The Bride's Stories
by
Kaoru Mori

乙嫁語り

3

森薫

BEAM COMIX

乙嫁語り 3

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森薫

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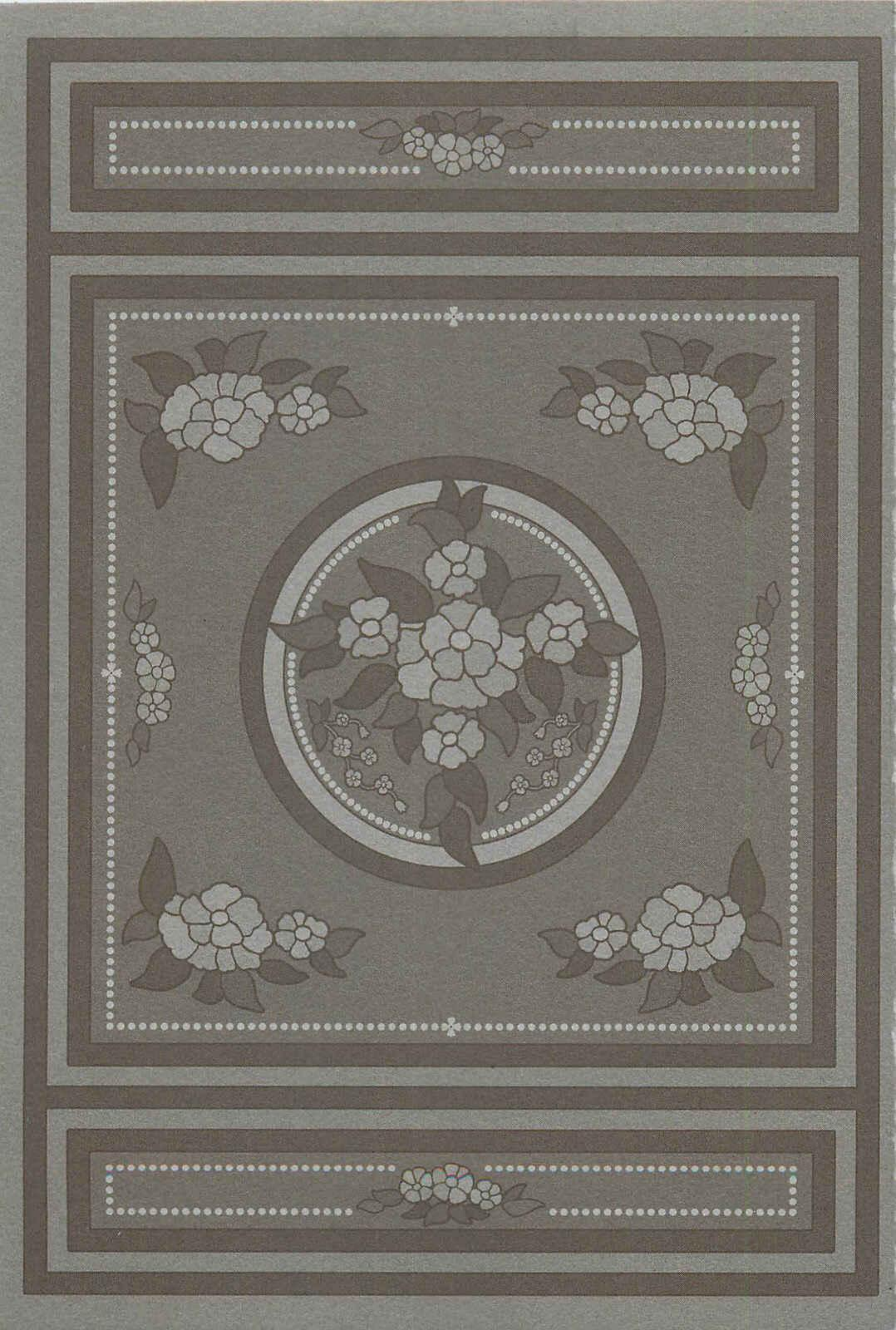

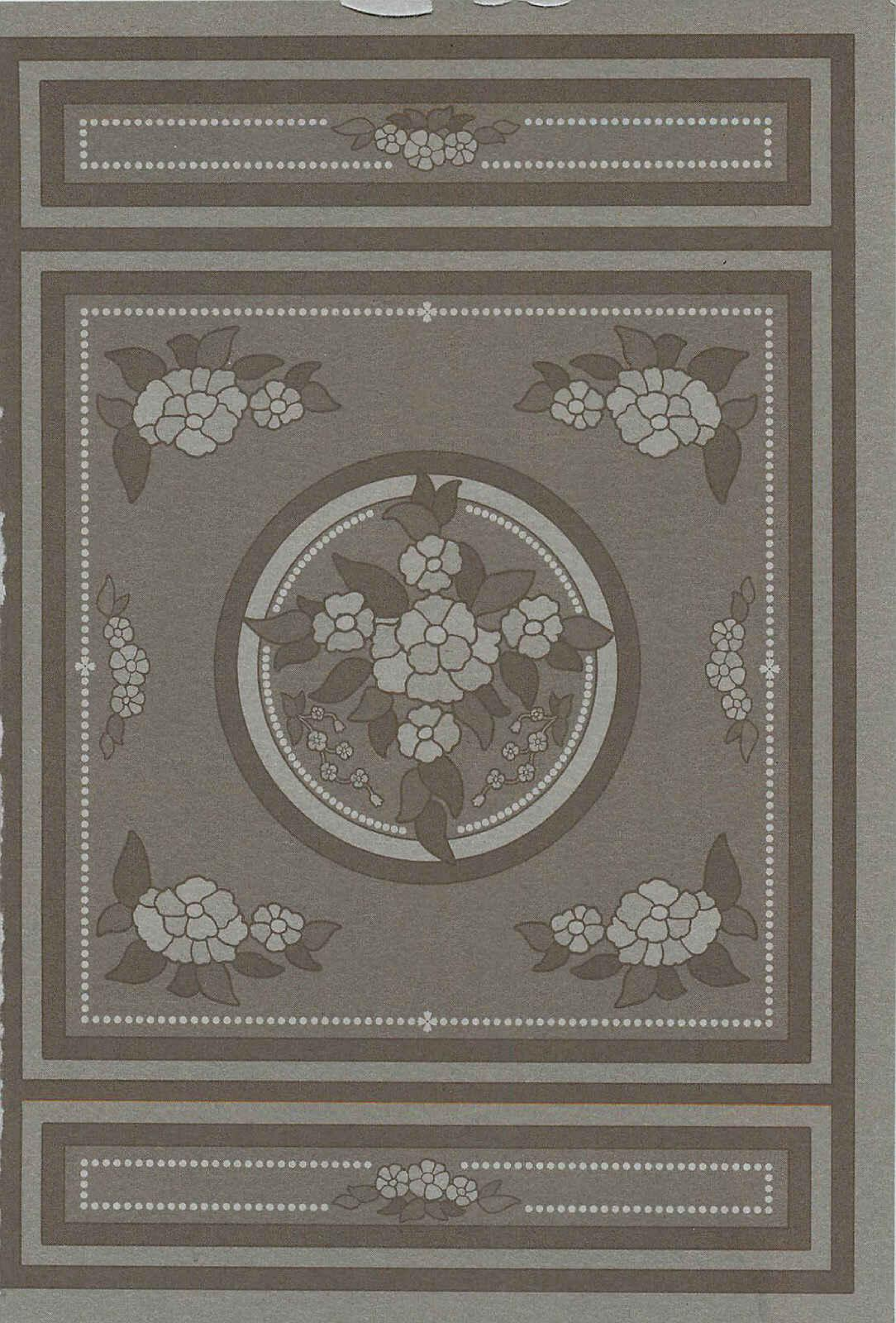

乙嫁語り

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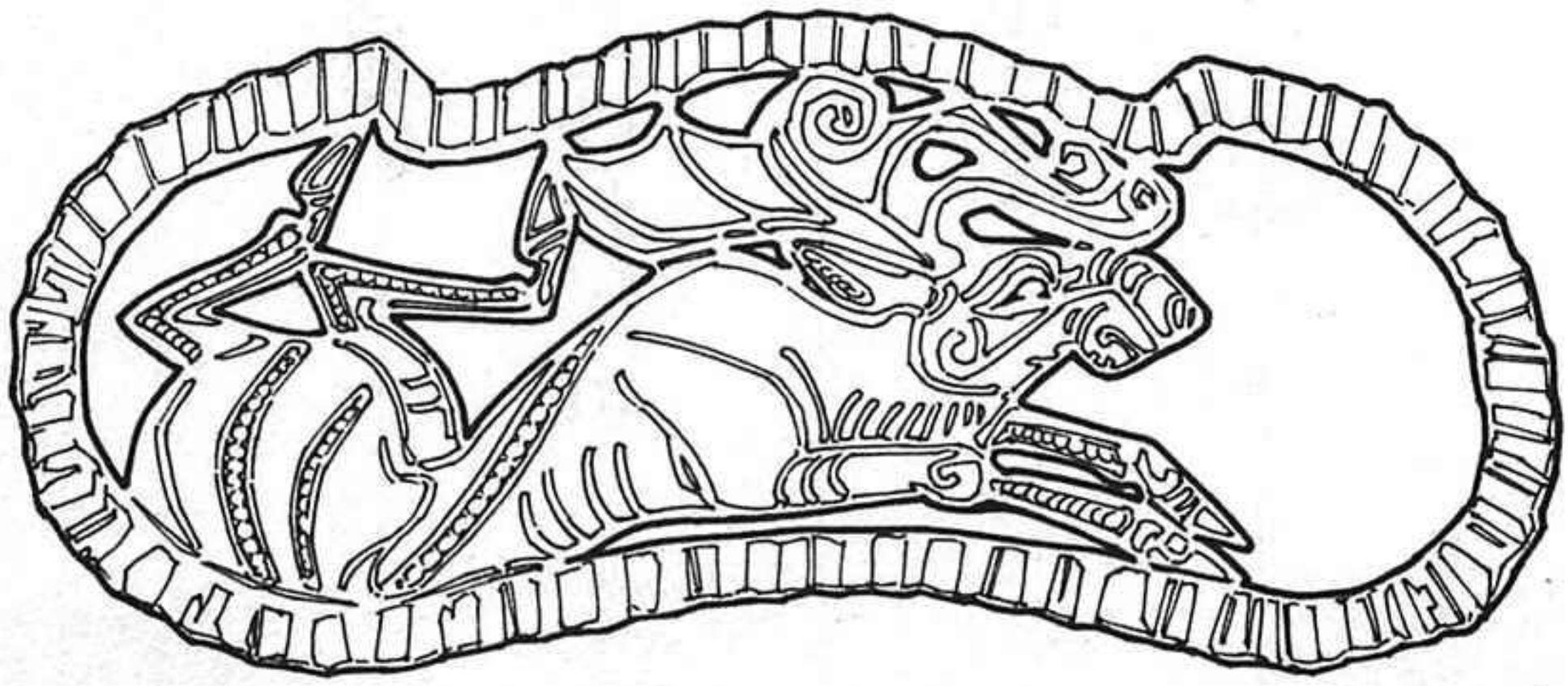

