



HER ETERNALLY
UNCHANGING
APPEARANCE,
THE LIGHT AND
FLEXIBLE
MOVEMENTS
OF HER
DANCE-




I WILL
NEVER
FORGET

THAT
SPECTACLE I
WITNESSED,
BACK WHEN I
WAS LITTLE.



THE RITE
OF
ETERNAL
YOUTH

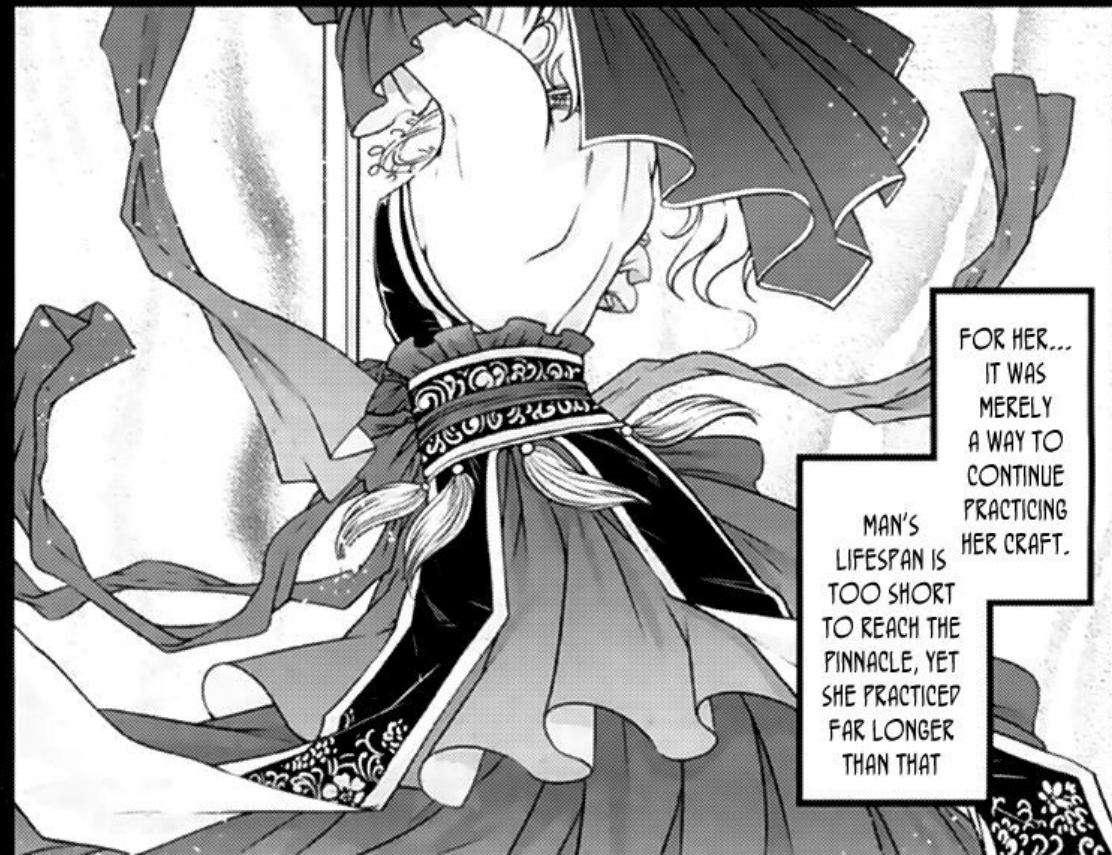


FOR THE
APPRENTICES,
IT WAS A PATH TO
BECOMING A XIAN.
FOR THE EMPEROR,
IT WAS A DREAM, A
MEANS TO EXTEND
HIS RULE FOREVER.

A RITE THAT
REJECTS AGING, AND
PRESERVES ONE'S YOUTH.
COUNTLESS APPRENTICES
DEVOTED THEIR HEARTS
AND SOULS TO PRACTICING
IT, BUT NONE WERE ABLE
TO REVERSE THEIR
AGING IN THE SLIGHTEST,
LET ALONE MASTER IT.



AND THE
FRUIT
OF HER
IMMORTAL
PURSUIT OF
REFINEMENT
WAS-



FOR HER...
IT WAS
MERELY
A WAY TO
CONTINUE
PRACTICING
HER CRAFT.

MAN'S
LIFESPAN IS
TOO SHORT
TO REACH THE
PINNACLE, YET
SHE PRACTICED
FAR LONGER
THAN THAT



THIS
SWORD
DANCE
THAT
EXALTS

HEAVEN
AND
EARTH

*A girl's dance. The scent of flowers.
Feast your eyes upon this sublime dance, whose refinement
transcends the limits Time has placed upon Man.*

Story-art:


Kokusei
Roukun

THE EVERLASTING DANCE

FIRST
PART



FOR AS
LONG AS I
REMEMBER,
SHE
ALWAYS
LOOKED
THE SAME.



EVERY
TIME I
WITNESSED HER
SWORD DANCE,
I WAS FILLED
WITH AN
INDESCRIBABLE
SENSE OF
ELATION.

HER
PERPETUALLY
DANCING
FIGURE
STOLE MY
HEART.

AGAIN
AND
AGAIN I
SAW HER

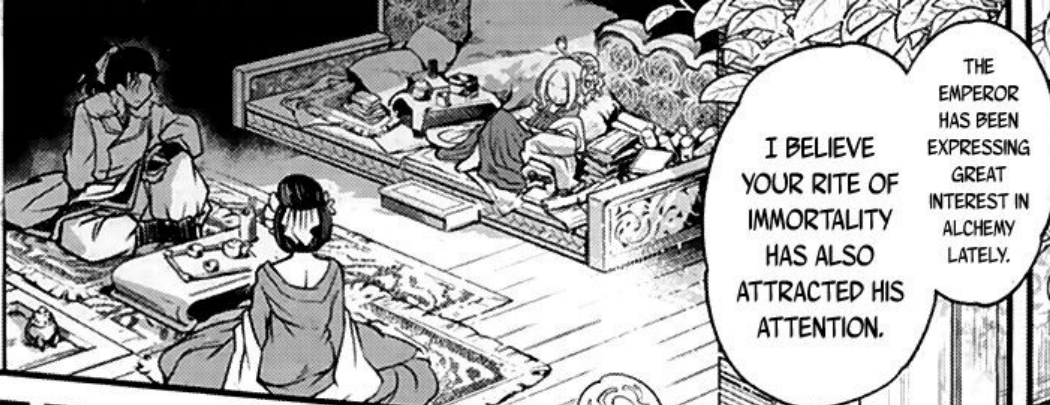
PAYING NO
HEED TO
WIND OR
SNOW, AS
THE SEASONS
PASSED-

YOUR
LADY-
SHIP.

She was-

IM-
MOR-
TAL.

OH.
WHAT IS IT,
BOY?




I RECEIVED A LETTER FROM MASTER LI, SAYING THAT THE ROYAL FAMILY SEEKS AN AUDIENCE WITH YOU.


THAT'S PROBABLY WHY...

I BELIEVE YOUR RITE OF IMMORTALITY HAS ALSO ATTRACTED HIS ATTENTION.

THE EMPEROR HAS BEEN EXPRESSING GREAT INTEREST IN ALCHEMY LATELY.



THAT KID JUST WON'T LEARN, WILL HE? I REFUSE!



IF I BOW MY HEAD TO THE CURRENT EMPEROR, IT'LL EXPAND HIS INFLUENCE, AND HE'LL HAVE NO TROUBLE GETTING RID OF HIS POLITICAL ENEMIES.

THEY DON'T CARE ABOUT MY DANCE, THEY JUST WANT MY RITE.

BESIDES, THE IMPERIAL COURT HAS BEEN OVERRUN BY SOME STUPID BRATS LATELY, AND THERE'S ALL SORTS OF POLITICAL STRIFE. IT'S THE WORST POSSIBLE TIME.

BEEN THERE, DONE THAT. IT'S NOTHING SPECIAL, SO I'M NOT INTERESTED!

ARE YOU SURE? IT'S NOT OFTEN THAT YOU GET A CHANCE TO DISPLAY YOUR ART BEFORE THE EMPEROR.



I'M NOT INTERESTED IN EPHEMERAL THINGS LIKE FAME AND GLORY...

I'M NOT GETTING INVOLVED WITH THAT BUNCH, WITH THEIR CLIQUES AND AGENDAS.



JUN IS ALWAYS PICKING ON ME~!
HUI~! DO SOMETHING~!



YOU STILL WENT TOO FAR! WHAT IF IT ENDS UP DRIVING AWAY FUTURE CUSTOMERS ...?

THE WAY HE TOUCHED ME WAS, YOU KNOW... I MEAN, WE'RE DANCERS, NOT PROSTITUTES...

THAT WAS, UM...

HUH?
FOR AFTER YOU'VE APOLOGIZED FOR SLUGGING THAT ATTENDANT THE OTHER DAY.

YOU CAN LEAVE THAT SELF-IMPORTANT POSTURING



AS IT IS, SHE CAN'T DO ANYTHING EXCEPT PUT ON MAKEUP AND DANCE... SHE NEEDS TO TAKE CARE OF DAILY NECESSITIES BY HERSELF, AT THE VERY LEAST! WHAT IF SHE BECOMES EVEN MORE OF A FAILURE!?

THERE'S STILL A LIMIT TO EVERYTHING!

AND BESIDES, I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO GIVE BIRTH TO YOU IF SHE HADN'T TAKEN ME IN WHEN I WAS PREGNANT...

