

## THE SEVEN VOYAGES OF SINBAD

3-WORD EYE-HOP, SuperReading, Ron Cole

In the reign of the Caliph Haroun  
-al-Raschid, there lived at Bagdad  
a poor porter called Hindbad. One day,  
when the weather was excessively  
hot, he was employed to carry a heavy  
burden from one end of the town  
to the other. Having still a great way  
to go, he came into a street where  
a refreshing breeze blew on his face,  
and the pavement was sprinkled with  
rose water. As he could not desire  
a better place to rest, he took  
off his load, and sat upon it, near  
a large mansion. He was much pleased  
that he stopped in this place;  
for the agreeable smell of wood of  
aloes, and of pastils, that came from  
the house, mixing with the scent  
of the rose-water, completely perfumed  
the air. Besides, he heard from within  
a concert of instrumental music, accompanied  
with the harmonious notes of nightingales.  
This charming melody, and the smell of

savoury dishes, made the porter  
conclude there was a feast within.  
His business seldom leading him that  
way, he knew not to whom the mansion  
belonged; but to satisfy his curiosity  
he went to some of the servants,  
whom he saw standing at the gate in  
magnificent apparel, and asked the name  
of the proprietor. "How," replied  
one of them, "do you live in Bagdad,  
and know not that this is the house  
of Sinbad the sailor, that famous voyager,  
who has sailed round the world?"  
The porter, who had heard of this  
Sinbad's riches, lifted up his eyes  
to Heaven, and said, loud enough  
to be heard: "Almighty creator of all  
things, consider the difference  
between Sinbad and me! I am every  
day exposed to fatigues and calamities,  
and can scarcely get barley-bread  
for myself and my family, whilst  
happy Sinbad expends immense riches  
and leads a life of pleasure. What  
has he done to obtain a lot so  
agreeable? And what have I done

to deserve one so wretched?" Whilst  
the porter was thus indulging  
his melancholy, a servant came  
out of the house, and taking him  
by the arm, bade him follow him,  
for Sinbad, his master, wanted  
to speak to him. The servants brought  
him into a great hall, where a number  
of people sat round a table, covered  
with all sorts of savoury dishes.  
At the upper end sat a venerable  
gentleman, with a long white beard,  
and behind him stood a number  
of officers and domestics, all  
ready to attend his pleasure. This  
personage was Sinbad. The porter, whose  
fear was increased at the sight of  
so many people, and of a banquet  
so sumptuous, saluted the company trembling.  
Sinbad bade him draw near, and  
seating him at his right hand,  
served him himself, and gave him a  
cup of excellent wine. When the  
repast was over, Sinbad addressed  
his conversation to Hindbad, and  
inquired his name and employment.

"My lord," answered he, "my name is  
Hindbad." "I am very glad to see  
you," replied Sinbad; "but I wish to  
hear from your own mouth what  
it was you lately said in the street."  
Sinbad had himself heard the porter  
complain through the window, and  
this it was that induced him to  
have him brought in. At this request,  
Hindbad hung down his head in confusion,  
and replied: "My lord, I confess  
that my fatigue put me out of humour,  
and occasioned me to utter some  
indiscreet words, which I beg you  
to pardon." "Do not think I am  
so unjust," resumed Sinbad, "as to  
resent such a complaint, but I must rectify  
your error concerning myself. You think,  
no doubt, that I have acquired,  
without labour and trouble, the  
ease which I now enjoy. But do not  
mistake; I did not attain to this  
happy condition, without enduring  
for several years more trouble of  
body and mind than can well be imagined.  
Yes, gentlemen," he added, speaking

to the whole company, "I can assure you  
my troubles were so extraordinary,  
that they were calculated to discourage  
the most covetous from undertaking  
such voyages as I did, to acquire  
riches. Perhaps you have never  
heard a distinct account of my wonderful  
adventures; and since I have this  
opportunity, I will give you a  
faithful account of them, not doubting  
but it will be acceptable." THE  
FIRST VOYAGE "I inherited from  
my father considerable property, the greater  
part of which I squandered in my  
youth in dissipation; but I perceived  
my error, and reflected that riches were  
perishable, and quickly consumed  
by such ill managers as myself, I further  
considered, that by my irregular  
way of living I wretchedly misspent  
my time; which is, of all things,  
the most valuable. Struck with these  
reflections, I collected the remains  
of my fortune, and sold all my  
effects by public auction. I then  
entered into a contract with some

merchants, who traded by sea.  
I took the advice of such as I thought  
most capable, and resolving to improve  
what money I had, I embarked with  
several merchants on board a ship  
which we had jointly fitted out. "We  
set sail, and steered our course toward  
the Indies through the Persian Gulf,  
which is formed by the coasts of  
Arabia Felix on the right, and  
by those of Persia on the left. At  
first I was troubled with sea-sickness,  
but speedily recovered my health, and  
was not afterward subject to that  
complaint. "In our voyage we touched  
at several islands, where we sold or  
exchanged our goods. One day, whilst  
under sail, we were becalmed near  
a small island, but little elevated  
above the level of the water, and  
resembling a green meadow. The captain  
ordered his sails to be furled, and  
permitted such persons as were  
so inclined to land; of which  
number I was one. "But while we were  
enjoying ourselves in eating and drinking,

and recovering ourselves from  
the fatigue of the sea, the island  
on a sudden trembled, and shook us terribly.  
"The motion was perceived on board  
the ship, and we were called upon  
to re-embark speedily, or we should all  
be lost; for what we took for an  
island proved to be the back of  
a sea monster. The nimblest got  
into the sloop, others betook themselves  
to swimming; but for myself, I was  
still upon the back of the creature  
when he dived into the sea, and I  
had time only to catch hold of a  
piece of wood that we had brought  
out of the ship. Meanwhile, the  
captain, having received those  
on board who were in the sloop, and  
taken up some of those that swam,  
resolved to improve the favourable  
gale that had just risen, and hoisting  
his sails, pursued his voyage, so  
that it was impossible for me to recover  
the ship. "Thus was I exposed to  
the mercy of the waves all the rest  
of the day and the following night.

By this time I found my strength  
gone, and despaired of saving my life,  
when happily a wave threw me against  
an island. The bank was high and  
rugged; so that I could scarcely  
have got up, had it not been for  
some roots of trees, which chance placed  
within reach. Having gained the land,  
I lay down upon the ground half  
dead, until the sun appeared. Then,  
though I was very feeble, both from  
hard labour and want of food, I  
crept along to find some herbs  
fit to eat, and had the good luck  
not only to procure some, but likewise  
to discover a spring of excellent water,  
which contributed much to recover  
me. After this I advanced farther  
into the island, and at last reached  
a fine plain, where at a great distance  
I perceived some horses feeding.  
I went toward them, and as I approached  
heard the voice of a man, who immediately  
appeared, and asked me who I was. I  
related to him my adventure, after  
which, taking me by the hand, he

led me into a cave, where there were  
several other people, no less amazed  
to see me than I was to see them.  
"I partook of some provisions which  
they offered me. I then asked them  
what they did in such a desert place,  
to which they answered, that they were  
grooms belonging to the Maha-raja,  
sovereign of the island, and that  
every year, at the same season  
they brought thither the king's horses  
for pasturage. They added, that  
they were to return home on the morrow,  
and had I been one day later,  
I must have perished, because the inhabited  
part of the island was at a great  
distance, and it would have been  
impossible for me to have got  
thither without a guide. "Next  
morning they returned to the capital  
of the island, took me with them,  
and presented me to the Maha-raja.  
He asked me who I was, and by what  
adventure I had come into his dominions.  
After I had satisfied him, he told me  
he was much concerned for my misfortune,

and at the same time ordered that  
I should want nothing; which commands  
his officers were so generous as  
to see exactly fulfilled. "Being  
a merchant, I frequented men of my own profession,  
and particularly inquired for those  
who were strangers, that perchance  
I might hear news from Bagdad, or  
find an opportunity to return. They  
put a thousand questions respecting  
my country; and I, being willing  
to inform myself as to their laws  
and customs, asked them concerning  
everything which I thought worth  
knowing. "There belongs to this  
king an island named Cassel. They  
assured me that every night a noise  
of drums was heard there, whence the  
mariners fancied that it was the  
residence of Degial. I determined to  
visit this wonderful place, and in my  
way thither saw fishes of one hundred  
and two hundred cubits long, that  
occasion more fear than hurt, for  
they are so timorous, that they will  
fly upon the rattling of two sticks or

boards. I saw likewise other fish about  
a cubit in length, that had heads  
like owls. "As I was one day at  
the port after my return, a ship  
arrived, and as soon as she cast  
anchor, they began to unload her,  
and the merchants on board ordered  
their goods to be carried into  
the custom-house. As I cast my eye  
upon some bales, and looked to the  
name, I found my own, and perceived  
the bales to be the same that I  
had embarked at Bussorah. I also  
knew the captain; but being persuaded  
that he believed me to be drowned,  
I went, and asked him whose bales  
these were. He replied that they  
belonged to a merchant of Bagdad, called  
Sinbad, who came to sea with him;  
but had unfortunately perished on the  
voyage, and that he had resolved  
to trade with the bales, until he  
met with some of his family, to  
whom he might return the profit. 'I  
am that Sinbad,' said I, 'whom you  
thought to be dead, and those bales

are mine.' "When the captain heard  
me speak thus, 'Heavens!' he exclaimed,  
'whom can we trust in these times?  
There is no faith left among men.  
I saw Sinbad perish with my own eyes,  
as did also the passengers on board,  
and yet you tell me you are that  
Sinbad. What impudence is this? You tell  
a horrible falsehood, in order to possess  
yourself of what does not belong  
to you.' 'Have patience,' replied  
I; 'do me the favour to hear what I  
have to say.' Then I told him how  
I had escaped, and by what adventure  
I met with the grooms of the Maha  
-raja, who had brought me to his  
court. "The captain was at length persuaded  
that I was no cheat; for there came  
people from his ship who knew me,  
and expressed much joy at seeing me  
alive. At last he recollected  
me himself, and embracing me, 'Heaven  
be praised,' said he, 'for your happy  
escape. I cannot express the joy  
it affords me; there are your  
goods, take and do with them as

you please.' I thanked him, acknowledged his probity, and offered him part of my goods as a present, which he generously refused. "I took out what was most valuable in my bales, and presented them to the Maha-rajah, who, knowing my misfortune, asked me how I came by such rarities.

