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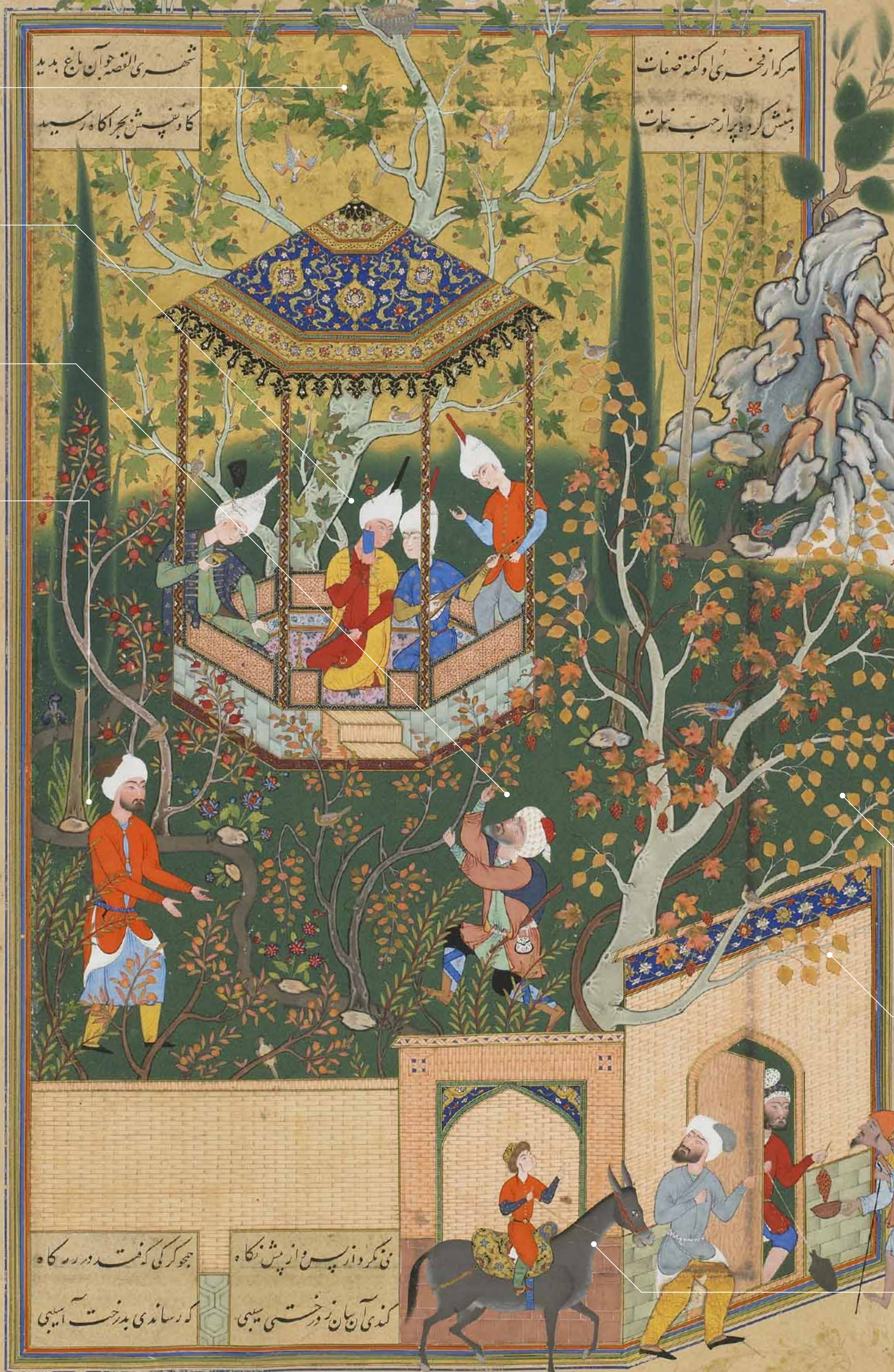
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شهری قصه جوان مانع بدید
کا و غیبش بجاگاه رسید

سرکه از فخری او گفته تصفات
دشمن کرده و پراز حبت نبات

چو کرکی گفت در درگاه
که رساندی بدخست آسبوی

نی نکرد از پیش از پیش نگاه
کندی آن جان ز درختی سیبی

The Townsman Robs the Villager's Orchard
Folio from a *Haft Awrang* (Seven Thrones)
Jami (d. 1492)
Iran, Safavid dynasty, 1556-65
Opaque watercolor, ink, and gold on paper
34.2 x 23.2 cm
Freer Gallery of Art, Purchase F1946.12.179

EAST of EDEN

Gardens in Asian Art

What is happening in this painting?

1. According to the poem, the orchard looked like a "garden of paradise." To make this scene look like a paradise, the artist filled the garden with birds and other wildlife and pear, apple, hazelnut, and pomegranate trees.
2. The four young men in the gazebo entertain themselves, drinking wine, playing an instrument, and talking. Small structures like the gazebo would provide a cool space in which to rest and enjoy the garden.
3. The visitor, dressed in work clothes, busily rips fruit from a pomegranate tree.
4. The villager holds out his hands and watches in frustration as the townsman selfishly grabs fruit.
5. Notice the way that the garden reaches outside of the border of the painting to space beyond the walls.
6. Persian gardens were typically enclosed by walls to create privacy and to separate them from the dry landscape outside. The wall would also make it easier for gardeners to tend the trees and flowers and keep them watered.
7. The gardener holds a spade in one hand and, with the other, kindly offers grapes to a passing beggar.
8. A bearded man walks by the wall of the garden, followed by a youth on his donkey.