

ILLUSTRATED CLASSIC CHINESE TALES
Idiom Stories

NOTCHING A BOAT SIDE TO LOCATE A SWORD

· 刻舟求剑 ·



成语故事

中华传统经典故事绘本
附中文拼音



CHINA INTERCONTINENTAL PRESS

NOTCHING A BOAT SIDE TO LOCATE A SWORD

· 刻舟求劍 ·

Retold by Song Huaizhi
Translated by Liu Jun & Bruce Humes



CHINA INTERCONTINENTAL PRESS

图书在版编目 (C I P) 数据

刻舟求剑: 汉英对照 / 宋怀芝主编; 刘浚译. —北京: 五洲传播出版社, 2016.3

(中华传统经典故事绘本·成语故事篇)

ISBN 978-7-5085-3351-3

I . ①刻… II . ①宋… ②刘… III . ①儿童文学—图画故事—中国—当代 IV . ① I287.8

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2016) 第 054521 号

策 划: 荆孝敏 段仁国

编 写: 宋怀芝

翻 译: 刘 浚

特约译审: Bruce Humes (美国)

绘 画: 一片黄叶工作室

责任编辑: 王 莉

装帧设计: 李冬旭 赵雪佳



刻舟求剑

出版发行: 五洲传播出版社

社 址: 北京市海淀区北三环中路 31 号凯奇大厦 B 座 7 层

邮政编码: 100088

发行电话: 010-82007837 010-82001477 010-82003137

制版单位: 北京快乐共享文化发展有限公司

印 刷: 北京画中国画印刷有限公司

开 本: 787mm × 1092mm 1/12

印 张: 2

版 次: 2016 年 3 月第 1 版 2016 年 3 月第 1 次印刷

书 号: ISBN 978-7-5085-3351-3

定 价: 19.80 元

NOTCHING A BOAT SIDE TO LOCATE A SWORD

· 刻舟求劍 ·

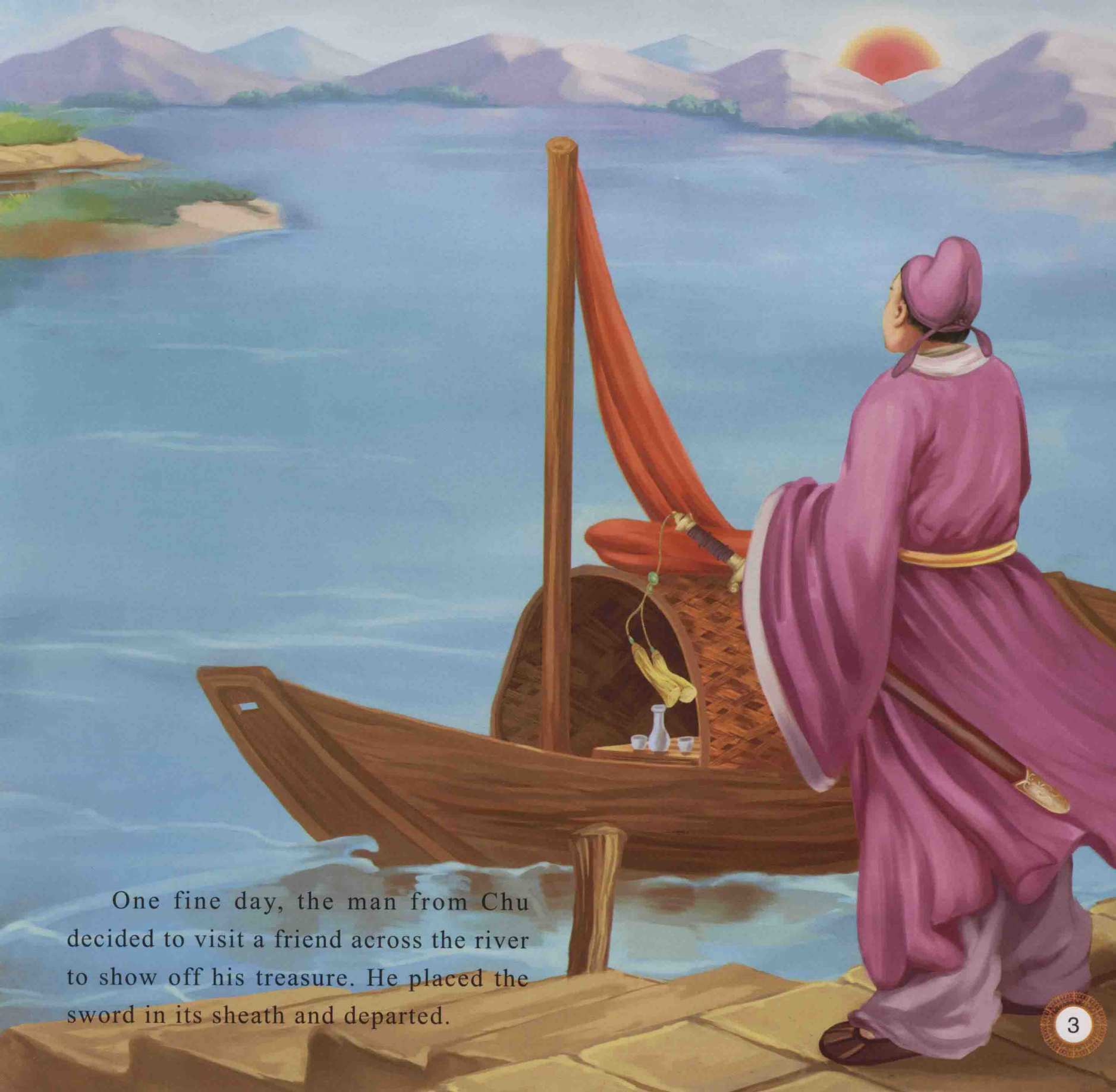
Retold by Song Huaizhi
Translated by Liu Jun & Bruce Humes