I acquainted him with the circumstance of their recovery. He was pleased at my good luck, accepted my present, and in return gave me one much more considerable. Upon this, I took leave of him, and went aboard the same ship, after I had exchanged my goods for the commodities of that country.

I carried with me wood of aloes, sandal, camphire, nutmegs, cloves, pepper, and ginger. We passed by several islands, and at last arrived at Bussorah, from whence I came to this city, with the value of one hundred thousand sequins. My family and I received one another with sincere affection. I bought slaves and a landed estate, and built a magnificent

house. Thus I settled myself, resolving to forget the miseries I had suffered, and to enjoy the pleasures of life." Sinbad stopped here, and ordered the musicians to proceed with their concert, which the story had interrupted.

The company continued enjoying themselves till the evening, when Sinbad sent for a purse of a hundred sequins, and giving it to the porter, said:

"Take this, Hindbad, return to your home, and come back to-morrow to hear more of my adventures."

The porter went away, astonished at the honour done, and the present made him. The account of this adventure proved very agreeable to his wife and children, who did not fail to return thanks to God for what providence had sent them by the hand of Sinbad.

Hindbad put on his best apparel next day, and returned to the bountiful traveller, who welcomed him heartily.

When all the guests had arrived, dinner was served. When it was ended, Sinbad, addressing himself to the company,

said, "Gentlemen, be pleased to listen  
to the adventures of my second voyage;  
they deserve your attention even  
more than those of the first."

Upon this every one held his peace,  
and Sinbad proceeded. THE SECOND VOYAGE

"I designed, after my first voyage,  
to spend the rest of my days at Bagdad,  
but it was not long ere I grew  
weary of an indolent life. My inclination  
to trade revived. I bought goods  
proper for the commerce I intended,  
and put to sea a second time with  
merchants of known probity. We embarked  
on board a good ship, and after  
recommending ourselves to God, set sail.

We traded from island to island,  
and exchanged commodities with great profit.

One day we landed on an island covered  
with several sorts of fruit-trees,  
but we could see neither man nor  
animal. We went to take a little  
fresh air in the meadows, along  
the streams that watered them. Whilst  
some diverted themselves with gathering  
flowers, and others fruits, I took

my wine and provisions, and sat down near  
a stream betwixt two high trees  
which formed a thick shade. I  
made a good meal, and afterward fell  
asleep. I cannot tell how long I  
slept, but when I awoke the ship  
was gone. "I got up and looked around  
me, but could not see one of the  
merchants who landed with me. I perceived  
the ship under sail, but at such  
a distance, that I lost sight of  
her in a short time. "In this  
sad condition, I was ready to  
die with grief. I cried out in  
agony, and threw myself upon the  
ground, where I lay some time in  
despair. I upbraided myself a hundred  
times for not being content with the  
produce of my first voyage, that might  
have sufficed me all my life. But  
all this was in vain, and my repentance  
came too late. "At last I resigned  
myself to the will of God. Not knowing  
what to do, I climbed up to the top of  
a lofty tree, from whence I looked  
about on all sides, to see if I could



discover anything that could give  
me hopes. When I gazed toward  
the sea I could see nothing but  
sky and water; but looking over  
the land I beheld something white;  
and coming down, I took what provision  
I had left, and went toward it,  
the distance being so great that I  
could not distinguish what it was. "As  
I approached, I thought it to be  
a white dome, of a prodigious height  
and extent; and when I came up  
to it, I touched it, and found it  
to be very smooth. I went round to  
see if it was open on any side, but  
saw that it was not, and that there  
was no climbing up to the top,  
as it was so smooth. It was at least  
fifty paces round. "By this time the  
sun was about to set, and all of  
a sudden the sky became as dark  
as if it had been covered with a  
thick cloud. I was much astonished  
at this sudden darkness, but much  
more when I found it occasioned by  
a bird of a monstrous size, that came

flying toward me. I remembered that  
I had often heard mariners speak  
of a miraculous bird called the  
roc, and conceived that the great  
dome which I so much admired must  
be its egg. As I perceived the  
roc coming, I crept close to the egg,  
so that I had before me one of the bird's  
legs, which was as big as the trunk  
of a tree. I tied myself strongly  
to it with my turban, in hopes that next  
morning she would carry me with her  
out of this desert island. After having  
passed the night in this condition,  
the bird flew away as soon as it was  
daylight, and carried me so high, that  
I could not discern the earth; she  
afterward descended with so much rapidity  
that I lost my senses. But when  
I found myself on the ground,  
I speedily untied the knot, and had  
scarcely done so, when the roc, having  
taken up a serpent of a monstrous  
length in her bill, flew away. "The  
spot where she left me was encompassed  
on all sides by mountains, that

seemed to reach above the clouds,  
and so steep that there was no possibility  
of getting out of the valley.

This was a new perplexity: so  
that when I compared this place with  
the desert island from which the  
roc had brought me I found that  
I had gained nothing by the change.  
"As I walked through this valley, I  
perceived it was strewed with diamonds,  
some of which were of a surprising  
bigness. I took pleasure in looking  
upon them; but shortly saw at  
a distance such objects as greatly  
diminished my satisfaction, namely, a great  
number of serpents, so monstrous, that  
the least of them was capable of  
swallowing an elephant. They retired in  
the daytime to their dens, where  
they hid themselves from the roc, their  
enemy, and came out only in the  
night. "I spent the day in walking  
about in the valley, resting myself  
at times in such places as I thought  
most convenient. When night came  
on, I went into a cave, where I

thought I might repose in safety.  
I secured the entrance with a great stone  
to preserve me from the serpents;  
but not so far as to exclude the  
light. I supped on part of my provisions,  
but the serpents, which began hissing  
round me, put me into such extreme  
fear, that I could not sleep. When  
day appeared, the serpents retired,  
and I came out of the cave trembling.  
I can justly say, that I walked upon  
diamonds, without feeling any inclination  
to touch them. At last I sat down,  
and notwithstanding my apprehensions,  
not having closed my eyes during  
the night, fell asleep, after having  
eaten a little more of my provision.  
But I had scarcely shut my eyes, when  
something that fell by me with  
a great noise awaked me. This was a  
large piece of raw meat; and at  
the same time I saw several others  
fall down from the rocks in different  
places. "I had always regarded  
as fabulous what I had heard sailors  
and others relate of the valley of

diamonds, and of the stratagems  
employed by merchants to obtain jewels  
from thence; but now I found that  
they had stated nothing but truth.  
For the fact is, that the merchants  
come to the neighbourhood of this valley  
when the eagles have young ones;  
and, throwing great joints of meat  
into the valley, the diamonds upon  
whose points they fall stick to them;  
the eagles, which are stronger in  
this country than anywhere else,  
pounce with great force upon those  
pieces of meat, and carry them  
to their nests on the rocks to  
feed their young; the merchants at  
this time run to the nests, drive  
off the eagles by their shouts,  
and take away the diamonds that stick  
to the meat. "Until I perceived the  
device I had concluded it to be impossible  
for me to leave this abyss, which  
I regarded as my grave; but now  
I changed my opinion, and began to think  
upon the means of my deliverance.  
I began to collect the largest diamonds

I could find, and put them into the  
leather bag in which I used to  
carry my provisions. I afterward took  
the largest of the pieces of meat,  
tied it close round me with the cloth  
of my turban, and then laid myself  
upon the ground with my face downward,  
the bag of diamonds being made fast  
to my girdle. "I had scarcely placed  
myself in this posture when the  
eagles came. Each of them seized  
a piece of meat, and one of the  
strongest having taken me up, with  
the piece of meat to which I was  
fastened, carried me to his nest  
on the top of the mountain. The merchants  
immediately began their shouting  
to frighten the eagles; and when  
they had obliged them to quit their  
prey, one of them came to the nest  
where I was. He was much alarmed  
when he saw me; but recovering  
himself, instead of inquiring how  
I came thither, began to quarrel  
with me, and asked, why I stole his  
goods. 'You will treat me,' replied

I, 'with more civility when you know me  
better. Do not be uneasy, I have  
diamonds enough for you and myself,  
more than all the other merchants  
together. What ever they have,  
they owe to chance, but I selected  
for myself in the bottom of the valley  
those which you see in this bag.'  
I had scarcely done speaking,  
when the other merchants came  
crowding about us, much astonished  
to see me; but they were much  
more surprised when I told them  
my story. "They conducted me to  
their encampment, and there having  
opened my bag, they were surprised  
at the largeness of my diamonds,  
and confessed that in all the courts  
which they had visited they had  
never seen any of such size and  
perfection. I prayed the merchant who  
owned the nest to which I had  
been carried (for every merchant  
had his own), to take as many for  
his share as he pleased. He contented  
himself with one, and that the least

of them; and when I pressed him to  
take more, 'No,' said he, 'I am  
very well satisfied with this, which  
is valuable enough to save me the  
trouble of making any more voyages,  
and will raise as great a fortune  
as I desire.' "I spent the night  
with the merchants, to whom I related  
my story a second time, for the satisfaction  
of those who had not heard it. I  
could not moderate my joy when I found  
myself delivered from the danger  
I have mentioned. I thought myself  
in a dream, and could scarcely  
believe myself out of danger.  
"The merchants had thrown their  
pieces of meat into the valley  
for several days, and each of them  
being satisfied with the diamonds  
that had fallen to his lot, we  
left the place the next morning  
and travelled near high mountains,  
where there were serpents of a prodigious  
length, which we had the good fortune  
to escape. We took shipping at the  
first port we reached, and touched at

