



Tales from the Arabian Nights

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From Reader Review Tales from the Arabian Nights for online ebook

Gus says

What a fun read!

sara says

LOVE IT :)!!!!

Amy says

great fun to read

Erica says

Interesting stories but very dated of course, with male dominated themes and some racism that just make you want to roll your eyes. And a few stories have parts that make no sense or aren't really explained. But I read it since the stories of the Arabian Nights are considered a classic. This edition had a good selection of stories but one story, "Story of the Three Calenders, Sons of Kings, and of Five Ladies of Bagdad" omitted the last part of the story for no apparent reason and I had to look it up online to read it. So I wouldn't recommend this particular edition.

Mia says

This book has a lot of stories in it. They are easy to get lost in, many of the classic Arabian stories are in it like Aladdin and Sinbad the sailor. All the stories are translated from Arabic to English. Some of the stories start out in Arabia and end up in places like China or Africa. All the stories come are told during another story. In the story a girl tells a bunch of stories and those stories tell stories. It can get confusing. And every story they tell has a theme to it like be Honest or be Kind.

Stephen Stewart says

An enjoyable compilation of various iconic fairy tales. Probably one aspect I enjoyed the most was the use of the initial frame narrative and frequent use of stories begetting other stories. Still, I wish the initial frame narrative did come to a conclusion and complete the book.

Henry Martin says

The Tales from the Arabian Nights is probably the finest example of what a magical narrative should be. If I had to categorize this collection of tales, I would not call them fairy tales, but rather magical tales.

Since almost everyone is familiar with the premise behind these stories, I shall not go into detail concerning the backdrop for this fine collection. Rather, I shall express my opinion about them.

Aside from the impact these tales (once introduced in Europe) had on the western literary tradition, they continue to entertain generation after generation of readers the world over. Unlike many passing narratives, The Tales from the Arabian Nights remain timeless, for in their core they portray human nature perhaps better than any other similar collection. They can be enjoyed by readers both young and old, new and experienced, and even the returning reader is sure to find some new experience, some overlooked detail, or a new lesson.

For, in reality, these tales are lessons about humanity. Within Scheherazade's narrative are woven magical lands, mysterious creatures, powerful rulers, and humble commoners. Above all, there are lessons. Lessons about us, lessons about the human nature with all its imperfections.

Yes, as it is with most tales, there is justice, but the justice in this book is not always just, the rulers are often wrong, and the wrongdoers sometimes escape their punishment. And such is, and has been, our world. But there is an inherent hope that all will turn out well, that the evil will receive, in due time, its punishment, and that the victims will be recognized and treated as such.

And that is the same hope we have to hold onto even in our times, because our world is not that different from the world of Scheherazade. We may have replaced sultans with presidents, dervishes with priests, and camels with wheeled vehicles. Nevertheless, we remain flawed.

Maggie says

An interesting compilation of fables. Typical of its genre in that they are not exactly happy little tales, though most end well. I found it interesting that many of them were connected from fable to fable. That made it difficult to put the book down at the end of the story. My favorite was Aladdin, though I was surprised that it took place in China.

Nhi Nguy?n says

I know this is just the retold version and not the original text of "One Thousand and One Nights", the stories in this little book are still quite good to make me read them from beginning to end. Some stories are sad, some are very funny, some are full of thrills and highlight the humans' intelligence. Really good to enjoy this book at the weekend.

Lynn says

These are selected tales from the Arabian Nights. They are short stories and very interesting. I have not read the Arabian Nights, so I cannot compare this to it. This book is based on the Galland French version of the tales. It took out longer sections, verses and tales that might not appeal to anyone. This book then shortened those a little more and added some drawings of scenes from the story. It was a fun way to read a short story and then put the book down until I had time to read the next one.

Nitya Sivasubramanian says

You guys!

No but YOU GUYS!

This book is batshit insane. Why are we painting it as some bizarrely romantic fantasy story when it's actually the craziest, rudest, most violent series of stories I have read in a long time.

But god it's enthralling.

Zenki the Hermit says

Emergency! Culture shock!

Whew! What a read!

Finally finished the first book of Boxall's 1001 Books to Read Before you Die.

The tales were quite interesting. And although reading the book wasn't smooth for me, I learned a lot about Arabian culture, Muslim belief, and old English words!

It was unfortunate for my book to have been lost before I finish reading Ala-ed-din and the Magical Lamp, and Ali-ba-ba and the Forty Thieves. How can I even lose a book in the middle of walking home -.-

Anyway, I still technically "finished" the book because the stories of Aladdin and Alibaba were in the Appendix.

All in all, it was quite a fascinating read and I picked up a lot of words from it :)

?Tamara says

Masterfully written!

The Sultan Schahriar had the most beautiful wife. But when he found her dishonoring him in the worst way

he has no choice but to put her to death. To ensure that this blasphemy will never happen to him again every night he takes on a new bride and every morning the bride is ordered killed by the grand vizier. But one day the grand vizier's eldest daughter comes to him and tells him that she has a plan to get the sultan to stop murdering young women. But the catch is she has to marry him first. With much reluctance the grand vizier finally agrees to her plan knowing that if she fails he will have to murder her himself. With the help of her younger sister they weave a web of stories to enchant the sultan. Every night a new story takes place and every night they are spared their lives.

Stories within stories with in stories are interweave so cleverly and beautifully that they flow into the readers very soul. Vaguely reminiscent of Aesop's Fables, these stories are magnificent and hold their own life lessons within timeless moral confines.

I enjoyed this book immensely! The illustrations are amazingly gorgeous and add to the feel of the book and the stories themselves and in a way even make the stories come to life. I feel that everyone should read this book of stories at least once in their lives. It's well worth it! ♥?

Zubaidah says

It can very interesting to learn about the Arabic culture. Tales from the Arabian nights by Sir Richard Francis Burton is a book with a lot of stories from the Arabian nights. the book has 22 stories. In the book some of the stories have very hard words like in the story. Aladdin and the magic lamp it has very hard words such as, scapegrace, befel, And much more words like that and some of the words come from the Arabic language. The dialogue was realistic some of the stories were fiction. Like there is no real magic lamp so you know it's not a real story. The type of people that would enjoy this book is if they like books with little stories in side. And this book is more towards teens and adults. People that like learning about new places may also like this book.

Danielle The Book Huntress (Back to the Books) says

Great book. Not one that can be read in one sitting, though. I really like the form of narrative, with a story leading into or encompassing another story. Most of this book is like onion layers. You really do want to have a bookmark handy if you put this one down. This was Scheherazade's tactic to keep King Shahryar's attention so that he couldn't have her executed the next morning. He was a very insane man who hated women to the degree that he would marry a virgin and have her killed the next morning. Fortunately Scheherazade was a very clever woman with a gift for fantastic storytelling. Her plan worked splendidly, as 1001 nights passed and she was still living.

If you are a fan of fairy tales, but haven't really diverted away from the European ones quite yet, this is a good stepping stone. They are filled with the exotic and mystical appeal of the East, but are similar enough to the European tales to maintain that fairy tale appeal.

I'm sure that most people are familiar with some of the staples: Sinbad, Aladdin, Ali Baba, but there are other, less popular, but just as good or better stories in the Arabian Nights that it was a joy to discover for the first time.

This is a shorter version of the Arabian Nights. A good place to start for a beginner or a person with a short attention span (I tend to be like the latter at times). I intend to read the full-length version. Barnes and Noble

has a version available Arabian Nights The Book of a Thousand Nights and a Night. It may take me a while, but it gives me something to look forward to. Definitely delve into the Arabian Nights. You won't be sorry when you do.
