

Magic Tree House, Book 34

Season of the Sandstorm (Unabridged)

Chapter 1: the golden age

Jack put his mass home work set, he open the drum beside the bed and put up a small hand-made book, for a hundreds of time he stared at the title of the cover: ten magic realms for Anne and jack. From teddy and Catherine. One dream jack and Anne be able to use these magic again. The books ten realms would be used on four missions and each realm could be used only once. Jack and Anne had already used two realms on their mission in Venice.

Jack! Anne rushed into jack's room.

Her eyes were shinning.

Bring the book, let's go.

Where? Said jack.

You know where.come on. Anne called and she ran back downstairs. Jack quickly put teddy and Catherine's book into his backpack he put on his jacket and took off downstairs, Anne was waiting on the front porch,

Hurry ! she cried.

Wait! How do you know it's there? Jack said,
Because I just saw it. Anne shouted.
She hurried down the porch step and cross the yard.
You saw it? Actually saw it? Yelled jack as if he saw Anne through
the chilly winter air.
Yes, yes! Anne yelled.
When? Shouted jack.
Just now. said Anne. I was walking home from the library. And I had
this feeling. So I went to look and they were waiting for us.

Jack and Anne rushed into the frog creek woods they ran between
the morning shrub budding and leaves over ..of early spring. Until
they came to the tallest oak.
See? Said Anne.
Yes. Agreed jack.
They stared at the magic tree house. It rub letter the dingo above
the mushy ground
Anne started climbing up, jack followed. When they got inside, jack
pulled out his backpack,
Look! A book and a letter! anne said.
She picked up the folded letter from the floor, and jack picked up
the book with gold cover,

That dad. jack said.

He showed the book to Anne, its title was: the golden age of baghdad.

A golden age? Anne said.

That sounds cool.

Wait! We should read the letter first. Said jack.

Right. Said Anne.

She unfolded the paper, lorenze's handwriting. She said. she read aloud.

Dear jack and Anne of frog creek:

Your mission is to journey to Baghdad of long ago and helped the caliph spread wisdom to the world. To succeed you must be humble and use your magic wisely. Follow his way.

What is the caliph? Said jack.

And what's Merlin means spread wisdom to the world?

That's a big responsibility.

I don't know. Said Anne. let me finish. She kept reading.

Follow these instructions:

Ride the ship of the desert

On cold starry night

Ride to the dust and half morning light

Ride the horse on the dune
The one who says all
In the heart of the city behind the third wall
Beneath bird to singing the room of the tree
Great friends wants new and new friend to be
Remember the line of ...you cresses
Return to the tree house before the moon rises
Am

It sounds pretty easy. Said Anne.
No. it doesn't. said jack. This instruction had so many mysterious.
We don't know any of them mean.
We will find out when we got there. Said Anne. the first we should
get there make the wish!
Ok! Said jack.
He pointed to the cover of the book,
I wish we could go to the golden age of the Baghdad. He said.

The wind started to blow, the tree house started to spin. It span
faster and faster. Then everything was still. Absolutely still.

Chapter 2: no where

Jack felt hot, he opened his eyes, birding song like flooding into the tree house. He and Anne were wearing long cloak ropes tight with cords. They were white head cloths, and pointing slip on shoes. Jack's backpack turned into a ladder shoulder pack bag.

We looked like character that Merlin's book gave us. Said Anne.
tails from Arabian nights.

Yeah. Like the lad of Ali Baba. Said Jack.

Shading their eyes from sunny bright, Jack and Anne squirmed out of the window. They had landed on the spiky crowned of palm tree. It was the tallest tree in the columns of the palm trees. Raw thrush and slashed green grass scull under the trees. A small spring popped up from the ground surrounding the palm trees miles and miles of squashing sand.

It doesn't like a golden age to me. Said Anne.

Yeah. It's Baghdad. Asked Jack.

He picked their research book and opened it to the first page he read aloud:

From seven hundred and sixty two AD to twelve hundred and

eighty eight AD the area of the golden age. Through that time the ruler known as caliph governed the empire that stretched for thousand miles. The capital of the empire was the city of Baghdad an important center for learning and trade.

Jack closed up.

So the caliph was the ruler. He said. And they probably lived in Baghdad.

Yeah! But how do we get there? Asked Anne.

Patience. Said Jack. Remember on our last mission, we learned we have to do things in order that one thing at a time.

He read the first part of Merlin's instructions:

Ride the ship of the desert

On the coast of our night

Right to the dust on morning light

I wonder what the ship of the desert is? Or shepherd? Said Jack looking up.

Well, whatever it is, I am sure you will find it. Naturally. Anne said slowly as she tried to soothe patience

We could just sit here and keep an eye out for Big Bolt.

Or..

Or what? Said jack.

Maybe we could use one of teddy and catherine's magic realms

Not yet. Said jack.

Merlin said we have to use the magic realms wisely. We just got here we used two realms on our last mission and we only have eight left between three.

Ok! Ok! Anne broke in. we could use them realms with absolutely nothing could go to do. Right?

Right. Said jack.

So? Said Anne. what do you think we should do

We could stop or stair working. Said jack.

Work where? Said Anne. which ways back to ...

Jack looked out the window, the yawn the palm trees was nothing but sand and sky. In the distance were lonely dunes the desert was nearly silent.

We couldn't ... jack couldn't think anything else.

We could reads the realm book. He said.

Jack pulled the book of magic realms out of his backpack, he and Anne read it on the table of the room, and read it together.

Make a stone come to live, read Anne

There was our last mission we can do that again.

It wouldn't help any way . said jack.

He looked at another realm

Bent the arms red, already done that too

Turn it to ducks! Read Anne.

She looked at jack,

No he said

Ma'am can not be ma'am. Read Anne

Nothing needs mending. Said jack.

How about this one? Said Anne.

Make helpers of people out of no wire.

Well. Said jack . maybe.

It's perfect. Said Anne

That's what we're no wire. I be sure we can use some helpers.

Ok. Said jack. I have read teddy and Catherine's book in her saluke language.

Ok. Said Anne.

she turned to the page of realm, she held book to jack. Jack read aloud in voice.

From far beyond the helpers here,

Then Anne read,

Ha..yee..bey, ha..yee..killer.

The second Anne finished the realm, wind gusted from the outside, blew the crowd of cloud of sand to the window. The wind shook the palm trees and sent blow Anne's eyes.

Ah... she said.

Get back! Cried jack.

Jack and Anne jumped away from the window, they pressed themselves against the window, wall, covered themselves in places. Gridding sands kept blowing into the tree house.

It's a sand storm. Cried jack.

The hug hot sand piled up of floor, then the wind died down as it suddenly started. The palm tree stopped shaking, jack and Anne looked out of the window. The air was squeak with the dusts, making it hard to see. But the sand storm was still.

I think it was over. Said Anne.

