



EPISODE 3
Dojopress.com

ASHIDA KIM

SHADOW OF THE SILENT HAND

EPISODE 3:
THE ENEMY
BENEATH THE
LANTERN

修行心道



A NINJA. A STUDENT. A SECRET BENEATH THE FLAME.

RESTLESS NIGHT

The storm had passed. But the warning had not.



Eli did not sleep easily anymore.



If he comes back... will I even hear him?



You have not slept either?



A threat announced is rarely the only threat.



Then tonight is not for sleep. It is for understanding.



THE WARNING NOTE

By dawn, the storm had left something behind.



THE OLD LANTERN

Master Ren led them to a storage chest that had not been opened in years.



A duty. And a mistake I had hoped never to revisit.



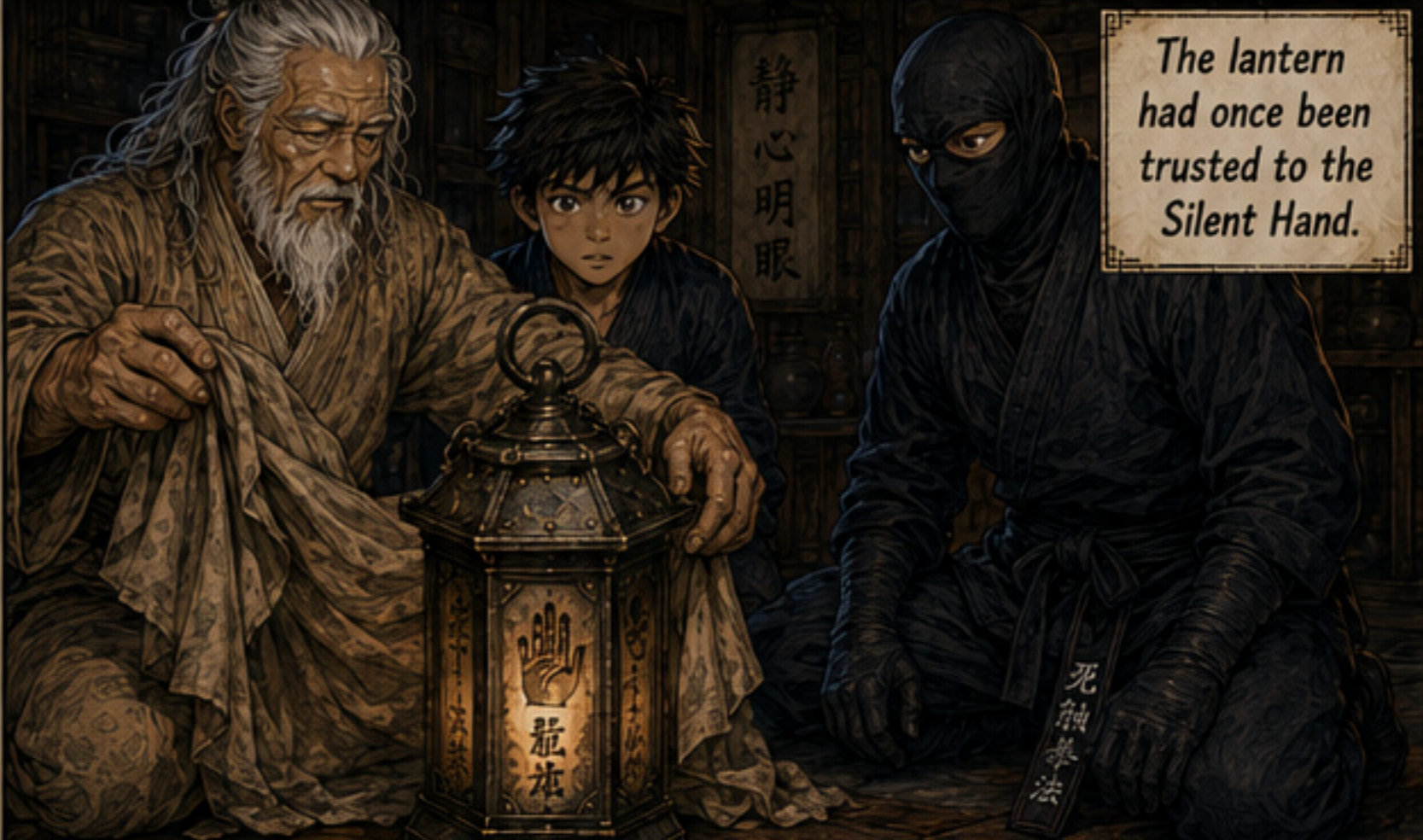
It looks ordinary.



That is how many dangerous things survive.



The lantern had once been trusted to the Silent Hand.



If the note is true, then someone has come for more than the scroll.





Stand back.



Ffff..



The flame was small. Its shadow was not.



Something's there!



