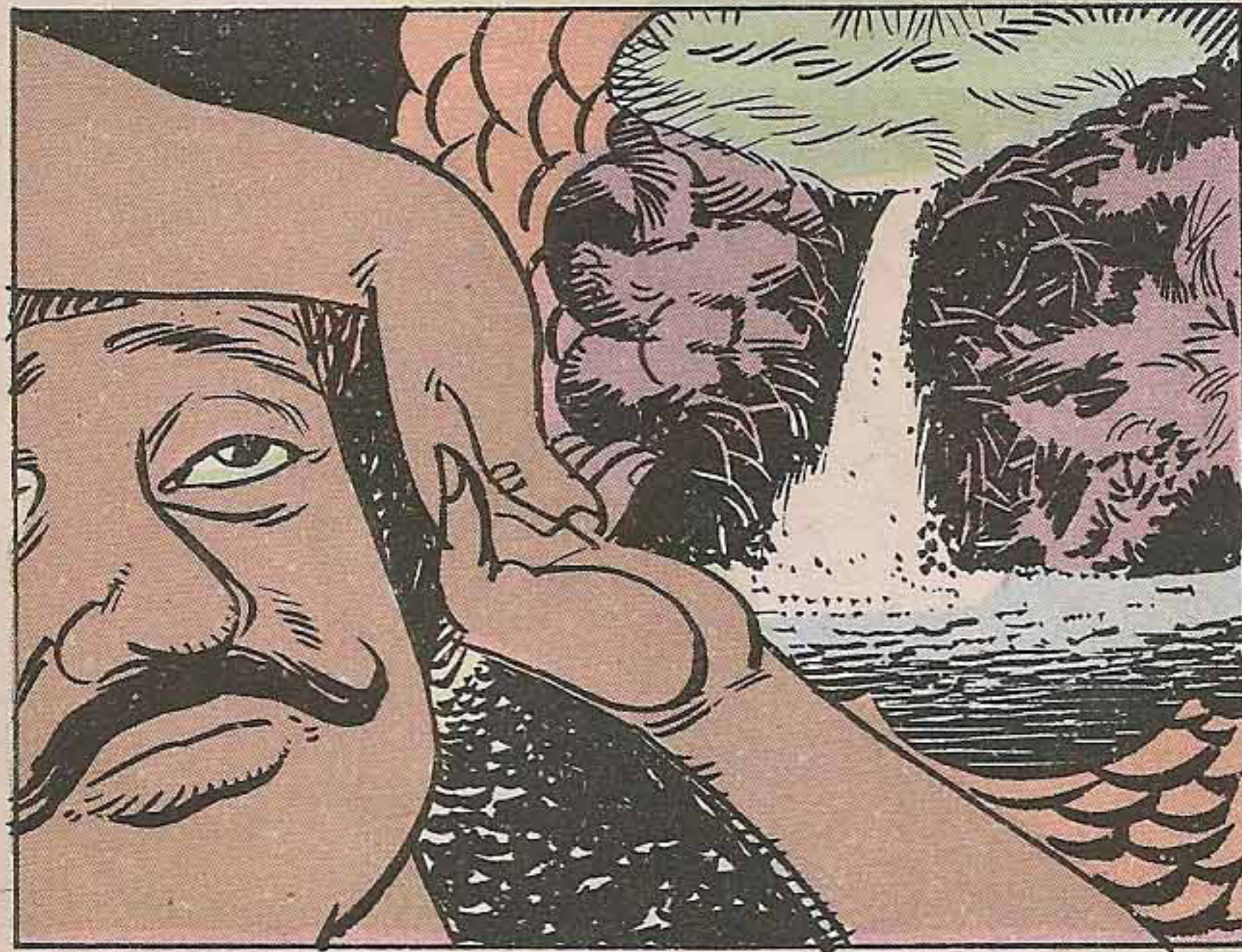
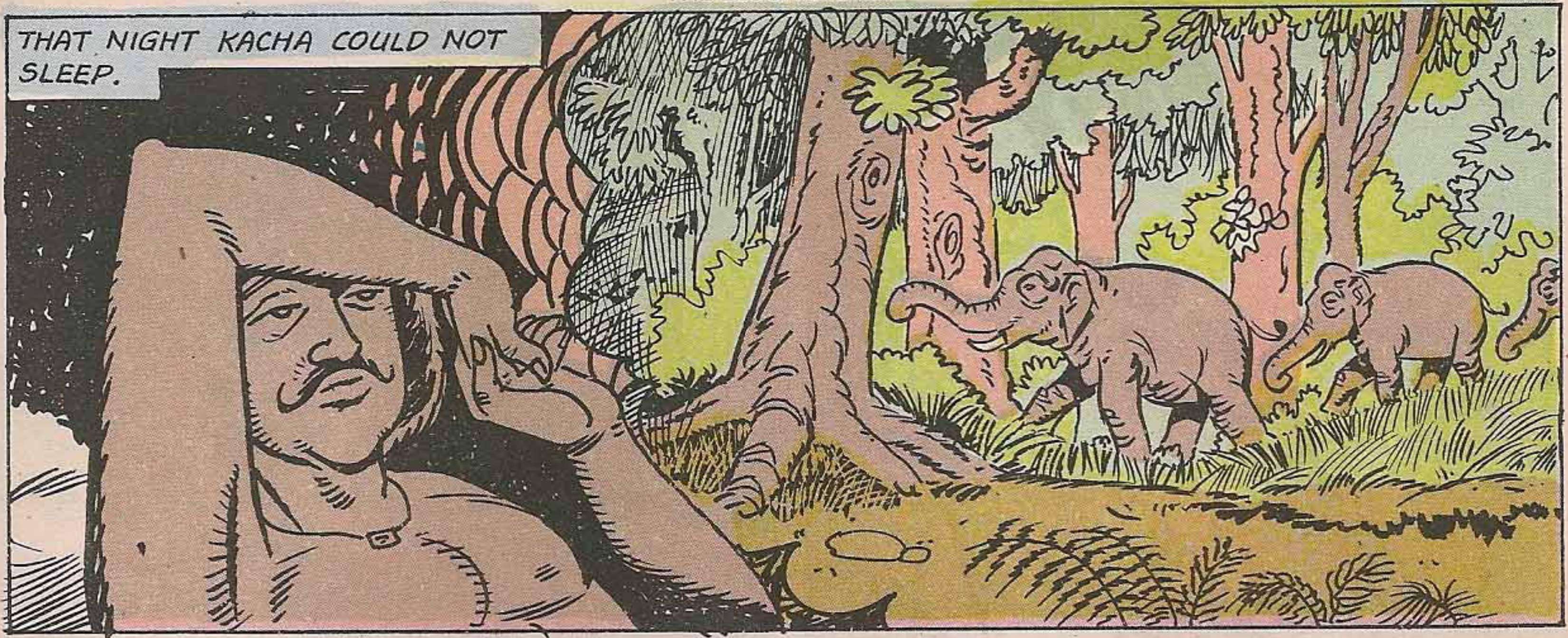




* FEUDAL LORD WHO WAS AUTHORISED TO COLLECT TRIBUTE FROM THE TRIBALS ON BEHALF OF THE RAJA OF MYSORE.

† IN MYSORE IN THOSE DAYS ONE MAUND WAS EQUAL TO 28 LB (ABOUT 12 KG)

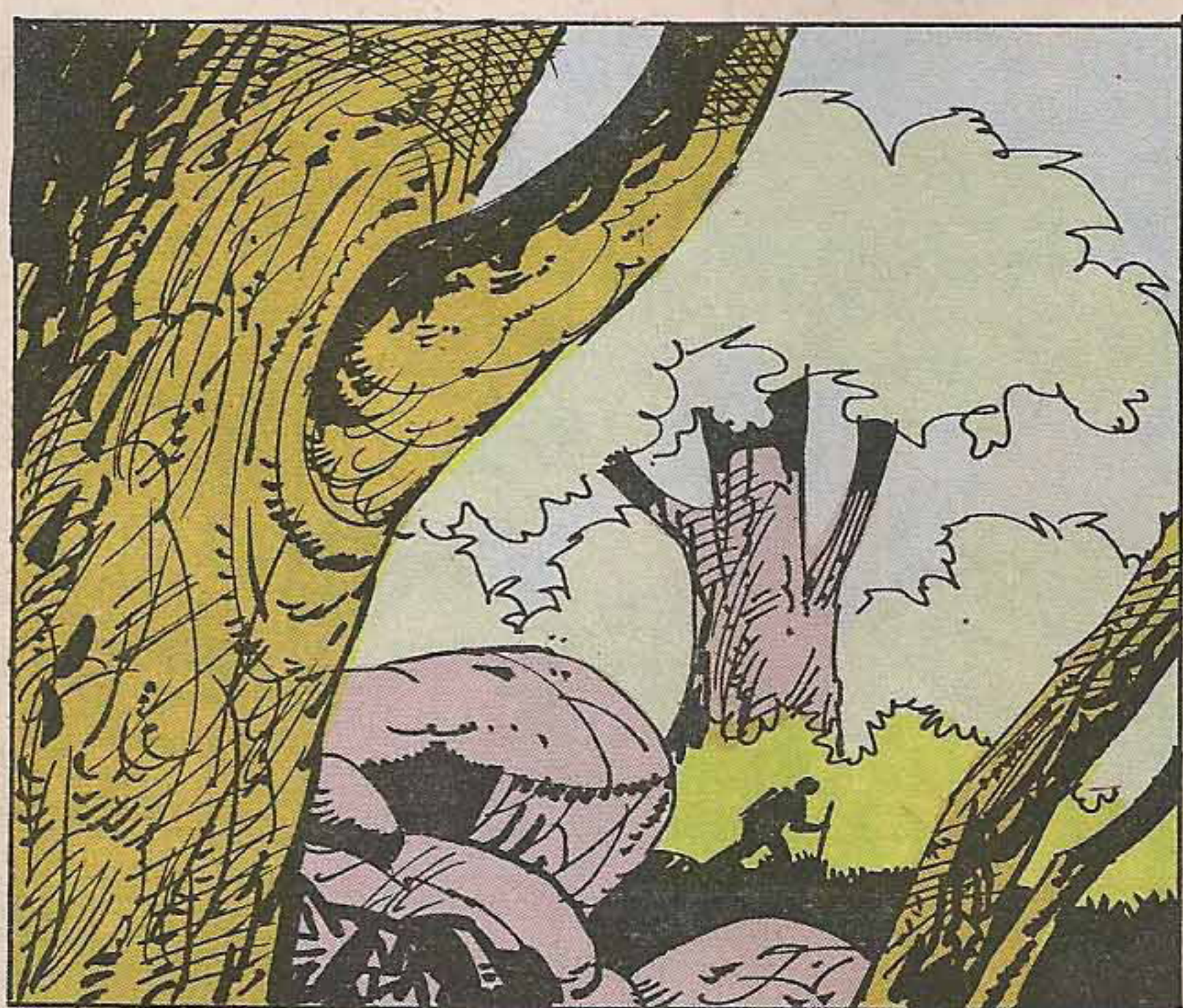
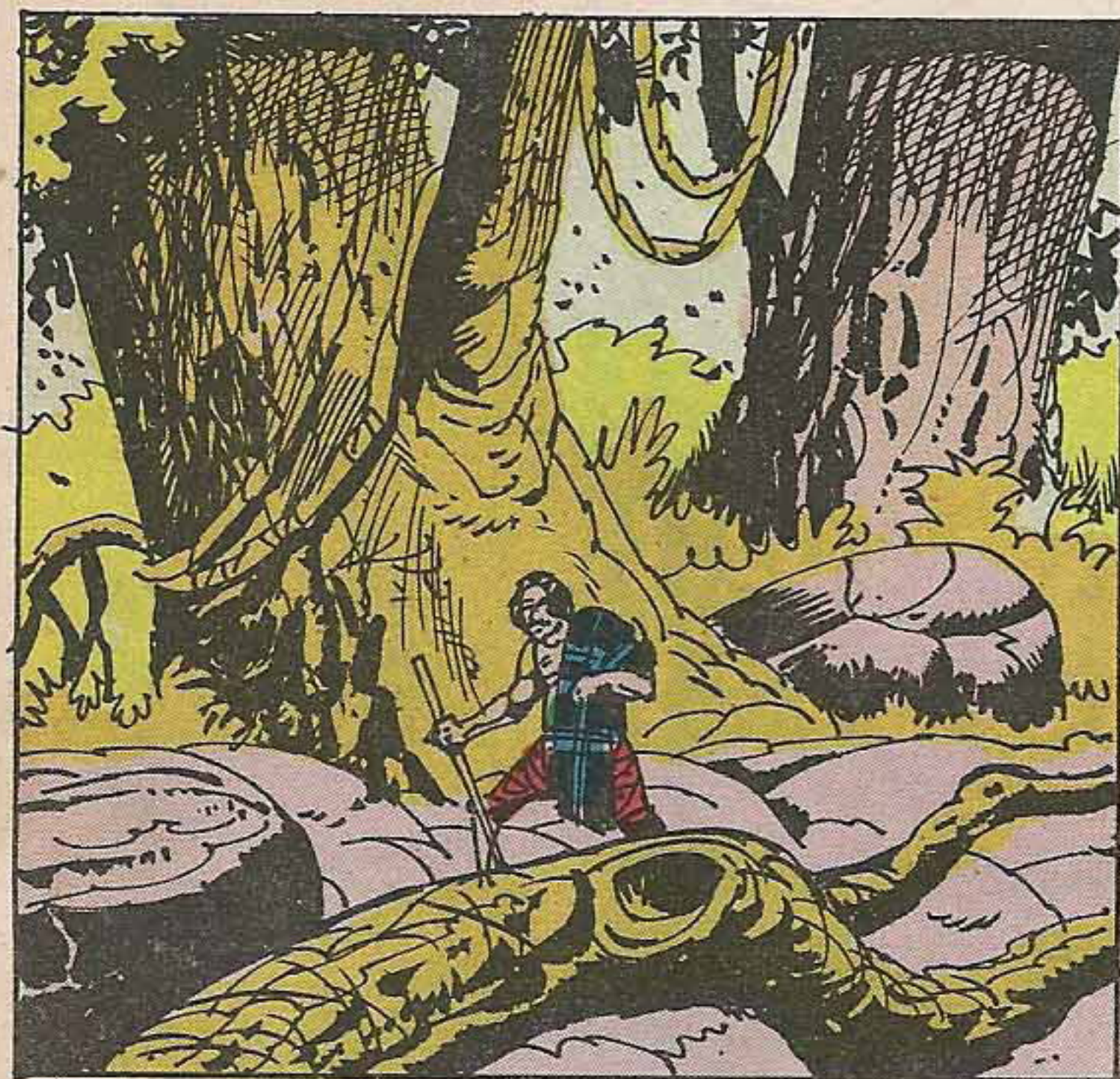
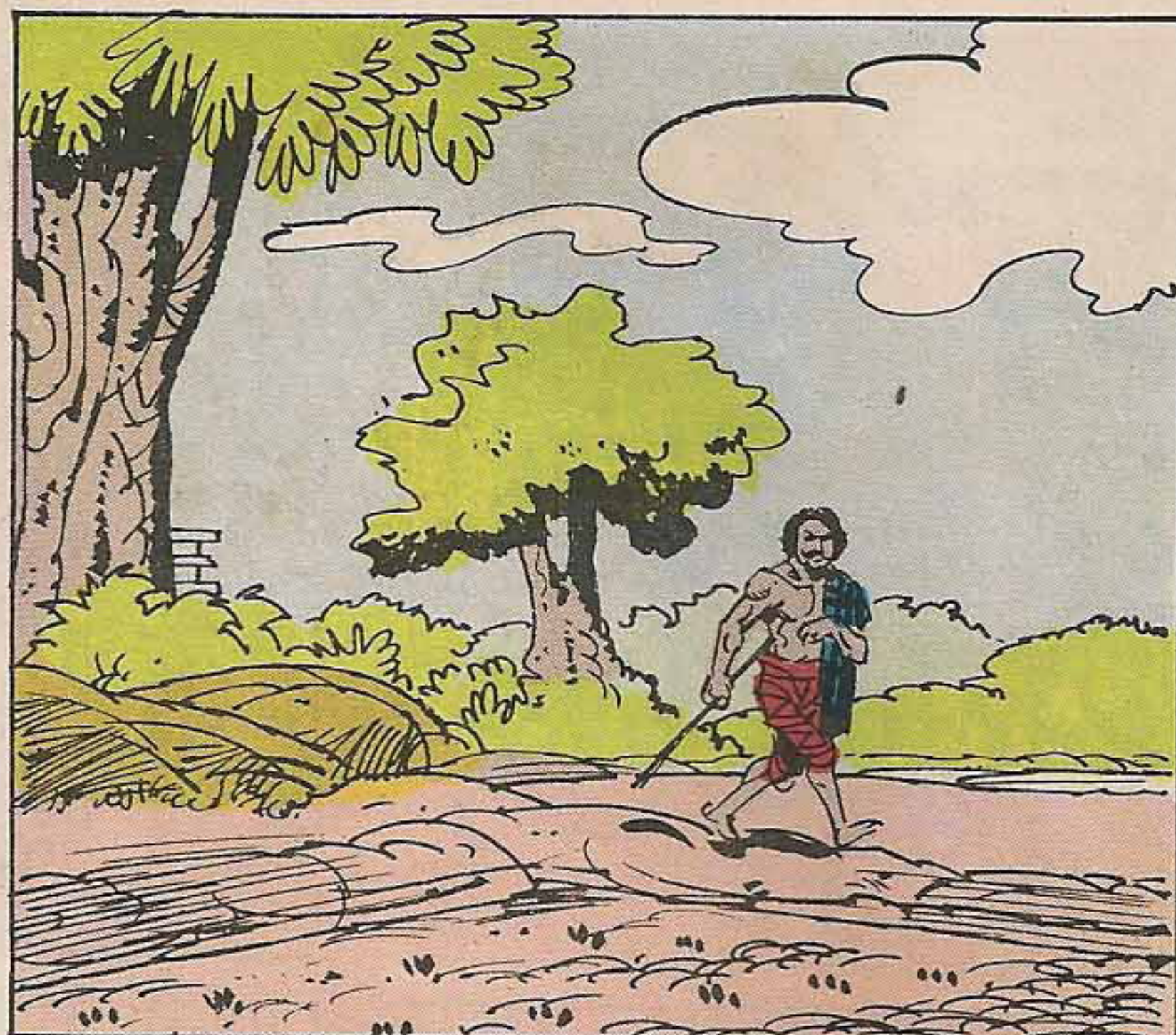
THAT NIGHT KACHA COULD NOT SLEEP.



THE NEXT MORNING —



SO KACHA SET
OUT FOR THE
HILLS.



AT LAST —

KACHA!

