

A Doll's "Arabian Nights," by Vachel Lindsay

A Rhymed Scenario for Mae Marsh When She Acts in the New, Many Colored Films

I DREAMED the play was real.
I walked into the screen.
Like Alice through the looking-glass,
I found a curious scene.
The black stones took on flame.
The shadows shone with eyes.
The colors poured and changed
In a Hell's debauch of dyes,
In a street with incense thick,
In a court of witch-bazaars,
With flambeaux by the stalls
Whose splutter hid the stars.
Camels stalked in line.
Courtesans tripped by
Dressed in silks and gems,
Copper diadems,
All the wealth they had.

*Oh quivering lights,
Arabian Nights!
Bagdad,
Bagdad!*

You were a guarded girl
In a palanquin of clean gold.
I was buying figs:
All my hands could hold.
You slipped a note to me.
Your eyes made me your slave.
"Twelve paces back," you wrote.
No other word gave.

The delicate palanquin swayed
Close-veiled, a snare most sweet.
"Joy" said the silver bells
On the palanquin-bearers' feet.
Then by a mosque, a dervish
Yelled and whirled like mad.

*Oh quivering lights,
Arabian Nights!
Bagdad,
Bagdad!*

I reached a dim, still court.
I saw you there afar,
Beckoning from the roof,
Veiled, a cloud-wrapped star.
And your black slave said: "Proud
boy,
Do you dare everything
With your young arm and bright
steel!
Then climb: You are her king."
And I heard a hiss of knives
In the doorway dark and bad.

*Oh quivering lights,
Arabian Nights!
Bagdad,
Bagdad!*

The stairway climbed and climbed.

It spoke. It shouted lies.
I reached a tar-black room,
A panther's-belly gloom,
Filled with howls and sighs.
I found the roof. Twelve kings
Rose up to stab me there.
But I sent them to their graves.
My singing shook the air.
My scimitar seemed more
Than any steel could be,
A whirling wheel, a pack
Of death-hounds guarding me.
And then you came like May.
You bound my torn breast well.
With your discarded veil.
And flowery silence fell.
While Mohammed spread his wings
In the stars, you bent me back,
With a quick kiss touched my mouth,
And my heart was on the tack.
Oh dreadful, deathless love!
Oh kiss of Islam-fire!
And your flashing hands were more
Than all a thief's desire.

I woke by twelve dead curs
On bloody, stony ground.
And the gray watch muttered
"shame."

As he tottered on his round.
But you wrote upon my sword:
"Goodby, Oh iron arm.

I love you much too well
To do you further harm.
And as my pledge and sign
You are in crimson clad."

*Oh quivering lights,
Arabian Nights!
Bagdad,
Bagdad!*

The rocs scream in the air.
The ghouls my pathway clear.
For I have drunk the soul
Of the dazzling maid they fear.
The long handclasp you gave
Still shakes upon my hands.
Oh daughter of a Jim
I plot in Islam lands,
Haunting purple streets,
Hissing, snarling, bold,
A robber never jailed,
A beggar never cold.
I shall be sultan yet
In this old crimson clad.

*Oh quivering lights,
Arabian Nights!
Bagdad,
Bagdad!*

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Books Received in the Week Ending September 10

Fiction.

- LO, AND BEHOLD YE! BY SEUMAS MAC-MANUS. Irish folk-tales of Donegal. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Company.
- JUST JEMIMA. BY J. J. BELL. The humorous adventures of a Scottish maid of all work. By the author of *Wec Mac-Gregor*. New York: Fleming H. Revell Company.
- MISS EMELINE'S KITH AND KIN. BY WINIFRED AENOLD. A New England spinster with an acidulous tongue and a kind heart. New York: Fleming H. Revell Company.
- LITTLE HOUSES: A TALE OF PAST YEARS. BY GEORGE WODEN. Story of humble life in a small English manufacturing town by a new author. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co.
- SINGING MOUNTAINS. BY A. B. CUNNINGHAM. Backwoods life in the mountains of West Virginia. Carries on the story of the author's *The Mouse at Barren Rocks*. New York: George H. Doran Company.
- THE LION'S MOUSE. BY C. N. AND A. M. WILLIAMSON. Mystery and love story. Begins with a train meeting and runs on to vanishing documents and jewels. New York: Doubleday, Page & Co.
- THE CARRINGTONS OF HIGH HILL. BY MARION HARLAND. Story of plantation life in the old South a quarter of a century before the Civil War. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.
- DEEP WATERS. BY W. W. JACOBS. Short stories told by Mr. Jacobs's famous and highly humorous night watchman. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.
- MUFTI. BY "SAPPER." (Cyril McNeile). English novel posing the problem of how to adjust the claims of labor with the possessions of inheritance. New York: George H. Doran Company.
- MIST OF MORNING. BY ISABEL ECCLESTONE MACKAY. Gentle romance of childhood, youth and young love. New York: George H. Doran Company.