T-THAT'S BECAUSE... SHE HAS A LOT GOING ON...

AND YOU, MOM! YOU'RE TOO SOFT ON HER!



I CAN HEAR YOU MUMBLING THERE! SHE HAS A RESPONSIBILITY AS THE LEADER OF OUR TROUPE! WHO ELSE CAN WE COUNT ON!?

BUT HE STILL DOESN'T HAVE A GIRLFRIEND AT THIS AGE...

HE'D ALWAYS SAY HOW HE WANTED TO MARRY YOU WHEN HE GROWS UP...

I'VE BEEN WORRIED ABOUT THAT TOO!

IS HE JUST BEING A TEENAGE REBEL, WITH THAT SOPHISTRY?



NOO OO~!



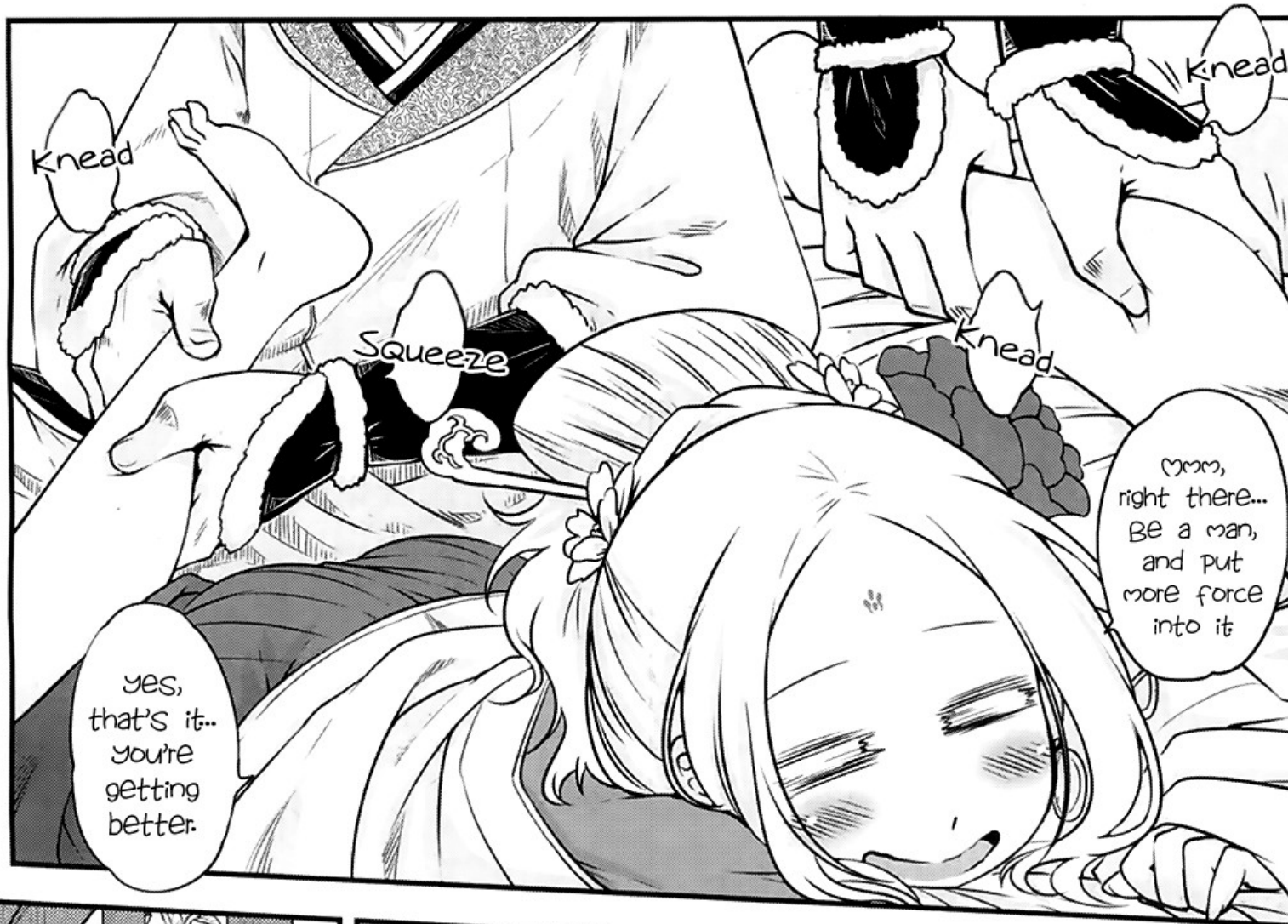
CLEAN YOUR ROOM!



HEY! THAT'S NOT FAIR, HUI!

I'LL TELL THE OTHERS NOT TO COME IN UNTIL THE SERMON'S OVER...

I... I'LL JUST GO WRITE A REPLY TO MASTER LI.



Literally 龍陽之癖, Chinese slang meaning "gay man"

OW OW OW!
THAT
HURTS!
NOTHING!
I DIDN'T
SAY ANY-
THING...!

WHAT WAS
THAT?

WELL, I GREW UP
AROUND YOU AND
THE OTHER WOMEN.
THE CONTRAST BETWEEN
YOUR PUBLIC BEHAVIOR
AND YOUR TRUE NATURE
RUINED MY PERCEPTION
OF WOMEN FOR GOOD...

YOU DON'T
EVEN HAVE A
GIRL YOU LIKE,
LET ALONE A
WIFE, AT YOUR
AGE. I CAN'T
BLAME HER.

HUH?

SHE WAS
WORRIED YOU
MIGHT BE A
SODOMITE.

HIEEE
EEEE
!?

!!

MAKE YOURSELF
CLEAR, INSTEAD OF
MOUTHING OFF LIKE
THAT! OTHERWISE,
YOU'RE THE ONE
WHO'LL PAY FOR IT.

WHAT KIND
OF GIRLS DO
YOU LIKE?
I'LL GIVE
YOU A HAND,
FOR HUI'S
SAKE.

YOU
LITTLE
BRAT...

YOU
DON'T
HAVE A
TRACE OF
DIGNITY
IN YOU...!

DON'T
GET
UPPITY
WITH
ME!
THAT'S
IT! I'LL
GIVE YOU
A TASTE
OF A
SENIOR'S
DIGNITY!

YOU
TWO-
FACED
RELIC!

YOU
SHITTY
LITTLE
BRAT...!



HUH...?



SLAM



ARE YOU TELLING ME...

Rub

Rub

THIS
CHILDLIKE
BODY
TURNS YOU
ON?



Poke



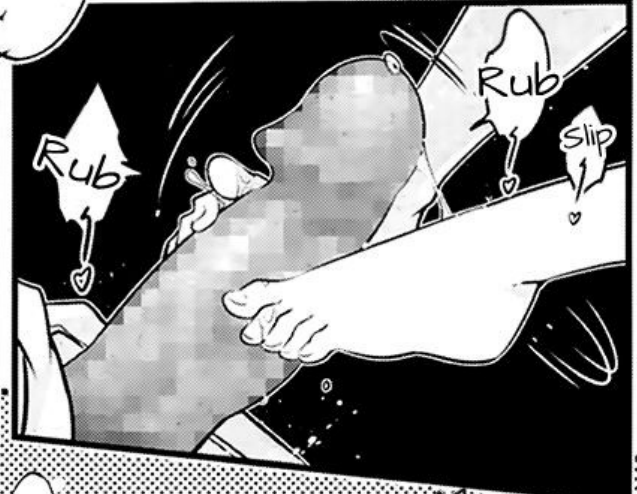
DID...
YOU...
GET
HARD?



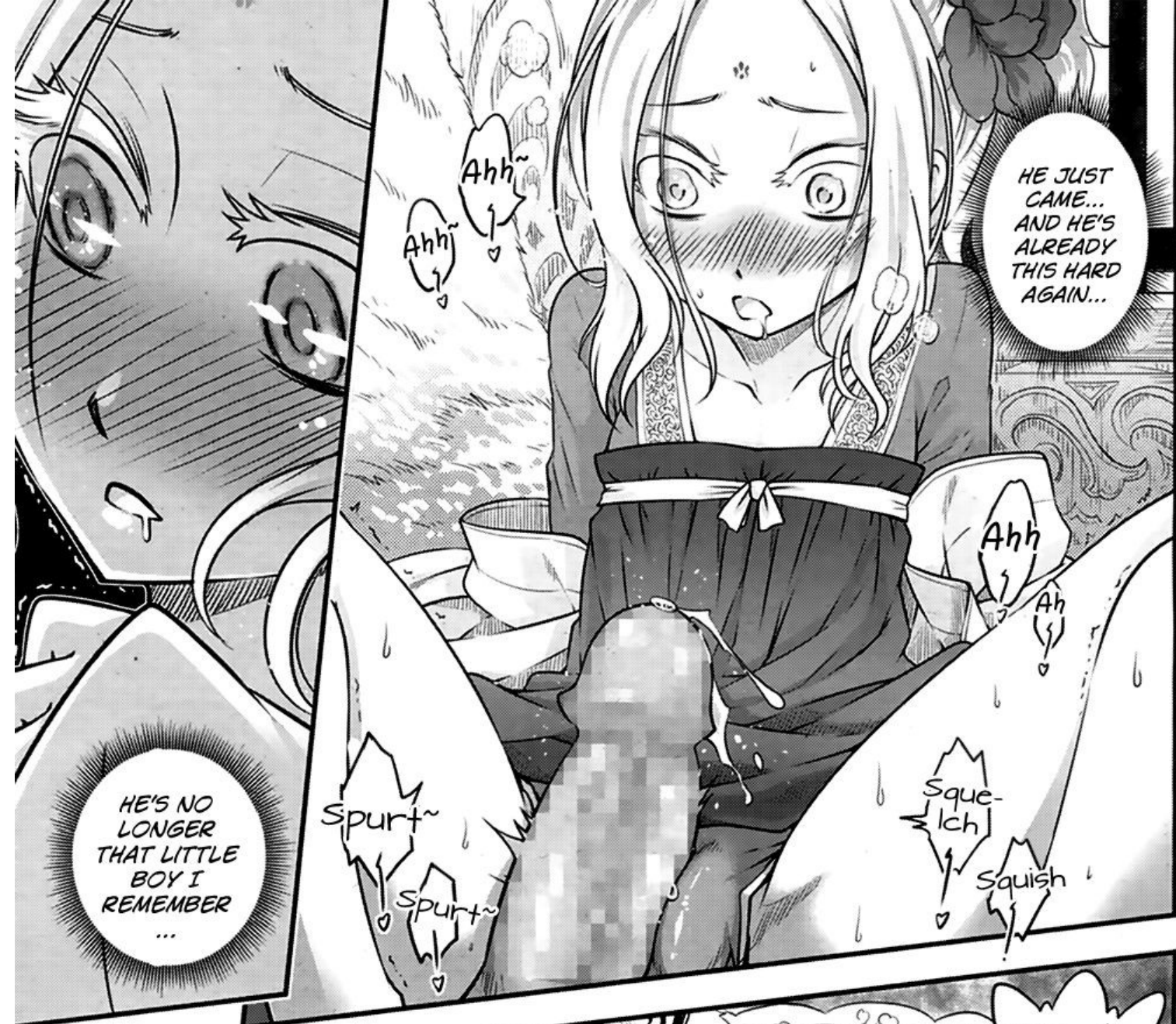
...