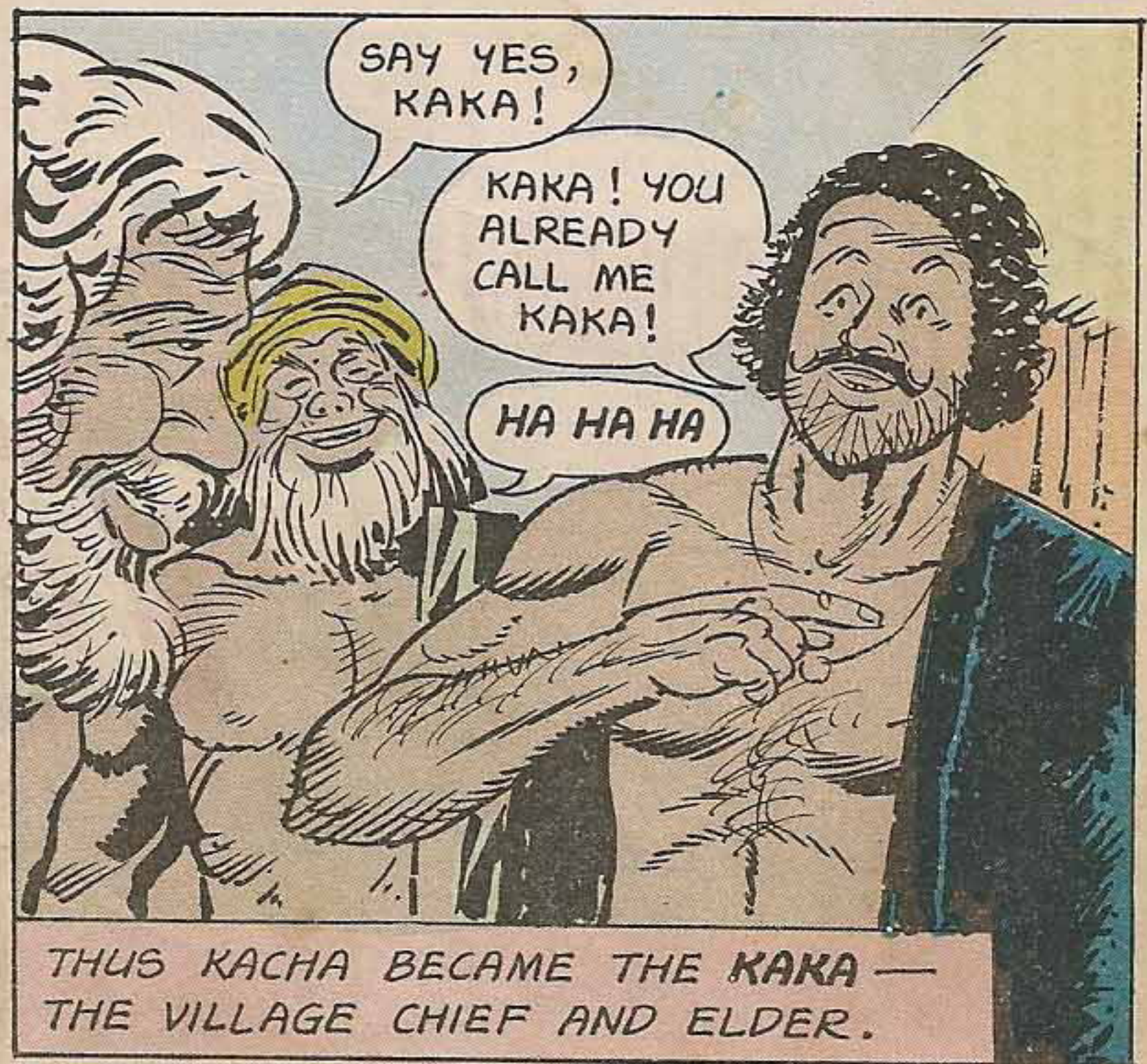
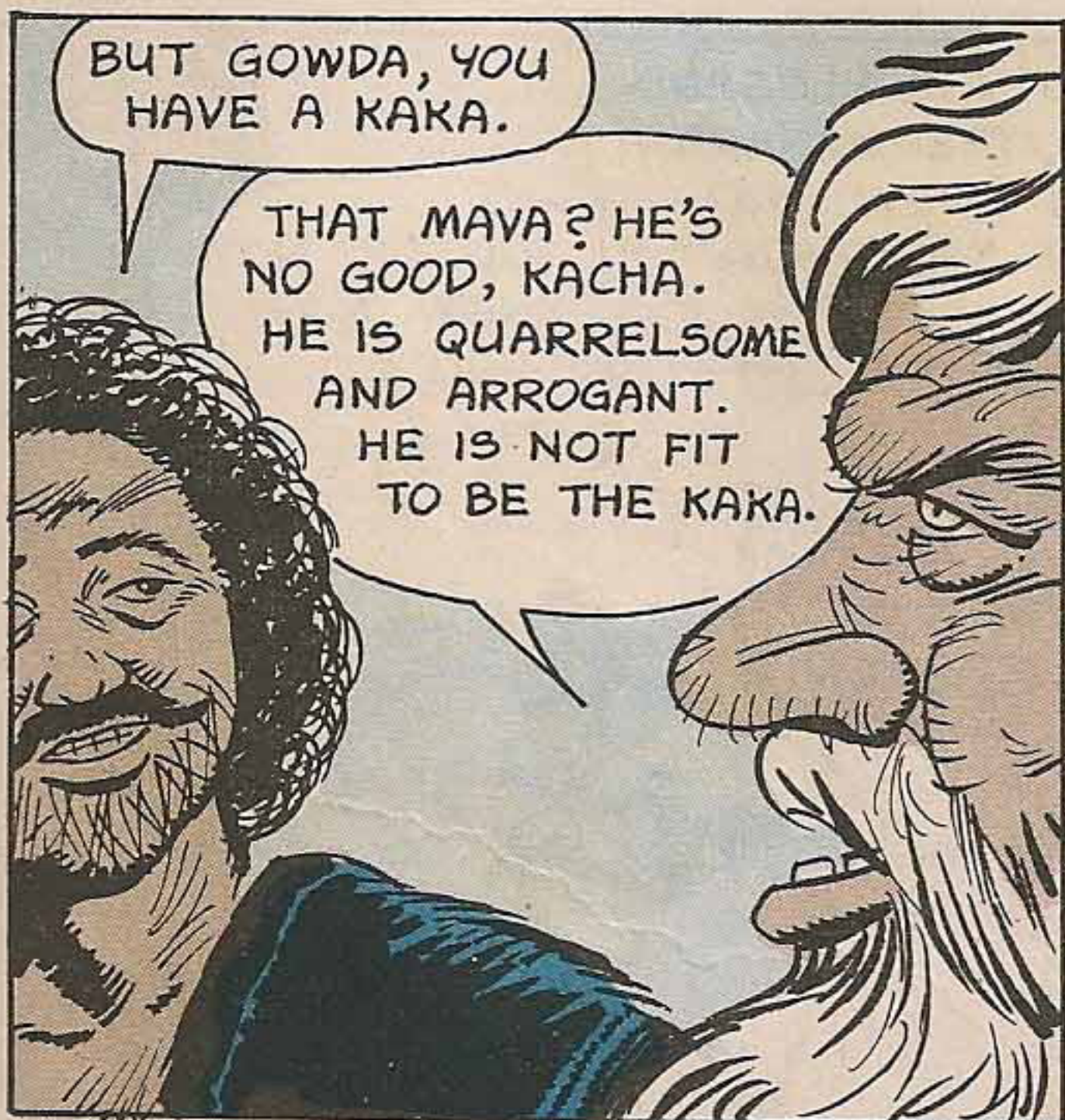
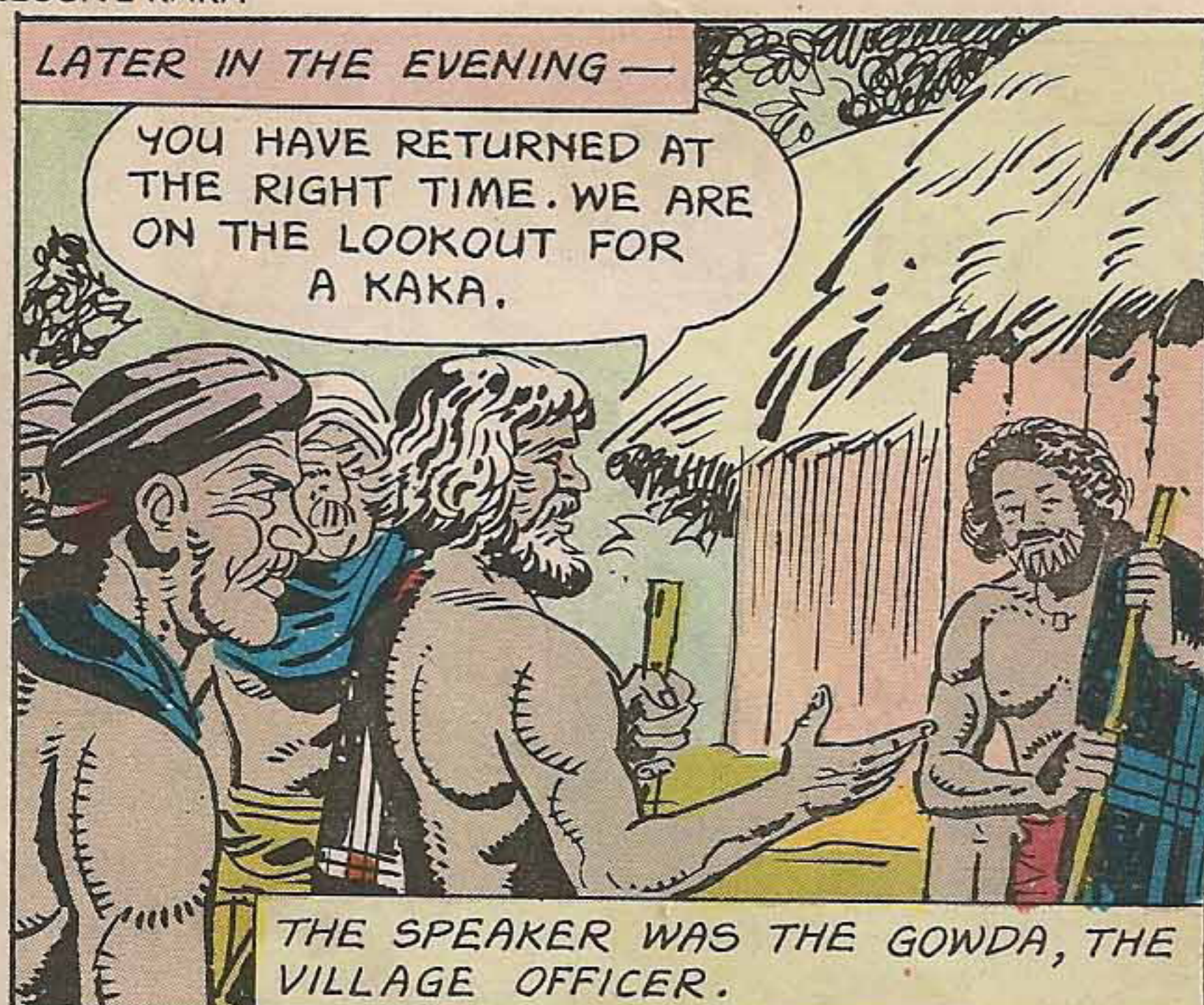
SISTER,
I AM
HOME!



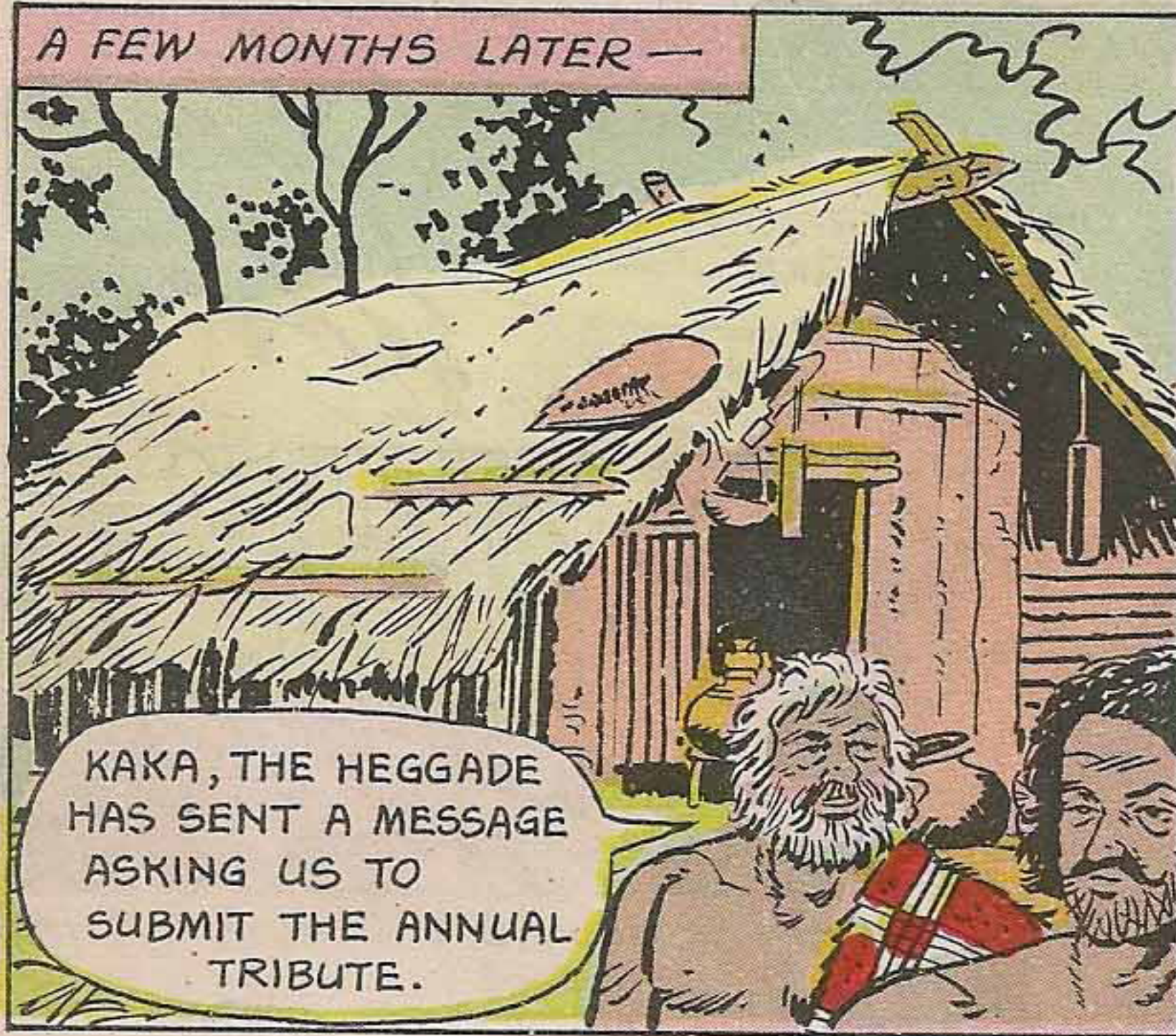
YOUR FATHER
HAS COME BACK,
MOLLAY! GO,
GO TO HIM.

MY CHILD!





A FEW MONTHS LATER —



KAKA, THE HEGGADE HAS SENT A MESSAGE ASKING US TO SUBMIT THE ANNUAL TRIBUTE.

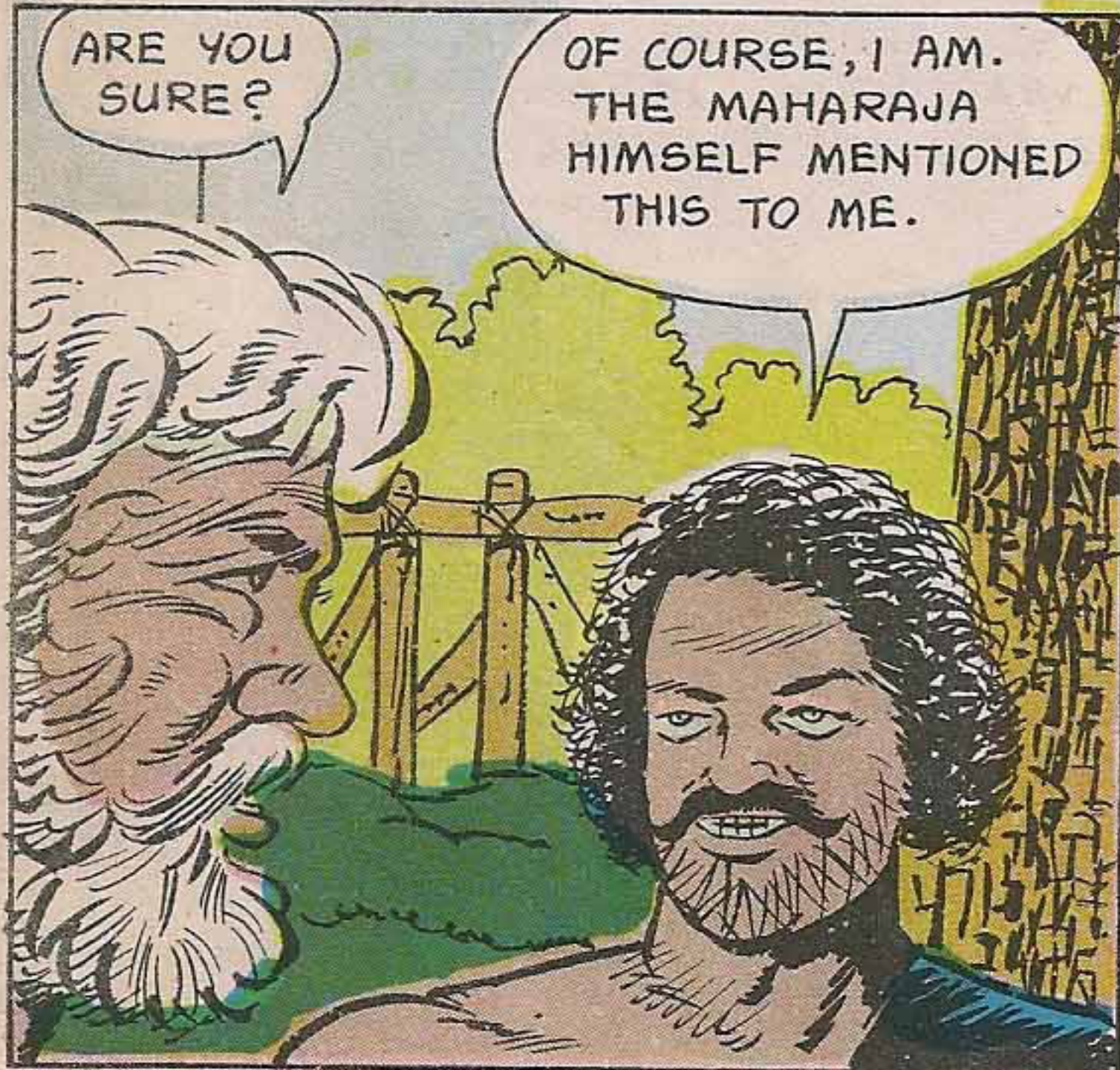
WE WILL HAVE TO SEND HIM FOUR PAIRS OF TUSKS, THIRTY-TWO MEASURES OF HONEY AND FOUR MAUNDS OF SANDALWOOD.