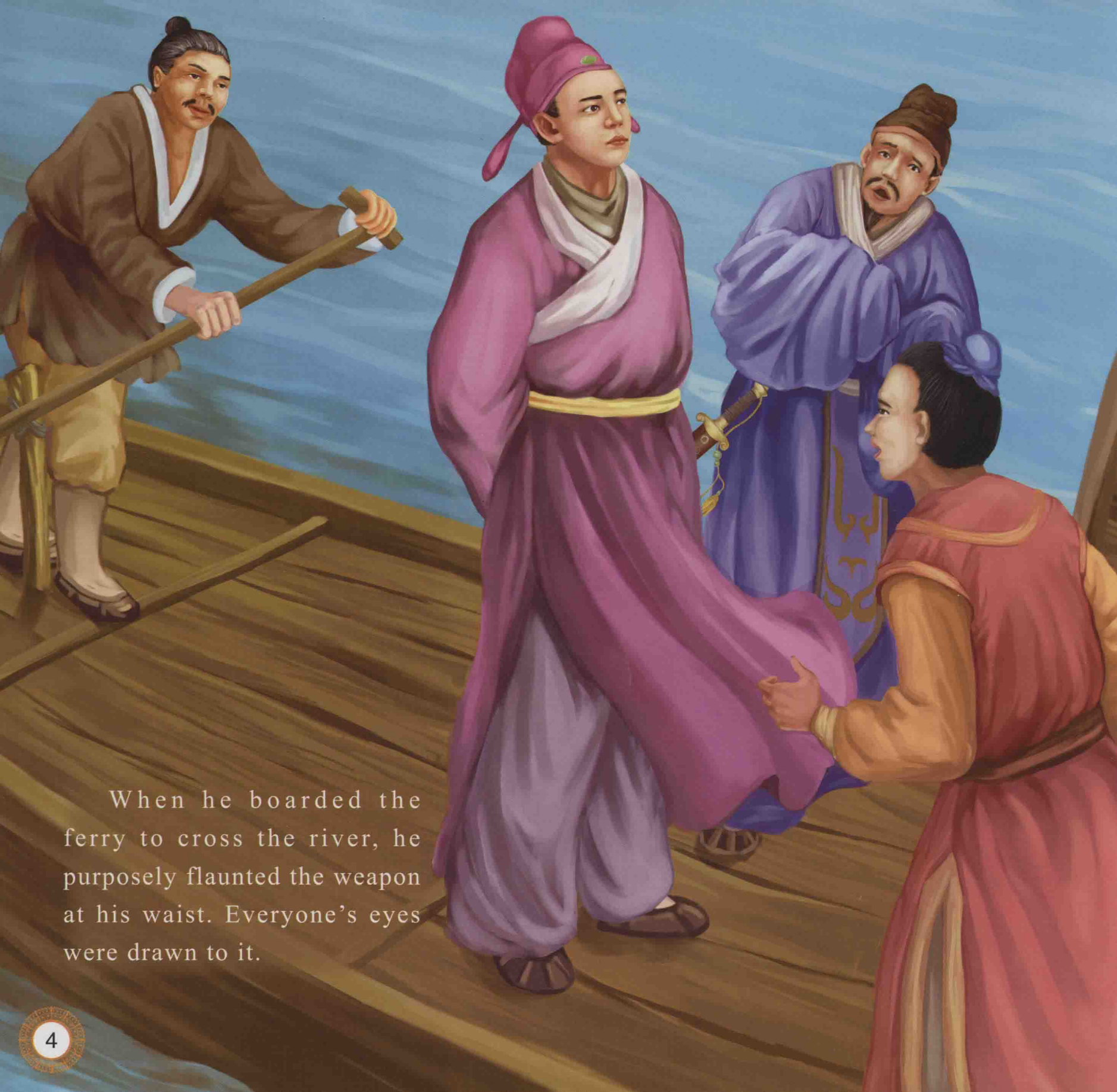
CHINA INTERCONTINENTAL PRESS



Long, long ago there lived a man in the state of Chu who possessed a precious sword. Not only was its blade sharp as a razor, its handle and sheath were inlaid with intricate patterns and shiny pearls. It was a thing of beauty to behold.



One fine day, the man from Chu decided to visit a friend across the river to show off his treasure. He placed the sword in its sheath and departed.

