

DEEPAK CHOPRA PRESENTS

India authentic™

UMA



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॥ नात्युनिहान्ति न रथानि न दावानि ॥
॥ अवानानि च न श्रुतो यानि न अग्नानि ॥



Like many Gods and Goddesses in the Indian pantheon, Ullama is often more known by her various associations than for herself. Also called Parvati or Shakti, Ullama is variously identified as the consort of Shiva, the destroyer, the sister of Vishnu, the preserver, and the mother of Ganesha, the lord of knowledge. Her linkage to these iconic Gods is, however, no coincidence because amongst a vast mythology, Ullama is regarded as the ultimate divine, the primal force in the Universe of femininity, the mother of all things.

It is Uma's connection to Shiva that in my estimation is most relevant to us today. For Shiva is the lord of destruction and it is said that all living things find their end with him. With wars raging all across the globe and weapons of mass destruction proliferating in every direction, it's not far-fetched to say that we live in the age of Shiva. However, according to Indian mythology, this is not the first time we find ourselves in this predicament. For at any time, when Shiva is without Uma, his base instincts take over, his temperament flares, and the rest of us can find ourselves amidst his unruliness. It is Uma's core attributes of grace and gentility, of maternity and renunciation that balance and nurture Shiva. Left alone, Shiva's power leads to a barrenness in which there is no fertility while rejoined with Uma, their combined synergy creates a more wholesome equilibrium, regeneration where previously there was only degeneration.

We need more of Uma's presence in our world. We need more of her nurturing impulse, her instinct for sacrifice and selflessness. The point is not to pray to her or worship her idols, but to remind ourselves of what Uma stands for, to celebrate the primordial forces of the Universe that pulse through her. In knowing Uma, we know those qualities within us that when nurtured will spontaneously manifest in our lives and tame those deeper, destructive impulses that, left unchecked, can descend the world into darkness.

Deepak Chopra

August 2007





EVERYTHING IS CONNECTED.

SOMETIMES WE ARE TOO CLOSE TO THINGS TO SEE THEM.



SOMETIMES WE ARE TOO FAR AWAY.



MAYBE WE ARE SO BUSY SURVIVING OUR OWN LIFE, THAT WE FORGET A SIMPLE FACT.



THAT WHICH WE CALL THE PAST...



...IS ONLY A PROLOGUE.

AND THE PAST DOES NOT JUST STOP AT YOUR BIRTH. SOMETIMES THERE ARE THINGS BEFORE THAT. THERE ARE THE OTHER LIVES YOU'VE LIVED. OTHER BIRTHS THAT HAVE MARKED YOUR TIME IN THIS UNIVERSE.

IF THAT WANDERING HERMIT THINKS HE CAN SOFTEN MY HEART...

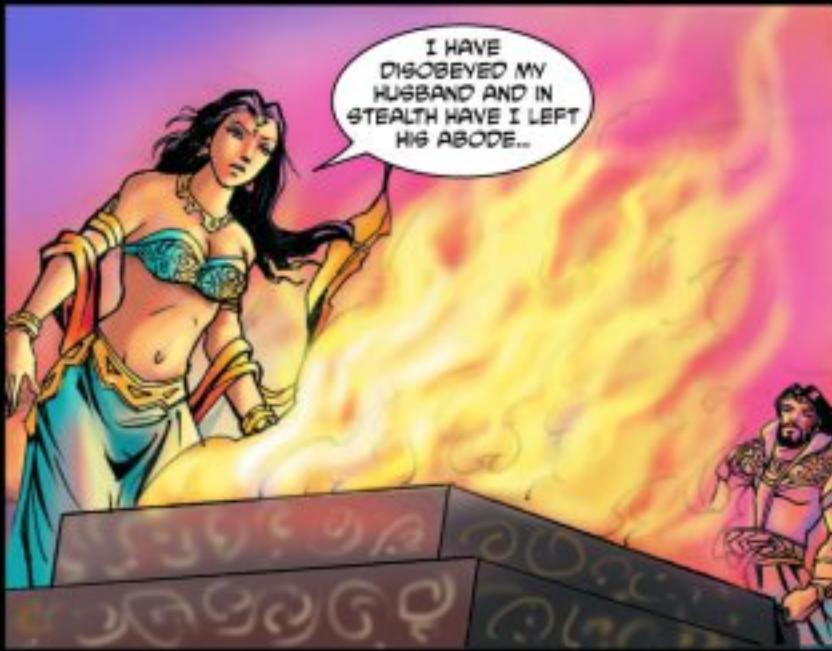
IF HE THINKS I SHALL LOOK INTO THE EYES OF MY DAUGHTER AND JUST MELT...