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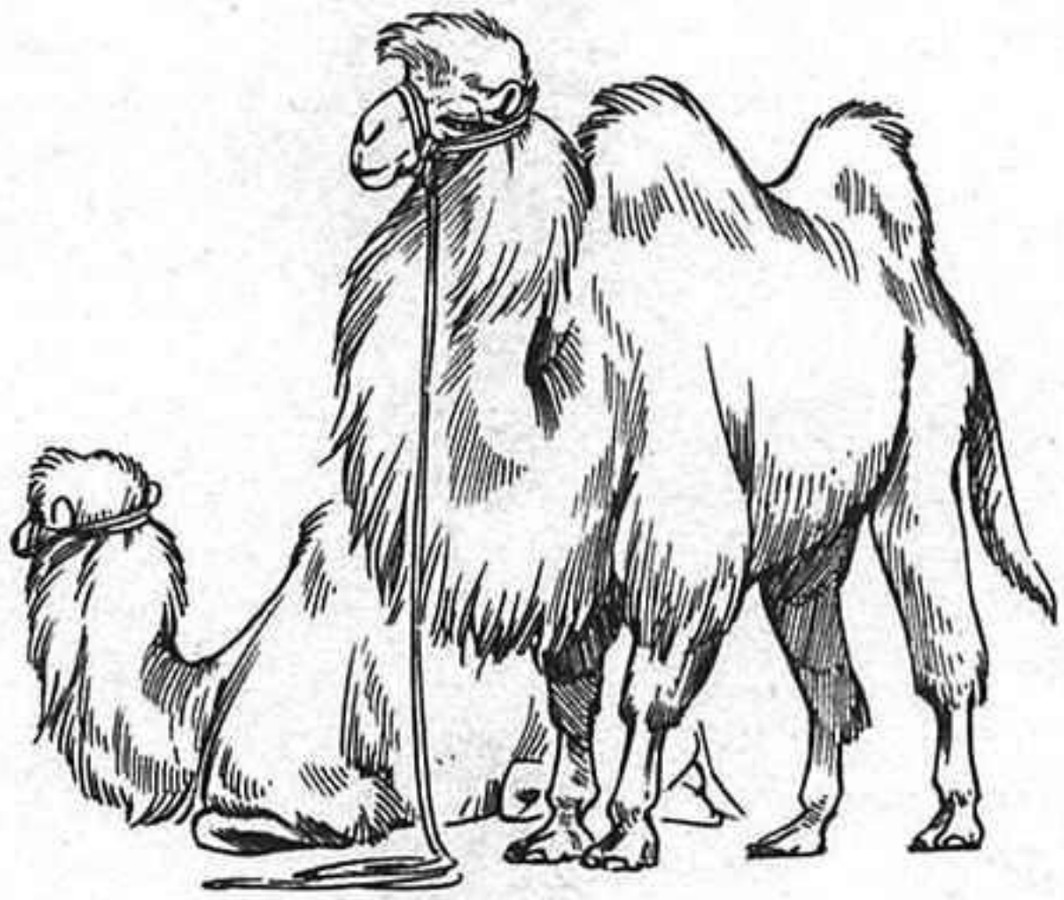

第十二話 逗留(とうりゅう) …… 003
第十三話 懇願(こんがん) …… 025
第十四話 タラスの想(おも)い …… 049
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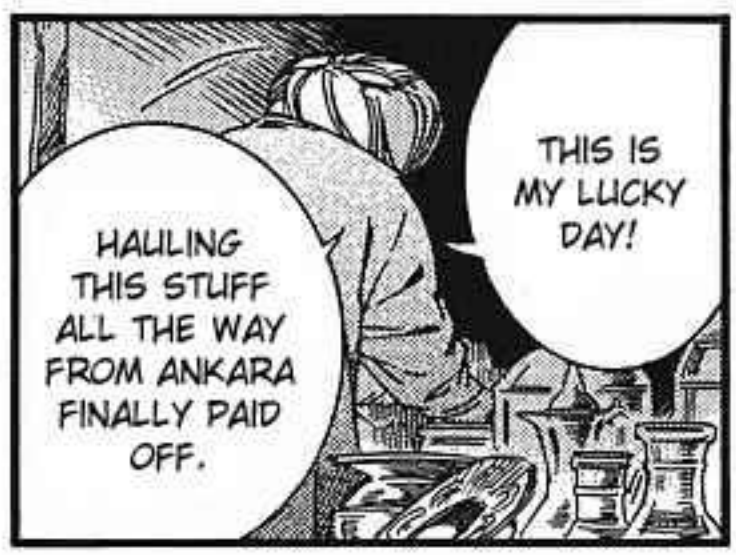
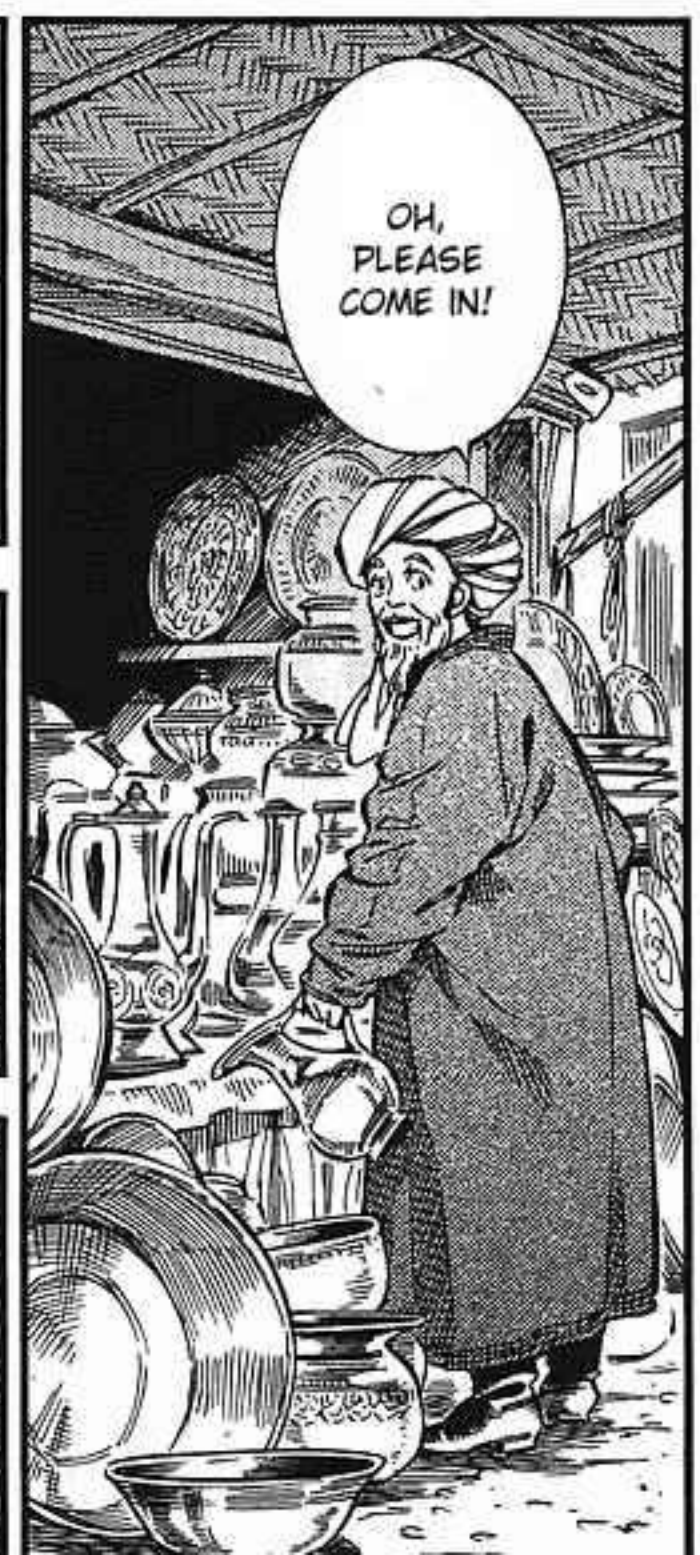




Otoyomegatari
The Bride's Stories
CHAPTER 12: "SOJOURN"
森薫
Kaoru Mori
コミックス1～2巻、好評発売中

HE'S GOING TO TAKE ME TO ANKARA!
I WAS SUPPOSED TO MEET UP WITH A GUIDE THAT MY FRIEND ARRANGED FOR ME!

WAIT, YOU GUYS HAVE IT ALL WRONG!
I'M JUST LOOKING FOR MY GUIDE!

GRANDPA! WE'VE FOUND WHO YOU'RE LOOKING FOR!
OH, HE MUST BE THE ONE!

SOMEONE LOOKING FOR SOMEONE.
HEY, WHAT'S GOING ON?