the isle of Roha, where the trees  
grow that yield camphire. This  
tree is so large, and its branches  
so thick, that one hundred men  
may easily sit under its shade.  
The juice of which the camphire is  
made exudes from a hole bored in  
the upper part of the tree, is  
received in a vessel, where it thickens  
to a consistency, and becomes what  
we call camphire; after the juice  
is thus drawn out, the tree withers  
and dies. "In this island is also  
found the rhinoceros, an animal less  
than the elephant, but larger than  
the buffalo. It has a horn upon  
its nose, about a cubit in length;  
this horn is solid, and cleft through  
the middle. The rhinoceros fights  
with the elephant, runs his horn into  
his belly, and carries him off  
upon his head; but the blood and  
the fat of the elephant running  
into his eyes, and making him  
blind, he falls to the ground;  
and then, strange to relate! the

roc comes and carries them both away  
in her claws, for food for her young  
ones. "In this island I exchanged  
some of my diamonds for merchandise.  
From hence we went to other ports,  
and at last, having touched at several  
trading towns of the continent,  
we landed at Bussorah, from whence I proceeded  
to Bagdad. There I immediately gave  
large presents to the poor, and  
lived honourably upon the vast riches  
I had gained with so much fatigue."  
[Illustration] \_The spot where  
she left me was encompassed on  
all sides by mountains that seemed to  
reach above the clouds, and so  
steep that there was no possibility  
of getting out of the valley.\_  
Thus Sinbad ended his relation, gave  
Hindbad another hundred sequins,  
and invited him to come the next  
day to hear the account of the  
third voyage. THE THIRD VOYAGE "I  
soon lost the remembrance of the perils I  
had encountered in my two former  
voyages," said Sinbad, "and being

in the flower of my age, I grew  
weary of living without business,  
and went from Bagdad to Bussorah with  
the richest commodities of the country.

There I embarked again with some  
merchants. We made a long voyage and  
touched at several ports, where we  
carried on a considerable trade. One day,  
being out in the main ocean, we  
were overtaken by a dreadful tempest,  
which drove us from our course.  
The tempest continued several days, and  
brought us before the port of an  
island, which the captain was very  
unwilling to enter, but we were obliged  
to cast anchor. When we had furled  
our sails, the captain told us  
that this, and some other neighbouring  
islands, were inhabited by hairy savages,  
who would speedily attack us; and,  
though they were but dwarfs, yet  
we must make no resistance, for  
they were more in number than  
the locusts; and if we happened  
to kill one of them they would  
all fall upon us and destroy us.

"We soon found that what he had  
told us was but too true; an innumerable  
multitude of frightful savages, about  
two feet high, covered all over  
with red hair, came swimming towards  
us, and encompassed our ship. They  
spoke to us as they came near,  
but we understood not their language  
and they climbed up the sides of  
the ship with such agility as surprised  
us. They took down our sails, cut  
the cables, and hauling to the  
shore, made us all get out, and  
afterward carried the ship into another  
island, from whence they had come.  
"We went forward into the island,  
where we gathered some fruits and  
herbs to prolong our lives as long  
as we could; but we expected nothing  
but death. As we advanced, we perceived  
at a distance a vast pile of buildings,  
and made toward it. We found it  
to be a palace, elegantly built,  
and very lofty, with a gate of  
ebony, which we forced open. We  
entered the court, where we saw before

us a large apartment, with a porch, having  
on one side a heap of human bones,  
and on the other a vast number of  
roasting spits. We trembled at  
this spectacle, and being fatigued  
with travelling, fell to the ground,  
seized with deadly apprehension, and  
lay a long time motionless. "The  
sun set, the gate of the apartment  
opened with a loud crash, and there  
came out the horrible figure of a black  
man, as tall as a lofty palm-tree.  
He had but one eye, and that in  
the middle of his forehead, where  
it looked as red as a burning coal.  
His fore-teeth were very long  
and sharp, and stood out of his  
mouth, which was as deep as that  
of a horse. His upper lip hung  
down upon his breast. His ears resembled  
those of an elephant, and covered his  
shoulders; and his nails were  
as long and crooked as the talons of  
the greatest birds. At the sight of  
so frightful a giant we became  
insensible, and lay like dead men.

"At last we came to ourselves, and  
saw him sitting in the porch looking  
at us. When he had considered  
us well, he advanced toward us, and  
laying his hand upon me, took me  
up by the nape of my neck, and  
turned me round as a butcher would  
do a sheep's head. After having examined  
me, and perceiving me to be so lean  
that I had nothing but skin and bone,  
he let me go. He took up all the  
rest one by one, and viewed them  
in the same manner. The captain being  
the fattest, he held him with one  
hand, as I would do a sparrow, and  
thrust a spit through him; he then kindled  
a great fire, roasted, and ate him in  
his apartment for his supper. Having  
finished his repast, he returned to  
his porch, where he lay and fell  
asleep, snoring louder than thunder.  
He slept thus till morning. As to  
ourselves, it was not possible for  
us to enjoy any rest, so that we  
passed the night in the most painful  
apprehension that can be imagined.

When day appeared the giant awoke,  
got up, went out, and left us in  
the palace. "When we thought him  
at a distance, we broke the melancholy  
silence we had preserved the whole  
of the night, and filled the palace  
with our lamentations and groans. "We  
spent the day in traversing the  
island, supporting ourselves with  
fruits and herbs as we had done  
the day before. In the evening  
we sought for some place of shelter,  
but found none; so that we were  
forced, whether we would or not,  
to go back to the palace. "The giant  
failed not to return, and supped once  
more upon one of our companions,  
after which he slept and snored  
till day, and then went out and left  
us as before. Our situation appeared  
to us so dreadful that several of  
my comrades designed to throw themselves  
into the sea, rather than die so painful  
a death, upon which one of the company  
answered that it would be much more  
reasonable to devise some method to

rid ourselves of the monster. "Having  
thought of a project for this purpose,  
I communicated it to my comrades,  
who approved it. 'Brethren,' said  
I, 'you know there is much timber  
floating upon the coast; if you will  
be advised by me, let us make several  
rafts capable of bearing us. In  
the meantime, we will carry out  
the design I proposed to you for our  
deliverance from the giant, and  
if it succeed, we may remain here  
patiently awaiting the arrival of  
some ship; but if it happen to  
miscarry, we will take to our rafts  
and put to sea.' My advice was approved,  
and we made rafts capable of carrying  
three persons on each. "We returned  
to the palace toward the evening, and  
the giant arrived shortly after.  
We were forced to submit to seeing  
another of our comrades roasted,  
but at last we revenged ourselves  
on the brutish giant in the following  
manner. After he had finished his  
supper he lay down on his back and



fell asleep. As soon as we heard him snore, according to his custom, nine of the boldest among us, and myself, took each of us a spit, and putting the points of them into the fire till they were burning hot, we thrust them into his eye all at once and blinded him. The pain made him break out into a frightful yell: he started up, and stretched out his hands, in order to sacrifice some of us to his rage: but we ran to such places as he could not reach; and after having sought for us in vain, he groped for the gate and went out, howling in agony. "We quitted the palace after the giant and came to the shore, where we had left our rafts, and put them immediately to sea. We waited till day, in order to get upon them in case the giant should come toward us with any guide of his own species; but we hoped if he did not appear by sunrise, and gave over his howling, which we still heard, that he would prove to

be dead; and if that happened, we resolved to stay in that island, and not to risk our lives upon the rafts. But day had scarcely appeared when we perceived our cruel enemy, accompanied with two others almost of the same size, leading him; and a great number more coming before him at a quick pace. "We did not hesitate to take to our rafts, and put to sea with all the speed we could. The giants, who perceived this, took up great stones, and running to the shore, entered the water up to the middle, and threw so exactly that they sunk all the rafts but that I was upon; and all my companions, except the two with me, were drowned. We rowed with all our might, and escaped the giants, but when we got out to sea we were exposed to the mercy of the waves and winds, and spent that night and the following day under the most painful uncertainty as to our fate; but next morning we had the good fortune to be thrown

upon an island, where we landed  
with much joy. We found excellent  
fruit, which afforded us great relief  
and recruited our strength. "At night  
we went to sleep on the sea shore;  
but were awakened by the noise of  
a serpent of surprising length and thickness,  
whose scales made a rustling noise  
as he wound himself along. It swallowed  
up one of my comrades, notwithstanding  
his loud cries, and the efforts  
he made to extricate himself from it;  
dashing him several times against the  
ground, it crushed him, and we could  
hear it gnaw and tear the poor wretch's  
bones, though we had fled to a considerable  
distance. "As we walked about, when  
day returned, we saw a tall tree,  
upon which we designed to pass the following  
night, for our security; and having  
satisfied our hunger with fruit, we  
mounted it before the dusk had fallen.  
Shortly after, the serpent came  
hissing to the foot of the tree;  
raised itself up against the trunk  
of it, and meeting with my comrade,

who sat lower than I, swallowed him  
at once, and went off. "I remained  
upon the tree till it was day, and  
then came down, more like a dead  
man than one alive, expecting the same  
fate as my two companions. This  
filled me with horror, and I advanced  
some steps to throw myself into the  
sea; but I withstood this dictate of  
despair, and submitted myself to the will  
of God. "In the meantime I collected  
a great quantity of small wood,  
brambles, and dry thorns, and making  
them up into faggots, made a wide circle  
with them round the tree, and also  
tied some of them to the branches  
over my head. Having done this, when  
the evening came I shut myself up  
within this circle, feeling that I  
had neglected nothing which could preserve  
me from the cruel destiny with which  
I was threatened. The serpent failed  
not to come at the usual hour,  
and went round the tree, seeking  
for an opportunity to devour me, but  
was prevented by the rampart I had

made; so that he lay till day, like  
a cat watching in vain for a mouse  
that has fortunately reached a place  
of safety. When day appeared he  
retired, but I dared not to leave  
my fort until the sun arose. "I felt  
so much fatigued by the labour to  
which it had put me, and suffered  
so much from the serpent's poisonous  
breath, that death seemed more eligible  
to me than the horrors of such  
a state. I came down from the tree,  
and was going to throw myself into  
the sea, when God took compassion  
on me and I perceived a ship at a considerable  
distance. I called as loud as I could,  
and taking the linen from my turban,  
displayed it, that they might observe  
me. This had the desired effect;  
the crew perceived me, and the captain  
sent his boat for me. As soon as  
I came on board, the merchants and  
seamen flocked about me, to know  
how I came into that desert island;  
and after I had related to them  
all that had befallen me, the oldest