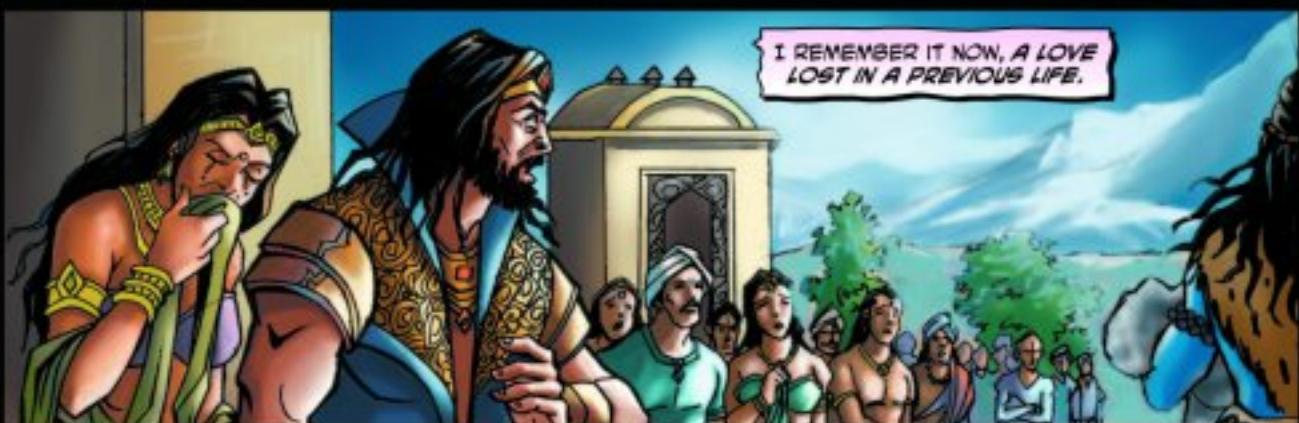
OR JUST FORGET THE PAIN IN MY HEART OF SEEING MY DAUGHTER SATI, A PRINCESS, THE VERY GRAND DAUGHTER OF LORD BRAHMA WALK BESIDES A PENLESS PAUPER AS HIS WIFE...

THEN I MUST ADD STUPIDITY AT THE TOP OF THE LIST OF THINGS I HATE ABOUT HIM.