I hope so. Said jack. Why did our magic realm carried us to sand storm as the helpers?

I don't know. Said Anne maybe we set it wrong.

Jack brushed the sand of their research book, and looked up at the sand storm through the index.

He found the right page and read:

The season of the sand storm was began on the desert of early February, and it continues all spring. Winds can blow as fast as forty mile per hour. Sand storm can easily cause travelers to lose their way in the desert.

I don't understand. Said jack. We don't need lose our way. We need find our way.

Just as the song sounds came from outside. Jack and Anne looked out of the window. Through the hails hills, they saw four riders sat high on the camels. The riders wore black colored robes behind them dozen more camels was retired loaded down at the saddle bags.

As the camels swamp from side to side, bells tinkled from their necks.

Helpers! She said.

Chapter 3: mammon

Anna staged out of the house tree window,

Hi! She called.

Shl... said jack. Cooling her back in .pulling

Don't let them see us up here. It 's too hard to explain the tree

house. Let's go down.

Good point. Said Anne

She handed Merlin's letter to Jack and started down through the rope ladder. Jack grabbed the shoulder back, he put the letter inside and added their research book and realms book along in the backpack. Cross the chest and climbed down

When they stepped into the ground. Jack twisted the rope ladder by the tree trunk, so they couldn't be noticed,

Ok! He said to Anne

Hi! Anne called again away leaving.

She and Jack stepped down into the open

The camel riders had palm trees, and lead made them camel meat.

As they climbed off, Jack and Anne reminded over to them. The man wore long black robe, he had long white beard, stern dark eyes.

Who are you? He asked unsmiling. And where do you come from?

I am Anne and this is my brother Jack, said Anne

Our home is far away from the frog creek of Pennsylvania.

I have never heard of such a place. The man said. and how do you come here and desert alone?

Ah... Jack didn't know what to say.

We are riding with our family, Anne said. we stopped rest here. My brother took a map nap on this tree, when we woke up, everyone was gone. They like go to be a mistake. See, we have a really big family. There many brothers and sisters, Anne! said jack. It seemed too much she talked.

The man looked unconcerned.

Why have they not come back for you? He said gazing out of the desert. I hope there's now back and found us.

Are there a band from here? Asked Anne

There many bands pulling desert. Said the man.

Jack looked anxiously around the sandy plain.

That's one must always have trouble with others. Said the man. But I hope your family will return for you. Soon.

Excuse me. Anne said politely.

But who are you. How did you come here?

I am a merchant. The man said. my caravan was travelling from the west you'll be surprised by sudden sands of ..it seems to come from no way. But like your brother wishes, we'll rest and water our animals to sand to go down. In the cool of the night, we will travel on be night dawn.

The caravan leader to his man spoke to them. They just mounted and started taking saddles from off the camels.

Anne turned to jack,

See.. a running moto. She whispered.

The sand storm was magic, it brought us here and with the band died.

But I guess we can get them down to help us. Said jack.

But Merlin said we should be humble and let's offer the help then .
said Anne.

She walked over to the camels' leader. Who's feeling a campus compass, get from the water, from the small spring.

Excuse me. Said Anne.

We wonder if we could help you.

The man gave her a quick smile.

Thank you. Yes. He said

If you could gather dates she would be most appreciated. My men are very hungry.

He handed Anne two large baskets,

No problem! Said Anne.

Look other dates?

Anne carried the baskets to jack,
Do you know what date is? She whispered.
I suppose to gather some.
I will look it up. Said jack

With his back from the camel riders, he pulled out his research book out the backpack, and looked up dates. He read:

Dates were known as the fruit of desert. They hang on brunches of date palms. People gather dates by shaking and chocking the trees. Not only the dates the important food but the wood and leaves of date trees palms are used to make a lot ...

Ok! I got it. ! interrupted Anne

She pulled the baskets down,
Let's start shaking the trees!

Jack pulled the book away, looked around. It's the first time he knew the brunches are browned fruit, growing hanging from the trees. He grabbed hold the near tree trunk, Anne grabbed the tree trunk from the other side. Together, they shook the tree. Until dates began falling unto the ground

In the desert heat, jack and Anne were wet from the tree to tree,

shaking each one to gathering the dates out from the ground.

By the time they had gathered the baskets filled with dates. The tree blasting long shadow over the ..

Tightly and sweetly, jack and Anne carried their dates basket to the camel riders' leader, meanwhile he was pulling water from the deep spring hole.

Oh! Very good! He said

Thank you, jack and Anne.

You're welcome. Said Anne.

But could I ask what we can do next for you?

You should rest for the heave now. said the man. Would you set the half tea with us?

Sure! Said Anne

By the way. What's your name?

My name is very long. The man said with a smile. You may call me: mammon. Mammals god of fortune

Other camels grazed. Mammon and his man set on the moon. Spreading with grass. They shared dates and teas with jack and Anne the dark came food with soup. And chu..

The tea was strong and bitter. But good. And fire red glove setting sun.

Jack watched the grazing camels, he thought the hunter of the animals was really funny. They had knobby nose, big funny furry feet. And litter ears scratched, some camels smiled their ruby when they drank water, others grab down, home branches and sword ...without chewing

Do the swords heard the camels snow? Jack asked mammon.

No. said the camel band leader. Their hooves are very tough, their stomachs are very tough. They can eat anything pigs, bones, even a tons of saddle packs let them. Said a young camel reide. Rider.

Anne and jack laughed

What's in your saddle bags? Anne asked.

Our bags are filled with goods from greek and turkey, and Syria. Said mommon. We have many things. Jewelries, beads, and precious things like salmon, paper and vanilla (seasons like sesame, pepper and vanilla) said mammon.

To Baghdad to sell.

We have to get to Baghdad too. Said Anne.

We have to meet with caliph.

The camel riders chuckled when they heard Anne was making her joke. Only mammon did not laugh.

Your family was with the caliph? He said.

No. said Anne. just jack mean. He had to help him spread wisdom to the world.

Anne... warned jack.

The camel riders laughed loudly.

What's so funny? Anne asked.

The gale did not mean with children.? Said a young man.

Yes! He is the most powerful and important person in the world.

Oh! Said Anne funning.

The news worried jack too.

Mammon looked at jack and Anne with curious expression.

Night will soon be on panes. Send since your family not yet returned, you had to rest with us. To their dad. To Baghdad. He said.

You have journey by camels as far. I trust you can ride camels rest the way.

Sure! We can! Said Anne. we love camels.

We do? Thought jack.

Good! We love our ship to desert too. Said mammon. We'll set sail on them soon.

So that was the cheap of desert of scar? Anne whispered to jack

Camels. Thought jack

Oh! Brother!

Chapter 4: ships of the desert

The camel riders all watched silently at sun set over the faraway dunes. As the faraway ball slip beneath the horizon. The desert was flooded with ...as soon as the sun disappeared the air grew much cooler, mammon stood up, it is time to go. He said.