YOU
NAUGHTY
BOY! IS THIS
BECAUSE
YOU GREW
UP AROUND
WOMEN,
TOO?







HE JUST CAME... AND HE'S ALREADY THIS HARD AGAIN...

HE'S NO LONGER THAT LITTLE BOY I REMEMBER ...

Ahh~

Ahh~

Ahh

Ah

Spurt~

Spurt~

Sque-lch

Squish



LICK ♡



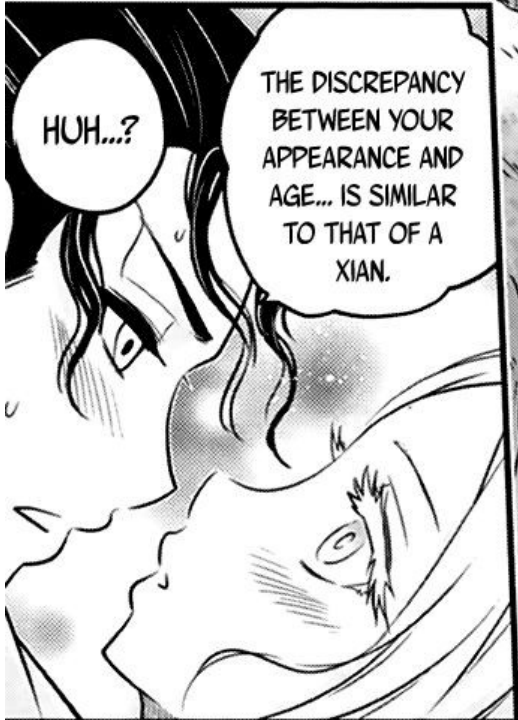
AND WHOSE FAULT DO YOU THINK IT IS...?

WELL... HA... HAHahaha... YOU'RE ALL GROWN UP NOW, SO I GUESS THIS SORT OF THING IS NORMAL, ISN'T IT?

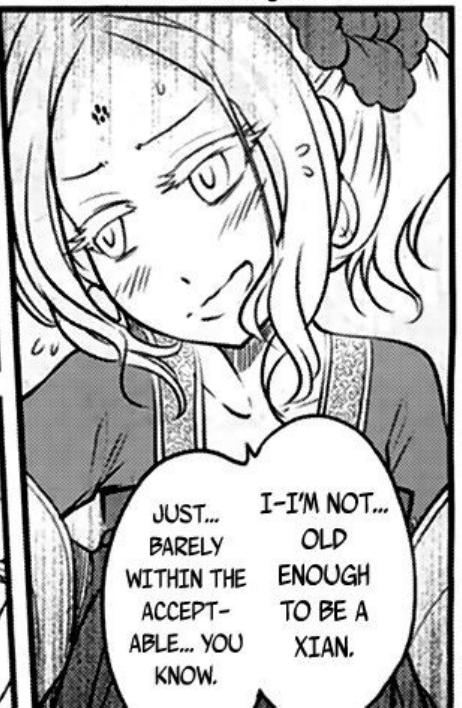


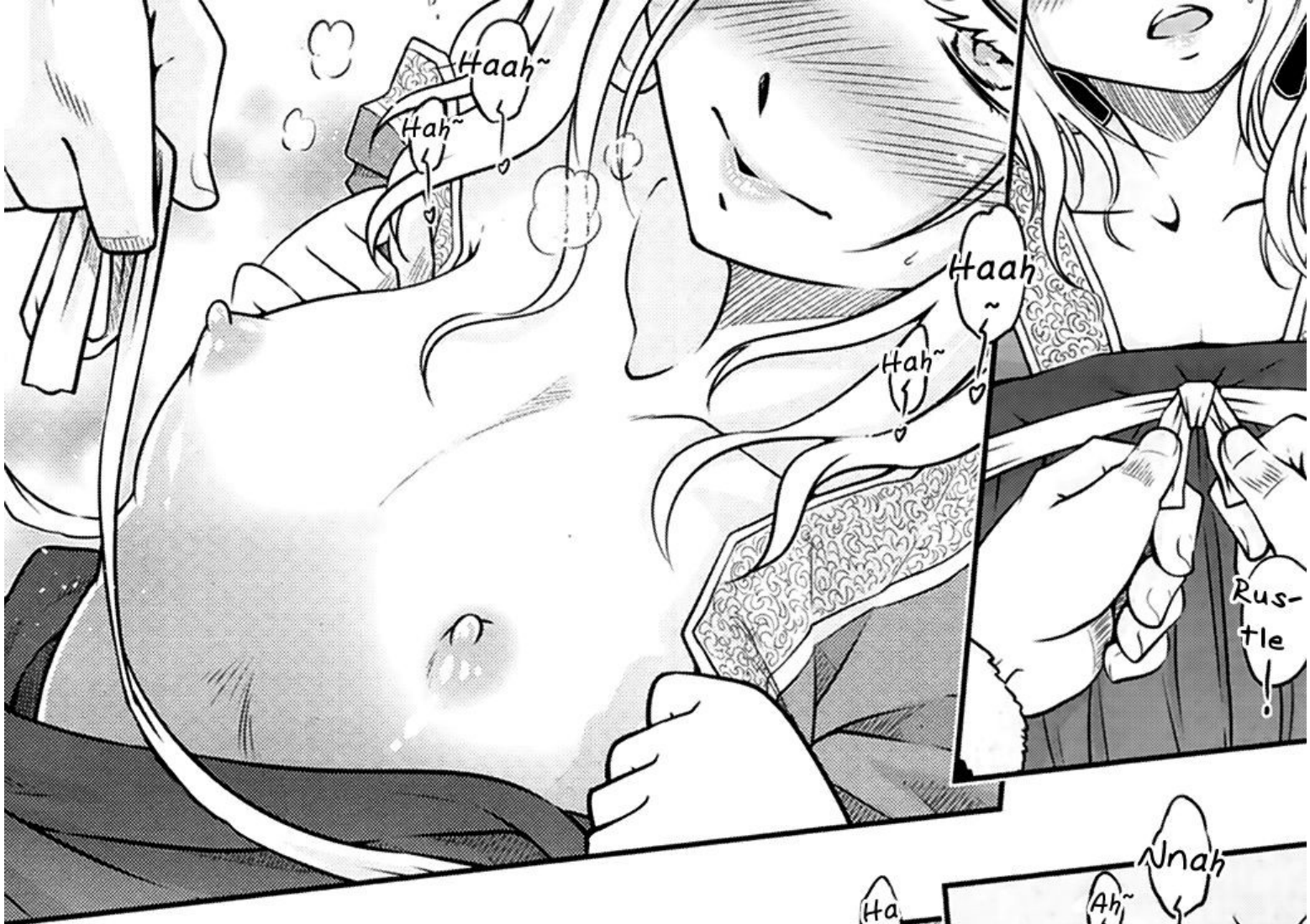
HOW ABOUT I GIVE YOU A HAND...?

GULP THEN...



TL Note: In Taoism, a Xian is a hermit who has achieved immortality and spiritual transcendence through meditation.







HAA-...AHH!
IT'S BEEN QUITE
A WHILE, SO...
IT'S NOT AS
EASY.