BUT GOWDA, THE HEGGADE SENDS THE RAJA ONLY ONE PAIR OF TUSKS, EIGHT MEASURES OF HONEY, AND ONE MAUND OF SANDALWOOD.



ARE YOU SURE?

OF COURSE, I AM. THE MAHARAJA HIMSELF MENTIONED THIS TO ME.



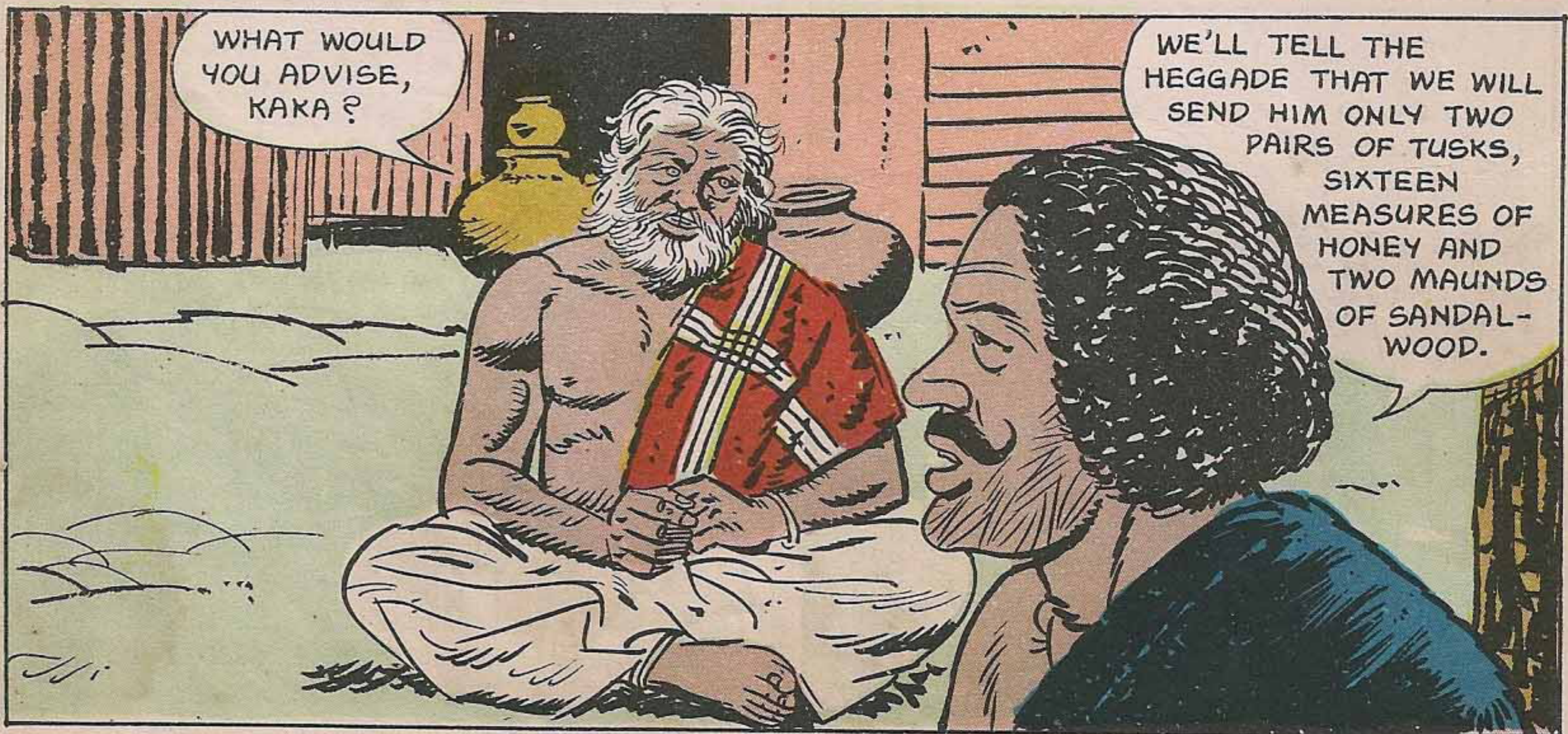
HM! WHAT THE HEGGADE COLLECTS, THE MAHARAJA DOES NOT KNOW. AND WHAT THE MAHARAJA RECEIVES WE DO NOT KNOW.

YOU DID NOT KNOW. NOW YOU DO.



WHAT WOULD YOU ADVISE, KAKA?

WE'LL TELL THE HEGGADE THAT WE WILL SEND HIM ONLY TWO PAIRS OF TUSKS, SIXTEEN MEASURES OF HONEY AND TWO MAUNDS OF SANDALWOOD.

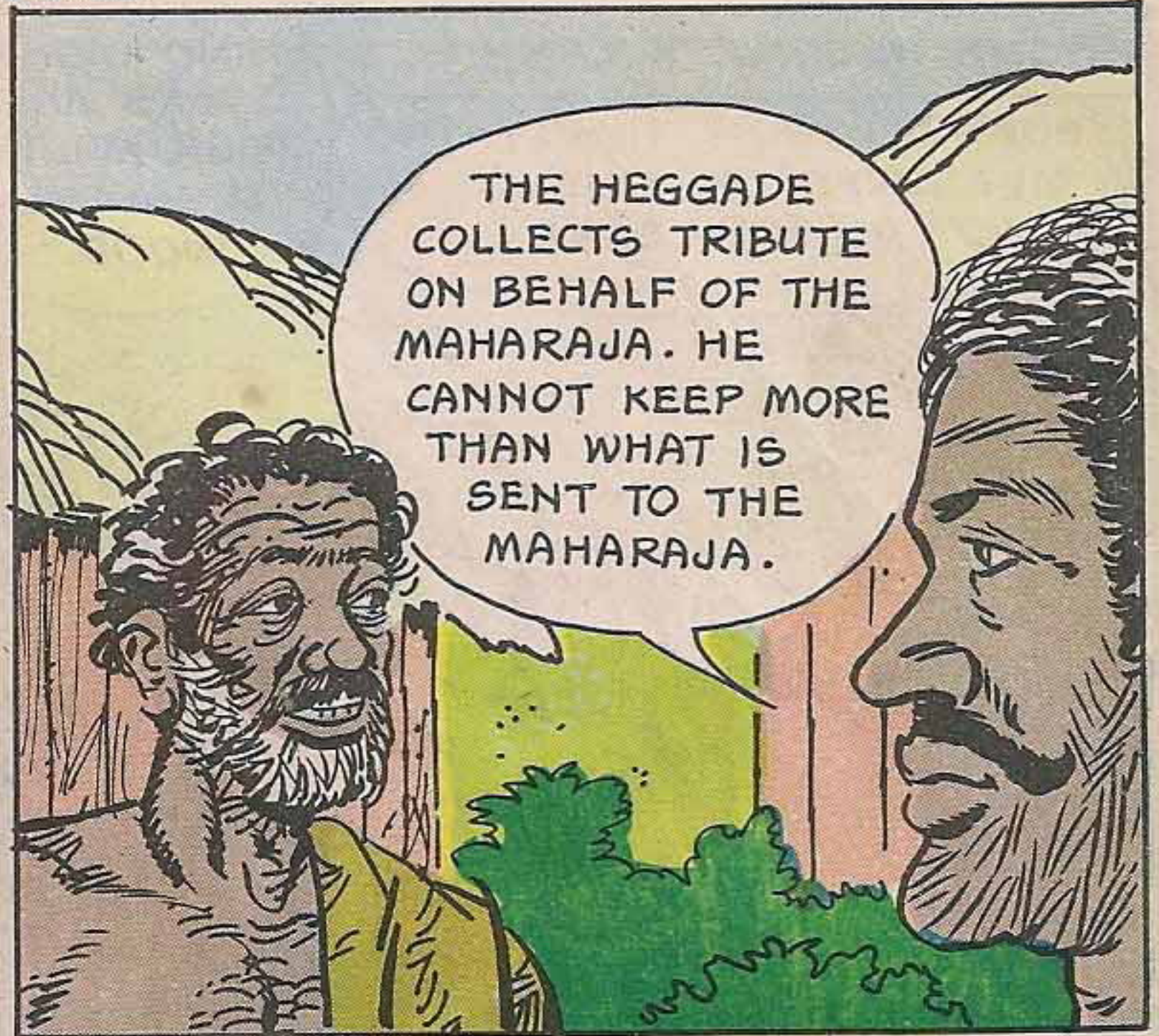


A MESSENGER WAS SENT TO THE HEGGADE TO CONVEY THE DECISION. THE MESSENGER WAS BACK IN NO TIME.

THE HEGGADE SAYS HE EXPECTS THE USUAL TRIBUTE THIS YEAR TOO. THREE PARTS FOR HIM AND ONE FOR THE MAHARAJA.



THE HEGGADE COLLECTS TRIBUTE ON BEHALF OF THE MAHARAJA. HE CANNOT KEEP MORE THAN WHAT IS SENT TO THE MAHARAJA.



A FEW WEEKS LATER —

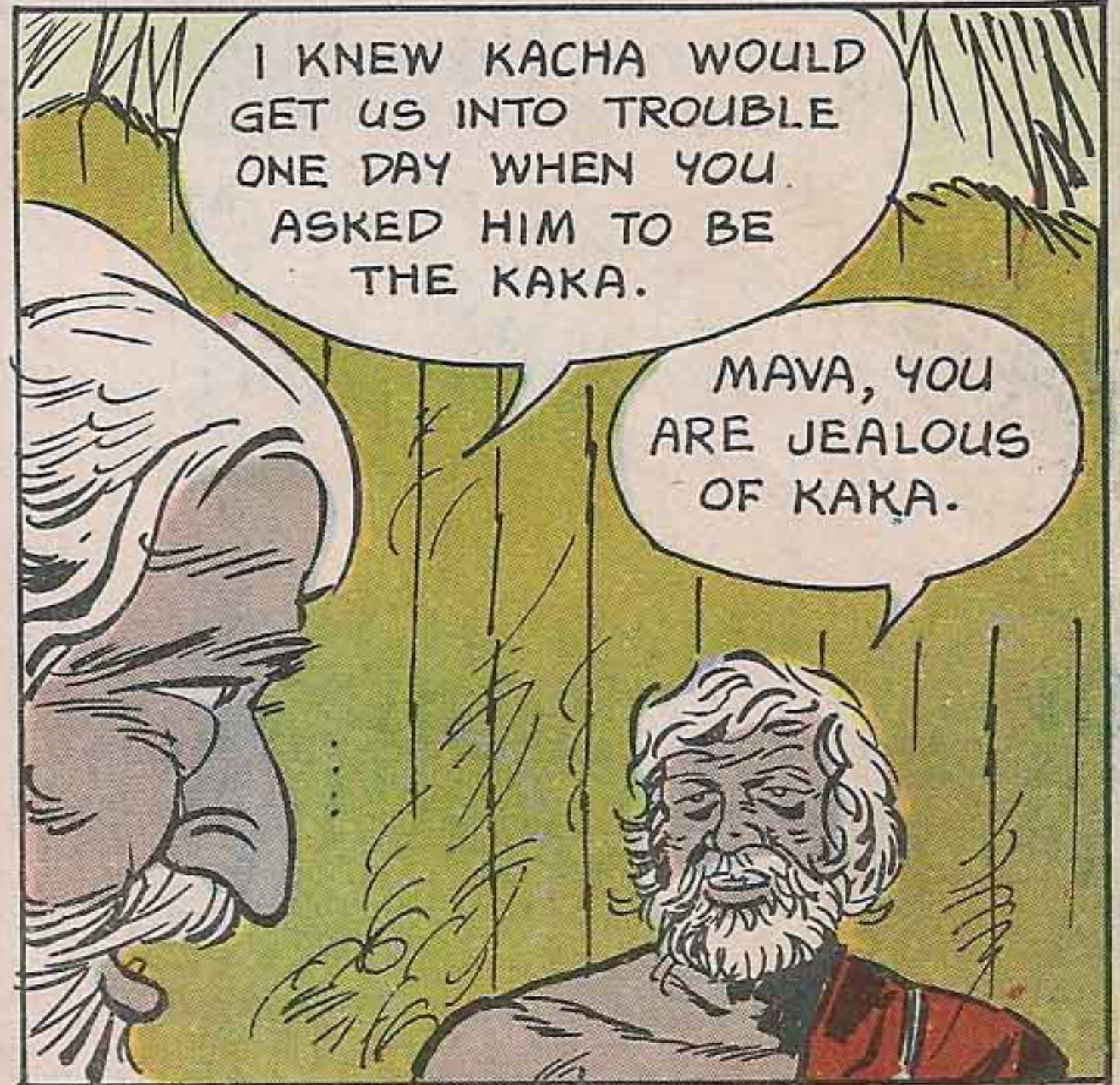
GOWDA, THE HEGGADE IS CAMPING AT THE FOOT OF THE HILLS. HE SEEMS TO BE ANGRY WITH US.

MM-M-M.



I KNEW KACHA WOULD GET US INTO TROUBLE ONE DAY WHEN YOU ASKED HIM TO BE THE KAKA.

MAYA, YOU ARE JEALOUS OF KAKA.



EVEN NOW IT'S NOT LATE. IGNORE THE KAKA'S WORDS AND PAY WHAT THE HEGGADE DEMANDS.

MAYA, YOU WERE THE KAKA ONCE. YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT A KAKA'S DECISION IS NEVER QUESTIONED.



LATER, GOWDA AND KAKA LEFT FOR THE HEGGADE'S CAMP. ON THE WAY —

GOWDA, REMEMBER. YOU WILL DO ALL THE TALKING. AND YOU KNOW WHAT TO SAY.

YES, KAKA.



AT THE HEGGADE'S CAMP—

GOWDA, I WANT THIRTY-TWO MEASURES OF HONEY, NOT A DROP LESS!

AND EIGHT TUSKS AND FOUR MAUNDS OF SANDALWOOD.



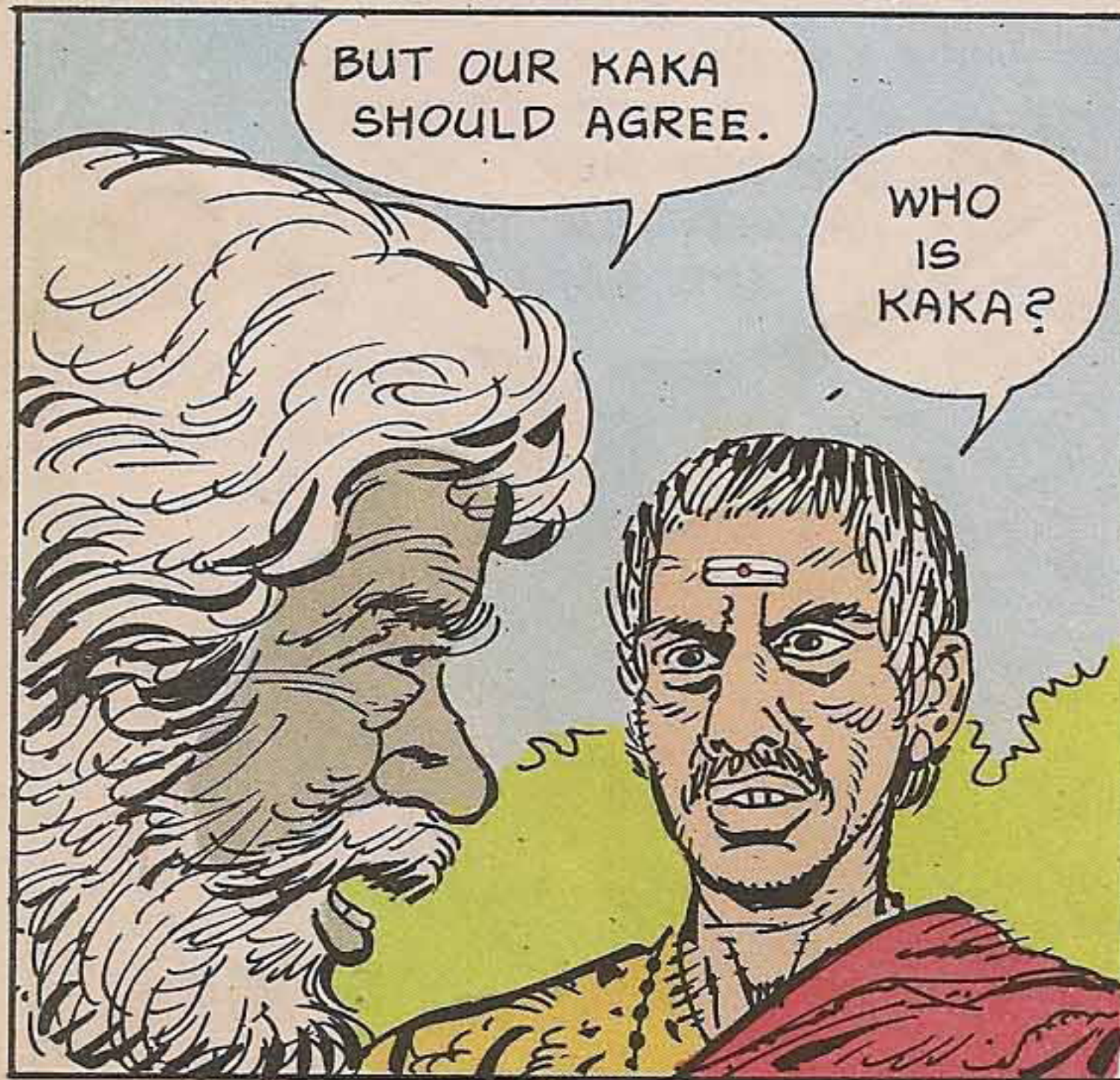
SIR, WE ARE PREPARED TO GIVE WHAT YOU ASK FOR. BUT...

... BUT WHAT?



BUT OUR KAKA SHOULD AGREE.

WHO IS KAKA?



KAKA IS...

I DON'T CARE WHO HE IS. I AM DEALING WITH YOU, GOWDA.

