

Masako is a member of Clan Adachi. They then catch up to Junshin, who reveals he never worked for the conspirator and that the one who sent him the letter was named Lady Hana, whom Masako realizes is her sister, the true mastermind behind Clan Adachi's destruction. Unaware of Hana's involvement, she suspects one of the monks, Sogen, of conspiring against her clan, and has Jin provoke him into leading them to the bandits that killed her family. Out of anger, she executes Sogen before they can question him further, but Jin is able to find a list Sogen was keeping detailing the identities of four other conspirators: Sadao, Omura, Kajiwara, and Mai. Upon liberating Koshimizu Farmstead, Jin learns from Junshin that Masako is there searching for the last conspirator, Mai, and meets with Masako. After dispatching the bandits, Masako confronts a cornered Sogen, who expresses no remorse for his involvement. Jin theorizes that connections the conspirators had to Clan Adachi means the attack was personal, probably organized by a rival samurai clan, although Masako cannot think of which one. Jin later finds Masako interrogating some monks and learns that she suspects that Junshin is connected to the conspirators' leader, having found a letter bearing writing similar to the leader's writing, asking for Masako's whereabouts in exchange for supplies. Jin defeats the Mongols and saves Junshin from execution but the rage-blinded Masako is intent on killing him rather than talking. Aware of her sister's envy, Masako arranges Hana to be married to a retainer of a smaller samurai clan, Clan Kikuchi. Unbeknownst to Masako, however, Hana did not enjoy a happy life under Clan Kikuchi, being constantly abused by her drunken husband, Ikeda. Jin seeks help to rescue his uncle Lord Shimura from Khotun's clutches, and Masako agrees to help in exchange for Jin's aid in avenging her family. With the help of Junshin, a Golden Temple monk responsible for setting up the camps in Izuhara, they corner Sadao at Ariake Lighthouse. Masako asks Junshin about the location of the fourth conspirator, Kajiwara, but Junshin vouches for his morality, fearing that Masako is blinded by rage. When Jin Sakai finds her, Masako is burying her dead relatives while going to the Golden Temple to settle temporarily. They decide to bury Shigesato and Yasunari at Komoda Lighthouse, which they used to play at. After clearing out the Mongols there, they perform the burial. With these favors completed, Masako repays Jin by aiding him in the assault against Castle Kaneda and the rescuing of his uncle. While trailing the brothers, Masako and Jin learn that Omura's sons supplied the weapons for the massacre, although one is more guilt-ridden than the other. Jin arrives and convinces Junshin to tell them that Kajiwara is a fisherman who lives on a nearby beach, after Jin promises they will just talk to him. After clearing out the Mongols, Masako and Jin enter the hut and find Kajiwara's wife and daughter dead, and proceed to track down the fleeing Kajiwara. As Mai is forced to lead them to the heirlooms, Masako and Jin quietly assassinate the ronin, leaving only Mai alive. Jin expresses skepticism at the minor connection and is firm on wanting to calmly talk to Junshin, who is dealing with a Mongol attack at Red Leaf temple. This deepened the envy and hatred Hana had for Clan Adachi. She and Clan Adachi also cut ties with one of their suppliers, Omura, after he cheated them out of their supplies and tried to blame one of her sons, Yasunari. Masako also suspected the Kuta Farmstead headman, Sadao of hoarding rice for himself, and Sadao was removed as headman. Harunobu was later killed by Khotun Khan on the night of the Mongol invasion at the Battle of Komoda Beach. Thus, Masako comes to the realization that she is the only survivor of Clan Adachi. The other son has blackmailed the conspirators' leader for more money in exchange for their

discretion, exchanging letters for a meeting Umugi Cove. On the way, Masako informs Jin that Kajiware was a retainer for her clan, but they kicked him out after they caught him beating his wife and daughter.