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

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649106875

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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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd. Cover @ 2017

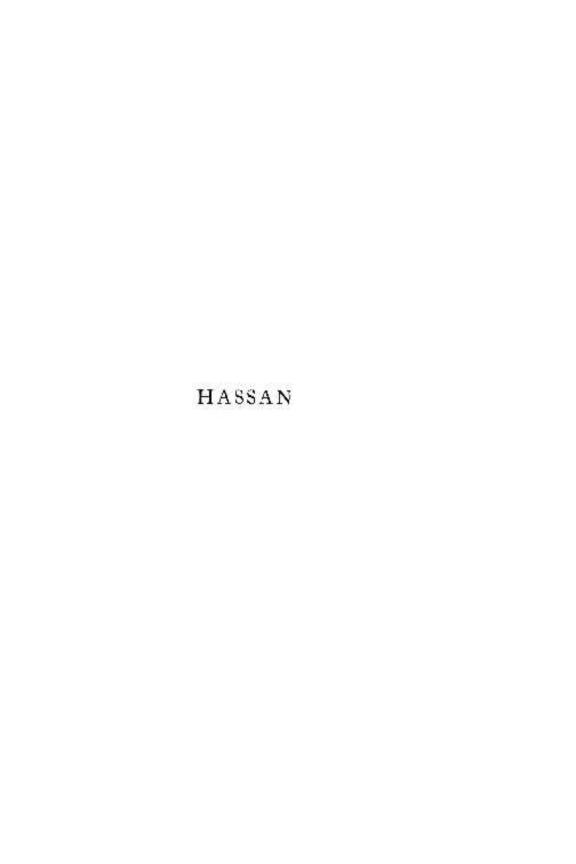
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JAMES ELROY FLECKER

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CHARACTERS

Hassan, a Confectioner.
The Califfi Haroun Al Raschid.
Ishar, his Minstrel.
Jafar, his Vizier.
Masrur, his Executioner.
Rafi, King of the Beggars.
Selim, a Friend of Hussan's.
The Captain of the Military.
The Chief of the Police.
All,
Abdu,
Nondescripts.
Alder,
Willow.
Slaves.

WILLOW, TAMARISK, The Porter of Yasmin's House.
The Chinese Philosopher.
A Dervish.
The Fountain Ghost.
A Herald.
The Prison Guards,
Pervaneh.
Yasmin.

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 unimals 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.