A mark hidden beneath years of dust and silence.



No...



You have seen it before.



Yes. The last time the lantern was lit like this... men came to steal it.

ROOTS IN SHADOW

The Red Shadow?



Not yet by that name. But the roots were already there.



Many years earlier...



A guardian must learn to protect more than objects. He must protect meaning.



Watch carefully, Ren.



The lesson began with a lantern... and a warning.



THE PURPOSE OF THE LANTERN



Strength without wisdom is noise.

死触拳法

静拳拳法

静心明眼



Then what is wisdom, Master?

死触拳法



Knowing what a thing is for. And what it must never become.

荒法



When the flame was turned just so, the lantern revealed what ordinary eyes could not.

禁用

濫用則災
初衷守之



A guide. A warning. And a burden.

禁用



The lesson was never about light. It was about the hand that chooses what it reveals.

死触拳法

北眼解拳法

READ THE SHADOW

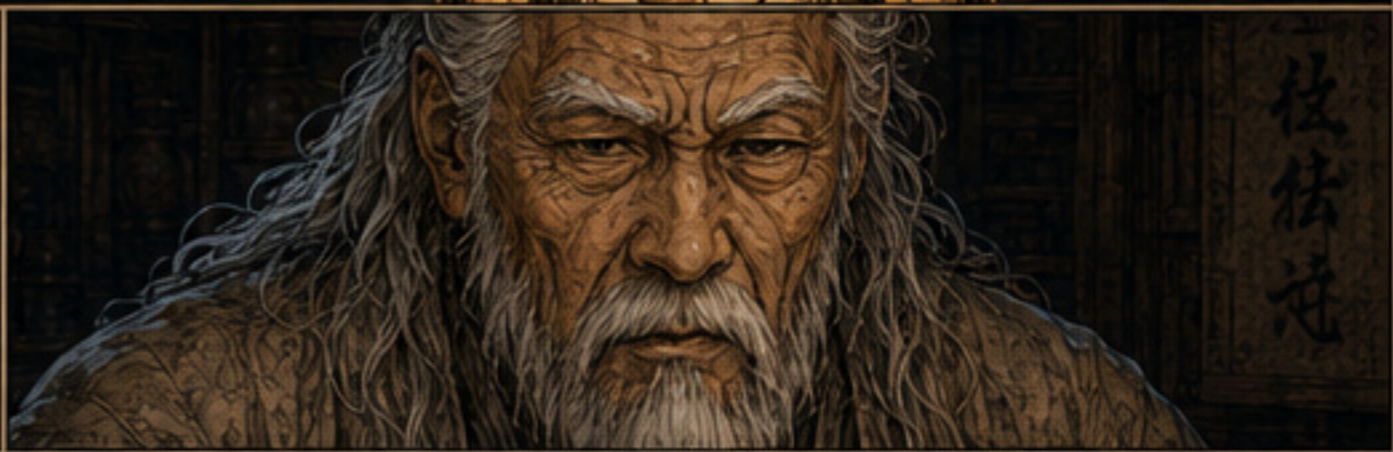
Most students trust the light.



A wise one studies the shadow.



Because it reveals what the light is touching.



If ever the lantern is sought, assume the enemy does not want the object. He wants what it uncovers.



THE FIRST ATTACK

Before the lesson was complete, the warning became real.



