

THE UNFOREEEEN VOW



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Ring Of Fire



The Malik household is adorned with marigolds and festive lights, but Rida bitya sits tearfully in her heavy bridal finery, dreading her marriage to Asif. Unbeknownst to the family, Asif has already fled the house to be with his girlfriend Lubna, leaving his family's reputation hanging by a thread.



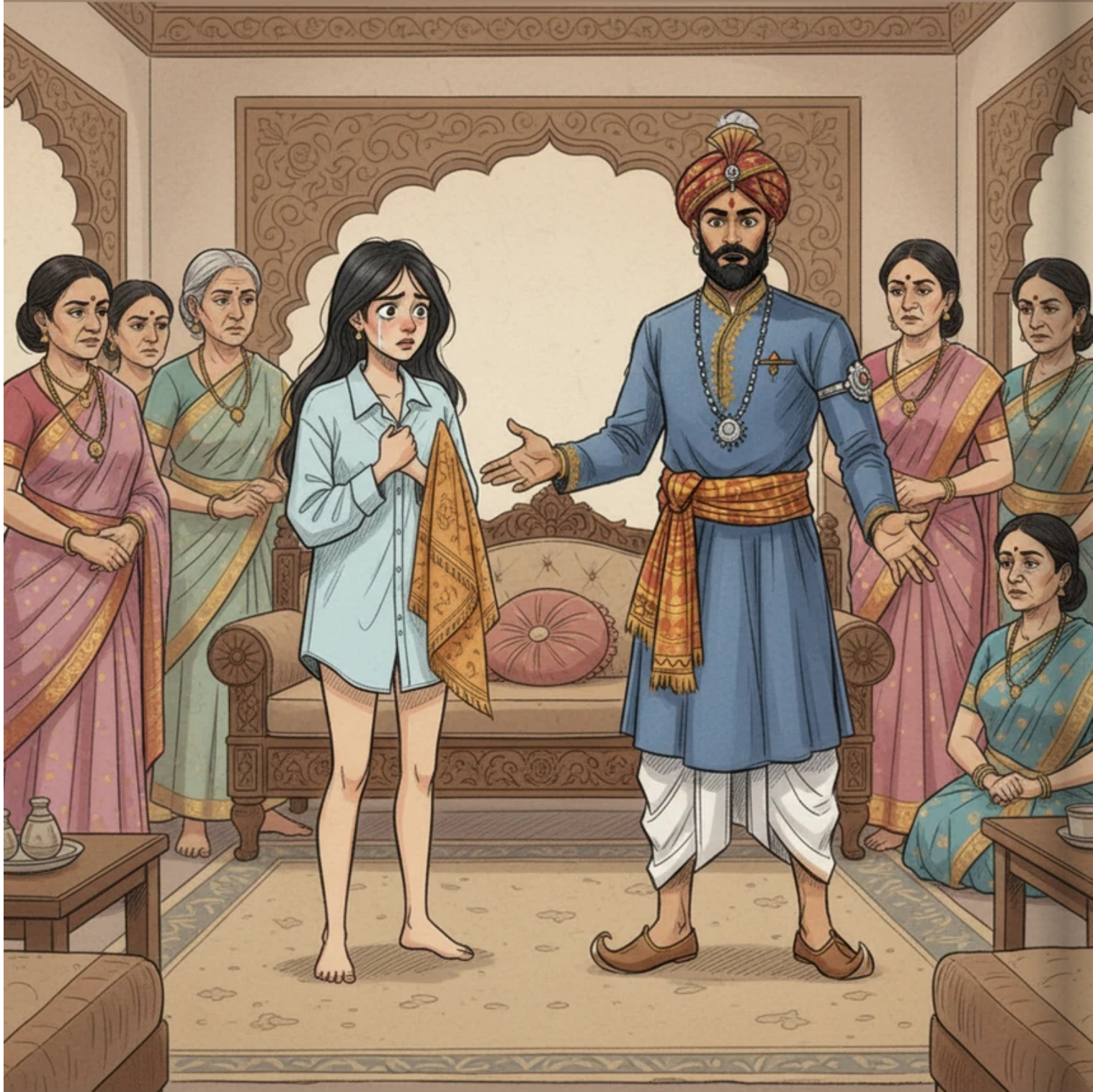
Chaos erupts when the Abbasi and Malik families discover Asif is missing just before the ceremony; to save face in society, they decide that the eldest son, the ruthless and strict Umair, must marry Rida instead. Rida is paralyzed by shock and grief, her world crumbling as the elders finalize this cold arrangement.



