



Shiva, “the auspicious one,” is the Hindu god of love, righteousness, forgiveness, longevity, protection, health, and prosperity. As Nataraja, or “Lord of the Dance,” he controls the forces of creation, preservation, and destruction. Award-winning author, Demi, presents the life of this central Hindu god, replete with stunning illustrations that faithfully reflect the traditions of Hindu painting. Also included is an appendix featuring prayers to Shiva and notes on his representation as “Lord of the Dance.”

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Selections from the Book

SHIVA rides on a beautiful white bull called Nandi,



and flies on a powerful green parrot named Garuda.

Brahma, Vishnu, and SHIVA are the three great Hindu gods who create, preserve, and destroy the universe.



Brahma is the creator, Vishnu is the protector, and SHIVA is the destroyer.



But SHIVA also has the powers to create and resurrect. Therefore he is said to have all three powers of creation, preservation, and destruction.

Parvati is SHIVA's wife, and together they are the father and mother of the universe.



SHIVA and Parvati have two sons. Ganesha, who has an elephant head and is known as the remover of obstacles. And Skanda, who is known for his spiritual powers and healing miracles.



About the Author and Illustrator



Demi is the award-winning author of over 130 bestselling children's books, including *The Fantastic Adventures of Krishna*, *Saint Francis of Assisi*, *Mahavira*, *Gifts of Our Lady of Guadalupe*, and *Talking to God*. Her titles have sold over half a million copies. *The Empty Pot* was selected by former First Lady Barbara Bush in 1990 as one of the books to be read on the ABC Radio Network Program *Mrs. Bush's Story Time*, sponsored by the Children's Literacy Initiative. Demi's book *Gandhi* was named a *New York Times* Best Illustrated Book and received an Oppenheim Toy Portfolio Platinum Award. Major exhibitions of her work have

been held in numerous museums in the U.S., including the Time/Life Gallery in New York, the Botolph Galleries in Boston and Cambridge, and the Los Angeles County Museum. Demi won a Fulbright Scholarship to India, and in addition she represented the U.S. at the First International Children's Book Conference in Beijing, China, in 1992. She lives with her husband in Yarrow Point, Washington State.