Master—

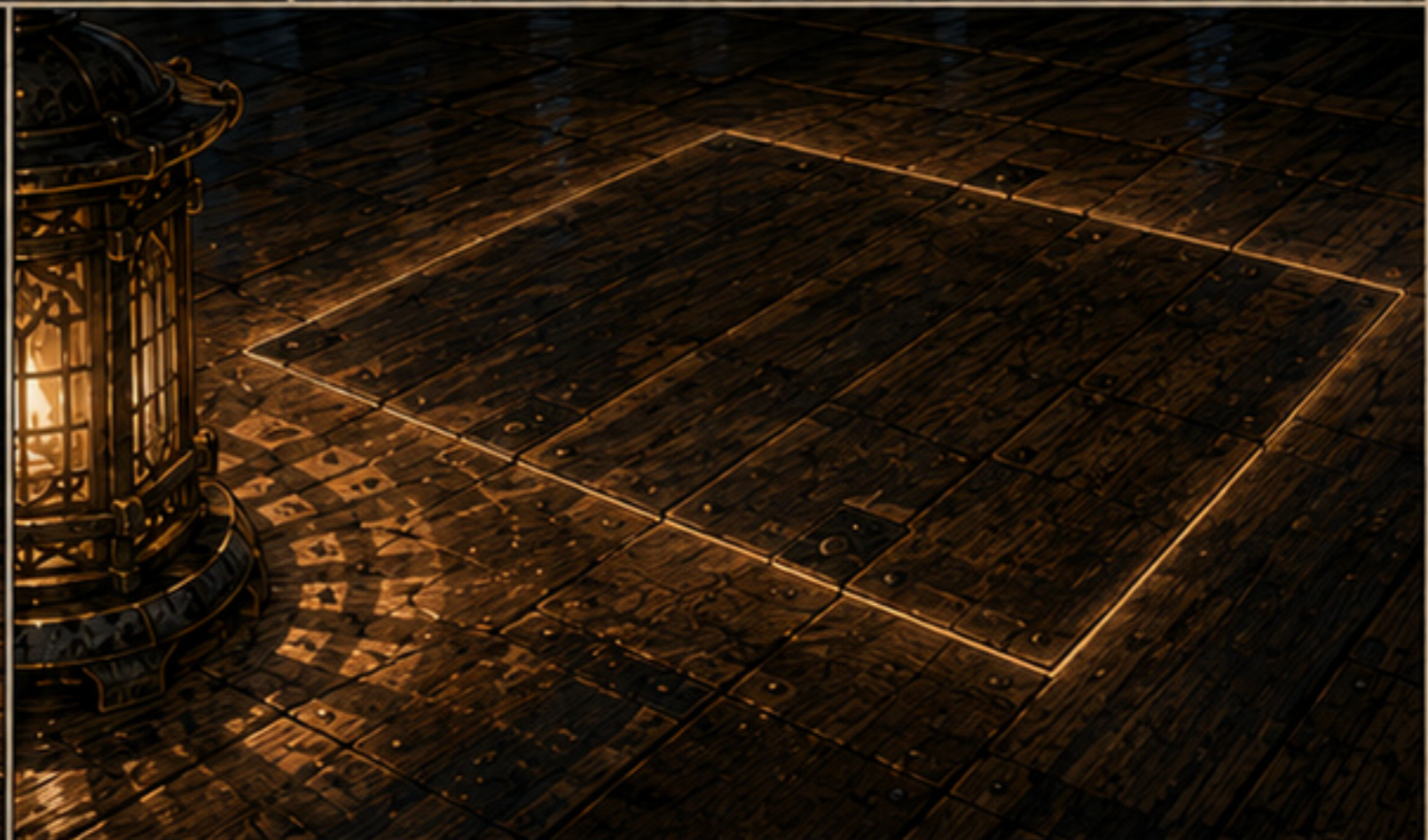
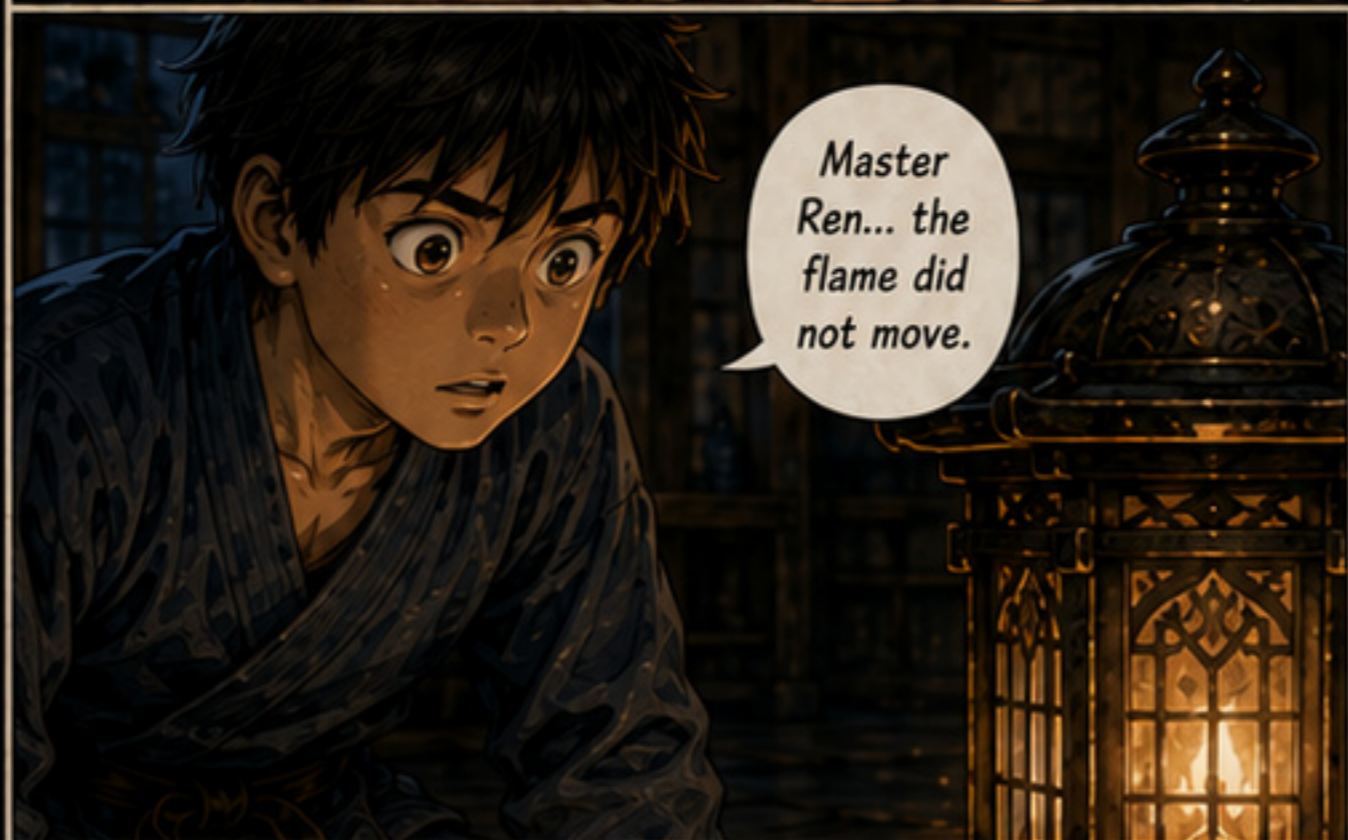