among them said that they had often  
heard of the giants that dwelt in that  
island, that they were cannibals;  
and as to the serpents, they added, that  
there were abundance of them that hid  
themselves by day, and came abroad  
by night. After having testified  
their joy at my escaping so many  
dangers, they brought me the best of  
their provisions; and the captain,  
seeing that I was in rags, was so  
generous as to give me one of  
his own suits. We continued at  
sea for some time, touched at several  
islands, and at last landed at  
that of Salabat, where sandal wood  
is obtained, which is of great use  
in medicine. We entered the port,  
and came to anchor. The merchants began  
to unload their goods, in order  
to sell or exchange them. In the meantime,  
the captain came to me and said:  
'Brother, I have here some goods  
that belonged to a merchant, who  
sailed some time on board this ship,  
and he being dead, I design to dispose

of them for the benefit of his  
heirs.' The bales he spoke of lay  
on the deck, and showing them to  
me, he said: 'There are the goods;  
I hope you will take care to sell  
them, and you shall have factorage.'  
I thanked him for thus affording  
me an opportunity of employing myself,  
because I hated to be idle. "The  
clerk of the ship took an account  
of all the bales, with the names  
of the merchants to whom they belonged,  
and when he asked the captain in  
whose name he should enter those he  
had given me the charge of, 'Enter  
them,' said the captain, 'in the  
name of Sinbad.' I could not hear  
myself named without some emotion; and  
looking steadfastly on the captain,  
I knew him to be the person who,  
in my second voyage, had left me in  
the island where I fell asleep.  
"I was not surprised that he, believing  
me to be dead, did not recognise  
me. 'Captain,' said I, 'was the  
merchant's name, to whom those bales

belonged, Sinbad?' 'Yes,' replied  
he, 'that was his name; he came from  
Bagdad, and embarked on board my ship  
at Bussorah.' 'You believe him, then,  
to be dead?' said I. 'Certainly,'  
answered he. 'No, captain,' resumed  
I; 'look at me, and you may know  
that I am Sinbad.' "The captain, having  
considered me attentively, recognised me.  
'God be praised,' said he, embracing  
me, 'I rejoice that fortune has  
rectified my fault. There are your  
goods, which I always took care  
to preserve.' I took them from  
him, and made him the acknowledgments  
to which he was entitled. "From  
the isle of Salabat, we went to another,  
where I furnished myself with cloves,  
cinnamon, and other spices. As we sailed  
from this island, we saw a tortoise  
twenty cubits in length and breadth.  
We observed also an amphibious animal  
like a cow, which gave milk; its  
skin is so hard, that they usually  
make bucklers of it. "In short,  
after a long voyage I arrived at Bussorah,

and from thence returned to Bagdad,  
with so much wealth that I knew not  
its extent. I gave a great deal to  
the poor, and bought another considerable  
estate in addition to what I had already."

[Illustration] \_Having finished  
his repast, he returned to his  
porch, where he lay and fell asleep,  
snoring louder than thunder.\_  
Thus Sinbad finished the history of  
his third voyage; gave another hundred  
sequins to Hindbad, and invited him  
to dinner again the next day to  
hear the story of his fourth series  
of adventures. **THE FOURTH VOYAGE**  
"The pleasures which I enjoyed  
after my third voyage had not  
charms sufficient to divert me from  
another. My passion for trade, and  
my love of novelty, again prevailed.  
I therefore settled my affairs, and  
having provided a stock of goods  
fit for the traffic I designed to engage  
in, I set out on my journey. I took  
the route of Persia, travelled over  
several provinces, and then arrived

at a port, where I embarked. We  
hoisted our sails, and touched at  
several ports of the continent,  
and then put out to sea; when we  
were overtaken by such a sudden  
gust of wind, as obliged the captain  
to lower his yards, and take all other  
necessary precautions to prevent the  
danger that threatened us. But all was  
in vain; our endeavours had no effect,  
the sails were split in a thousand  
pieces, and the ship was stranded;  
several of the merchants and seamen  
were drowned, and the cargo was lost.  
"I had the good fortune, with several  
of the merchants and mariners, to  
get upon some planks, and we were carried  
by the current to an island which  
lay before us. There we found  
fruit and spring water, which preserved  
our lives. We stayed all night near  
the place where we had been cast  
ashore and next morning, as soon  
as the sun was up, advancing into  
the island, saw some houses, which  
we approached. As soon as we drew

near, we were encompassed by a great number  
of negroes, who seized us and carried  
us to their respective habitations. "I,  
and five of my comrades, were  
carried to one place; here they  
made us sit down, and gave us a certain  
herb, which they made signs to us  
to eat. My comrades, not taking notice  
that the blacks ate none of it  
themselves, thought only of satisfying  
their hunger, and ate with greediness.  
But I, suspecting some trick, would  
not so much as taste it, which  
happened well for me; for in a little  
time after, I perceived my companions had  
lost their senses, and that when they  
spoke to me, they knew not what they  
said. "The negroes fed us afterward  
with rice, prepared with oil of cocoa  
-nuts; and my comrades, who had lost their  
reason, ate of it greedily. I  
also partook of it, but very sparingly.  
They gave us that herb at first on  
purpose to deprive us of our senses,  
that we might not be aware of the  
sad destiny prepared for us; and they

supplied us with rice to fatten  
us; for, being cannibals, their  
design was to eat us as soon as we  
grew fat. This accordingly happened,  
for they devoured my comrades, who  
were not sensible of their condition;  
but my senses being entire, you may  
easily guess that instead of growing  
fat I grew leaner every day. The  
fear of death under which I laboured  
caused me to fall into a languishing  
distemper, which proved my safety;  
for the negroes, having eaten my  
companions, seeing me to be withered,  
and sick, deferred my death. "Meanwhile  
I had much liberty, so that scarcely  
any notice was taken of what I  
did, and this gave me an opportunity  
one day to get at a distance from  
the houses and to make my escape.  
An old man, who saw me and suspected  
my design, called to me as loud as  
he could to return; but I redoubled  
my speed, and quickly got out of sight.  
At that time there was none but the  
old man about the houses, the rest

being abroad, and not to return till  
night, which was usual with them.  
Therefore, being sure that they  
could not arrive in time enough  
to pursue me, I went on till night,  
when I stopped to rest a little,  
and to eat some of the provisions  
I had secured; but I speedily  
set forward again, and travelled seven  
days, avoiding those places which  
seemed to be inhabited, and lived for the  
most part upon cocoa-nuts, which  
served me both for meat and drink.  
On the eighth day I came near the  
sea, and saw some white people like  
myself, gathering pepper, of which  
there was great plenty in that  
place. This I took to be a good omen,  
and went to them without any scruple.  
They came to meet me as soon as they  
saw me, and asked me in Arabic who  
I was, and whence I came. I was overjoyed  
to hear them speak in my own language,  
and satisfied their curiosity by giving  
them an account of my shipwreck,  
and how I fell into the hands

of the negroes. 'Those negroes,'  
replied they, 'eat men, and by what  
miracle did you escape their cruelty?'  
I related to them the circumstances  
I have just mentioned, at which they were  
wonderfully surprised. "I stayed with  
them till they had gathered their  
quantity of pepper, and then sailed  
with them to the island from whence  
they had come. They presented  
me to their king, who was a good  
prince. He had the patience to  
hear the relation of my adventures;  
and he afterward gave me clothes,  
and commanded care to be taken of  
me. "The island was very well peopled,  
plentiful in everything, and the capital  
a place of great trade. This agreeable  
retreat was very comfortable to  
me, after my misfortunes, and the kindness  
of this generous prince completed  
my satisfaction. In a word, there  
was not a person more in favour  
with him than myself; and consequently  
every man in court and city sought  
to oblige me; so that in a very

little time I was looked upon rather  
as a native than a stranger. "I  
observed one thing which to me appeared  
very extraordinary. All the people,  
the king himself not excepted, rode  
their horses without bridle or stirrups.  
This made me one day take the liberty  
to ask the king how it came to  
pass. His Majesty answered, that  
I talked to him of things which  
nobody knew the use of in his dominions.  
"I went immediately to a workman, and  
gave him a model for making the  
stock of a saddle. When that was done,  
I covered it myself with velvet and  
leather, and embroidered it with gold. I  
afterward went to a smith, who  
made me a bit, according to the  
pattern I showed him, and also some  
stirrups. When I had all things  
completed, I presented them to the king,  
and put them upon one of his horses.  
His Majesty mounted immediately, and  
was so pleased with them, that  
he testified his satisfaction by  
large presents. "As I paid my court

very constantly to the king, he  
said to me one day: 'Sinbad, I  
love thee and I have one thing  
to demand of thee, which thou must  
grant.' 'Sir,' answered I, 'there  
is nothing but I will do, as a  
mark of my obedience to your Majesty.'  
'I have a mind thou shouldst marry,'  
replied he, 'that so thou mayest  
stay in my dominions, and think no more  
of thy own country.' I durst not resist  
the prince's will, and he gave me  
one of the ladies of his court, noble,  
beautiful, and rich. The ceremonies  
of marriage being over, I went and  
dwelt with my wife, and for some time  
we lived together in perfect harmony.  
I was not, however, satisfied with  
my banishment, therefore designed  
to make my escape the first opportunity,  
and to return to Bagdad. "At this  
time the wife of one of my neighbours  
fell sick, and died. I went to  
see and comfort him in his affliction,  
and finding him absorbed in sorrow,  
I said to him as soon as I saw him:



'God preserve you and grant you a long life.' 'Alas!' replied he, 'how do you think I should obtain the favour you wish me? I have not above an hour to live.' 'Pray,' said I, 'do not entertain such a melancholy thought; I hope I shall enjoy your company many years.' 'I wish you,' he replied, 'a long life; but my days are at an end, for I must be buried this day with my wife. This is a law which our ancestors established in this island, and it is always observed. The living husband is interred with the dead wife, and the living wife with the dead husband. Nothing can save me; every one must submit to this law.' "While he was giving me an account of this barbarous custom, the very relation of which chilled my blood, his kindred, friends, and neighbours came in a body to assist at the funeral. They dressed the corpse of the woman in her richest apparel, and all her jewels, as if it had been her wedding day; then they placed

her in an open coffin, and began their march to the place of burial, the husband walking at the head of the company. They proceeded to a high mountain, and when they had reached the place of their destination, they took up a large stone, which covered the mouth of a deep pit, and let down the corpse with all its apparel and jewels. Then the husband embracing his kindred and friends, suffered himself, without resistance, to be put into another open coffin with a pot of water, and seven small loaves, and was let down in the same manner. The ceremony being over, the aperture was again covered with the stone, and the company returned. "It is needless for me to tell you that I was a melancholy spectator of this funeral, while the rest were scarcely moved, the custom was to them so familiar. I could not forbear communicating to the king my sentiment respecting the practice: 'Sir,' I said, 'I cannot

but feel astonished at the strange  
usage observed in this country,  
of burying the living with the  
dead. I have been a great traveller,  
and seen many countries, but never heard  
of so cruel a law.' 'What do you mean,  
Sinbad?' replied the king: 'it is  
a common law. I shall be interred  
with the queen, my wife, if she  
die first.' 'But, sir,' said I, 'may  
I presume to ask your Majesty, if  
strangers be obliged to observe this  
law?' 'Without doubt,' returned  
the king; 'they are not exempted,  
if they be married in this island.'  
"I returned home much depressed  
by this answer; for the fear of  
my wife's dying first and that  
I should be interred alive with her,  
occasioned me very uneasy reflections.  
But there was no remedy; I must  
have patience, and submit to the  
will of God. I trembled, however,  
at every little indisposition of  
my wife, and, alas! in a little time  
my fears were realised, for she fell sick

and died. "The king and all his  
court expressed their wish to honour  
the funeral with their presence,  
and the most considerable people of the city  
did the same. When all was ready for  
the ceremony, the corpse was put  
into a coffin with all her jewels  
and her most magnificent apparel. The procession  
began, and as second actor in this doleful  
tragedy, I went next the corpse,  
with my eyes full of tears, bewailing  
my deplorable fate. Before we reached  
the mountain, I made an attempt  
to affect the minds of the spectators:  
I addressed myself to the king first,  
and then to all those that were  
round me; bowing before them to  
the earth, and kissing the border  
of their garments, I prayed them to  
have compassion upon me. 'Consider,'  
said I, 'that I am a stranger,  
and ought not to be subject to this  
rigorous law, and that I have another  
wife and children in my own country.'  
Although I spoke in the most pathetic  
manner, no one was moved by my

address; on the contrary, they  
ridiculed my dread of death as cowardly,  
made haste to let my wife's corpse  
into the pit, and lowered me down  
the next moment in an open coffin  
with a vessel full of water and seven  
loaves. "As I approached the bottom, I discovered  
by the aid of the little light that  
came from above the nature of this  
subterranean place; it seemed an endless  
cavern, and might be about fifty  
fathoms deep. "Instead of losing my courage  
and calling death to my assistance  
in that miserable condition, however,  
I felt still an inclination to  
live, and to do all I could to  
prolong my days. I went groping  
about, for the bread and water  
that was in my coffin, and took  
some of it. Though the darkness of  
the cave was so great that I could  
not distinguish day and night,  
yet I always found my coffin again,  
and the cave seemed to be more spacious  
than it had appeared to be at first.  
I lived for some days upon my bread

and water, which being all spent,  
I at last prepared for death. "I was  
offering up my last devotions  
when I heard something tread, and breathing  
or panting as it walked. I advanced  
toward that side from whence I heard  
the noise, and on my approach  
the creature puffed and blew harder,  
as if running away from me. I followed  
the noise, and the thing seemed  
to stop sometimes, but always fled  
and blew as I approached. I pursued it for  
a considerable time, till at last  
I perceived a light, resembling a star;  
I went on, sometimes lost sight of it,  
but always found it again, and at  
last discovered that it came through  
a hole in the rock, large enough to  
admit a man. "Upon this, I stopped  
some time to rest, being much fatigued  
with the rapidity of my progress:  
afterward coming up to the hole,  
I got through, and found myself  
upon the seashore. I leave you to  
guess the excess of my joy: it was  
such that I could scarcely persuade

myself that the whole was not a dream. "But when I was recovered from my surprise, and convinced of the reality of my escape, I perceived what I had followed to be a creature which came out of the sea, and was accustomed to enter the cavern when the tides were high. "I examined the mountain, and found it to be situated betwixt the sea and the town, but without any passage to or communication with the latter; the rocks on the sea side being high and perpendicularly steep. I prostrated myself on the shore to thank God for this mercy, and afterward entered the cave again to fetch bread and water, which I ate by daylight with a better appetite than I had done since my interment in the dark cavern. "I returned thither a second time, and groped among the coffins for all the diamonds, rubies, pearls, gold bracelets, and rich stuffs I could find; these I brought to the shore, and tying them up neatly

into bales, I laid them together upon the beach, waiting till some ship might appear. "After two or three days, I perceived a ship just come out of the harbour, making for the place where I was. I made a sign with the linen of my turban, and called to the crew as loud as I could. They heard me, and sent a boat to bring me on board, when they asked by what misfortune I came thither; I told them that I had suffered shipwreck two days before, and made shift to get ashore with the goods they saw. It was fortunate for me that these people did not consider the place where I was, nor inquire into the probability of what I told them; but without hesitation took me on board. When I came to the ship, the captain was so well pleased to have saved me, and so much taken up with his own affairs, that he also took the story of my pretended shipwreck upon trust, and generously refused some jewels which I offered him. "We passed

by several islands, and among others  
that called the isle of Bells,  
about ten days' sail from Serendib,  
and six from that of Kela, where  
we landed. This island produces  
lead mines, Indian canes, and excellent  
camphire. "The King of the isle  
of Kela is very rich and powerful,  
and the isle of Bells, which is  
about two days' journey in extent,  
is also subject to him. The inhabitants  
are so barbarous that they still  
eat human flesh. After we had finished  
our traffic in that island, we  
put to sea again, and touched at  
several other ports; at last I arrived  
happily at Bagdad with infinite riches.  
Out of gratitude to God for His  
mercies, I contributed liberally toward  
the support of several mosques,  
and the subsistence of the poor, and  
gave myself up to the society  
of my kindred and friends, enjoying  
myself with them in festivities  
and amusements." Here Sinbad finished  
the relation of his fourth voyage.

He made a new present of one hundred  
sequins to Hindbad, whom he requested  
to return with the rest next day  
at the same hour to dine with him,  
and hear the story of his fifth voyage.  
Hindbad and the other guests took  
their leave and retired. Next morning  
when they all met, they sat down at  
table, and when dinner was over,  
Sinbad began the relation of his  
fifth voyage as follows: THE FIFTH  
VOYAGE "All the troubles and calamities  
I had undergone," said he, "could  
not cure me of my inclination  
to make new voyages. I therefore bought  
goods, departed with them for the  
best seaport; and that I might not  
be obliged to depend upon a captain,  
but have a ship at my own command,  
I remained there till one was built  
on purpose. When the ship was ready,  
I went on board with my goods:  
but not having enough to load  
her, I agreed to take with me several  
merchants of different nations with their  
merchandise. "We sailed with the

first fair wind, and after a long navigation, the first place we touched at was a desert island, where we found an egg of a roc, equal in size to that I formerly mentioned. There was a young roc in it just ready to be hatched, and its bill had begun to appear. The merchants whom I had taken on board, and who landed with me, broke the egg with hatchets, pulled out the young roc, piecemeal, and roasted it. I had earnestly entreated them not to meddle with the egg, but they would not listen to me. "Scarcely had they finished their repast, when there appeared in the air at a considerable distance from us two great clouds. The captain whom I had hired to navigate my ship, said they were the male and female roc that belonged to the young one and pressed us to re-embark with all speed, to prevent the misfortune which he saw would otherwise befall us. We hastened on board, and set sail with all possible

expedition. "In the meantime, the two rocs approached with a frightful noise, which they redoubled when they saw the egg broken, and their young one gone. They flew back in the direction they had come, and disappeared for some time, while we made all the sail we could to endeavour to prevent that which unhappily befell us. "They soon returned, and we observed that each of them carried between its talons rocks of a monstrous size. When they came directly over my ship, they hovered, and one of them let fall a stone, but by the dexterity of the steersman it missed us. The other roc, to our misfortune, threw his burden so exactly upon the middle of the ship, as to split it into a thousand pieces. The mariners and passengers were all crushed to death, or sank. I myself was of the number of the latter; but as I came up again, I fortunately caught hold of a piece of the wreck, and swimming sometimes

with one hand, and sometimes with  
the other, I came to an island, and  
got safely ashore. "I sat down upon  
the grass, to recover myself from my  
fatigue, after which I went into  
the island to explore it. I found trees  
everywhere, some of them bearing  
green, and others ripe fruits, and  
streams of fresh pure water. I ate  
of the fruits, which I found excellent;  
and drank of the water, which was  
very good. "When I was a little  
advanced into the island, I saw an  
old man, who appeared very weak and infirm.  
He was sitting on the bank of  
a stream, and at first I took him  
to be one who had been shipwrecked  
like myself. I went toward him  
and saluted him, but he only slightly  
bowed his head. I asked him why  
he sat so still, but instead of  
answering me, he made a sign for  
me to take him upon my back, and  
carry him over the brook, signifying  
that it was to gather fruit. "I  
believed him really to stand in need