The camel riders put out the small fire. In the growing darkness, mammon helped them saddle on the animals load with baggage.

Then mammon came over to jack and Anne,

You can ride those two sisters. He said pointing two camels nearly sand.

Mammon then came to the famer of the land

Ride with me.

Jack and Anne watched looked over to the camel sisters. Each had rings chuckling from their necks, saddles made for them colorful curtains with piled high on their ...

Anne petted the weary colored fur from the camels

The camel looked at Anne with big eyes, and flooded to her ..

Me.. cutie.. said Anne.

The other camel nuzzled Anne's neck,

Hi! Beauty! Anne said to the other.

she want mention too.

Cutie! Beauty! Said jack.

You didn't find either camel particularly cute or beautiful.

Anne climbed unto the cutie's saddle cushion pad and picked up the reins.

Let's right. She said.

Cutie raised acutely from the kneeling position to a full stand.

Oh! Wow! Said Anne covering over jack.

She's really tall.

Jack started to climb on beauty. But the camel called to the first and began chewing it.

Stop that! Said jack. Chewing clock away from him.

Beauty opened her mouth wide and flashed rose sharp teeth.

Jack drew back.

Don't be afraid! Said Anne.

Easy for you to say, said jack. Yours likes you.

Don't worry, beauty likes too. Said Anne, I think she's tall.

Anne's camel began ambling cross the other camels ahead of the desert.

Come on! Jack. It's very fun when she's moving. She called.

Fun! Mother jack, right!

He heeled down into the saddle and put its led over beauty's ham.

The camel idle suspiciously she swished her tail and slapping it back,

Hi! Said jack.

Jack tried to get comfortable on saddle cushion but beauty spaded him made where squashing sound.

Quiet! Said jack.

He held to shoulder back unto the saddle cushion, when he was finally find saddle, beauty turned her head and started chewing her leather bag.

No! don't! yelled jack.

He tried to pulling the camel away, but beauty didn't take a warm

Come on! My goal! Give it back! Stupid!

Stupid! Do you really think she's stupid?

Jack jaunt.

Mammon had reined behind him and was watching when he tried to gain him back from beauty.

Jack was embarrassed.

I've only gone my staff. He said.

Mammon grabbed the stripe of jack's bag. He closed his tongue and let camel let go. She groaned at mammon, and leather bag and saddle horn.

For thousands years camels help us like this way. Carry people across the desert. Said mammon.

She's truly a miracle of nature.

Some miracle. Thought jack

She can drink two bellow of water in ten minutes. Said mammon.

And go faraway without drinking again. She can live many days without food.

Really? Said jack.

She is well suited to travelling in the desert. Said mammon. For sake of our lives, chapter eye who mirror the sun, for our long lashes, the fur keep out the wind blow and sand.

Cool. Said jack

Treat her softer as you do it, you'll feel the ship of desert. Said mammon. And they are so big that keep them from sinking down

into the lose sand.

mmm. said jack.

She can carry five hundred tons of bags on her back, said mammon. And travel one hundred miles in a single day.

Let's a lot. Murmured jack.

Mammon tagged down the camel's rein, and closed his tongue.

Beauty brazed heavily, as she rose up a long trip as her four legs looked four head.

Mammon looked at jack and said: we must respect her and honor her. He said. In many ways carry to us.

Oh. Jack nodded. He thought the words in Merlin's letter.

To succeed your mission,

You must be humble.

He petted the camel:

Good girl, beauty!

Mammon closed his tongue again to crotch the camel fur.

In his saddle jack rocked from side to side. He didn't feel safe, but he stayed calm. Beauty grumbled cutie, and two sisters stood together and snorted as a small pal.

The desert sky was bright with stars. Mammon called to his men and carried vans started moving toward

The camels walked to the swing motion. They made two beat big feet on one side, then two beat big feet on the other. Jack grabbed the horn of the saddle, as ship the desert rocked from left to right, rocked from right to left.

Isn't is fun? Said Anne. rocking along side them.

So is sorry. Sure it is. Said jack shivering.

Actually he didn't feel any fun at all. He felt sick when he freezing on her. Also, he was worry about the mission.

With the caliph with them? If he did, how could they help him? Spread wisdom to the world. And if Baghdad, was very far away, how would they ever find them in the tree house?

Mammon slowed his camel until he returned towards jack and Anne,

When I was a boy, I spent many quarters of time sitting in the desert waiting my father on journey to the west, he said. at first, I too thought camels were foolish, I always long for blinking for smooth ride, I wish I could ride to Baghdad, my own warm bed.

Jack smiled. He now didn't like caravan leader, but over time I come to love the call of nights. Said mammon. Now when I was sleeping in my own warm bed in Baghdad, I long to be hearing the

stat, I wish to be waiting the way went to read the stars.

How do you read the stars? Asked Anne

They have their own language. Said mammon. At this moment we are having east toward the gold star. He pointed at sky.

Jack couldn't tell which star was the gold star, but he felt it was a wonder. thousands of tiny lights sprinkled on the black dawn of night. There were more stars jack ever imaged. Some of them closed enough to touch,

Mammon started singing a song, the other camel riders joined then, jack couldn't understand the words but the tone was soaring, the camel was swinging the music

Jack stopped worrying about how they could back to the tree. And defounding actually enjoy fresh desert air. He started to relax.

Jack! Anne said softly. Guess what? We just saw the first mystery of Merlin's letter.

Ride ship of desert

On cold starry night

Yeah! Said jack happily, and it's really fun.

Suddenly a fear shouted from the king distance. Jack sat up from the strider, he heard drunk,

Bandits! One of the camel rider shouted.

Chapter 5: bandits

Jack looked around widely, dark figures and horses were galloping across the sand towards them. They were yelling and shouting.

Oh! No! cried jack. What shall we do?

We will fight them off! Said mammon. You and Anne take box right to the dunes.

Mammon pulled his saber out, and one of his saddle bags, he thrust bags into jack's hands.

Hurry! Ride as fast as you can! Protect it with your lives.

Jack frantically tried to pull the box into his shoulder bag. But mammon slapped back jack's camel and she ran forward. Jack. The rein slapped jack's hands he grabbed the saddle horn with one hand and clutched the box in the other. He held it unto his life and beauty fast galloped across the desert.

Anne's camel ran beside jack's. like as two racing horses, beauty and cutie sound cross the sand, toward the distant dunes. Rocking crazily through from side to side jack from the bags.

Slow down! He yelled. Please!

It was no use.

Beauty ran like the wind. She and her sister ran over the desert under the starry sky. Jack wanted his camel to stop, and at the same time he wanted mammon get far away from the bandits.

He began to ride. Finally the camels began to slow their pace, jack looked back.

He couldn't see the caravan at all, and no one seem to following them

When the two camels reached the dunes, they began to paw along the deep hale hails holes. Once they were nestled safely to the sand dress. They started to rest.