Do not defend the flame. Defend what it points to.



THE SHADOW MOVES

Back in the present, Eli tried to see as Ren once had.



THE HIDDEN DOOR



Beneath the dojo, the past had been waiting.



What is this?



The old passage...



Then the threat was never only above us.



Eli, stay here. Protect the scroll. Protect the light.



I should go with you.



You can help more by seeing.



And by thinking.

SPLIT DUTY

I go below.

Then the scroll stays above.

Let me come with you.

No. Guard it.

When danger divides itself, do not divide your attention. See what each shadow wants.

Master Ren... this red fiber.

Then the intruder above has already touched this room.

One thief below. One watcher above. Hold your ground.



THE TUNNEL COPYIST

Below the dojo, another seeker had reached the old marks first.



THE LANTERN GHOST

While Ashida hunted below, the second danger rose above.



ABOVE AND BELOW

While one shadow tested the room above, another moved beneath it.

The lantern ghost...



Protect the scroll. Let the ghost reveal its hunger.



He is not after the scroll.



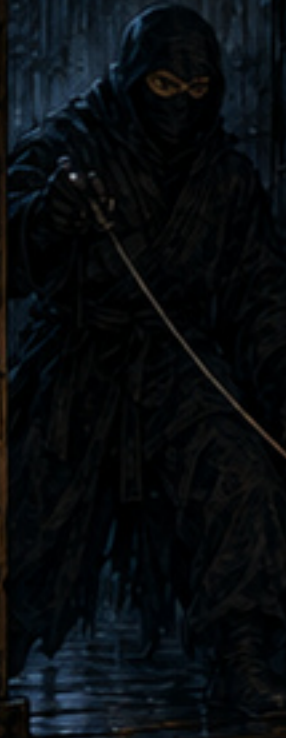
The wall is the target.



THE TRUE TARGET



THE HOOKED CORD



沈黙の拳法



Master Ren—the cord!

Not this time!

Do not chase the ghost. See what it reaches for.

It wanted more than the scroll... it was searching us.

The ghost does not steal what it needs. It reaches for what reveals what we hide.

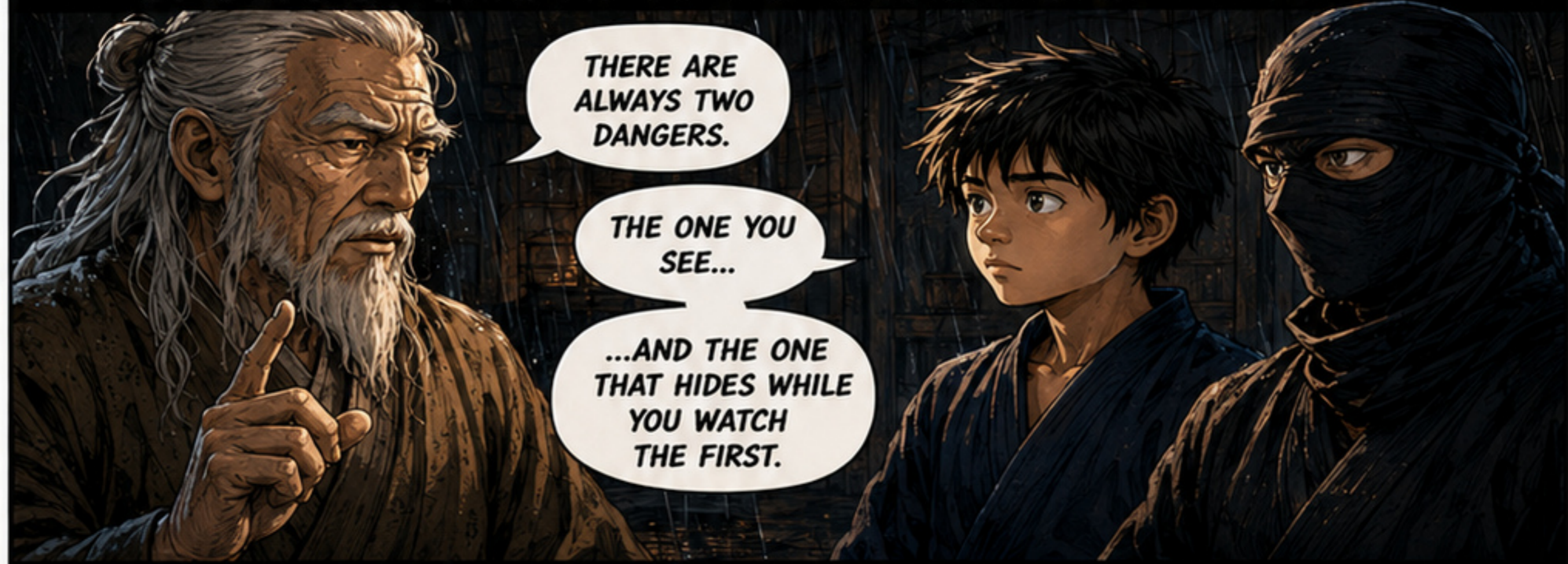
Good. Now you are learning to see.



