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Movie
Classic

NO. 1229

THIEF OF BAGHDAD



Amid the splendor of mystical Baghdad unfolds the tale of its most charming rogue.

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JOSEPH E. LEVINE

PRESENTS

STEVE REEVES

In

THIEF OF BAGHDAD

With

GEORGIA MOLL

ARTURO DOMINICI

EDY VESSEL

GEORGE CHAMARAT

PRODUCED BY

BRUNO VAILATI

DIRECTED BY

ARTHUR LUBIN

In **CINEMASCOPE** And **EASTMAN COLOR**

AN EMBASSY PICTURES INTERNATIONAL-TITANUS PRODUCTION

AN M-G-M RELEASE



While Ghamal, Grand Vizier of Baghdad, is announcing the coming marriage of Princess Amina, Karim, the Thief of Baghdad is stealing Ghamal's gold. . . .



Ghamal and Prince Osman contact a magician who mixes a magic potion that makes Amina gravely ill. Only the finding of a blue rose can cure her. . . .



As the time passes, the handsome thief Karim steals the heart of Princess Amina, the lovely daughter of Grand Vizier Ghamal.



Only Karim returns with the blue rose and leads a victorious army against that of Prince Osman, BUT in the battle the blue rose is destroyed.



To find the blue rose one must pass the seven tests. Many fail at the palace of lovely enchantress Kadeejah who turns men to stone.

THIEF OF BAGHDAD



O OSMAN, GREAT PRINCE FROM THE KINGDOM OF MOSSUL, MY LORD AND MASTER, ABDIR BAJAZETH, SULTAN OF BAGHDAD, LORD OF SAMARKAND, BIDS YOU WELCOME!

IT IS A NIGHT FOR REJOICING THROUGHOUT ALL BAGHDAD, FOR THE POWERFUL PRINCE OSMAN HAS ARRIVED TO CLAIM IN MARRIAGE THE HAND OF THE BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS, AMINA, DAUGHTER OF THE SULTAN!



ALL OF YOU! STOP HERE. I WISH TO GO ALONE!

AS YOU WILL, MIGHTY PRINCE!



BUT AS PRINCE OSMAN MAKES HIS WAY DOWN THE PALACE CORRIDOR...

HELM BGGGG!
MNNNNH...

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A SHORT TIME LATER ANOTHER APPEARS IN PRINCE OSMAN'S CLOTHING.....



O ALMIGHTY SULTAN, THE PRINCE OSMAN, LORD OF MOSSUL AND OF THE LAND BETWEEN THE TWO GREAT RIVERS, COMES TO YOU AS FRIEND AND ALLY!

AND ON A BALCONY ABOVE THE GREAT HALL...



OH! HE IS SO YOUNG AND HAND-SOME!

AMINA, MY DOVE! IT IS FORBIDDEN YOU TO LOOK ON THE ONE TO WHOM YOU WILL BE WED. COME... TO YOUR ROOMS AT ONCE!



WELCOME, PRINCE OSMAN. MY HOUSE IS YOUR HOUSE....

MY GRACIOUS LORD! O GREATEST OF SULTANS!



ACCEPT, O EXALTED ONE, THIS JEWEL, MOST PRECIOUS IN MY PALACE COFFERS!

AS THE ONE MASQUERADING AS PRINCE OSMAN PLACES A JEWELLED GIFT ON THE SULTAN'S HAND, HIS NIMBLE FINGERS REMOVE A RING A THOUSAND TIMES MORE VALUABLE.....



AND YOU, GHAMAL, O GRAND VIZIER, OF WHOM THE WINDS OF THE DESERT CARRY WORD OF YOUR WISE GOVERNMENT, ACCEPT THIS TOKEN OF MY FAVOUR.



AND ONCE MORE THE HAND IS QUICKER THAN THE EYE... AND A GEM OF MUCH GREATER VALUE THAN THE CHAIN AND PENDANT LEAVES THE GRAND VIZIER'S ROBE.



AND SO THE DEFT FINGERS MAKE VICTIMS OF ALL, UNTIL SUDDENLY...



DOG OF A DOG!
UNBIND ME!

PRINCE OSMAN! BUT HOW...
WHAT? I, ABDOUL, SAW
YOU ENTER THE PALACE!
THIS CANNOT BE!



DOGS! IDIOTS! IS THIS HOW
BAGHDAD RECEIVES THE PRINCE
OF MOSSUL!

PRINCE OSMAN?
YOU ARE
PRINCE OSMAN?



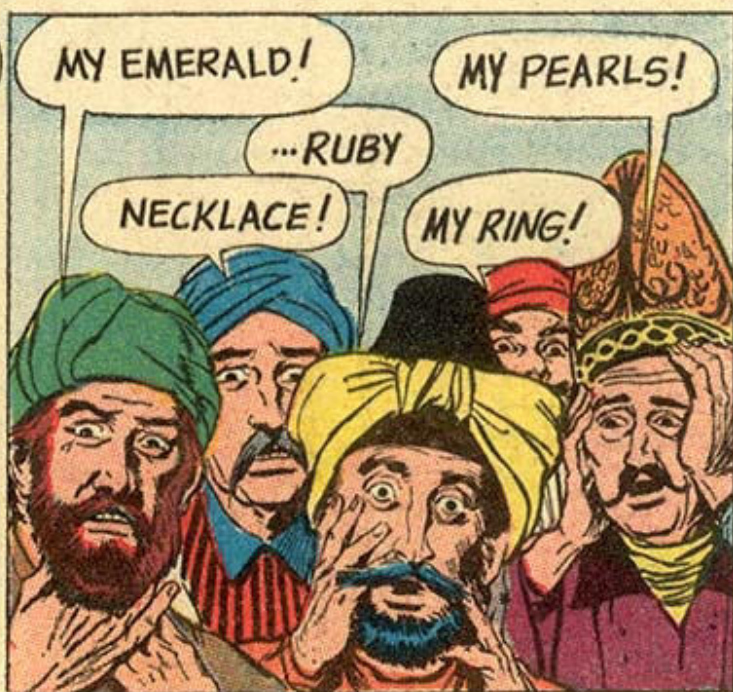
THEN WHO
IS THAT
IMPOSTER?

I THINK IT'S
TIME FOR ME
TO LEAVE!



I BELIEVE I KNOW, SIRE!
I HAVE SEEN HIM. HE IS
KNOWN AS KARIM, MOST
NOTORIOUS THIEF IN
ALL BAGHDAD!

THIEF? ... AIII!
MY PRICELESS
JEWEL IS
MISSING!



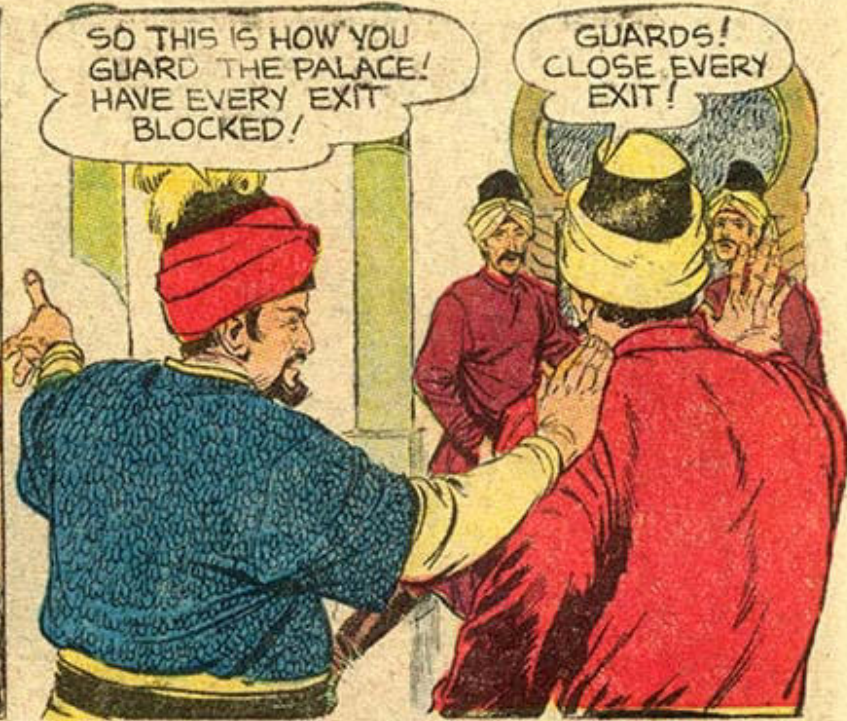
MY EMERALD!

MY PEARLS!

...RUBY

NECKLACE!

MY RING!





I AM IN AMINA'S CHAMBERS! I MUST HIDE!

NOW THAT YOU HAVE SEEN YOUR PRINCE, HIGHNESS, WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS?

I FEAR THAT HE WON'T LIKE ME!



LOOK AT YOU! YOU'RE ALREADY IN LOVE!

I LOVED HIM FROM THE MOMENT I SAW HIM!



SOON THE GOVERNESS AND HAND-MAIDENS ARE GONE....

I SHALL DREAM OF HIM.... OH!....



PRINCE OSMAN! YOU CANNOT STAY HERE! NO MAN IS ALLOWED IN MY ROOMS!

PRINCESS, FORGIVE ME. I COULD NOT WAIT LONGER TO SEE YOU!



AND IF YOU LOVE ME AS YOU JUST SAID YOU DID...

MY WORDS WERE NOT FOR YOUR EARS, PRINCE OSMAN. FORGET THEM...



YOU ARE SO BEAUTIFUL! BUT I MUST GO NOW. WEAR THIS RING TO REMEMBER ME BY, UNTIL WE MEET....

I WILL WEAR IT.... ALWAYS....



I MUST NOT BE SEEN LEAVING. THIS WAY IS BEST... GOOD NIGHT, MY BELOVED.

GOOD NIGHT... MY BRAVE PRINCE!



THEN AMINA, ALONE, LOOKS AT THE RING....

WHY, THIS IS MY FATHER'S RING... THE RING OF THE PROPHET!



SUDDENLY...