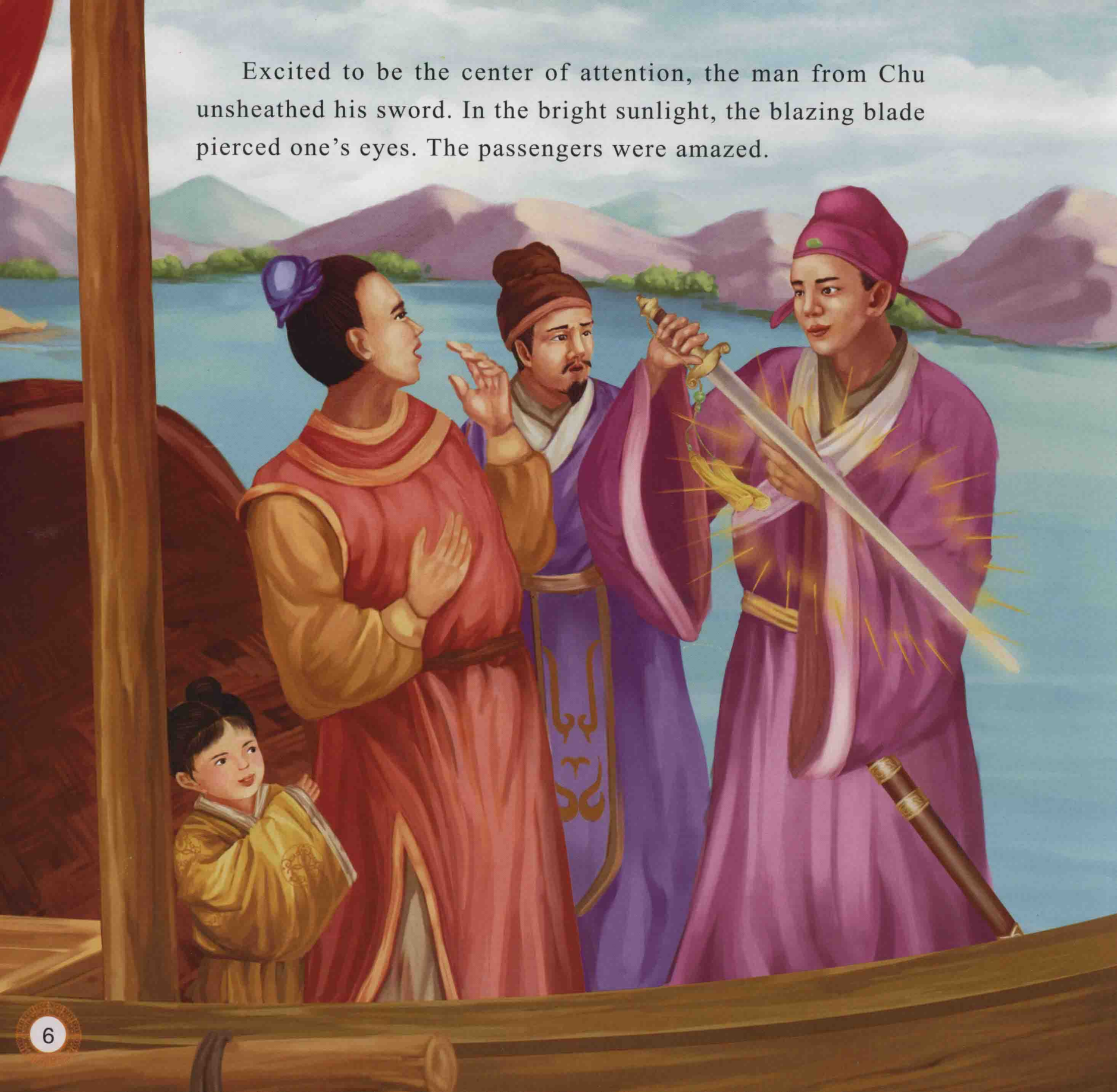


When he boarded the ferry to cross the river, he purposely flaunted the weapon at his waist. Everyone's eyes were drawn to it.

“Did you see that? What a beautiful, shining sword!”
