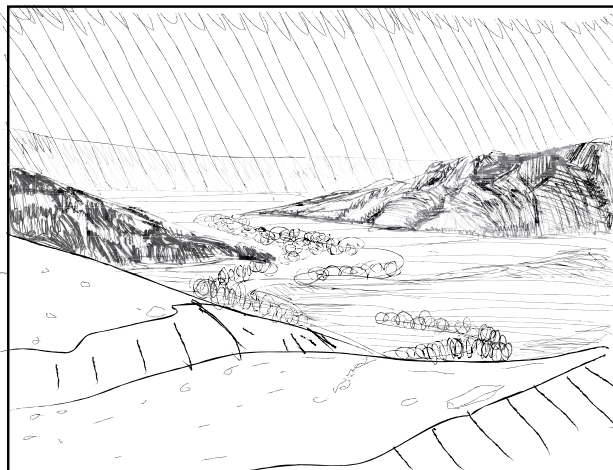


The Life of al-Ghazali

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900 years ago, in a country known today as Iran

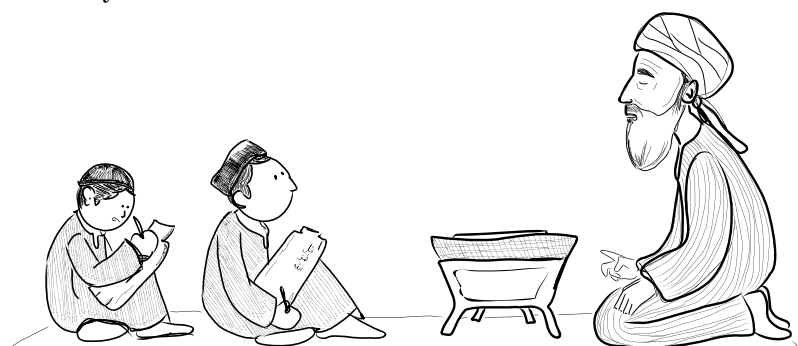


Imam Abu Hamid al-Ghazali was born in Tus, Khurasan.
His family was very poor.

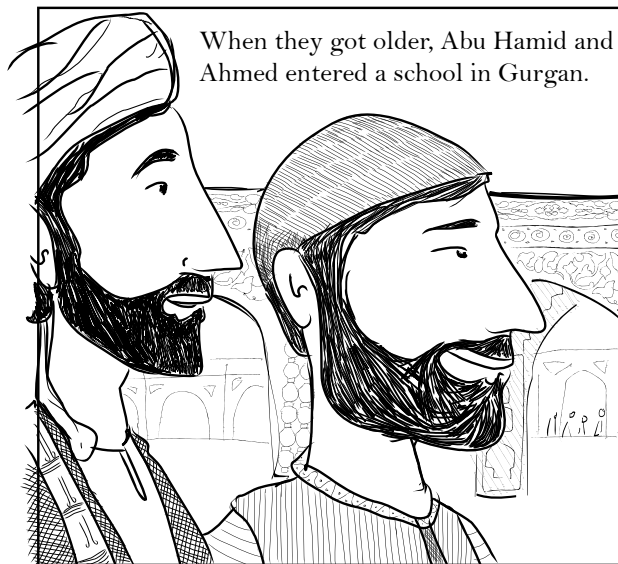


His father was a weaver. He died when Abu Hamid and his brother Ahmed were very young.

Before his death, he made sure his sons were put under the care of a local shaykh.



Even though this wise elder was not a scholar, he was very righteous, honorable and filled with true knowledge.



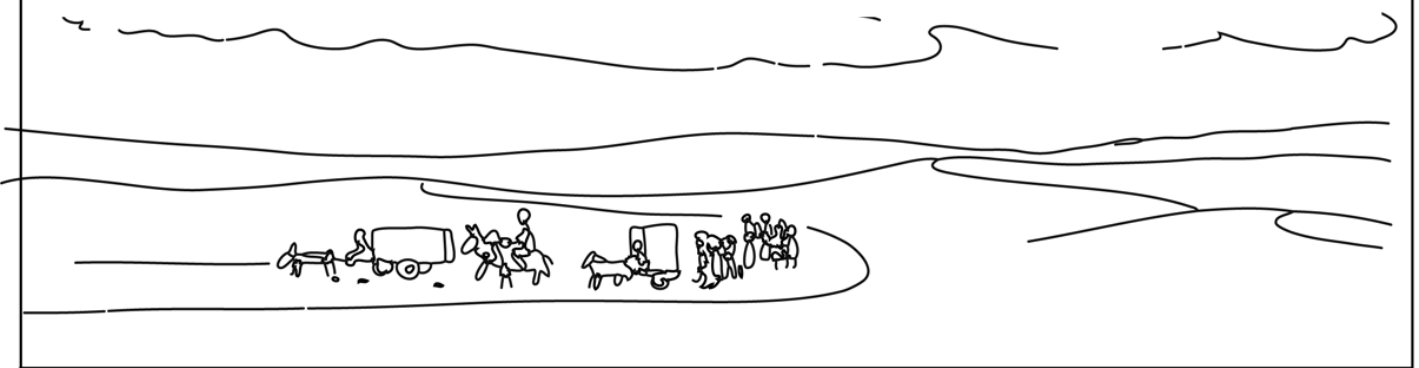
When they got older, Abu Hamid and Ahmed entered a school in Gurgan.