沈黙の



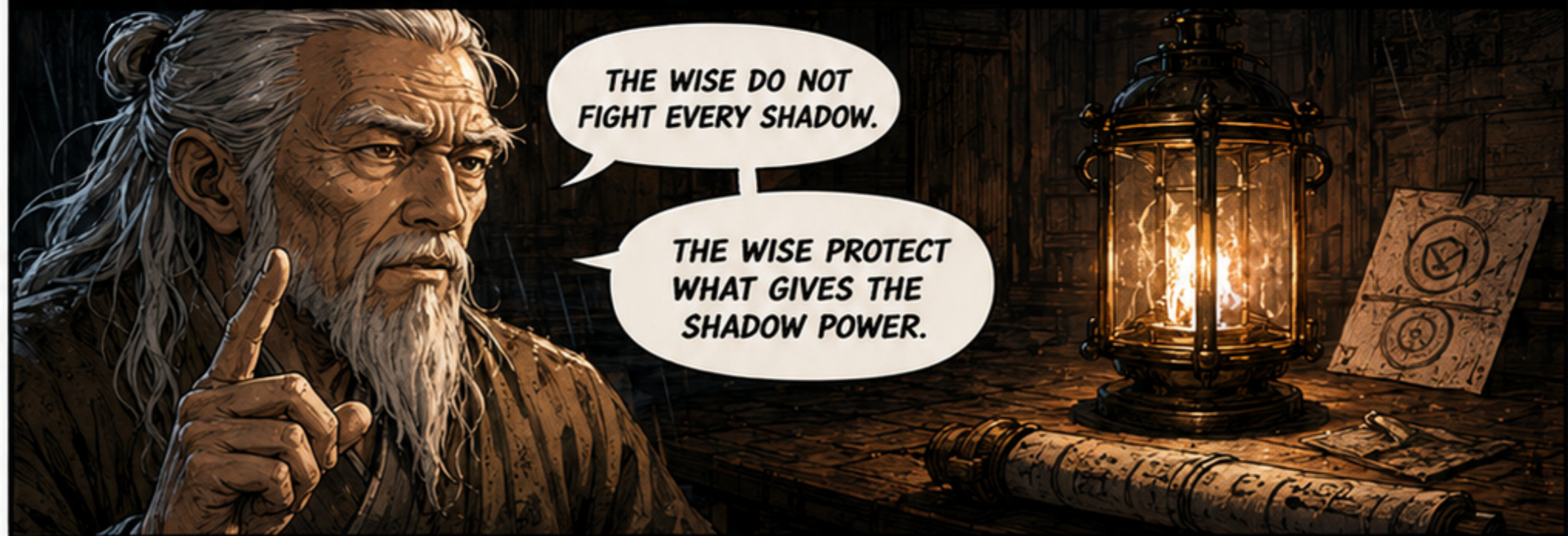
EPISODE 3: SHADOW OF THE SILENT HAND



THERE ARE ALWAYS TWO DANGERS.

THE ONE YOU SEE...

...AND THE ONE THAT HIDES WHILE YOU WATCH THE FIRST.



THE WISE DO NOT FIGHT EVERY SHADOW.

THE WISE PROTECT WHAT GIVES THE SHADOW POWER.



THE SCROLL. THE LANTERN.

THE TRUTH BENEATH THEM.



AWARENESS.

FOCUS.

SILENCE.


THAT IS HOW WE SURVIVE WHAT COMES.