Cutie grinded, beauty snauted,

Thanks1 thanks! Girls!

Anne petted them,

I hope mammon and others are safe from the bandits. Said jack.

Me too. Said Anne

What's in the box he give us?

Jack held up flat with the box,

I don't know. He said. but mammon said we should protect it as our

lives.

Maybe it is precious spice. Said Anne.

I hope it's more than that. Said jack. And it's deserve my life to
sesame, pepper and vanilla.

Should we look? Said Anne.

I don't know. Said jack.

Mammon may not want us to do.

But don't you think we could protect it better if we know what it was?

Said Anne.

Maybe. Said jack

He couldn't reject Anne's point.

Ok!

Jack tried to open the lid of the box, but he couldn't

He put his finger against the key hole,

Forget it. He said. it's locked.

Shh.. listen! Said Anne.

Jack listened.

He heard high pitch the movement of rolling sound. It's sound like
music from violent a violin. Wafting through the dry dunes the
hunting music alouder.

What is that? Said jack.

Ah..oh..said Anne.

Now are here something else.

Jack held his breath, he heard hooves of galloping over the desert.

The bandits! He said.

We have to protect the box! Said Anne.

Where? Said jack.

In the sand! Said Anne.

She closed her tongue, in cutie not down on the ground, beauty not too. Jack and Anne jumped out their saddles and started digging in the sand. The hoof of galloping became louder and louder, jack and Anne dag frenetically, they threw sand like puppies digging in the backyard.

That's dig enough! Said jack.

He pleased the box in the hole and hide the dagger and Anne pushed the piles of sand back on top of it. When they stood up, Anne gasped.

Look!

Dark figure on the camels, salivated against the storm of the sky.

The rider was riding with the dunes toward them. Jack's heart nearly pumped out of his chest.

Should we use the magic realm? Anne asked

We don't have time. Said jack.

The rider rode closer, until he stopped in front of jack and Anne.

You're safe, now. said the rider. He said.

Mammon! Said Anne.

Relief flooded through jack, he laughed.

Yes! We're safe . he said. and you're safe too

Mammon for a while. Said mammon.

The thieves fled a few bags of pepper and painted bees.

And we kept box safe too. Said Anne proudly

She and jack dug the sand and uncovered the wooded box. She handed it to mammon.

Ah! Very good. You carried ...mammon said.

What's in the box? Asked Anne?

A priceless treasure. Said mammon. I brought it all the way through Greek and I'm taking it to Baghdad. Thank you both for guarding it with your lives. You're very special.

You're welcome. Said jack.

He still wonder what in the box. Gold? Silver, precious jewelry?

But mammon did not say. He put the box back into his saddle bag,

Let why not. He said.

Jack climbed on top to his camel, he clicked his tongue, he was

surprised, cutie and beauty were on her tall legs

You will catch up others on back camel back to Baghdad. Said mammon. Far goes well we river we will arrive the city afternoon. We must head east towards the sun.

Mammon rode out of the dunes, jack and Anne followed him
As the camels walked the to the chilly dune, daylight shivered over the sand.

Mammon last night we were dreamed the songs of the dune.
Dunes. Said Anne.

Like a music playing.

Ah! Yes. Said mammon. The whistling of the sands.

What's the whistling of sands? Asked jack.

Some site of magic. Said mammon. But I believe that all things have their nature in their wizards. That is why I like study of science. Science says we must reserve our world. We must make it experiment, try to find out why things happened we have learned the whistling by sands and shadow in the drifts.

Oh! Said Anne. I hope I was a magician.

Learning the reasons for things is real magic. Said mammon. Truth knowledge win the tide to the world. And that's the magical thing in

the world.

Yes! Said jack.

Anne nodded thoughtfully. I guess when you put it that way. She said.

Swing from side to side, they rode on camels, the camel riders were down. It's the sun higher shining in the sky, the desert became very hot and the dry wind through the air making snaky paddle in sand.

Mammon held his camel and he looked around,

What's wrong? Said jack.

No one in the desert worried him now. he said it's restless.

He clicked his tongue, his camel began walking again. As they rode over the restless desert the wind picked up the loose sand in toast into the air.

Jack and Anne lowered their heads and kept the sands from blowing into their eyes. Their head cloths in the wind, more and more sands started blowing. Together the same the sand shifted and swirled

Mammon stopped again and looked about, the sneaky pad on the sand were blowing in the ground patterns. Jack couldn't whirling the morning sound

Is there the whistling of sand again? He asked hopefully.

No. said mammon.

That is the cry of terrible sand storm. and it will soon be come to us.

Chapter 6: sand blasted

In the distance, the of sand spreading over the desert, as the wind picked up, the sky turned to red, and hazed slicken through the cloud. The cloud began to blow to jack and Anne, and mammon like a moving wall,

Get down, lie on your bellies. Ordered mammon. Quickly cover your faces with your head cloves. Jack clacked his tongue beauty nodded getting on the ground, jack Anne and mammon jumped off their camels, and lied down on the sands beside them.

Jack tried desperately covered his face with his head cloves but the ridging wind had come the sky turned from bright to lark, the mourning sound turned to a loud rembling.

Jack looked up and saw the wind ripple the saddle back of the mammon's nearing camel. The bag hit the ground, and then open boxes in humble the way driving the wind.

The treasure! Cried jack.

But his voice was stunted out with the wind. He jumped up from the box, Jack whistled across the desert and the sound sign the better of his body. The wind tried to pull him down. But Jack's rem was always back, finally he caught with the boxes and threw on top of them. He covered the grabbed the end of the head scarf, covered his face, the sand storm blasted over Jack's head, something like the hover bees of hundred gulping camels

Jack's eyes burned, he felt it as if the surfer cave slowly the thundering soften to a low rambling.

The rambling faded to a moon. Mourn. The wind died down but the hot desert cooled still. And silent.

Coffee. Jack looked over and tidied up. He had sand in his mouth, sand in his ears and sand in his nose, he put up his glasses, and rub the sting eyes. But rubbing only made them worse. Blinking Jack catch the box and looked around for the others.

The air was sick with dust, he had completely lost his sense of direction.

Jack Jack he heard Anne shouting.

Jack clutched the small wooden box and stood up. His hands were so weakly, and over

Anne! he crouched.

Jack she called through the dust. Where are you?

Here! He said.

Where?

Here!

Where you are? Hearing Anne's trembling sound through the heaves.

Are you ok?

I'm ok. Cool jack !

Are you?

Yes! I ran after you . said Anne. her voice was hoarse too.

I had to save the box! Said jack. Where is mammon?

I don't know. Said Anne.

I don't think he's chasing after the box.

Mammon! They shouted together. Mammon! There was no answer.

Heading through the handing saves peering through the sandy heaves, jack heard something sounds. He and Anne turned around, there two camels trading toward them.