exclaimed a fellow passenger. “I wonder how sharp it could be?”

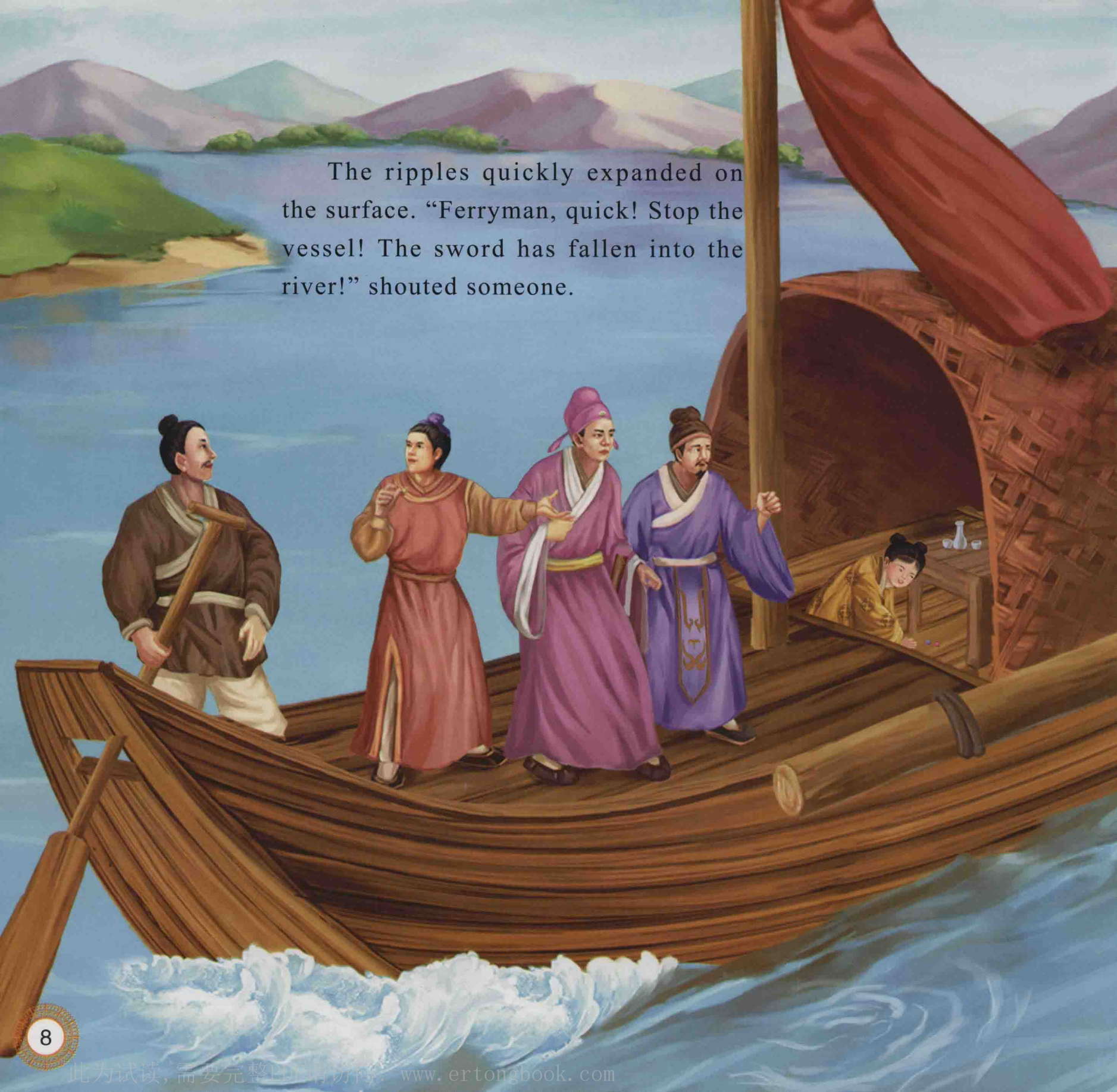


Excited to be the center of attention, the man from Chu unsheathed his sword. In the bright sunlight, the blazing blade pierced one's eyes. The passengers were amazed.

