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

Maqamat 41 – The Forty-First Assembly, Called “Of Tanis”:

Author: Kylee

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| Begin Time: 0 | End Time: 0:43 |
| Transition Type | PAUSE |
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Each story in the Maqamat is named from the Muslim city, this on being The Forty-First Assembly, Called “Of Tanis”. The Maqamat tells stories of Al-Harith and his travels as well of his encounters with the con man named Abu Zayd, who is known for his white beard.

Al-Harith arrives in an Old-Egyptian town called Tanis, named from the Tanitic mouth of the Nile river.

Al-Harith craves morally correct behaviour and decides to drive out evil inclinations by doing good deeds to mend his past bad behaviour before it was too late. He says he will not associate with people who have a lax in morals and fled his home and found himself in Tanis.

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He finds in its mosque an eloquent preacher surrounded by a congregation who all listen attentively to his sermon.

A half-naked youth comes forward and tells everyone that he needs help and the preacher endorses him suggesting compassion and empathy for the boy from the people.

Plentiful harvests and bounty is bestowed on him and the boy walks away with his pouch full and a swagger, praising the generous inhabits of Tanis. Once the boy left the preacher tells everyone to raise his or her hands in prayer and also decides to leave.

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Al-Harith, suspicious of him thinking he may know what the rest of the people do not follows him to test him and solve the mystery. He follows him on the road and the preacher kept walking until he was sure there would be no one else and it was confidential to talk.

When they both reach a secluded spot he turned to greet him with joyful recognition pointing to him. The preacher asks if he was pleased by the sharpness of the young man and confesses and reveals himself as Abu Zayd, father of the boy who has successfully made application of the sermon delivered in his presence and uses his son as a decoy in business.

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Al-Harith said, “I dare testify that thou art the tree on which his fruit has grown, and the fire from which his spark has sprung.” Even though he had no evidence but was sure it was true Abu Zayd confessed and Al-Harith was grateful he let him know his identity.

Abu Zayd invites Al-Harith for a glass of wine at his house. Al-Harith feels distress towards him and urges him to do right to others and forget his own soul.

Abu Zayd smiled to him and passed on without any reluctance. Then it occurred to him to tell him to get rid of caring and anxiety with wine and to get rid of his emotions. He disagrees with those who blame him for not dealing with painful emotions.

Abu Zayd choses to leave and go drink and have a good time and if Al-Harith wishes to not join he is no companion for him and he should get out of his way and not spy on him.

Al-Harith, annoyed by him holds his hands up angry at this unfair treatment of the people, and the con that Abu Zayd has pulled and wishes he had not met him.