Cutie! Cried Anne.

Beauty1!

Jack and Anne squabbled their camels and grabbed their reins.

Thank you for finding us. Said Anne.

Yeah! Thanks said jack. Petting beauty.

Mammon! Anne called. Mammon!

He must have gone the wrong direction for us. Said jack.

If he couldn't find us how could we go to the Baghdad? And what will we do with the treasure. ? asked Anne.

I don't know. Said jack.

He held up the wooden box.

Look! The top spoken. The top's broken. Said Anne.

She pointed to a long crack running down the litter of the box.

I hope the treasure wasn't hurt said jack

Maybe we should check and see! Said Anne

Jack took a deep breath, he still thought mammon might not want them to look inside the box. But his curiosity caught of him.

Ok! He said. I guess it would hurt to make sure it's all right.

Jack pried the part the two pieces of wooden took them off, inside the box was a book.

A book? Said jack surprised. He expected gold and jewelry was. He carefully lifted the book, off the box. It had plain leathered cover without a title on it :

it doesn't look like a treasure . said Anne.

maybe the writing inside was treasure. Said jack.

Jack gently opened the book, inside were pages of stick yellow paper pages were bond of stitching covered were writing on in both Greek and Arabian languages besides.

The first page said:

The writings of Aristotle:

How is Aristotle? Said Anne sounding out the name.

I don't know. Said jack.

I will look him up in our research book,

He then pulled the book out of the saddle horn, sand covered the book inside, he pulled out their research book and brushed it off and then looked up Aristotle in the index.

Good! He is here. Jack said. he turned to the right page and read:

Aristotle lived in ancient Greece over two thousand and two hundred years ago, he has been known as the greatest philosopher of the ancient Greece. Of our all time. The word philosopher means, lover with wisdom. Aristotle's works were introduced to the world western world by the Arabs in the middle ages.

So Aristotle was the great lover of wisdom? Said Anne.

I guess so. Said jack.but I wonder why dose this book suck a treasure?

Wait a minute. Said Anne.

Doesn't Merlin's know tells us we have to help the caliph of Baghdad spread wisdom to the world?

Jack caught his breath. Yeah. He said. and this is the book Aristotle written writings it must be followed the wisdom. We have to get this book to caliph this is our mission. Fro Merlin!

But where well we have to going? Said Anne.

Jack and Anne pulled their rings of camels, and clacked their tongues

Beauty and cutie knelt from the sand, and jack and Anne climbed on. Leaving the broken box behind jack and Anne jack acrefully packed the ancient book very of aristotle's wisdom. And research book into his bag. Then he hide tied the bag into the saddle horn.

Wihick way? Said Anne.

Putting the ridding song to the east. Said jack. That's what mammon said.

Is that way then? Said anne. she pointed toward the bright blurring on the dizzy sky. Jackand Anne's camels headed the dusty glaring song

Hi! We are following Merlin's second instrutions now. said Anne.

Ride to the dust on half morning light

You're right. Said jack.

As jack and Anne kept travelling towards the east, the desert sands shivered and sparkled with heat. The air cleared but still on sound of mammon. Jack looked down, and from the birding song like. Exhausted and closed his eyes, as beauty swing gently from side to side, jack's head dropped forward, suddenly he heard Anne's shout.

Jack! Look!

What? Mammon? Said jack jerking away
no. look! Said Anne.

in the distance, jack saw a sandy tower of dunes shinning across the blue sky.

Oh1 ma'am. He whispered. Baghdad.

Chapter 7: behind the third wall

"Let's hurry" said Anne.

As beauty and cutie walked toward Baghdad, the lose sand desert changed to sound bay earth. and then the hard earth changed into shrubby grass. Goats ad sheep and Greece grazed grass,

farmer started the country side. It was long before jack and Anne came to a white clay pack, the packs lied across road. There were many travelers came in from different directions. They were all heading towards the shinning city

Jack and Anne rode the long side bow driving the farmers and donkeys. The past woman was wearing with their faces and parts on their shoulders.

Jack kept looking for mammon. But he never saw him. Moving with the crowd, beauy and cutie crawled pounds of gridge. Some badges bright young and yellow river.

On the other side of the river, was a huge door market, made of stones. The market seemed filled with people from countries. The sharp knives threw the throat, the ear, stalls were jammed with socks baskets and barrels . shoemakers were sticking shoes. Puddles were bend over heavens baking roeth colored cakes. Weaver set the small rooms spreading silver knives.

Pepper, a merchant shouted.

No, thanks. Shouted Anne.

Pigeons parrots! Another shouted to jack.

No, thanks. He said. shouted back.

I love this place. Said Anne. what is it/

I will look it up. Said jack.

He pulled out their research book, and looking and read

In the nine century, traders from all over the world brought their goods to Baghdad to sell, Baghdad merchants traded pepper from... and jewelry and ..from india, china and .. from other lands.

These goods were sold in the market called bazaar.

Oh! So bazaar sold them all. Said jack

There's a lot better than all. Said Anne.

Let's get off and look around.

We don't have time to shock, said jack. We have to finish our mission.

He put out Merlin's letter from the bag.

Find the horse on the dune

The one who says all.

In the heart of the city

Behind the third wall.

Sounds like we passes the three wall and then we come to a horse.

Said jack. We'd better keep going.

Jack put the book and letter away, beauty and cutie crambled from the bazaar

When they left the bazaar, they came to a curved brick wall.

Running along the base of the wall was a bloody mud,

Look! There must be the first wall! Said Anne.

Cool. Said Jack.

Jack and Anne rode the two camels over the bridge they crossed the mud. They passed through gate, and double iron doors. On the other side of the wall, was a busy avenue towards the buildings. As their camels walked slowly intermingled the crowd, Jack pulled out their research book, swung from side to side, he read to Anne.

During its golden age Baghdad had great hospitals, the city was also known for its sewage drain system, and public schools, along with many libraries and stalls of hundred lanes.

I like the visible lanes. Lines, said Anne.

We don't have time now. said Jack.

Their camels crouched down at the busy avenue and they came to a green field.

Look. There is the second wall. Said Anne.

Baghdad was filled with another wall. It was curved too, but much taller than the first. It looked like it was over hundred feet high, there are guards to keep it safe, they don't see many people to pass through.

At norm. as no more. As normal. Jack advised Anne.

Don't attract their attention.

Jack and Anne joined the stream of the people passing through the gate. The young second wall was the other grand avenue and the end of the wide crowd was covered with grand filled.

Look! The third wall. Said Anne.

The third wall was even taller than the second. Again people were passing freely through these gates. The gate.

This part of the mission is easy. Said Anne.

Yeah. Said Jack. But we must find the hole in the dune. And then find the caliph and get it to me with us

Beauty and cutie rambled from the third wall. Carrying Jack and Anne into the heart of the Baghdad, a palace loomed before them, its row glittering green down, at the top of the dooms, was a statue of a horse.