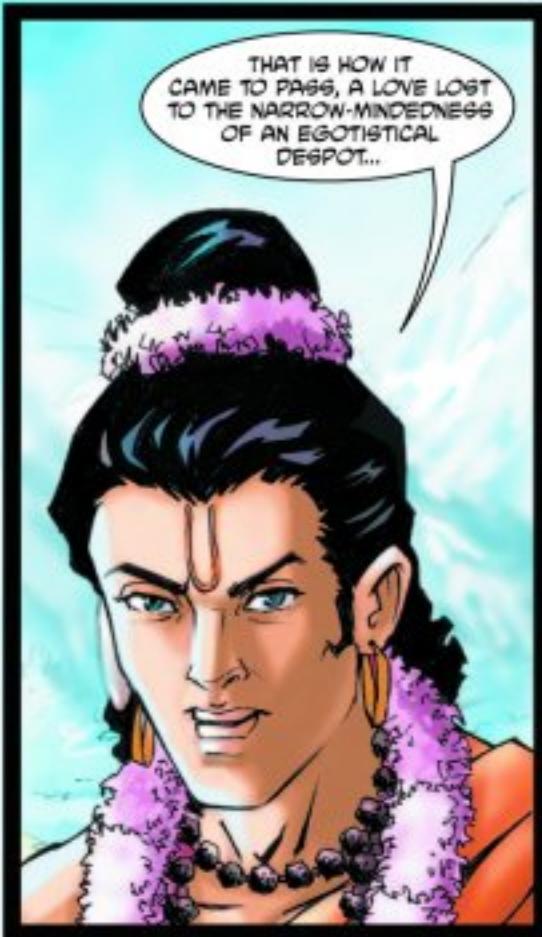




... MOURN HIS LOST LOVE.









"AN EVIL TWINKLE IN HIS EYE, THE CRAFTY DEMON ASKED FOR A BOON THAT ALMOST ASSURED IMMORTALITY FOR HIM.

O HOLY CREATOR, THEN GRANT ME THIS BOON. I WISH NOT TO BE SLAYED BY ANYONE OTHER THAN THE SON OF SHIVA.



THAT INDEED IS WITHIN MY POWERS TO GRANT, DEMON KING. I BLESS YOU AND DECREE THAT, YOU BE KILLED BY NONE OTHER THAN THE SON OF SHIVA.

"THE DEMON HAD PLAYED HIS DICE WELL, FOR WHAT HE WAS ASKING WAS NOTHING SHORT OF VIRTUAL IMMORTALITY.

"HE WAS SAFE IN THE KNOWLEDGE THAT SHIVA HAD WITHDRAWN INTO HARSH MEDITATION IN THE ICY WASTES OF KAILASH, FOREVER SHUNNING THE WORLD THAT HAD ROBBED HIM OF HIS ONE TRUE LOVE.

"THE CHANCES OF SHIVA'S SON BEING BORN WERE DIM, IN FACT."





"...AND GAVE US!"





"IT IS DONE O KING OF GODS. UMA HAS SET FORTH ON A JOURNEY TO RECLAIM SHIVA'S LOVE. AS I SPEAK, SHE BRAVES THE ICY WINDS OF KAILASH TO REUNITE WITH HER LOST LOVE OF YESTERBIRTH."



"LORD KAMA, MASTER OF LOVE, WE HAVE ARRIVED AT YOUR ABOOE AS THINGS HAVE COME TO A DIRE PASS.

"UMA HAS SUCCEEDED ON HER JOURNEY TO KAILASH.

"YET, THINGS HAVE NOT TRANSPRIRED AS WE HOPED THEY WOULD.



"YOU ALONE AMONG THE GODS POSSESS THE POWER TO AVERT A GREAT MISHAP...