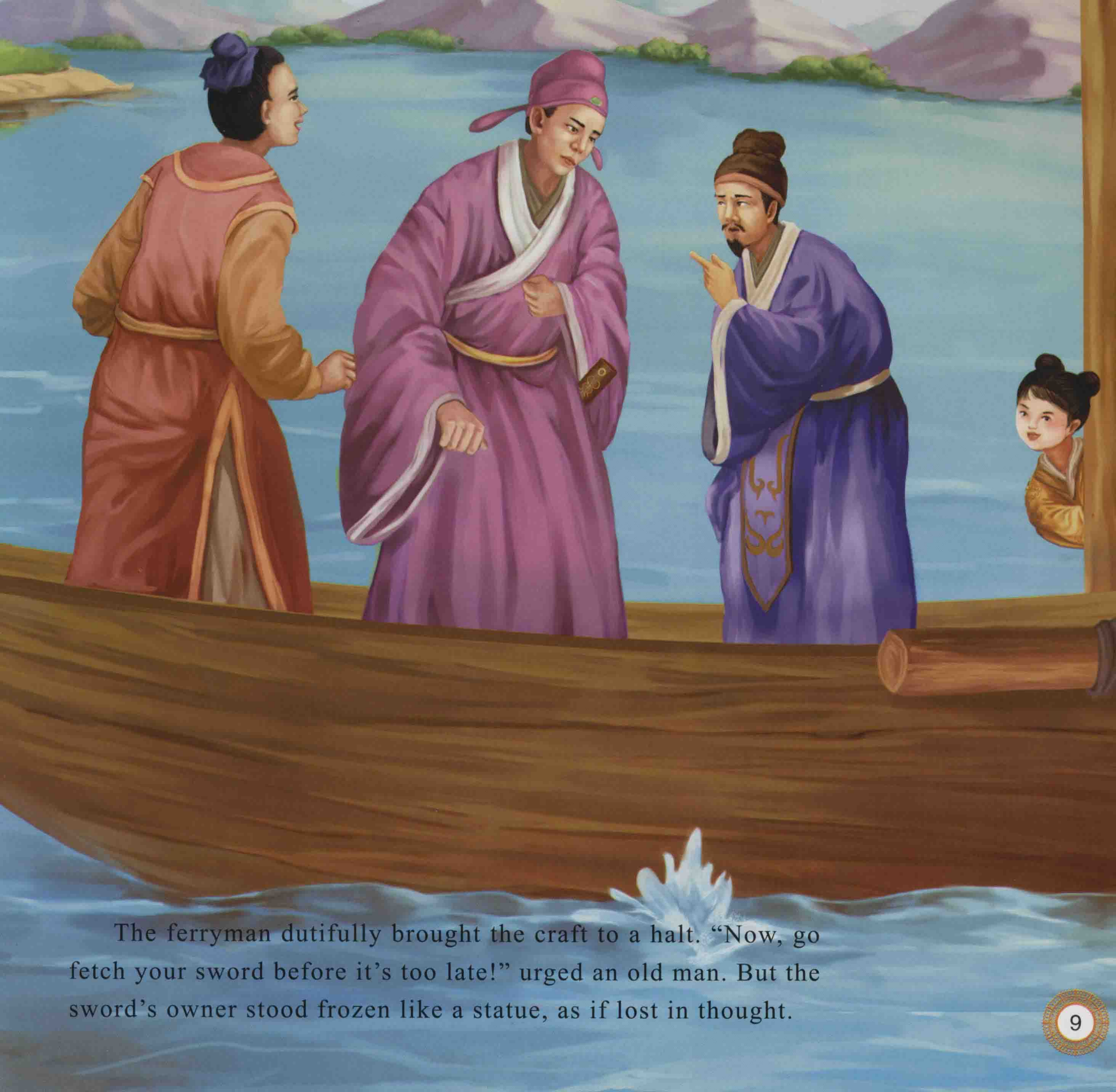





The sword holder was basking in glory when a huge bird of prey swooped down at him out of the blue. Frightened, he lurched to the side — and his beloved sword slipped out of his hand. “Splash!” It disappeared into the river.

