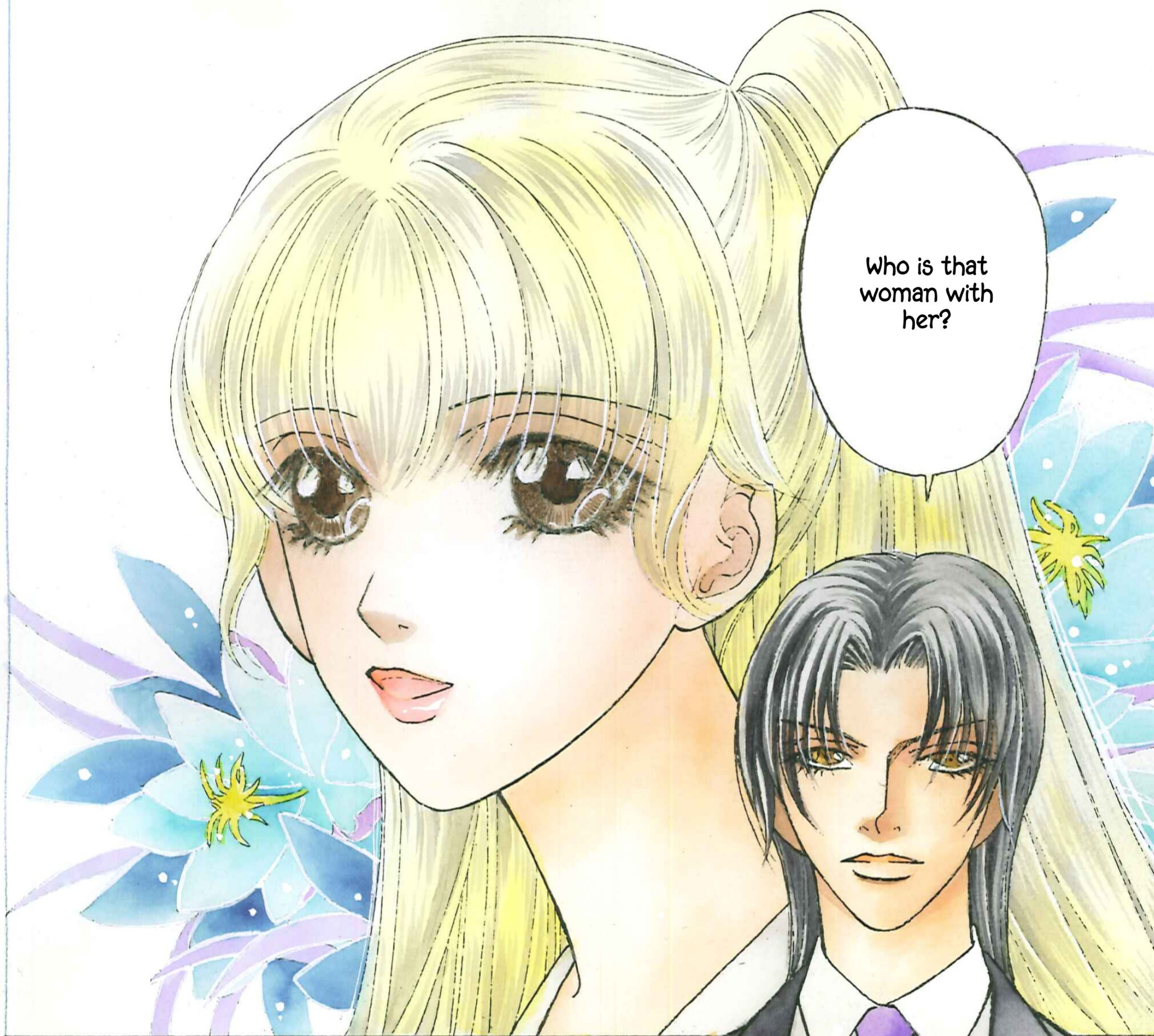
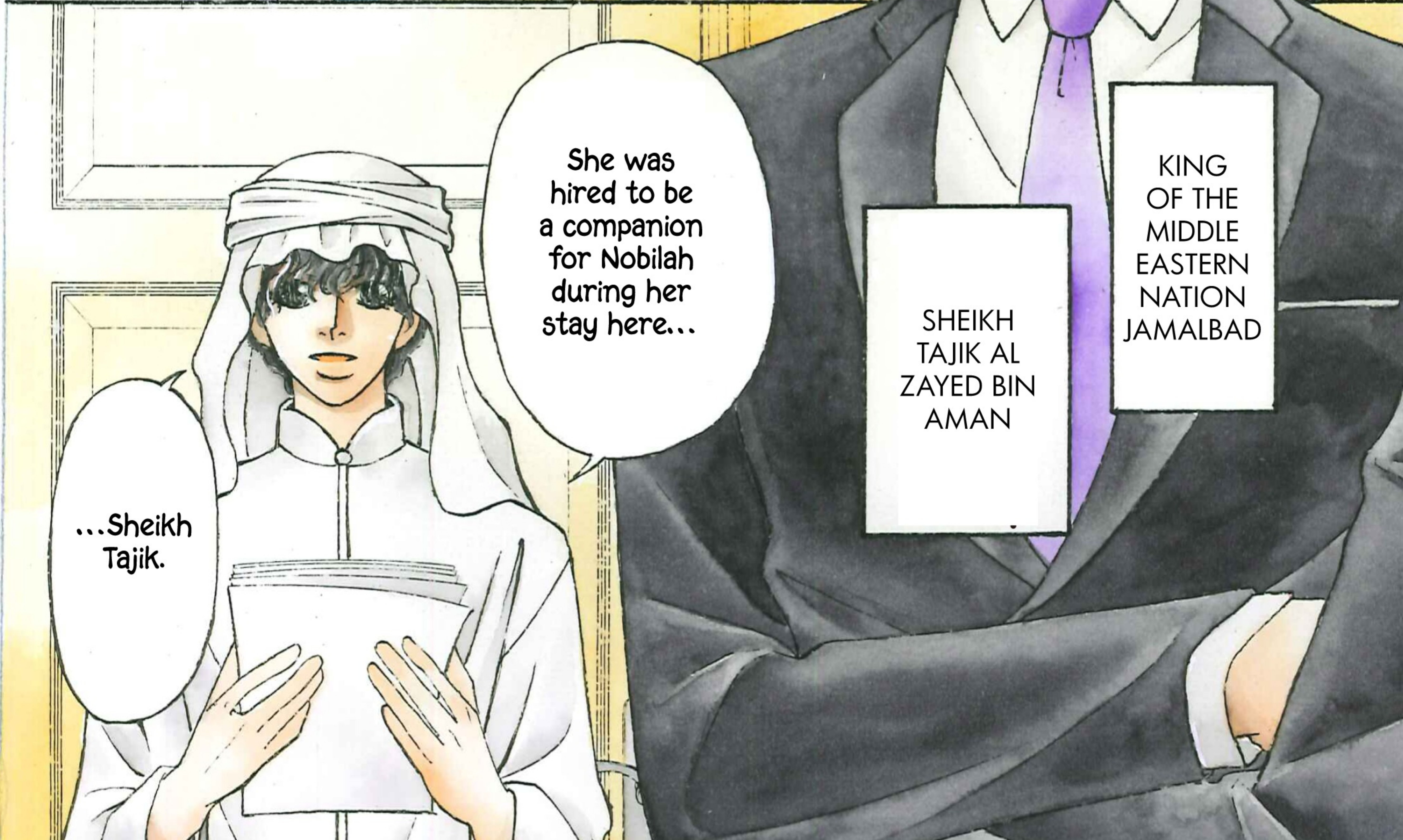




Who is that woman with her?