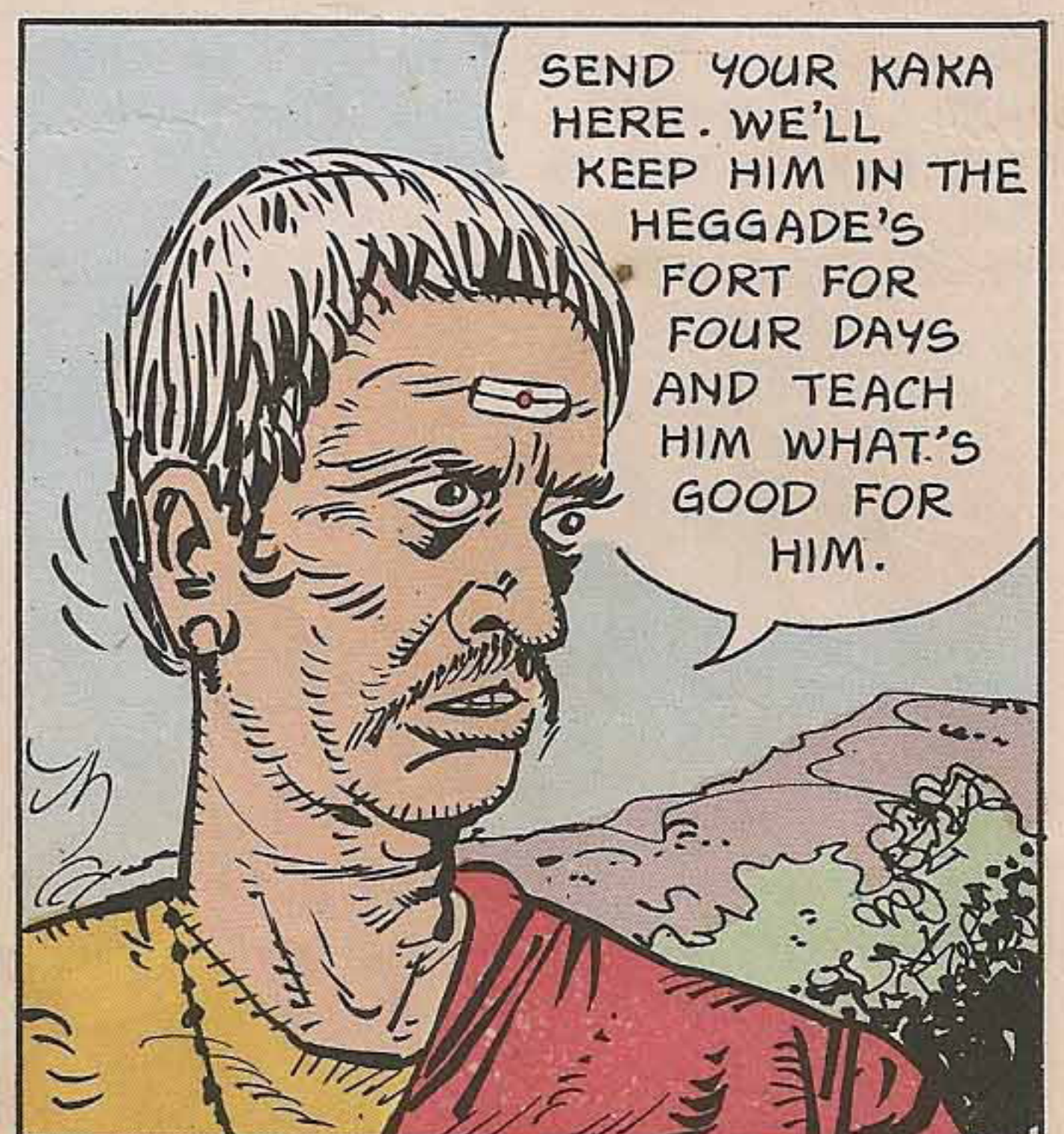


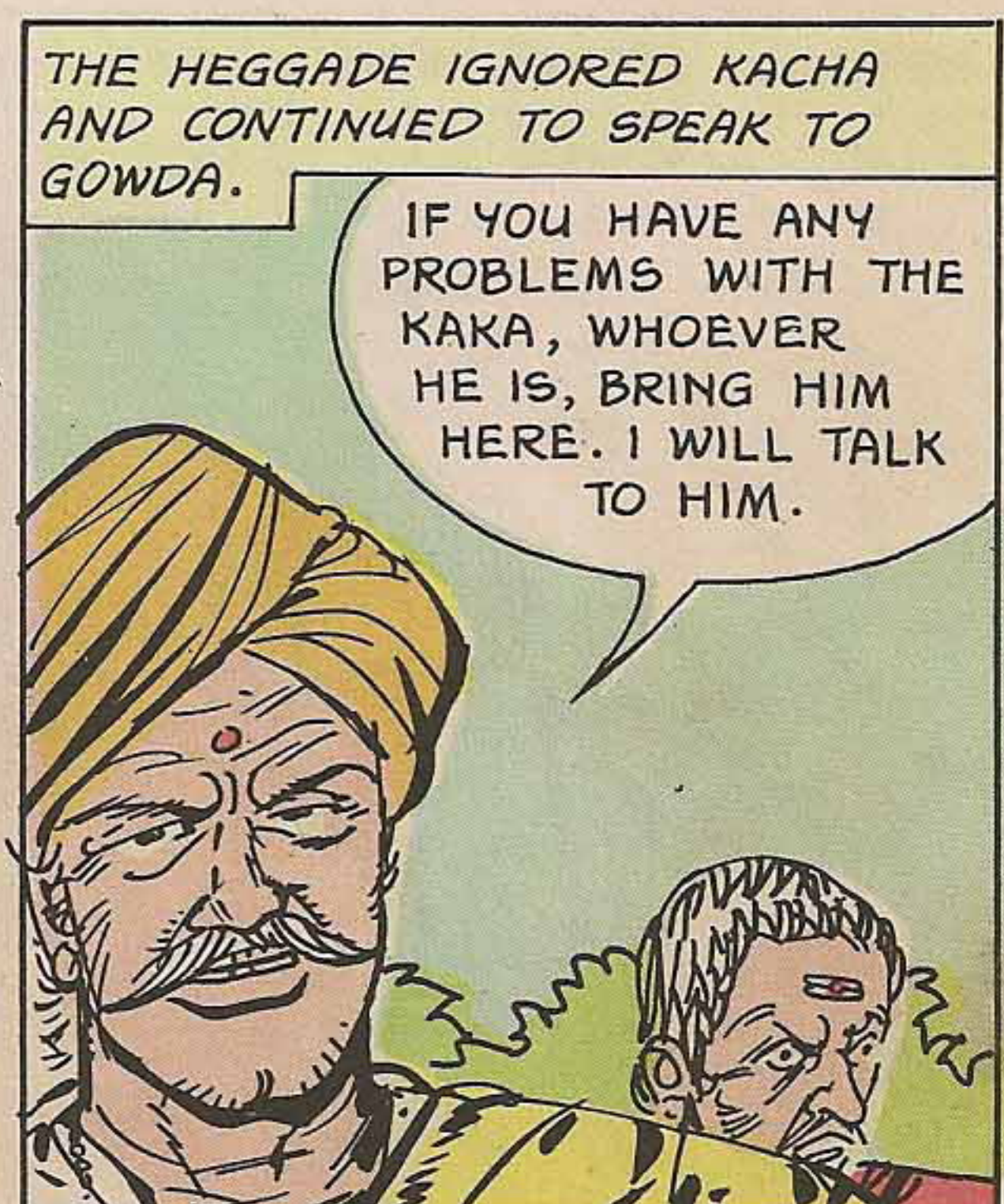
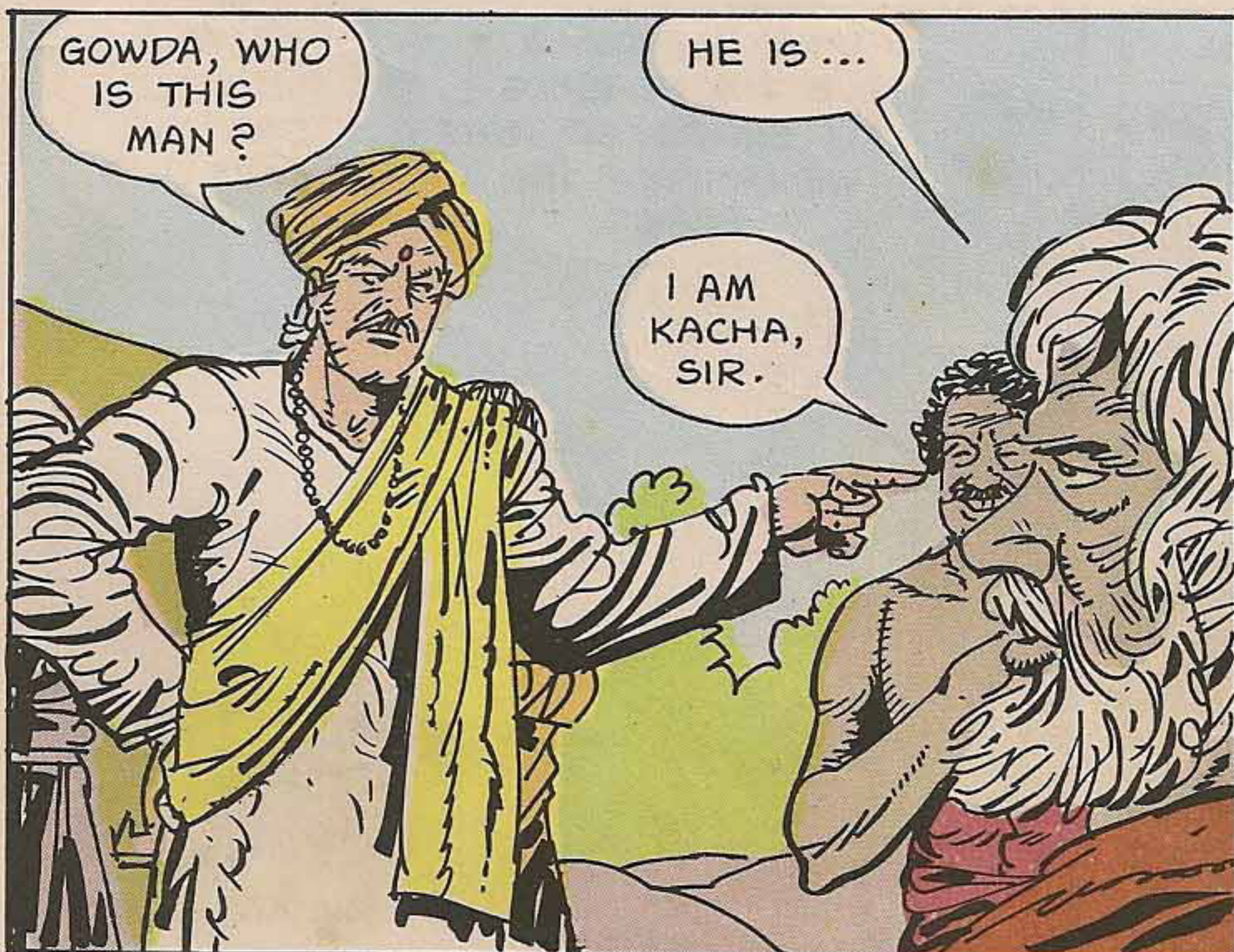
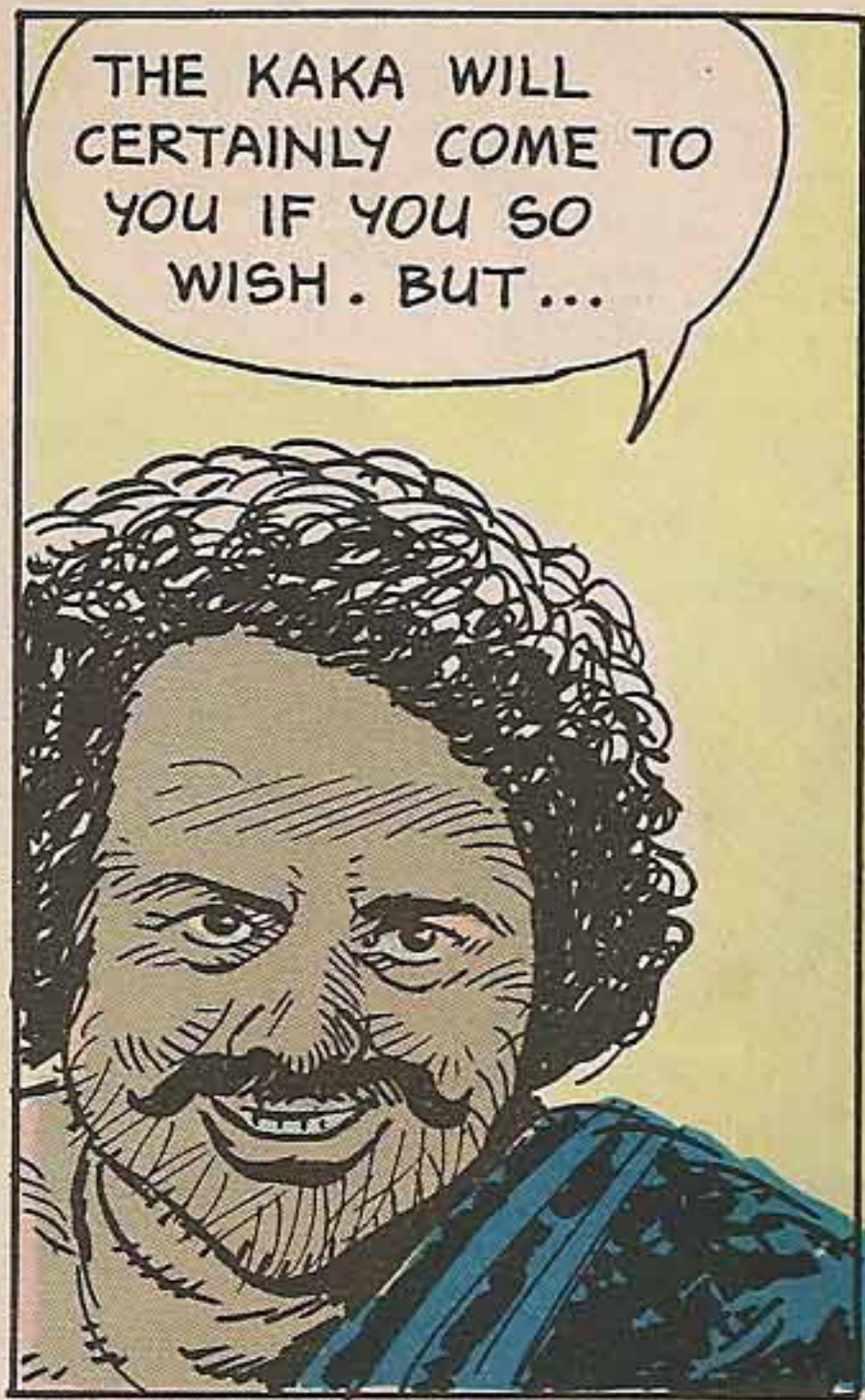
IF YOU DON'T SEND THE DUES BY EVENING WE'LL HAVE TO COME TO YOUR VILLAGE AND COLLECT THEM.

