**AUDIO SCRIPT (500-600 words)**

THE FORTY SECOND MAQAMAT - "Of NAJRAN": Maqamat 42 – “Of Najran”

Author: Dongmin Kim

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| Begin Time: 0.00 | End Time: 27.00 |
| Transition Type – Zoom into Abu Zayd | PAUSE at the crowd |
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One day, Al Harith meets a crowd of people at an assembly in the city of Yemen. There, people were surrounded by each other, eager to solve riddles that seemed impossible to solve. Then an old man, who is “burdened with senility,” comes near the crowd and starts to make fun of those flustered in finding answers for those riddles.

(Zoom into Abu Zayd)

The old man says: “What are you young men doing right now?”

(Zoom to the crowd)

Al Harith says: “Well, we are solving a riddle. It seems difficult as you see, many of us are having hard time finding the answer to it,” as if solving this riddle is as important as “shooting arrows on a day of battle.”

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| Begin Time: 33.00 | End Time: 100.00 |
| Transition Type – Zoom and move right towards Abu Zayd | PAUSE then zoom out |
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Then the Old man gives smirk and a feigned laugh at the crowd, “treating this feat as a futile thing.”

Old Man: “You young men are not intelligent enough!”

The crowd gets angry, “railing and upbraiding” at him and says,

Crowd: “Well you old man, rather than making fun of us for not having able to solve this riddle, how about you join us with the crowd and solve riddles together and see who solves them faster!”

(Zooming into Abu Zayd)

The Old Man says,

Old Man: “No! Instead, I will give you guys a riddle that not even all of you would not be able to solve for.”

If the Old man is successful in having no one answering his riddle, he demands for money in return.

Crows agrees and the “fire of their rage subsided, and their rage was allayed.”

The first riddle an Old Man asks is,

Old Man: “A aiden I know, brisk, full of speed in her ministry, returning the track that she went by when starting off, a driver she was, kinsman of hers, who is urging her, but while he thus is speeding her on, is her help ate too?”

The answer for this riddle was “ventilating-fan of canvas” also known as ‘Punkah’

(Slowly Zoom out showing everyone)

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| Begin Time: 107.00 | End Time: 128.00 |
| Transition Type – Zoom out showing crowd | Move right and show Abu Zayd |
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The second riddle he asks is,

Old Man: “A son there is of a mother fair, whose root has sprung from her lofty plant: He hugs her neck, though for some time, she has erewhile discarded him: He who reaps her beauty ascends by means of hinder and none forbids and blames”

The answer for this riddle was about “rope of palm-tree”

(Zooming back into Abu Zayd)

Then the Old Man goes on by giving out the third riddle. He questions,

Old Man: “One restless, although firmly fixed, bestowing gifts, not working mischief, now plunging, now uprising again, a marvel how he sinks and soars: He pours down tears as one oppressed, yet is his fierceness to be feared: For then he brings destruction on, although his inmost heart is pure.”

The answer to this riddle was “water-wheel.”

(Stay at Abu Zayd)

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| Begin Time: 165.00 | End Time: 190.00 |
| Transition Type – Pause still, showing Abu Zayd | ZOOM OUT and show everyone. Slide and fade out at 219.00 |
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The last riddle the Old man give is,

Old Man: “One flighty and leaning with one half to one side, but no sense will upbraid him for either. Alike are to hide both the pebble and nugget, though truth should in no wise be balanced with falsehood. And thost to be wondered at in his description, if people regard him with eyes of discernment is that by his judgment the parties abide, though they know him as flighty by nature, and partial.”

The answer to this riddle is about “goldsmith’s balance.”

(Slowly start to zoom out)

After not having able to answer a single riddle, the crowd admits their ignorance and surrenders. As promised, the Old Man takes the money given by the crowd and takes the cattle, getting ready to depart. Then one asks the name of this Old Man. And his name was Abu Zayd.

Outro song

(Erase the image fading to the left)

Start Screen