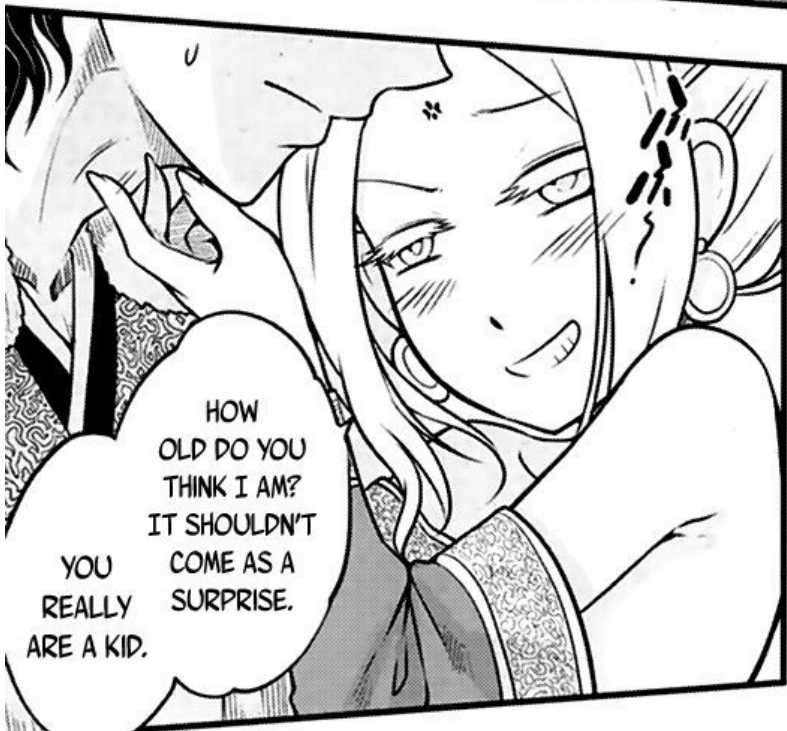
Slide
Squish

Mmh
Nngh

Nnah!
Haah
...

Haah

Hah



HOW
OLD DO YOU
THINK I AM?
IT SHOULDN'T
COME AS A
SURPRISE.
YOU
REALLY
ARE A KID.



NOT
REALLY
...

ARE YOU
JEALOUS
BECAUSE I'M
NOT A
VIRGIN?



HM?
WHAT'S
THAT FACE
FOR?



Nnah

Haah

Haah

Nnah

Hah

Haah

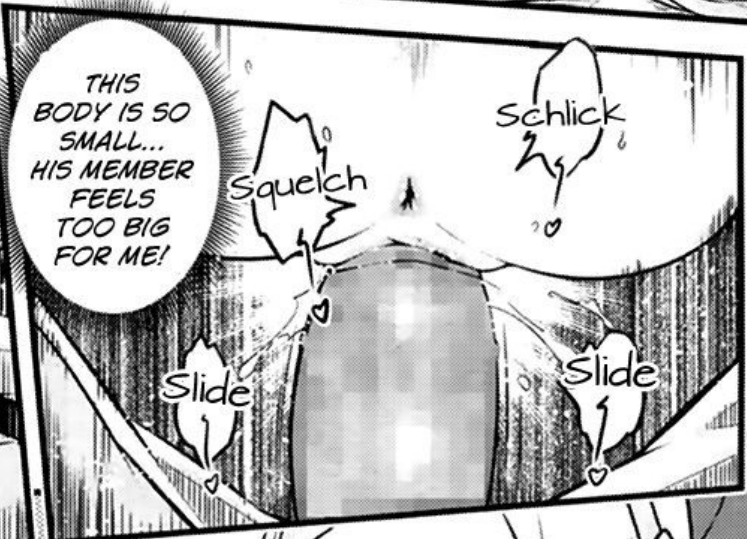
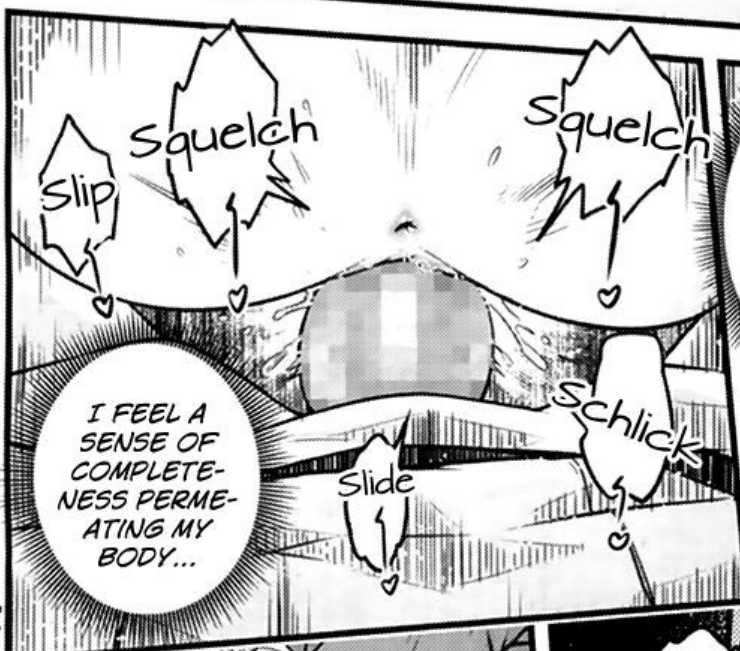
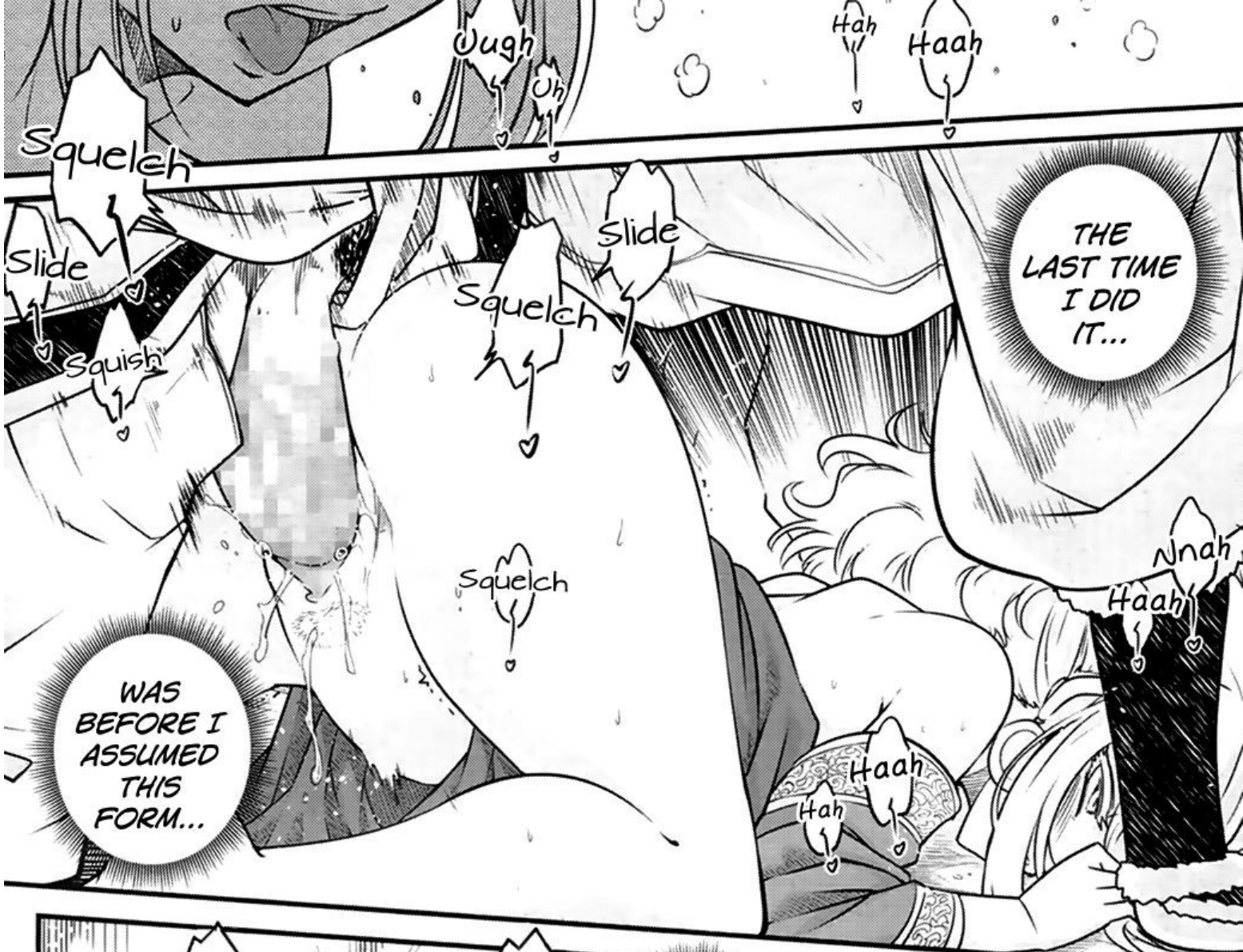


SHUT
UP...!

Smo-
och

Kiss

slurp





IT'S HITTING...
MM! MY WOMB...

Poke

Squeeze

Squish

Squelch

Haah

Nnah

Slap

Haah

Haah

Slap

Spew

Squish

Spur-turt

Spur-turt



Kiss

Suuck



Squish!

Haah

Fwah

THIS IS, WITHOUT A DOUBT

I... I'VE LONG FORGOTTEN ...





I HAD JUST COME OF MARRIAGEABLE AGE, SO IN ORDER TO FULFIL MY FAMILY'S EXPECTATIONS...

