

## THE SEVEN VOYAGES OF SINBAD

4-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-rajah, 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  
strewn 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 nimbly 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.