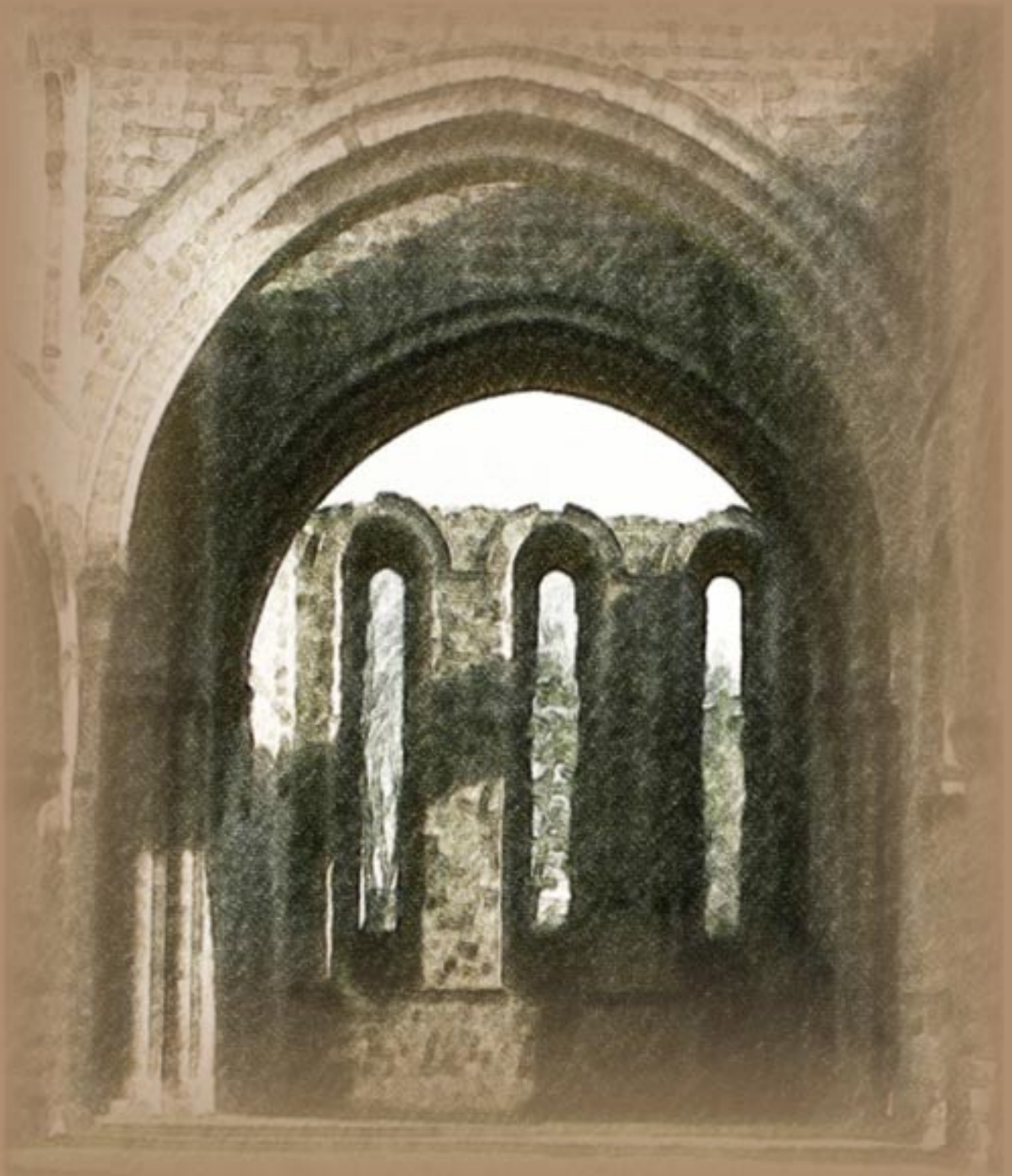