She was hired to be a companion for Nobilah during her stay here...

KING OF THE MIDDLE EASTERN NATION JAMALBAD

SHEIKH TAJIK AL ZAYED BIN AMAN

...Sheikh Tajik.

I can
see
that.

Yes.

Now that
you mention
it, I did hear
her attendant,
Fatima, was in
the hospital for
an emergency
surgery.

*...my mother
had been
inconsolable,
but now she is
smiling.*

*In the
year
since
my
father
died...*

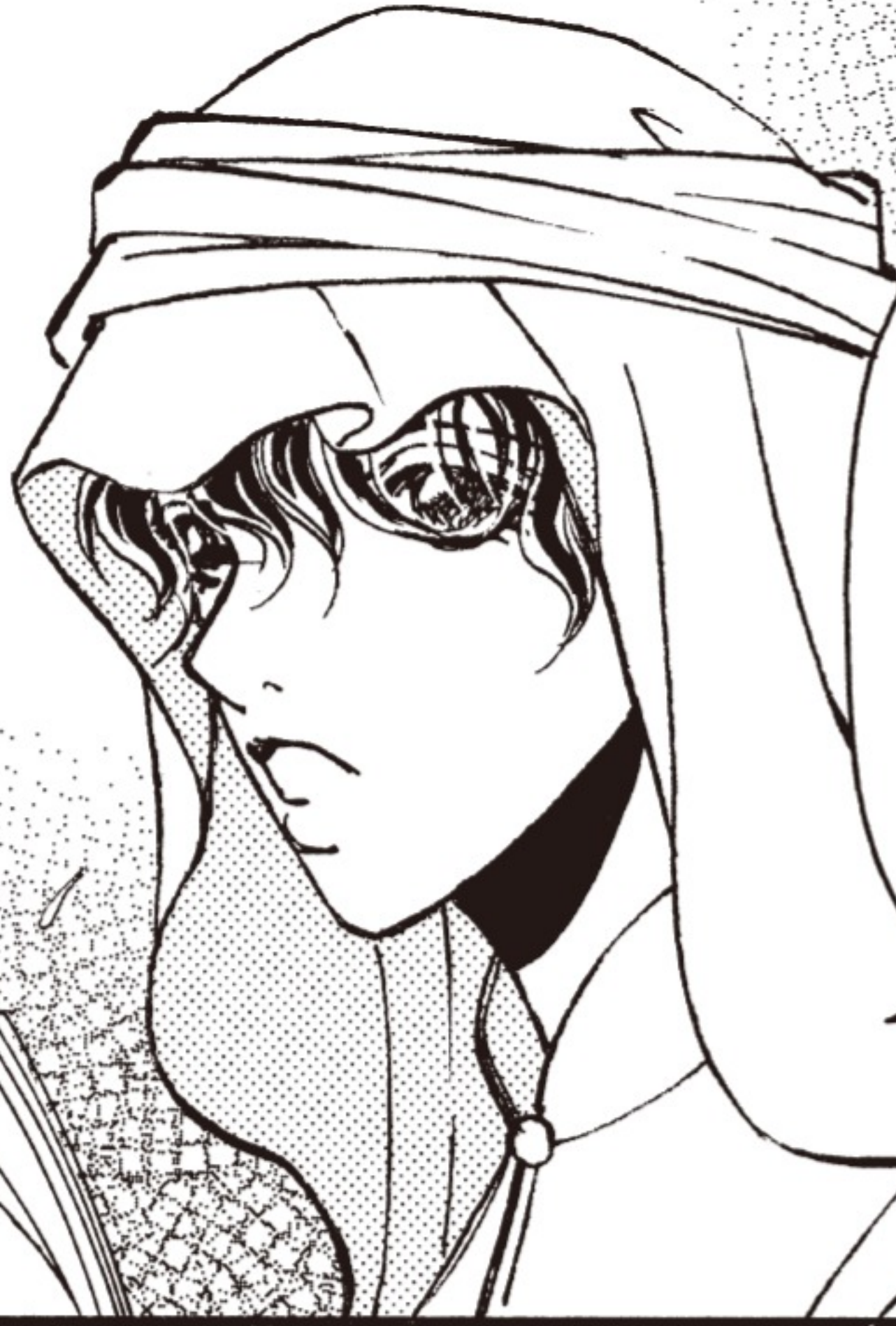
Yes.
They hired
her at the last
minute, and
Nobilah has
taken quite a
liking to her.

*Her clothes
are so plain,*

*but her
beauty is
captivating*

*And so
beautiful.*

*But to think
such a young
woman would
be Mother's
companion.*



There's actually one more thing I would like to inform you of.

Wait, Excellency.