THE PARTIAL COPY

Before dawn,
the lower
shadow was
brought into
the light.




19. THE WATCHER ABOVE




HIGH ABOVE
THE DOJO.
A THIRD EYE
WATCHES.

THE RED-EYED
WATCHER OF
THE RED SHADOW.



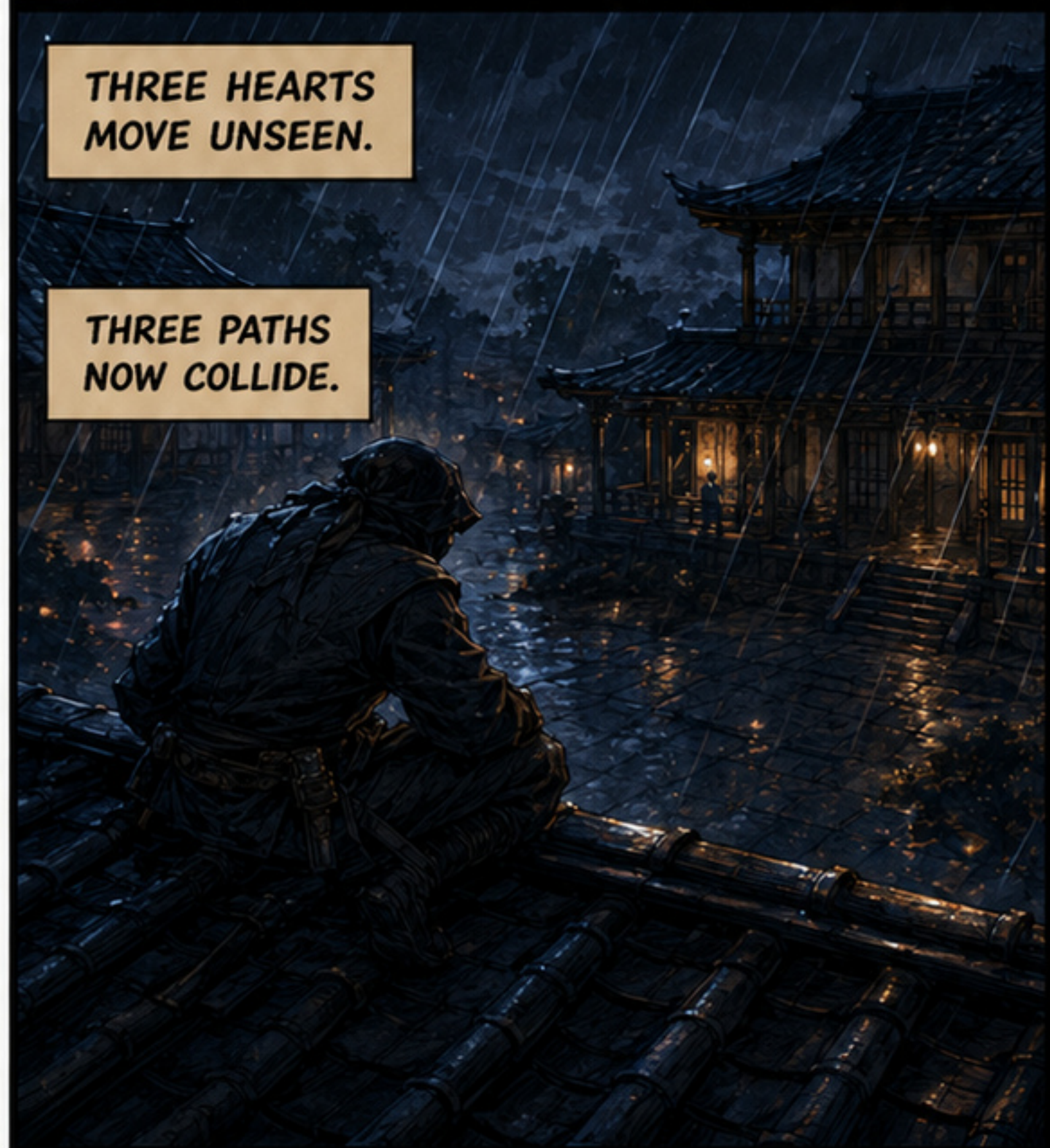
HE DOES NOT
ACT YET.

HE REPORTS.