For Children.

- FOR DAYS AND DAYS. BY ANNETTE WYNNE. An anthology of verse for children arranged in groups for the months of the year. With silhouette decorations, colored end papers and a cover in colors. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Company.

Religion.

- THE SILVER ON THE IRON CROSS. BY JAMES I. VANCE. The author saw service overseas with the American Expeditionary Forces. New York: Fleming H. Revell Company.

For Boys and Girls.

- LITTLE MISS BY-THE-DAY. BY LUCILLE VAN SLYKE. About a girl who speaks English only with a French accent, although she knows no French. Until 17 she never went beyond the garden gates of her country home but the story takes her to an old home on Brooklyn Heights. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Company.
- GOLDEN DICKY. BY MARSHALL SAUNDERS. Story of a canary bird and his companions, a dog, sparrow, cat and a monkey. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Company.
- THE BOYS' AIRPLANE BOOK. BY A. FREDERICK COLLINS. How to build airplane models; explanations of flight; instruments used on airplanes explained. Illustrated with diagrams. Index. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Company.

Verse.

- POEMS. BY THEODORE MAYNARD. Includes the poems published in England in Mr. Maynard's earlier volumes, *Laughs and Whiffs of Song*, *Drums of Defeat* and *Folly*. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Company.
- HAUNTS AND BY-PATHS AND OTHER POEMS. BY J. THORNE SMITH, JR. Some war verse, but the place of honor is given to sea verses. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Company.
- THE POEMS OF W. E. HENLEY. The nineteenth edition. Henley's most famous poem is the one called *Inbriety*, but is not here so called. See page 119. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.
- A WORLD OF WINDOWS. BY CHARLES HANSON TOWNE. Mr. Towne is editor of *McClure's Magazine*. New York: George H. Doran Company.
- WHEN WE WERE LITTLE: CHILDREN'S RHYMES OF OYSTER BAY. BY MARY FANNY YOUNG. Introduction by the late Theodore Roosevelt. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co.
- CHAOS: A VISION OF ETERNITY. BY ALTAIR. In the form of poetic drama, with chorus. The author is in public life. New York: Douglas C. McMurtrie, 2929 Broadway.

Letters.

- THEODORE ROOSEVELT'S LETTERS TO HIS CHILDREN. Edited by JOSEPH BUCKLIN BISHOP. A book of interest to every American who admired Roosevelt and to every American that has young children. Illustrated with drawings with which Colonel Roosevelt decorated his letters. Frontispiece in photogravure showing the Colonel and his four boys. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.
- TAMA: THE DIARY OF A JAPANESE SCHOOL GIRL. Assembled by FLORENCE WELLS. New York: Woman's Press.

Music.

- VIOLIN MASTERY: TALKS WITH MASTER VIOLINISTS AND TEACHERS. BY FREDERICK H. MARTENS. Interviews with Ysaye, Kreisler, Elman, Agur, Thibaud, Heifetz, Hartmann, Maud Powell and others. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Company.

Health.

- TOWARDS RACIAL HEALTH. BY NORAH H. MARCH. A handbook for parents, teachers and social workers on the training of boys and girls. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co.

International Subjects.