Yell! The horse will save all. Said Anne. open the caliph lizard please. Let's follow these people inside.

She pointed to a stream of people in to the arch of the passage way out of the palace.

Jack and Anne rode unto the arch and into a beautiful guard. The wall smelt fowlers. They rode down the pass ordered by date palms until they came to a halyard where the boys were playing ball.

Near the call yard, there was a stable where camels were in it.

Looks as if we have go to the rest of our way on foot. Said jack.

Yeah1 I guess beauty and cutie can stay there.

Said Anne pointing to the stable.

Jack and Anne rode to the stable, they clapped the camels knot, as jack reached for his shoulder bag, a ball rolled to the stable.

Anne picked it up and stepped back . jack followed her.

Here! Shouted a young boy with cheer back here.

He was holding their hands, Anne threw the ball to him and the boy called

He grinded Anne's good throw.

Who are you> he called. Where are you from?

Before jack could say anything, Anne crossed to the boys, jack hurried after her.

I am Anne and this is my brother jack. Anne said

We are form frog creek of Pennsylvania.

Why have you come to Baghdad? The boy asked.

We have to see the caliph. Said Anne.

The boy and his friends laughed.

What's so funny? Said Anne.

Our caliph is the most powerful man in the world. Said another boy.

He doesn't have time to visit with children.

Sounds like everyone keep saying: said Anne. but where here is an important mission. We..

Anne. jack interrupted. Come on, I left my bag back to the stable.

He weaved to the boys.

See you guys later, let's go, Anne.

Anne started to leave with jack.

When you discovered the caliph not meaning with you, come back, complete with us. Called the caliph's boys.

Anne stopped.

Don't worry! She called back. you'll meet us for special.

Anne come on.said jack.

What why are you special? Shouted the boy.

For one thing we just save the precious treasure form bandits and from the sand storm of the desert, said Anne.

For another...

Anne..jack said sternly.

He grabbed her arm.

Come on. He pulled Anne away.

As they headed back to stable, jack shook his head,

Don't say that he said.

Why not? Said Anne.

Because it's briging! Said jack. It makes our other kids felt bad, even you're special, you don't have to..

Oh! No! cried Anne.

She covered her mouth with her hands.

What? Said jack, following her shout gaze.

No! cried Anne.

Jack's leather bag lied at the beauty's feet. It was open. Beside it, was torn leather covered Aristotle's book, wet pages hanging shreds, from beauty's mouth. She happily chewed the precious treasure.

Chapter 8: room of the tree

Noo.....cried jack.

Jack ran to beauty and yawn hunks of paper from her mouth, Anne dropped her knees and picked up the torn pieces of chewed around the camels big feet.

The treasure had ruined. Mourned Anne.

Jack was stoned.

I shouldn't left my bag here . he said

All that is all my fault. I shouldn't grown back to these kids. Well weep wept Anne. I should be more humble like merlin said.

Anne sounded like she was about to cry.

It's ok. Said jack. But he knew it wasn't.

The book was destroyed and they had failed with their mission.

Maybe, maybe we can fix it. Said Anne.

Jack shook his head. n\

No, we can't . he said . it's completely destroyed. It can't be fixed.

Anne looked up.

What? What did you just say? She said.

I said it can't be fixed. Said jack.

A big green crossed Anne's face.

Right It can be fixed. She said.

Help me gather up all these pieces.

Why? Said jack.

But Anne got nuts.

Just do it. Quick! Said Anne.

Jack and Anne rushed around the stable gathering the pieces of the torn pages.

Now and pile everything here on top of the cover. And give me the book. Said Anne.

What book? Said jack.

The realm book! Said Anne

Oh! Oh! Said jack , all right!

He reached to his shoulder bag and pulled out teddy ad catherine's book of magic realms . jack opened the book and read on the list.

Here it is. Man can not be mended. He said.

That's the one. Said Anne.

Jack slipped the pages of the until they came to the realm. He held up the book that until he and Anne can both see. Standing on the sunlight, jack read in a loud clear voice:

You was broken bee, the young repair,

Anne read the second line:

I will be brave...all! Fin al mile

The paper blitz flatted, and they began to soaring of swirl off the floor, they swirl up the ground as if they called for the small tomato, tornado. The tornado captured all pages in to funny fury and then twisted them together. The paper swirled into a bright glidig light.

Jack narrowed his eyes and he heard a loud @WOOF...

When he looked up, the bright tornado had vanished, lying in the stable floor in front of jack and Anne was the ancient book. Holding his breath, jack carefully picked up the treasure and he opened the leather cover,

Oh, ma'am, he whispered.

Aristotle's priceless words of wisdom were neat on the yellow pages. There was no sign of ripple or tear anywhere.

Thank goodness. Braved Anne.

Yeah. Said jack.

So what we do now? said Anne.

I don't know said jack. What's the ncxt thing Merlin tell us to do ?

He pulled out Merlin's letter and read:

Beneath bird to singing the room of the tree

Great friends want to know and new friend to be

Remember the line of ...you cresses

What's that mean? Said jack.

Sudden jack heard someone behind them. He and Anne turned around, the girl a girl was standing on the doorway of the stable. She wore long white robe, grown. her hair and face were hidden by the wail.

Hi! Said Anne. who are you?

I an the servant of the palace. The girl whispered. Come!

She motioned them to follow her.

Let's go. Anne said to jack.

Where she taking us? Asked jack.

Why she whispering/

I don't know. Said Anne. I felt that we should follow here.

Ok. Said jack.

He put the book of wisdom and the book of magic realms back to his bag. He slang the bag over his shoulder. And followed anew and servant girl out of the stable. The three of them walked through the call yard and through the palace stalls . they walked along a wide candle lit hall way. Over a thick carpet, at the end of the hall way , was the tall covered doom. Dome.

A boy servant stood by the dome door, he wore baggie trousers

and a long shirt. His face was almost completely hidden by head cloth. He didn't speak or looked at them. The servant girl kept jack and Anne coming closer.

In her stranger whispering voice, she said: in front of the cheer ball, to the floor, don't looked up, and don't speak, until you're spoken to.

But what? Said jack.

Go quickly. Whispered the girl.

The boy servant pulled open the heavy door and the girl servant pushed them into the room.

Wait. Said jack.

But the boy servant closed the door behind them. Leaving jack and Anne along.

Jack, look over here. Said Anne.

The room of our tree

Jack turned around. A giant tree stood at the center of the room, it had silver leaves as if it was fluttered by the wind. The conical golden birds were singing twig, twig twig, from the silver branches. But beneath the strange tree was an empty black chair. Jewelry and spackles that is shinning woods.

We were in the throne place. said Anne.

She crewed to Merlin's letter:

Beneath the bird to sing and room of the tree

Great friends wants new and new friend to be

Another mystery solved. Anne said.