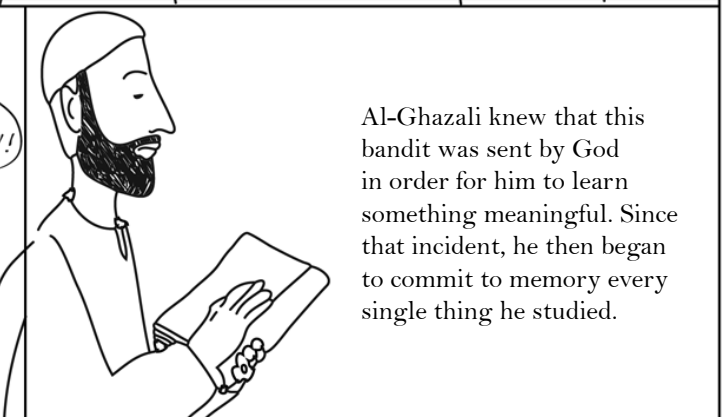
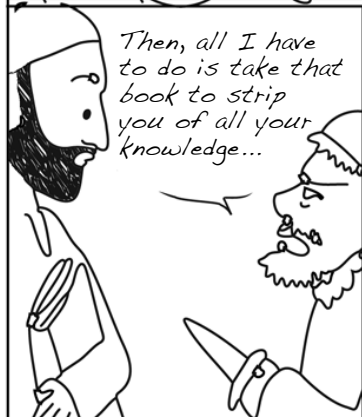
Imam al-Ghazali was fortunate to have one of the greatest scholars of Islam as a teacher, Imam al-Juwayni.

Imam al-Ghazali

One day, Imam al-Ghazali was on his way to Bagdad with a caravan in the desert...