- THE ORIENTAL POLICY OF THE UNITED STATES. BY HENRY CHUNG. The author is a Korean and the book has an introduction by Jeremiah W. Jenks, who was adviser to the Chinese Government. New York: Fleming H. Revell Company.
- CHINA OF THE CHINESE. BY E. T. O. WERNER. English textbook; extremely useful guide to the traveller. Index. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.
- MODERN GERMANY: HER POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. BY J. ELLIS BARKER. New and enlarged edition, the sixth, by an English authority. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co.
- PEACE AND BUSINESS. BY ISAAC F. MARCOSSON. A reporter's economic discoveries in the countries of Europe and their relation to American trade. New York: John Lane Company.
- THE SOUL OF THE "C. R. B." BY MADAME SAINT-BENE TAILLANDIER. By a sister of Andre Chevrillon. The story of Hoover relief work in Belgium. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.

Outdoors.

- CANOEING, SAILING AND MOTOR BOATING. BY LIEUT. WARREN H. MILLER, U. S. N. All about building and rigging sailing craft, handling of canoes and motor boat management. Illustrated with photographs and diagrams. Based on articles appearing in *Field and Stream* and *Outing*. New York: George H. Doran Company.
- THE TREE BOOK. BY INEZ N. McFEE. For the general reader. Chapters on the different trees. Photographic illustrations. New York: Frederick A. Stokes Company.
- NEW RIVERS OF THE NORTH. BY HULBERT FOOTNER. Yarn of two amateur explorers of the headwaters of the Fraser, the Peace and the Hay rivers and Alexandra Falls. With photographs. New York: George H. Doran Company.
- FISHING, TACKLE AND KITS. BY DIXIE CARROLL. Practical information on game fish: how to land them; the correct tackle and how to use it. Cincinnati: Stewart & Kidd Company.

Carnegie Peace Publications.

- NOTE: The following books are publications of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace made through the Oxford University Press, New York:
- JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF CONTROVERSIES BETWEEN STATES OF THE AMERICAN UNION. Edited by JAMES BROWN SCOTT. A collection of cases decided in the Supreme Court of the United States. In two volumes.
- BRITISH WAR ADMINISTRATION. BY JOHN A. FAIRLIE. No. 8 in a series of preliminary economic studies of the war, edited by David Kinley.
- EFFECTS OF THE GREAT WAR UPON AGRICULTURE IN THE UNITED STATES AND GREAT BRITAIN. BY BENJAMIN H. HUBBARD. No. 11 in the series of preliminary economic studies of the war, edited by David Kinley.
- DISABLED SOLDIERS AND SAILORS: PENSIONS AND TRAINING. BY EDWARD T. DEVINE AND LILIAN BRANDT. No. 12 in the series of preliminary economic studies of the war, edited by David Kinley.

History.

- THE STORY OF THE REVOLUTION. BY HENRY CABOT LODGE. Library edition of a work first published in 1898 in two volumes and printed as one volume in 1903. Splendid index. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.
- PRESIDENT WILSON'S GREAT SPEECHES AND OTHER HISTORY MAKING DOCUMENTS. The speeches begin with the war message of April 2, 1917, and go back to 1913 or earlier. The other material consists of the notes exchanged with Germany during the war and some of the President's later speeches in Europe. Chicago: Stanton & Van Vliet.
- NAPOLEON'S STRUGGLE WITH THE HUN. BY HARRY H. HUGHES. An incoherent account of the Napoleonic wars with some account of the French Revolution and allusions to the recent war. Wichita, Kansas: Johnston Press & Publishing Co.

Electricity.

- THE PRINCIPLES OF ELECTRIC WAVE TELEGRAPHY AND TELEPHONY. BY J. A. FLEMING. Fourth and revised edition of a standard work by an English authority first published in 1906. Exceptionally well illustrated with charts, diagrams and photographs. Mathematical formulae in great detail. Index. New York: Longmans, Green & Co.

Essays.

- MY "LITTLE BIT." BY MARIE CORELL. "Inspirational essays" on current topics. Nearly all are war time utterances. New York: George H. Doran Company.

Miscellaneous.

- THE KEY TO THE UNIVERSE. BY HARRIETTE AUGUSTA CURTISS AND F. HOMER CURTISS. Significance of numbers, letters, the circle, triangle, seal of Solomon. The authors are Christian Mystics. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co.

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