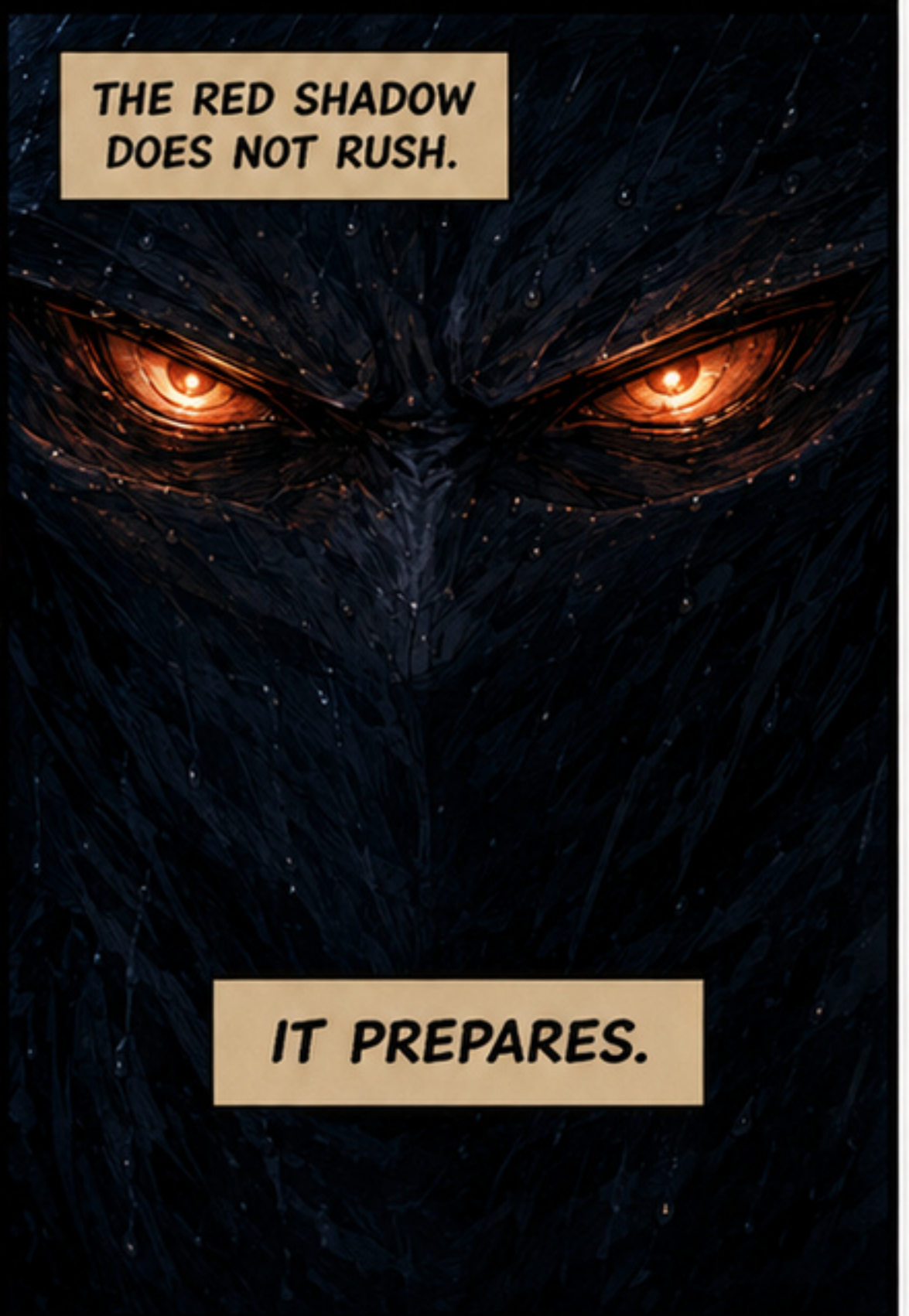
THE MARK
IS READY.

THE PATH
BELOW HAS
BEEN OPENED.



THREE HEARTS
MOVE UNSEEN.