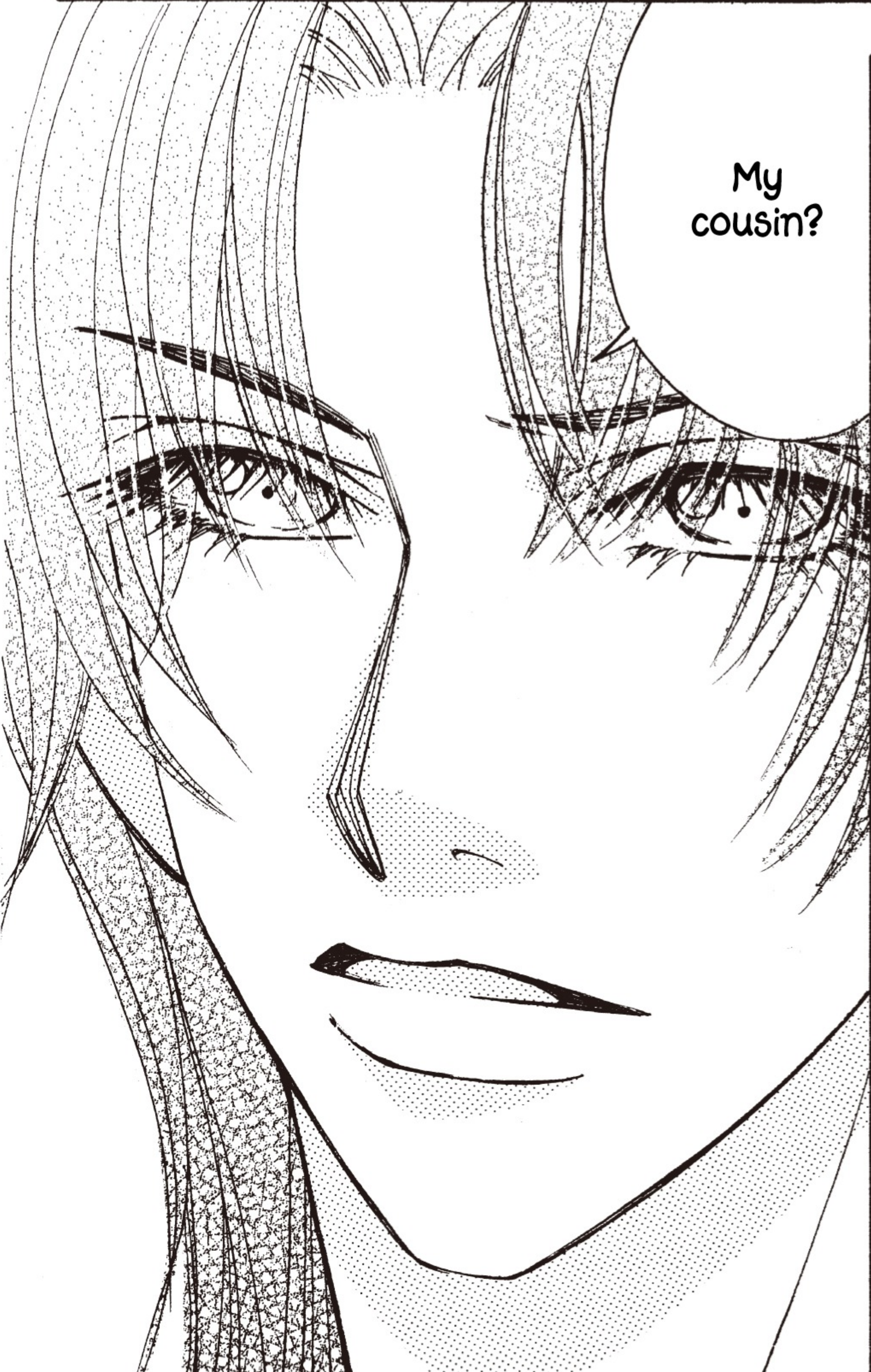
Kamil, I assume you have nothing more to report?



This news only just arrived from home.

What?

I'm going to go say hello to my mother.



My cousin?



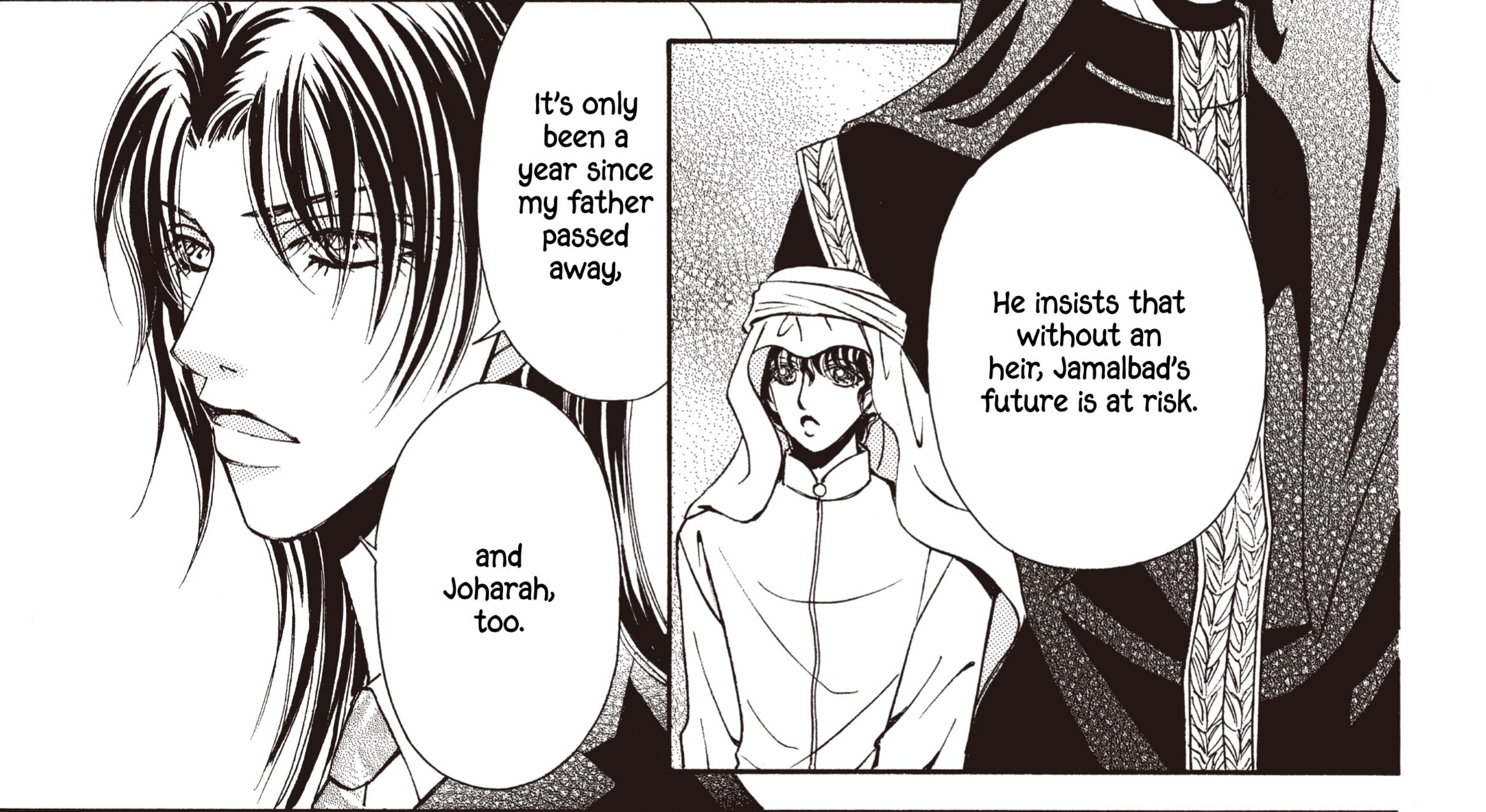
In the council of tribal leaders, Qasim has raised the issue of succession.



His rank is assured.

If anything happens to me, Qasim is next in line for the throne.

Why that... What is he plotting?



It's only been a year since my father passed away,

and Joharah, too.