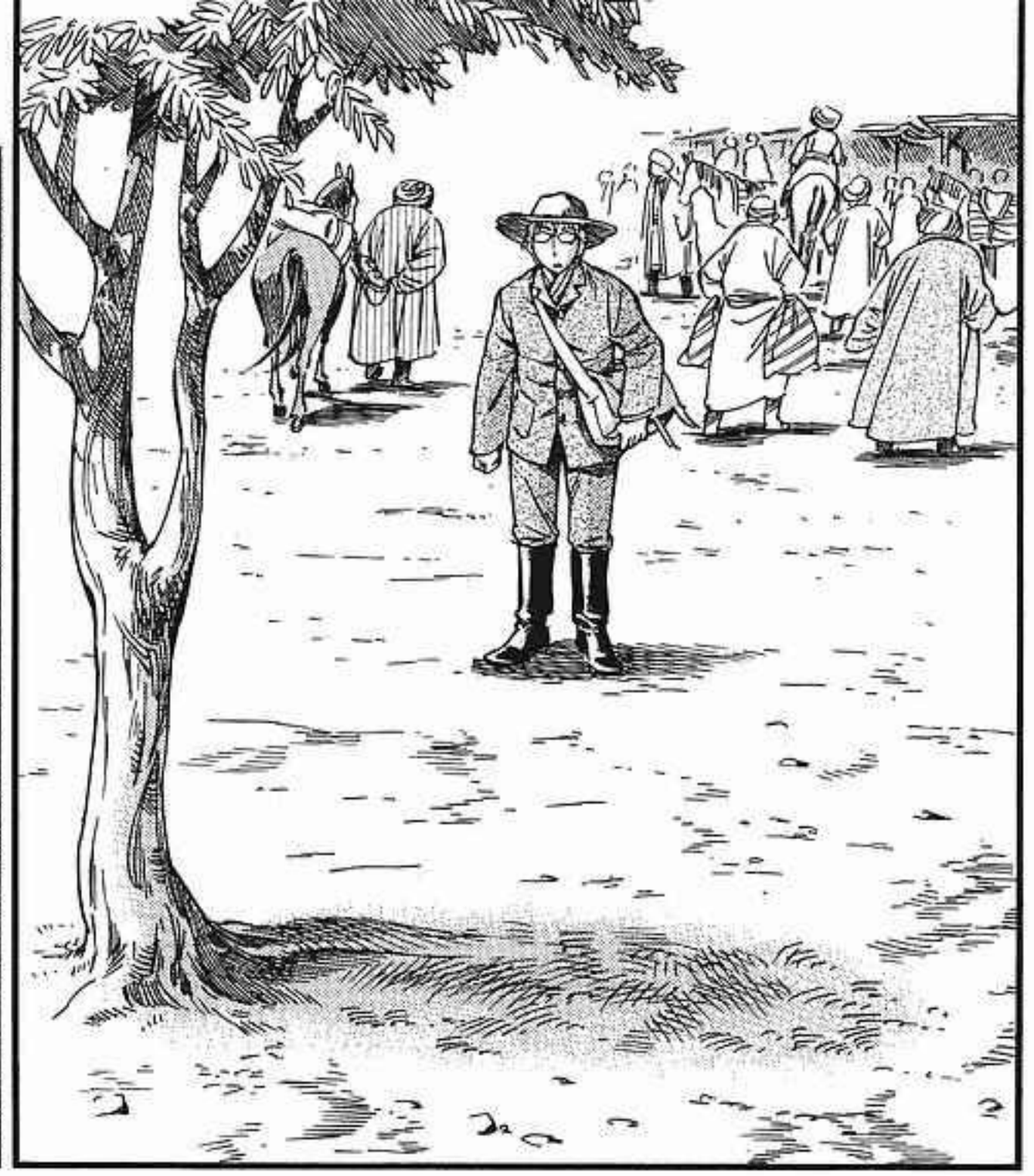
NO, SEE, I'M LOOKING FOR MY GRAND-DAUGHTER, WHO TURNS 15 YEARS OLD THIS YEAR.

UM...

OH!
GRAN'PA!
WELL, DAMN.
MAYBE MY GUIDE HASN'T ARRIVED YET?

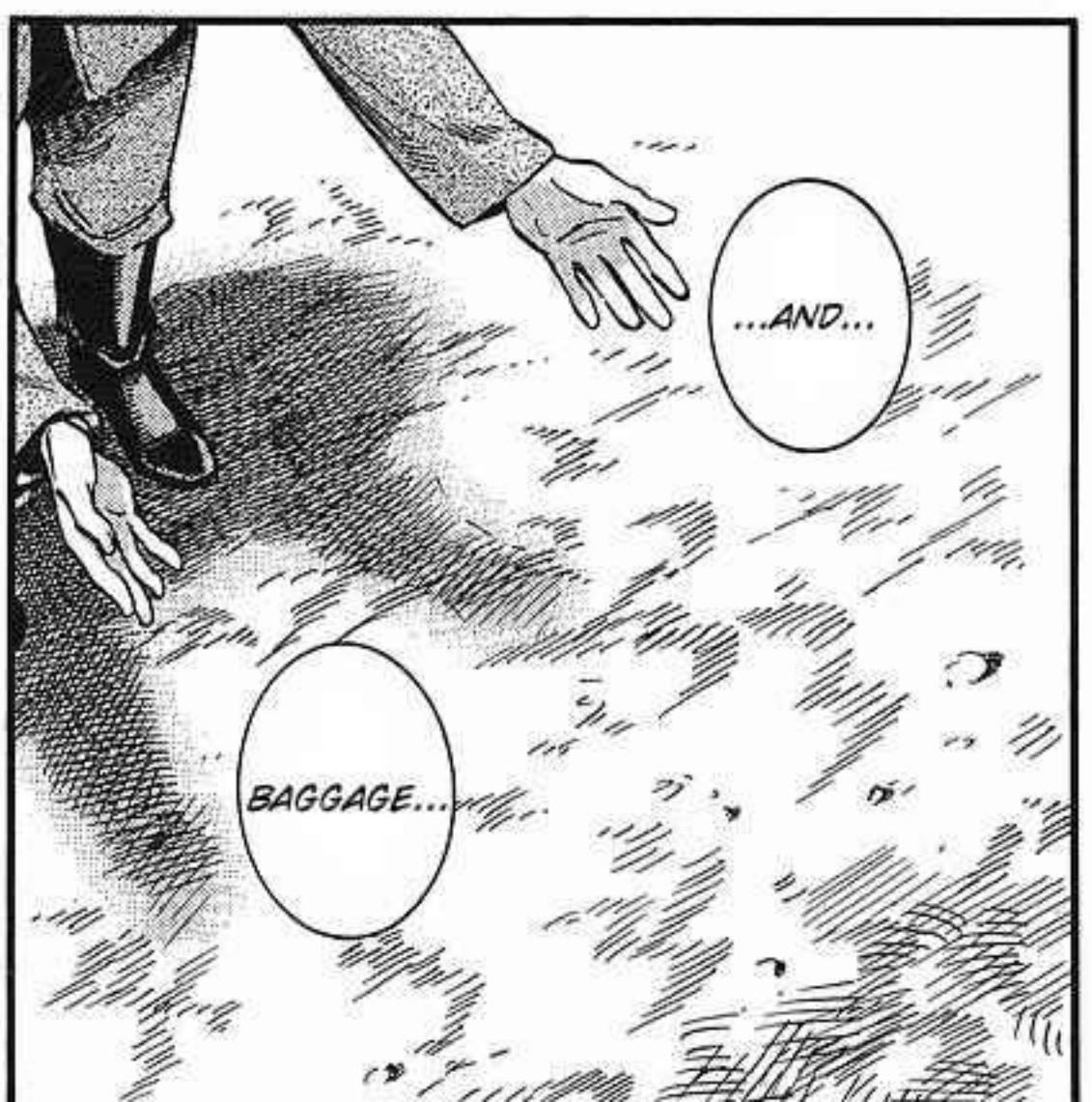
ERR...
I'LL BE OKAY!
SORRY TO BOTHER YOU!
I CAN HANDLE THIS BY MYSELF!

ANYWAY, MIGHT AS WELL GO PICK UP MY HORSE AND BAGGAGE...



MY HORSE...
.....

UM...

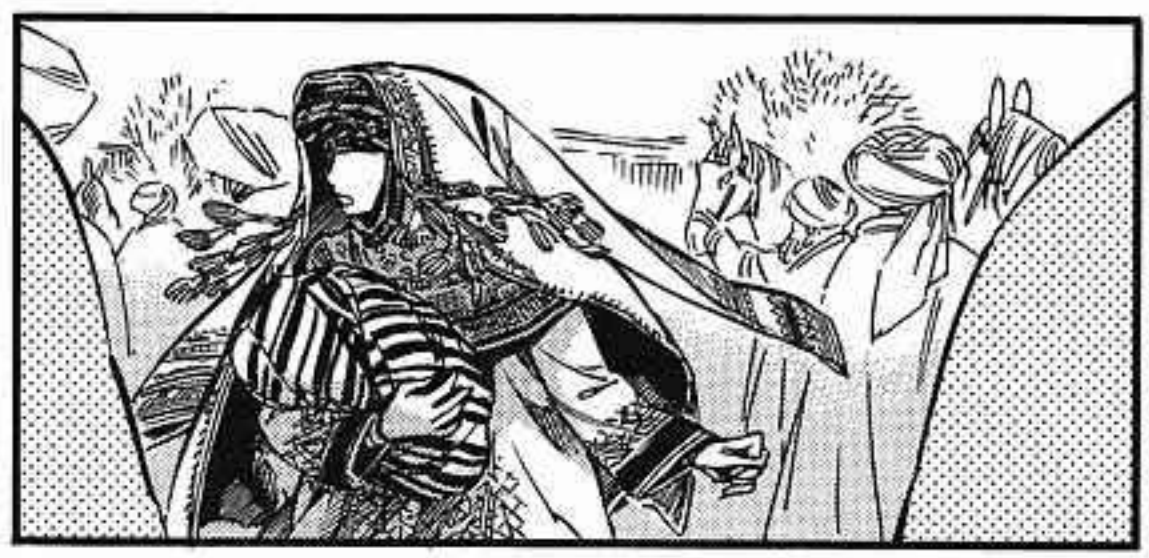

...AND...
BAGGAGE...

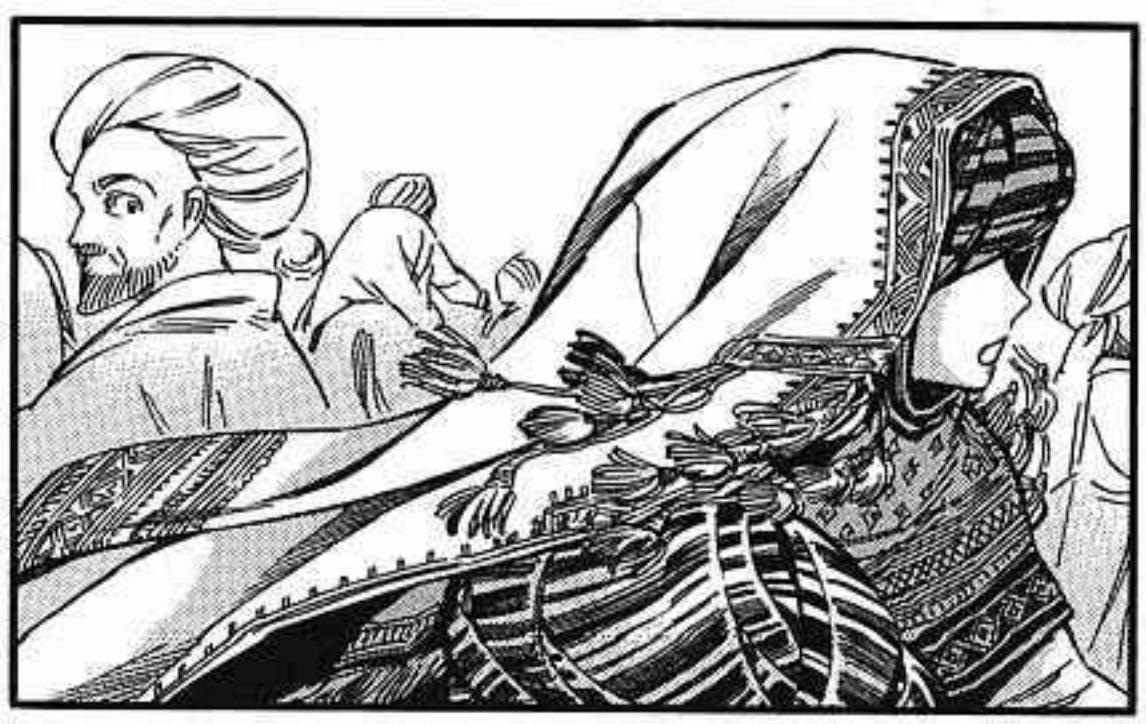
HORSE? DONKEY? WHAT KIND?
EXCUSE ME...
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE HORSE AND DONKEY THAT WERE TIED UP HERE?
OH, CRAP.