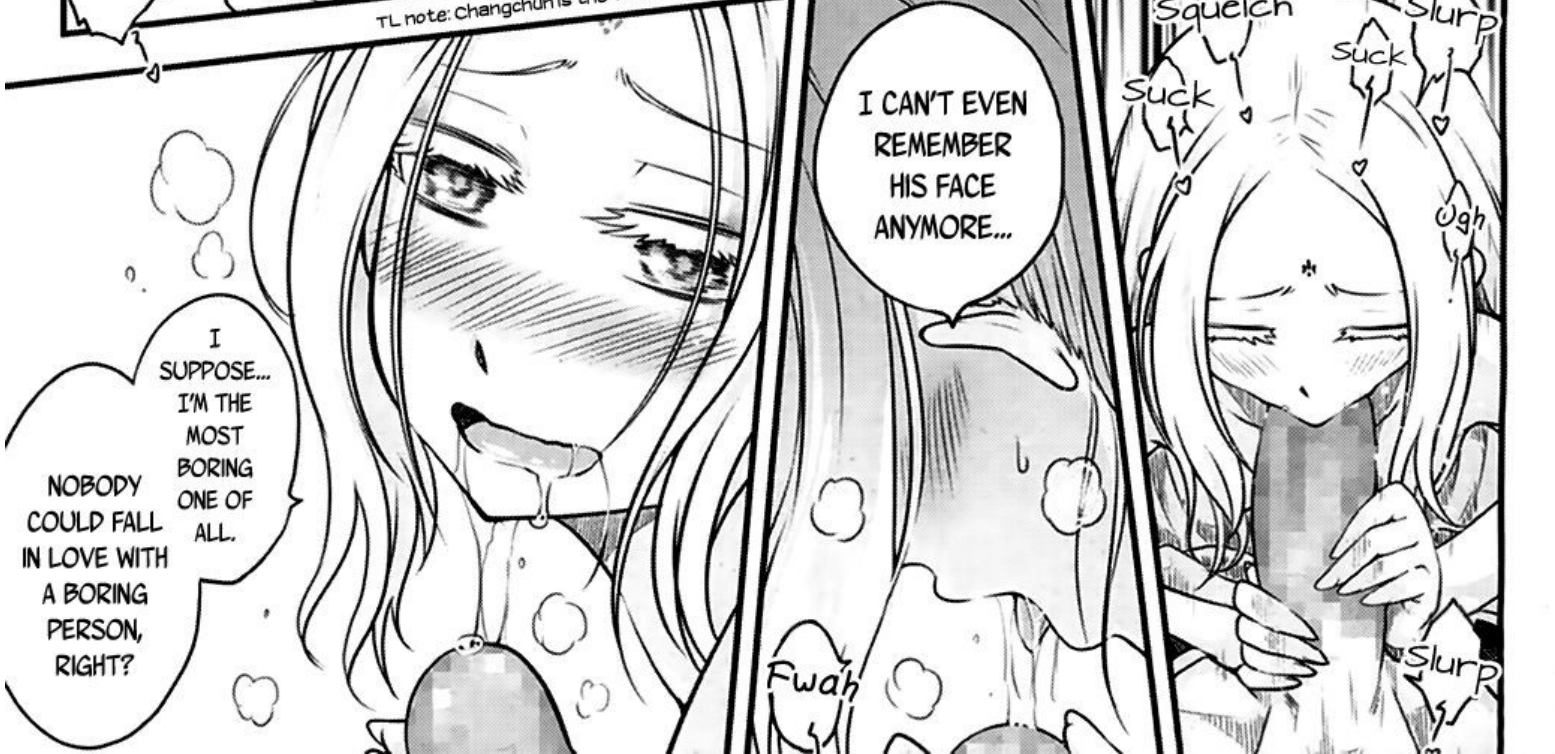
I MARRIED SOMEONE HALF-HEARTEDLY, WE HAD SOME HALF-HEARTED SEX, AND THAT WAS IT...



I EVEN STUDIED THE RITE OF CHANGCHUN, BUT TOWARDS MY HUSBAND, I WAS INDIFFERENT. NOR DID I BEAR HIS CHILDREN, SO I WAS PRETTY MUCH A FAILURE OF A WIFE.

BACK THEN, I HAD NO INTEREST IN ANYTHING EXCEPT PERFECTING MY DANCE, SO I SPENT EVERY DAY PRACTICING.

TL note: Changchun is the Taoist name of Qiu Chuji, a priest with connections to the elixir of immortality.



I SUPPOSE... I'M THE MOST BORING ONE OF ALL. NOBODY COULD FALL IN LOVE WITH A BORING PERSON, RIGHT?

I CAN'T EVEN REMEMBER HIS FACE ANYMORE...

Slurp, Suck, Squelch, Ugh, Slurp



I FELL IN LOVE WITH YOU THE MOMENT I FIRST SAW YOU...

I CAN!

WAH!



WHETHER YOU'RE DANCING, RESTING, WORRYING, OR SLACKING OFF, I LOVE YOU! I'M IN LOVE WITH EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU!

I'VE LOVED YOU FOR A LONG TIME... EVER SINCE I WAS A LITTLE KID! NOT AS AN ELDER I MUST RESPECT, BUT AS A WOMAN!



Slide

Squish

Thrust

Schlick

Tap

Haah

Nnah



WILL YOU... BE MY WOMAN?

N-...no, we can't-nnah!



H...how can I reject such passionate courtship...?

Fwaaaaah~
I... I CAN'T TAKE IT!

Squelch

Slide

Schlick

Slap

Squish

I DON'T LIKE VAGUE REPLIES! GIVE ME A CLEAR ANSWER!

♡...
mrs!
you bully!

Haah

Hah

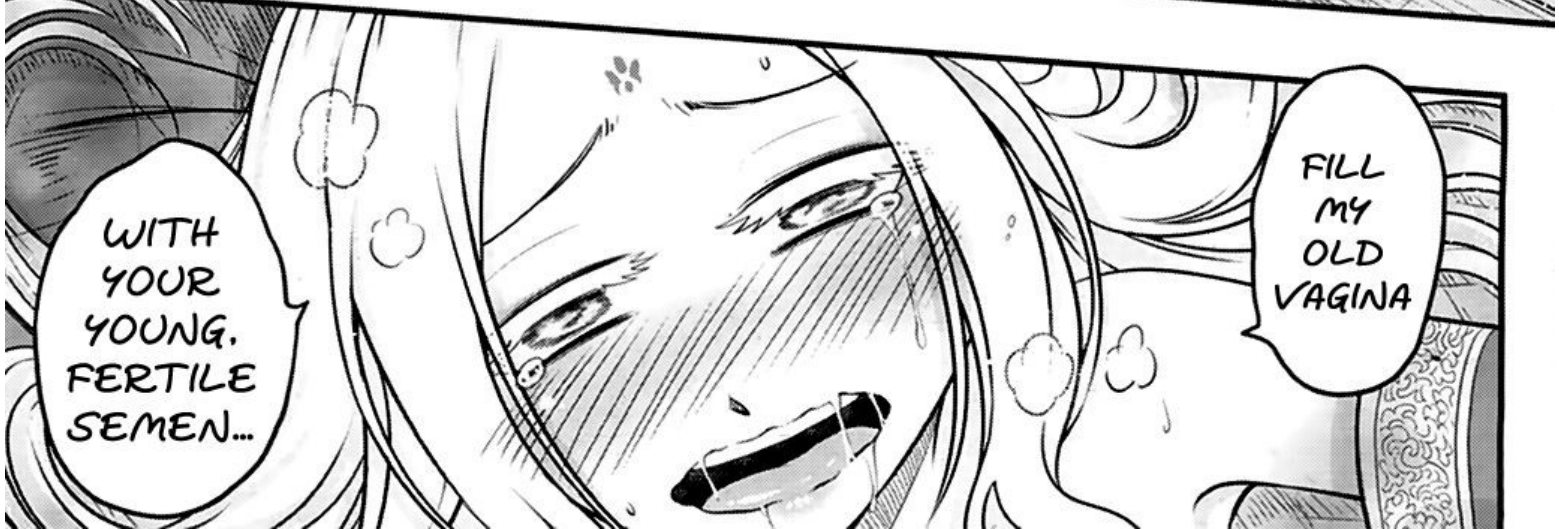
Nnah

Haah

Wah

I'll be... your woman... So...

I... I will!



WITH YOUR YOUNG, FERTILE SEMEN...

FILL MY OLD VAGINA

MY BELLY IS FULL OF HIS SEED... IT'S RAGING INSIDE ME...

Spurt

Schlick

Spurt

Spurt

Schlick

Spuurt

Haah

Haah

**AHH
HH!**

Nnah

Haah

Haah

Spurt

Haah

Spurt

Schlick

Spurt

Spurt

Spuurt

Squelch





Haah

Haah

Schlick

Suck

Suck

Squelch

Slurp

Squelch

Drip

Drip

**HAS
CONQUERED
ME...**



Nnah

Haah

**AHH... MY
BEST
FRIEND'S
SON...**

**THIS
YOUNG
BOY...**

-Haah

Haah

Sque-
eze

Gloop

Sque-
lch

Drip



THE RITE OF IMMORTALITY?



THAT'S PUTTING ME IN A BIT OF A ROUGH SPOT, COMING FROM A TRUE IMMORTAL.

YOU MUST BE... WHAT, 50 YEARS OLD? 60? THOSE OTHER BRAGGARTS COULD NEVER HOPE TO MEASURE UP TO YOU.

TELL ME - WHY DO YOU SEEK IMMORTALITY?



THERE'S GOOD THINGS AND BAD THINGS IN LIFE. BESIDES...

BUT STILL... LOOK AROUND YOU! PEOPLE DON'T NEED IMMORTALITY TO GO MAD! WHEN WAR ERUPTS, YOU CAN LOSE YOUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE! HOW IS THIS ANY DIFFERENT FROM ATTAINING IMMORTALITY, AND SEEING EVERYONE ELSE PASS ON?!