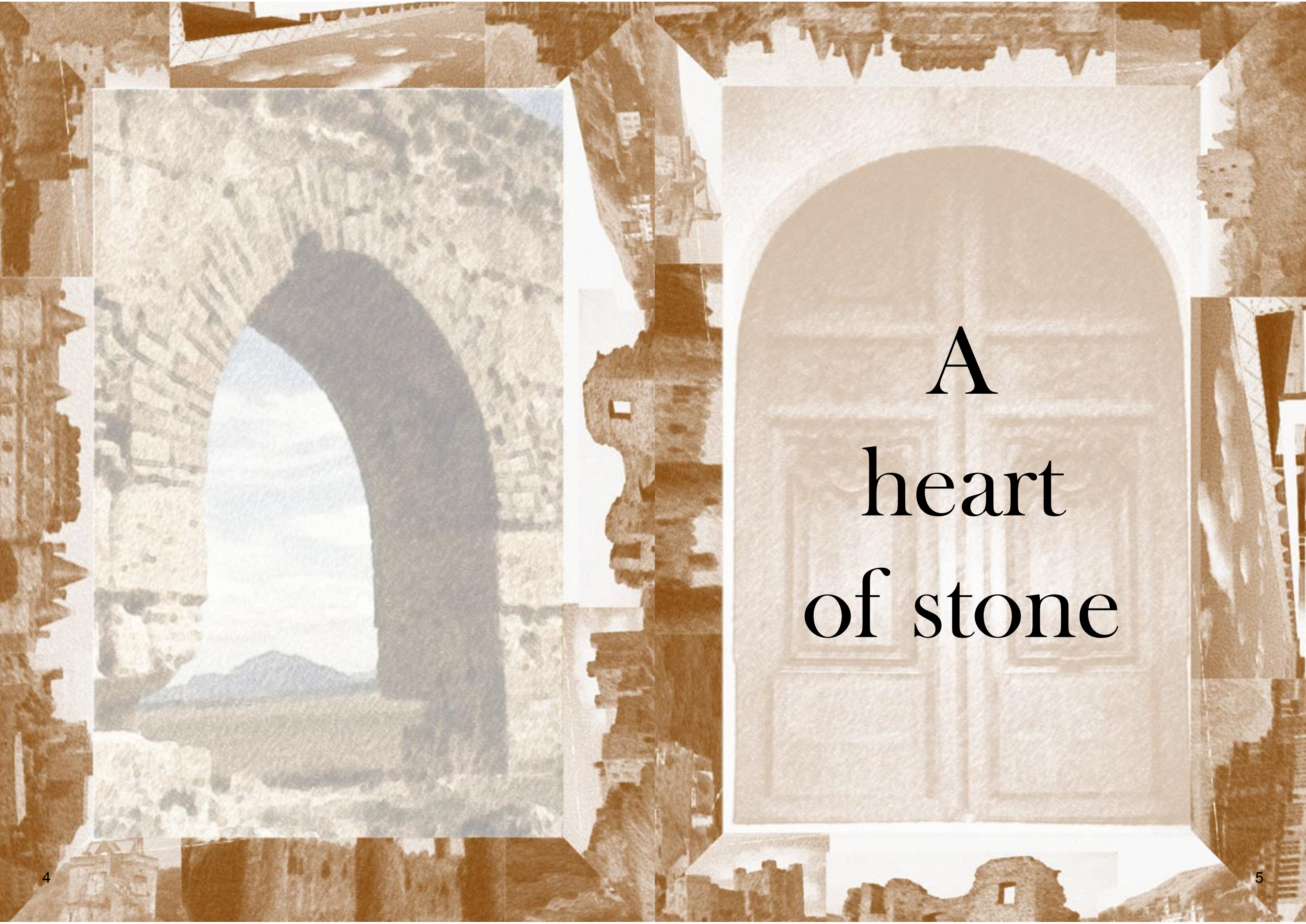