of my assistance, took him upon my  
back, and having carried him over,  
bade him get down, and for that end  
stooped, that he might get off with  
ease; but instead of doing so (which  
I laugh at every time I think of  
it) the old man, who to me appeared  
quite decrepit, clasped his legs  
nimble about my neck. He sat astride  
upon my shoulders, and held my throat  
so tight, that I thought he would  
have strangled me, the apprehension  
of which made me swoon and fall  
down. "Notwithstanding my fainting, the  
ill-natured old fellow kept fast  
about my neck, but opened his  
legs a little to give me time to  
recover my breath. When I had done  
so, he thrust one of his feet against  
my stomach, and struck me so rudely  
on the side with the other that  
he forced me to rise up against  
my will. Having arisen, he made  
me walk under the trees, and forced  
me now and then to stop, to gather  
and eat fruit. He never left me

all day, and when I lay down to rest  
at night, laid himself down with  
me, holding always fast about my neck.  
Every morning he pushed me to make  
me awake, and afterward obliged me to get  
up and walk, and pressed me with  
his feet. "One day I found in  
my way several dry calabashes  
that had fallen from a tree. I  
took a large one, and after cleaning  
it, pressed into it some juice of  
grapes, which abounded in the island;  
having filled the calabash, I put  
it by in a convenient place, and going  
thither again some days after, I tasted  
it, and found the wine so good, that  
it soon made me forget my sorrow,  
gave me new vigour, and so exhilarated  
my spirits, that I began to sing  
and dance as I walked along. "The  
old man, perceiving the effect which  
this liquor had upon me, and that  
I carried him with more ease than  
before, made me a sign to give  
him some of it. I handed him the  
calabash, and the liquor pleasing

his palate, he drank it all off.  
There being a considerable quantity of it,  
he became intoxicated, and the fumes getting  
up into his head, he began to sing  
after his manner, and to dance, thus  
loosening his legs from about me by  
degrees. Finding that he did not  
press me as before, I threw him upon  
the ground, where he lay without  
motion; I then took up a great  
stone, and crushed him. "I was extremely  
glad to be thus freed forever from  
this troublesome fellow. I now walked  
toward the beach, where I met the  
crew of a ship that had cast anchor,  
to take in water. They were surprised  
to see me, but more so at hearing  
the particulars of my adventures.  
'You fell,' said they, 'into the  
hands of the Old Man of the Sea,  
and are the first who ever escaped  
strangling by his malicious tricks.  
He never quits those he has once  
made himself master of till he has  
destroyed them, and he has made  
this island notorious by the number of



men he has slain.' "After having informed me of these things, they carried me with them to the ship, and the captain received me with great kindness, when they told him what had befallen me. He put out again to sea, and after some days' sail, we arrived at the harbour of a great city.

"One of the merchants who had taken me into his friendship invited me to go along with him, and carried me to a place appointed for the accommodation of foreign merchants. He gave me a large bag, and having recommended me to some people of the town, who used to gather cocoa-nuts, desired them to take me with them. 'Go,' said he, 'follow them, and act as you see them do, but do not separate from them, otherwise you may endanger your life.' Having thus spoken, he gave me provisions for the journey, and I went with them. "We came to a thick forest of cocoa-trees, very lofty, with trunks so smooth that it was not possible to climb

to the branches that bore the fruit. When we entered the forest we saw a great number of apes of several sizes, who fled as soon as they perceived us, and climbed up to the top of the trees with surprising swiftness. "The merchants with whom I was, gathered stones and threw them at the apes on the trees. I did the same, and the apes out of revenge threw cocoa-nuts at us so fast, and with such gestures, as sufficiently testified their anger and resentment. We gathered up the cocoa-nuts, and from time to time threw stones to provoke the apes; so that by this stratagem we filled our bags with cocoa-nuts, which it had been impossible otherwise to have done. "When we had gathered our number, we returned to the city, where the merchant who had sent me to the forest gave me the value of the cocoas I brought: 'Go on,' said he, 'and do the like every day, until you have got money

enough to carry you home.' I thanked  
him for his advice, and gradually collected  
as many cocoa-nuts as produced me  
a considerable sum. "The vessel  
in which I had come sailed with  
some merchants who loaded her  
with cocoa-nuts. I embarked in her  
all the nuts I had, and when she  
was ready to sail took leave of the  
merchant who had been so kind to  
me. "We sailed toward the islands,  
where pepper grows in great plenty.  
From thence we went to the isle  
of Comari, where the best species  
of wood of aloes grows. I exchanged  
my cocoa in those two islands for  
pepper and wood of aloes, and went  
with other merchants a pearl-fishing.  
I hired divers, who brought me  
up some that were very large and  
pure. I embarked in a vessel that  
happily arrived at Bussorah; from  
thence I returned to Bagdad, where  
I made vast sums from my pepper,  
wood of aloes, and pearls. I gave  
the tenth of my gains in alms,

as I had done upon my return from  
my other voyages, and endeavoured  
to dissipate my fatigues by amusements  
of different kinds." When Sinbad had  
finished his story, he ordered one  
hundred sequins to be given to  
Hindbad, who retired with the other  
guests; but next morning the same  
company returned to dine; when Sinbad  
requested their attention, and  
gave the following account of his  
sixth voyage: **THE SIXTH VOYAGE** "You  
long without doubt to know," said  
he, "how, after having been shipwrecked  
five times, and escaped so many  
dangers, I could resolve again to  
tempt fortune, and expose myself  
to new hardships. I am, myself, astonished  
at my conduct when I reflect upon  
it, and must certainly have been actuated  
by my destiny. But be that as  
it may, after a year's rest I prepared  
for a sixth voyage, notwithstanding  
the entreaties of my kindred,  
who did all in their power to  
dissuade me. "Instead of taking my way

by the Persian Gulf, I travelled  
once more through several provinces  
of Persia and the Indies, and arrived  
at a seaport, where I embarked in a  
ship, the captain of which was bound  
on a long voyage. It was long indeed,  
for the captain and pilot lost  
their course. They, however, at last  
discovered where they were, but  
we had no reason to rejoice at the  
circumstance. Suddenly we saw the captain  
quit his post, uttering loud lamentations.  
He threw off his turban, pulled  
his beard, and beat his head like  
a madman. We asked him the reason,  
and he answered, that he was in  
the most dangerous place in all the  
ocean. 'A rapid current carries  
the ship along with it,' said  
he, 'and we shall all perish in less  
than a quarter of an hour. Pray  
to God to deliver us from this peril;  
we cannot escape, if He do not take  
pity on us.' At these words he  
ordered the sails to be lowered;  
but all the ropes broke, and the

ship was carried by the current  
to the foot of an inaccessible  
mountain, where she struck and  
went to pieces, yet in such a manner  
that we saved our lives, our provisions,  
and the best of our goods. "This  
being over, the captain said to  
us: 'God has done what pleased Him.  
Each of us may dig his grave,  
and bid the world adieu; for we are  
all in so fatal a place, that none  
shipwrecked here ever returned to  
their homes.' His discourse afflicted  
us sensibly, and we embraced each  
other, bewailing our deplorable  
lot. "The mountain at the foot of  
which we were wrecked formed part of  
the coast of a very large island.  
It was covered with wrecks, with  
human bones, and with a vast quantity  
of goods and riches. In all other places,  
rivers run from their channels  
into the sea, but here a river of  
fresh water runs out of the sea  
into a dark cavern, whose entrance  
is very high and spacious. What

is most remarkable in this place is,  
that the stones of the mountain  
are of crystal, rubies, or other  
precious stones. Here is also a  
sort of fountain of pitch or bitumen,  
that runs into the sea, which  
the fish swallow, and turn into ambergris:  
and this the waves throw up on the  
beach in great quantities. Trees  
also grow here, most of which are  
wood of aloes, equal in goodness  
to those of Comari. "To finish the  
description of this place, which  
may well be called a gulf, since nothing  
ever returns from it, it is not possible  
for ships to get off when once they  
approach within a certain distance.  
If they be driven thither by a wind  
from the sea, the wind and the current  
impel them; and if they come into  
it when a land-wind blows, the  
height of the mountain stops the wind,  
and occasions a calm, so that the  
force of the current carries them ashore:  
and what completes the misfortune  
is, that there is no possibility

of ascending the mountain, or of  
escaping by sea. "We continued upon  
the shore in a state of despair,  
and expected death every day. At first  
we divided our provisions as equally  
as we could, and thus every one  
lived a longer or shorter time,  
according to his temperance, and  
the use he made of his provisions.  
"I survived all my companions,  
yet when I buried the last, I had  
so little provision remaining that  
I thought I could not long endure  
and I dug a grave, resolving to lie  
down in it because there was no one  
left to inter me. "But it pleased  
God once more to take compassion  
on me, and put it in my mind to  
go to the bank of the river which  
ran into the great cavern. Considering  
its probable course with great attention,  
I said to myself: "This river, which  
runs thus under ground, must somewhere  
have an issue. If I make a raft,  
and leave myself to the current,  
it will convey me to some inhabited

country, or I shall perish. If I be  
drowned, I lose nothing, but only  
change one kind of death for another.'  
"I immediately went to work upon  
large pieces of timber and cables,  
for I had choice of them, and tied  
them together so strongly that I  
soon made a very solid raft. When  
I had finished, I loaded it with  
rubies, emeralds, ambergris, rock  
-crystal, and bales of rich stuffs.  
Having balanced my cargo exactly,  
and fastened it well to the raft,  
I went on board with two oars that  
I had made, and leaving it to the  
course of the river, resigned myself  
to the will of God. "As soon as  
I entered the cavern I lost all light,  
and the stream carried me I knew  
not whither. Thus I floated some  
days in perfect darkness, and once  
found the arch so low, that it  
very nearly touched my head, which  
made me cautious afterward to avoid  
the like danger. All this while  
I ate nothing but what was just necessary

to support nature; yet, notwithstanding  
my frugality, all my provisions were  
spent. Then a pleasing stupor seized upon  
me. I cannot tell how long it continued;  
but when I revived, I was surprised  
to find myself in an extensive  
plain on the brink of a river, where  
my raft was tied, amidst a great  
number of negroes. I got up as soon  
as I saw them, and saluted them.  
They spoke to me, but I did not understand  
their language. I was so transported  
with joy, that I knew not whether  
I was asleep or awake; but being  
persuaded that I was not asleep,  
I recited aloud the following words  
in Arabic: 'Call upon the Almighty,  
He will help thee; thou needest not  
perplex thyself about anything  
else: shut thy eyes, and while  
thou art asleep, God will change  
thy bad fortune into good.' "One  
of the blacks, who understood  
Arabic, hearing me speak thus,  
came toward me and said: 'Brother,  
be not surprised to see us; we are