HOW DARE YOU, ABDOUL!

FORGIVE US, PRINCESS, BUT A THIEF IS HIDING IN THE PALACE. HE HAS STOLEN MANY JEWELS! WE ARE FOLLOWING ORDERS....



WHEN THE GUARDS HAD LEFT...

A THIEF... A COMMON THIEF! COULD HE BE? NO, THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE ... HE MUST NOT BE!...



THE NEXT DAY, IN TANNERY SQUARE...

HAVE YOU SEEN ALI TODAY? OR MALEK?

THEY ARE IN FRONT OF ALI'S SHOP, KARIM. THEY AWAIT YOU. ALI HAS CONVERTED YOUR JEWELS INTO CASH FOR YOU.

HAMID, THE COBBLER, MUST DELIVER HIS DAUGHTER AS A SLAVE TO THE MONEY LENDER, UNLESS HE PAYS HIM FIVE TANGHAS.

TELL ALI TO GIVE HAMID THE FIVE TANGHAS, MALEK.

BLESS YOU, KARIM!

SOON ALL THE MONEY FROM KARIM'S THEFTS IS GONE... THEN...

I'M SORRY. YOU CAME TOO LATE. THERE IS NO MORE LEFT...

YOU HAVE GIVEN ME A GREAT DEAL. IN ALL BAGHDAD, ONLY YOU, A THIEF, CARE ABOUT THE WELFARE OF YOUR FELLOW MAN. STRANGE, IS IT NOT?

STEALING IS THE ONLY TRADE I KNOW. UNLESS YOU CAN SUGGEST SOMETHING ELSE.

WHO KNOWS, KARIM? YOU MAY EVEN BE SULTAN SOME DAY. ONLY ALLAH KNOWS LIFE'S COMPLETE COURSE.

LATER THAT DAY...

PRINCE OSMAN IS TO BE YOUR HUSBAND, MY DAUGHTER, AND CUSTOM HAS IT THAT YOU MUST SHOW HIM YOUR FACE!

LET MY HAND LOWER YOUR VEIL... THE SAME HAND THAT WILL BRANDISH A SWORD TO DEFEND YOUR KINGDOM.

NO!

I CANNOT BELIEVE IN YOUR SWORD, PRINCE OSMAN. IT FAILED TO DEFEND YOU... FROM A THIEF!

WH... IS IT WAR YOU WANT?

SHE IS BUT A CHILD. YOU MUST EXCUSE HER...

THAT NIGHT... PRINCE OSMAN HAS CALLERS...

GREAT PRINCE, I COME WITH GOOD TIDINGS. ALL IN THIS SMALL VIAL ... CREATED BY THIS MAGICIAN...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?



THE PRINCESS HAS GONE. KARIM TURNS TOWARD A GATE IN THE GARDEN WALL... SUDDENLY...

KARIM, YOU HAVE BEEN SEEN. GUARDS ARE WAITING FOR YOU. GO OVER THE WALL AS YOU CAME.

I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING. THE GATE IS QUICKER... BUT THANKS FOR YOUR HELP.



SO THIEF, AT LAST WE HAVE YOU!

DID HE HOPE TO STEAL OUR PRINCESS, TOO? HA!



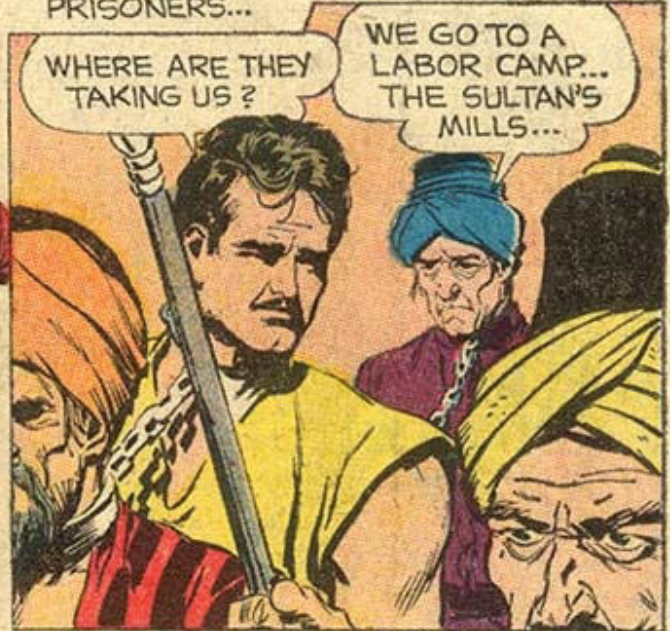
KARIM FIGHTS HARD, BUT THERE ARE TOO MANY GUARDS....



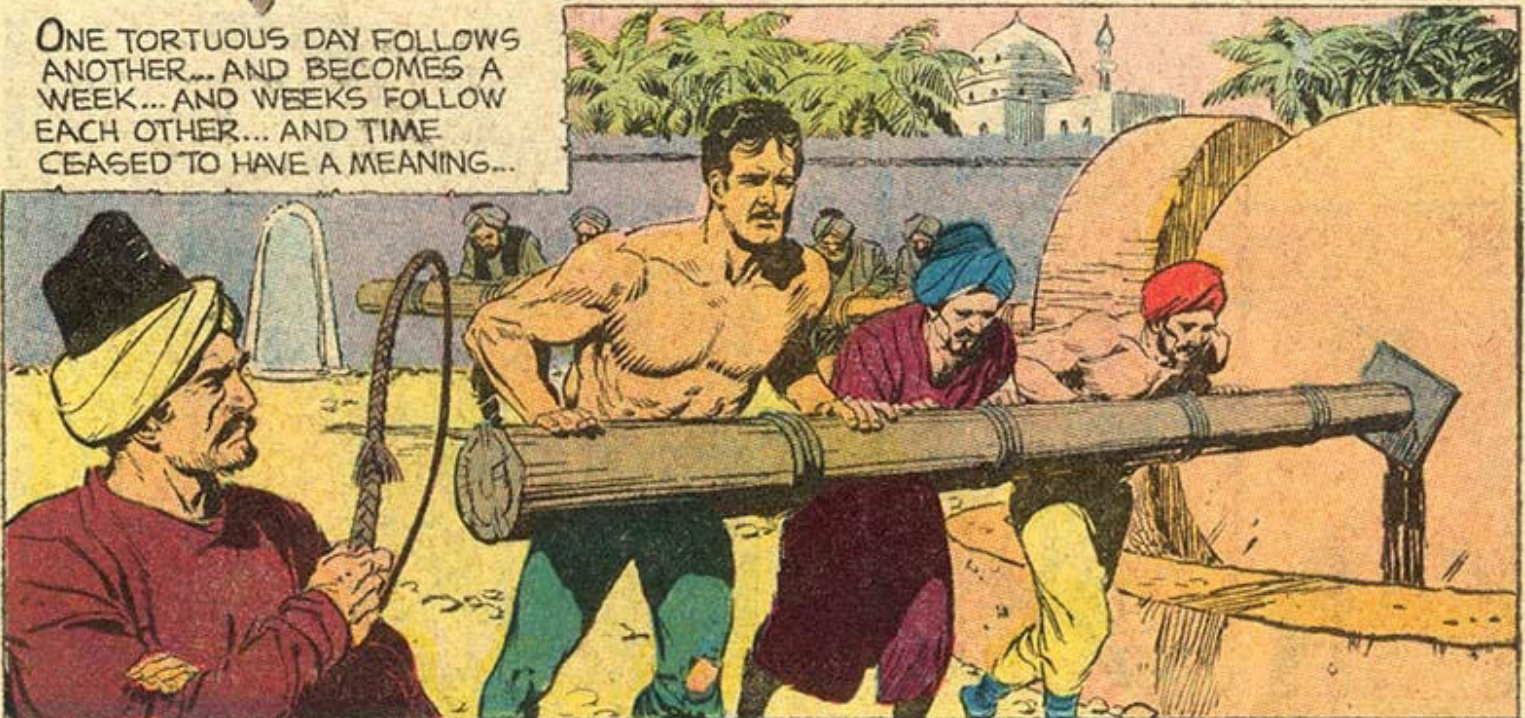
KARIM IS CHAINED TO OTHER BAGHDAD PRISONERS...

WHERE ARE THEY TAKING US?

WE GO TO A LABOR CAMP... THE SULTAN'S MILLS...



ONE TORTUOUS DAY FOLLOWS ANOTHER... AND BECOMES A WEEK... AND WEEKS FOLLOW EACH OTHER... AND TIME CEASED TO HAVE A MEANING...



ONE DAY, IN A GROUP OF NEW PRISONERS, ARE KARIM'S FRIENDS, ALI AND MALEK.

PRAISE BE TO ALLAH. MALEK... DO YOU SEE?

WE THOUGHT HIM DEAD. AND NOTICE... KARIM SEES US!



ONCE ALI AND KARIM ARE PUT TOGETHER... THEY SPEAK IN WHISPERS...

IT IS SAID THE PRINCESS AMINA IS ILL... THAT SHE HAS BEEN POISONED...