WHERE'D THEY GO!?

YOU SHOULD'VE KEPT AN EYE ON THEM.
OH, CRAP.

WHAT'S WRONG?





THIS CAN'T BE!
DON'T TELL ME THAT...

YOU TOO!?
YOU'RE RIGHT, IT WAS RIGHT HERE!
ACTUALLY, MINE IS MISSING TOO!

ACTUALLY... WHAT?
I CAN'T BELIEVE SOMEONE WOULD ACTUALLY...
THEY MAY HAVE BEEN STOLEN!

PARDON ME!
DID YOU HAPPEN TO SEE A WHITE HORSE TIED UP HERE?

UM...
ERR...

...WHAT CAN I DO?

ANYWAY, LET'S TAKE A LOOK AROUND.
MAYBE SOMEBODY MOVED THEM.

YEAH, I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN.
OH!
THAT COAT I WAS GIVEN!

I WAS SHOPPING, AND...
IT'S NOT LIKE I TIED UP THE HORSE AND THEN WAS GONE FOR A LONG TIME...

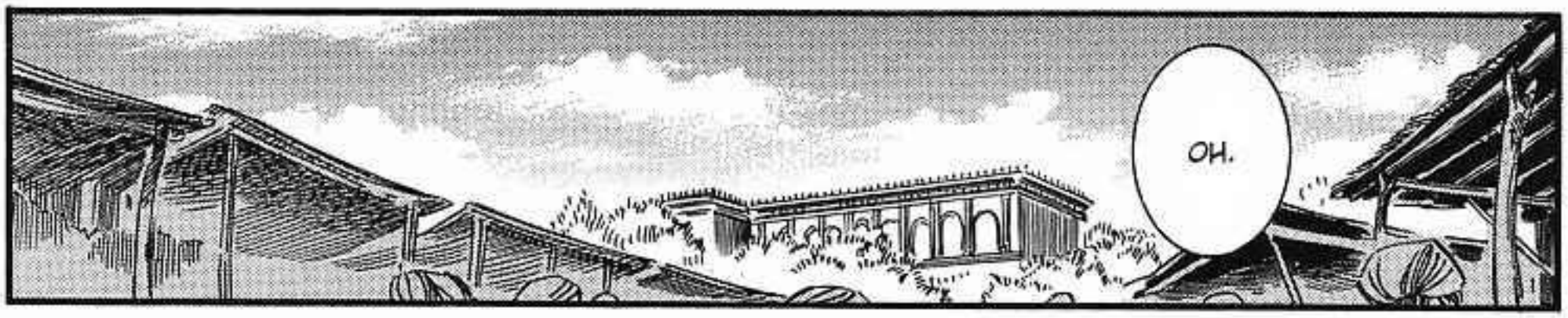
WHEN DID YOU TIE YOUR HORSE UP THERE?

THAT HORSE IS VERY IMPORTANT TO ME.
I KNOW...

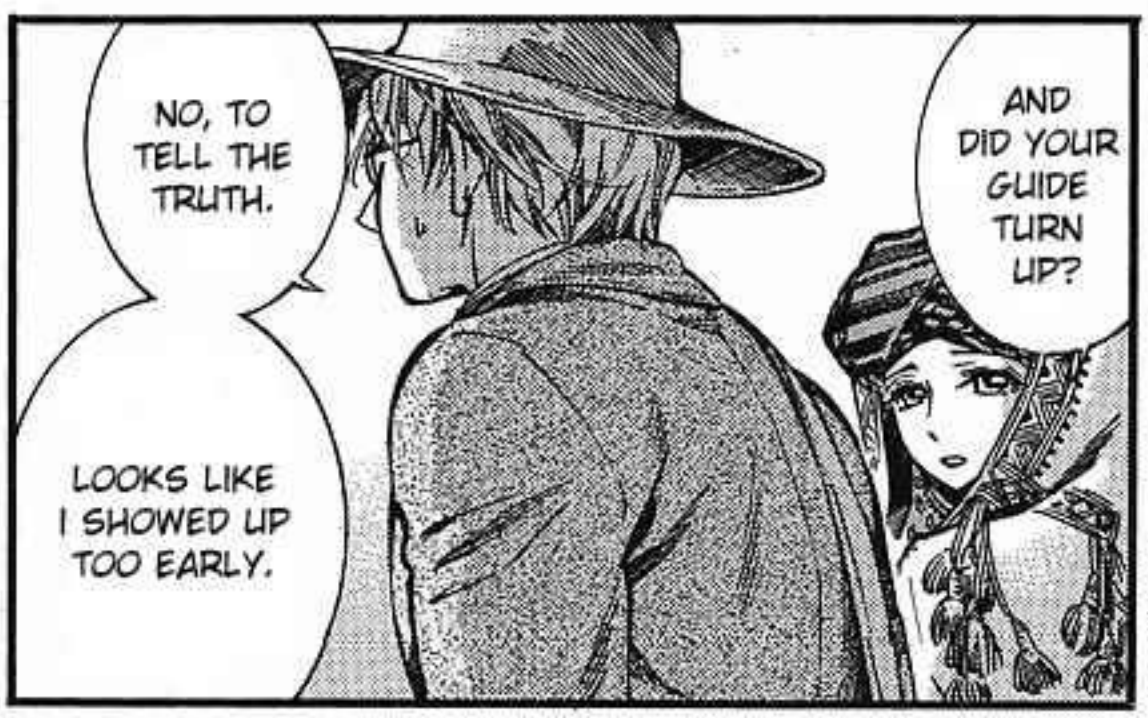
THIS IS BAD.
I NEED TO GET THAT BACK, AT LEAST.

LOOK, SEE THAT BUILDING FAR INSIDE THE CITY?
THE MARKET MANAGER?

YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE IT UP WITH THE MARKET MANAGER.


OH.

I WAS SUPPOSED TO MEET UP WITH A GUIDE.
A FRIEND OF MINE SET IT UP FOR ME.


AND DID YOUR GUIDE TURN UP?
NO, TO TELL THE TRUTH.
LOOKS LIKE I SHOWED UP TOO EARLY.

THE WAITING, I DON'T MIND, BUT...
WITH ALL OF MY BAGGAGE GONE...

.....

AND SO IT WOULD SEEM THAT...
ALL OF OUR BELONGINGS HAVE BEEN STOLEN.

COULD SOMETHING BE DONE?
PLEASE, SIR?
'KAY?

OHHHH!!
CHUVAL!

HOW COULD WE EVER REPAY YOU!?
THANK YOU SO MUCH!

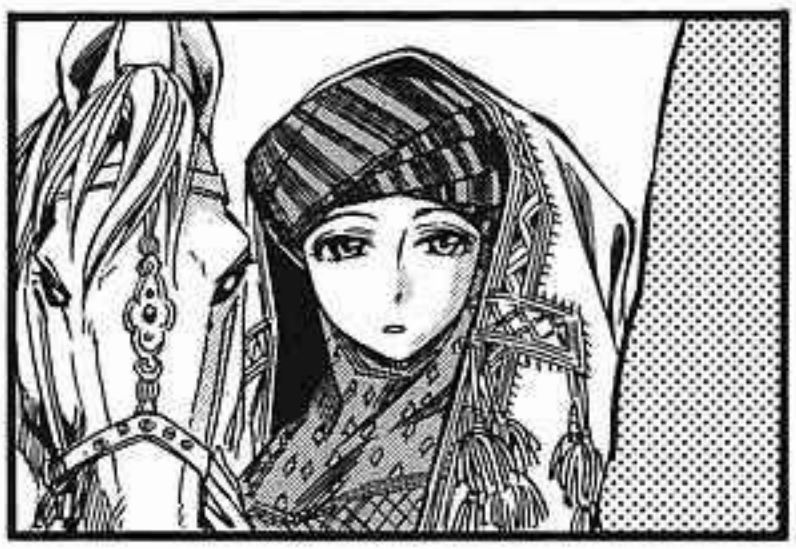
IS THIS ALL OF IT?

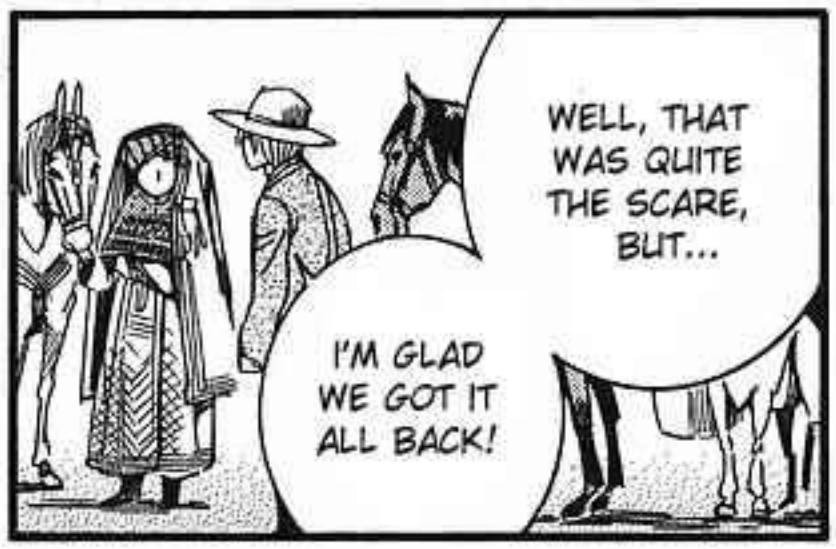
YOU CAN TAKE THEM.