I WANT TO KEEP LIVING. TO PERFECT MY DANCE... TO REST MY HOPES ON THE UNCERTAIN FUTURE!



I WANT TO PERFECT MY ART USING MY OWN STRENGTH ALONE, WITHOUT RELYING ON ANYONE ELSE. THAT'S WHY I SOUGHT THE ART OF CHANGCHUN, SO I COULD HAVE THE LONGEVITY REQUIRED TO DO SO.

YOU COULD SAY THAT.



YOU HAVE NO RELATIVES, I TAKE IT?

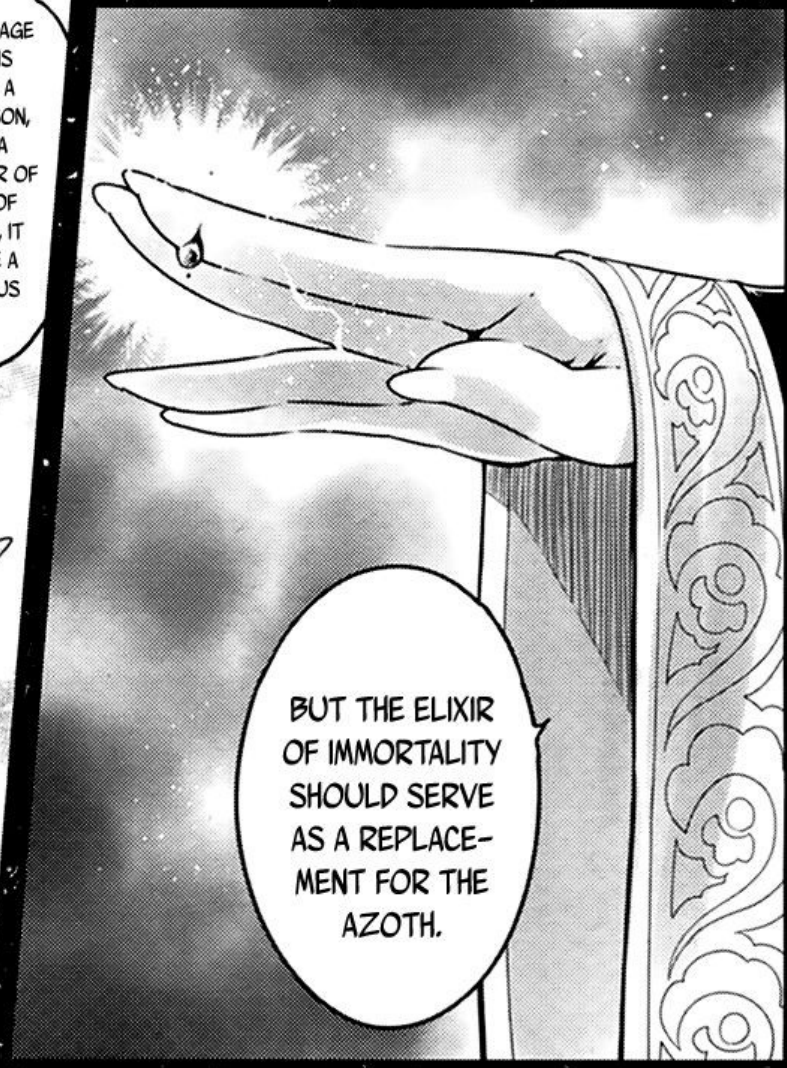
ETERNAL LIFE IS AN ETERNAL PRISON. HERETICS LIKE US, WHO HAVE LIVED FAR TOO LONG, WILL INEVITABLY DRIVE OUR SURROUNDINGS MAD - AND BE FORCED TO WATCH AS EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE WE HOLD DEAR VANISHES BEFORE OUR EYES.

TL note: Literally "in dan", a stone that Taoist alchemists were said to use as an ingredient for the elixir of immortality

ONE AS POWERFUL AS YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO DRAW OUT THE VITALITY HIDDEN WITHIN THE AZOTH, AND UTILIZE IT FOR YOUR OWN RITE.

TO THE AVERAGE HUMAN, THIS WOULD BE A LETHAL POISON, BUT FOR A PRACTITIONER OF THE ARTS OF CHANGCHUN, IT SHOULD BE A TREMENDOUS HELP.

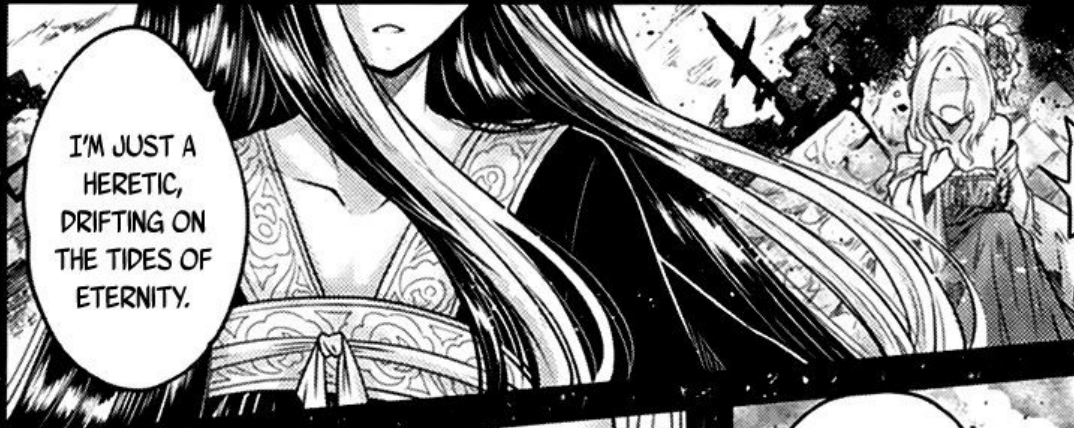
THE ART OF CHANGCHUN CANNOT BE COMPLETED WITHOUT AN AZOTH. YOU NEED THAT KEY TO PROCEED TO THE NEXT STAGE.



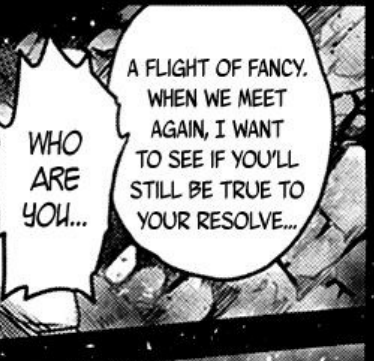
BUT THE ELIXIR OF IMMORTALITY SHOULD SERVE AS A REPLACEMENT FOR THE AZOTH.



WHY WOULD YOU GIVE ME SOMETHING SO PRECIOUS...?



I'M JUST A HERETIC, DRIFTING ON THE TIDES OF ETERNITY.



A FLIGHT OF FANCY. WHEN WE MEET AGAIN, I WANT TO SEE IF YOU'LL STILL BE TRUE TO YOUR RESOLVE... WHO ARE YOU...



IF YOU WANT YOU COULD CALL ME

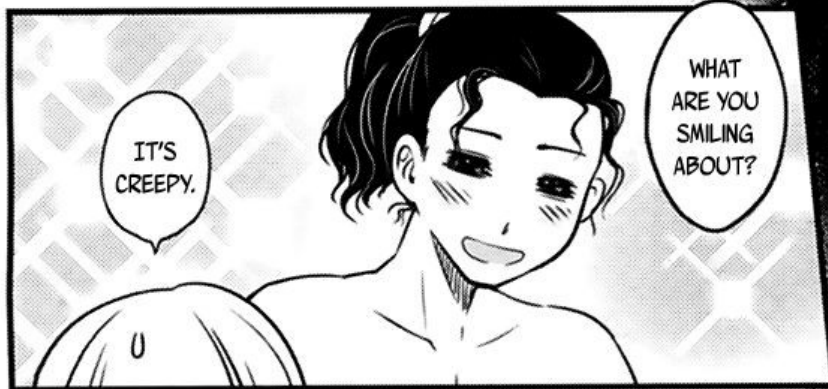


THERE'S... NOBODY LEFT IN THIS WORLD WHO REMEMBERS MY NAME.

WAIT! PLEASE... TELL ME YOUR NAME!