A traditional Chinese painting depicting a scene on a river. In the foreground, a large wooden boat with a red sail is moving across the water, creating white-capped waves. Four people are on board: a man in a brown robe on the left, a woman in a red robe, a man in a purple robe, and another man in a blue robe. They are all looking towards the right. In the background, a woman in a yellow robe is sitting at a small table inside the boat, looking down. The background features rolling green hills and mountains under a pale sky.

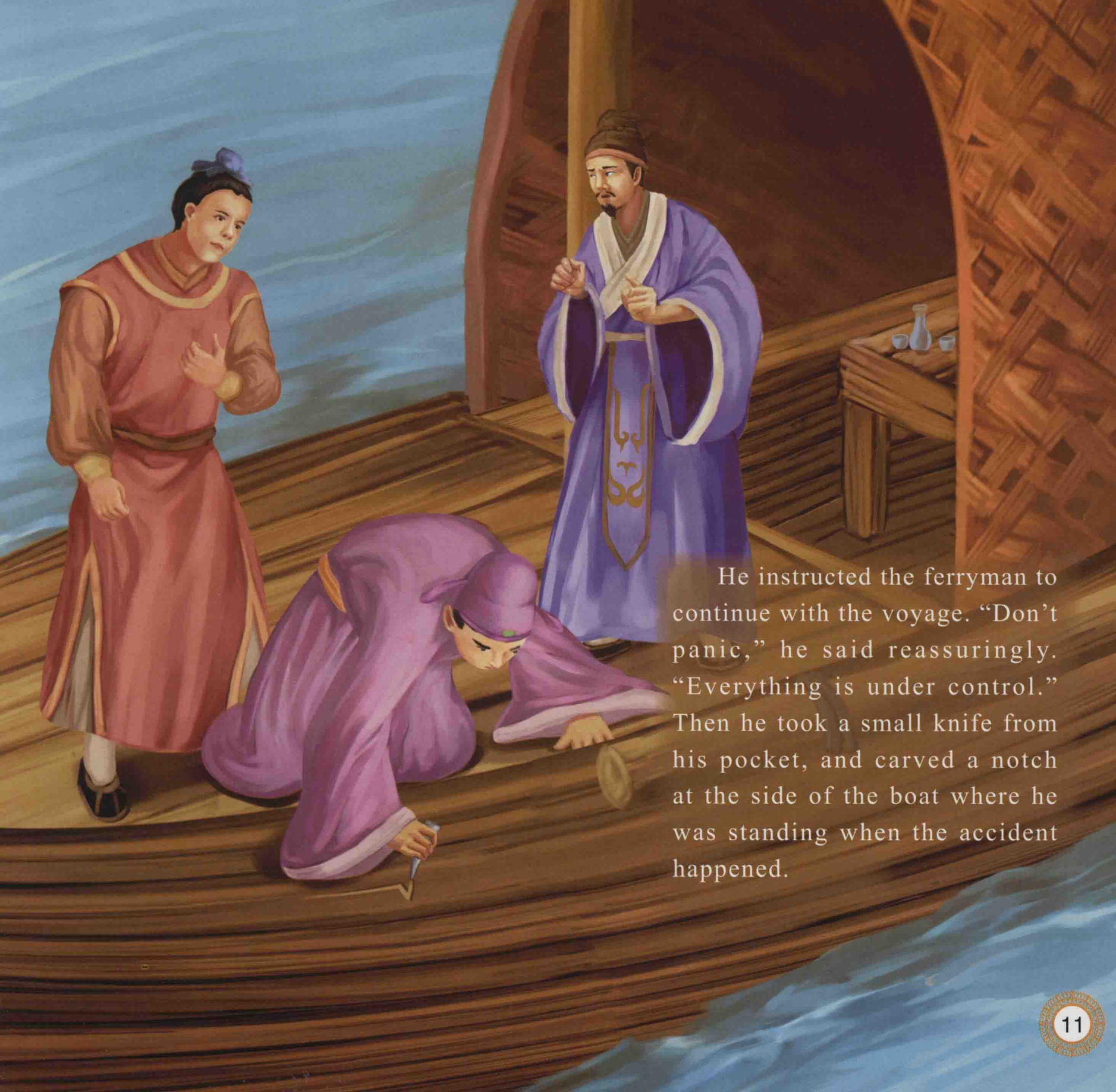
The ripples quickly expanded on the surface. “Ferryman, quick! Stop the vessel! The sword has fallen into the river!” shouted someone.