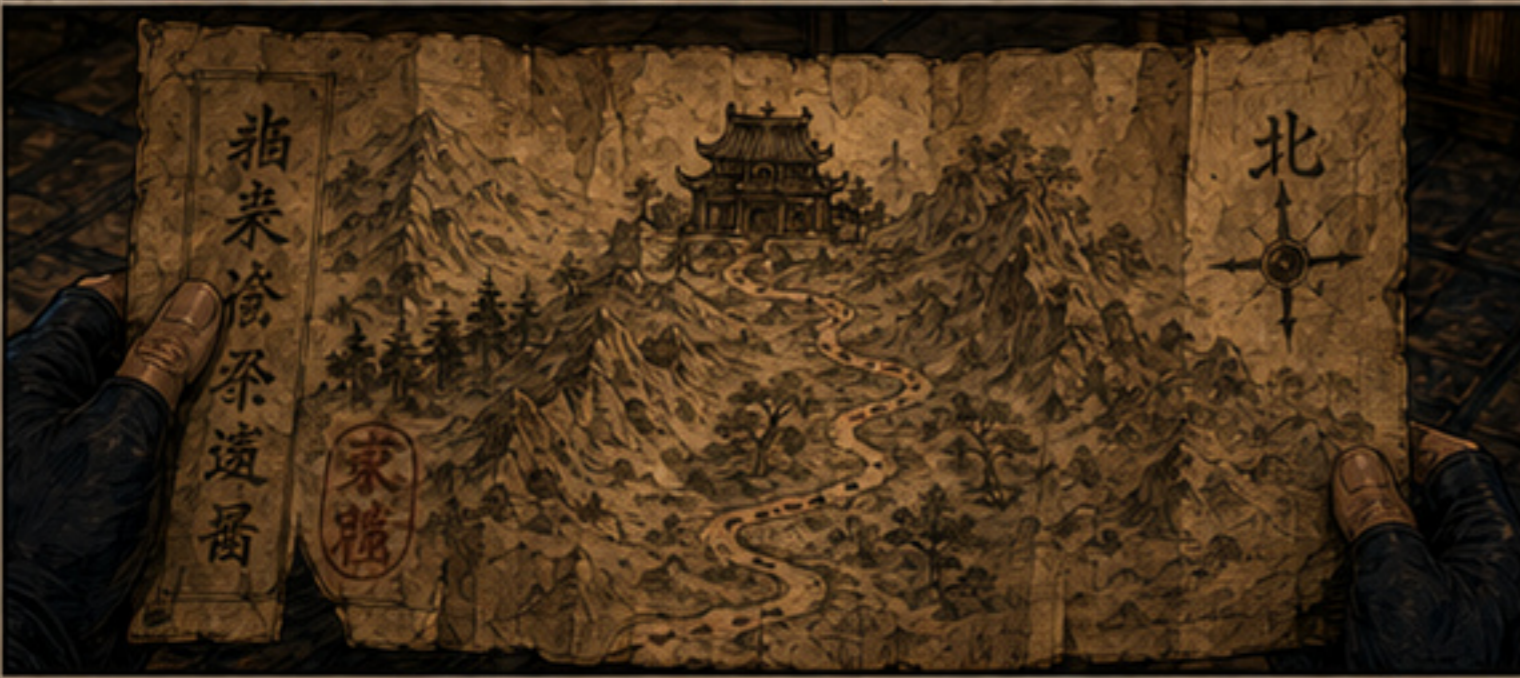
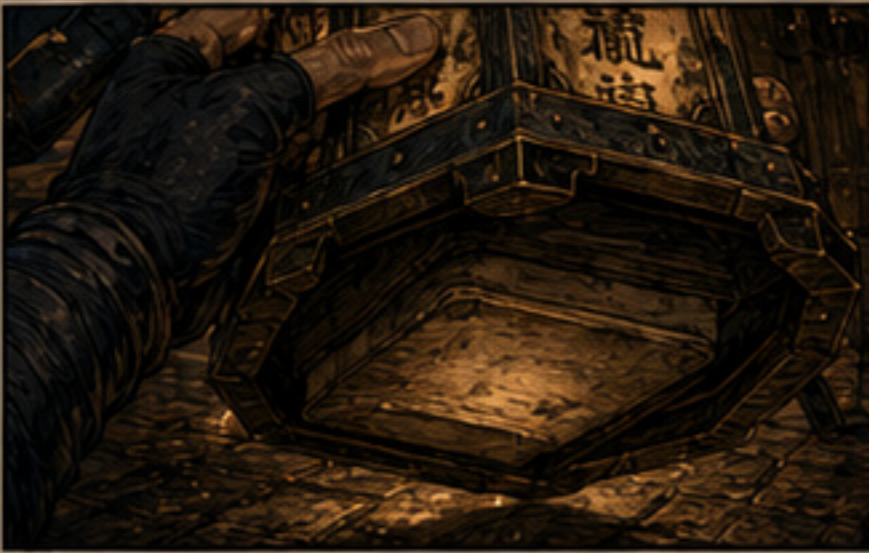
THREE PATHS
NOW COLLIDE.



THE RED SHADOW
DOES NOT RUSH.

IT PREPARES.

THE MAP BENEATH THE LANTERN



Next: THE TEMPLE OF THE SILENT HAND





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ASHIDA KIM

SHADOW OF THE SILENT HAND

EPISODE 3:

THE ENEMY BENEATH THE LANTERN

When a strange lantern reveals a hidden passage beneath the dojo, Eli is drawn into a mystery older than memory itself.

Beneath the floorboards of silence lies a buried path, forgotten warnings, and the shadow of an enemy that has not been waiting in peace.

As Ashida Kim guides Eli deeper into the unseen world, each lesson sharpens the boy's awareness. But in the darkness below, the *Red Shadow's* influence is already moving—and what awakens beneath the lantern may change everything.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- The lantern's hidden secret
- A descent beneath the dojo
- Lessons in awareness and fear
- The map to the Temple of the Silent Hand



NEXT:

THE TEMPLE OF THE SILENT HAND



DISCIPLINE. SILENCE. AWARENESS. DESTINY.