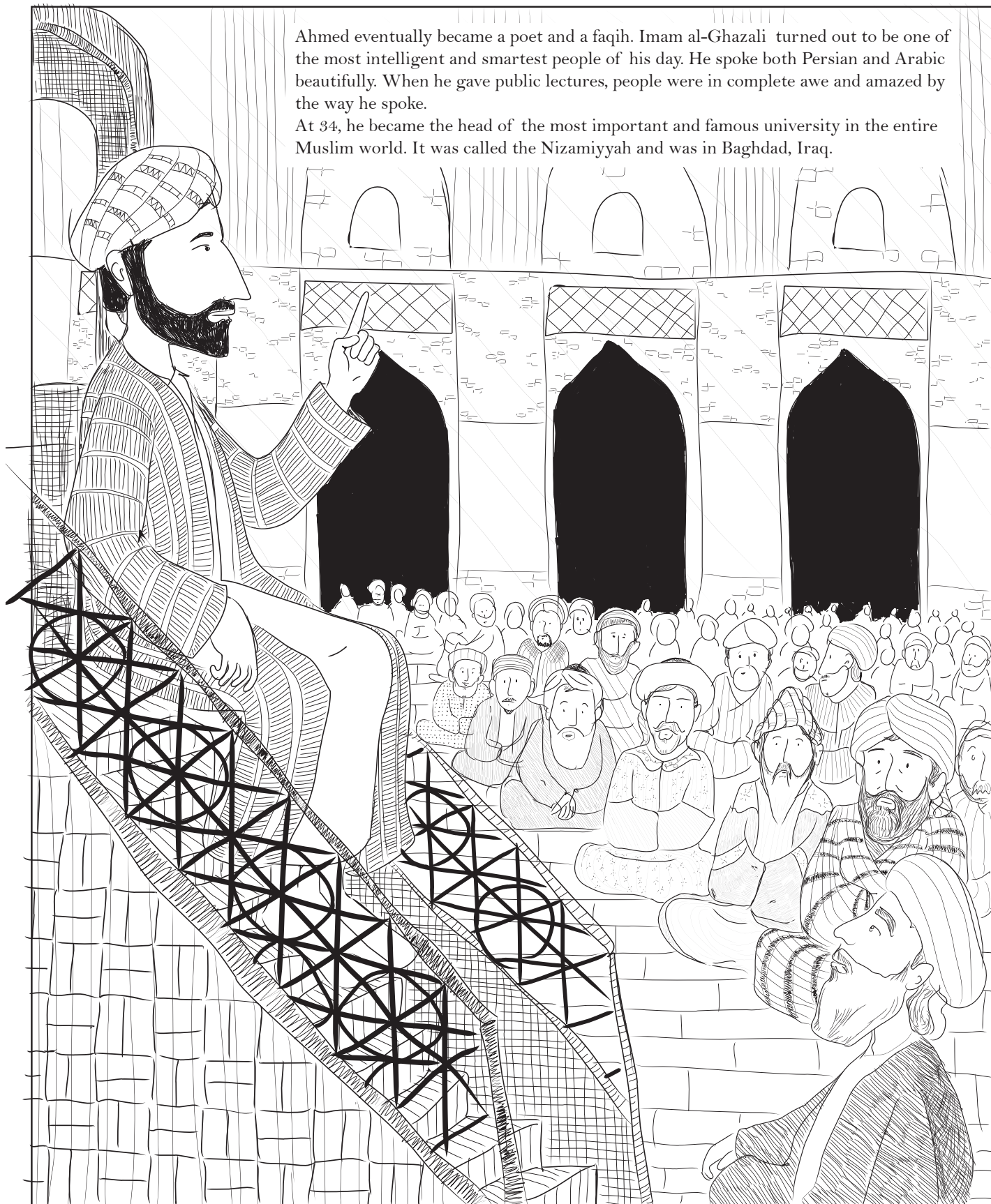


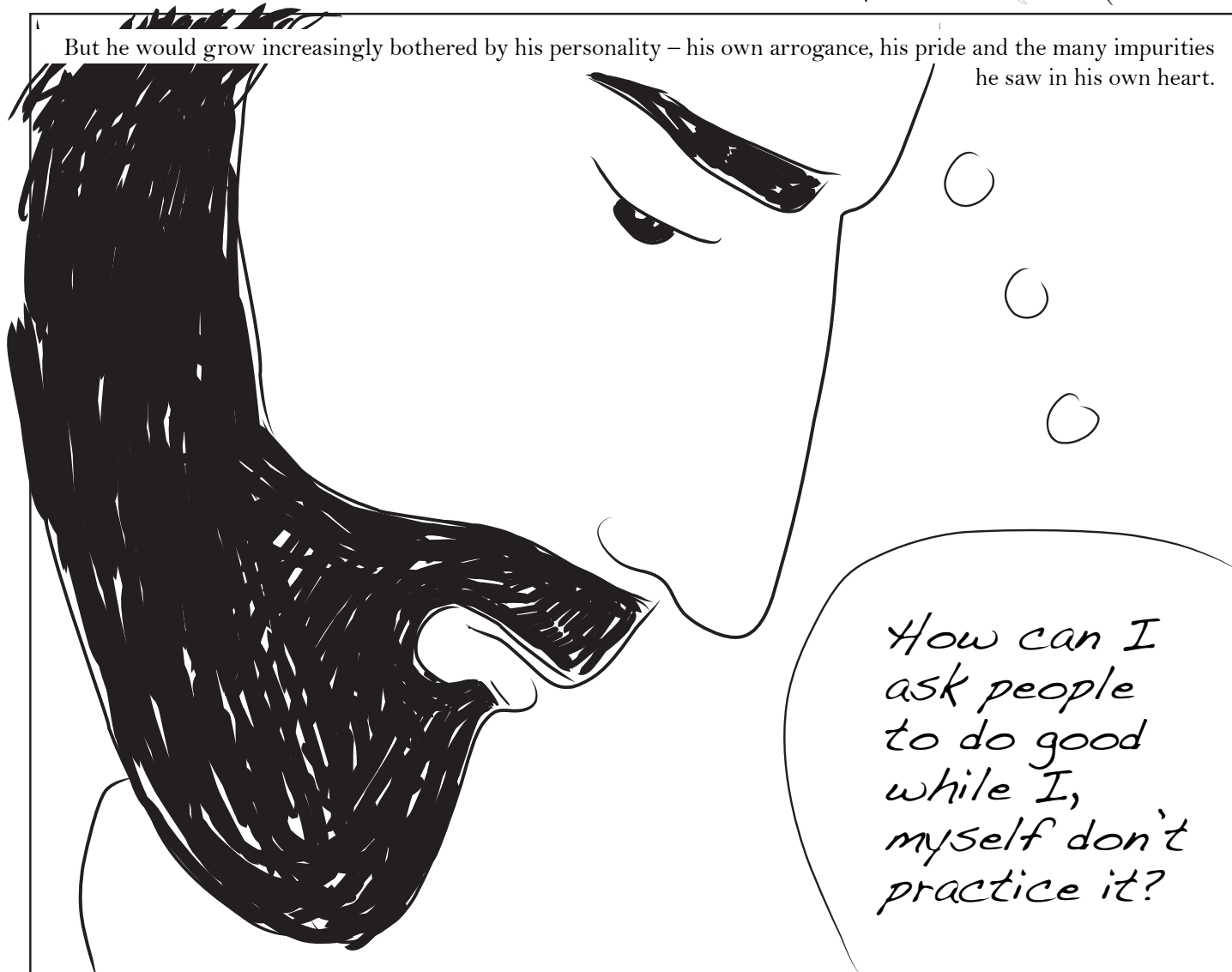
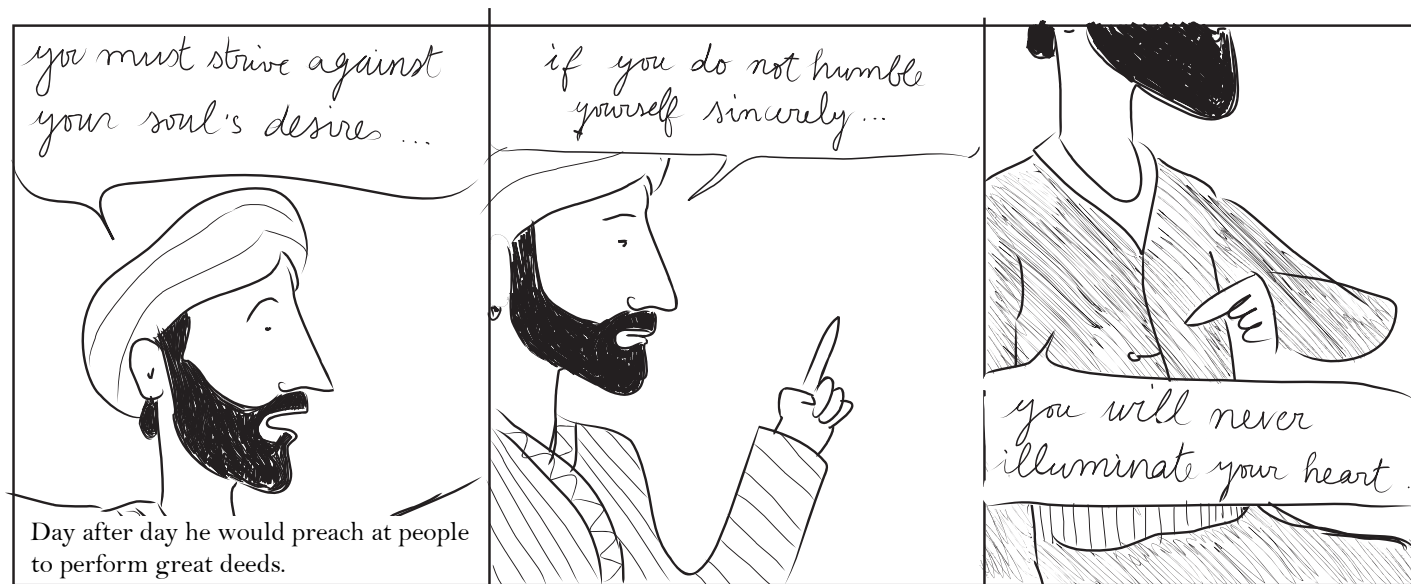
Bandits were watching them from behind a hill