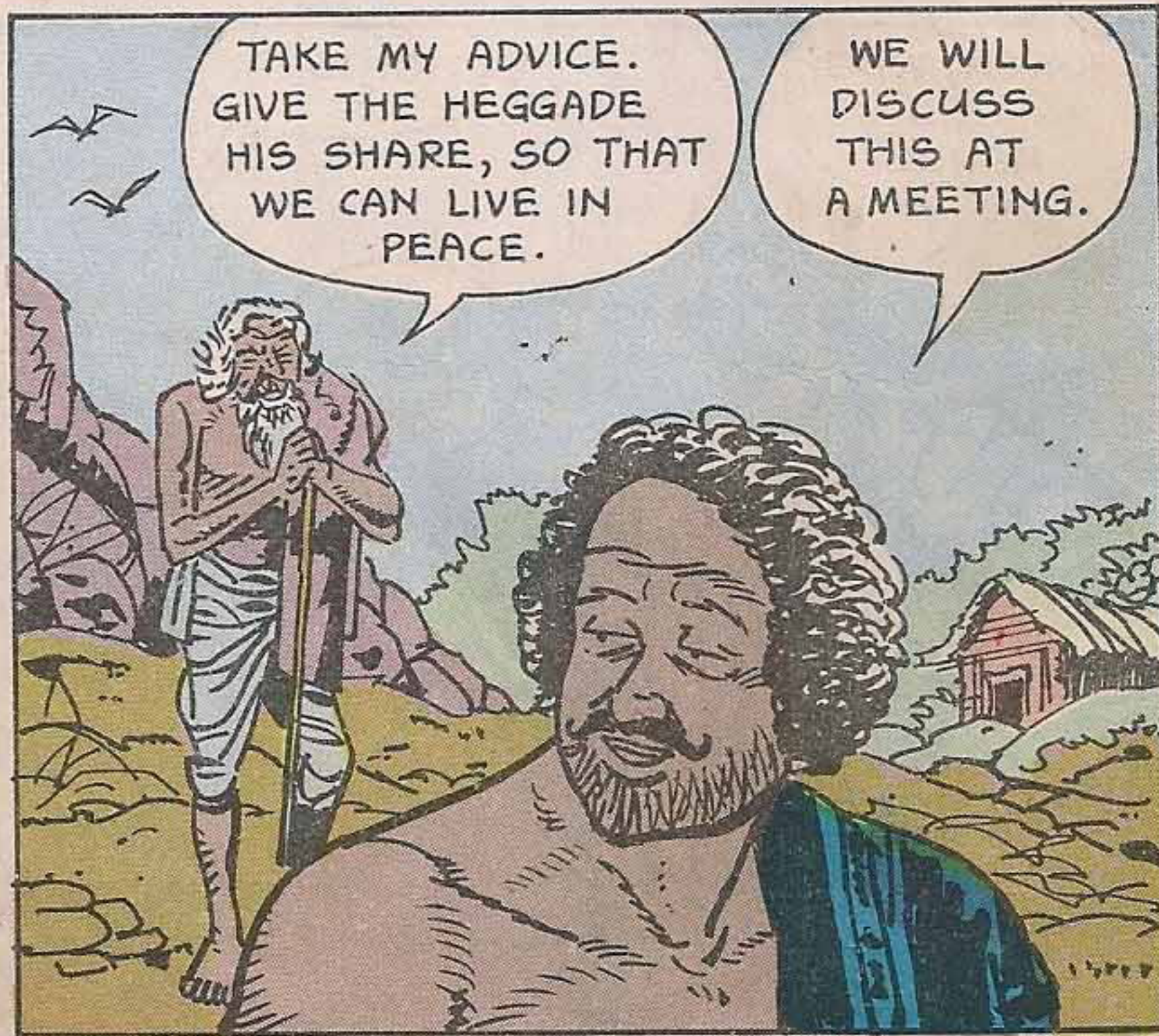
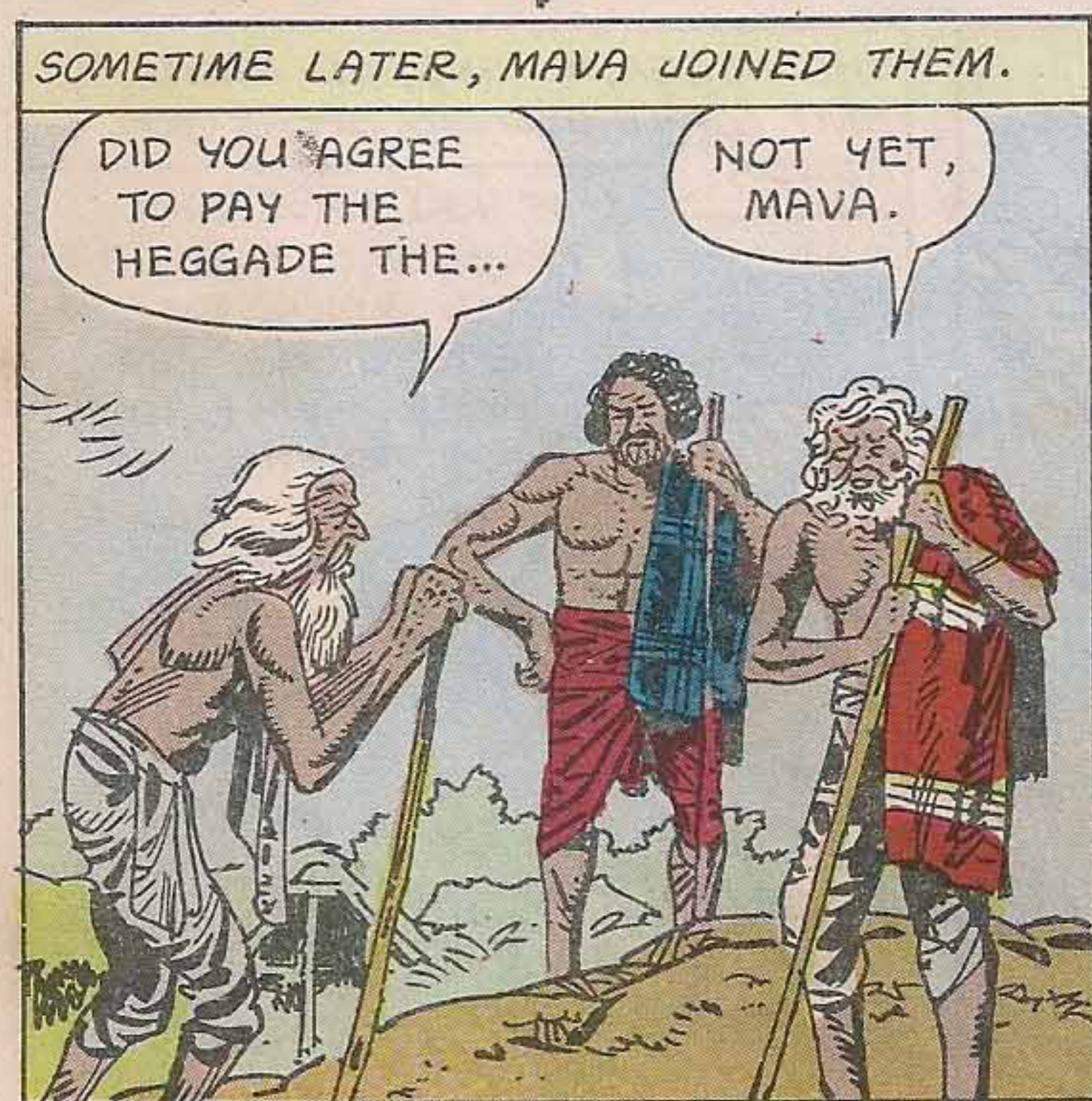
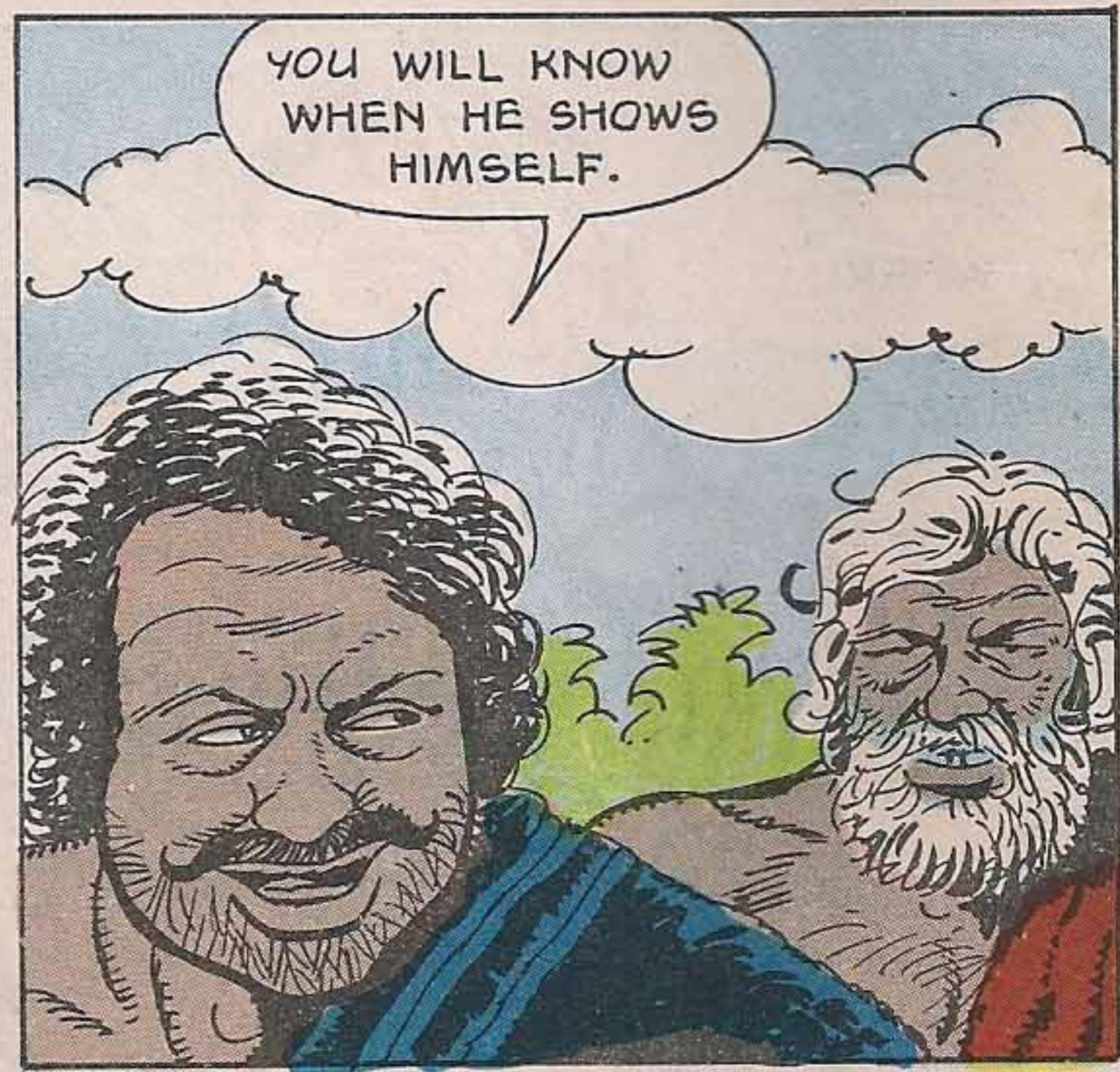
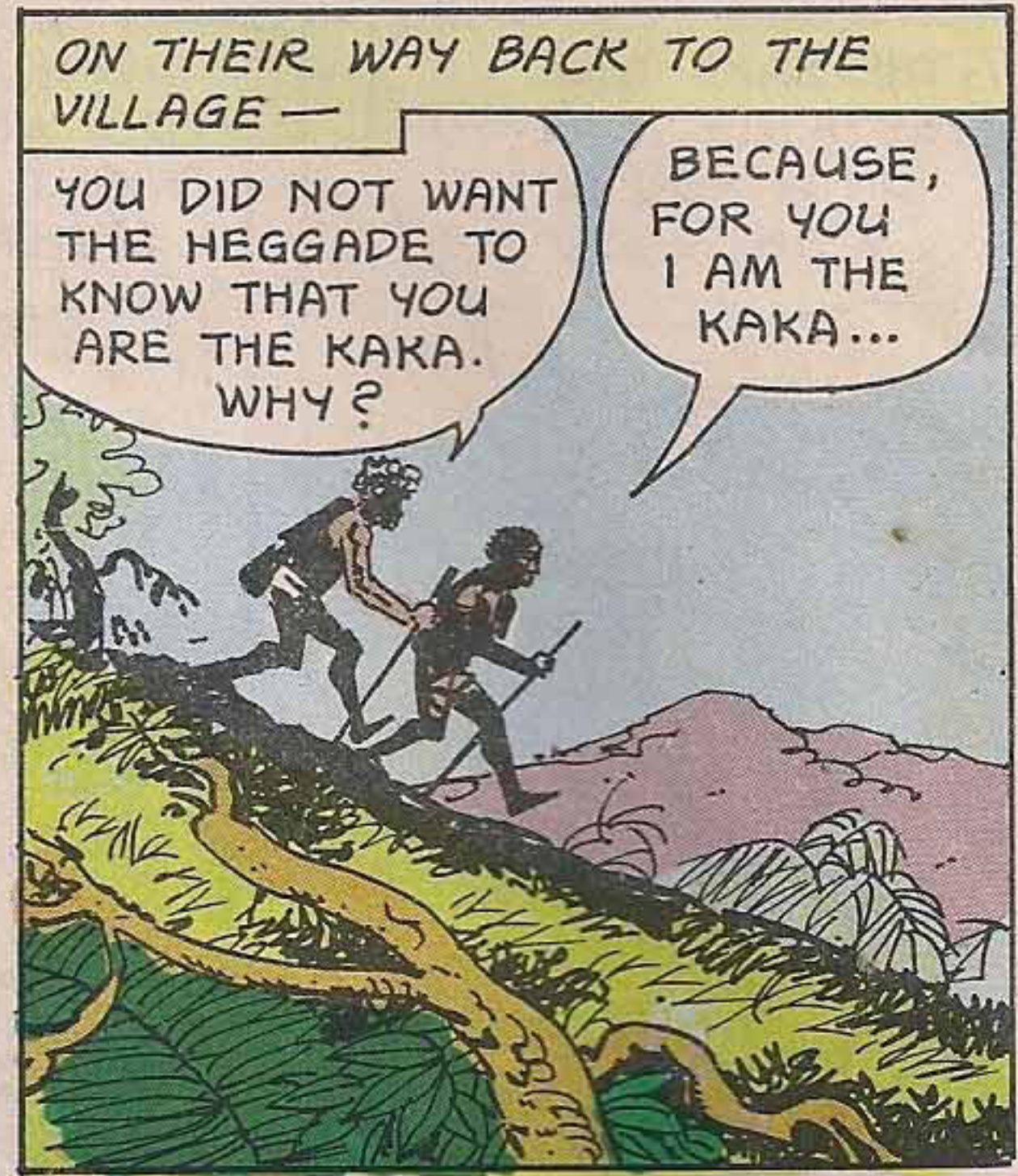
IF KAKA ALLOWS YOU TO.



SEND YOUR KAKA HERE. WE'LL KEEP HIM IN THE HEGGADE'S FORT FOR FOUR DAYS AND TEACH HIM WHAT'S GOOD FOR HIM.







AT THE MEETING —

THE HEGGADE SAYS
WE MUST GIVE HIM
WHAT HE DEMANDS
OR QUIT THE
HILLS.



TODAY THE HEGGADE DEMANDS
FOUR MAUNDS OF SANDALWOOD.
TOMORROW HE MAY DEMAND
FORTY. HE MAY DEMAND TEAK
WOOD TOO. HE MAY DEMAND
MORE TUSKS AND COMPEL
US TO CAPTURE AND KILL
ELEPHANTS.

AND HE IS QUITE
CAPABLE OF MAKING
SUCH DEMANDS.



THE HEGGADE
IS FROM THE
TOWN. HE DOES
NOT LOVE THE
FOREST.



WE ARE THE CHILDREN
OF THE FOREST. THE
FOREST GIVES US
WHAT WE NEED. AND
WE SHOULD NOT
TAKE FROM THE
FOREST MORE THAN
WE NEED.





Hooray! Hooray! It's a Goldspotting day!



NO PAINTING
COULD EVER DO ME JUSTICE.
BUT KEEP TRYING.



Trikaya GS 18.83.



I SEE THAT
USING YOUR MOUTH
CAN ALSO BE
AN ART!

WE'RE ALL
GOLDSPOTTERS.

WE'RE GOING
GOLDSPOTTING.

HURRAY!

THERE'S
A BIG BEAR HUG
FOR THE WINNER!

Fun means Goldspotting





AMAR CHITRA KATHA

QUIZ CONTEST 9

B THE GARDENER WANTS US TO WATER HIS GARDEN WHILE HE IS AWAY.

WHAT FUN!

WHEN CAN WE START?

RIGHT AWAY! GO FETCH THE WATER!

WHEN THEY CAME BACK WITH THE WATER —

SOME TREES ARE SMALL AND SOME ARE BIG!

THAT'S RIGHT! HOW MUCH WATER SHOULD WE GIVE TO EACH TREE?

HOW WOULD YOU SOLVE THE PROBLEM?

A LONG AGO TWO TREES LIVED IN PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP IN A FOREST WHICH WAS FULL OF WILD BEAST.

I CANNOT THESE A I WILL D THEM A

BUT THE NOT AGR

THE NE

WHAT

SOLUTIONS TO ACK QUIZ NO. 8

A. — The dhobi covers the donkey with the tiger's skin.
— The donkey in the tiger's skin brays.

B. — The Vijaya Stambha should not be shown be years after his coronation. (Kumbha was cro The Stambha was completed only in 1448).

STAND
NIMALS.
RIVE
WAY.
OH, NO!
PLEASE
DON'T! THE
WILD ANIMALS
PROTECT US AND
KEEP MEN AWAY.



FIRST TREE DID
EE WITH THE SECOND.

IT SHOOK ITSELF VIGOROUSLY,
MAKING A LOUD NOISE WHICH
AWOKE THE ANIMALS SLEEPING
BENEATH IT.

LOOK AT THAT
TREE! IT'S
POSSESSED.

LET'S
RUN
AWAY.



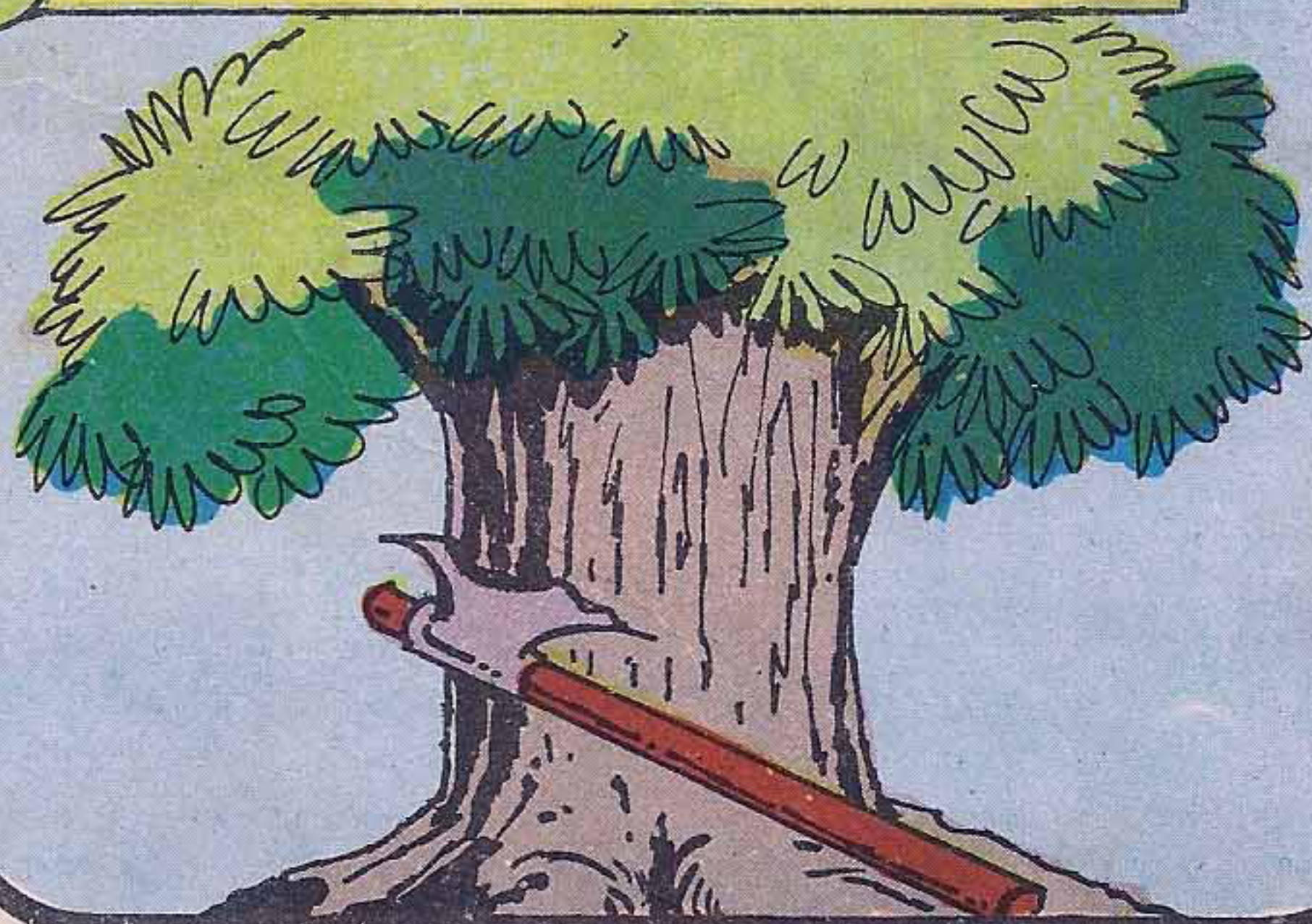
AT MORNING —

AT LAST, I'VE
GOT RID OF
THOSE ANIMALS!



DO YOU IMAGINE HAPPENED AFTER THAT?

