



A Bride's Story, Vol. 3

Kaoru Mori, ? ? , William Flanagan (Translator)

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Acclaimed creator Kaoru Mori's tale of life on the nineteenth-century Silk Road continues, this time introducing a new would-be bride--Talas. A young widow, Talas opens her home to the researcher Mr. Smith, who has ventured to her town to continue his studies. However, when Talas's uncle begins to see Smith as an impediment to his plans to wed his son to Talas, the old man's schemes land the Englishman in prison! Far from friends and even farther from home, Smith's outlook seems grim...

A Bride's Story, Vol. 3 Details

Date : Published March 2012 by Orbit/Yen Press (first published June 15th 2011)

ISBN : 9780316210348

Author : Kaoru Mori , ? ? , William Flanagan (Translator)

Format : Hardcover 207 pages

Genre : Sequential Art, Manga, Historical, Historical Fiction, Graphic Novels, Comics, Romance, Fiction

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From Reader Review A Bride's Story, Vol. 3 for online ebook

Erin Germain says

This volume shifted its focus, following Mr. Smith on his journey. He is planning to meet up with a guide who will take him to Ankara. While in town, he runs into a bit of trouble (in typical Mr. Smith fashion) and is unable to find the man who was hired to be his guide. He does meet a young woman named Talas, who invites him back to the home she shares with her mother-in-law. While staying there, Mother hatches a plan to marry the young couple (it's actually done in kindness; there's an uncle who not the nicest man).

The uncle is looking to make Talas the second wife to one of his sons and sees Mr. Smith as an impediment. Solution? Go to the local authorities and claim the Englishman is a spy and have him thrown in jail.

David Schaafsma says

Historical manga, romance, volume 3, with a new bride introduced, and they are all young, married at 12-13, but the one introduced in this volume is a young widow, Talas, who opens her home to the British researcher Mr. Smith, who gets in the middle of negotiations for a groom for Talas... on the Silk Road.. Mori, who seems to be only speaking to children in her afterwords to these series, and seems kinda silly there, gives some attention to historical accuracy for the period, so she is taking it more seriously than she lets on, I'd say. The (handsome? dashing?) British researcher makes room for the Western audience or some Eastern fascination with the West? and a (light, but more than competent, likable!) sorta anthropological perspective on west-east relations. This series is fun and the art is really good, not just cutesy manga figures...

Laura says

Continues to be excellent. Peerless art, fun characters, enough drama without being weighty.

Intisar Khanani says

I've been trying to include graphic novels in my regular reading, and a graphic novel that delves into life in Central Asia when the Silk Road was still a happening thing? Oh yes! Unfortunately, I didn't realize I was picking up the third book until it arrived from my library with a great big "3" on it. Fortunately, you do not have to have read the previous books to enjoy this one!

This is a beautiful, humorous and sad story. The bride in this story is Talas, married to one brother after another, all of whom have died leaving her the widow of five brothers, living alone with her mother-in-law, who happens to be both loving and strong as steel. And the story starts there, with the two of them alone... actually, it starts with the potential groom, Mr. Smith, a traveling european linguist (I think) who can't keep anything together and nearly loses his horse and provisions while looking for his guide. Talas invites him home as a guest since that's what you DO in these cultures, and... we realize that there is much matchmaking happening, not all of it good. Will Mr. Smith overcome his european hesitancy and take action? Or has he

not yet figured out how to handle the culture he's in??? (Ha! If you think you know the answer, you probably don't...)

The illustrations are inked (i.e. not color) but are gorgeous and striking and evocative. The story has its own rhythm, and there is much focus on food, which is all culturally perfect. Perfect.

Love.

MissAnnThrope says

20 April 2013

So far in this series, the plot has taken a backseat to the beautiful artwork. Not so in *A Bride's Story, Vol. 3*. Of course the illustrations are as spectacular as ever, but the story has intensified and now keeps pace with the art. I didn't know how I would feel following Mr. Smith's storyline, leaving Amir and Karluk behind, but this ended up being the most gripping storyline of the series yet.