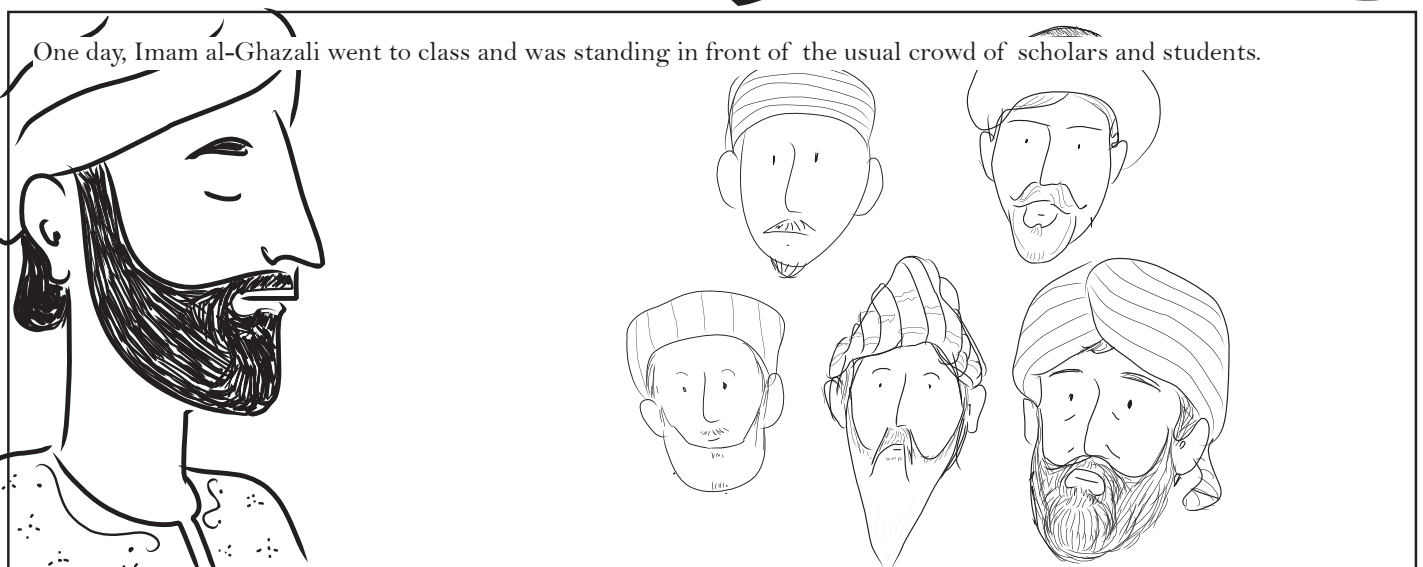
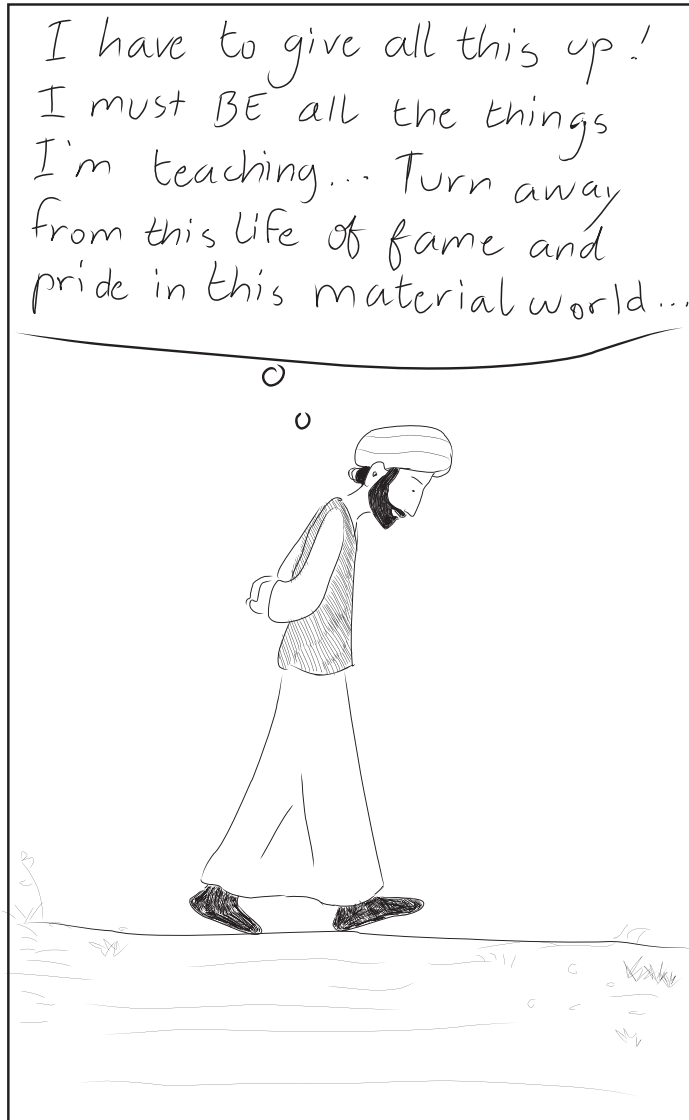
Ahmed eventually became a poet and a faqih. Imam al-Ghazali turned out to be one of the most intelligent and smartest people of his day. He spoke both Persian and Arabic beautifully. When he gave public lectures, people were in complete awe and amazed by the way he spoke.