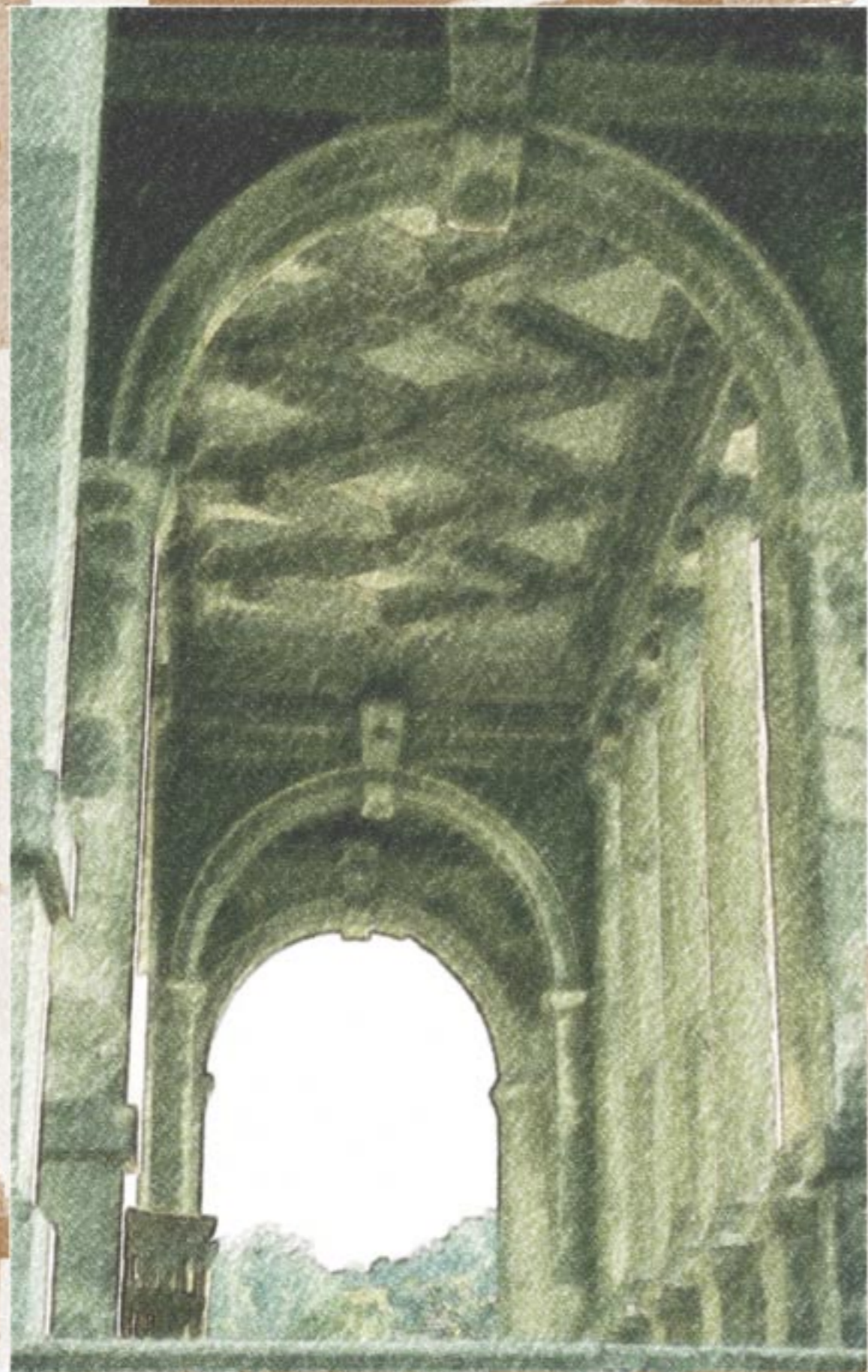