Not really. Said jack. Where are the two friends/

I don't know but we'd better bellow form that chair like that girl
servant told us to. Said Anne.

Jack and Anne nodding from the shinning black chair the ball hetz
beneath the floor. Jack quick to the bed, the treasures were inside.

Remember what all? She said. Anne reminded to jack.

Don't look up, and don't speak when we are spoken to . but there is
noone here. Said jack. He felt foolish in front of chair and listening
to the chirping of the organical birds.

Why do we doing this? He wondered.

The door opened with a low quaking sound.

Jack squeezed desire shut. He heard footsteps moving passing
them.

How did you get into the throne room?

A deep voice asked.

A servant brought us here. Said Anne.

And why where have you come? Asked the voice

We have a priceless treasure to give to the caliph of Baghdad.

Said jack keep his head down.

It's a book of wisdom.

Jack form his bag and pulled out the book, he kept his eyes tightly shutted close the book up towards the voice. There was a long silence.

We hope we will help the caliph spread wisdoms to the world. Said Anne.

How do you come to be the procession of this book? The man asked.

We're helping a friend. Said Anne. and we got separated from sand storm.

Ah.. did I suppose you brought this book to Baghdad to give a realm? For a reward. Said the man.

No. no. we didn't . said jack. There is our it's our mission to give it to caliph.

Surely you must be seeking some payment for exchange this treasure . said the man. Would you not like precious perfume gathered from Swedish flowers?

No. thank you. Said Anne.

Ruby as large as hen's eggs? Said the man.

No.thanks! said jack.

You will not except the books wait in gold? Said the man.

We don't need reward . said jack.

Since he likes book so much, why don't you use it to caliph to use it to golden rubies, and war of them. Said Anne.

Again it was silent. Silence. Then the man cleared his throat. When he spoke his voice jack gentle and familiar sounding.

Look up at me. Jack and Anne. he said.

Jack opened his eyes. He slowly lifted his head, firstly he saw glomming gold slippers and then a long white robe with gold trim, then a familiar face.

Jack gasped.

He couldn't believe his eyes. The man wasn't the scary person at all.

The man was mammon.

Chapter 9: house of wisdom

Mammon? Said Anne.

Yes. Said mammon. I am very glad to see you both safely arrived Baghdad.

We are glad you are safe too. Said Anne. we were worried about you.

I looked everywhere for you after the sand storm. said mammon. Finally I gave up my searching and returned to Baghdad sadly, I have soon found your family,

Are you sure? Said Anne. you found them?

And we found your book. Said jack. And we couldn't find you and we decided we should give the book to caliph.

Mammon smiled.

You still not understand,, do you? He said.

Understand what? Said Anne.

I am the caliph ali-abdula-mammon.

You're the caliph? Said Anne. but..how..

What? Stemmed jack.

For many years I have wanted the book of aristotle's wisdom. Said the caliph. I heard the book found in the city of the Masks. And it meant clear to my library. It was most important to arrive here safely.

I have long wish to travel again to desert with as I was a boy. So I disguised myself, with a humble monk, as a humble merchant to make the journey. My fellow travelers never knew my true identity. Until they make the journey.

Wow! Whispered jack.

You have shown me that you have the great respect for books and learning. Said caliph al-mammon. And you have also proven you have humble hearts. Before you joined your family, I want to show you a very special place. I call it the house of wisdom.

The house of wisdom? Greed jack, that sounds great.

And it's my hope that the house would indeed find the great. Said the caliph. Come.

He started to leave the room . jack and Anne roads rose from the floor and ran after him. Carrying ancient book of Aristotle, the caliph and jack and Anne are out of the room of the old gum tree. It's gold tree to build gold about him step down the corridor, every person he passed crouched below to the floor.

An other mystery solved. And said to jack.

She called for Merlin's last letter:

Great friend you wants know and new friends to be

Both friends are the same person. Said Anne.

Mammon from the desert, and caliph al-abdula-mammon.

Right. Said jack, smiling.

The caliph then jack and Anne were out of the front door of the palace. In the call yard, stood two camels long paws and peach to their saddles . resting on top of the gloves, was a small carriage. Decorated with gold pastles and ...

Servants helped jack and Anne and caliph al-abdulla-mammon into the strange little carriage. Bells dingle and camels began to move slowly through the call yard. The caliph opened the tiny shutters to let in air and sunlight, jack looked out, everyone bare was wearing ...the boys playing ball, and the gardens waiting for flowers , the women carrying pots,

Jack has lots of questions about how is the how to spread wisdoms to the world. But now, he knew that his new friend mammon was the mighty caliph he felt shy. Even Anne seemed to be a lot a lost for words . until they rode pad, day pumps, the palace gardens, We're here. Said the caliph, with the camels stopping to a stop. He helped jack and Anne out of the carriage, then let them up the steps of a large building.

Welcome to the house of wisdom. Said the caliph.

Along the center of a world.

What happens here? Asked jack.

Come. I will show you. The caliph scrolled jack and Anne through the front door, down a wide hall way,

We have laboratory, discovering new medicines, he said. and any other for stars and planets. But this is my favorite room of all.

The caliph stopped before an arch door way. He opened the door and let jack and Anne into a huge silent room.

This is the library. He said in a hashed voice. Evne a be very quiet here.

Late afternoon light slatted down from the high open window. Streaming over the book of colorful carpets. Man-read a long table, when he looked read up a , he saw the caliph all started to read

Please continue with your road. Don't mind us. The caliph said softly.

The men sat down again. And returned to their reading and writing. The caliph pointed to a beautiful man sitting by a window hunching over a pile of papers. The man was writing seriously, that's all coraz me. Al-kaliz-eme Whispered the caliph.

And he is a truly great magician, yet perhaps Indian way to writing numbers. The caliph pointed to the numbers on the book and on

the wall.

One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight ,nine and ten. We call these Arabian numbers. He said.,

Arabic numbers? Said jack

Yes. Said the caliph.

Jack whispered to Anne.

We used the Arabic numbers too. They must from their god.

The caliph pointed to another man sitting by the window. He is al-kindī. He is perhaps the most brilliant scientist in the world.

Whispered the caliph. But he is very humble. He believes knowledge can not belong to only one person or one country, he believes it belongs to all. The world grows wide only one wisdom to share it. I agree. And I built this house.

I agree, too. Whispered Anne

Me too. Said jack.

Scientist,, scholars from many countries come here to read and study and share their knowledge. Whispered the caliph. We have thousands of books, they have all been copied by hand.

By hand.? Said Anne it's a lovely that's a lot of scripting.

What kind of books? Asked jack.

Books of history, medicine, mathematics, geography and medicine.

Said the caliph.

But we also had a very special book of fantasy and wonder.

The caliph took a large stack book down from the shelf. He rested it on the table. And into the pages of Jack and Anne, the book was filled with fancy and beautiful illustrations. There were pictures of laden, and Ali Baba. Medicine and copies.