At 34, he became the head of the most important and famous university in the entire Muslim world. It was called the Nizamiyyah and was in Baghdad, Iraq.

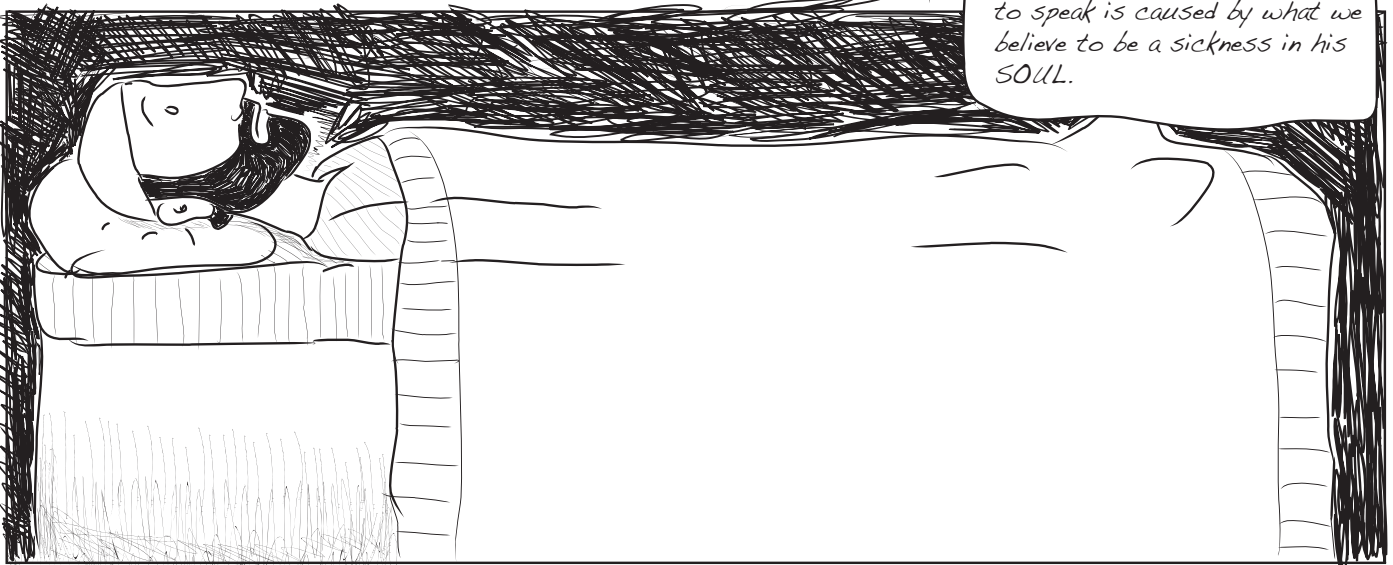
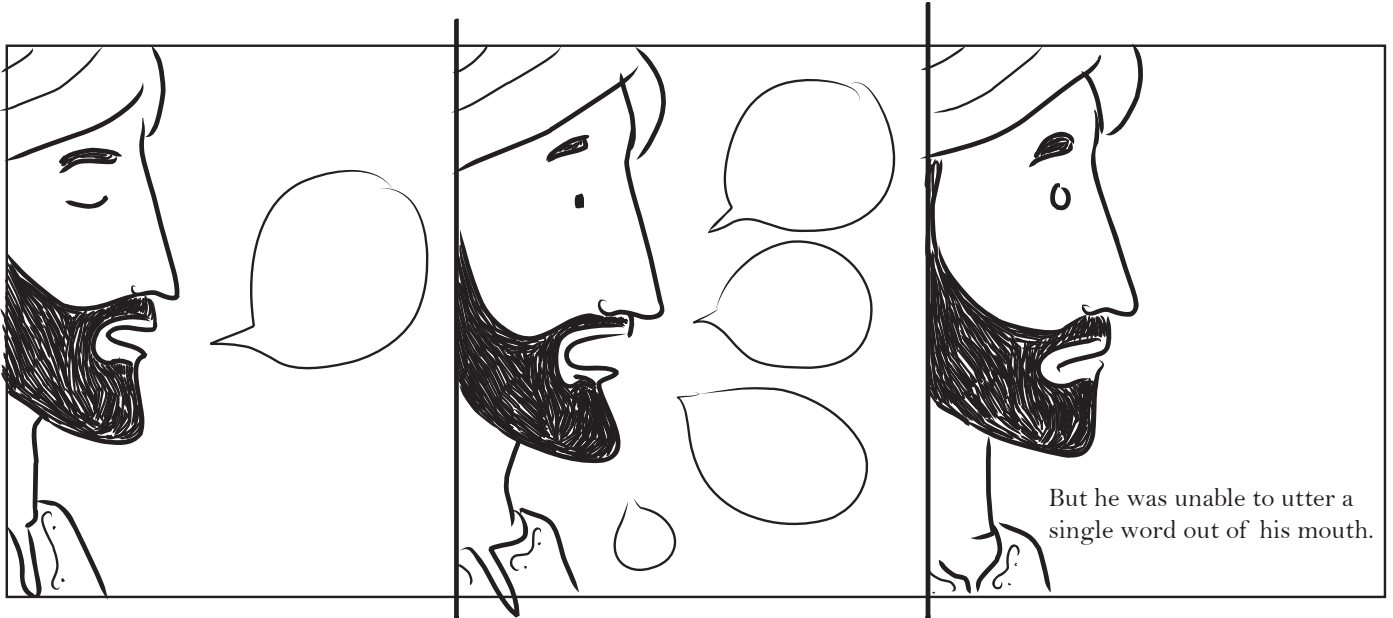




