

**HASSAN: THE STORY OF HASSAN
OF BAGDAD AND HOW HE CAME
TO MAKE THE GOLDEN JOURNEY
TO SAMARKAND: A PLAY IN FIVE
ACTS**

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Hassan: the story of Hassan of Bagdad and how he came to make the golden journey to Samarkand: a play in five acts by James Elroy Flecker

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JAMES ELROY FLECKER

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HASSAN

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Hassan of Bagdad and how he
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ney to Samarkand :

A Play in Five Acts

By
JAMES ELROY FLECKER



LONDON : WILLIAM HEINEMANN

CHARACTERS

HASSAN, a Confectioner.	THE PORTER of Yasmia's
THE CALIPH HAROUN AL RASCHID.	House.
ISHAK, his Minstrel.	THE CHINESE PHILOSOPHER.
JAFAR, his Vizier.	A DERSH.
MASRUR, his Executioner.	THE FOUNTAIN GHOST.
RAFI, King of the Beggars.	A HERALD.
SELIM, a Friend of Hussain's.	THE PRISON GUARDS.
THE CAPTAIN OF THE MILITARY.	PERVANEH.
THE CHIEF OF THE POLICE.	YASMIN.
ALI,)	Nondescripts.
ABDU,)	
ALDER,)	Slaves.
WILLOW,)	
TAMARISK,)	

AN AMBASSADOR, a WRESTLER, a CALIGRAPHIST, a JESTER,
GHOSTS, MUTES, DANCING WOMEN, BEGGARS, SOLDIERS, POLICE,
ATTENDANTS and CASUAL LOITERERS.

THE STORY OF HASSAN OF BAGDAD

ACT I

SCENE I

A room 'behind the shop' in old Bagdad. In the background a large caldron steaming, for the shop is a sweet-stuff shop and the sugar is boiling. The room has little furniture beyond a carpet, old but unexpectedly choice, and some Persian hangings (geometrical designs, with crude animals and some verses from the Koran hand-printed on linen). A ramshackle wooden partition in one corner shuts off from the living room what appears to be the shop.

Squatting on the carpet—facing each other :

HASSAN, *the Confectioner, 45, rotund, moustache, turban, greasy grey dress.*

SELIM, *his friend, young, vulgarly handsome, gaudily clothed.*

HASSAN

(Rocking on his mat) Eywallah, Eywallah.

SELIM

Thirty-seven times have you made the same remark, O father of repetition.