inhabitants of this country, and  
came hither to -day to water our  
fields. We observed something floating  
upon the water, and, perceiving  
your raft, one of us swam into  
the river and brought it hither, where  
we fastened it, as you see, until  
you should awake. Pray tell us your  
history, for it must be extraordinary;  
how did you venture yourself into this  
river, and whence did you come?'  
I begged of them first to give me  
something to eat, and then I would  
satisfy their curiosity. They gave me several  
sorts of food, and when I had  
satisfied my hunger, I related all that  
had befallen me, which they listened  
to with attentive surprise. As soon  
as I had finished, they told me, by  
the person who spoke Arabic and  
interpreted to them what I said,  
that it was one of the most wonderful  
stories they had ever heard, and  
that I must go along with them,  
and tell it to their king myself;  
it being too extraordinary to be related by

any other than the person to whom  
the events had happened. "They  
immediately sent for a horse, which  
was brought in a little time;  
and having helped me to mount, some  
of them walked before to shew  
the way, while the rest took my  
raft and cargo and followed. "We  
marched till we came to the capital  
of Serendib, for it was in that  
island I had landed. The blacks presented  
me to their king; I approached his  
throne, and saluted him as I used to  
do the Kings of the Indies; that  
is to say, I prostrated myself at his feet.  
The prince ordered me to rise, received  
me with an obliging air, and made me  
sit down near him. "I related to the  
king all that I have told you,  
and his majesty was so surprised  
and pleased, that he commanded my  
adventures to be written in letters  
of gold, and laid up in the archives  
of his kingdom. At last my raft  
was brought in, and the bales opened  
in his presence: he admired the

quantity of wood of aloes and ambergris;  
but, above all, the rubies and  
emeralds, for he had none in his  
treasury that equalled them. "Observing  
that he looked on my jewels with  
pleasure, I fell prostrate at his  
feet, and took the liberty to  
say to him: 'Sir, not only my person  
is at your majesty's service, but the  
cargo of the raft, and I would beg  
of you to dispose of it as your own.'  
He answered me with a smile: 'Sinbad,  
I will take care not to covet anything  
of yours, or to take anything from  
you that God has given you; far  
from lessening your wealth, I  
design to augment it, and will not  
let you quit my dominions without  
marks of my liberality.' He then charged  
one of his officers to take care of  
me, and ordered people to serve  
me at his own expense. The officer was  
very faithful in the execution of  
his commission, and caused all  
the goods to be carried to the  
lodgings provided for me. "I went

every day at a set hour to make  
my court to the king, and spent  
the rest of my time in viewing  
the city, and what was most worthy  
of notice. "The capital of Serendib  
stands at the end of a fine valley,  
in the middle of the island, encompassed  
by mountains the highest in the  
world. Rubies and several sorts of  
minerals abound, and the rocks are  
for the most part composed of a metalline  
stone made use of to cut and polish  
other precious stones. All kinds  
of rare plants and trees grow  
there, especially cedars and cocoa  
-nut. There is also a pearl-fishing  
in the mouth of its principal river;  
and in some of its valleys are  
found diamonds. I made, by way  
of devotion, a pilgrimage to the  
place where Adam was confined after  
his banishment from Paradise,  
and had the curiosity to go to the top  
of the mountain. "When I returned  
to the city, I prayed the king  
to allow me to return to my own

country, and he granted me permission  
in the most honourable manner. He would  
needs force a rich present upon me;  
and when I went to take my leave  
of him, he gave me one much more  
considerable, and at the same time  
charged me with a letter for the  
Commander of the Faithful, our sovereign,  
saying to me: 'I pray you give this  
present from me, and this letter,  
to the Caliph, and assure him  
of my friendship.' I took the present  
and letter and promised his majesty  
punctually to execute the commission  
with which he was pleased to honour  
me. "The letter from the King of  
Serendib was written on the skin of  
a certain animal of great value,  
because of its being so scarce,  
and of a yellowish colour. The characters  
of this letter were of azure,  
and the contents as follows: "The  
King of the Indies, before whom march  
one hundred elephants, who lives in a  
palace that shines with one hundred  
thousand rubies, and who has in

his treasury twenty thousand crowns  
enriched with diamonds, to Caliph Haroun  
-al-Raschid:-- "Though the present  
we send you be inconsiderable,  
receive it, however, as a brother, in  
consideration of the hearty friendship  
which we bear for you, and of which  
we are willing to give you proof.  
We desire the same part in your friendship,  
considering that we believe it to  
be our merit, being of the same dignity  
with yourself. We conjure you  
this in quality of a brother. Adieu.'  
"The present consisted, first, of one single  
ruby made into a cup, about half  
a foot high, an inch thick, and  
filled with round pearls of half  
a drachm each. 2. The skin of  
a serpent, whose scales were as  
large as an ordinary piece of gold,  
and had the virtue to preserve from  
sickness those who lay upon it.  
3. Fifty thousand drachms of the  
best wood of aloes, with thirty grains  
of camphire as big as pistachios.  
And, 4. A female slave of ravishing



beauty, whose apparel was all covered  
over with jewels. "The ship set sail,  
and after a very successful navigation  
we landed at Bussorah, and from thence  
I went to Bagdad, where the first  
thing I did was to acquit myself  
of my commission. "I took the king  
of Serendib's letter and went to present  
myself at the gate of the Commander  
of the Faithful, followed by the  
beautiful slave, and such of my  
own family as carried the gifts. I stated  
the reason of my coming, and was  
immediately conducted to the throne of  
the caliph. I made my reverence, and,  
after a short speech, gave him the letter  
and present. When he had read what  
the king of Serendib wrote to him, he  
asked me if the prince were really  
so rich and potent as he represented  
himself in his letter. I prostrated  
myself a second time, and rising  
again, said: 'Commander of the Faithful,  
I can assure your majesty he doth  
not exceed the truth. Nothing  
is more worthy of admiration than

the magnificence of his palace.  
When the prince appears in public  
he has a throne fixed on the back  
of an elephant, and marches betwixt  
two ranks of his ministers, favourites,  
and other people of his court; before  
him, upon the same elephant, an officer  
carries a golden lance in his hand;  
and behind the throne there is  
another, who stands upright, with a  
column of gold, on the top of which  
is an emerald half a foot long and  
an inch thick; before him march  
a guard of one thousand men, clad  
in cloth of gold and silk, and mounted  
on elephants richly caparisoned. "While  
the king is on his march, the  
officer who is before him on the  
same elephant cries from time to time,  
with a loud voice: 'Behold the great  
monarch, the potent and redoubtable  
Sultan of the Indies, whose palace is  
covered with one hundred thousand  
rubies, and who possesses twenty  
thousand crowns of diamonds. Behold  
the monarch greater than Solomon, and

the powerful Maha -raja.' After he  
has pronounced those words, the  
officer behind the throne cries  
in his turn: 'This monarch, so great  
and so powerful, must die, must  
die, must die.' And the officer  
before replies: 'Praise be to him  
who liveth for ever.' 'Furthermore,  
the King of Serendib is so just that  
there are no judges in his dominions.  
His people have no need of them.  
They understand and observe justice  
rigidly of themselves.' 'The caliph was  
much pleased with my account. 'The  
wisdom of that king,' said he,  
'appears in his letter, and after  
what you tell me, I must confess,  
that his wisdom is worthy of his  
people, and his people deserve  
so wise a prince.' Having spoken thus,  
he dismissed me, and sent me home  
with a rich present." Sinbad left off,  
and his company retired, Hindbad  
having first received one hundred sequins;  
and next day they returned to hear  
the relation of his seventh and

last voyage. THE SEVENTH AND LAST  
VOYAGE "Being returned from my sixth voyage,"  
said Sinbad, "I absolutely laid  
aside all thoughts of travelling;  
for, besides that my age now required  
rest, I was resolved no more to expose  
myself to such risks as I had  
encountered; so that I thought  
of nothing but to pass the rest  
of my days in tranquillity. One day, however,  
as I was treating my friends, one  
of my servants came and told me  
that an officer of the caliph's  
inquired for me. I rose from table,  
and went to him. 'The caliph,' said  
he, 'has sent me to tell you that  
he must speak with you.' I followed  
the officer to the palace, where,  
being presented to the caliph,  
I saluted him by prostrating myself  
at his feet. 'Sinbad,' said he to me,  
'I stand in need of your service;  
you must carry my answer and present  
to the King of Serendib. It is  
but just I should return his civility.'  
"This command of the caliph was

to me like a clap of thunder. 'Commander  
of the Faithful,' I replied, 'I am  
ready to do whatever your majesty shall  
think fit to command; but I beseech you  
most humbly to consider what I  
have undergone. I have also made  
a vow never to go out of Bagdad.'  
Hence I took occasion to give him a full  
and particular account of all  
my adventures, which he had the  
patience to hear out. "As soon as  
I had finished, 'I confess,' said  
he, 'that the things you tell me are  
very extraordinary, yet you must for  
my sake undertake this voyage which  
I propose to you. You will only have  
to go to the isle of Serendib, and  
deliver the commission which I give you,  
for you know it would not comport  
with my dignity to be indebted  
to the king of that island.' Perceiving  
that the caliph insisted upon my  
compliance, I submitted, and told him that  
I was willing to obey. He was very  
well pleased, and ordered me one  
thousand sequins for the expenses

of my journey. "I prepared for  
my departure in a few days, and  
as soon as the caliph's letter  
and present were delivered to me,  
I went to Bussorah, where I embarked,  
and had a very happy voyage. Having  
arrived at the isle of Serendib,  
I acquainted the king's ministers  
with my commission, and prayed them  
to get me speedy audience. They  
did so, and I was conducted to the  
palace, where I saluted the king  
by prostration, according to custom.  
That prince knew me immediately,  
and testified very great joy at seeing  
me, 'Sinbad,' said he, 'you are welcome;  
I have many times thought of you  
since you departed; I bless the day  
on which we see one another once  
more.' I made my compliments to  
him, and after having thanked  
him for his kindness, delivered the caliph's  
letter and present, which he received  
with all imaginable satisfaction. "The  
caliph's present was a complete  
suit of cloth of gold, valued at

one thousand sequins; fifty robes of  
rich stuff, a hundred of white cloth,  
the finest of Cairo, Suez, and Alexandria;  
a vessel of agate broader than deep,  
an inch thick, and half a foot  
wide, the bottom of which represented  
in bas-relief a man with one knee  
on the ground, who held a bow  
and an arrow, ready to discharge at  
a lion. He sent him also a rich  
tablet, which, according to tradition,  
belonged to the great Solomon.  
The caliph's letter was as follows:  
"Greeting, in the name of the  
sovereign guide of the right way,  
from the dependant on God, Haroun  
-al-Raschid, whom God hath set in  
the place of vicegerent to his prophet,  
after his ancestors of happy memory,  
to the potent and esteemed Raja of  
Serendib:-- 'We received your letter  
with joy, and send you this from our  
imperial residence, the garden of superior  
wits. We hope when you look upon it,  
you will perceive our good intention  
and be pleased with it. Adieu.'