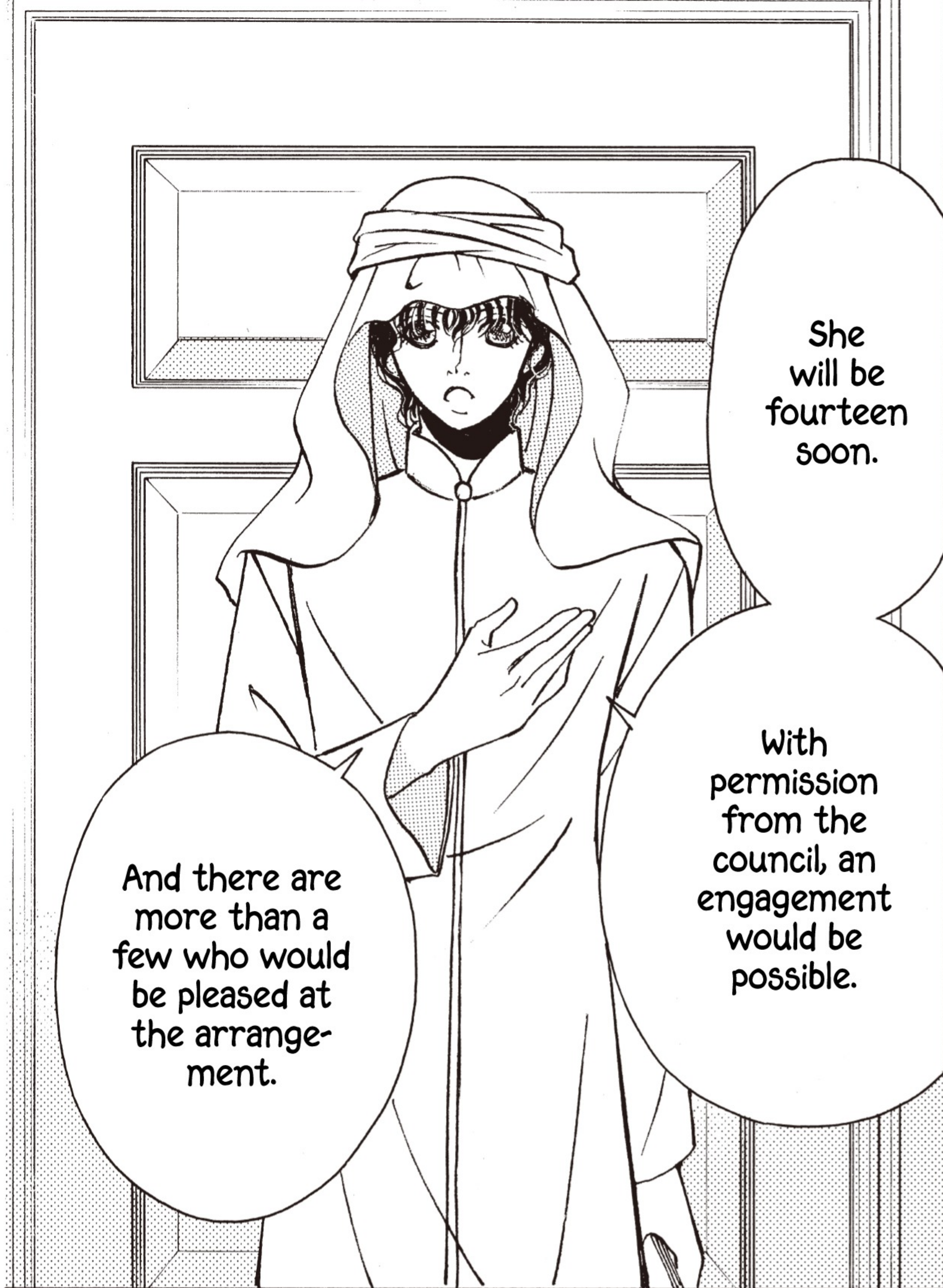
He insists that without an heir, Jamalbad's future is at risk.



What?

And I understand at the meeting he claimed he had found a suitable bride for you.

Qasim is likely using this supposed crisis to win the throne for himself.



She
will be
fourteen
soon.

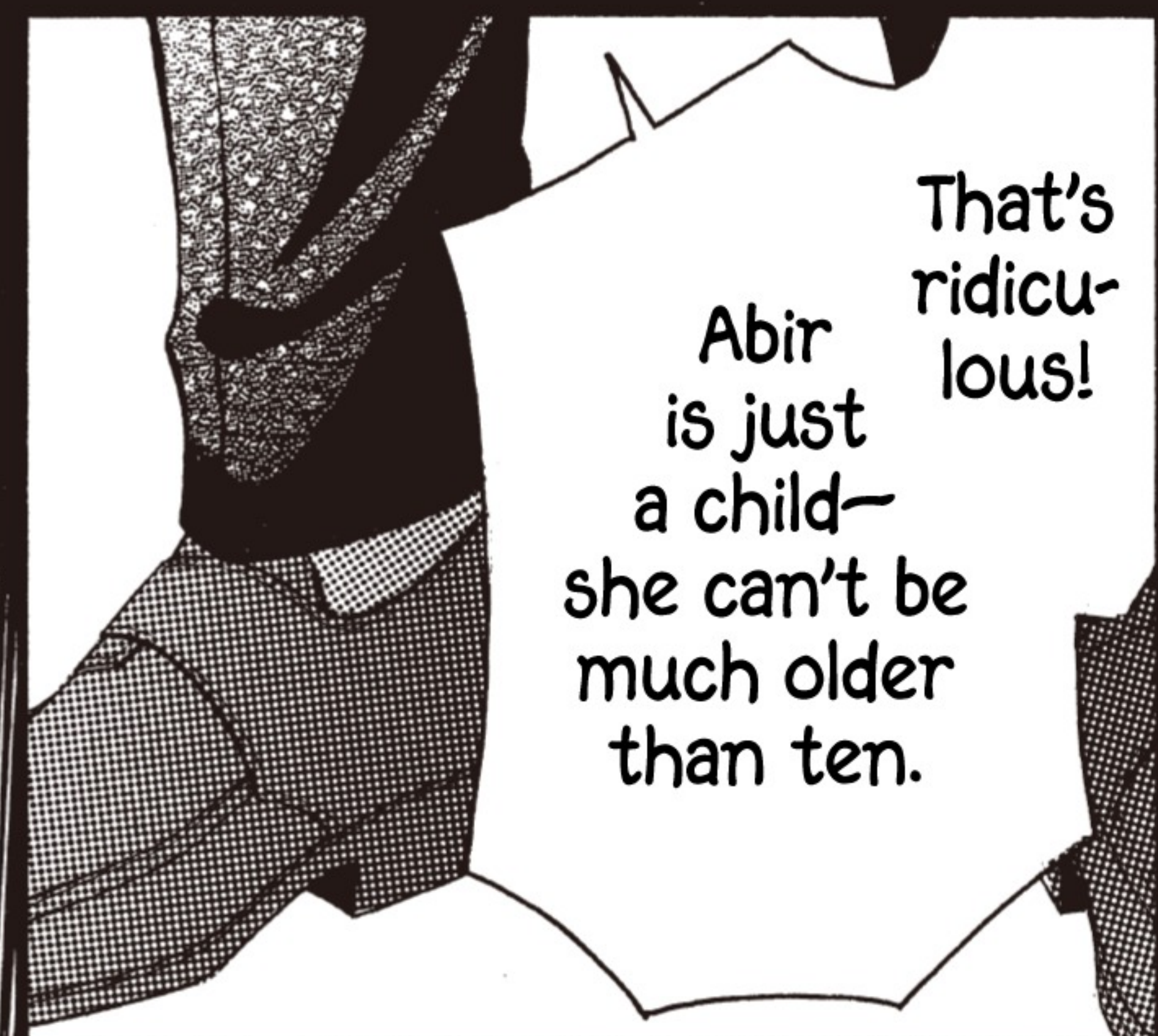
With
permission
from the
council, an
engagement
would be
possible.