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Imam al-Ghazali



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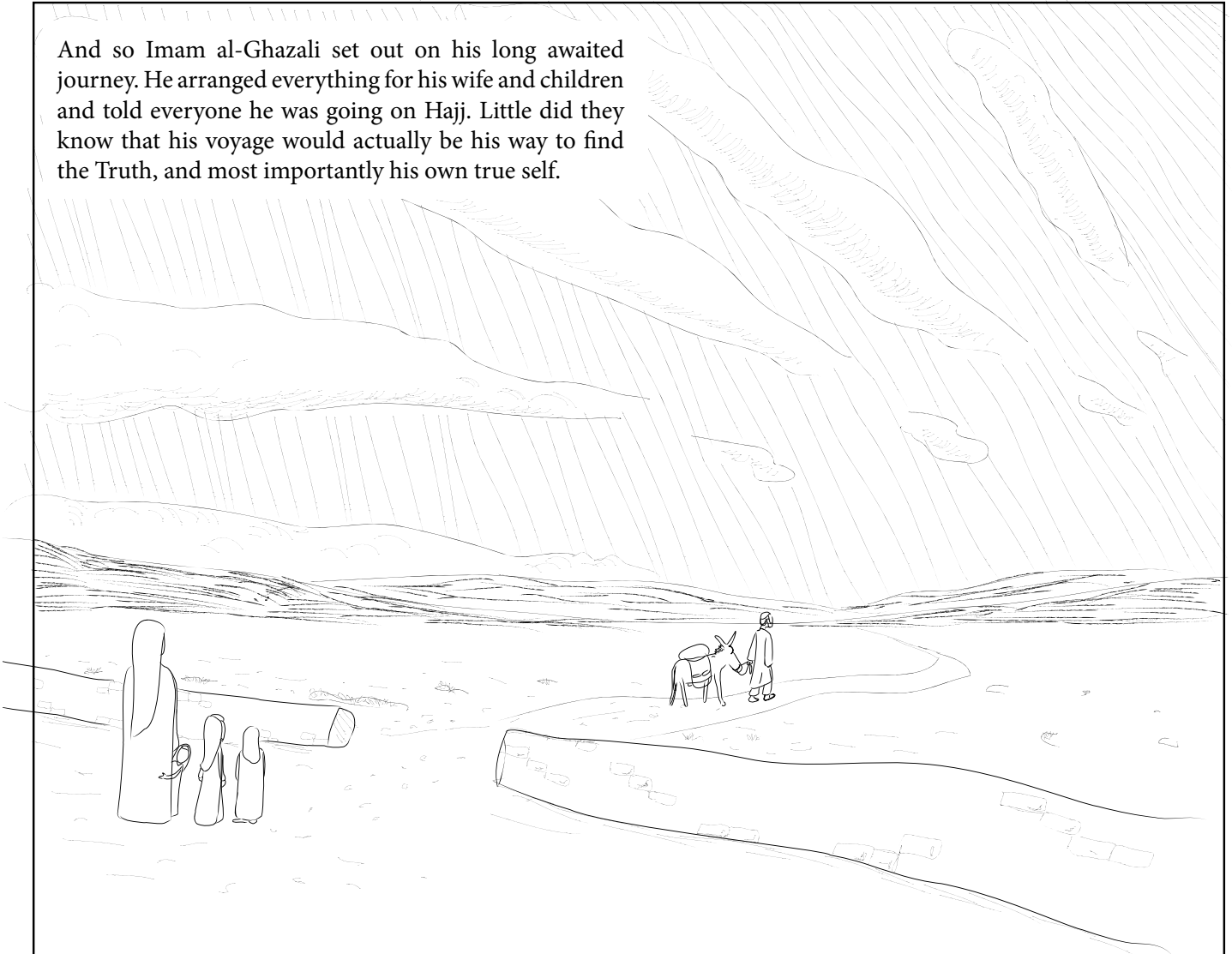
This is definitely a sign from God...



