

A SILK TRADING POST OUTSIDE
THE CITY OF XI'AN, CHINA...

GRACEFUL,
ISN'T SHE...?

...ZHEN HAS
BEEN TRAINED
IN THE ARTS OF
SWORD DANCING
SINCE SHE WAS A
LITTLE GIRL--

--AND
DESPITE HER
BLINDNESS, YOU
WILL NOT FIND A
MORE TALENTED
DANCER IN ALL
OF XI'AN..!

...SHE IS
CHASTE
AND PURE
AND HER
BODY--

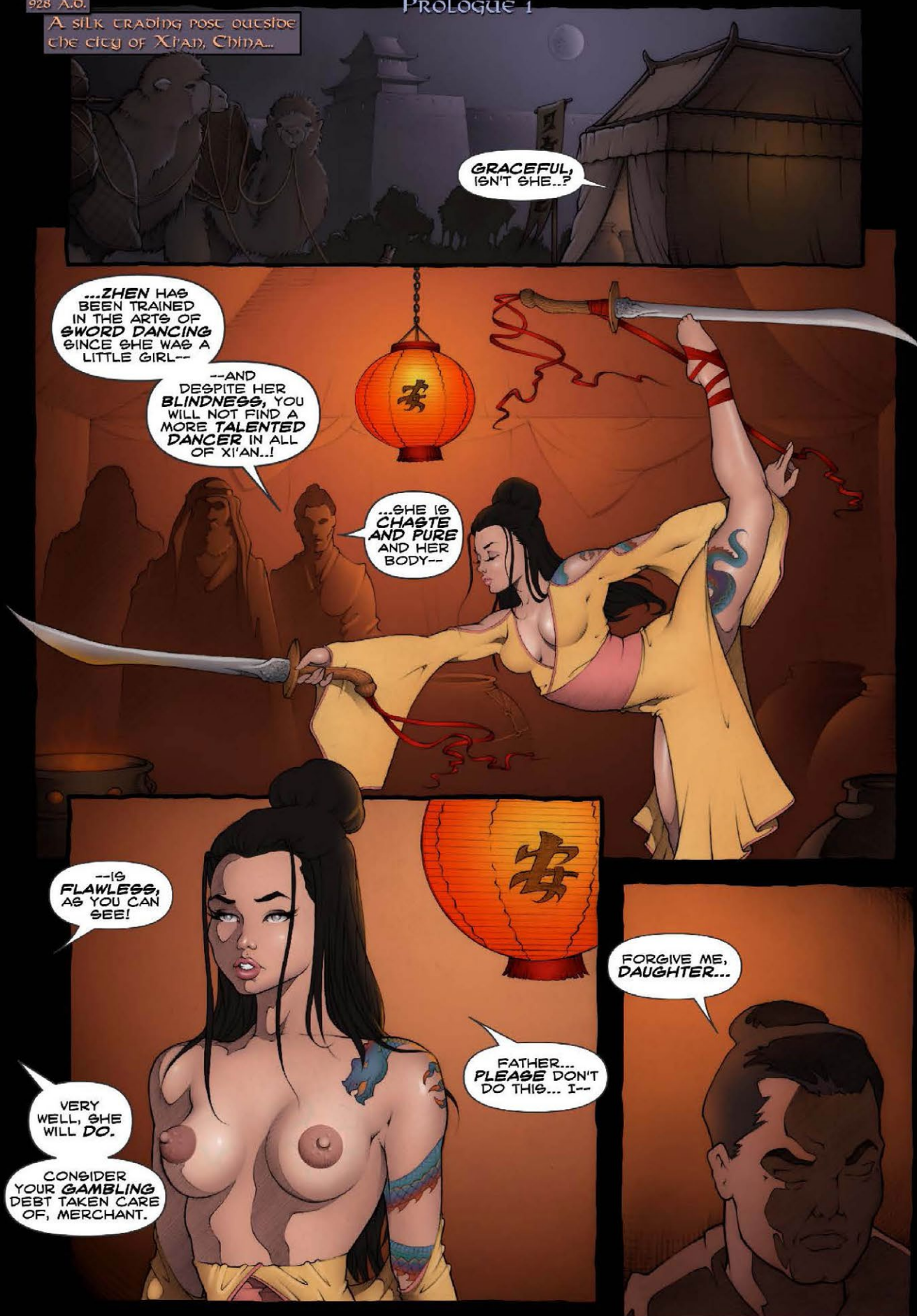
--IS
FLAWLESS,
AS YOU CAN
SEE!

VERY
WELL, SHE
WILL DO.

CONSIDER
YOUR GAMBLING
DEBT TAKEN CARE
OF, MERCHANT.

FORGIVE ME,
DAUGHTER...

FATHER...
PLEASE DON'T
DO THIS... I--



SEVERAL WEEKS LATER,
SOMEWHERE ALONG THE
"SILK ROAD"...

WE'VE BEEN
RIDING FOR **MANY**
DAYS AND NIGHTS,
PRINCE KHALID...
PLEASE... I AM
EXHAUSTED..!

...I'LL DO
ANYTHING FOR
AN HOUR'S
REST...

VERY
WELL.

THERE
IS AN
OASIS
AHEAD...

...WE SHALL
BATHE AND
REST THERE
FOR THE
NIGHT.

"FORGIVE ME, MASTER..."

"...BUT I KNOW
THAT **LOOK** IN
YOUR EYE."

"THE GIRL IS TO
BE PART OF THE
KING'S **HAREM...**

"...AND AS
SUCH, SHE
MUST REMAIN
CHASTE!"

INDEED,
NIZAR...

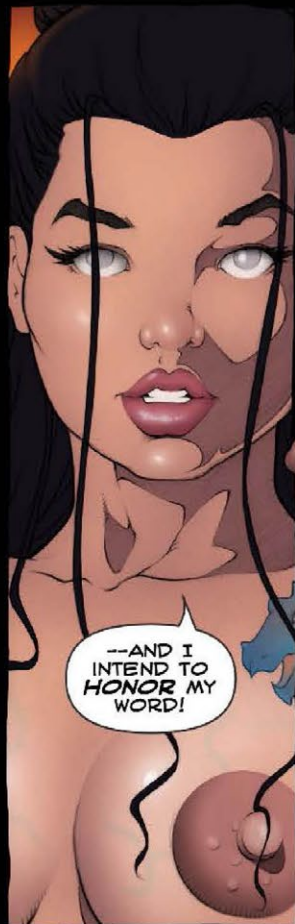
...BUT
THERE **ARE**
OTHER WAYS SHE
CAN OFFER US
PLEASURE!



I MAY BE WITHOUT SIGHT BUT I AM NOT DEAF--

--IF IT IS PLEASURE YOU SEEK, I WILL GIVE IT WILLINGLY...

...FOR I DID SAY I WAS PREPARED TO DO "ANYTHING--"



--AND I INTEND TO HONOR MY WORD!



SO, MY PRINCE, WHO WILL BE THE FIRST TO TAKE ME... YOU, OR YOUR FAITHFUL GUARD?



PERHAPS THERE IS A THIRD OPTION, RIGHT, NIZAR?

INDEED, MASTER!

gahhhh... YES...



End of prologue one