And there are
more than a
few who would
be pleased at
the arrange-
ment.



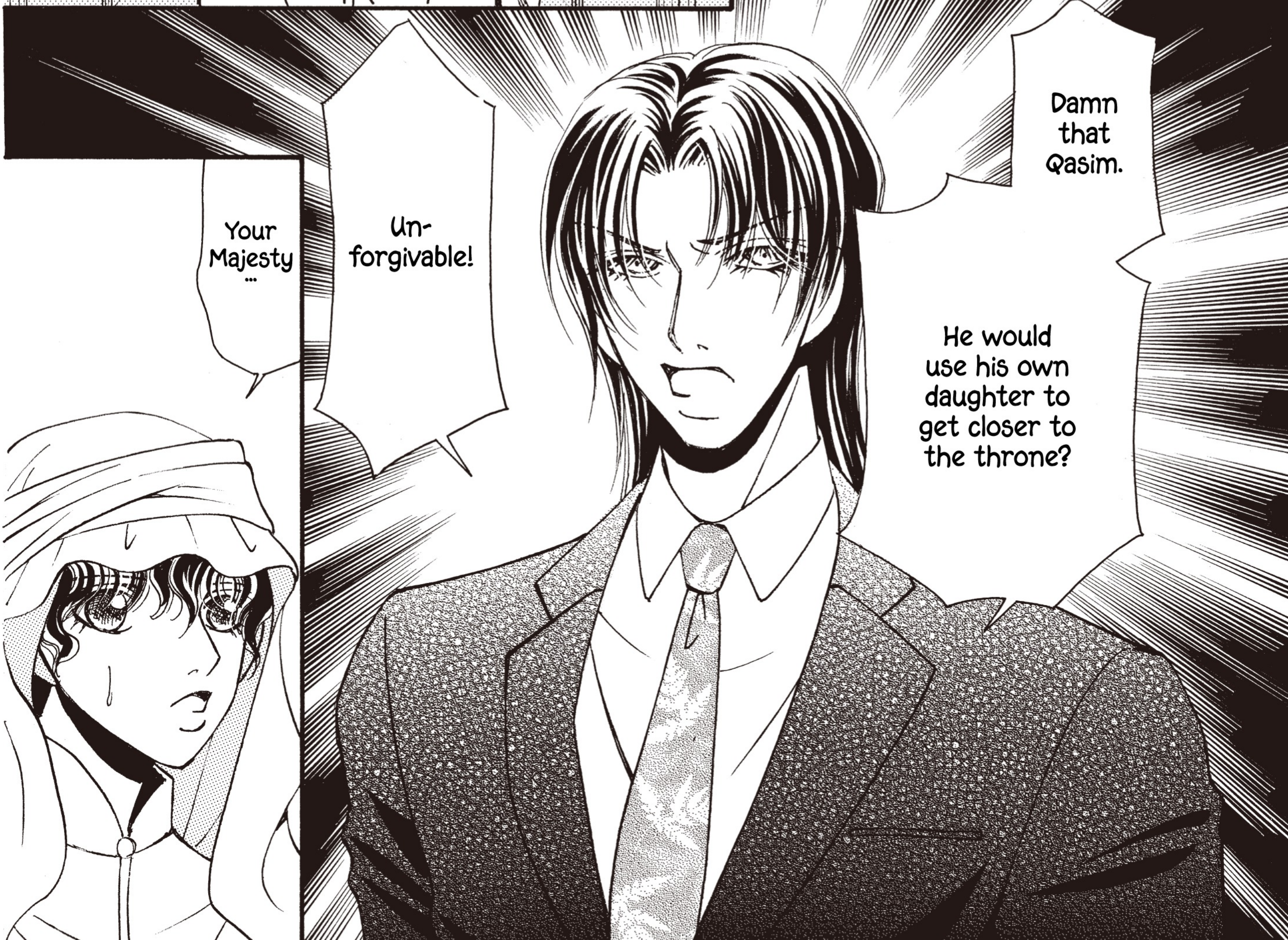
His
daughter,
Abir.

Abir?



That's
ridicu-
lous!

Abir
is just
a child—
she can't be
much older
than ten.