C SUGGEST A SUITABLE CAPTION.



cause it was completed
wned in 1433.

C. — Been or Pungi (in South India)

Rules:

1. The first fifty all-correct entries will each win a prize of Rs. 10
2. The remaining all-correct entries will each win a colourful picture post card
3. The decision of the judges is final and binding
4. Mail your entries, (entry form given below) to:

AMAR CHITRA KATHA QUIZ CONTEST
Post Bag No. 16542
Cumballa Hill P.O., Bombay-400 026.

ACK QUIZ 9 ENTRY FORM

Name _____

Age _____

Address _____

Pin Code _____

MY SOLUTIONS

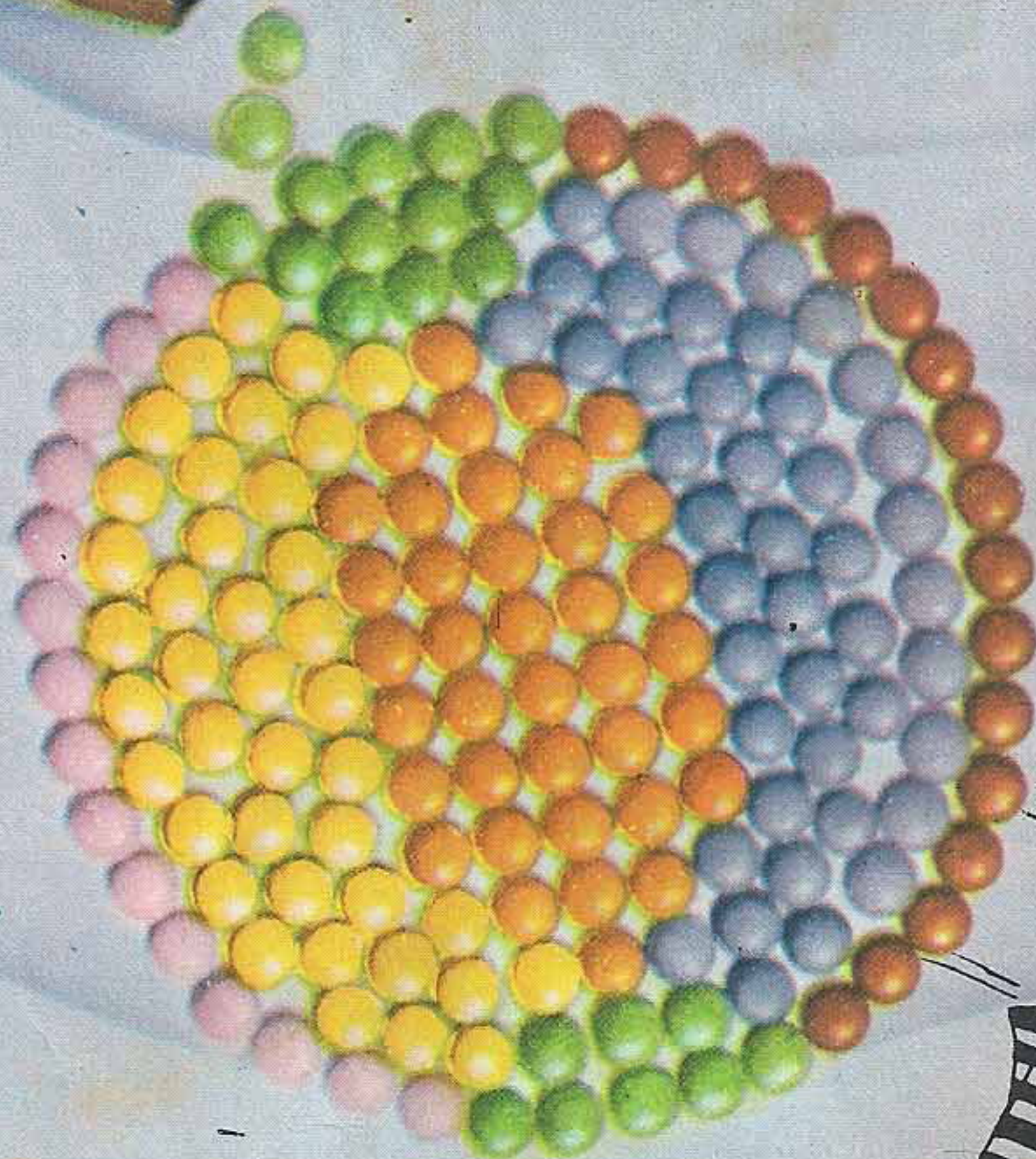
A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

The last date for receiving
entries : 31 • 7 • 1983

"Hurray, hurray, it's a holiday
Hurray, hurray, it's time to play
So get your pail and your beachball
And don't forget Gems for one and all!"



Got a moment? Get a Gem!

Cadbury's
Chocolates

Anything's possible with Cadbury's Gems!

LATER —

NAYAK, TOMORROW
GOWDA AND KACHA—
I MEAN THE KAKA—
WILL BE COMING TO
TALK WITH ME.



WHEN I GIVE YOU THE
SIGNAL, YOU SHOULD
TAKE THE KAKA
PRISONER.



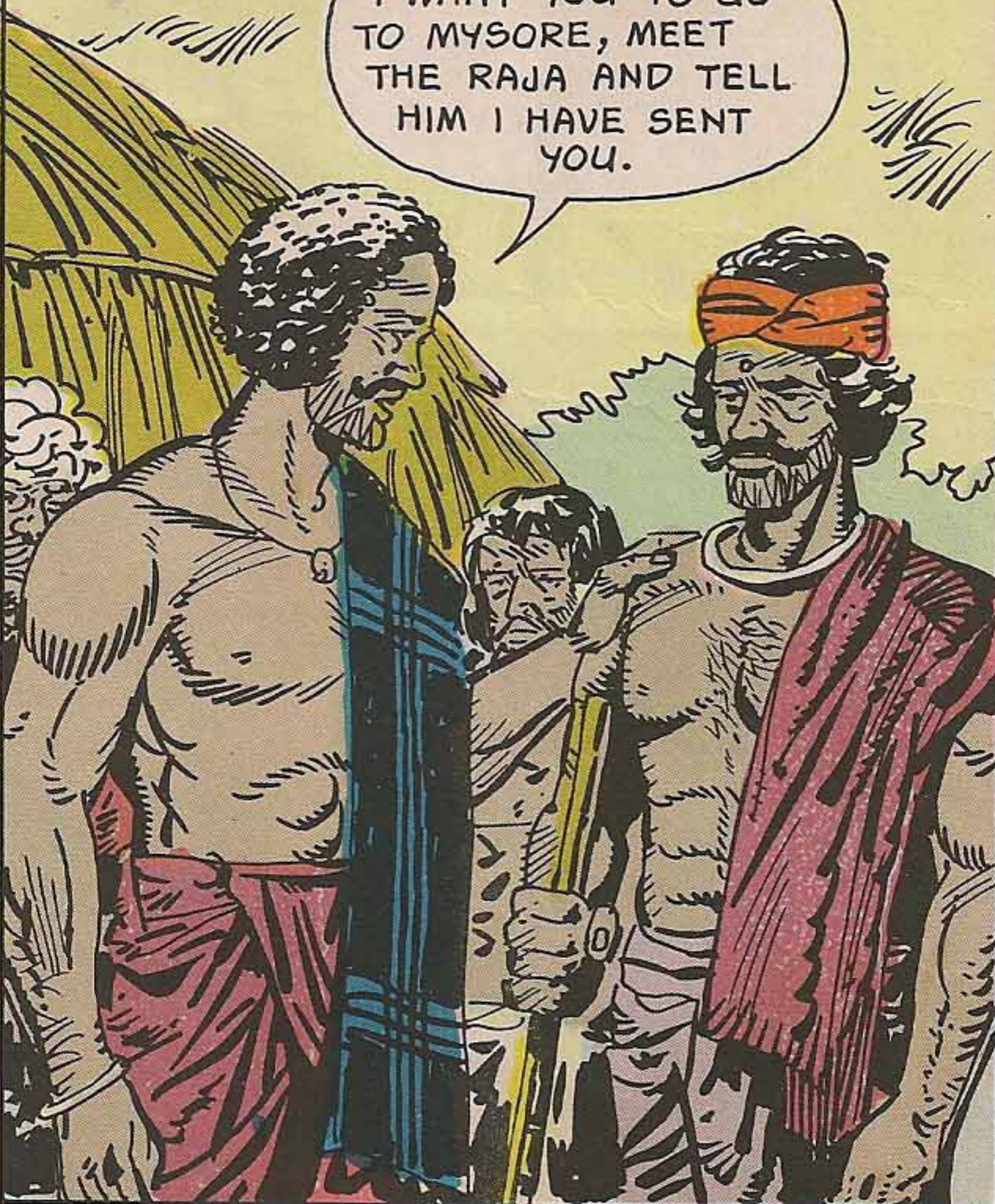
THEN THE HEGGADE
TURNED TO HIS SON.

CHIKKAIYA,
YOU WILL
ASSIST
NAYAK.



THE FOLLOWING MORNING —

I WANT YOU TO GO
TO MYSORE, MEET
THE RAJA AND TELL
HIM I HAVE SENT
YOU.



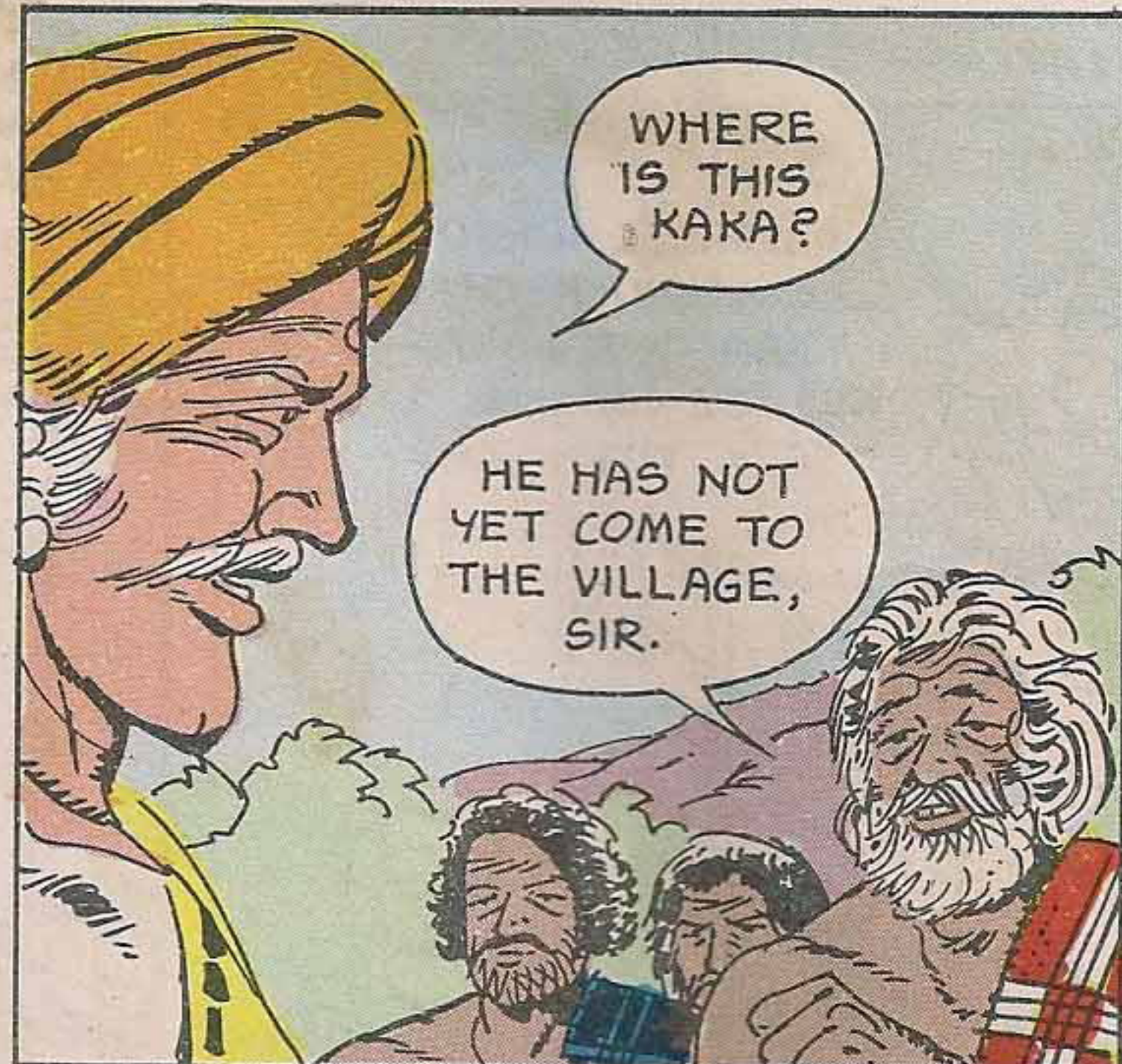
THE MESSENGER LEFT FOR MYSORE,
THE CAPITAL OF KING RANADHIRA.

THE THREE OF US
WILL GO AND MEET
HEGGADE. MONA,
YOU KNOW WHAT
YOU HAVE TO DO
IN CASE...

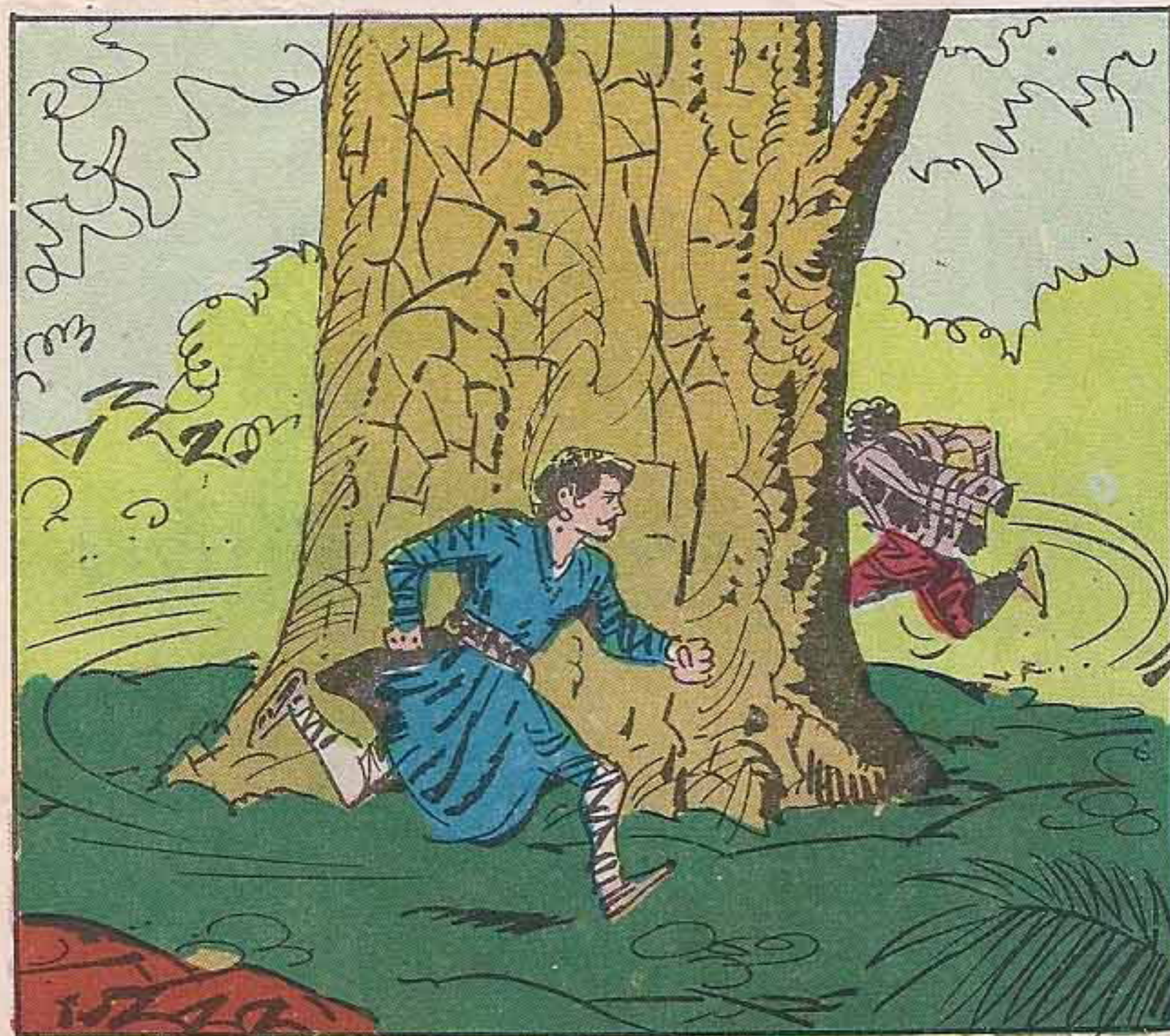
YES, KAKA,
I KNOW.