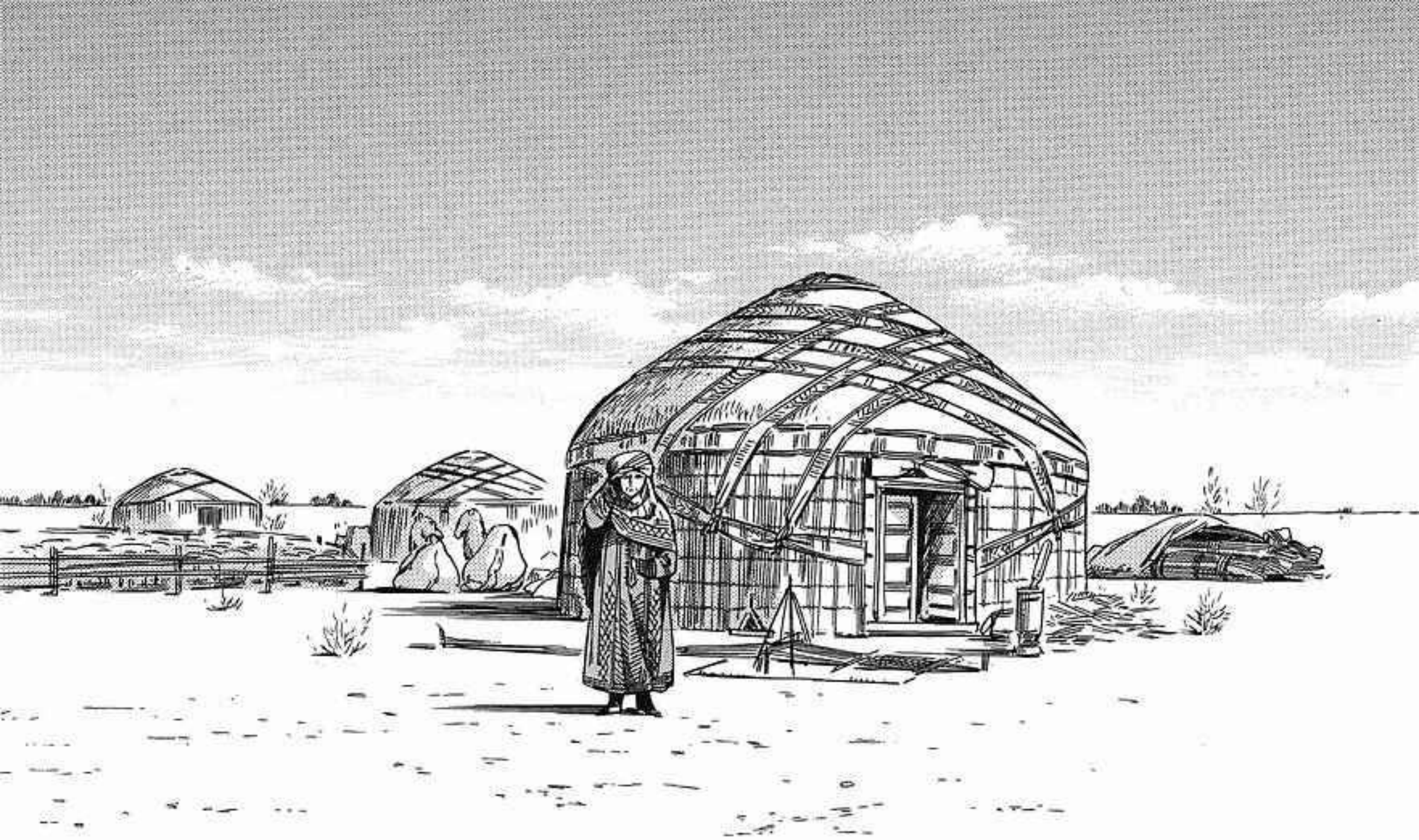
I DON'T ALLOW THIEVERY IN MY MARKET.
EVERYTHING HAS ITS PRICE.

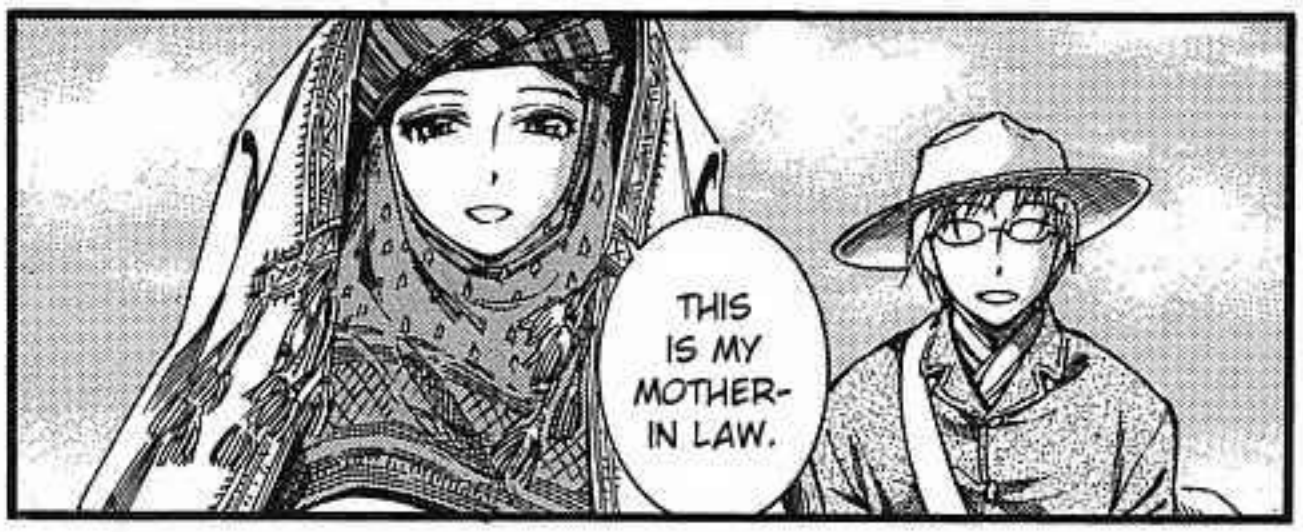
THANK GOD!

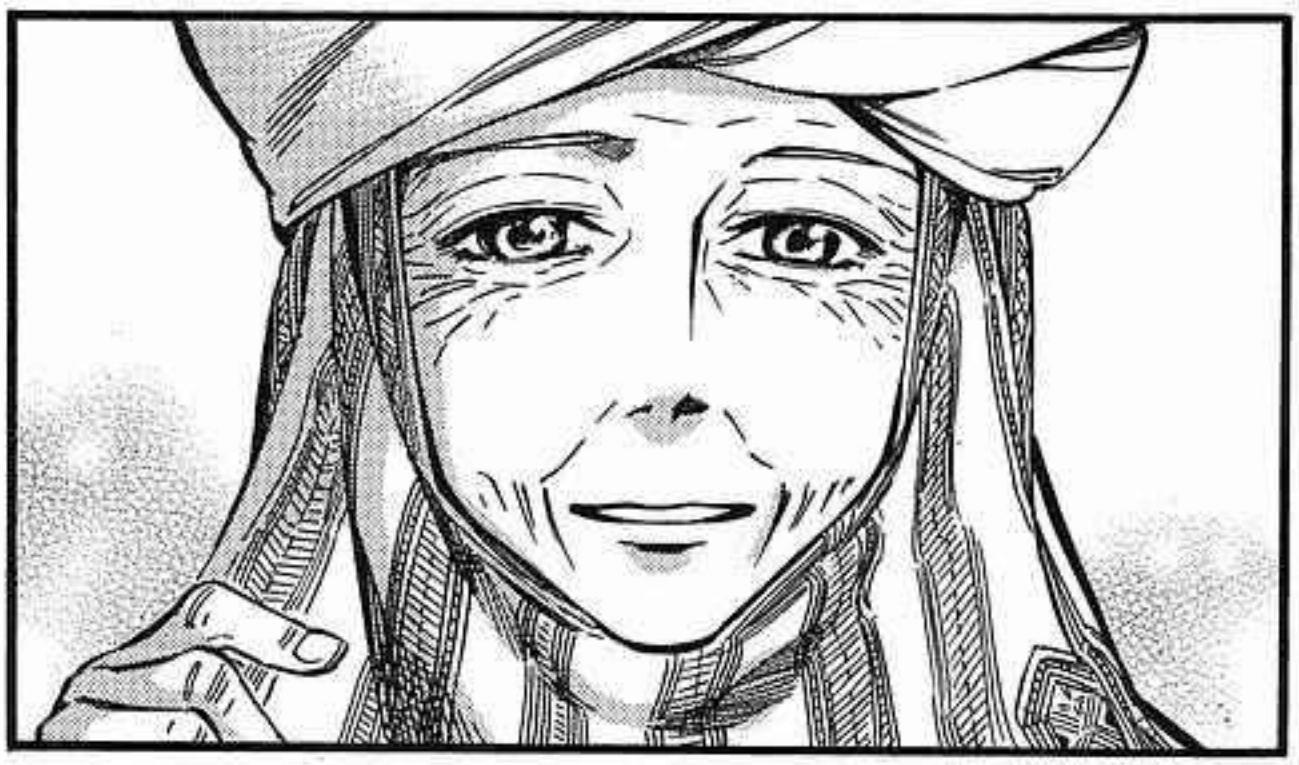
THANK GOD, DEAR CHUVAL!







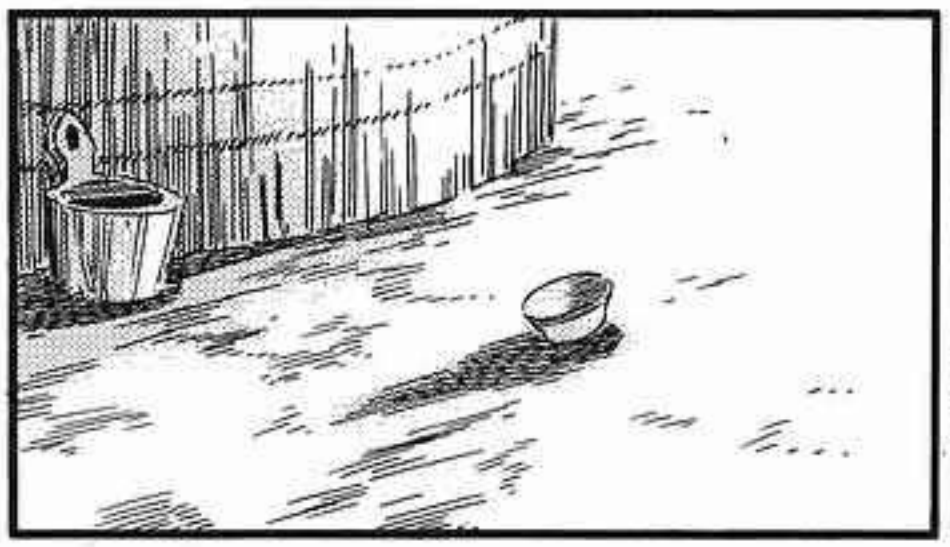

THIS IS MY MOTHER-IN LAW.