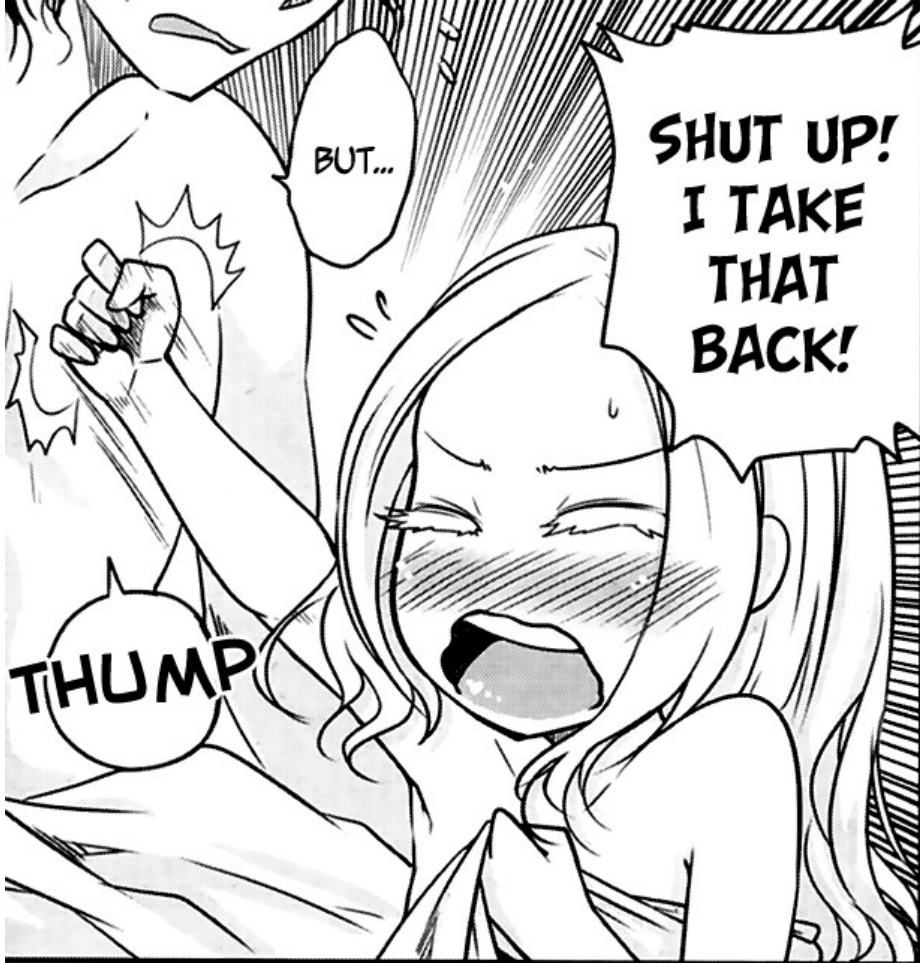


...XU
FU...



WHAT
ARE YOU
SMILING
ABOUT?





BUT...

**SHUT UP!
I TAKE
THAT
BACK!**

THUMP

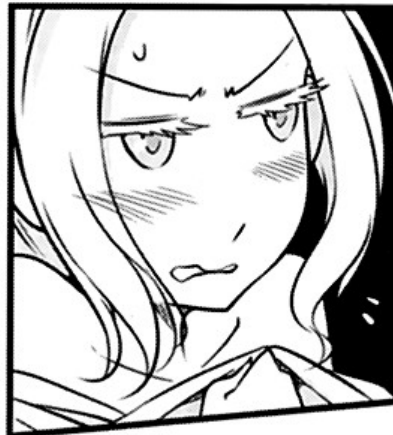


HUH? BUT YOU ACCEPTED ME EARLIER, DIDN'T YOU? YOU WERE SHAKING YOUR HIPS AND ALL-

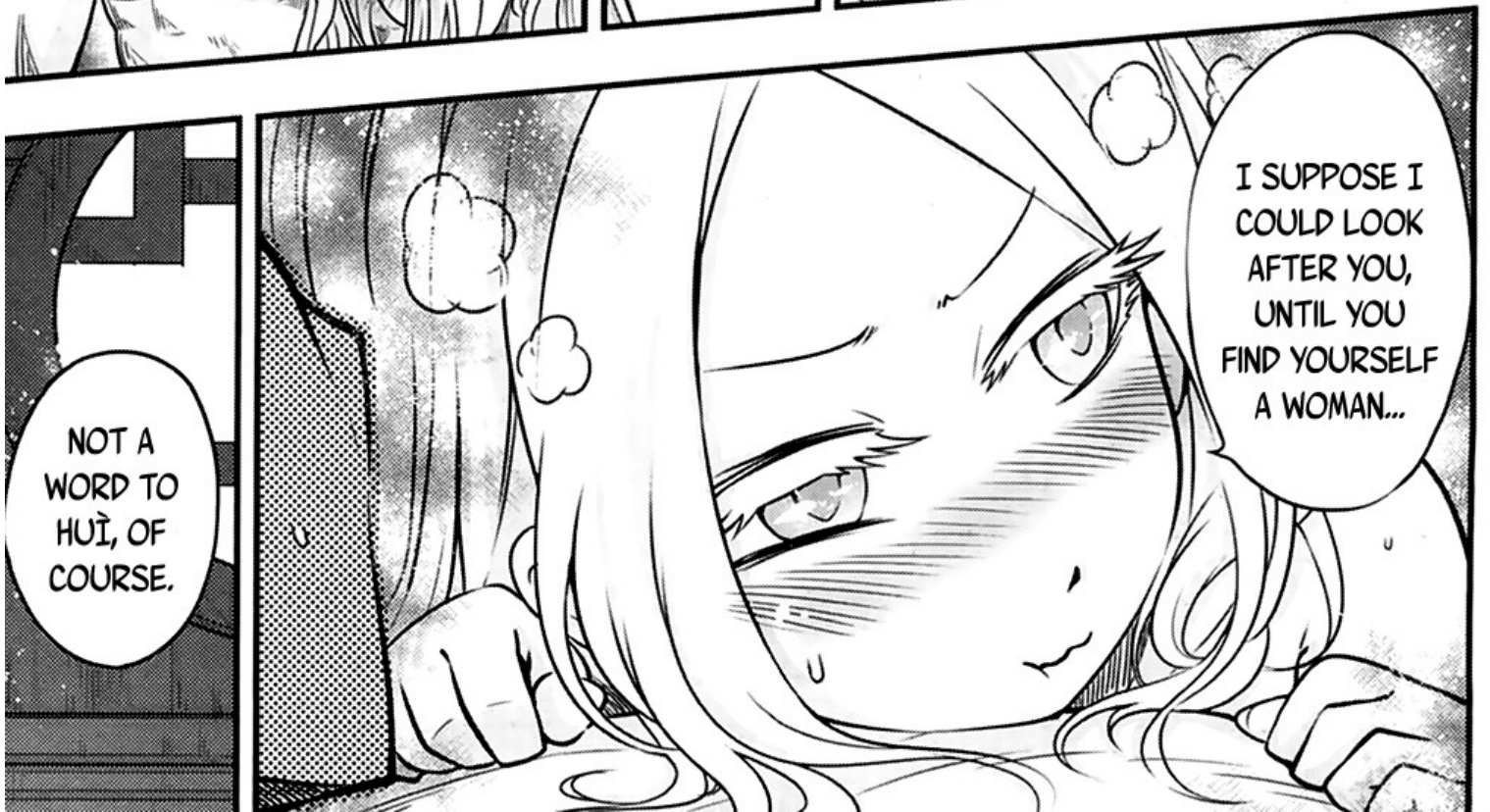
GH... DON'T GET CARRIED AWAY, YOUNG MAN! WE MAY HAVE SLEPT TOGETHER, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN I'M YOUR WOMAN!



BUT, WELL... YOU'RE AT THAT AGE RIGHT NOW, AND YOU NEED AN OUTLET FOR THOSE URGES...



BESIDES... I NEVER THOUGHT I WAS THE ONE YOU HAD FEELINGS FOR... AND WE EVEN ENDED UP DOING IT... HOW CAN I SHOW MY FACE TO HUI NOW?



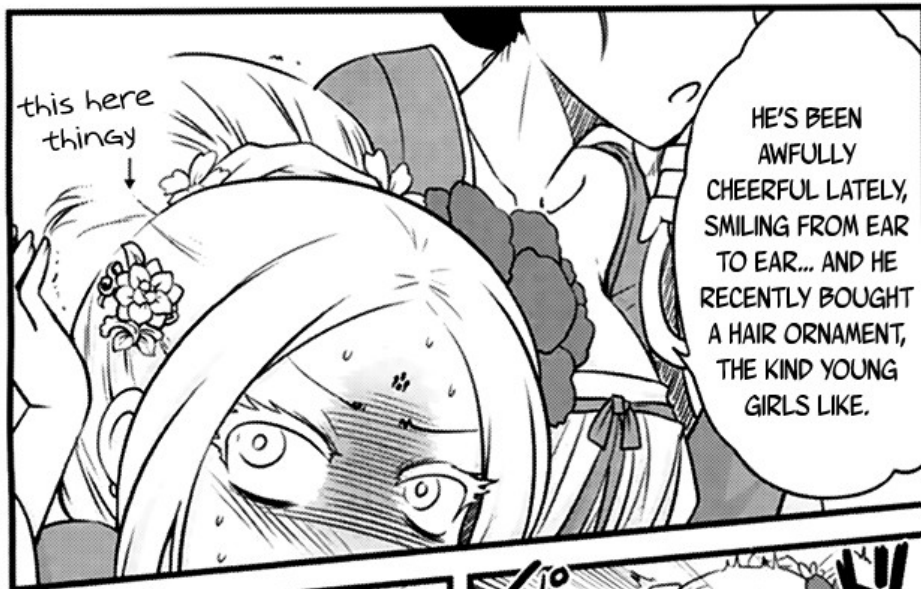
NOT A WORD TO HUI, OF COURSE.

I SUPPOSE I COULD LOOK AFTER YOU, UNTIL YOU FIND YOURSELF A WOMAN...



IT SEEMS MY SON HAS FOUND HIMSELF A GIRLFRIEND...

PFF...!



this here thingy

HE'S BEEN AWFULLY CHEERFUL LATELY, SMILING FROM EAR TO EAR... AND HE RECENTLY BOUGHT A HAIR ORNAMENT, THE KIND YOUNG GIRLS LIKE.



W-... WHAT MAKES YOU THINK THAT?



BUT THE MOST UNSHAKEABLE EVIDENCE IS...

GULP



HE SENT IT TO SOMEONE! I GUESS OLD BAGS LIKE US DON'T DESERVE ANY GIFTS LIKE THAT, DO WE!?