WHEN THEY REACHED THE HEGGADE'S CAMP—



THE NEXT MOMENT —



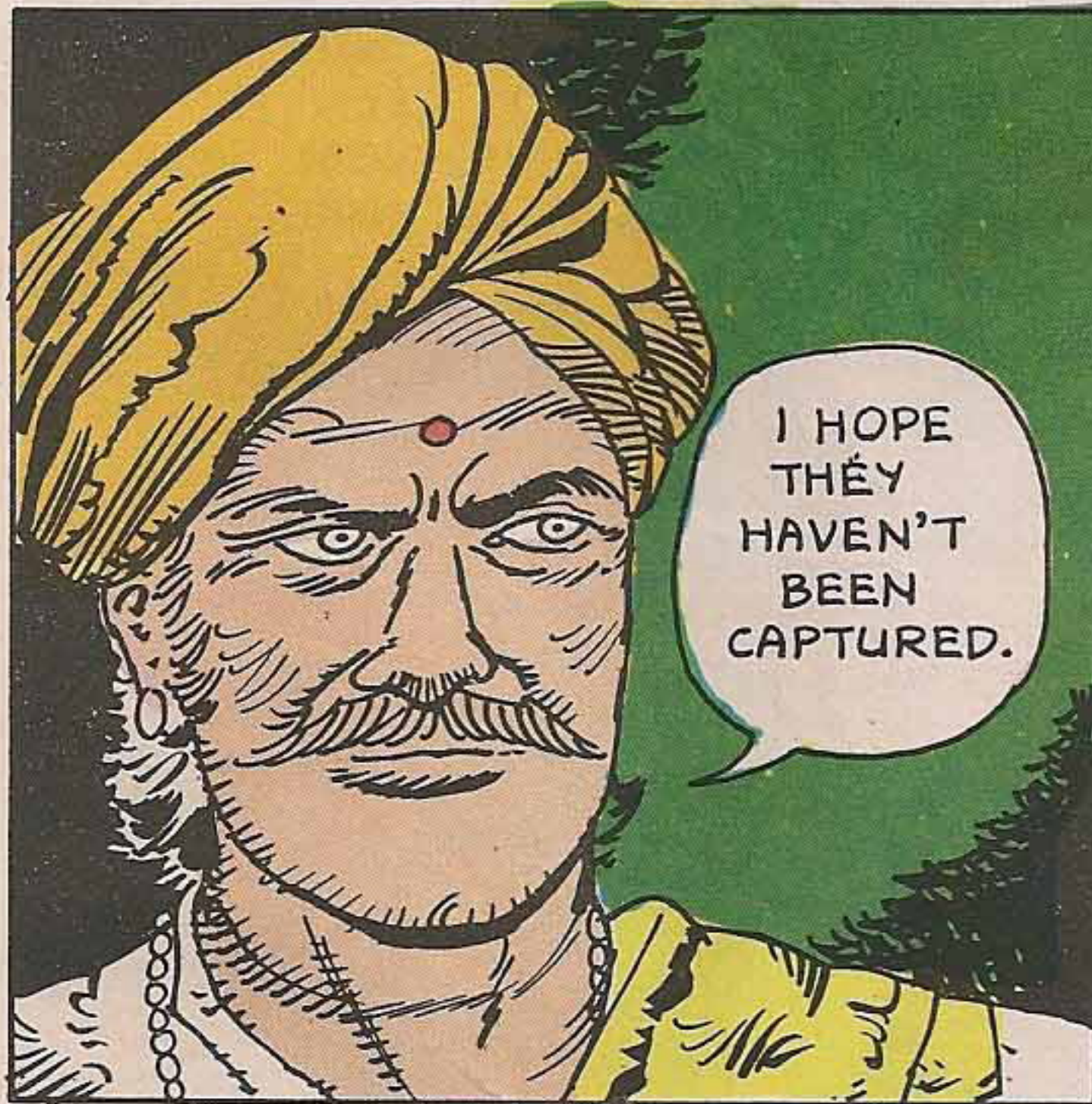


MEANWHILE AT THE HEGGADE'S CAMP —



DO YOU KNOW
WHAT HAPPENED
TO MY SON AND
THE CLERK?

THEY RAN
AFTER THOSE
RASCALS!



AT THE VILLAGE —

MOLLAY, THE HEGGADE'S
SON IS INJURED. WATCH
OVER HIM. I WILL GO
AND GET SOME HERBS
TO SOOTHE HIS
ANKLE.

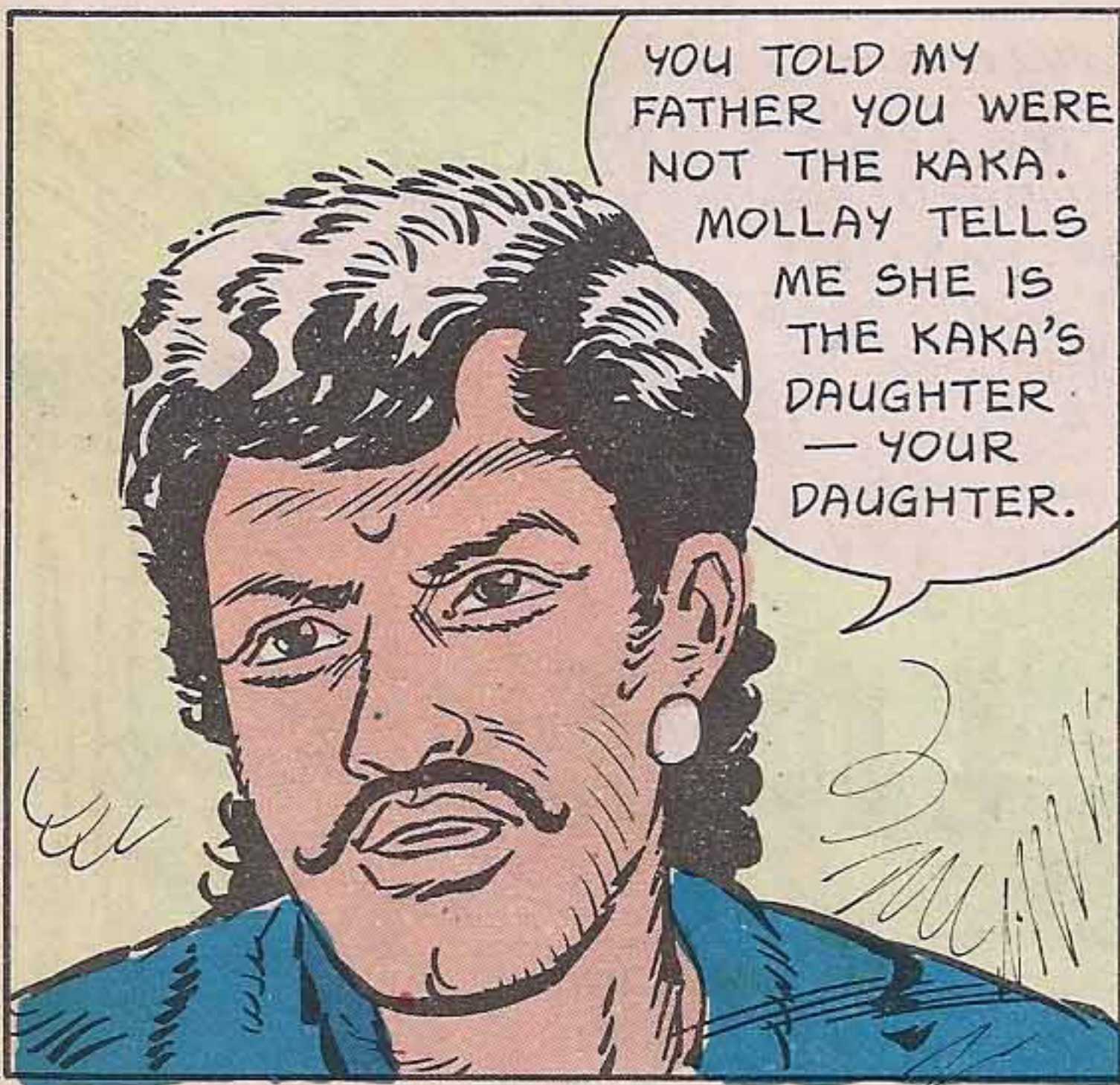
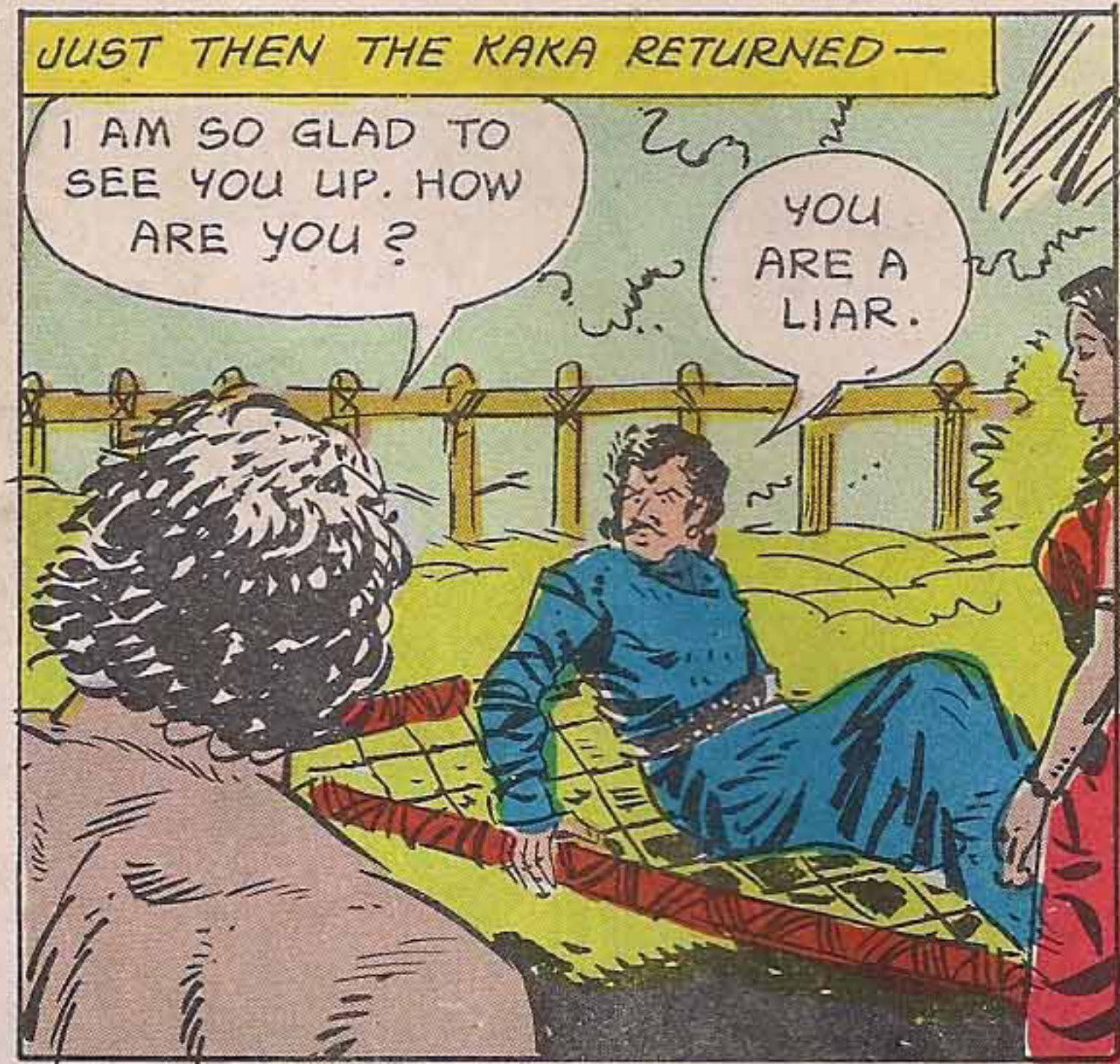
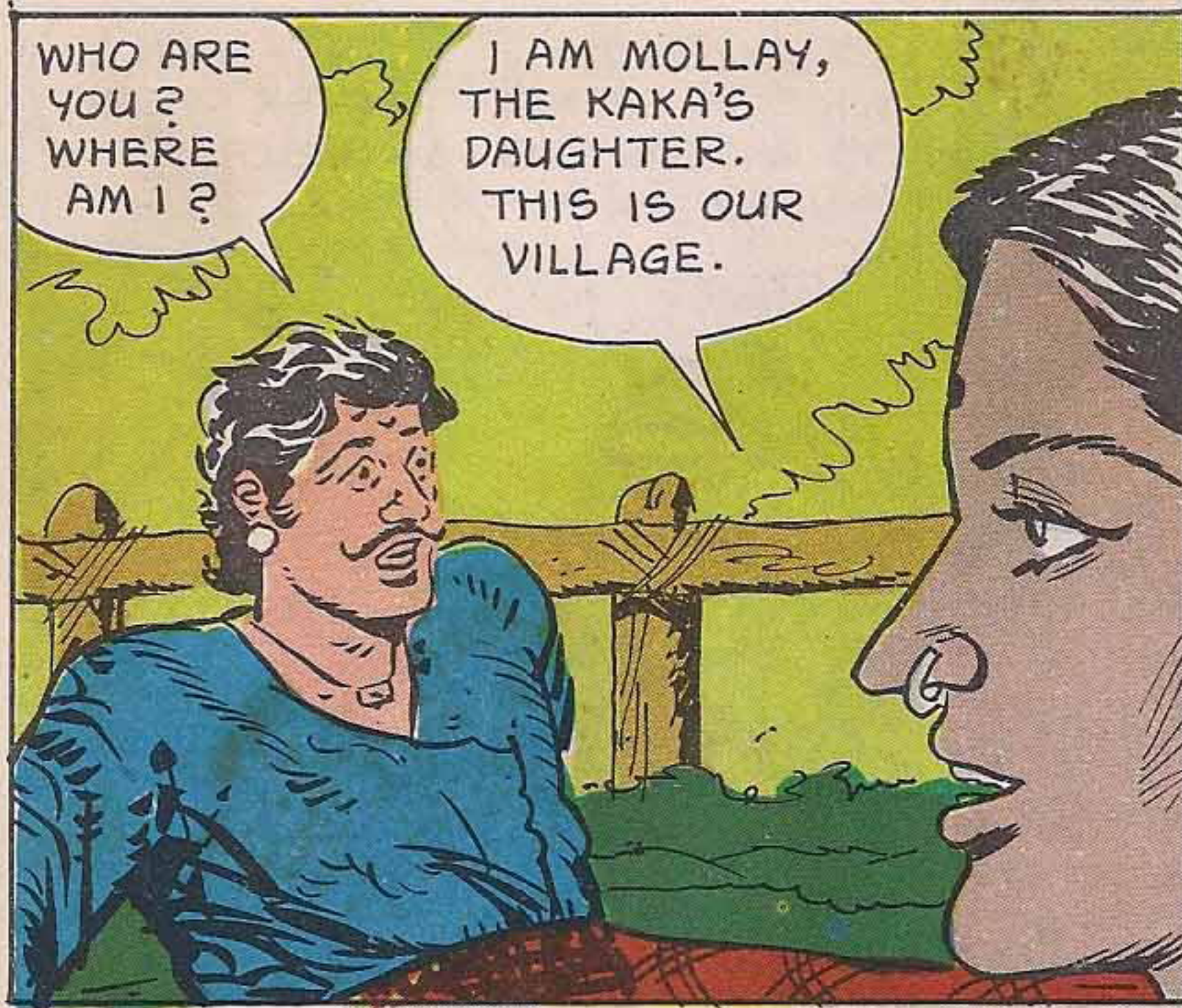
PLEASE
COME BACK
QUICKLY,
FATHER.