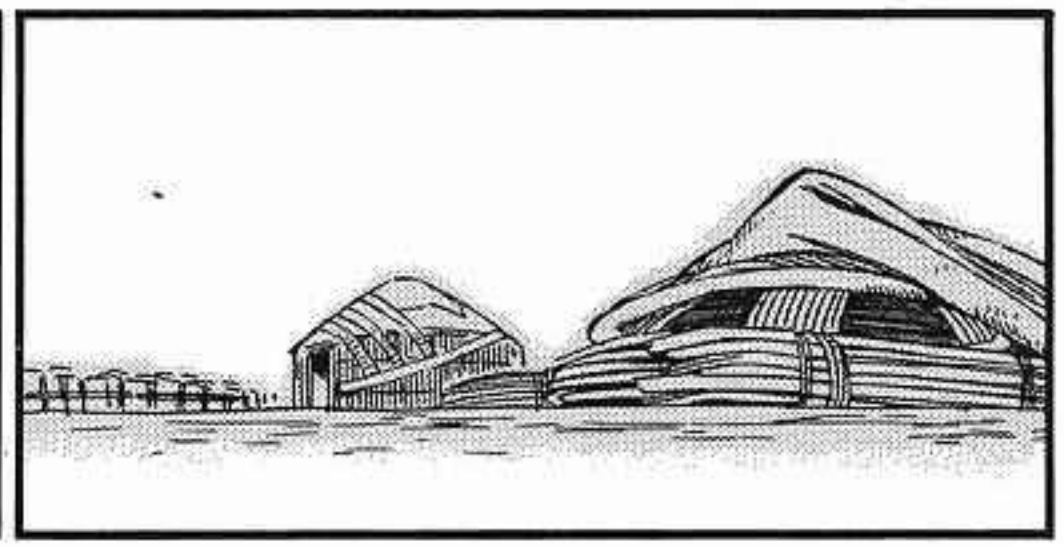


WE HAVEN'T HAD COMPANY OVER FOR SUCH A LONG TIME!

SO MANY MORE VOICES IN THE HOUSE UNTIL SOMEWHAT RECENTLY.
THERE WERE...

IT'S SO NICE OF YOU TO VISIT US!
COME IN! COME IN!





IT'S JUST THE TWO OF YOU HERE?

SHE THINKS THE WORLD OF THAT HORSE, DOESN'T SHE?

YES.
EVERYONE ELSE HAS PASSED AWAY.
ONLY MY DAUGHTER-IN LAW AND THAT HORSE REMAIN.

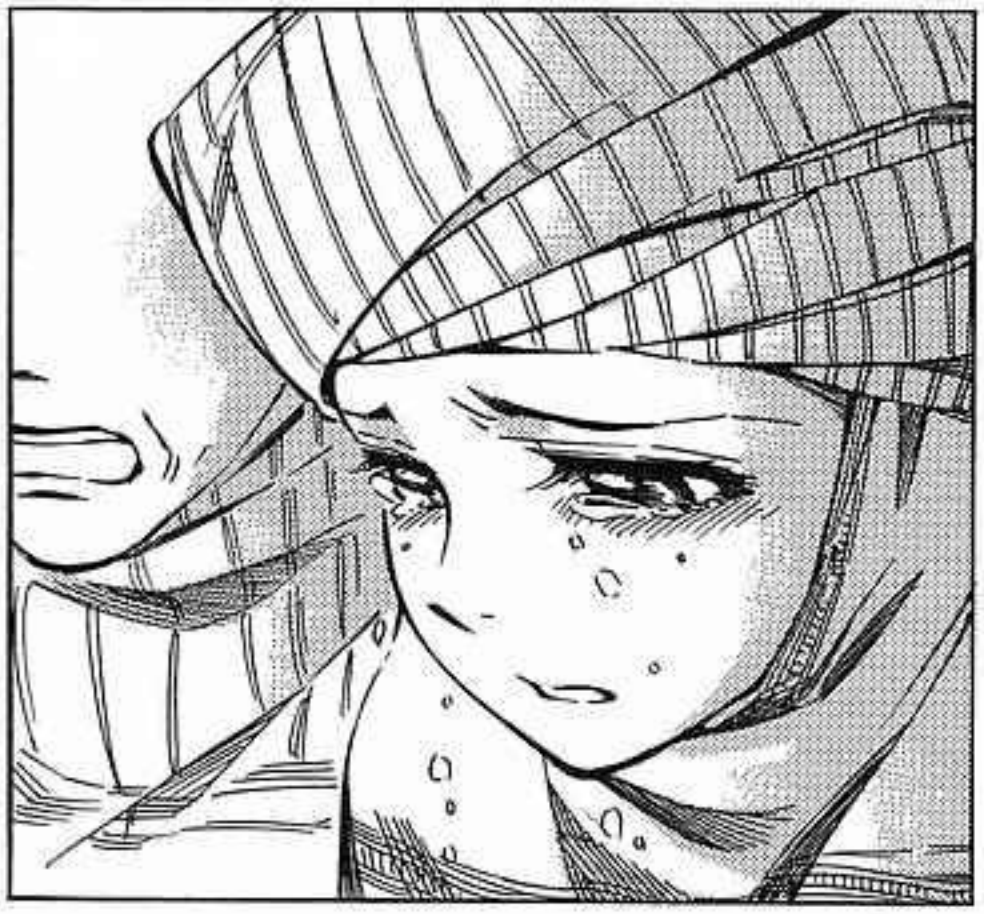
YES.
THE HORSE HAD BEEN INHERITED BY THE ELDEST SON, IN THE BEGINNING.

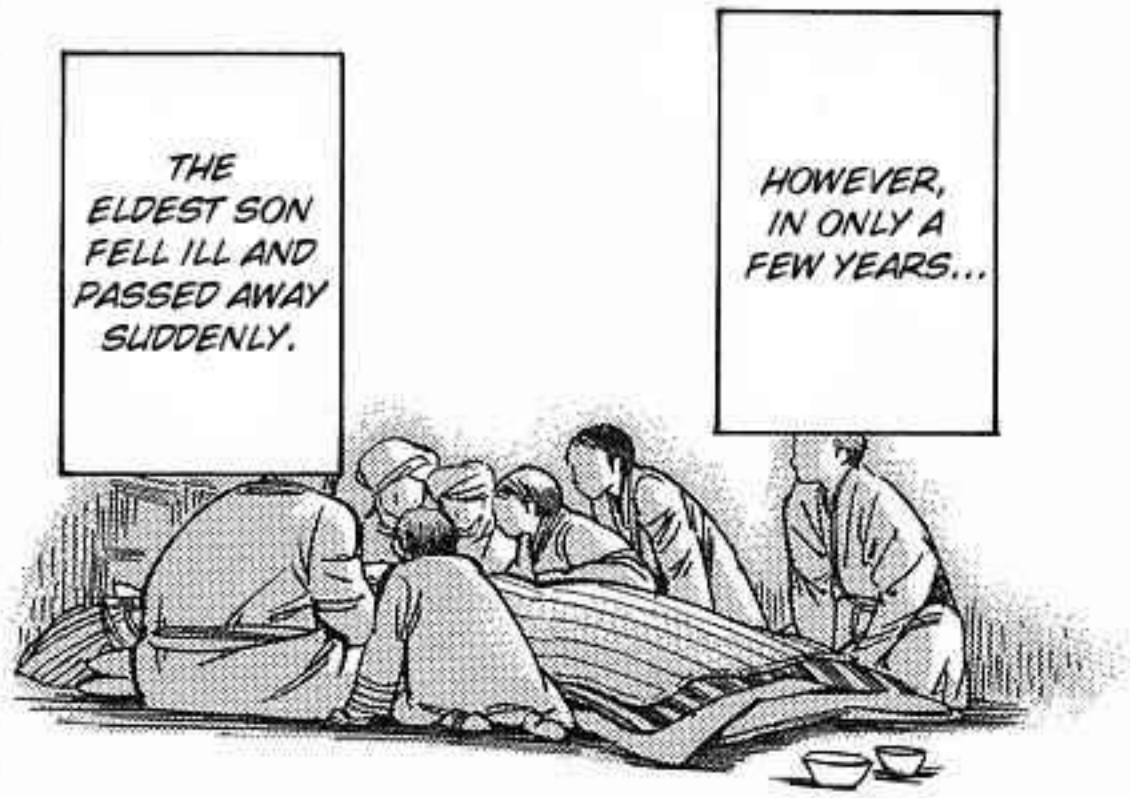
IT'S A KEEPSAKE FROM MY SONS.
BECAUSE SHE MARRIED EVERY ONE OF THEM.

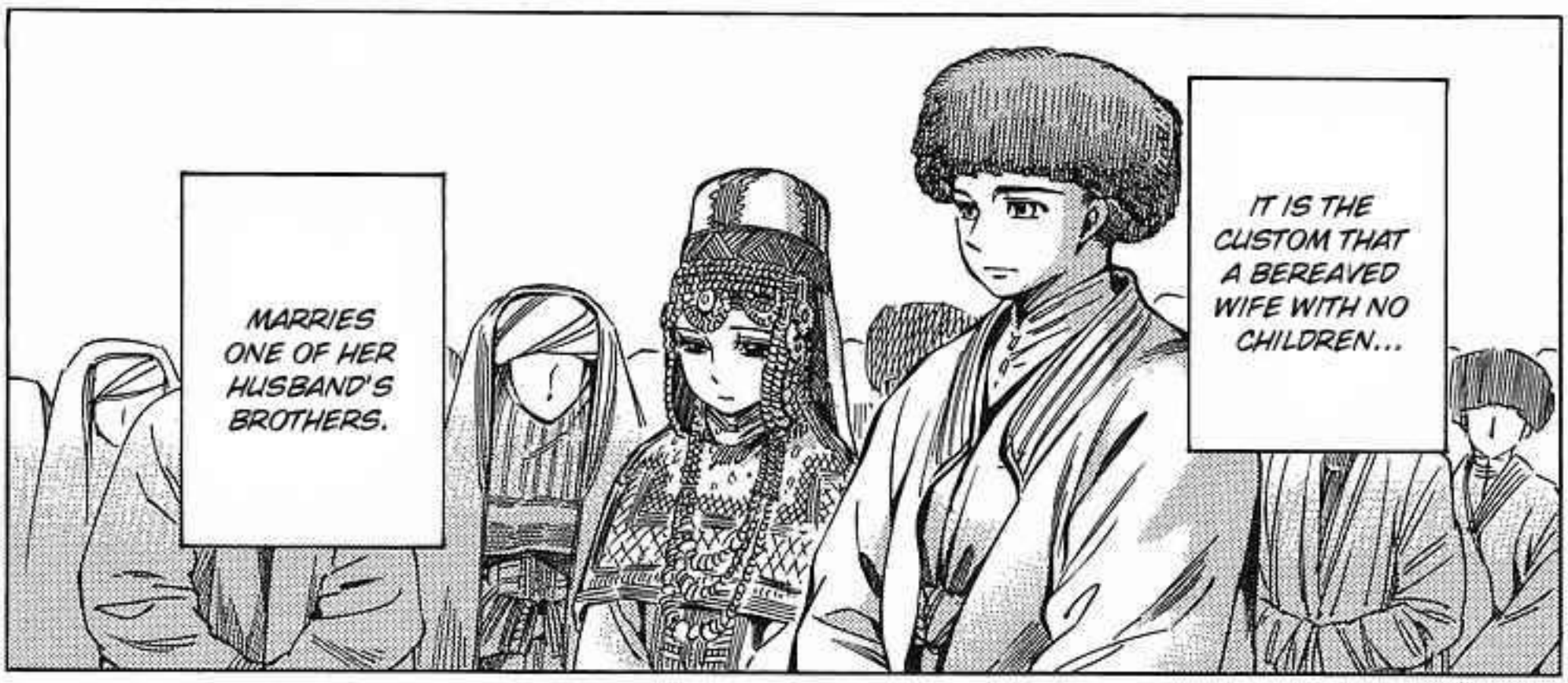
.....
EVERY ONE OF THEM?