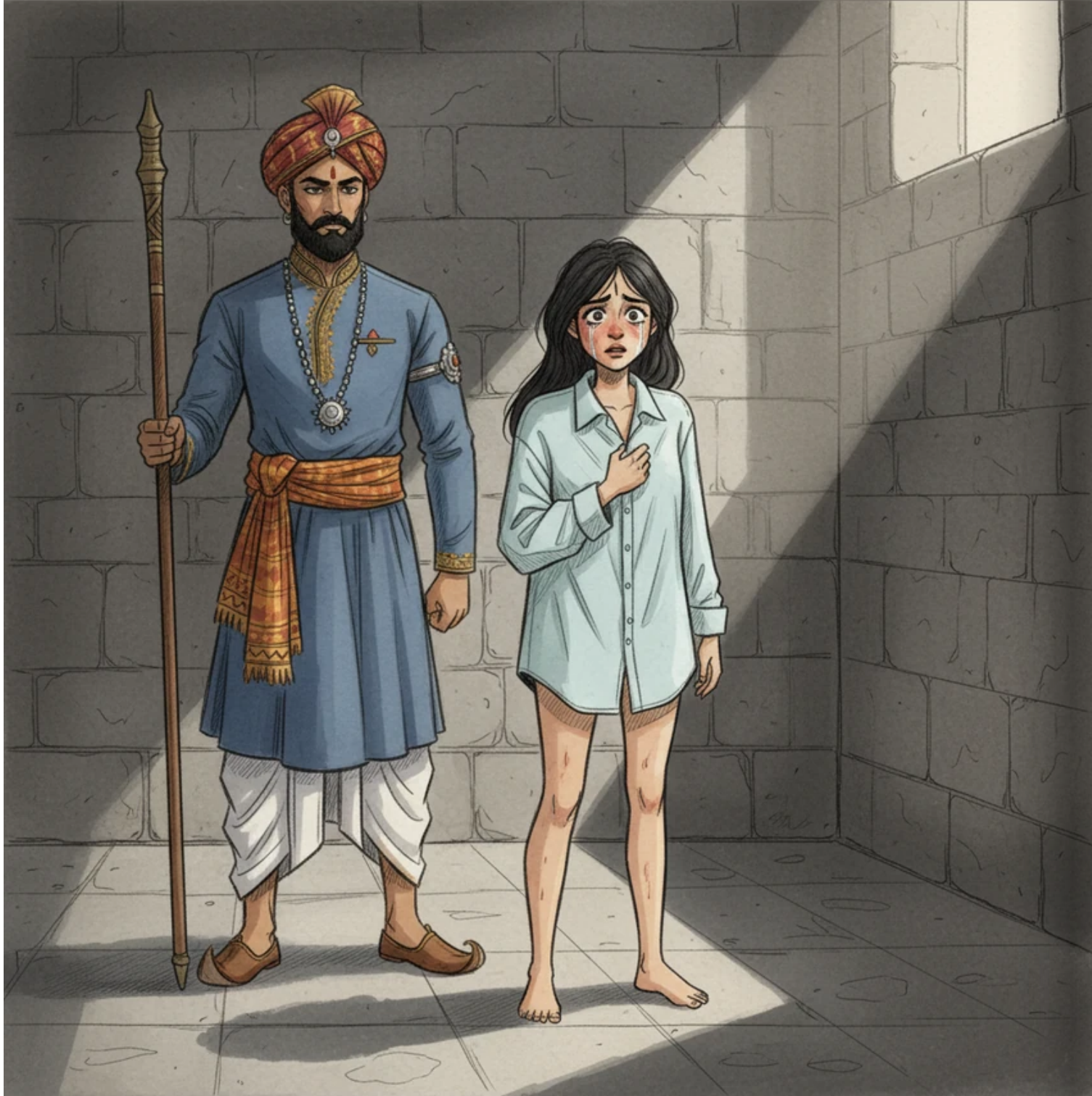
In a private room, Rida begs Umair to cancel the wedding, her eyes welling with tears as she pleads for her freedom. Umair, looking every bit the cold businessman, looms over her and sternly tells her she has exactly two minutes to be downstairs for the Nikkah, leaving no room for argument.



After a somber Nikkah ceremony and a silent Rukshati, the couple arrives at the grand Abbasi mansion in a quiet car. Rida remains huddled in the corner of the seat, her heart heavy with the weight of a marriage she never wanted to a man she barely knows.



Standing before both families in the living room, Rida bravely takes the blame for Asif running away, claiming she helped him escape to cancel the wedding herself. Her mother, Anya, erupts in a fit of rage and delivers a sharp slap to Rida's face, leaving the entire room in a stunned, breathless silence.



