

Lunar Distribution Account L110003



FALLING IN LOVE ON THE PATH TO HELL

DUGGAN
BROWN
O'HALLORAN
SABINO
GRAY

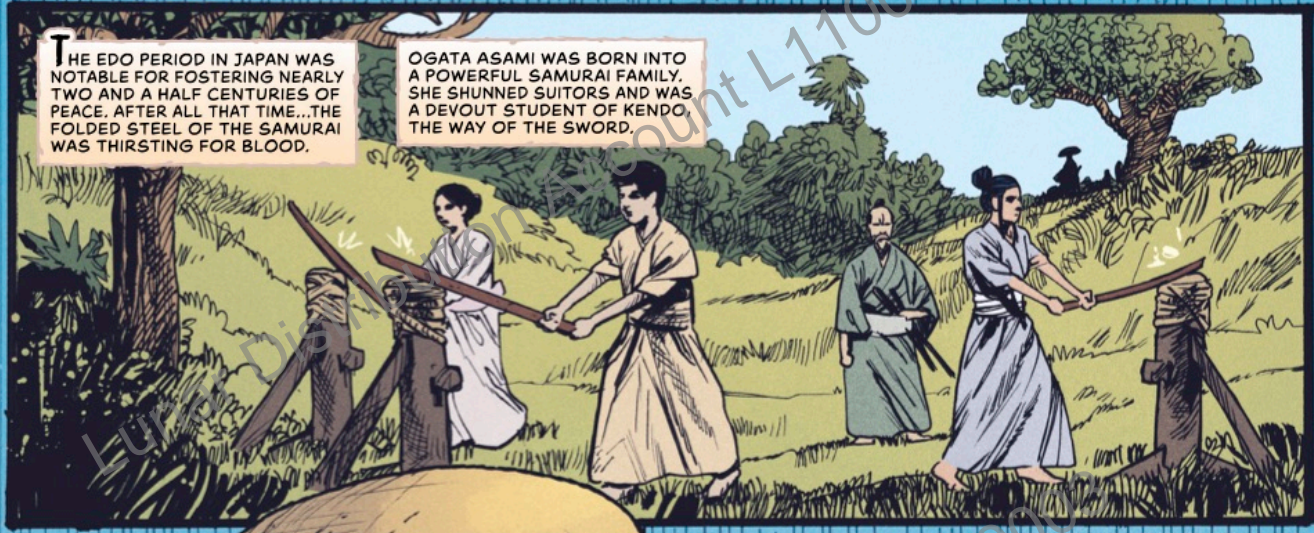
Image
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GARY BROWN
Illustration

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THE EDO PERIOD IN JAPAN WAS NOTABLE FOR FOSTERING NEARLY TWO AND A HALF CENTURIES OF PEACE. AFTER ALL THAT TIME...THE FOLDED STEEL OF THE SAMURAI WAS THIRSTING FOR BLOOD.

OGATA ASAMI WAS BORN INTO A POWERFUL SAMURAI FAMILY. SHE SHUNNED SUITORS AND WAS A DEVOUT STUDENT OF KENDO, THE WAY OF THE SWORD.



HER FAMILY HAD ENOUGH BLADES, WHAT THEY NEEDED WAS A BRIDE.

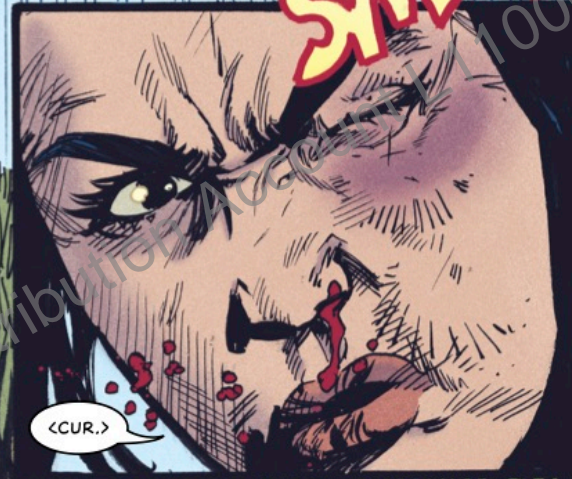
«COME, IT'S TIME, GIRL.»



«I GAVE MY ANSWER TO FATHER.»



«UNHAND ME, ISOJI.»



«CUR.»

ASAMI BLACKENED HER BROTHER'S EYE, BUT YIELDED THE BRAWL WHEN HER ELDERLY PARENTS ARRIVED.