*I have to go away Now!
Before it's too late...*



And so Imam al-Ghazali set out on his long awaited journey. He arranged everything for his wife and children and told everyone he was going on Hajj. Little did they know that his voyage would actually be his way to find the Truth, and most importantly his own true self.



Imam al-Ghazali

He spent the next ten years of his life traveling around the Muslim world. He lived in a state of total lowliness.



The once great Imam al-Ghazali, the famous scholar and author, made a living now by sweeping the floors of the Umayyad mosque in Damascus, Syria.

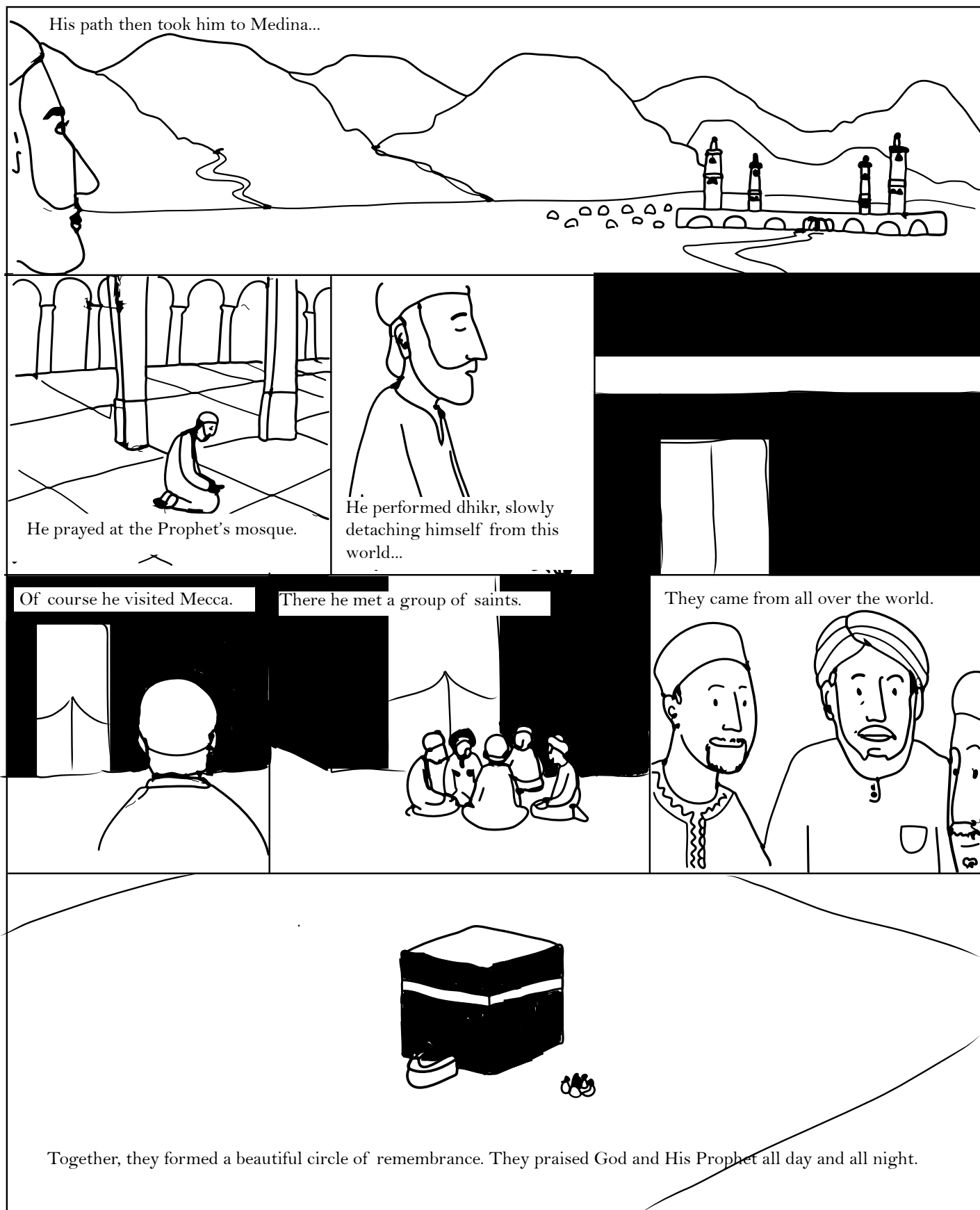
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One day, while a group of scholars was discussing his books, a man came to them with a question.

But none of the scholars knew the answer.