**BFF
FF!**

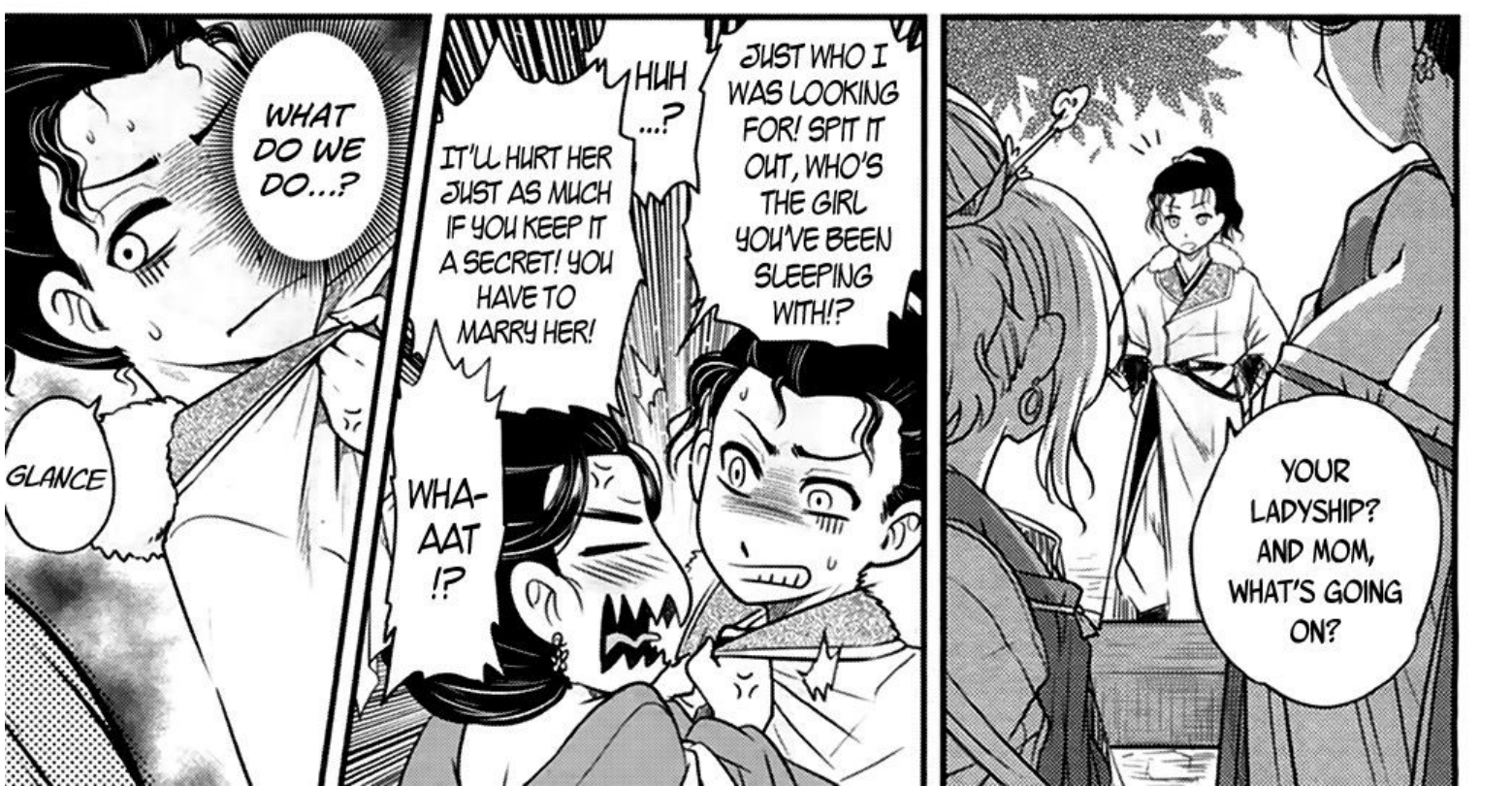
**HE
HASN'T
BEEN
MASTUR-
BATING!**



*SORRY,
I'VE BEEN
SWALLOW-
ING IT...*

FOR A BOY HIS
AGE, THAT'S
UNTHINKABLE!
NO MASTURBA-
TION! NO WET
DREAMS! WHERE
DOES HIS
SEMEN GO!?

I DID A
THOROUGH
INVESTIGATION
OF HIS ROOM!
THERE WERE NO
SIGNS OF MAS-
TURBATION OR
NOCTURNAL
EMISSIONS ON
HIS LAUNDRY,
EITHER!



WHAT
DO WE
DO...?

GLANCE

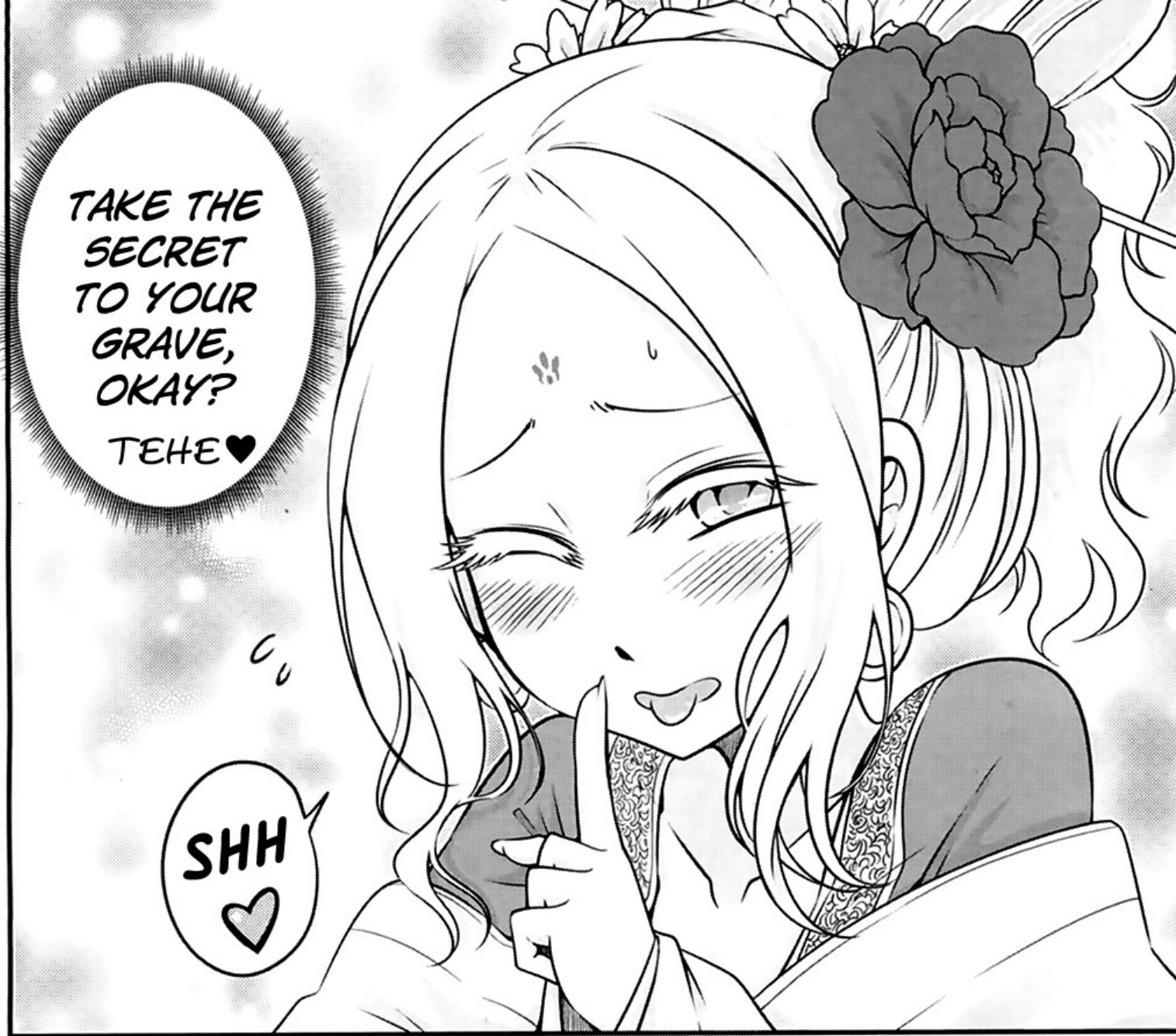
IT'LL HURT HER
JUST AS MUCH
IF YOU KEEP IT
A SECRET! YOU
HAVE TO
MARRY HER!

WHA-
AAT
!?

HUH
...?

JUST WHO I
WAS LOOKING
FOR! SPIT IT
OUT, WHO'S
THE GIRL
YOU'VE BEEN
SLEEPING
WITH!?

YOUR
LADYSHIP?
AND MOM,
WHAT'S GOING
ON?



TAKE THE
SECRET
TO YOUR
GRAVE,
OKAY?
TEHE ♡

SHH
♡



WHAT'S
THIS
ABOUT?
EXPLAIN
YOURSELF!

YOU DAMN
RELIC! YOU
THINK YOU
CAN PLAY
DUM-
BLARGH...

OH DEAR,
MY HAND
SLIPPED!



I'M JUST
A PURE
AND
INNOCENT
VIRGIN,
I DON'T
KNOW
A THING

YOU LOU-
BABAA!
GET BACK
HERE, YOU
WILY
LITTLE-!

WAIT, DO
YOU KNOW
SOME-
THING? YOU
MUSTN'T
SPOIL HIM!



TEHE,
MY
ASS...!