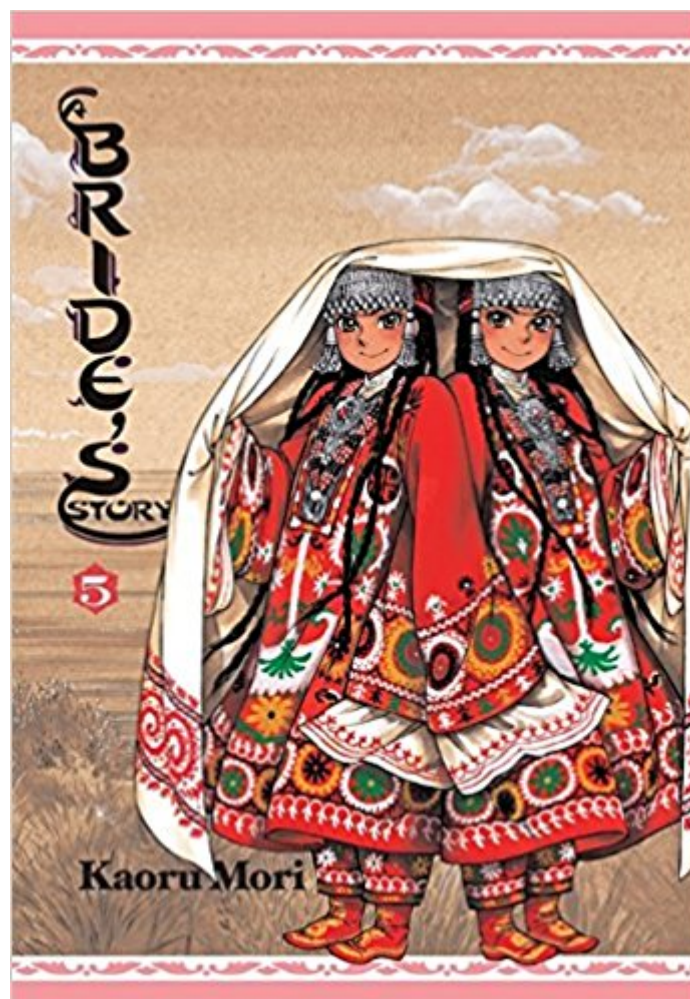


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A Bride's Story, Vol. 5



Synopsis

Acclaimed creator Kaoru Mori's tale of life on the nineteenth-century Silk Road takes on an air of celebration as, at long last, Laila and Leily's wedding day arrives! But the marriage ceremony may be even more taxing for the girls than their search for a pair of grooms. Sitting still and silent as their guests celebrate and eat is a trial that will push the girls' patience to its limit, not to mention that of Sami and Sarm! As the twins finally make their vows and commit themselves to their husbands, the gravity of the moment finally sets in. Though they have dreamed of marriage for years, only now do they realize that everything in their lives is about to change...Crafted in painstaking detail, Ms. Mori's pen breathes life into the scenery and architecture of the period in this heart-warming, slice-of-life tale that is at once wholly exotic, yet familiar and accessible through the everyday lives of the characters she has created.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

While A Bride's Story is a slice of life manga and these chapters would stand reasonably well on their own, they do continue directly from volume 4 and feature characters introduced throughout the series. I would recommend starting at the beginning.** This review contains mild spoilers.

**Chapters 23-25 feature the wedding day celebration of mischievous twins Laila and Leily. Mori goes into exquisite detail here, from the preparation of the feast to the specifics of the ceremony, exploring and explaining the culture and traditions through the actions of the characters and the twins own learning process. The remaining two chapters (and short side story) go back to Amir and

Karluk's village, telling three separate tales of normal (and less so) daily life. In addition to learning the way of life of the various villages, details of the larger world they inhabit start creeping in. Mori's incredible touch and careful research shines as usual in both sections. You can feel the effort expended and everything is conveyed such that the reader can understand what's being done and why. Additionally impressive is that a lot of it is done without dialog, without any negative effect. There are numerous instances where Mori's confident enough to let the art speak for itself for several pages at a time, and it works wonderfully. This is no small part because the art is amazing as usual. Mori consistently provides more intricate backgrounds and designs than I have ever seen in any other manga, and conveys emotion brilliantly with body language and facial expressions. A particular treat is The Daylong Song (chapter 26), which is comprised entirely of full page art. The final chapter is a simple story that resonates beautifully with several intertwined emotional layers working together. Perfectly paced and wonderfully told, A Bride's Story continues to amaze five volumes in.

It goes without saying that Kaoru Mori's manga is beautifully drawn. There's so much to feast your eyes on in A Bride's Story; you get your money's worth just looking at her characters and scenery. What really makes this volume special is the focus she has given to the twin sisters from the previous volume. In 5, our twin heroines tie the knot, but not without a few rambunctious misadventures before all is said and done. I miss Amir, but the twins' story is touching and I'm glad they got this volume all to themselves.

Kaoru Mori's art is as gorgeous as ever. The main plot of the twins' wedding had more cultural interest than plot interest, though, so I'm looking forward to seeing more of our A-plot characters next time.

Kaoru Mori combines her love of romance and culture into another great series, this one set in a middle east not long before world war I. Kaoru combines careful research with a detailed drawing style to create an authentic world in which to place her cast of characters. It is encouraged to start this series from volume 1.

Fans of Kaoru Mori's art style will doubtless enjoy her latest in the Bride's Story series. A fascinating view of the silk road in the late 1800's, it is humorous, engaging, and warm-hearted. If you have enjoyed previously released works such as Emma, this is a real treat and shouldn't be missed.

Kaoru Mori has given us this excellent (and many more volumes I hope) pictorial view of the nineteenth century in the middle east and steppes past the Caspian sea. I adore her art work and her stories.

I really can't say enough good things about this series. I love it. The art is breathtaking and the story is wonderful, such a fantastic author. I too can't wait to get the next volume. There have been other reviews that will tell you about the story and such so I won't repeat it here, just know no one should miss this.

I love this author/artist/manga-ist!!!! She's just incredible and I'm glad it's in English!!!! My item shipped pretty quick and arrived safe. No complaints other than, I want vol. 6 now :P

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