Oh! tales from Arabian nights. Said Anne. We know these stories.

You do? Wonderful! The caliph said with a smile. It seems someone else has traveled to you and cheer the stories.

Perhaps someone will soon stories from your land back to us. That's the great power of books, is it?

Yes! Said Anne.

And I hope your landing here with the book too someday. Said the caliph.

He held up the book of Aristotle's writings.

After I have read it, I have no copy so I can carry spread wisdoms to the world. Thank you for helping me.

Sure. Jack said modestly. It's our mission.

I fear I must now return to my duties. Said the caliph. But please stay at the library. We want you to bring what we have not brought your

family and come back someday for visiting me.

We will try. Said jack.

Goodbye, Anne. goodbye, jack.

Bye, mammon. Anne said.

The mighty caliph gave them a warm smile and deep bawl. Then he left jack and Anne, in his warn dress. Library.

Chapter 10: before the moon rises

Jack and Anne looked around the big room, the scholars and scientists were all deep to their reading,

I can't believe mammon is the caliph. Whispered jack.

Remember the life of philosopher priceless? Precious? Anne repeated from Merlin's letter.

Yeah!

And return to the tree house before the the moon rises.

Jack finished.

I almost forgot that part. Said Anne.

Me too. Said jack.

Shh...said one of the scholars scientists

Sorry, said Anne.

Jack and Anne looked up at the open window, the sky was pink ,
the sun will be setting soon.

We have to get back to the tree house . Anne whispered , before
the moon rises.

I know, said jack. But how? Before the moment of panic, the tree
house was really far away, he thought.,

We traveled the beauty and cutie whole day, and night to get there.

What about the sand storms? And bandits : ?

Jack looked at Anne, she was smiling.

Magic. She mourned.

Jack caught his breath and nodded.

They closely looked around and gave any of the scholars and
scientists watching , where they went. Jack quietly slept the teddy
and cathrine's book out of his bag., he and Anne turned their back
to the others and opened the book to the table of contents.

Anne pointed it too.

Turn into ducks.

Jack gave her a look

Anne pointed it too life flew through the air.

Yes. Said jack.

Shh... said a scholar.

Jack turned to the right page, he held up book so the book kept see.

Jack set the first line of the realm.

Sails to the sky where you wish to go.

Anne said it in second

Sa,,ni..fur,sa.ni. road.

You must be quiet. Or you have to leave the library.

One of the scholar said groutchly.

Don't worry. We're going. Said Anne.

A wind blew from the carrbean window, flutter and pages of Arabian
nice book the scholars and scientists grab their papers before they
blew away. The wind picked up the corner of small carpet jack and
Anne were standing on. the carpet repped. Jack and Anne felt
forward. Ad they tried to stand, the carpet lifted off from the floor,
Wow. Cried one of the scholars or scientists.

The carpet began flowing up, it's rose above the long tables, it rose
above the shelves of books, everyone jumped out of their chairs
and scrambled out the way. Shouting:

Help. Move. Watch the ...impossible,

What's happening?

Bye..called Anne.

The carpet flowed to the tall of the window and flied out of the house of wisdom.

Cheer again blew jack and Anne. their head widely, as they crouching on the carpet, seas, sails to the sky.

This is great. Cried Anne. jack.

Really,\ great. Shouted Anne.

The carpet soared over the house of wisdom, over the caliph's palace and carriage and over the camel stable, the carpet swept the green dorm of the Hassan, it flew over the call yard, with boys were still playing ball, over the third wall, and pass the green filled the grand avenue, the carpet flew over the second wall, the houses, the hospitals, and hundreds lanes, it flew over the first wall, rushed benches to move. The carpet zoomed with amazing speed, made higher and left Baghdad.

Below jack and Anne saw men's donkey carts, the boy and women parts. The carpet flew faster and faster, and faster, over the river, the greezing fails, and dunes with whistling winds. Over the red glooming desert, hooving a setting sound, and small villages, at the

middle of nowhere.

The magic carpet made a smooth landing unto the palm tree grass. Here the small spring, and shrubs, near the date palms. And a rope ladder. The desert looked definitely faraway. Golden red light.

Jack felt gutty.

That, that was so fast. He said. I can't believe we have made all our way. Here.

No kidding. Said Anne. the magic may help us staying on.

He and Anne she and jack tried to stand, their titters crouched against each other.

Steady! Said Anne giggling.. are you ok?

Perfect. Said jack. He put his back over the shoulder and stepped out of the carpet. And then he and Anne watched the tallest date palm. Jack pulled the rope ladder from behind the trunk and climbed up. When they got inside the tree house, jack took out Merlin's letter.

He glanced out of the window. One last time.

The sun was gone. The carpet looked small and ordinary and shaggy beneath the palm tree. The desert looked vast, silent and lonely. A saint crescent moon had appeared the sky.

We must turn to the tree house before the moon rises . said jack.

That was our last instruction from Merlin. Said Anne.

We're all done.

Jack looked on Merlin's letter, he pointed at the words,

Jack and Anne are frog creek.

I wish we could go home. He said.

The wind started to blow, the tree house started to spin. It span faster and faster. Then everything was still. Absolutely still.

The frog creek of chilly in the afternoon air, jack and Anne were dressed in their jeans and jackets again, jack's shoulder backpacks were back,

Good trip! Jack said simply.

Anne nodded.

Really cool. She said.

She said.

I guess they we should get home. Said jack. I have homework to finish.

Leave the research book. And but don't forget to take teddy and catherine's realm book for safe keeping. Said Anne.

Jack reached into his backpack, he pulled out the book of golden age in the baghdad, and placed it on the tree house floor. And then he threw his pack over his shoulders, and climbed down the ladder. Anne followed .

Together they walked through the early spring woods.

We've passed the Merlin's second test. Said Anne.

We've helped spread wisdoms to the world. That's pretty a big deal.

Be humble. Jack reminded her.

Well, I guess teddy and catherine's book did a hard staff worth.

Anne said humbly.

I missed them. Said jack.

Me too. Said Anne. but I think they maybe bind with us in Baghdad.

What do you mean? Said jack.

Remember that servant girl and the boy? They took us to the caliph.

Said Anne. they soared come up nowhere and we never actually saw their faces, did we?

No. said jack.

You think? Anne shored.

Maybe....

Jack smiled and took a deep breath,

Maybe..

He said softly.

Two missions and five realms left. Said Anne.

I hope Merlin sends to us again soon, but not too soon. Said jack. I need to do my homework first.

Anne laughed.

Mars with Arabic numbers? She said.

Right! Said jack. And maybe tomorrow we go to the library and see if they have book of Aristotle's wisdom.

Good idea. Said Anne.

A cool spring breeze rustled the trees.

And jack and Anne hurried toward home.

The end