A heart of stone





A
heart
of stone



Once upon a time, was a

very good king who lived in a very small and wonderful city that was his entire kingdom! Stunning small houses, ancient temples and magnificent churches made his city the most beautiful of all!

The king was married with a very kind queen and had two beautiful kids, a son and a daughter! The daughter, Ann her name, was a quiet and very sweet girl; but the son was exactly the other extreme! The son, Anta his name, was a violent prince with love only to weapons and fights!

The king and the queen were upset with their son's behavior but they could do anything to change it! Anta was getting worst and worst every day! Been cruel with the people around him, spending all his time training and learning new ways to fight and kill!

But still, the king and the queen had put all their hopes that their daughter, princess Anima would be able to change him with her kindness and sweetness!

Time past and nothing changed with the prince until one day the mother, the queen, died! The king was really sad; he knew that he could not live any more without his queen, so he felt that his end was very near! After all, they were both rather old in that age, were people move to different worlds!

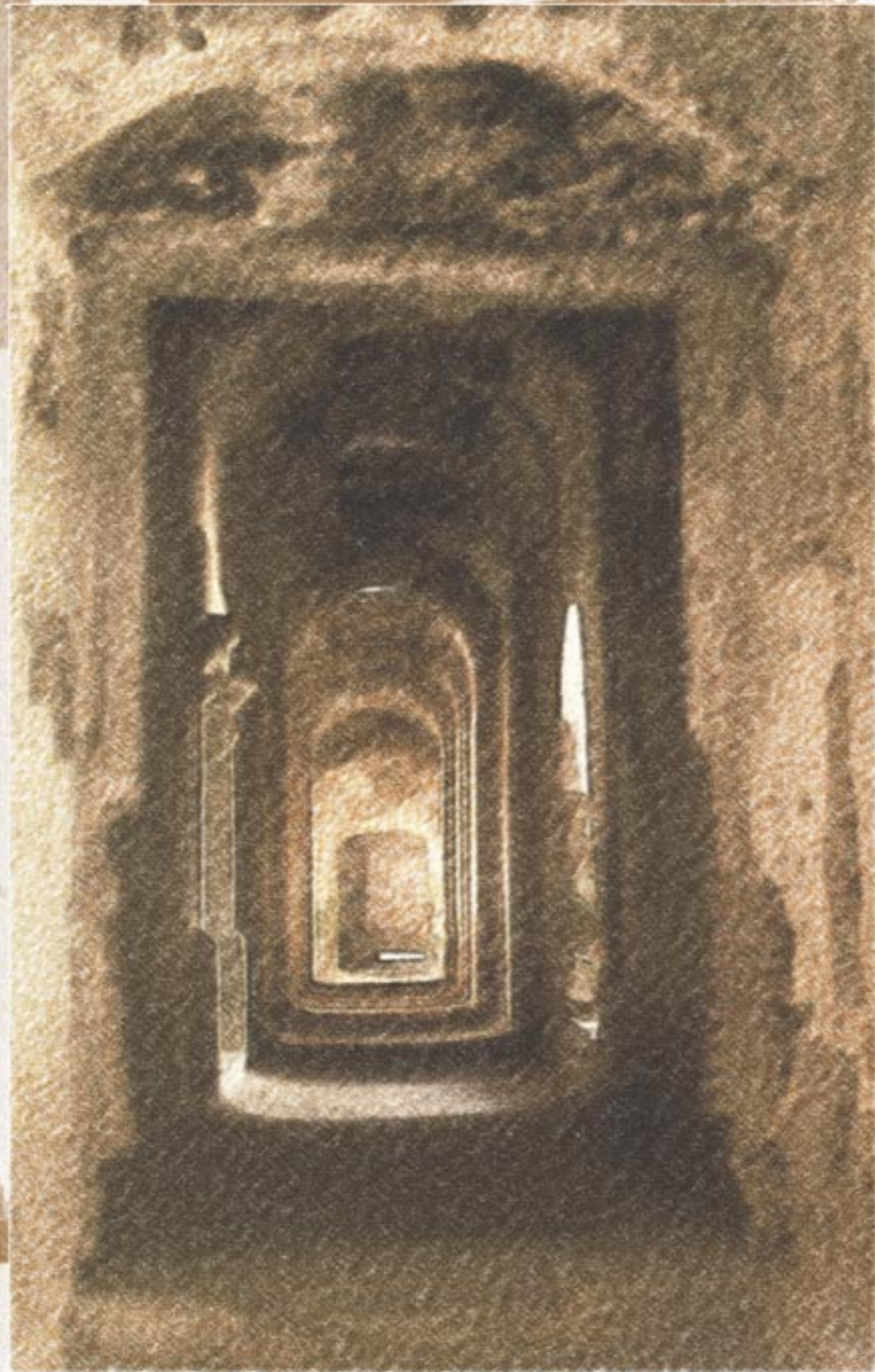
Yet, when the king felt that his time was coming he called his daughter, princess Ann, and tolled her:

"Precious daughter, I'm going to tell you a secret but you will never tell your brother before you become sure that he changed and become a serious, good and respectful king! And that is your calling, to help him be that good king!"

The daughter turned on tears and said:

"My beloved father, you know how much I love my brother and how sad I am with his ways; and you know that I will always try to turn him to a better man and good king no matter what everybody would say!"

Satisfied the king with his daughter's answer led her in a secret room full with diamonds and precious stones, silver and



gold coins from every kind and every size!

“Well my daughter that’s my big secret and your brother will get it only when you are sure that he will make a good use for it!”

And then he called his son, prince Amina and he made him promise that he will be a good king taking care of his people and always love and protect his sister otherwise a rock would grow in his heart!

The young prince promised that thinking that everything would be different when he would become the king.

And after a few days the king died, and the prince Ann became the new king!

Unfortunately the new king found no money in the treasury so he had to put high taxies to the people of the city kingdom; but still it was not enough, because now he became a king he wanted to have a big army with the most modern and sophisticated weapons!

The sister kept advising him to lower the taxies and stop collecting people for his army; she kept telling him that it would be better leave people in the small farms around the city to grow whit and vegetables to sell it to the other kingdoms around so they could have the necessary goods!

But the new king didn’t want to listen to his sister even though he loved her most than anything!

One day, exactly a year since the father had died the sister, princess Anta goes to her brother’s rooms and asked him:

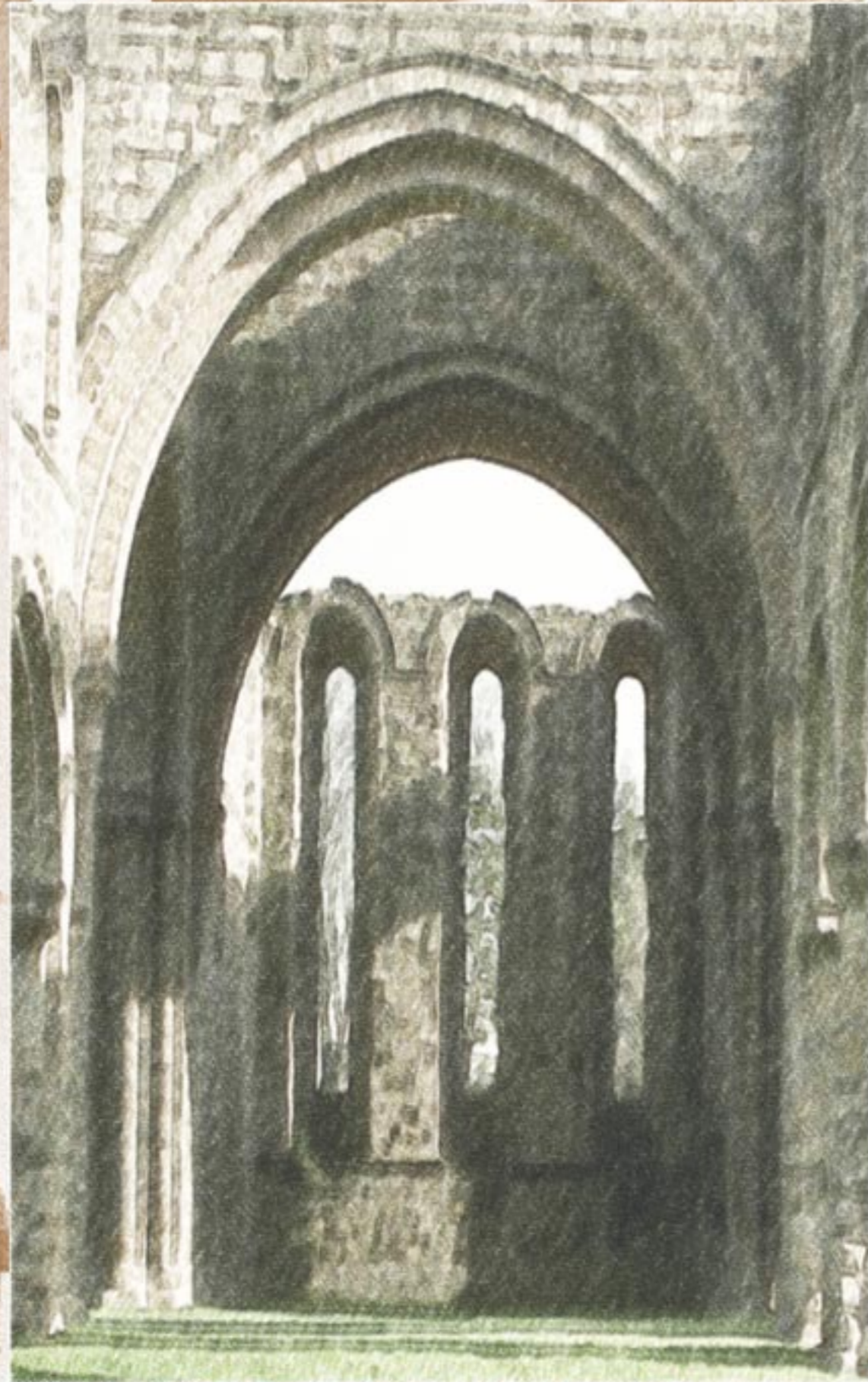
“My brother and my king, if you had a room full of diamonds and precious stones, silver and gold coins from every kind and every size, what you would do?”

The prince without even thinking for a moment he answered:

“I would buy new weapons and canons, I would make a big and strong army, and I would kill and expunge all the kingdoms around!”

The princess left without say anything, she just let him making dreams of wars and battles!

And then one more year passed, two years since the father’s



death and the people got even poorer and the food was not enough and the army got tired!

Then one day, exactly two years since the father's death the princess Anta goes to her brother's room and asks him:

"My brother and my king, if you had a room full of diamonds and precious stones, silver and gold coins from every kind and every size, what you would do?"

This time the new king stopped to think for a minute because he could hear the voices of the hungry army, and after a few minutes he said in an angry tone:

"I would buy new weapons and canons, I would make a big and strong army, and I would kill and expunge all the kingdoms around!"

The princess didn't say anything she just let him making dreams of wars and battles!

But then one more year passed! Now they were people outside the palace begging for bread and a potato and there were children dying on the steps of the temples! And there was no army because the men could not follow anymore somebody who could not provide them even food!

Then one day, exactly three years since the father's death the princess Anta goes to her brother's room and asks him:

"My brother and my king, if you had a room full of diamonds and precious stones, silver and gold coins from every kind and every size, what you would do?"

This time the king answered very quickly and his voice was trembling from the pain of his soul!

"I would buy food for the children and for the elder, I would get the best doctors and the best teachers for our people and then I would find a good husband for you and a nice wife for me!"

And now the princess was satisfied with the answer and she knew from the deep of her heart that her brother said the truth! So she took him straight to the secret room! She told him about the promise she gave to their father and even though she had to suffer with the voices of hungry children coming out of her very own window she was determine to keep her promise!



The king full of tears asked her to forgive his foolishness and promised to her that he will keep his promise straight away!