DO TELL.
DON'T LEAVE A THING OUT.

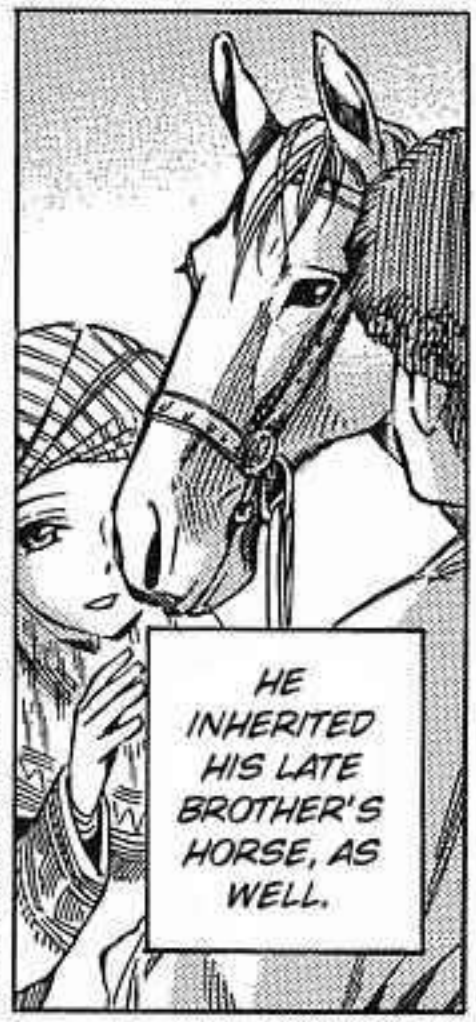
TALAS WAS 16 YEARS OLD WHEN SHE MARRIED THE ELDEST SON.
THIS WOMAN ONCE HAD FIVE SONS.
THE STORY SHE TOLD ME WENT SOMETHING LIKE THIS...
ALL THE RELATIVES AND NEIGHBORS WERE INVITED, AND THE DOWRY CONSISTED OF 40 SHEEP AND 10 MARES!
THE CEREMONY WAS QUITE ELABORATE, SHE SAID.
OF ALL HIS HORSES, THIS WAS THE ONE HE PRIZED THE MOST.
HIS FATHER GAVE THEM THAT HORSE AS A WEDDING PRESENT.




THE ELDEST SON FELL ILL AND PASSED AWAY SUDDENLY.
HOWEVER, IN ONLY A FEW YEARS...


MARRIES ONE OF HER HUSBAND'S BROTHERS.
IT IS THE CUSTOM THAT A BEREAVED WIFE WITH NO CHILDREN...

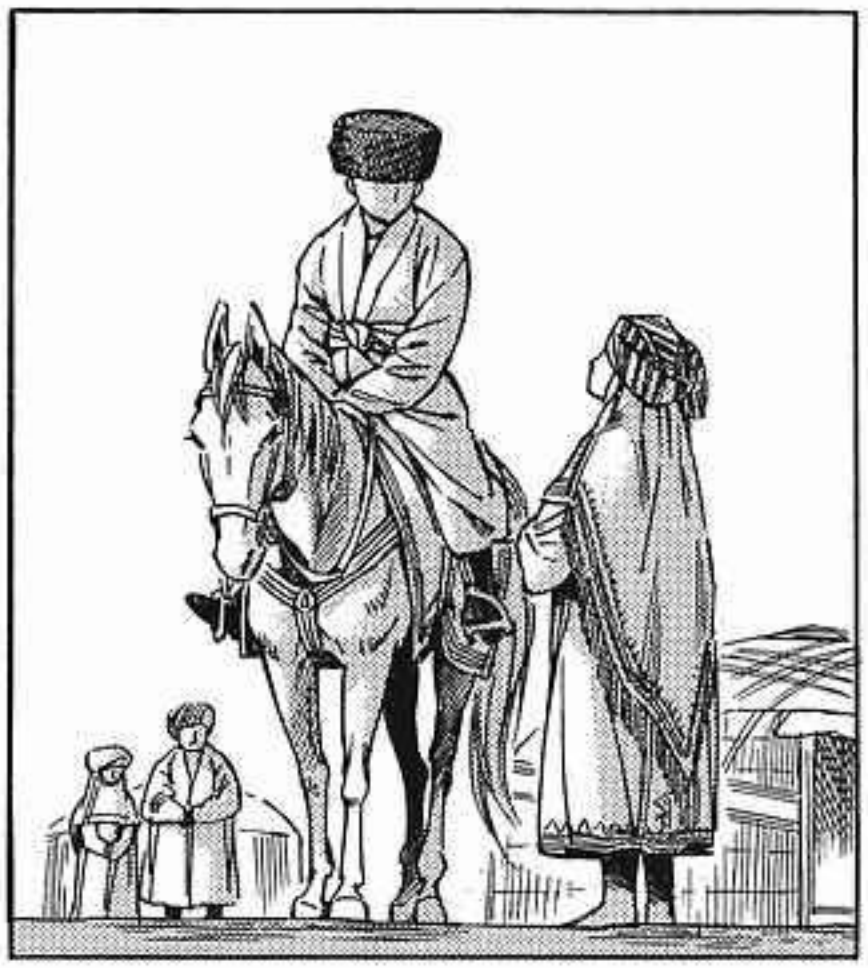
IT SEEMED THAT THEIR MARRIAGE WAS THRIVING EVEN BETTER THAN THE LAST ONE.


HE INHERITED HIS LATE BROTHER'S HORSE, AS WELL.

THE SECOND BROTHER WAS A QUIET ONE, BUT HE CARED FOR HER WELL.

THEN SHE MARRIED THE THIRD SON.
THEY DIDN'T SEEM TO BE GETTING ALONG THAT WELL.

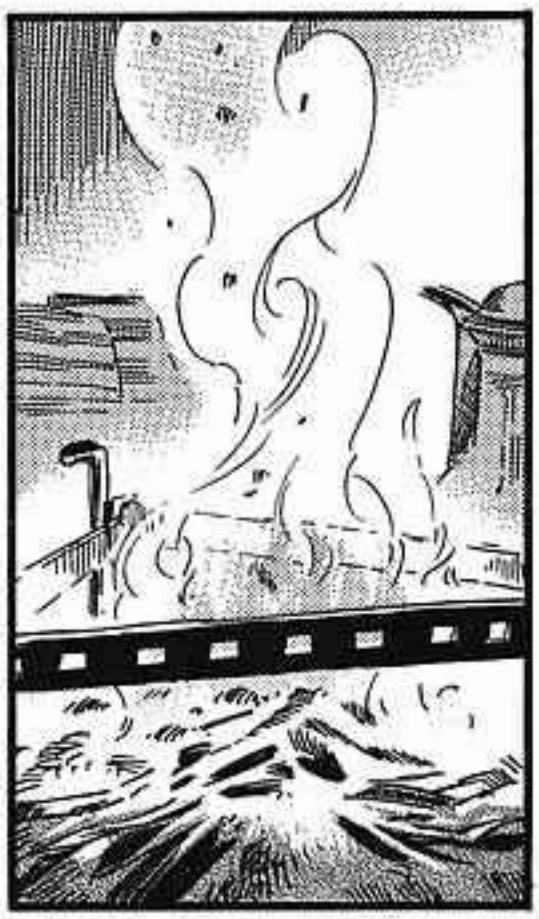
THE SECOND SON ALSO MET HIS END, ON HIS WAY TO SELL FURS.
BUT THEN...
HE FELL FROM A MOUNTAIN TRAIL, ALONG WITH ALL HIS FURS, AND HE DIED.