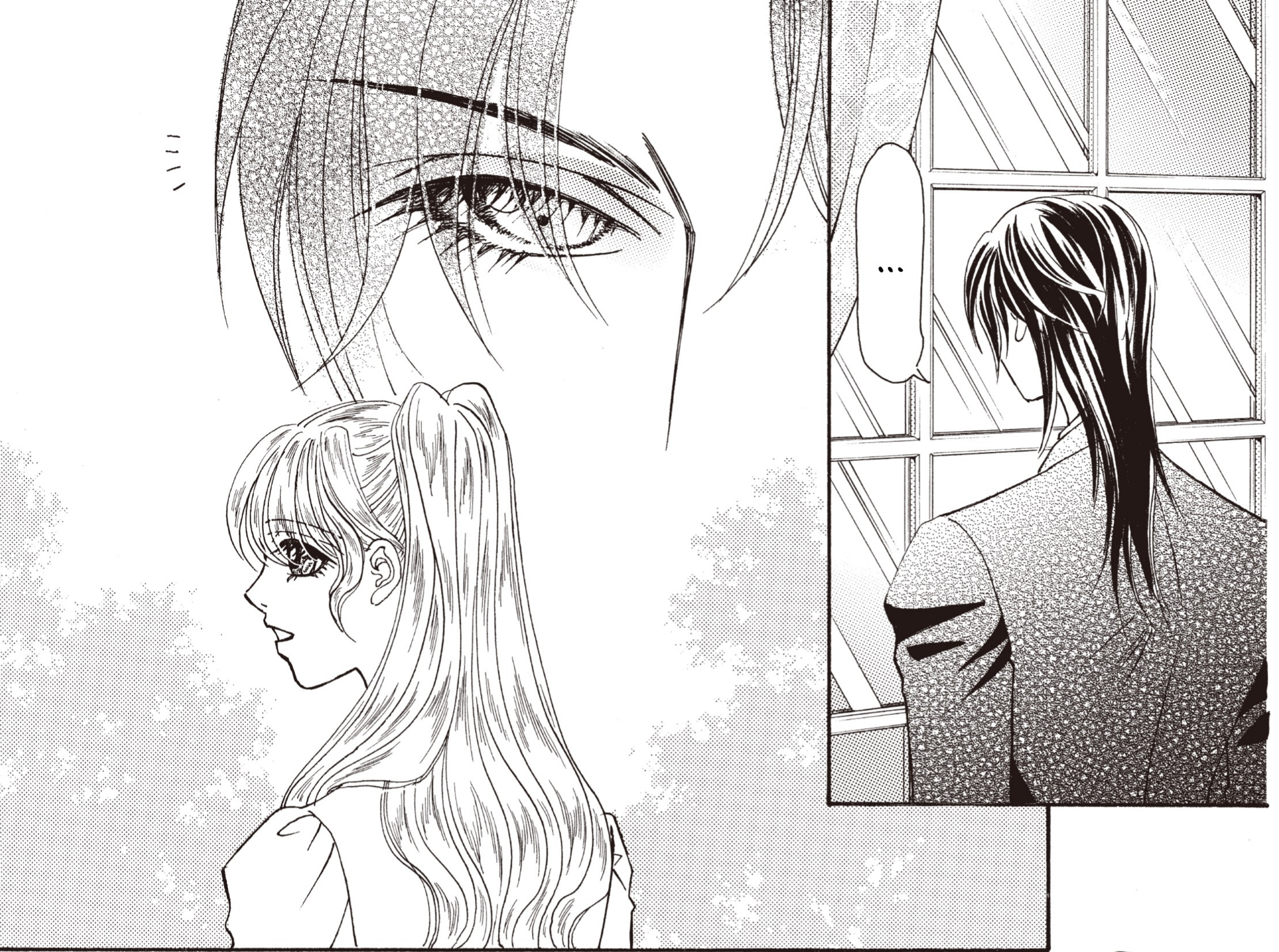


Damn
that
Qasim.

He would
use his own
daughter to
get closer to
the throne?

Un-
forgivable!

Your
Majesty
...



Shall I tell
the council to
find another
candidate?

Yes,
Excel-
lency.



That
won't be
neces-
sary.

Sir?



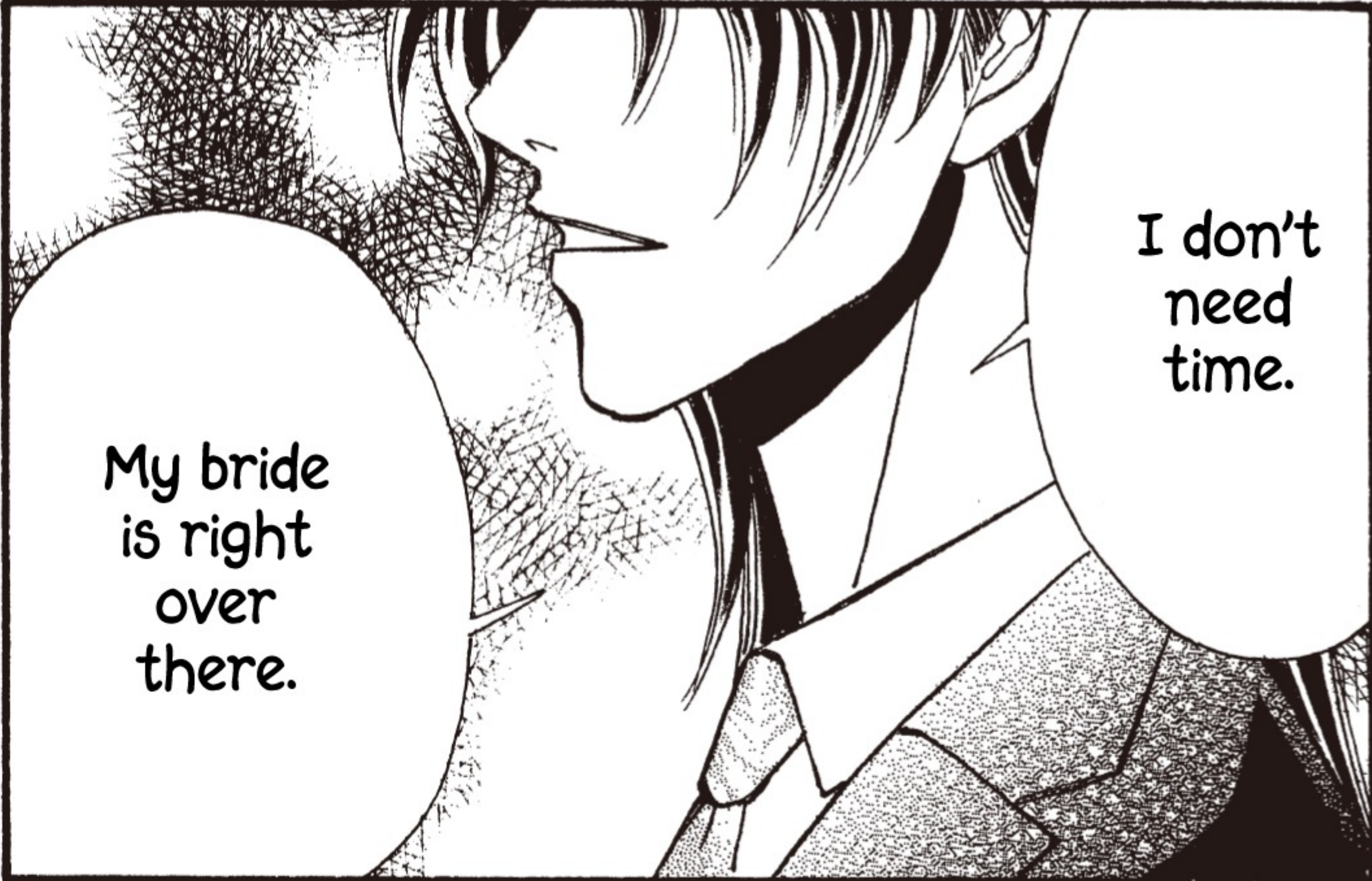
I will not
marry
Abir.

Kamil.



I will
choose
my own
bride.

I am
the
sheikh.



My bride
is right
over
there.