And he did! He bought all kind of food for the children and for the elder, he got the best doctors and the best teachers for the people and he was ready to find a good husband for his sister when the princess told him:

“No my brother, you will marry first and after I will be sure that you will be well and happy, I will marry!”

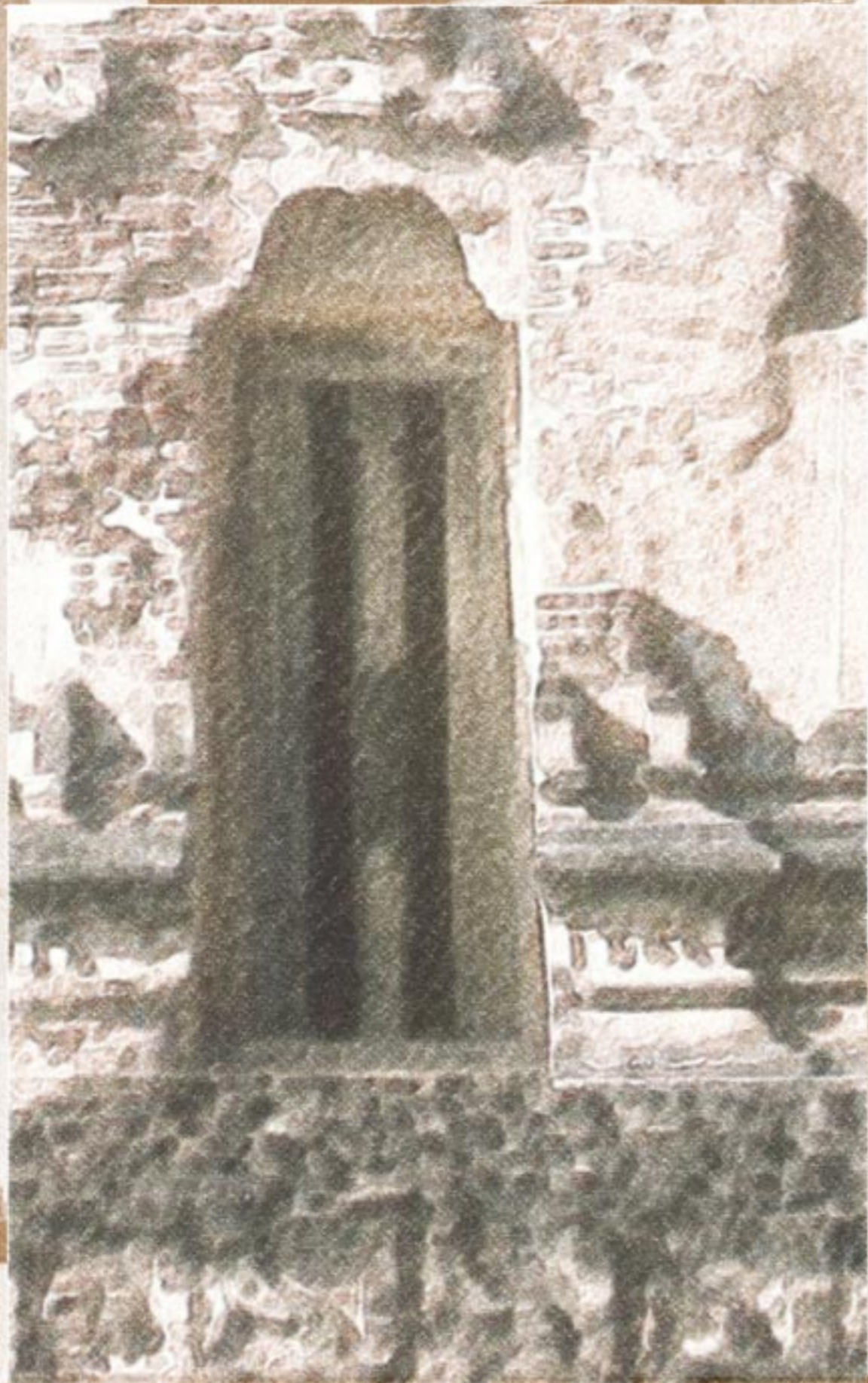
So they found a beautiful princess from a royal family and the king got married! But his new wife was jealous because the king loved his sister and he was doing nothing without her advice; and she was asking witches and wizard for a way to get rid of her!