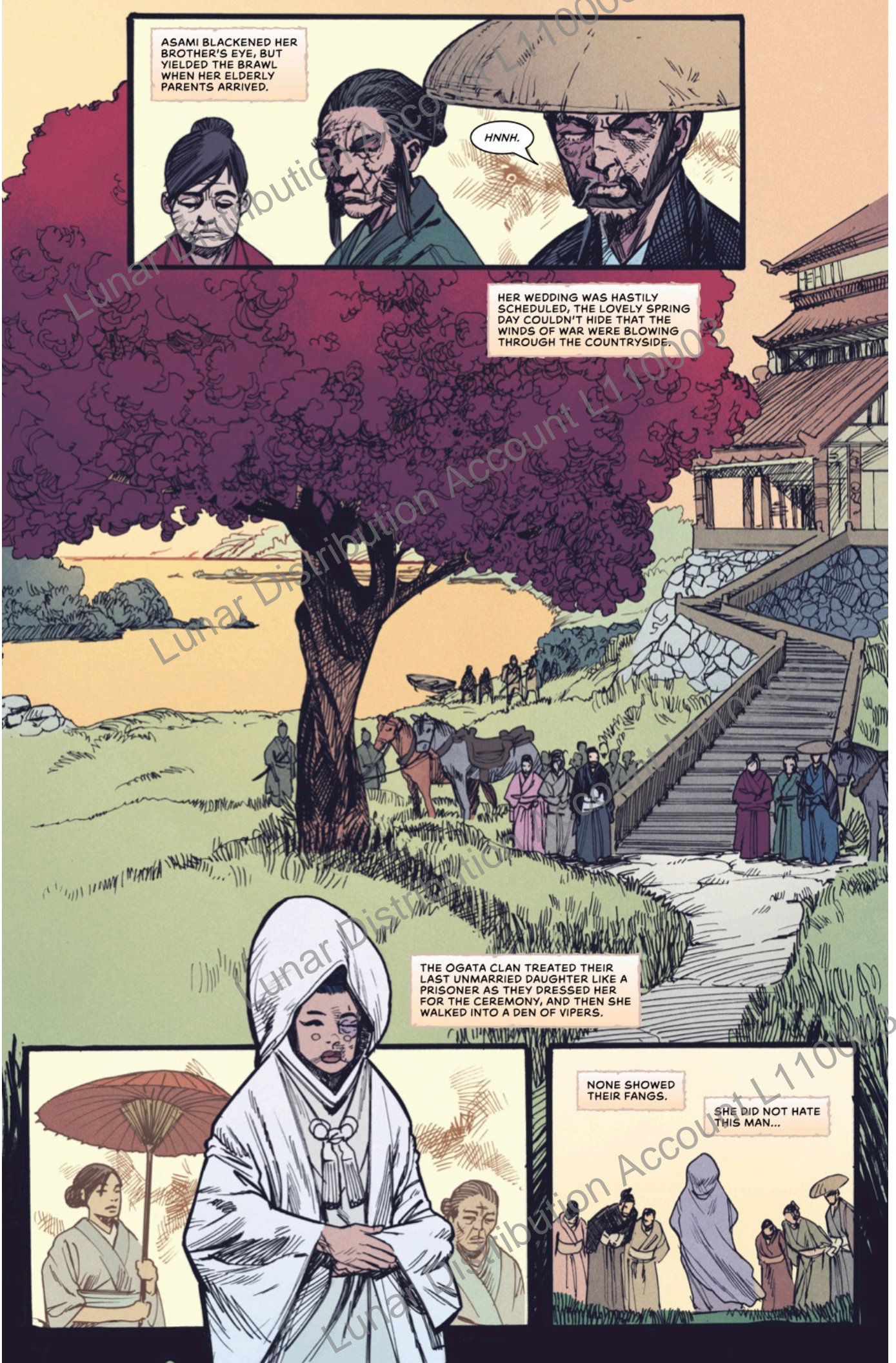
HNNH.

HER WEDDING WAS HASTILY SCHEDULED, THE LOVELY SPRING DAY COULDN'T HIDE THAT THE WINDS OF WAR WERE BLOWING THROUGH THE COUNTRYSIDE.

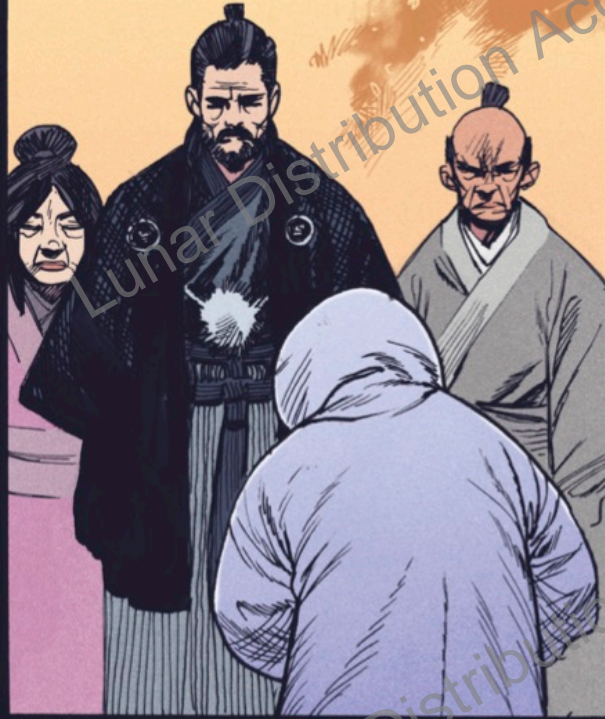
THE OGATA CLAN TREATED THEIR LAST UNMARRIED DAUGHTER LIKE A PRISONER AS THEY DRESSED HER FOR THE CEREMONY, AND THEN SHE WALKED INTO A DEN OF VIPERS.

NONE SHOWED THEIR FANGS.

SHE DID NOT HATE THIS MAN...



...BUT SHE DID NOT LOVE THIS MAN, THE MARRIAGE WOULD PLEASE HER FAMILY.



THE JOINING WOULD BRING FAVOR WITH THE DAIMYO.



HER FAMILY DIDN'T KNOW WHAT LAY IN ASAMI'S HEART...



...IF THEY DID, THEY WOULD KNOW THAT IT HAD ALREADY BEEN BOUND...TO THE SWORD.

