**KALKI - THE RISING**

*Mythological superhero concept*

Age group- 12-18

*KARTIK VALA*, 16 lives in the Dharavi slum area in Mumbai. Orphaned at an early age he does the part time job of cleaning and maintaining the horse stable of Mahalakshmi Racecourse, Mumbai. However, he is also good at stealing and pickpocketing and can be adaptive to shady small time jobs for some fast miney; typical of a slum kid.

He grows up in the home of *Vishnuyasha* and *Sumati* who adopted him after his real parents went ‘missing’ when he was just one. He has three step-brothers *Sumanta*, *Pranja* and *Kavi* who are his trusted confidantes/sidekicks.

He has a special ability to communicate with horses and other animals. He can visualize and control horses through telekinesis. He has interests in martial arts and sword fights. Wherever he gets a wooden sword or thing like that, starts waving it in the air. However, his most amusing superpower I that of changing time and timelines. If a disaster happens in front of him, with great will power he can reverse back time for a few seconds and alter the timeline so that the disaster does not occurs. Along with these mental and neurological abilities and fighter’s skills he’s goof to be a superhero.

Having a part time job of maintaining the stables and horses at Mahalakshmi Racecourse, he enjoys this time ‘talking’ to the horses… especially Devdutt, a beautiful white stallion. When no one watches him, he rides Devdutt and circles around the race ground.

The Dharavi slum is under the control of city Don- JAAL (In his 40’s) The Dharavi residents live in fear from Jaal. The region is shady, corrupted, dark, violent and lawless. As it Dharavi and the whole of Mumbai has been blanketed by the peak of ‘Kali Yug; due to underworld lords like Jaal. Murder, homicide, gambling, drugs, corrupted-police, you name it; everything is under Jaal, who happens to be the benefactor of the ruling party too.

Jaal also gambles at the Mahalakshmi Racecourse. He controls which horse wins when. One day Kartik controls Devdutt- the stallion so as to win the race; who wasn’t supposed to win according to Jaal’s gamble. That’s when Jaal comes to know the presence of Kartik. That’s because Jaal too shares the neuro telekinesis powers and comes to know the presence of such *Metaumans.* Jaal being a ‘*Bhai’* of Dharavi area, says Kartik to work for him in shady stuff.

Jaal runs an orphanage home at Dharavi where the slum kids are trained to steel, pickpocket and as they grow older, trained to murder and commit even greater crime and frauds. As Kartik enters into tis new shady world, comes to know about the corruption, the darkness and grim reality where he lives. He too starts commiting frauds with common people alongside his sword training. This is when he gets introduced to PARSHU (In is 70’s).

PASRSU (Parashuram) is a professional *Supari Killer* who works for Jaal. Although he looks to be in his 70s or 80s, is a highly fit and dangerous swordsman who can slit and kill anyone and anything within the blink of an eye with extreme accuracy. This person has a gritty and dark sense of humor and sarcasm which will be seen throughout the Comicbook series. He may also break the *forth wall.*

Parshu gets attracted to Kartik’s swordsmen skills and desire to gain knowledge and perfection. Parshu- the Supari killer becomes Kartik’s ultimate trainer/mentor throughout the comics. He teaches him swordsmenship, mental trailer along with preparing Kartik to control his telekinetic and neurological powers and the accuracy to control and reverse time at his own will. Kartik soons gets attached to his new *Guru* along with his animal- Devdutt.

Finally Parshu discloses the fact that Kartik Vala is the *chosen one*. The *Kalki Avtar* of Vishnu. The tenth form of Vishnu whom legends say will return to earth during the ultimate darkness of the *Kali Yug*.And Parshu is no one but Parashuram- The Brahmin Kshatriya and sixth Vishnu, believed to be an immortal who still resides in this Earth, no a supari killer. His ultimate goal is to train *Kalki* to fight the ultimate evil- *Kali* itself. And to do that he has to cleanse from grass root level. Jaal is his first and primary foe, soon Kalki realizes. Parshu also justifies that the word “Kalki’ is a metaphor for time (*as in to cleanse this dark time by changing this timeline.)* That’s exactly what Kalki/Kartik’s superpower is- To reverse time so as to stop a disaster from occurring and ultimately change the timeline. Also, the classic scriptures tellthaty Kalki’s will the rider of *Devadutta- a white stallion*, Devdutt. And will be having a sword as his ultimate weapon. Kartik is born a swordsman. Also, Parshu says that ‘KARTIK VALA’ is just an anagram for ‘KALKI AVTAR.’ Parshu, the guru, also says that the world is filled with people like Kalki, people with superpowers unlike others. *Metahumans*. Parashuram and Jaal too being one amongst these Metahumans along with Kalki. Gods and Demons described in various religions and ancient scriptures too were metahumans. And they are still living. Even today!

Finally Parshu concludes that Kalki’s real parents are not dead. They’re still alive; lost somewhere. Jaal was deeply involved in this job. This leads to Kalki’s hatred and attitude of vengeance against Jaal- his first antagonist. Thus with his special and increased superpowers, Kalki embarks on a dark and hard journey in search of his real parents in this dark real world of Mumbai along with Parshu, Devdutt and his three step-brothers and finally gets vengeance over Jaal.

 This is the rough origin story where the first antagonist is Jaal. This story of Kalki can be expanded to a giant saga like legendary Mangas like *Naruto Shipuden* and *Dragon Ball Z.* The journey of young Kalki- the superhero just begins through this story. Through the various storylines Kalki discovers more potentials of his powers and new characters. Kalki he a representor of the “Vishnu or *Vish Energy*” which is Preserving. His ultimate opposite or ultimate nemesis is the “*Shiv Energy*” which is destroyer. His final saga may revolve around fighting this ultimate ‘Destroyer’ energy or *Kali* Yug itself- The ultimate villain. The series may introduce new protagonists, new young superheroes of Indian mythological origins overtime. These new antagonists and protagonists may have their spin-offs too. An ultimate Indian-Mythological superhero team like *Marvel’s Avengers* or *DC’c Justice League* too can happen in future.

 The Comic book series would be primarily shady and dark with inspirations from *Frank Miller Genre Comics like Daredevil and the Dark knight Returns.* The age group would be 12 to 18 year old which is the maximum potential for Indian Comic book Genre.