The third volume follows Mr. Smith as he journeys to Ankara to continue his research. While searching for his guide, he runs into a bit of trouble and fatefully crosses paths with the beautiful Talas. What follows is the most frustratingly bittersweet tale that stomped my little black heart to bits.

(view spoiler)

I bow down to Kaoru Mori. She is ridiculously talented! Her artwork is some of the most beautiful drawings you will ever see in any medium, not just manga. I feel like she's really beginning to come into her own with this volume. She perfectly weaves exciting action and heartbreaking drama with perfectly timed humor to balance it all out. She can do no wrong.

Sesana says

This volume takes off in a different direction than the first two. As the cover suggests, Amir is not the focus of this story. Instead, we've followed Mr. Smith to another village, where he meets a young widow named Talas. Unfortunately, we don't get to know Talas quite as well as we had Amir, and I get the sense that her story is well and truly over. That said, I think most of the people reading this series are here for the art above all, which is as beautiful and intricately detailed as ever.

Ashley says

So I have decided that I absolutely LOVE Kaoru Mori as a manga artist! I LOVED her series Emma and I am LOVING this one!

I know that not ALL love stories get happy endings and this one has a sad note to all those romantics out there. And my heart broke in the million pieces it should when said person as a sad outcome with love. It was like Emma & Will all over again. Different place. Different time. Different people. Different outcome and reasons for it, but it is still the same heart break.

Although, with doing that kind of ending for these 2 people Kaoru Mori could pick up at any time to bring them together! (Much hope) Or one could make for a great fan-fiction with that. I REALLY hope that Kaoru Mori will come back to those people and have them end up together. Otherwise my fan-fiction will be placed in my head til she makes it otherwise! (view spoiler)

Mehsi says

It is time for the journey of Mr. Smith to continue, but of course we also meet a new girl, there are several adventures and harrowing times, and we meet some old friends again.

In the last volume we said our goodbyes to Amira and Karluk. It was time for Mr. Smith to travel again to find his companion/guide. It wasn't that safe for him anymore. So he left (well, the first part of the journey our couple went with him to guide the way). In this book we see him wander around in the town where he is supposed to find the person who is going to help him. While doing that he finds out that his horse is stolen and thus encounters Talas (Tarasu) whose horse was also stolen (sending her into a big panic).

I adored Talas from the start. She seemed like a caring, kind, sweet girl, and I was very eager to find out her story. Given the story, she should be a bride. But was she married already? Waiting for marriage? Or did something else happen? As we find out what happens (from dearest mother-in-law) I had tears in my eyes. This poor girl. And then to stay with her mother-in-law to take care of her instead of going back home to her family and get married again. That is just the sweetest and the best.

I had a laugh at how how mother-in-law kept making remarks about Mr. Smith and him being a single, how she tried to push both Talas and Mr. Smith together to get married. :P This woman is awesome. And also very sweet. She wants to give Talas a future. She wants her to go out and be together with someone. Mother-in-law isn't the youngest and she is worried that Talas would end up all alone in this place in the middle of nowhere that the two of them live at.

And I was definitely rooting for Talas and Mr. Smith to end up together. This may sounds weird but I do feel there was a great connection between the two, and I did see some sparks fly when they talked or when they were together. I do have to say I was quite happy with how Mr. Smith handled things. He didn't immediately say yes when things go to a certain point, instead he wanted to make sure that Talas was definitely OK with everything. Of course this brought some confusion with his other friends (his guide and three people who he already met earlier). They think it is weird that he is so hesitant. They try to encourage him to just go for it. Talas is a sweet girl, she is willing, he has permission from the family. Go for it.

We also see Mr. Smith gets in a bit of a pickle with people who apparently don't get the concept of researchers travelling around and writing things down because they think it is all interesting. Then again, I get that they may be suspicious given he was riding a very fancy horse (which he got from Talas). I wish that the author had shown the time going by (in the jail) a bit better than just giving Mr. Smith a beard all of the sudden (really, it just felt magical, one moment he had nothing and the next, poof beard).

The ending had me in tears and I was so so sad. I do hope that these two are able to meet again, they were so happy together, and I was hoping to see a marriage happening soon.