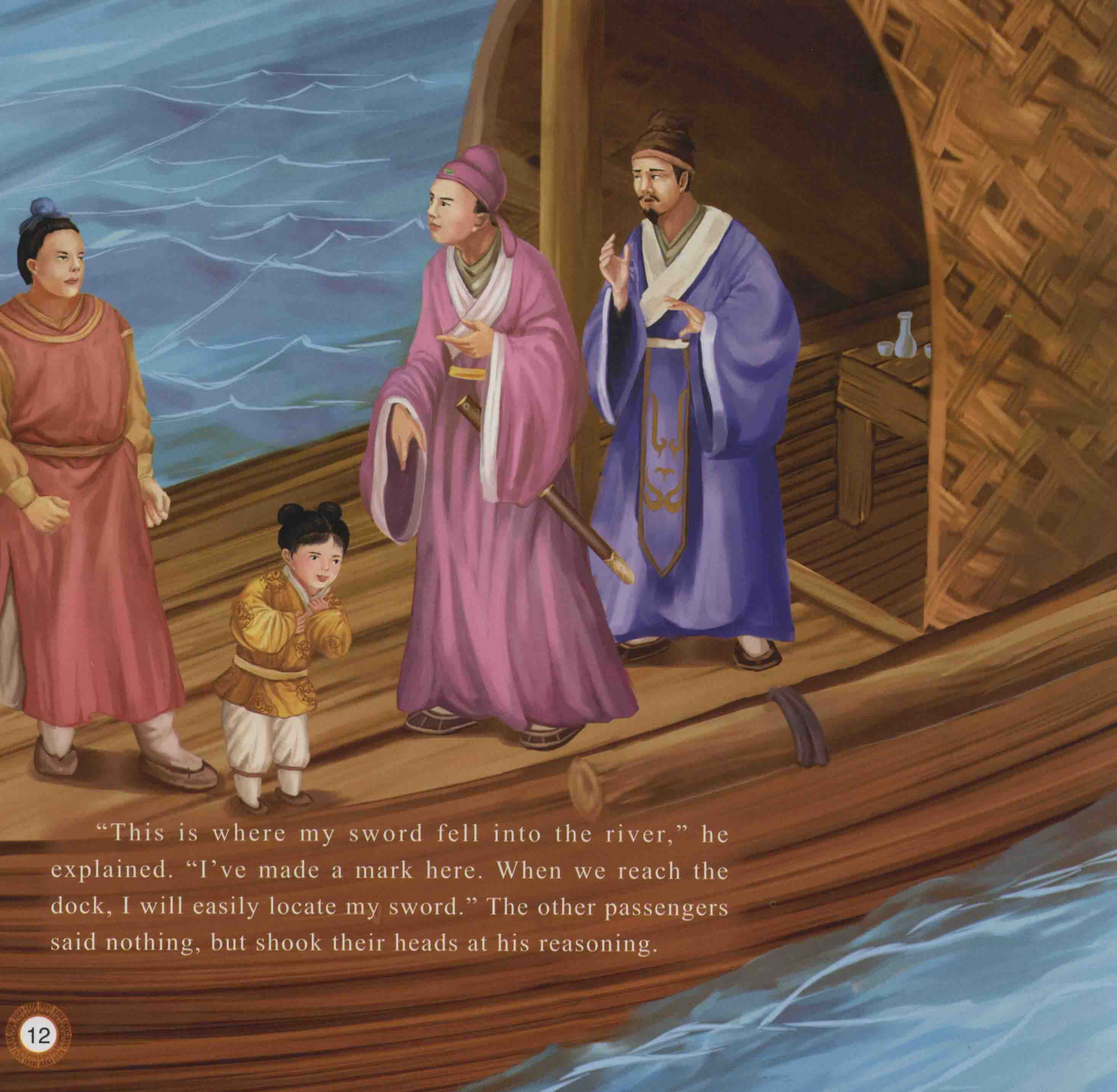
The ferryman dutifully brought the craft to a halt. “Now, go fetch your sword before it’s too late!” urged an old man. But the sword’s owner stood frozen like a statue, as if lost in thought.



One kind young man thought the man from Chu couldn't swim. He threw off his robe and readied to dive into the river and retrieve the lost saber. But the man from Chu grabbed his arm and told him not to jump.