One day, exactly five years since the father’s death the new queen sent a maid loyal to her, to the princess’ room with a cup of tea! She had put some magic herbs inside so when the princess drank it her behavior became aggressive and she started talking about wars and armies!

The brother, king Ann got really upset but he couldn’t do anything else than close his beloved sister in a dark room so nobody could hear her screaming! But the queen was not still satisfied so she started putting more and more magic herbs in the princess’s tea and princess Anta became more and more aggressive! She started hitting the people who were going to see her, throwing her things around and screaming day and night! The king became dispirit and with the advise of his queen he ordered his royal guards to take her and leave her in a far away dessert!

The guards now, really liked the princess because during the big hunger she was the only one to help them, she was the only one to hill them and cry with their suffers, she was even giving all her food to their children!

So they took her to a very old wizard near the end of the desert and let her there! The wizard understood straight away that there was magic involved with this beautiful girl because even though violent words were coming out of her mouth, tears were coming out of her eyes!



He started using the best of his art and his spells trying to hill the princess but that was a slow and toil work which was going to take long time!

The same time and since the king heard the news that his sister was left in the desert with the wild animals became ill, sad and he could not rule his kingdom anymore! He was only sitting in his sister's room next to the window all the time and he wanted people to come and tell him stories to relive his pain from the growing rock!

The queen was now ruling the country and she was an evil woman, ruling hard with high taxies and the assistants of bad witches and wizards!

A year gone and it was exactly six years since the king's father had died! The new king was getting everyday worst and the new queen harder and harder! Everyday people from all around were coming to the palace, to the princess room try to comfort the king with stories, but nothing seemed to help him. He was there staring the sky and sighing every so often!

Till the certain morning a beggar came to the main hall asking to see the king! It was a creature dressed in rags with a dirty cape hiding the face! The guards didn't want to let the beggar to see the king but the same time they were so dispirit with the king's situation so the let him enter!

When the beggar reached the king started straight away to tell the story:

“Once upon a time was a very good king who lived in a very small but wonderful city and that was his entire kingdom! Stunning small houses, ancient temples and magnificent churches made his city the most beautiful of all!

The king was married with a kind queen and had two beautiful kids, a son and a daughter! The daughter, Ann her name, was a quiet and very sweet girl; but the son was exactly the other extreme! The son, Anta his name, was a violent prince with love only to weapons and fights!”

And the story was her own story, because it was the princess of course! Every time she was stopping the story to take a breath, ‘crutch’ a piece of the rock was breaking from the king's



heart and it was coming out of his mouth with a sigh!

And every time a piece was coming out the king was saying:

“Oh! I wish my beloved sister was here, because she is the only one who can kill me!”

The beggar was continuing the story and... ‘Crutch’ another piece was coming out and the king was wishing for his sister to be there! And that was going on for many hours.

Now the king started to suspect whom the beggar was but he didn’t want to say anything; but the queen who had understood everything couldn’t keep quiet!

“It is her, I know it is her! I knew that I should have killed her with a spell!”

The same moment the beggar took off the cape and the rags and the face of the beautiful prince came to light and the king cuffed and the last piece of stone came out of his mouth!

“It’s you my sister, only you could kill the pain!”

The king screamed and took his sister in his arms kissing her and hugging her!

The same time he turns to the guards and orders:

“Get this woman away from me and with her witches and her wizards lead them to the desert you supposed to leave my beloved sister!

And the guards left the evil queen, the witches and the wizards in the deepest place of the desert with no hope to find their way back and the king Anta and his sister Ann lived for very long time with the new wife the king found and a prince the princess married, happy in their beautiful little city kingdom!