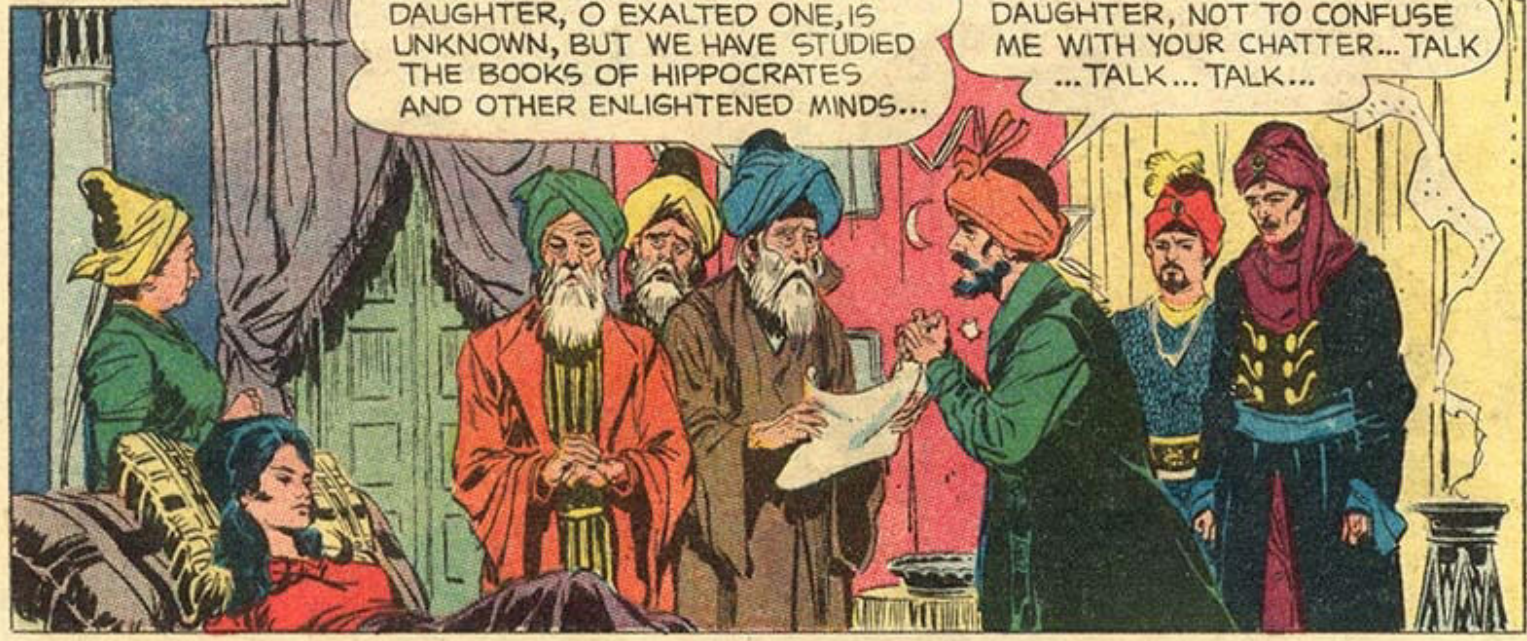
THE PRINCESS... ALI, I MUST GET OUT OF HERE! I MUST... I MUST...



MEANWHILE...

THE DISEASE AFFLICTING YOUR DAUGHTER, O EXALTED ONE, IS UNKNOWN, BUT WE HAVE STUDIED THE BOOKS OF HIPPOCRATES AND OTHER ENLIGHTENED MINDS...

YOU ARE HERE TO HEAL MY DAUGHTER, NOT TO CONFUSE ME WITH YOUR CHATTER... TALK ...TALK... TALK...



IT IS OBVIOUS THAT SHE LOVES ANOTHER. TELL ME WHO HE IS AND I SHALL CALL MY ARMY!

IT IS USELESS, HIGHNESS. NOT EVEN YOUR VICTORIOUS ARMY CAN DESTROY A MAN WHO DOES NOT EXIST. HOW CAN SHE LOVE SOMEONE SHE HAS NEVER SEEN?



OUTSIDE THE DOOR...

I TELL YOU I MUST SEE THE SULTAN. I CAN CURE HIS DAUGHTER, WHEN NO ONE ELSE CAN DO SO!

AND I SAY YOU ARE AN OLD LUNATIC. BE GONE WITH YOU!

ABDOUL, WAIT....



OLD MAN, SCIENTIST, MAGICIAN, .. WHOEVER YOU ARE, .. YOU SAY YOU CAN CURE MY DAUGHTER?

WHOEVER BRINGS HER A BLUE ROSE WILL CURE YOUR DAUGHTER AND WILL BE GREETED AS HER BRIDEGROOM.



THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A BLUE ROSE, HIGHNESS. THIS MAN IS A FOOL! SHE WILL MARRY PRINCE OSMAN. LET ME THROW HIM INTO THE PIT!

THIS MAN TELLS AN UNTRUTH, HIGHNESS.



THE OLD MAN SNAPS HIS FINGERS AGAIN, AND....

IT IS A SASH AGAIN! AH, NO!

I BELIEVE YOU, O VENERABLE OLD MAN, BUT HOW IS THIS ROSE TO BE FOUND?



WHO BRINGS THIS ROSE MUST BE ARMED WITH LOVE, COURAGE AND WISDOM. HE MUST PASS THROUGH THE SEVEN GATES. THE FIRST GATE IS IN THE EAST. IT IS SEEN WHERE IT IS NOT....



HE'S... DISAPPEARING INTO THE AIR!

NIGHT... IN THE YARD OF THE SULTAN'S MILLS...



A FALLING STAR! IT IS SAID THEY ARE THE SOULS OF THE UNHOLY, FALLING, FALLING....

NO, THEY ARE PEARLS.

DOG OF A PRISONER, HOW DARE YOU SPEAK TO US!

AH, NOBLE GUARD, BELIEVE ME, SHOOTING STARS BECOME PEARLS. MOST ALWAYS THEY FALL INTO THE SEA. BUT SOMETIMES THE DAMPNESS OF THE NIGHT CHANGES THEM.

KARIM STEALTHILY TAKES A STOLEN PEARL FROM ITS HIDING PLACE AT HIS BELT...



...AND THROWS IT TO THE GROUND.

LOOK! WHAT DID I TELL YOU?

IT'S TRUE! IT'S TRUE! LOOK! A PEARL... A PEARL!

SCATTERING TWO OR THREE PEARLS, KARIM WATCHES GROWING EXCITEMENT AMONG THE GUARDS. QUIETLY HE SIGNALS THE OTHER PRISONERS AND MOVES TOWARD THE GATE...



HE WAITS UNTIL ALL PRISONERS ARE OUTSIDE, THEN HE LOCKS THE GATE SHUT, AND...

BY EARLY MORNING KARIM ARRIVES IN THE CITY. ALREADY THINGS ARE BUSTLING. THEN...

THERE, OLD KEY! YOU'VE LOCKED UP YOUR LAST PRISONER!

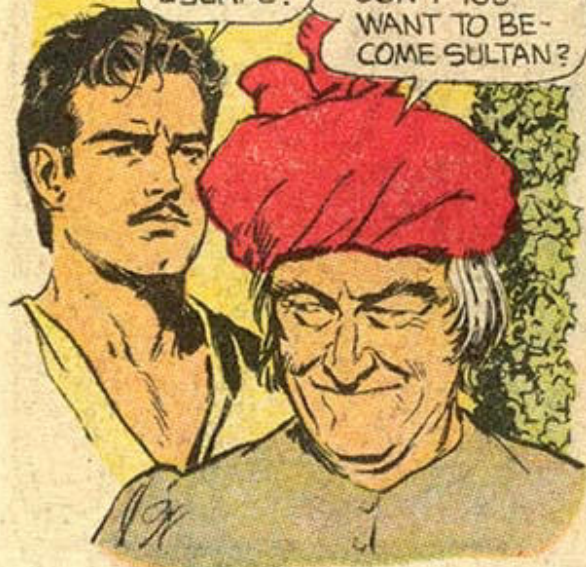
YOU!

I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU! I SEE YOU ARE PUNCTUAL!



SINCE YOU SEEM TO KNOW EVERYTHING, WHY DIDN'T YOU HELP ME TO ESCAPE?

THERE ARE TIMES WHEN ONE MUST THINK FOR HIMSELF. BUT... DON'T YOU WANT TO BECOME SULTAN?



I'M IN NO MOOD TO JOKE. I HAVE HEARD THAT THE PRINCESS IS ILL...AND SOMETHING ABOUT A BLUE ROSE!

WHO BRINGS HER THE BLUE ROSE WILL CURE HER AND BECOME SULTAN. SEE ALL THE YOUNG MEN WEARING BLUE? PERHAPS YOUR FRIEND MALEK, THE TAILOR, COULD MAKE YOU A BLUE GARMENT?



A FEW DAYS LATER, AT THE PALACE....

YOU ALL KNOW THE PROPHECY. WHO BRINGS THE BLUE ROSE SHALL HAVE MY DAUGHTER'S HAND...

YOUR HIGHNESS...



DO YOU WANT THIS MAN TO MARRY YOUR DAUGHTER, HIGHNESS? HE IS KARIM, THE THIEF! JUST ESCAPED FROM PRISON!

IF HE IS A THIEF, ARREST HIM!



BUT THERE ARE JUST TOO MANY BLUE-CLOTHED SUITORS...

I HAVE YOU, THIEF!

NO, I HAVE HIM!

LET GO, YOU FOOL. IT IS I, PRINCE OSMAN, YOU ARE CHOKING!



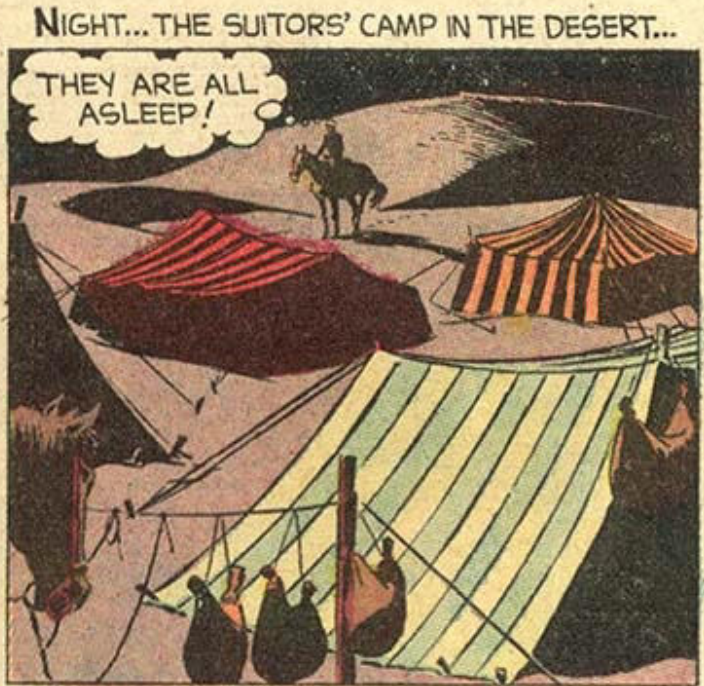


STOP! STOP, THIEF!

