



Arabian Nights (Educator Classic Library) (Volume 8)

Andrew Lang

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One Thousand and One Nights is a collection of stories collected over many centuries by various authors, translators and scholars in various countries across the Middle East and South Asia. These collections of tales trace their roots back to ancient Arabia and Yemen, ancient Indian literature and Persian literature, ancient Egyptian literature and Mesopotamian mythology, ancient Syria and Asia Minor, and medieval Arabic folk stories from the Caliphate era. Though the oldest Arabic manuscript dates from the fourteenth century, scholarship generally dates the collection's genesis to somewhere between AD 800–900.

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Rebecca says

The edition I ended up with has been unapologetically bowdlerized, I'm afraid. At some point, I'll need to hunt down an edition that did not have things removed to be considered appropriate for children and Westerners. That said, what was left was mostly delightful...for a while. The extreme nestedness of some of the stories is entertaining and then a little irritating. More of a problem is the fact that towards the end, they start getting rather repetitive. Most unforgivably, this edition doesn't actually contain the end to Scheherazade's story.