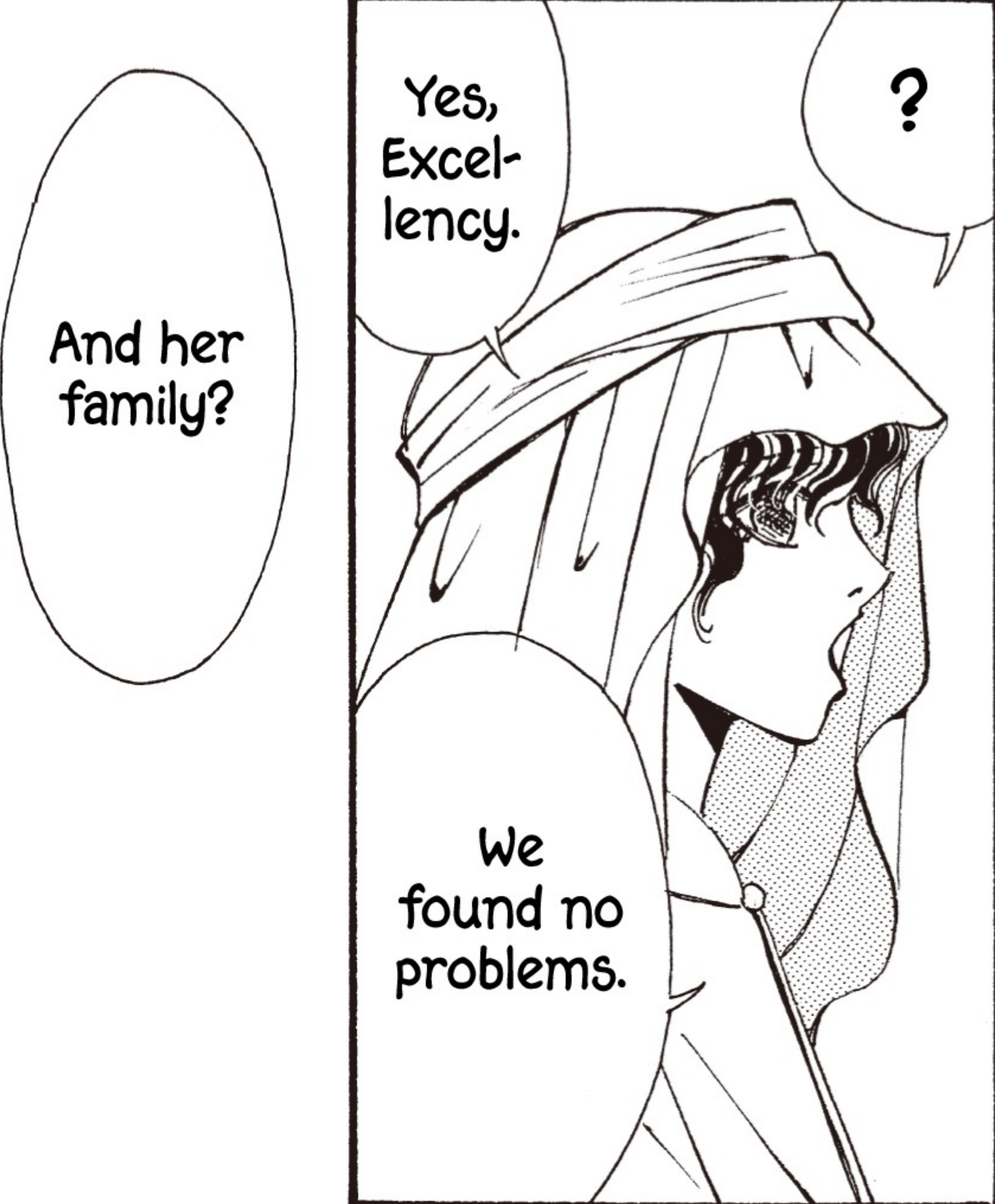
I don't
need
time.



But
you
don't
have
the
time
to...

What?

You're
going to
find her
yourself
?

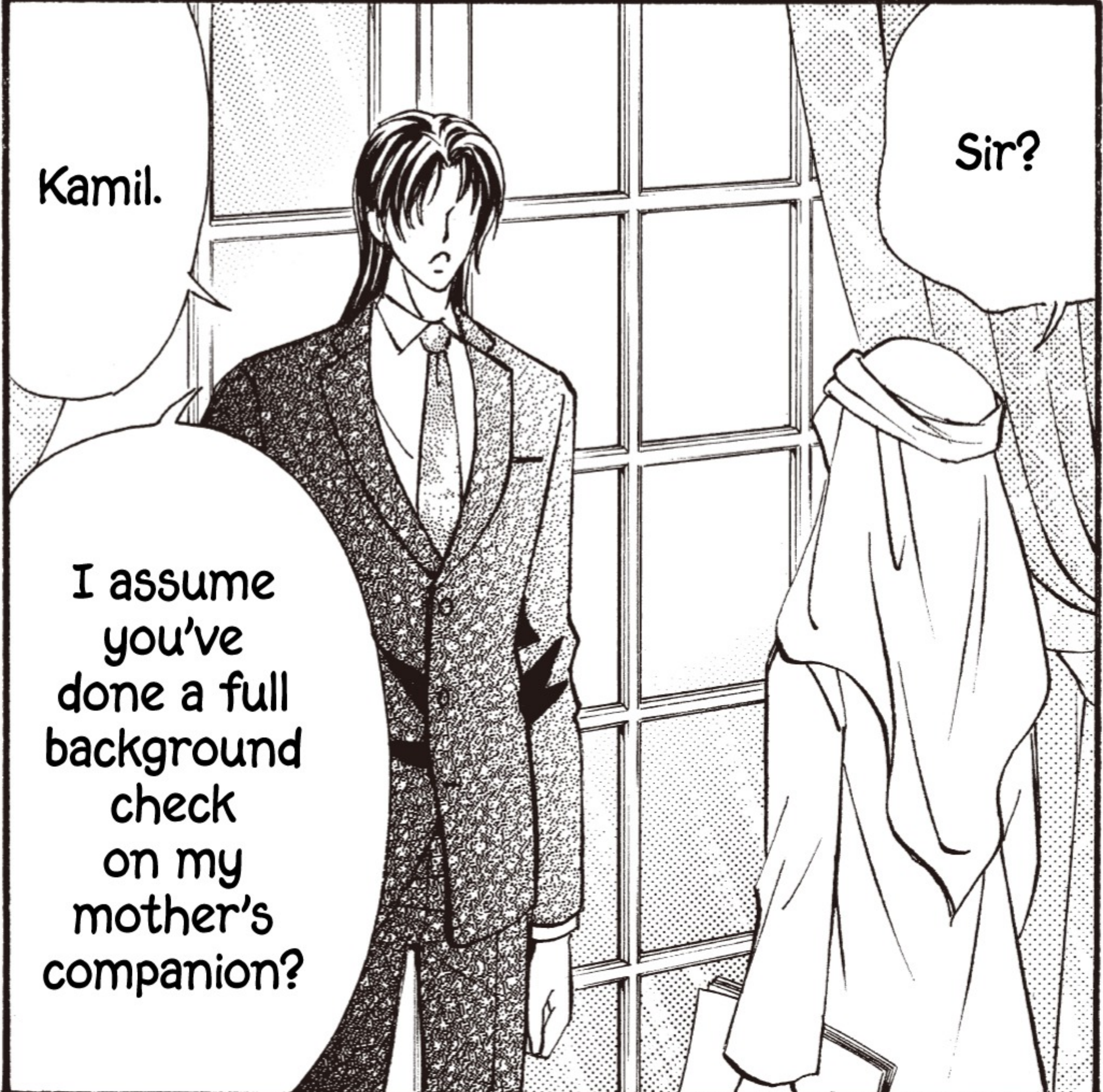


And her
family?

Yes,
Excel-
lency.

?

We
found no
problems.



Kamil.

Sir?

I assume
you've
done a full
background
check
on my
mother's
companion?



That
will
do.



She has
no other
relatives.

She has a
twin sister,
a brother-
in-law and
a niece.



What?