THANKS, ALI!



ARREST THAT DOG!
ARREST THAT TRAIN DRIVER!



NIGHT... THE SUITORS' CAMP IN THE DESERT...

THEY ARE ALL ASLEEP!



NOW I HAVE ENOUGH FOOD AND WATER. THE OTHERS HAVE MORE THAN ENOUGH ... PROBABLY WILL NOT EVEN MISS WHAT I HAVE TAKEN...



LATER....

SO THE SULTAN EXPECTS ME TO COMPETE WITH ALL THIS RABBLE! ... I, THE GREAT OSMAN!



WELL, THEY WILL NOT LAST LONG IN THE DESERT WITHOUT WATER!



WITH THEM OUT OF THE WAY, I'LL SOON HAVE A BLUE ROSE... AND WITHOUT PASSING THROUGH EVEN THE **FIRST** GATE, NOT TO MENTION **SEVEN!**



BY MID-AFTERNOON OF THE NEXT DAY...

ONLY OSMAN IS MISSING. HE SLASHED THE WATERSKINS!

YES... THE GREAT PRINCE ... OH... I'M DYING OF THIRST... DYING...



I.... CAN'T GO ON....



KARIM HAS BEEN FOLLOWING THE TRAIL OF THE OTHERS....

WHAT'S WRONG, MAN?

WATER...





I WILL CALL BACK THE OTHERS SO THAT THEY ALSO CAN DRINK.



WHO CALLED US ?

IT IS KARIM, THE THIEF. HE HAS WATER...



STRANGE ARE THE WAYS OF ALLAH. WE WERE BETRAYED BY A PRINCE AND SAVED BY A THIEF. THANK YOU, KARIM.

THE WATER I TOOK FROM YOU SHOULD LAST US TO THE NEXT OASIS.



BUT WHERE DO WE GO ? WHERE IS THE GATE ? WHERE IS IT ? WE HAVE TRAVELED EAST....

LOOK!



IT IS ONLY A MIRAGE...

BUT WE ALL SEE THE SAME THING! ... THE FIRST OF THE SEVEN GATES, THAT IS SEEN WHERE IT IS NOT!



HASSAN, COME BACK, YOU FOOL! DON'T TRY TO GO ALONE!

AT DUSK THE NEXT DAY....

HASSAN MAY HAVE REACHED THE GATE YESTERDAY. IF WE HURRY, WE CAN GET THERE BY NIGHTFALL!



THE FIRST GATE!

ALTHOUGH I'M WEARY, I CANNOT SLEEP. PERHAPS THE FULL MOON KEEPS ME AWAKE... BUT IT HAS JUST COME UP...

WHAT'S THAT?



WAKE UP! WAKE UP! THE TREES HAVE GONE MAD!

HELP! HELP!



HE'S FREE, BUT IT'S TOO LATE! AND NOW THE BROKEN SWORD....



THROUGH THE NIGHT, KARIM FIGHTS DESPERATELY, USING BURNING LOGS FROM THE CAMPFIRE....



ALL THE OTHERS HAVE GONE! I MUST FIGHT THEM ALL ALONE! ALLAH, HELP ME TO GET TO THE SECOND GATE!



IT'S DAYLIGHT AND ALL THE TREES HAVE BECOME TREES AGAIN!



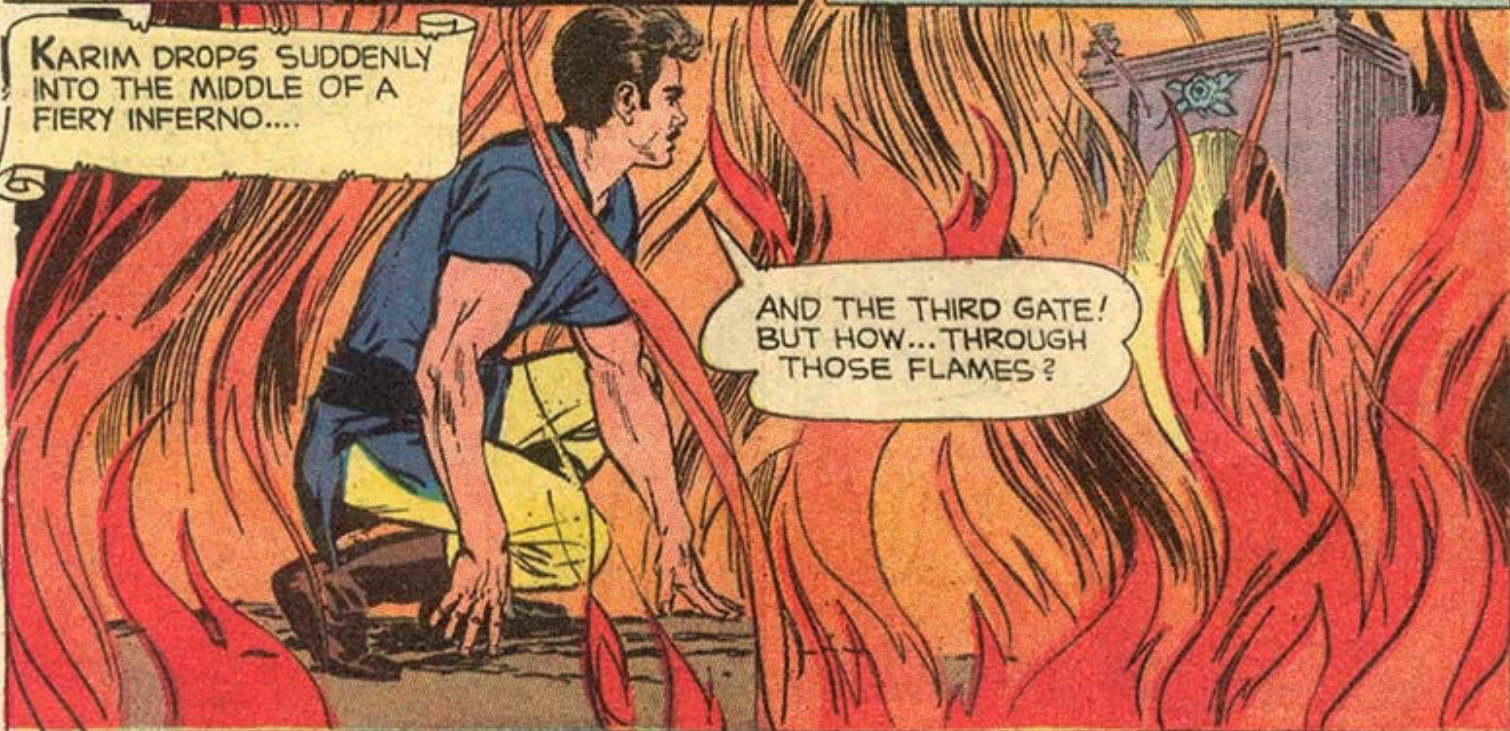
KARIM WALKS WITH DETERMINATION TOWARD THE SECOND TRIAL, WONDERING WHERE HIS JOURNEY WILL TAKE HIM....



THIS LOOKS LIKE THE END OF EVERYTHING!



KARIM DROPS SUDDENLY INTO THE MIDDLE OF A FIERY INFERNO....



AND THE THIRD GATE! BUT HOW... THROUGH THOSE FLAMES?



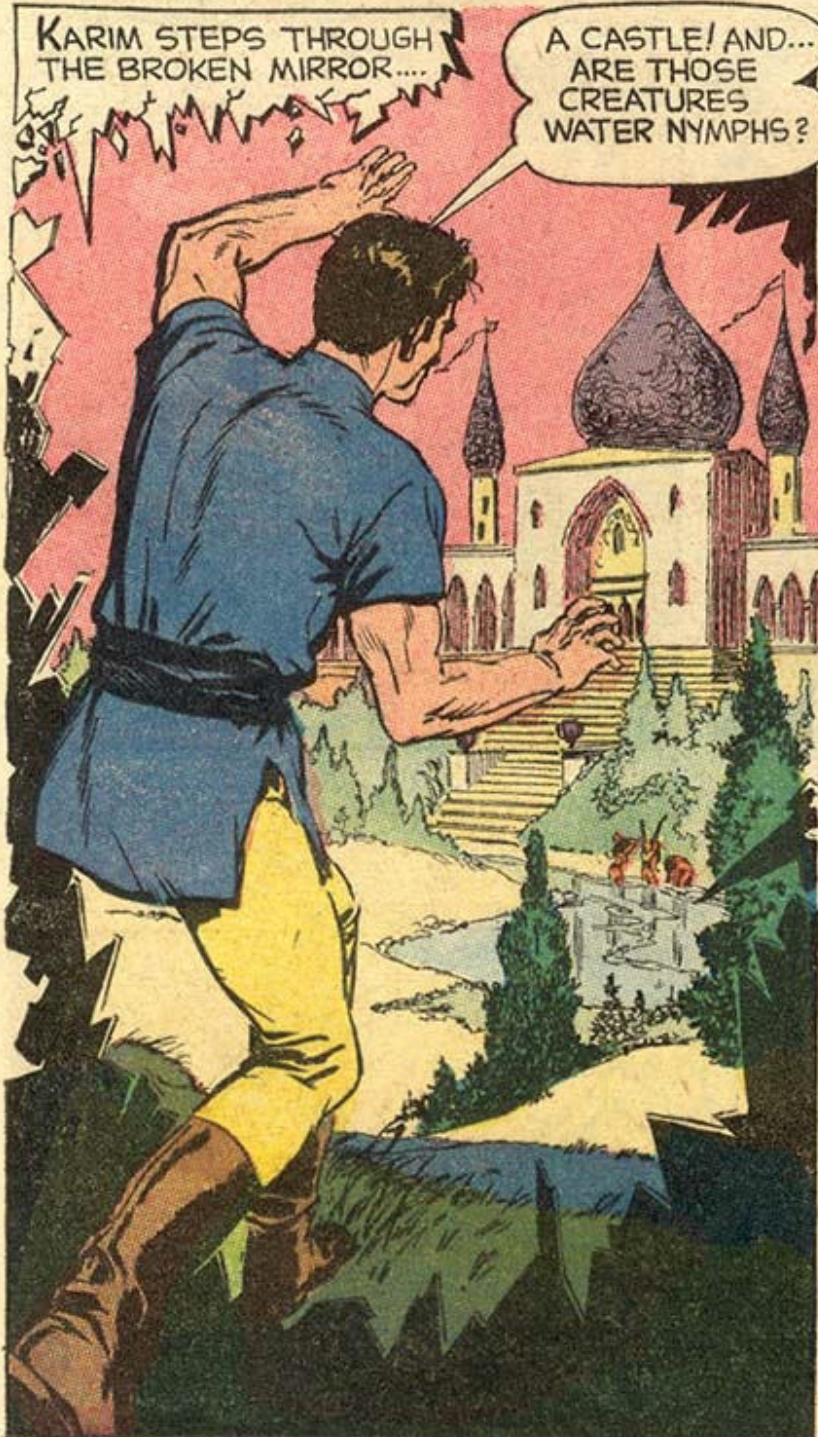
I'M... COUGH-COUGH... STIFLING... SUFFOCATING... I... COUGH.. CAN'T BREATHE!