We also see a bit more of Mr. Smith without his glasses, and oh boy, he is sure is hot. :P Can we have more shots of him looking quite sexy instead of him looking like a messy researcher? Aww, please?

The art is gorgeous once again, there were quite a few scenes that were my favourite. Like the food parts (making me long for those foreign foods), but also the scene in which Talas unwraps all her stuff from around her head and we finally see her head/hair/face and then she proceeds to stand in the wind and it made her hair twirls around her. It was just so beautiful.

Oh, and in between stuff we see Tireke (from the previous books). She is now of age to find a husband, but we all know how Tireke is so this won't be easy. However, with that certain event happening... <3 <3 Hopefully we will see how that ended in the next one. I can't wait.

All in all, I could probably talk a bit longer about this book, but I feel I have said what I wanted, and I just can't wait for the next volume. Mr. Smith has a long journey ahead of him and I can't wait to see who and what he will encounter on his way.

Review first posted at <https://twirlingbookprincess.com/>

Tasha says

Aw, poor anthropologist dude. Don't worry, guy, she was bad news anyway. She'll kill off that fifth husband in no time.

Elizabeth A says

This installment of life on the 19th century Silk Road has Mr. Smith making his way to Ankara. On the way he meets Talas, a young widow with an interesting and very sad history. Their lives get intertwined in ways neither expects.

It's easy to in this modern age to forget that we live in a patriarchal society as so much is not as overtly visible as in the past. Talas is another interesting character, though not as well developed as Amir, and her situation is very different as she has no man to "protect" her. I loved the relationship between Talas and her mother-in-law. A bit fairytale-ish I suppose, but lovely nonetheless.

The art continues to be fantastic. There isn't as much action in this one, though the market scenes with all that delish food had my mouth watering. After three volumes I'm still unsure about Mr. White. Is this white guy supposed to represent us the reader? Outsiders trying to make sense of a different culture? It was fun that characters we've met before make a cameo appearance, but this one is clearly focused on the lack of agency women have in the culture.

Am gobbling up these books. So good.

Megan M says

While it's hard to pick favorites in a series I love so much, this has to be my favorite volume yet. This volume follows Mr. Smith, the English linguist studying the region, as he attempts to find his way to Ankara to continue his research. Along the way, he meets the beautiful but tragic Talas, whose five husbands have all died, leaving her alone with her mother-in-law. Rather than just show us glimpses into the day-to-day life of the tribes of Central Asia, this volume is a true love story with a heartbreaking cliffhanger ending that makes me wish that January would come faster! Amir and Karluk show up for a visit and take on a trip to the market that fans of the Mori's gorgeous artwork will not soon forget.

I cannot recommend this series enough.

Jennifer says

A Bride's Story, vol. 3, by Kaoru Mori, 207 pages.

It's been awhile since I was able to read the first 2 volumes. This volume is a bit of a side story, following the journey of Mr Smith, an English researcher studying the ways of the people living along the Silk Road in the 19th century. The main characters from the earlier volumes, Amir and Karluk, make a brief appearance. This volume features some insights as well as critiques of the marriage arrangement customs of their culture. It also features aspects of the hard lives they live and the amount of work the women must do to survive. The volume concludes with Mr Smith heartbroken. I'm anxious to see if his story is followed further.

Julie (Manga Maniac Cafe) says

4 stars

Jenni Joru says

Aron kansoja tutkiva tiedemies Smith tekee lähtöä Amiran uuden perheen parista. Hän pysähtyy lähikaupunkiin odottelemaan opasta. Oppaan viipyessä hän tutustuu Talasiin, joka asuu kaksin vanhan äitinsä kanssa arolla jurtassa.

Talas on viisinkertainen leski. Hänen kaikkia miehiään on kohdannut sairaus tai epäonni. Nyt eräs mies on vaatimassa Talasia poikansa kakkosvaimoksi. Tämä tietäisi pelkkää palvelijan asemaa ja vähäisen omaisuuden menetystä. Talasin äiti haluaisi kovasti näyttää Talasin Smithille, mutta onko se mitenkään mahdollista?

Heidi Burkhart says

Such a fascinating GN. Love this series!