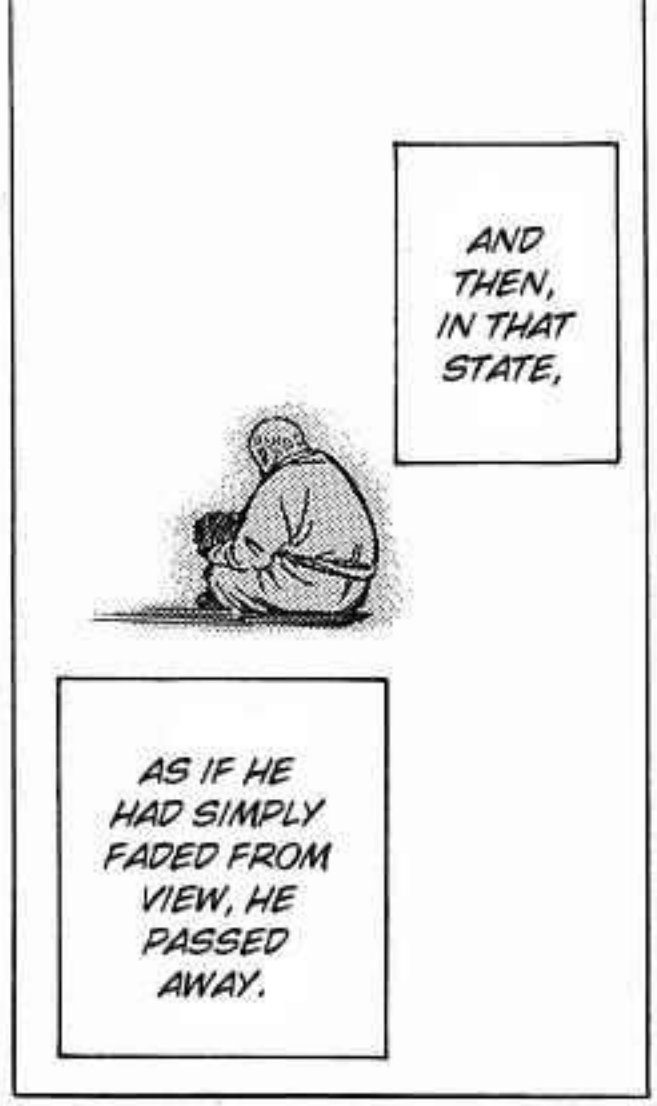


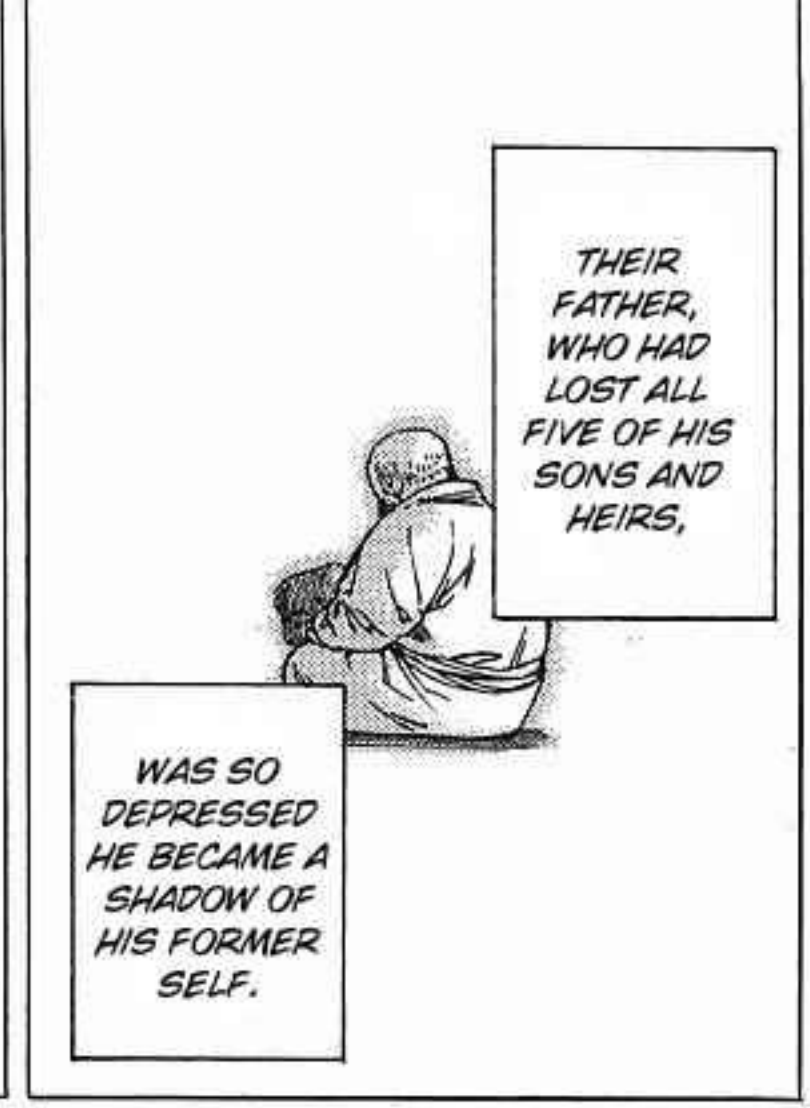
AND THEN THE FIFTH.

THEN, AFTER THE THIRD SON DIED, THE FOURTH.

BUT THEN HE CAME DOWN WITH THE SAME ILLNESS THAT HAD TAKEN THE ELDEST SON, AND HE, TOO, WAS GONE.
THE FIFTH SON WAS THE LAST ONE.




AND THEN, IN THAT STATE,
AS IF HE HAD SIMPLY FADED FROM VIEW, HE PASSED AWAY.


THEIR FATHER, WHO HAD LOST ALL FIVE OF HIS SONS AND HEIRS,
WAS SO DEPRESSED HE BECAME A SHADOW OF HIS FORMER SELF.

I TOLD HER THAT SHE SHOULD GO BACK TO HER OWN FAMILY'S HOUSE AND FIND SOMEONE TO MARRY.
THAT GIRL IS STILL YOUNG.

IF IT'S GOD'S WILL FOR ME TO BE ALL ALONE...
THEN I CAN BEAR THAT.

BUT, WELL...
SHE WOULDN'T LISTEN.

IF ONLY...
THERE WAS SOMEONE OUT THERE FOR HER.

.....

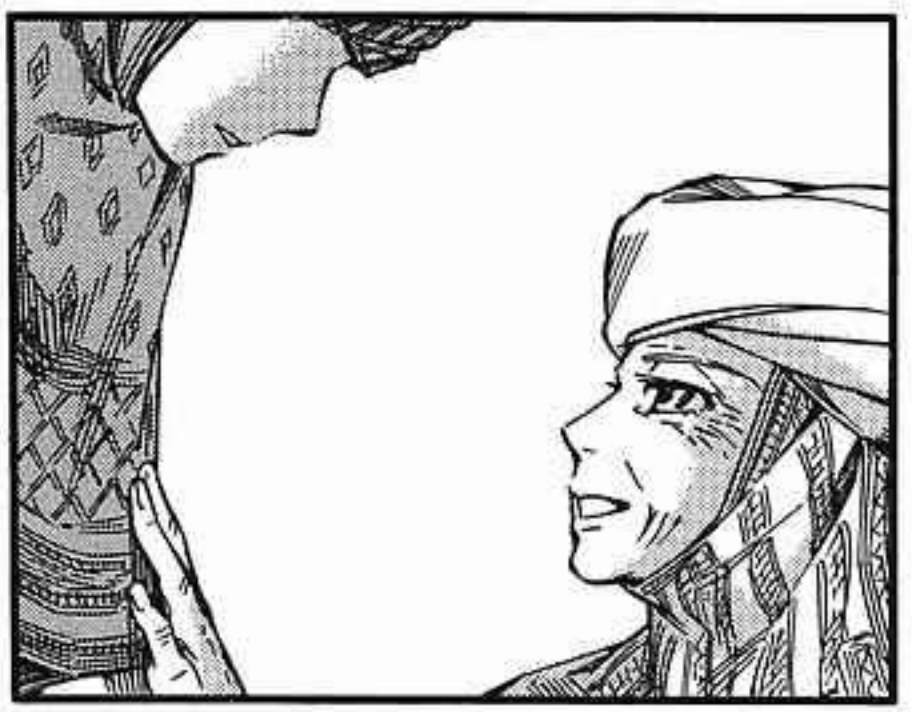
BUT I CAN'T BEAR FOR THAT GIRL TO BE ALONE LIKE THIS.

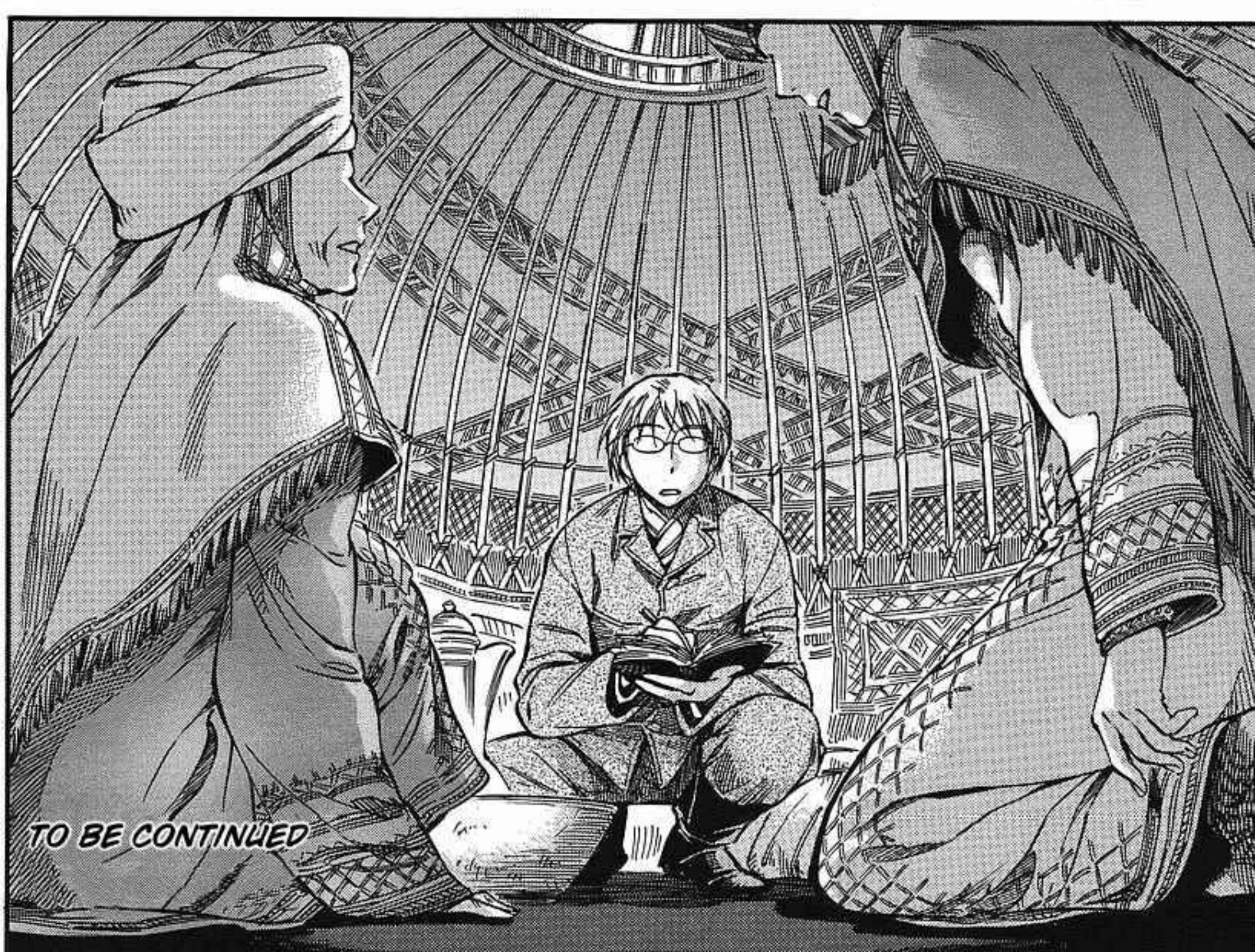
ME?
NO, NOT YET.

DO YOU HAVE A WIFE?

THANK YOU, MY DEAR.
WHERE DID YOU PUT THE STUFF YOU MOVED?

EH!?
I'M ALL DONE.




TO BE CONTINUED

▼ MORI KAORU'S SIGNING EVENT IS OPENING!

OTOYOMEGATARI CHAPTER 13