BUT THIS WILD FLOWER... AS FRESH AS THE MORN... UNTOUCHED BY THE FLAME... I WONDER...



THE FLAMES WERE ONLY A REFLECTION IN A MIRROR OF THE FLAMES ACROSS THE CHASM! THE LITTLE WILDFLOWER SAVED ME!



KARIM STEPS THROUGH THE BROKEN MIRROR....

A CASTLE! AND... ARE THOSE CREATURES WATER NYMPHS?



THE NEXT GATE! HOW CAN THIS BEAUTIFUL PLACE BE A TRIAL?



MY NAME IS KADEEJAH. YOU HAVE GONE THROUGH MANY DANGERS TO COME HERE... I WELCOME YOU... KARIM.

YOU KNOW MY NAME?

AREN'T YOU TIRED OF FIGHTING? COME... STAY WITH ME!

MY LADY, I AM GRATEFUL, BUT I CANNOT STAY. I MUST GO ON...



STAY TONIGHT, KARIM, AND I WILL LET YOU SEE YOUR AMINA THIS MINUTE. PROMISE?

SEE AMINA? ... I PROMISE!



THERE SHE IS, KARIM.

AMINA!



MY LOVE FOR YOU HAS GIVEN ME STRENGTH. SEE, I BRING YOU THE BLUE ROSE...



AMINA HOLDS THE ROSE LISTLESSLY. A TEAR DROPS ON THE PETALS....



AMINA'S TEARS FALL ON THE ROSE... AND SOON THE BLUE COLOR IS WASHED AWAY... THE ROSE TURNS WHITE....





WHAT DOES THIS MEAN, PRINCE OSMAN? THAT YOU HAVE LIED? THAT YOU HAVE DYED A WHITE ROSE?

IT MEANS I HAVE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS NONSENSE!



I WILL RETURN AGAIN, BUT NOT AS A GUEST! AS MASTER! YOU WILL NOT WITHSTAND MY ARMY!



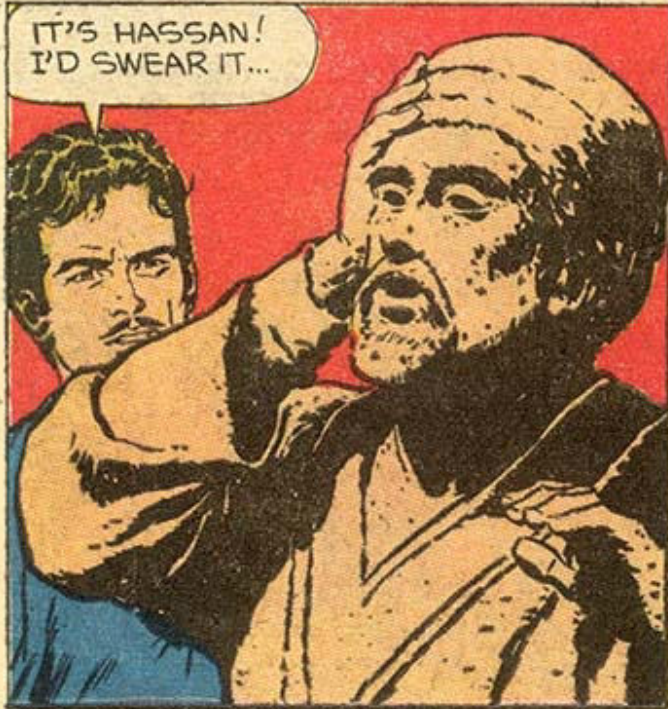
I MUST LEAVE, KADEEJAH, BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!

NO, YOU PROMISED. TOMORROW I WILL SHOW YOU THE WAY TO FIND THE BLUE ROSE!

KARIM, DISTURBED, BUT WILLING TO KEEP HIS PROMISE, AGREES TO STAY. WHILE WALKING ALONE IN THE GARDEN....



THESE STATUES LOOK LIKE REAL PEOPLE. THIS ONE...



IT'S HASSAN! I'D SWEAR IT...



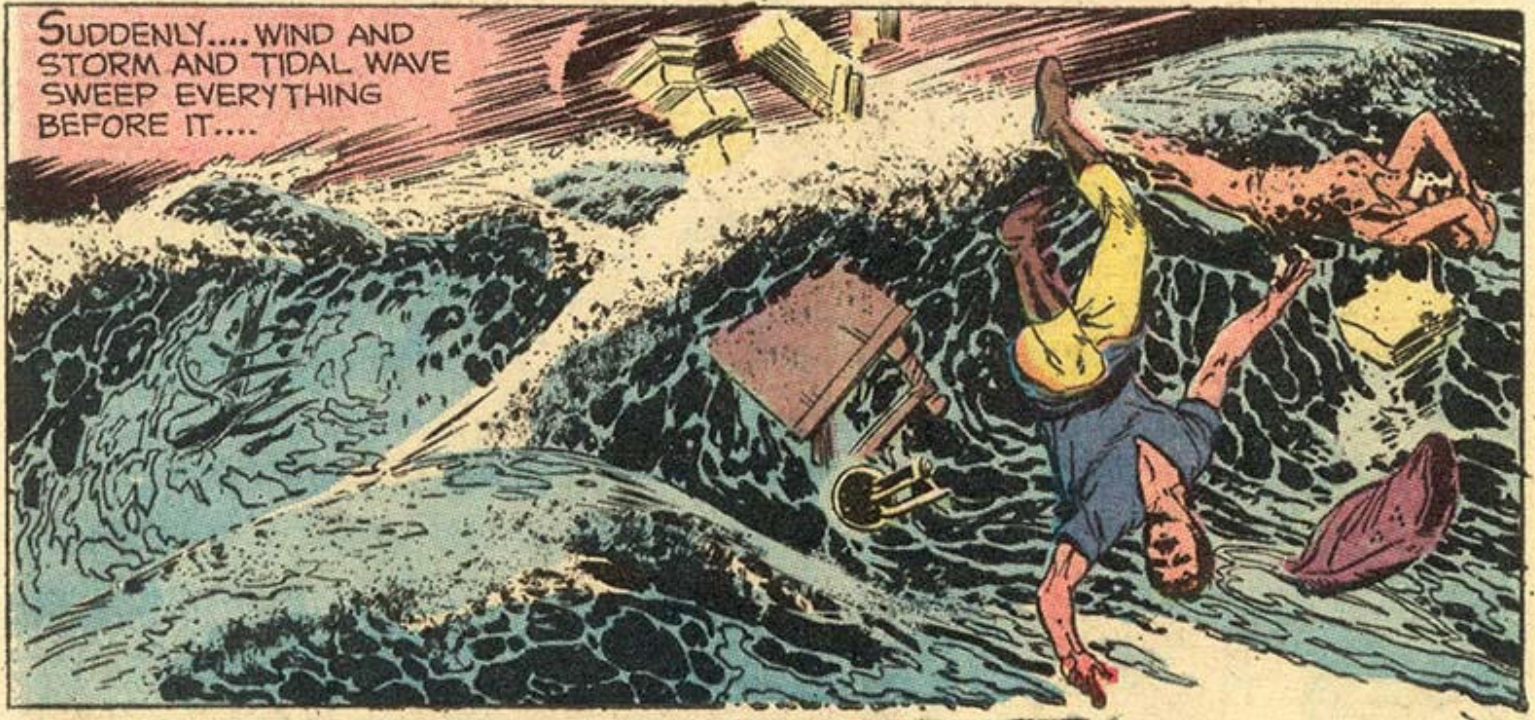
KADEEJAH, THOSE STONE STATUES...

JUST A FAMOUS SCULPTOR'S WORK. COME AND DRINK A TOAST WITH ME!



KARIM HAS BECOME SUSPICIOUS OF KADEEJAH... AS HE TALKS, HE SWITCHES THE DRINKS....

"TO OUR LONG LIFE TOGETHER," SAYS KADEEJAH, DRAINING HER CUP.... THEN....



KARIM LOSES CONSCIOUSNESS AND IS WASHED UP ON A LONELY BEACH....



MEANWHILE, OSMAN IS WAGING WAR. OUTSIDE THE CITY WALLS....



LATE THAT NIGHT....



KARIM AT LAST AWAKENS ON THE BEACH....





OOOF... WHAT HAS HIT ME?



SO IT WAS THE CAPE THAT MADE YOU INVISIBLE!



A MAN DOES BETTER, WHEN HE CAN SEE WHAT HE'S DOING!



THE ONLY PATH LEADS UPWARD, SO I GUESS I GO THIS WAY!



THE NEXT GATE!
A BLACK CASTLE!



KARIM COMES TO A ROOF GARDEN, LOOKING OUT OVER A BROAD LANDSCAPE...