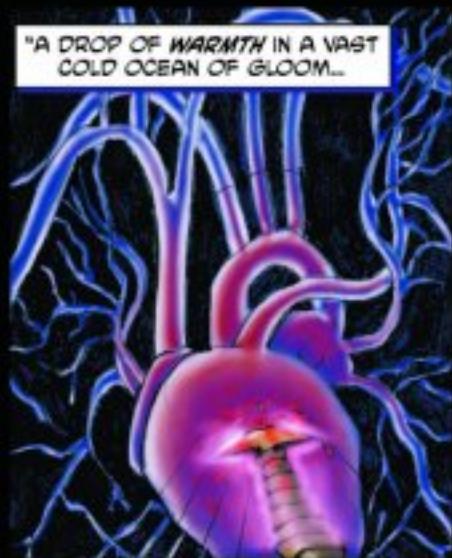
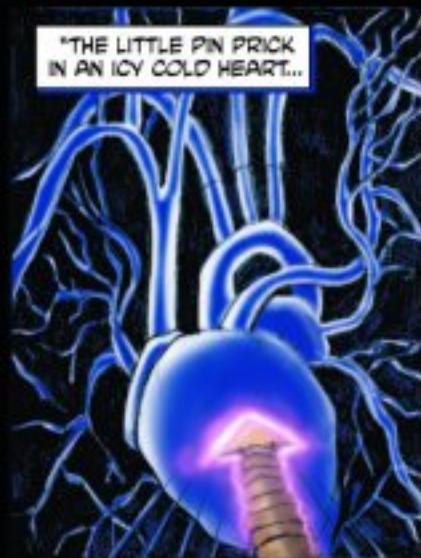
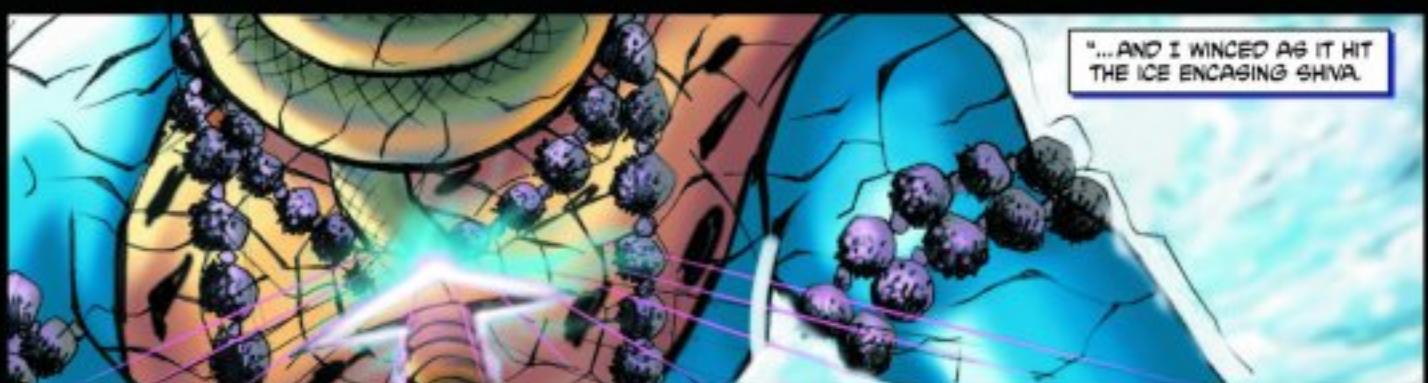
"FOR IF SHIVA IS NOT AROUSED FROM HIS AUSTERE SLUMBER SOON, WE FEAR THAT ALL OF SVARGA" MIGHT SOON BE AT THE MERCY OF TARAKASUR AND HIS DEMON ARMY."





"I FELT MY HANDS SHIVER A LITTLE AS I STEADIED MY BOW AND MOUNTED THE GILDED ARROW OF LOVE ON IT."

"FOR I WAS CHARGED WITH PIERCING THE HEART OF THE MOST MIGHTY LORD SHIVA!"



"AND WHAT IS LOVE,
BUT A SWEET MADNESS.

"SO LONG HAD SHIVA LAID
UNDER THAT ICE, SECLUDED
FROM FEELING...

"...AND INSULATED
FROM HIMSELF...

"... THAT HIS WHOLE
BEING EXPLODED."