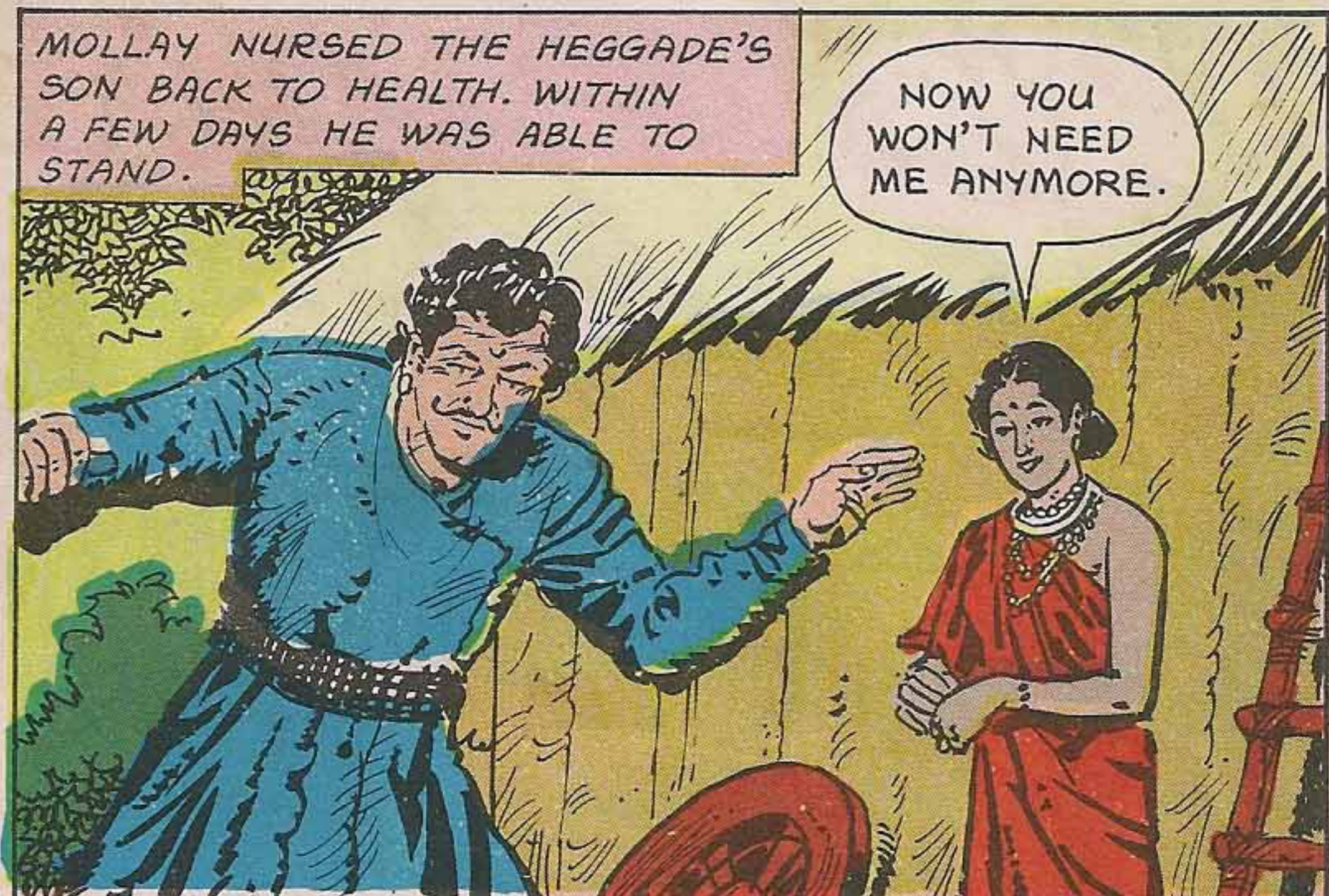


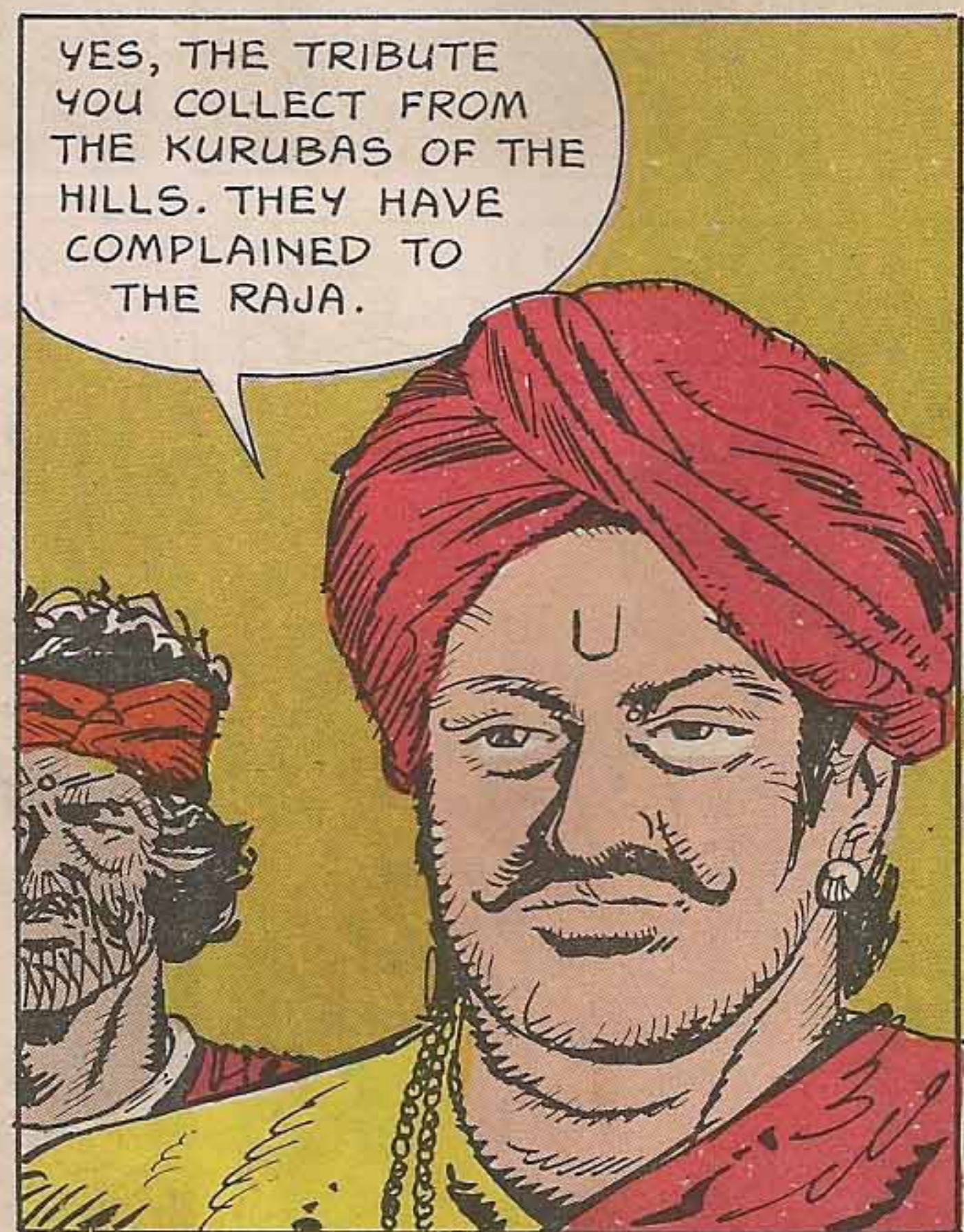
A SHORT WHILE LATER —

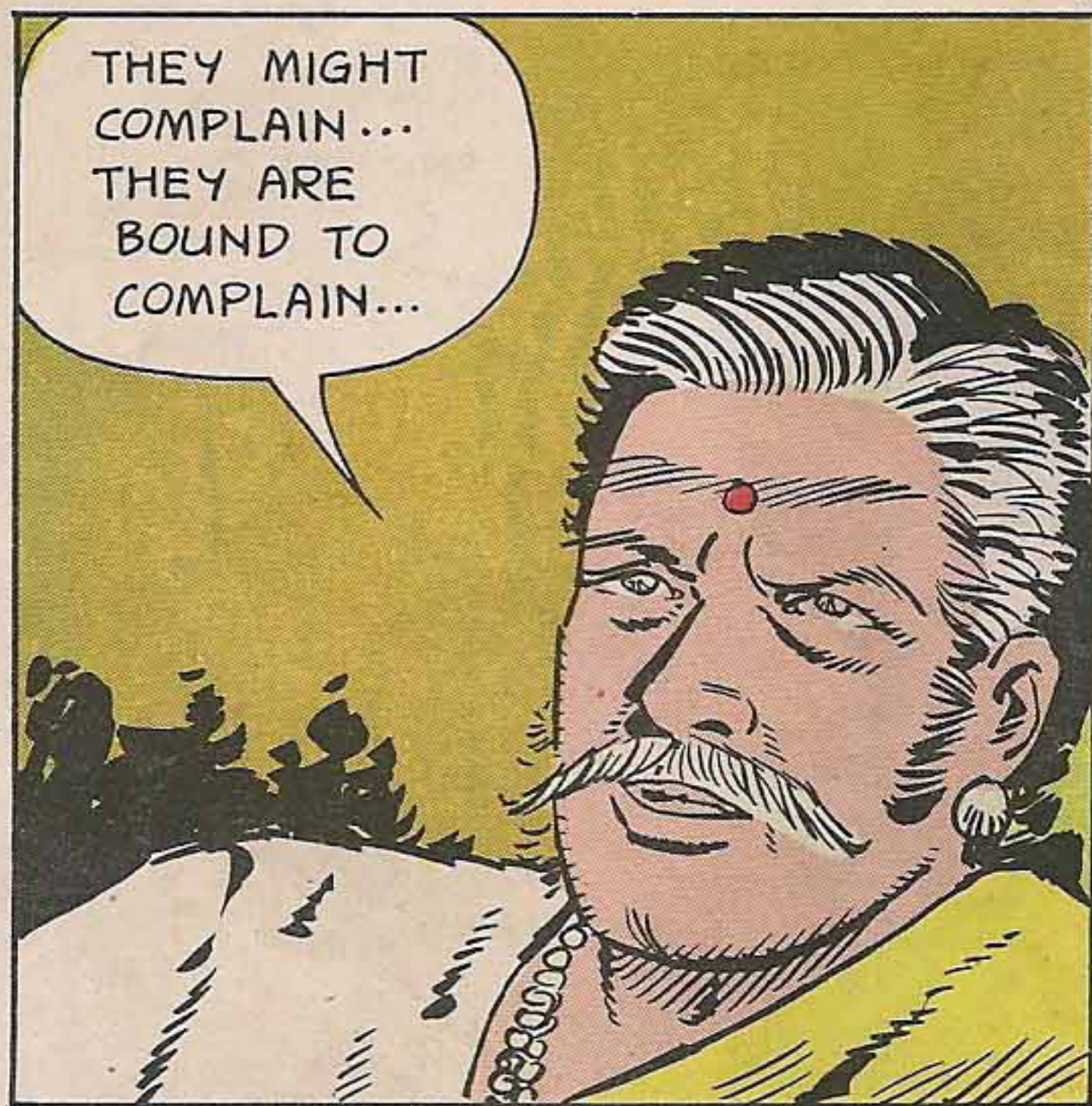
HE'S
OPENING
HIS EYES!



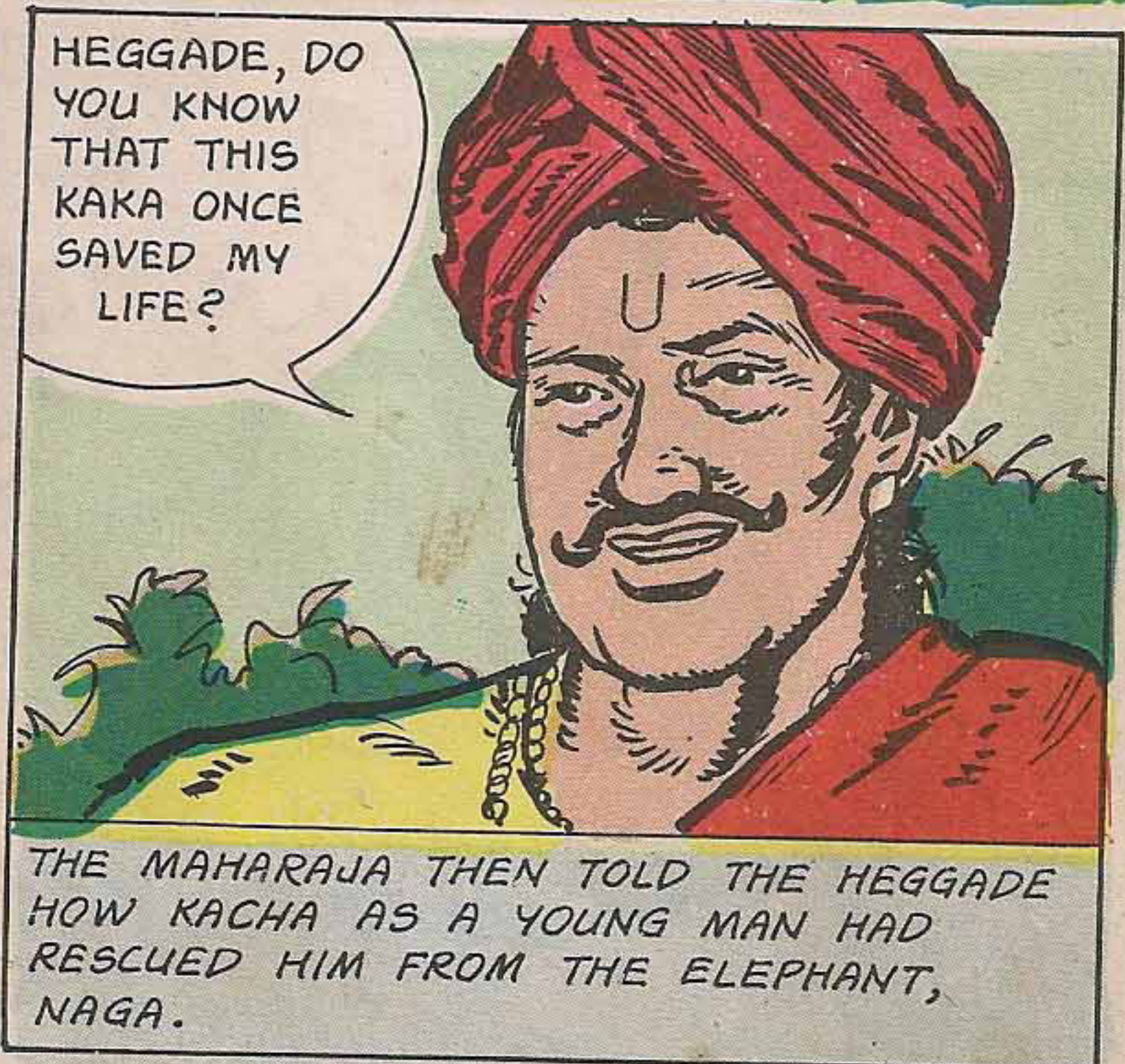


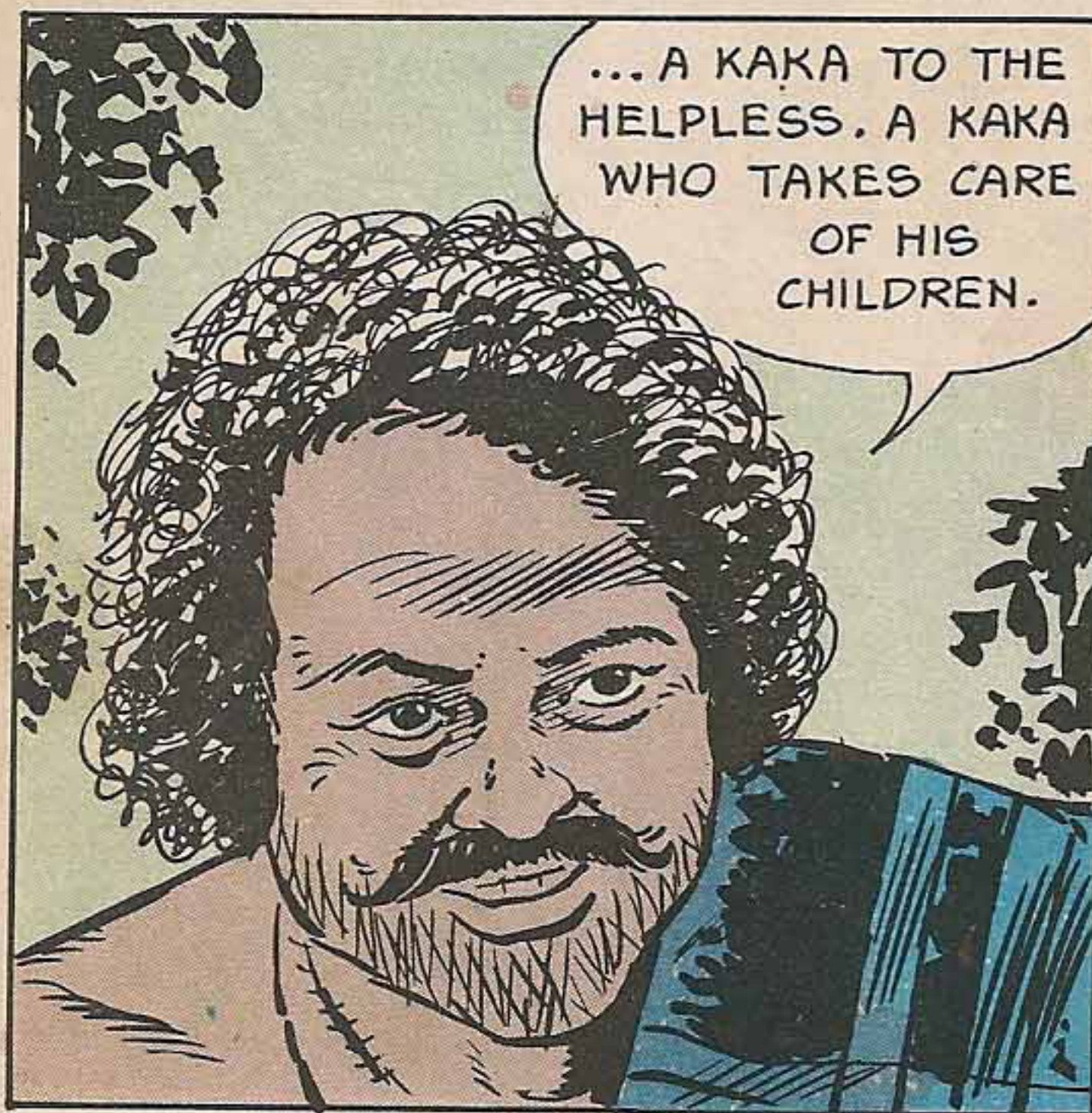


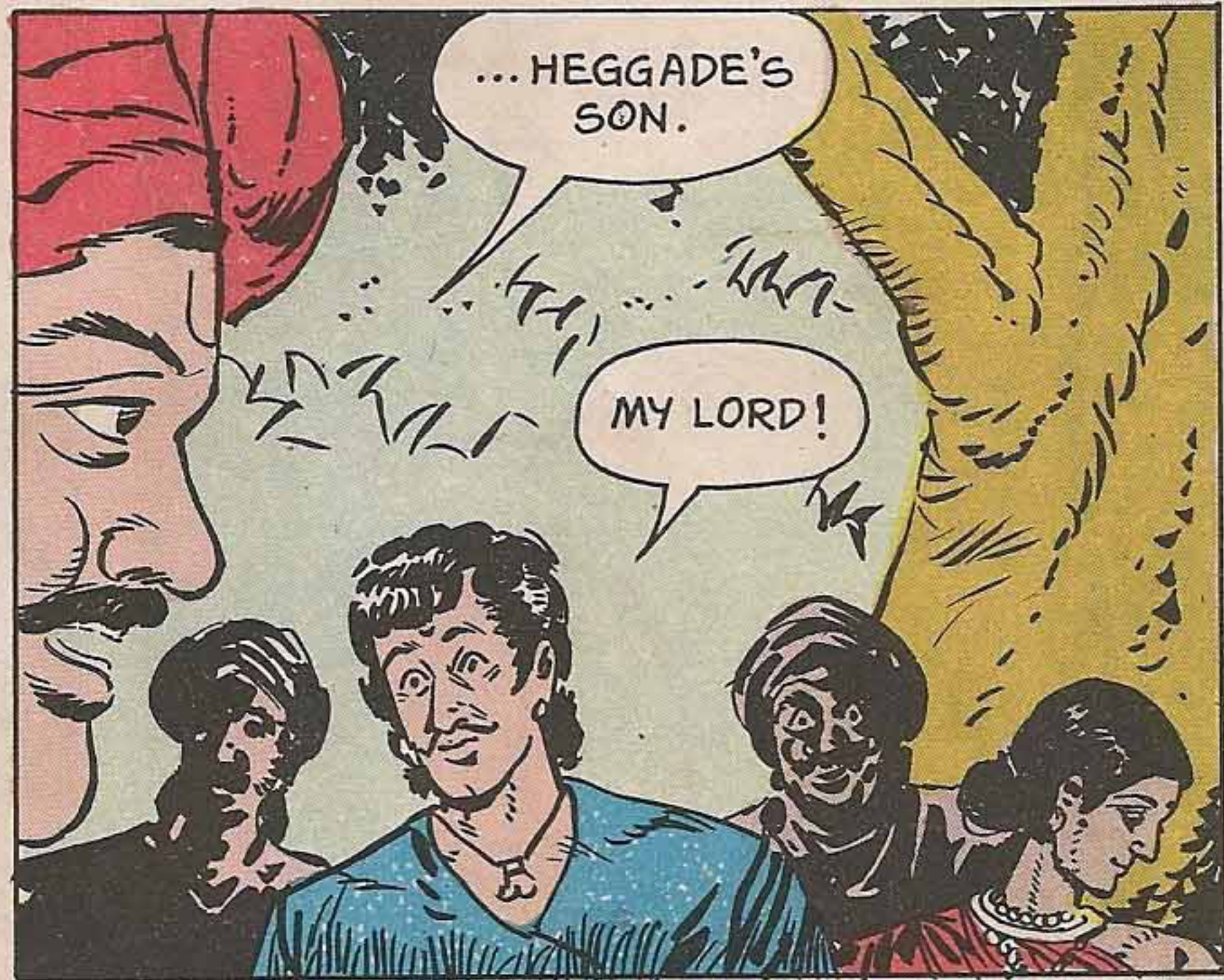














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POPPINS TANTRA

Ram and Shyam
have a tale to tell,
Listen kids
and listen well.



Bunny waking early one morn
Planned to set out early that day,
But saw as he went on his way
A sight most wondrous and gay.

It was with surprise and delight
That what innocent Bunny saw,
Was the favourite dish of his life:
Crisp, juicy carrots—four.

So drooling, he skipped towards
This fabulous unexpected treat,
But a noose fell around his neck,
It was foxy's trap so neat.

"Ha, ha, ha!" Foxy laughed,
Poor Bunny's confusion to see.
For he'd thought those fake carrots real,
"He's going to be eaten by me."

So quality, dear friends, don't you see,
Is really what matters at all.
Fakes give tummy-aches and more
While Poppins above all stand tall.



So just don't let fakes fool you ever,
And you know there are so many around.
Only Poppins have silver-striped covers,
Only Poppins in excellence abound.