SUDDENLY, KARIM IS SURROUNDED BY A THREATENING GROUP...



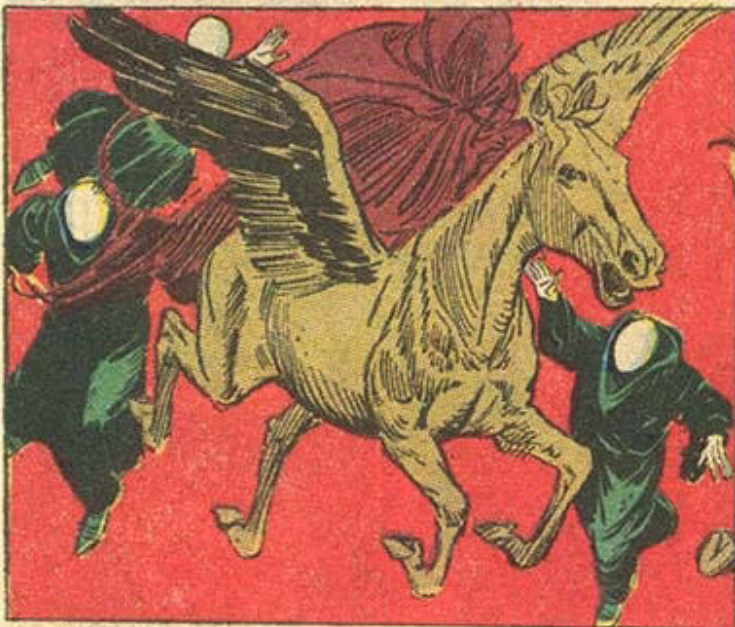
THEY ALL HAVE HEADS OF EGGS, BUT THEY'RE TOO MANY... TOO MANY....



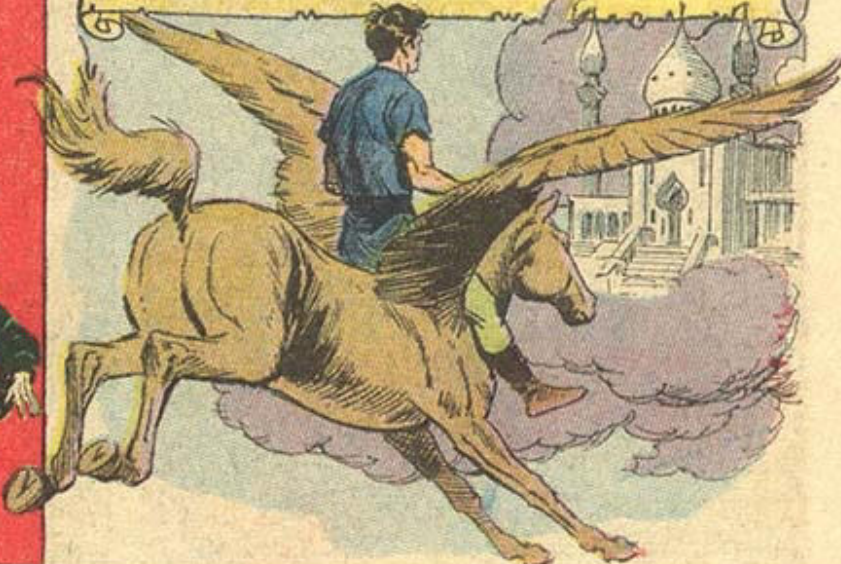
IF I CAN GET THIS CLOAK ON....



WITH THE CAPE AROUND HIM, KARIM BECOMES INVISIBLE....



THE EGG-HEADED MEN PULL THE CLOAK FROM KARIM AS HE ESCAPES AND THEY THEMSELVES BECOME INVISIBLE...AND THEN A NEW HORIZON....





A CRYSTAL PALACE!
AND THE LAST
GATE!



THE BLUE ROSE
AT LAST! THERE,
BUT FOR ME TO
PLUCK!

BUT AS KARIM MOVES TO
PLUCK THE ROSE...

SEARCH AS HE WILL, KARIM FINDS NO DOOR THROUGH
THE WALL....



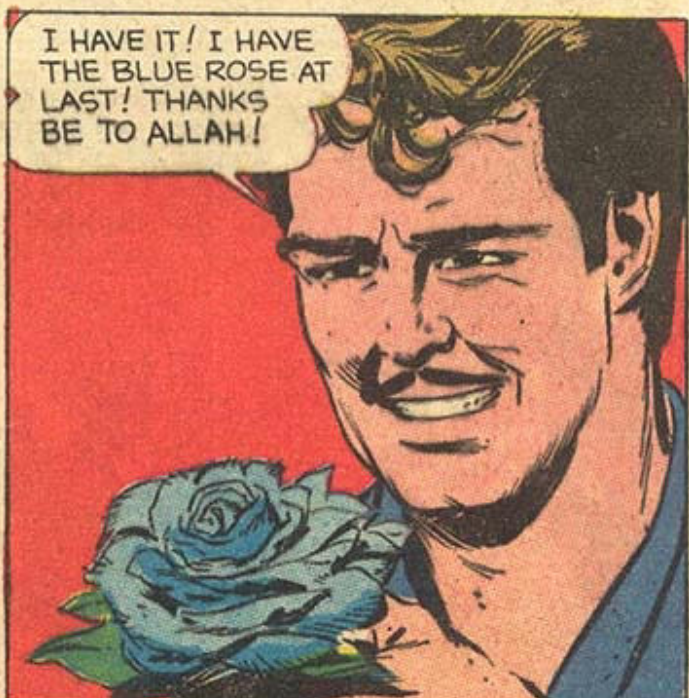
OW-W-W-W!
A WALL... AN
INVISIBLE
WALL!



NO USE... I CAN'T FIND
A WAY... WAIT! THIS DRAFT
BLOWS MY TORN GARMENT!
A BREAK IN THE WALL?



IT IS A DOOR!
AT LAST!



I HAVE IT! I HAVE
THE BLUE ROSE AT
LAST! THANKS
BE TO ALLAH!



WELCOME, MY FRIEND. YOU ARE THE WORTHIEST OF ALL!

IN THE NAME OF ALLAH, WHO ARE YOU?



YOU WILL KNOW IN A VERY SHORT TIME NOW. KEEP THIS GIFT IN MY MEMORY. IT WILL GRANT YOU ONE WISH, BUT **ONLY** ONE WISH!

I WILL TRY TO WISH WISELY. THANK YOU, VENERABLE OLD MAN, FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART!

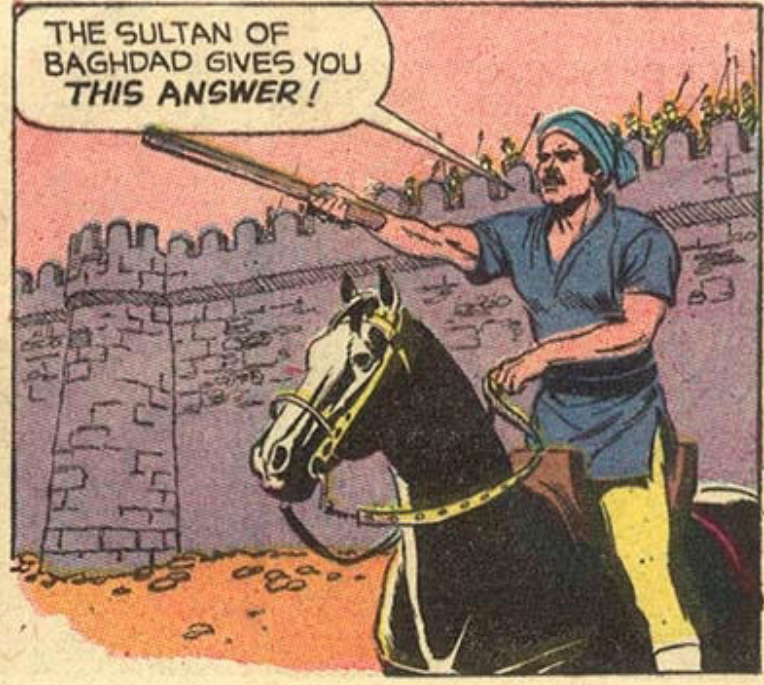
BEFORE THE WALLS OF BAGHDAD, TWO DAYS LATER...

THESE ARE THE WORDS OF MY LORD: "I OSMAN, PRINCE OF THE LAND BETWEEN THE TWO RIVERS, DECLARE MYSELF LORD OF YOUR KINGDOM. I ORDER THAT THE CITY GATES BE OPENED TO ME, AND THAT DUE HONOR BE PAID MY FOLLOWERS."



HE HAS MY BELOVED AMINA. WHAT ANSWER CAN I GIVE BUT THE ONE HE WANTS?

MY GRACIOUS LORD! YONDER A SINGLE HORSEMAN! LISTEN... HE HAS SPOKEN WITH YOUR NAME ON HIS TONGUE...

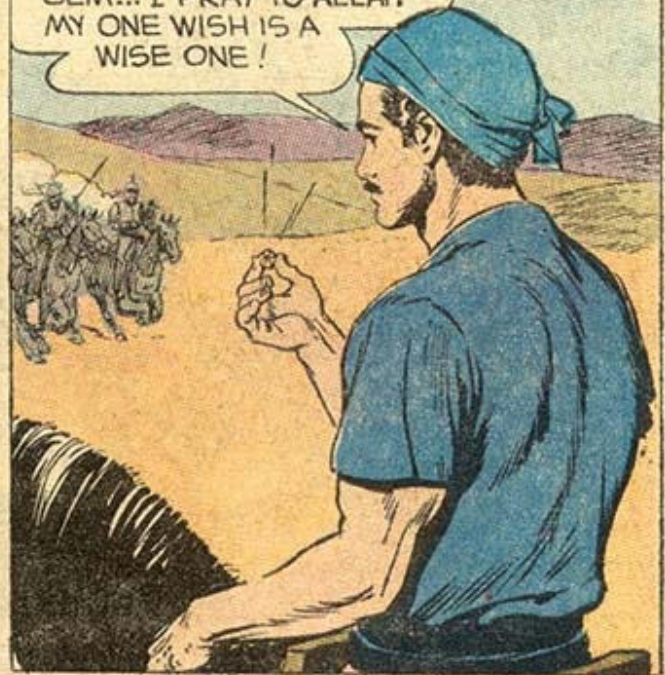


THE SULTAN OF BAGHDAD GIVES YOU **THIS ANSWER!**

THIS IS ONE TIME I WILL GIVE YOU
THE LESSON YOU DESERVE!
TAKE HIM!