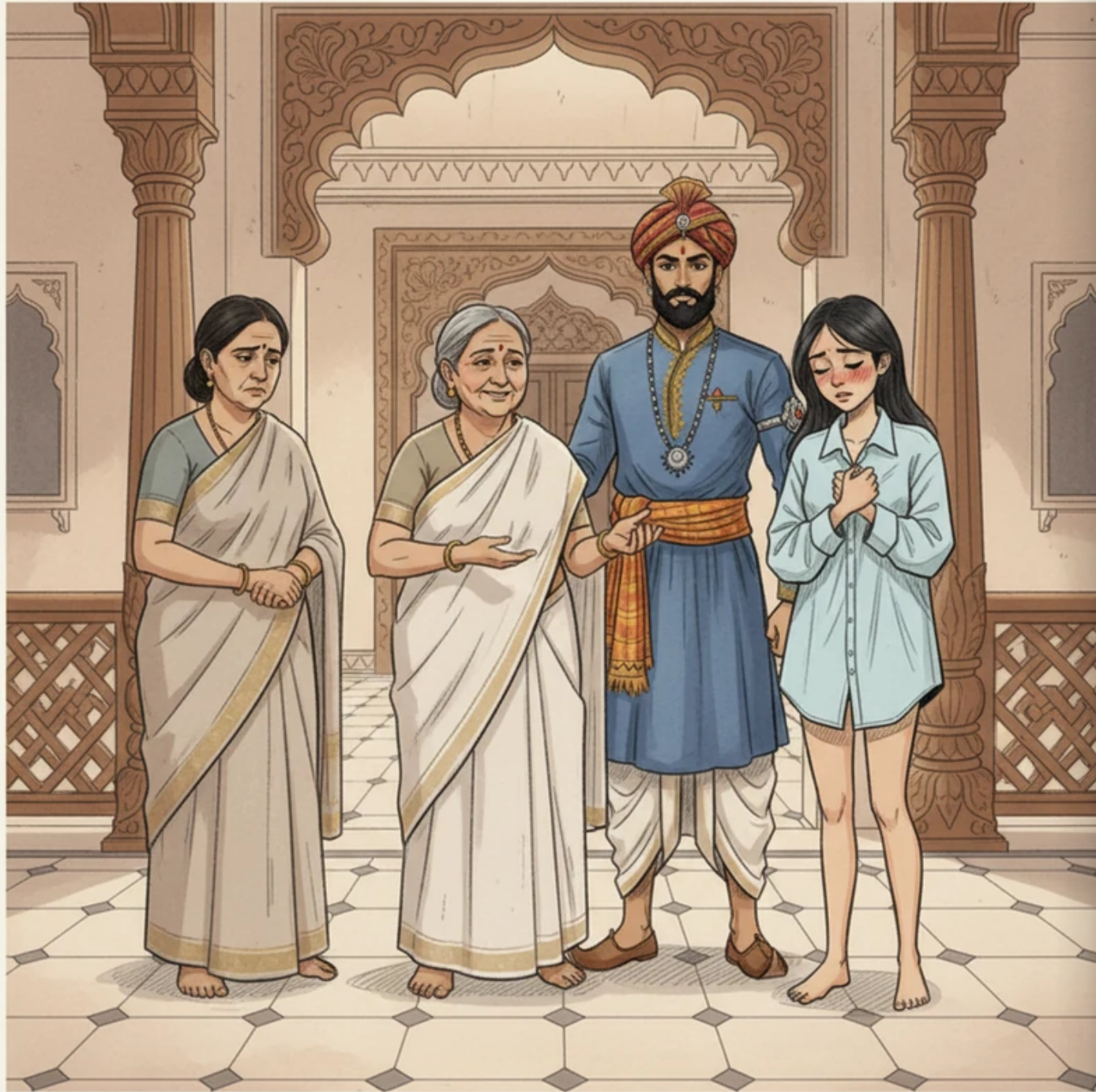
To everyone's absolute shock, the cold and cruel Umair steps forward and firmly tells Rida's mother never to touch her again. He declares that Rida is now his wife and his responsibility, and he will not forgive anyone who harms or speaks ill of her, even her own parents.



Didi sa, the wise grandmother, gently intervenes to calm the angry parents and tells Umair bitwa to take Rida bitya up to his room so they can both freshen up. The tension in the room begins to dissipate under Didi sa's authority, though Rida continues to cry silently in her confusion.



Inside the master bedroom, Umair notices that Rida has none of her clothes or belongings with her due to the sudden move. He briefly tells her she can wear something of his, and Rida finds herself drowning in one of his large, crisp shirts, the scent of him overwhelming her senses.



When they return downstairs, Didi sa smiles warmly at the sight of Rida blushing and clutching the sleeves of Umair's shirt. Didi sa publicly validates their union, scolding Rida's mother once more and telling Umair bitwa that he did the right thing by defending his wife.



At the Valima function the next day, Asif suddenly returns with Lubna and insults Rida for her presence in the house. Umair's protective rage flares as he yells Asif's name, but Rida holds his sleeve tightly with trembling hands, her touch being the only thing keeping his fierce temper from boiling over.