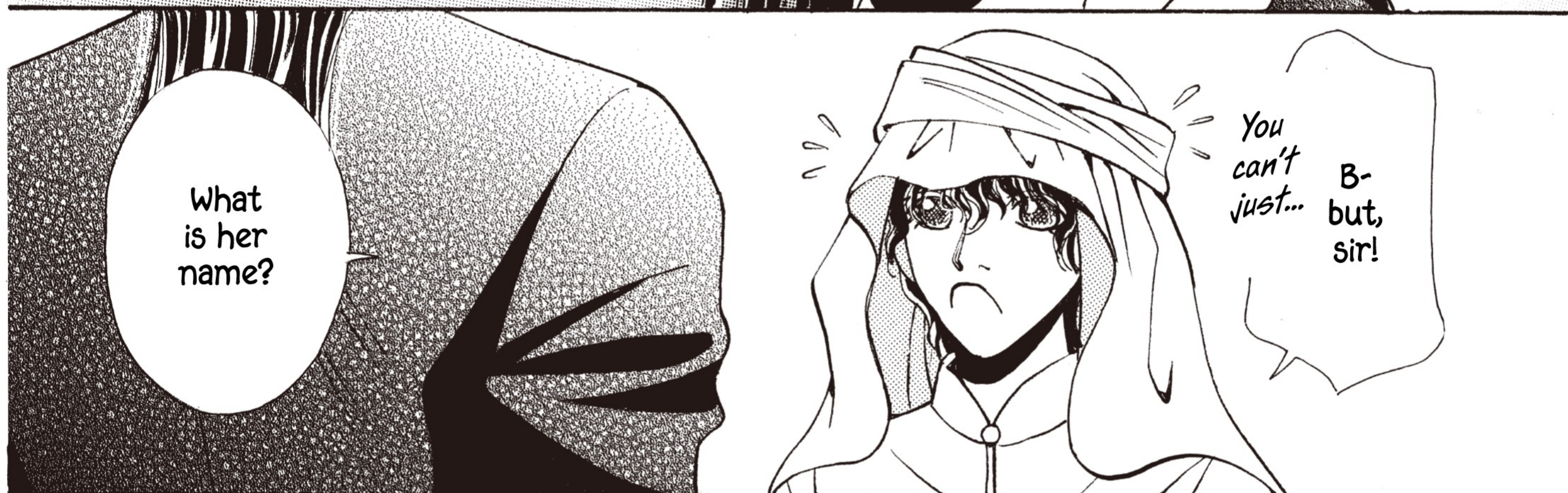
I will
have that
woman
as my
wife.



I will do
anything to
prevent it.

I refuse to
let Qasim
have his way.

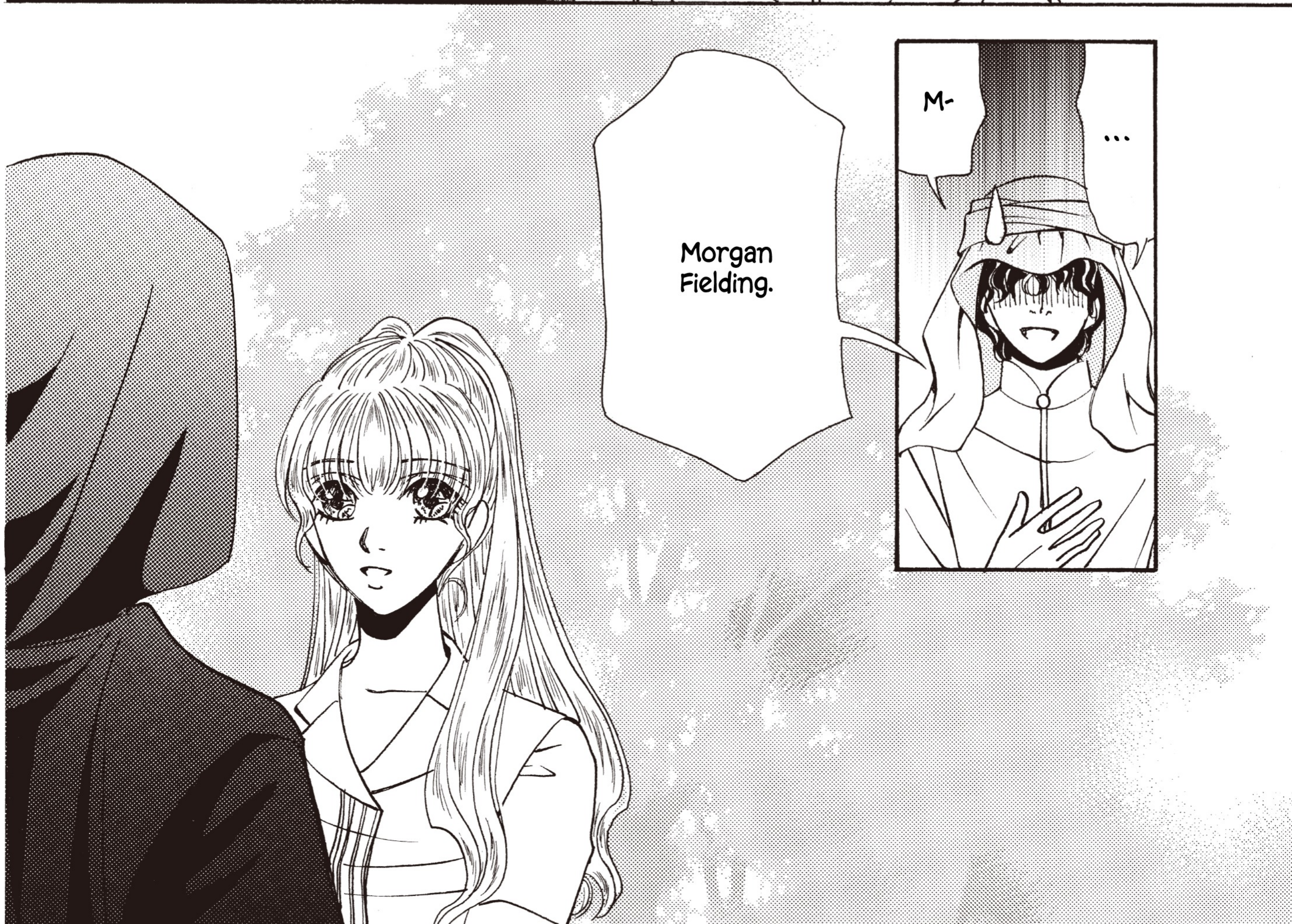
B-but
Excel-
lency!



What
is her
name?

You
can't
just...

B-
but,
sir!



Morgan
Fielding.

M-

...



Australia
is nice, but
Jamalbad
is the best
place in the
world.

Yes,
Morgan.



Jamalbad
must be a
wonderful
place.

The stories
you tell
of your
country are
fascinating,
Nobilah.



Yes, I
would love
to visit.

I would love
for you to
see it.



*And all I have
to do is be a
listening ear
for a charming
noblewoman
from a foreign
country.*

*Long hours
to sit and
relax in a
beautiful
environment.*

*This job
is like a
dream
come
true.*