OLD MAN, I HOLD YOUR
GEM... I PRAY TO ALLAH
MY ONE WISH IS A
WISE ONE!

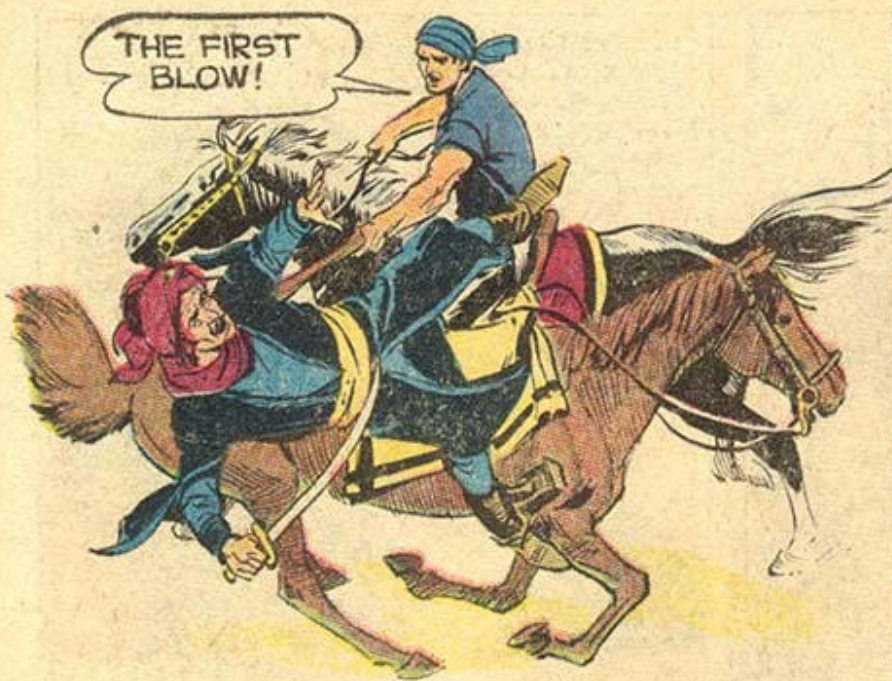


ON TO BATTLE, MEN! AND
WHO TAKES A WOMAN BY
FORCE SHALL BE PUNISHED
BY A HUNDRED BLOWS!



SUDDENLY, THE AIR
IS FILLED WITH AN
ANGRY ROAR, NOT
OF ONE KARIM, BUT
OF THOUSANDS
OF KARIMS....





THE FIRST BLOW!



... TWO ... THREE ... FOUR ...



... NINETY-NINE ... ONE HUNDRED ...

STOP ... STOP ...



RUN ... RUN FOR YOUR LIVES! THESE MEN AREN'T HUMAN ... THEY'RE BEWITCHED!



AND NOW FOR YOU, GRAND VIZIER ...

NO ... NO!



WAIT FOR ME, O PRINCE! WAIT ... WAIT ...



MY CHILD...
MY AMINA!

OH, FATHER... I'M GLAD...
FOR YOU... THAT YOUR
ARMY COULD WIN.



IT WAS NOT MY ARMY,
CHILD. IT WAS ALL
THE WORK OF
THAT YOUNG...
THIEF...

YOU MEAN
....KARIM?



MEANWHILE....

MY ARMY IS
DISMISSED!



KARIM'S ARMY DISAPPEARS IN A CLOUD
OF SMOKE AND ONLY KARIM REMAINS....



KARIM!

AMINA.... I HAVE IT....
THE BLUE ROSE!



IT HAS ALL BEEN FOR NOTHING... ALL FOR NOTHING. THE BLUE ROSE IS DESTROYED!

I CANNOT BELIEVE THAT ALLAH WILL ALLOW THIS.



SOMEONE HAS COME TO SEE YOU, MY DOVE!

I DON'T WANT TO SEE ANYONE!

BY THE NEXT DAY AMINA HAS GROWN STEADILY WORSE....

"YOU WILL WANT TO SEE THIS PERSON," REPLIES THE GOVERNESS...



KARIM... YOU HAVE FOUND IT!



MY PRINCESS, THERE IS ONLY ONE POWER IN THIS WHOLE WORLD THAT CAN BRING HAPPINESS. THAT IS LOVE. IF YOU LOVE ME, AMINA, THIS IS A BLUE ROSE!

I LOVE YOU, KARIM!



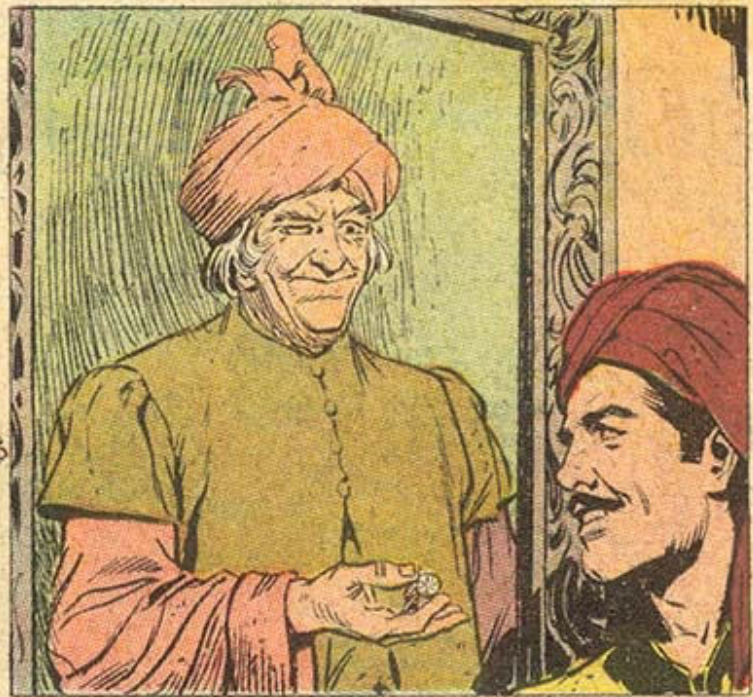
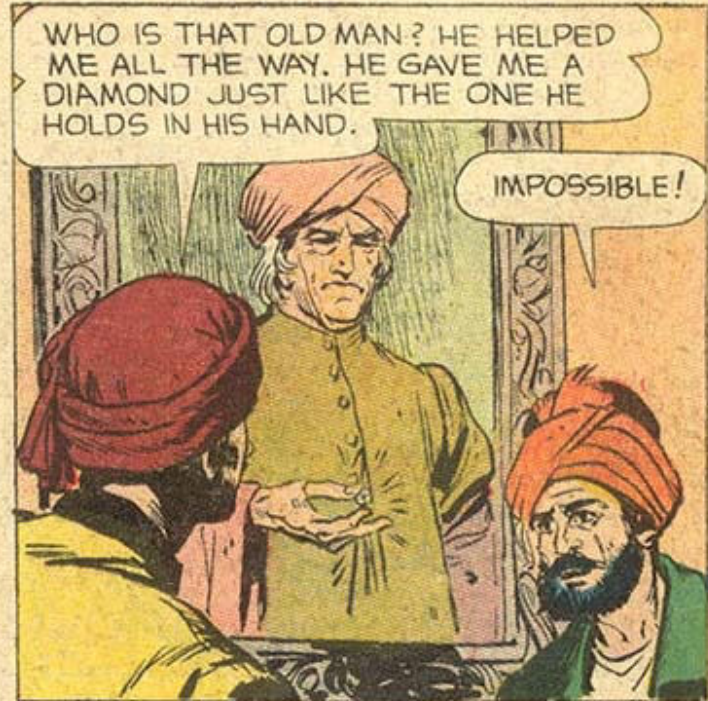
IT IS! IT IS A BLUE ROSE, KARIM..IT TRULY IS!



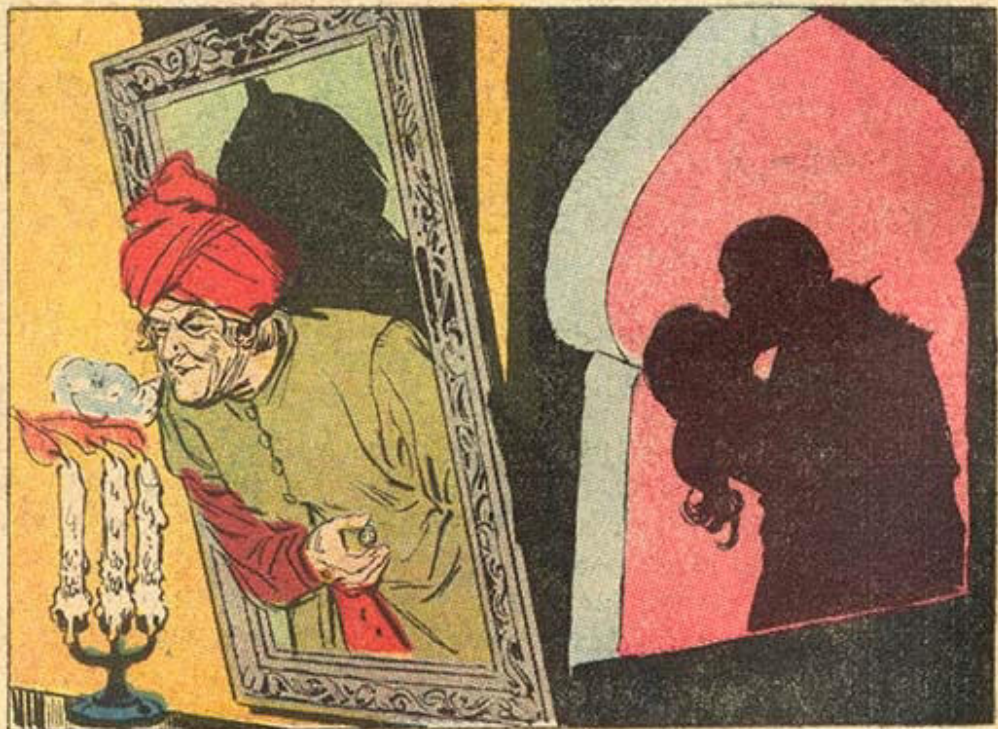
FATHER... LOOK!