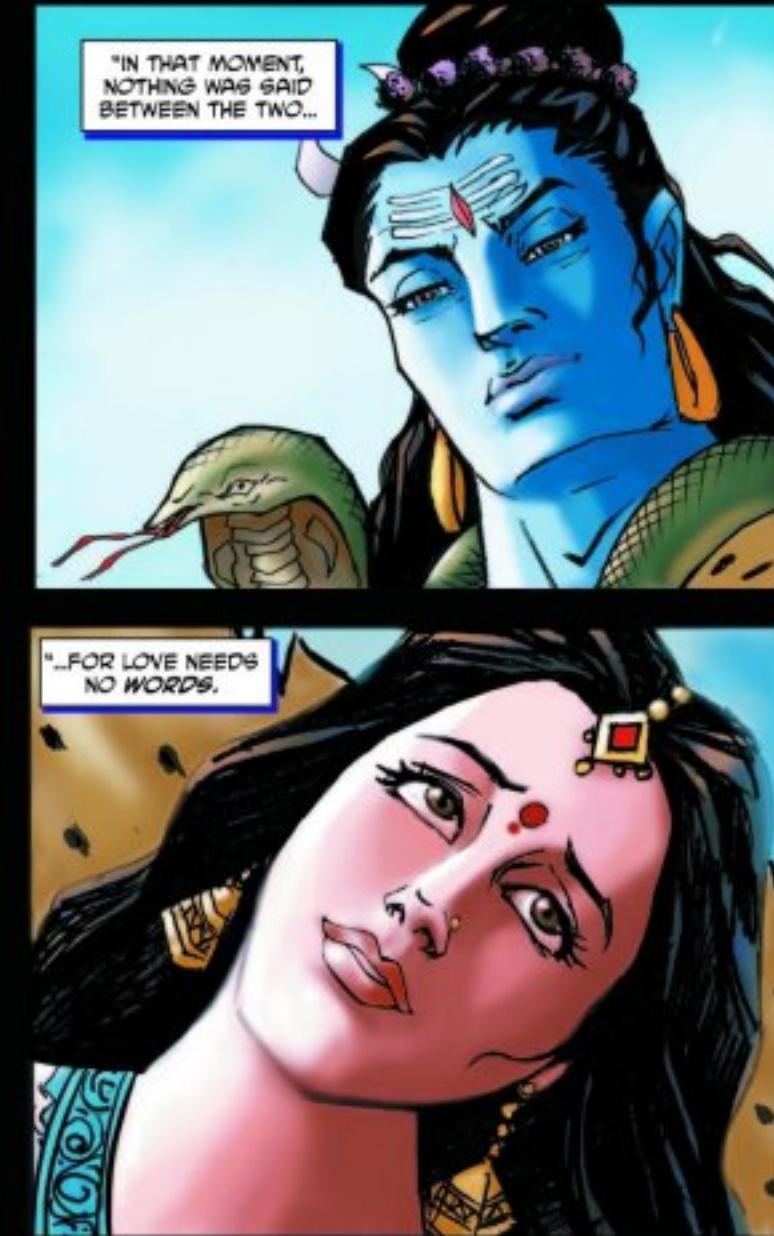
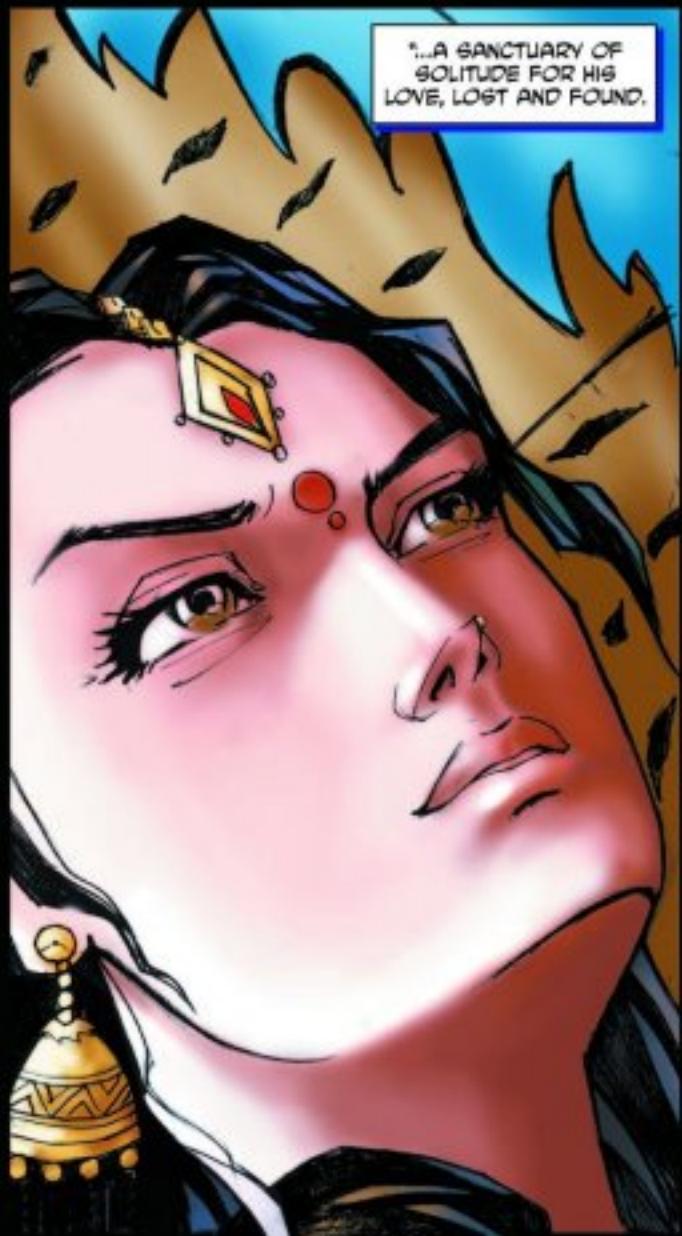
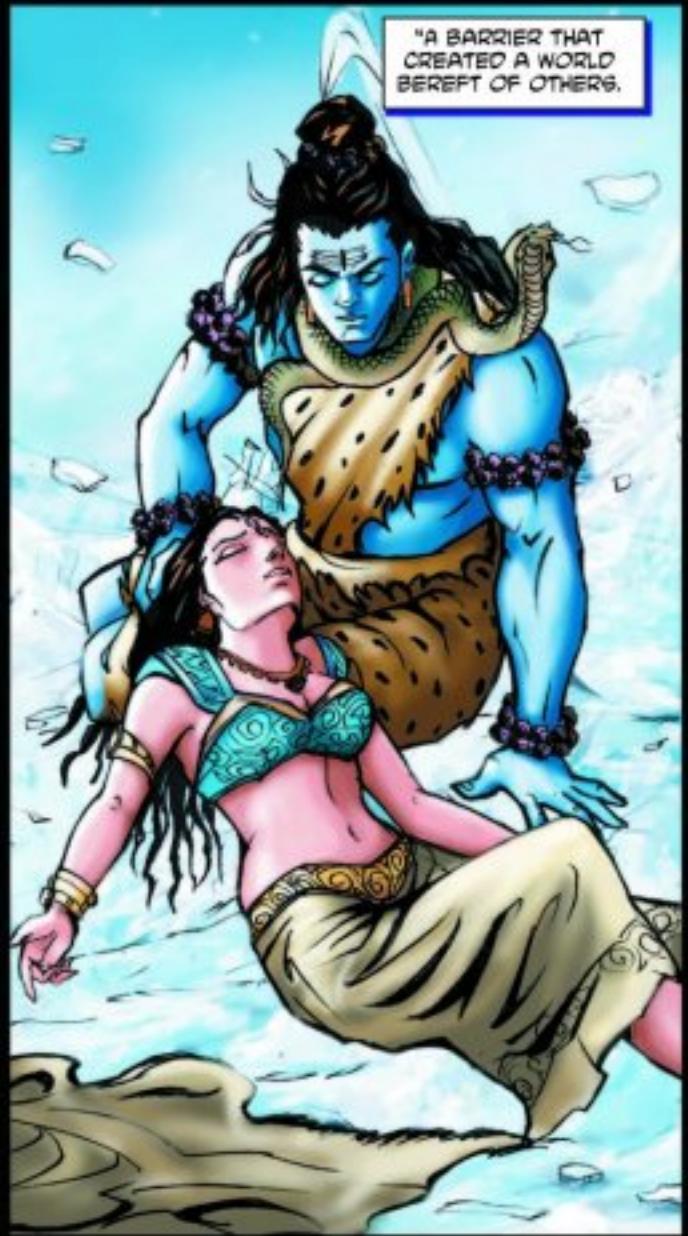
"A REFLEX OF A HEART
THAT HAD BEEN LONELY
FAR TOO LONG...

"...WITH ALL HIS RAGE...

"... ALL HIS GRIEF...

"... ALL HIS PAIN."







THE END

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SHIVA



ON STANDS SEPTEMBER 2007

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