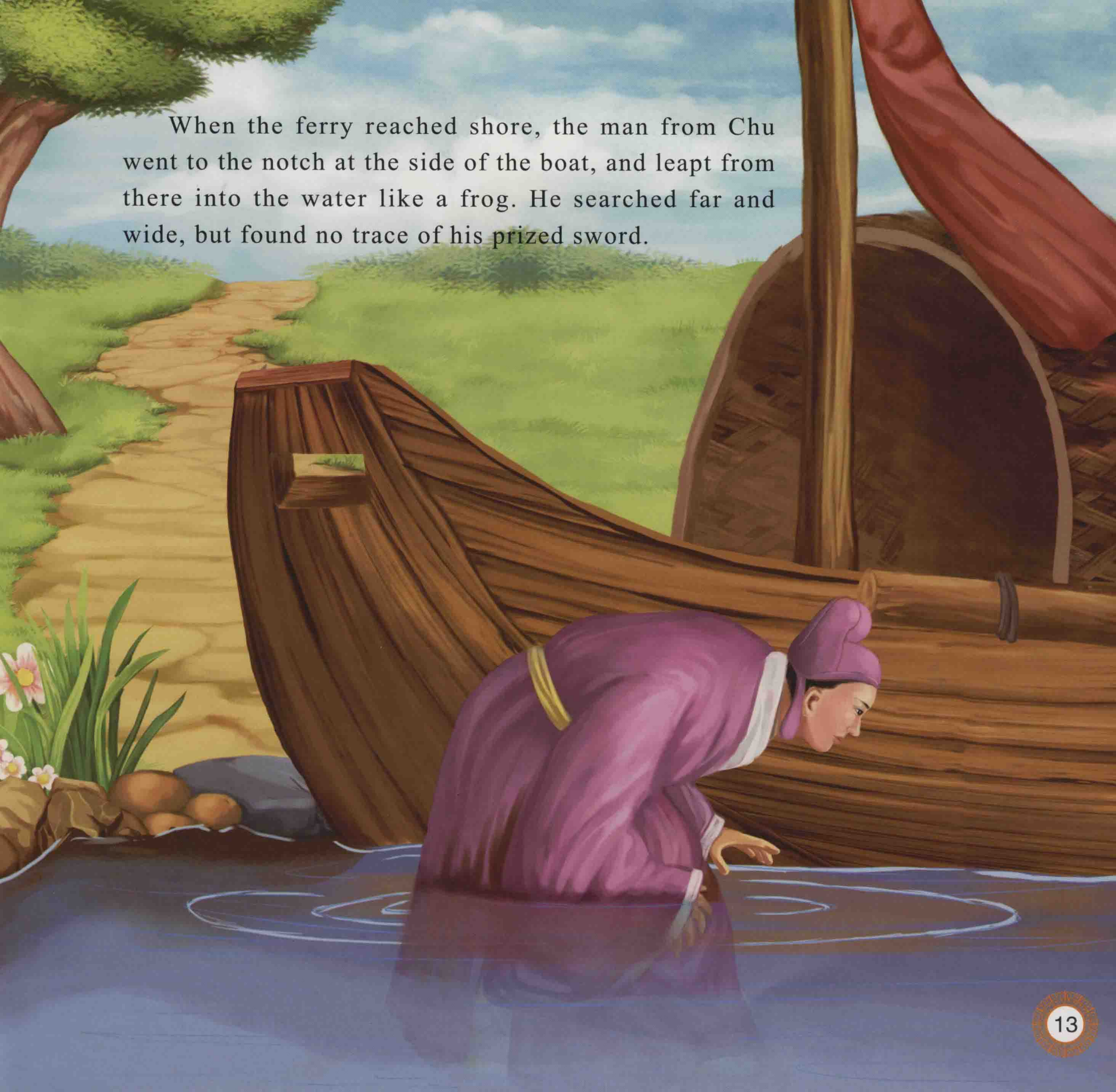


He instructed the ferryman to continue with the voyage. “Don’t panic,” he said reassuringly. “Everything is under control.” Then he took a small knife from his pocket, and carved a notch at the side of the boat where he was standing when the accident happened.



“This is where my sword fell into the river,” he explained. “I’ve made a mark here. When we reach the dock, I will easily locate my sword.” The other passengers said nothing, but shook their heads at his reasoning.

When the ferry reached shore, the man from Chu went to the notch at the side of the boat, and leapt from there into the water like a frog. He searched far and wide, but found no trace of his prized sword.



Eventually he gave up, and climbed ashore. He was crestfallen. "I made the mark right where the sword fell into the river. How come I can't find it now?"