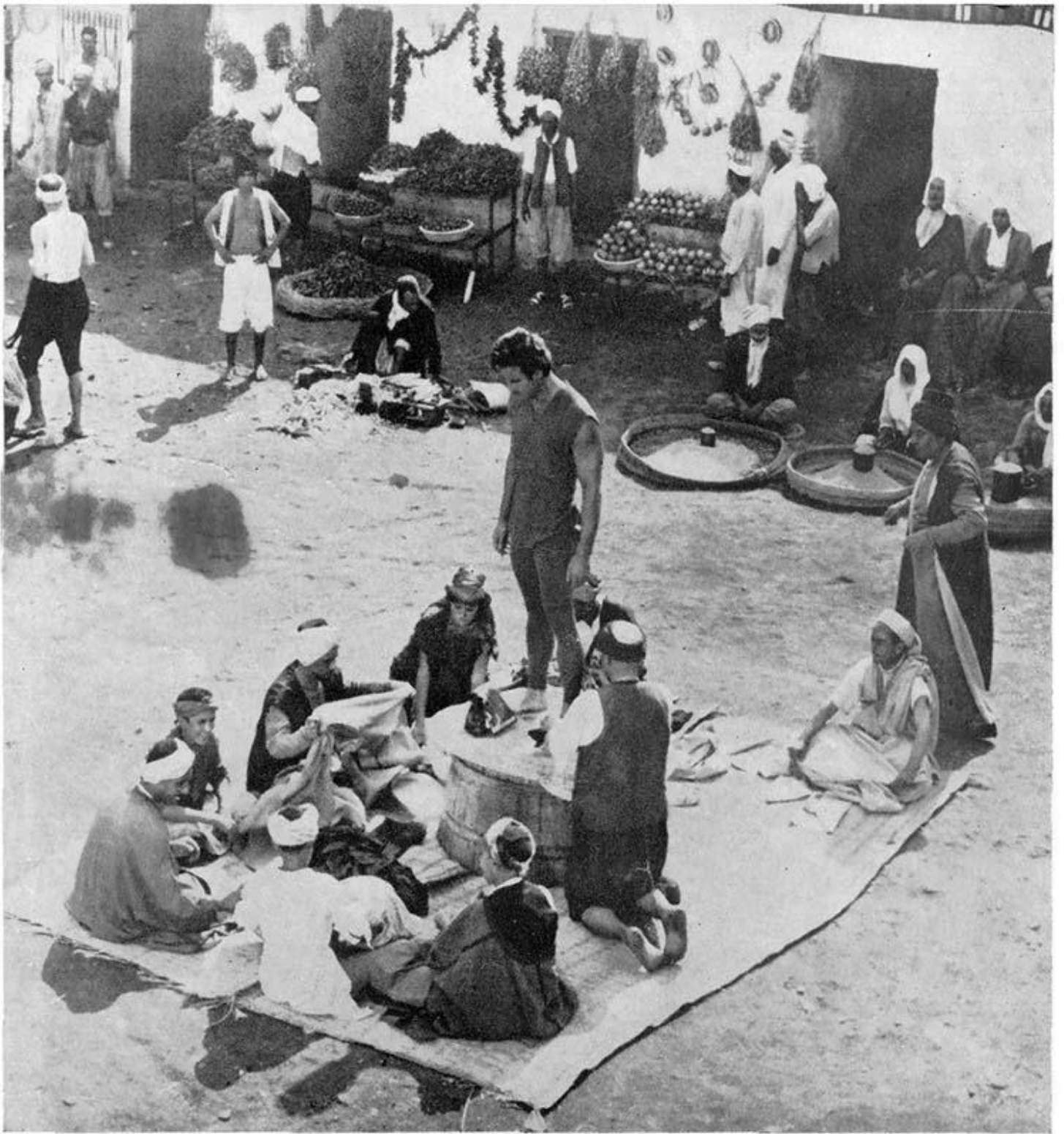
IT IS THE WORK OF ALLAH!

AMINA IS COMPLETELY RECOVERED. THERE IS GREAT REJOICING IN THE PALACE.



KARIM CROSSES TO AMINA AND TAKES HER TENDERLY IN HIS ARMS....





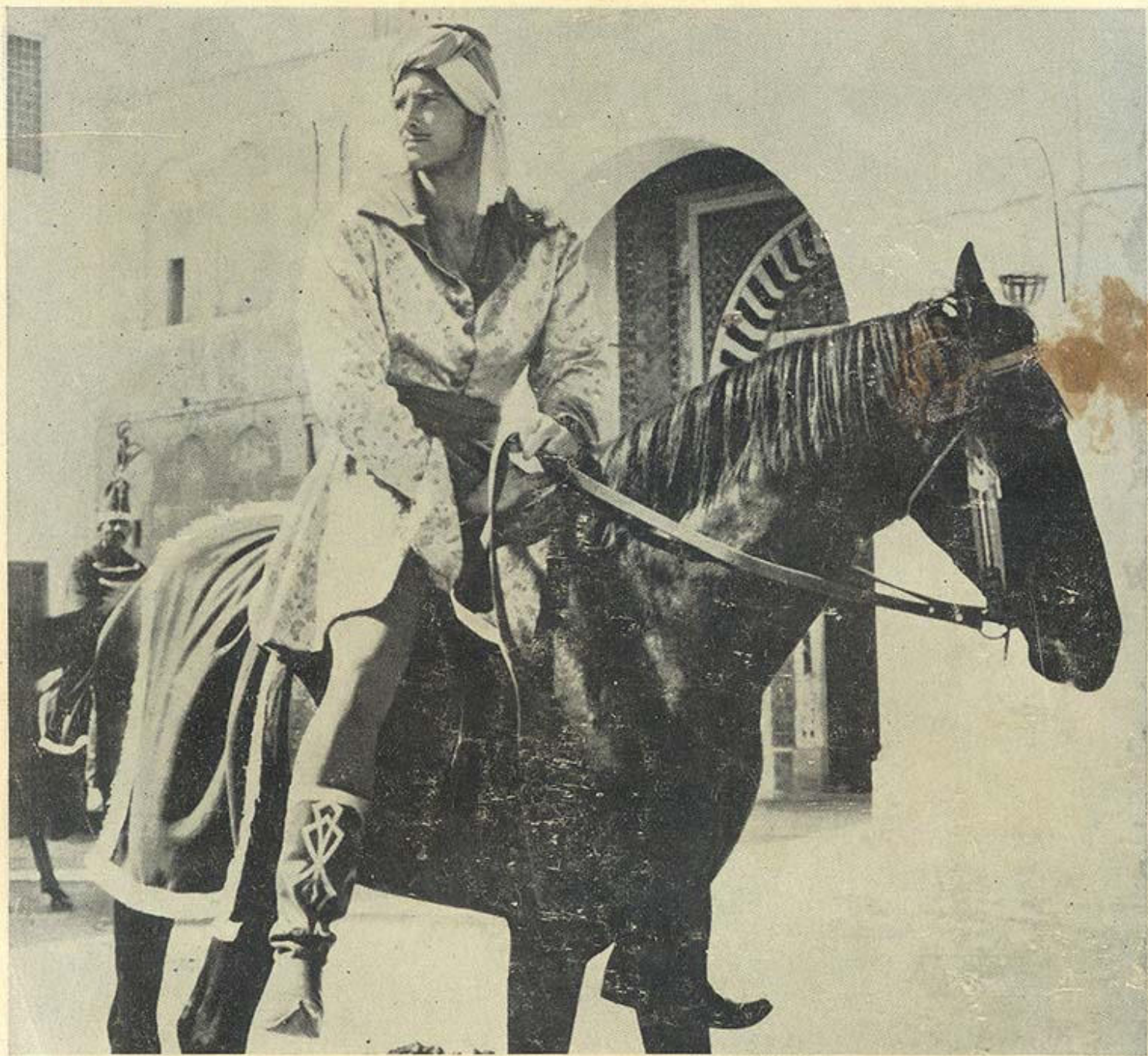
THE MARKET PLACE

Throughout the world and throughout the history of civilization the market place has been the cornerstone of life. Here in the early days of barter, men brought their wares to exchange for other goods. Later on, when money became the medium of exchange, value in terms of money was placed on materials in accordance with the desire others had to own whatever a man had to sell. This led to bargaining.

Bargaining in the eastern countries became a fine art and a seller of wares prided himself on his ability to make a sharp bargain. So much did a man develop his art of buying and selling that both the buyer and the seller expected to spend much time in the consummation of a sale or a purchase. If a buyer paid the first price asked, the seller was disappointed, for even though his profit might be higher on the first price, the seller lost his chance to partake in the battle of wits for which he had so carefully prepared.

Without the opportunity to bargain he could not prove to others how clever he was.

The Arabian Horse



The Arab's horse is his most prized possession and well this might be, for his very life often depends on the speed and great stamina of his steed. The Arabian tribesman loves his horse and treats him as he would a child, talking to him, petting him, and even allowing the animal to sleep in his tent.

Because of his lightness of weight, which never exceeds 1200 pounds, his grace, courage, intelligence, speed and endurance, the Arabian horse is the strain that has produced the greatest race horses the world over. Name almost any great thoroughbred race horse and you will find his ancestry springs from the Arabian horse.

But with pedigree or without, the Arabian horse is the aristocrat of the breed.