Imam al-Ghazali

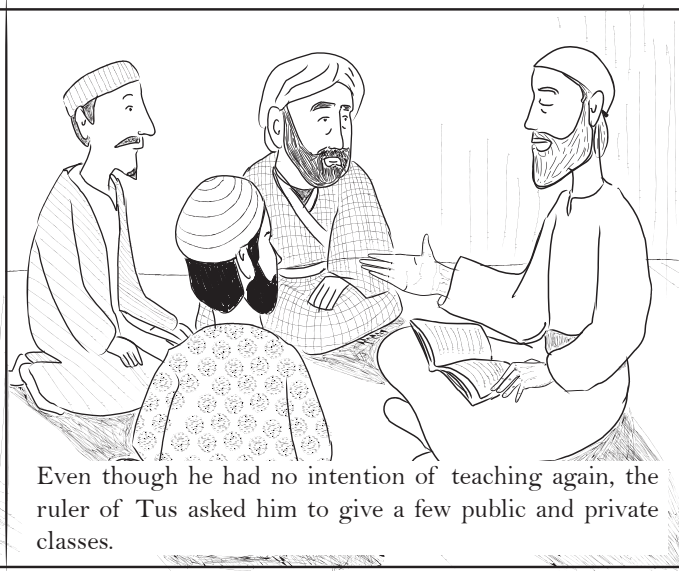
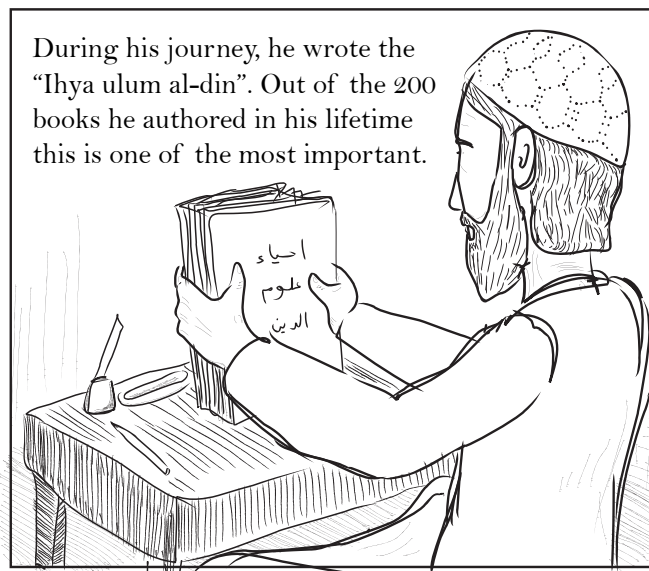


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When he was 48, Imam al-Ghazali went back home to his family in Tus, Khurasan.

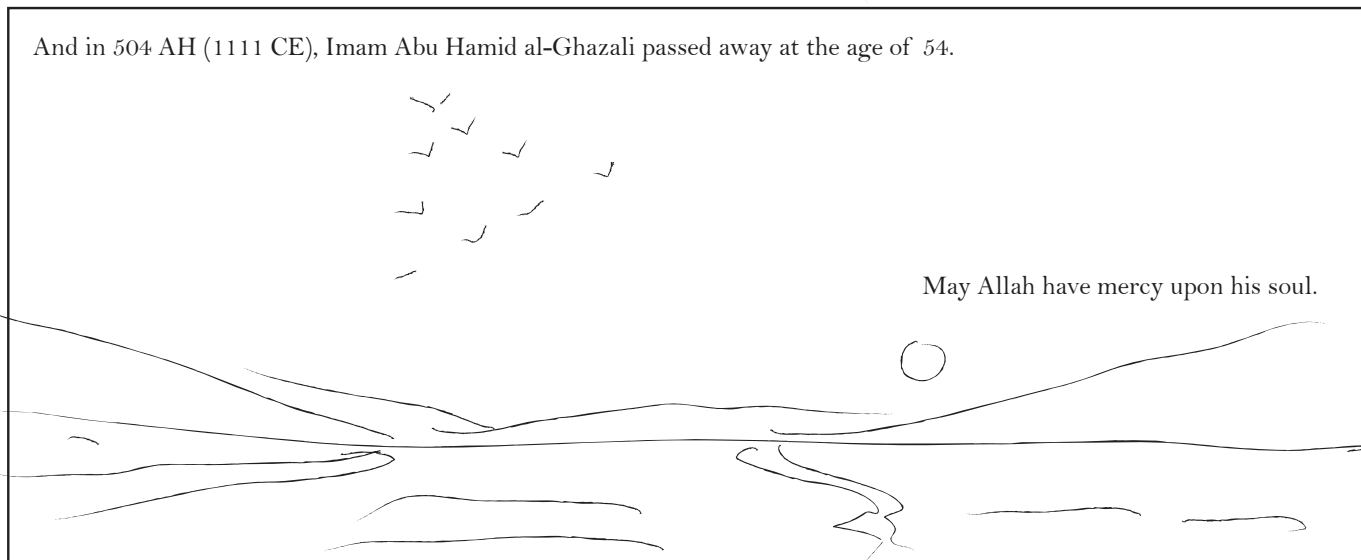


During his journey, he wrote the "Ihya ulum al-din". Out of the 200 books he authored in his lifetime this is one of the most important.



Even though he had no intention of teaching again, the ruler of Tus asked him to give a few public and private classes.

And in 504 AH (1111 CE), Imam Abu Hamid al-Ghazali passed away at the age of 54.



May Allah have mercy upon his soul.