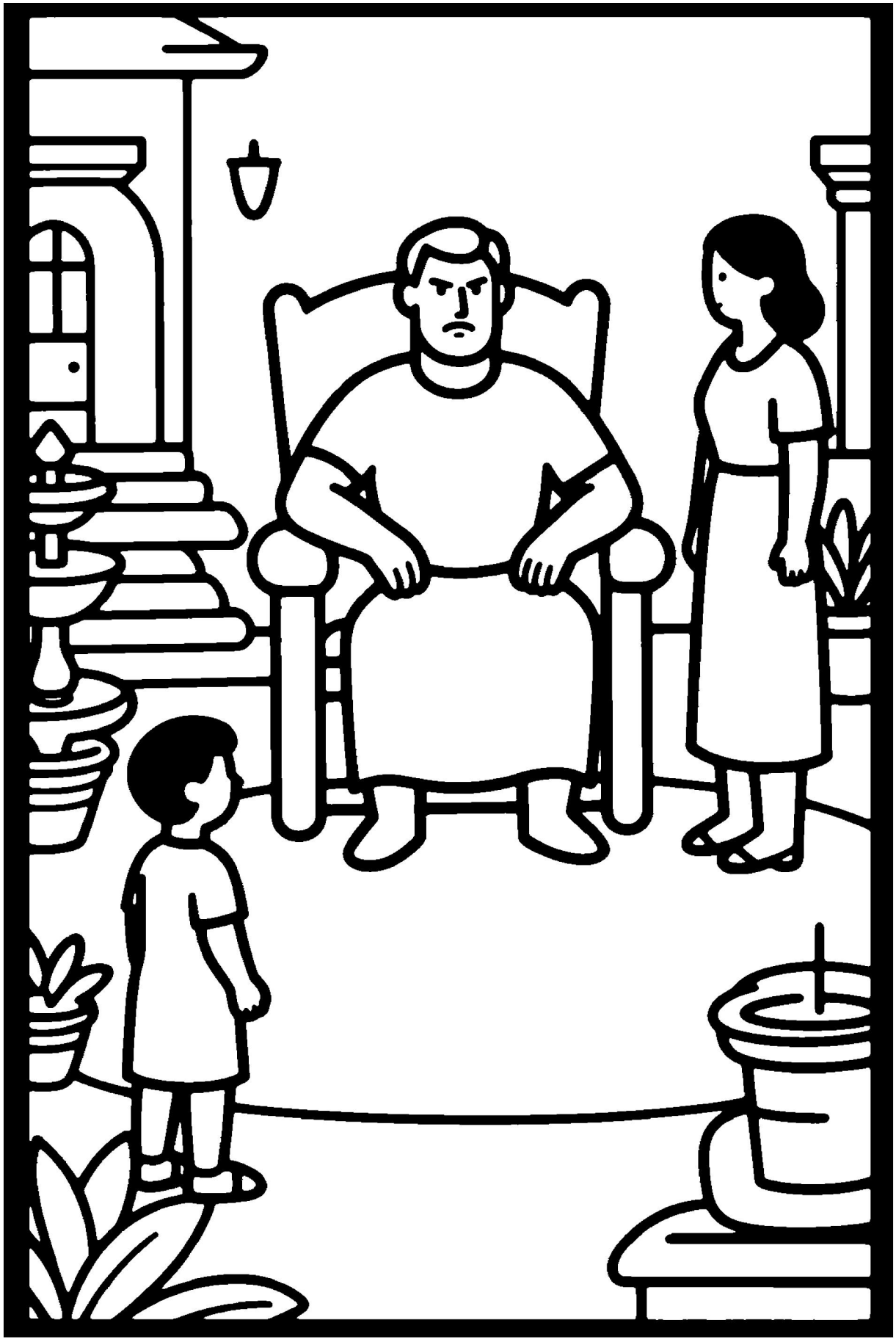


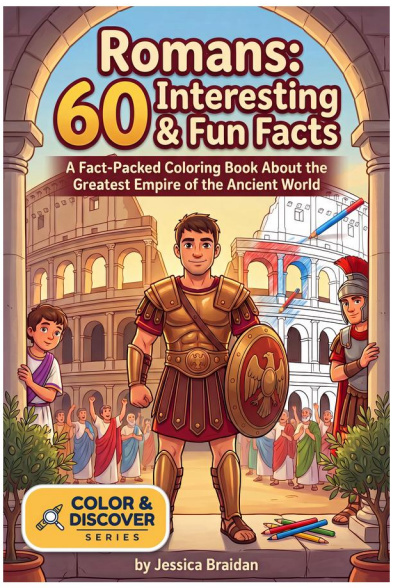
Did you know?

Roman Families Were Dad's Domain

Discover It: In a Roman family, the father was called the paterfamilias, which means father of the family, and he held enormous power over everyone in his household. This included his children, his slaves, often his wife, and even his adult sons who still lived at home. Roman law gave the paterfamilias the right to make every important decision for the family, from arranging marriages to managing all the money. Children were expected to respect their father completely, and his word was basically the law of the house.

Explorer's Note: The power of the paterfamilias officially lasted until he died — even a 40-year-old man living with his father was still under his father's legal authority!

Try This: Talk with a family member about how decisions are made in your household today. How is it similar to or different from how a Roman family was run?



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