"The King of Serendib was highly gratified  
that the caliph answered his friendship.  
A little time after this audience,  
I solicited leave to depart, and  
had much difficulty to obtain it. I  
procured it, however, at last, and the  
king, when he dismissed me, made me a very  
considerable present. I embarked immediately  
to return to Bagdad, but had not the  
good fortune to arrive there so  
speedily as I had hoped. God ordered  
it otherwise. "Three or four days after  
my departure, we were attacked by  
corsairs, who easily seized upon our  
ship, because it was no vessel of  
force. Some of the crew offered  
resistance, which cost them their  
lives. But for myself and the  
rest, who were not so imprudent,  
the corsairs saved us on purpose to  
make slaves of us. "We were all  
stripped, and instead of our own clothes,  
they gave us sorry rags, and carried  
us into a remote island, where they  
sold us. "I fell into the hands  
of a rich merchant, who, as soon as

he bought me, carried me to his house,  
treated me well, and clad me handsomely  
for a slave. Some days after, not  
knowing who I was, he asked me if  
I understood any trade. I answered,  
that I was no mechanic, but a merchant,  
and that the corsairs who sold me, had  
robbed me of all I possessed. 'But  
tell me,' replied he, 'can you shoot  
with a bow?' I answered, that  
the bow was one of my exercises  
in my youth. He gave me a bow and  
arrows, and, taking me behind him upon  
an elephant, carried me to a thick forest  
some leagues from the town. We penetrated  
a great way into the wood, and he  
bade me alight; then, shewing me  
a great tree, 'Climb up that,' said  
he, 'and shoot at the elephants  
as you see them pass by, for there  
is a prodigious number of them  
in this forest, and if any of them  
fall, come and give me notice.'  
Having spoken this, he left me victuals,  
and returned to the town, and I  
continued upon the tree all night.

"I saw no elephant during the night,  
but next morning, as soon as the  
sun was up, I perceived a great number.  
I shot several arrows among them,  
and at last one of the elephants  
fell, when the rest retired immediately,  
and left me at liberty to go and  
acquaint my patron with my booty.  
When I had informed him, he gave me  
a good meal, commended my dexterity, and  
caressed me highly. We went afterwards  
together to the forest, where we  
dug a hole for the elephant; my  
patron designing to return when  
it had fallen to pieces and take  
its teeth to trade with. "I continued  
this employment for two months,  
and killed an elephant every day, getting  
sometimes upon one tree, and sometimes  
upon another. One morning, as I looked  
for the elephants, I perceived with  
extreme amazement that, instead of  
passing by me across the forest as usual,  
they stopped, and came to me with  
a horrible noise, in such number  
that the plain was covered, and

shook under them. They encompassed  
the tree in which I was concealed,  
with their trunks extended, and all  
fixed their eyes upon me. At this  
alarming spectacle I continued immovable,  
and was so much terrified, that  
my bow and arrows fell out of my  
hand. "My fears were not without  
cause; for after the elephants had  
stared upon me some time, one  
of the largest of them put his  
trunk round the foot of the tree,  
plucked it up, and threw it on  
the ground. I fell with the tree;  
and the elephant, taking me up with  
his trunk, laid me on his back,  
where I sat more like one dead than  
alive, with my quiver on my shoulder.  
He put himself afterward at the  
head of the rest, who followed him  
in troops, carried me a considerable  
way, then laid me down on the  
ground, and retired with all his companions.  
After having lain some time, and  
seeing the elephants gone, I got up,  
and found I was upon a long and

broad hill, almost covered with the  
bones and teeth of elephants. I  
confess to you, that this object  
furnished me with abundance of reflections.  
I admired the instinct of those animals;  
I doubted not but that was their  
burying-place, and that they carried  
me thither on purpose to tell me that  
I should forbear to persecute them,  
since I did it only for their  
teeth. I did not stay on the hill,  
but turned toward the city, and,  
after having travelled a day and a night,  
I came to my patron. "As soon as he  
saw me, 'Ah, poor Sinbad,' exclaimed  
he, 'I was in great trouble to know  
what was become of you. I have  
been at the forest, where I found a  
tree newly pulled up, and a bow and  
arrows on the ground, and I despaired  
of ever seeing you more. Pray  
tell me what befell you, and by what  
good chance you are still alive.'  
I satisfied his curiosity, and  
going both of us next morning to  
the hill, he found to his great joy

that what I had told him was true.  
We loaded the elephant which had carried  
us with as many teeth as he could  
bear; and when we were returned,  
'Brother,' said my patron, 'for  
I will treat you no more as my slave,  
after having made such a discovery  
as will enrich me, God bless you  
with all happiness and prosperity.  
I declare before Him, that I give  
you your liberty. I concealed from  
you what I am now going to tell you.  
"The elephants of our forest have  
every year killed a great many slaves,  
whom we sent to seek ivory. God  
has delivered you from their fury,  
and has bestowed that favour upon  
you only. It is a sign that He  
loves you, and has some use for  
your service in the world. You  
have procured me incredible wealth.  
Formerly we could not procure ivory  
but by exposing the lives of our  
slaves, and now our whole city  
is enriched by your means. I could  
engage all our inhabitants to

contribute toward making your fortune,  
but I will have the glory of doing  
it myself.' "To this obliging declaration  
I replied: 'Patron, God preserve you.  
Your giving me my liberty is enough  
to discharge what you owe me, and  
I desire no other reward for the  
service I had the good fortune to  
do to you, and your city, but  
leave to return to my own country.'  
'Very well,' said he, 'the monsoon  
will in a little time bring ships  
for ivory. I will then send you home,  
and give you wherewith to bear your charges.'  
I thanked him again for my liberty  
and his good intentions toward me. I stayed  
with him expecting the monsoon; and  
during that time, we made so many  
journeys to the hill that we filled  
all our warehouses with ivory. The  
other merchants, who traded in it,  
did the same, for it could not be  
long concealed from them. "The  
ships arrived at last, and my patron,  
himself having made choice of  
the ship wherein I was to embark,

loaded half of it with ivory on  
my account, laid in provisions in  
abundance for my passage, and besides  
obliged me to accept a present of some  
curiosities of the country of  
great value. After I had returned  
him a thousand thanks for all  
his favours, I went aboard. We  
set sail, and as the adventure which  
procured me this liberty was very  
extraordinary, I had it continually  
in my thoughts. "We stopped at  
some islands to take in fresh provisions.  
Our vessel being come to a port  
on the main land in the Indies,  
we touched there, and not being willing  
to venture by sea to Bussorah, I  
landed my proportion of the ivory, resolving  
to proceed on my journey by land.  
I made vast sums by my ivory, bought  
several rarities for presents, and  
when my equipage was ready, set  
out in company with a large caravan  
of merchants. I was a long time  
on the way, and suffered much,  
but endured all with patience,

when I considered that I had nothing  
to fear from the seas, from pirates,  
from serpents, or from the other  
perils to which I had been exposed.  
"All these fatigues ended at last,  
and I arrived safe at Bagdad. I went  
immediately to wait upon the caliph,  
and gave him an account of my embassy.  
That prince said he had been uneasy  
as I was so long in returning, but  
that he always hoped God would  
preserve me. When I told him the  
adventure of the elephants, he seemed  
much surprised, and would never  
have given any credit to it had  
he not known my veracity. He deemed  
this story, and the other relations  
I had given him, to be so curious,  
that he ordered one of his secretaries  
to write them in characters of gold,  
and lay them up in his treasury.  
I retired well satisfied with  
the honours I received, and the presents  
which he gave me; and ever since  
I have devoted myself wholly to  
my family, kindred and friends." Sinbad



here finished the relation of his  
seventh and last voyage, and then,  
addressing himself to Hindbad, "Well,  
friend," said he, "did you ever hear  
of any person that suffered so much  
as I have done, or of any mortal  
that has gone through so many vicissitudes?  
Is it not reasonable that, after all  
this, I should enjoy a quiet and  
pleasant life?" As he said this,  
Hindbad drew near to him, and kissing  
his hand, said, "I must acknowledge  
sir, that you have gone through many  
imminent dangers; my troubles are  
not comparable to yours; if they  
afflict me for a time, I comfort  
myself with the thoughts of the  
profit I get by them. You not only  
deserve a quiet life, but are worthy  
of all the riches you enjoy, because  
you make of them such a good and  
generous use. May you therefore continue  
to live in happiness till the day of  
your death!" Sinbad then gave him one  
hundred sequins more, received  
him into the number of his friends

and desired him to quit his porter's  
employment, and come and dine every  
day with him, that he might have ample  
reason to remember Sinbad the voyager  
and his adventures.