

# Tales of the Alhambra.

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## Tales of the Alhambra by Washington Irving

I retired to bed with my imagination excited by all that I had seen and heard in this old warrior city.

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What can compare with the vase of yon alabaster fountain filled with crystal water? I must have browsed through it several times but never read it cover to cover for it is a book meant to b I picked up this beautiful volume on a lazy Sunday afternoon from The Strand - the old one in mid-town in Manhattan - when I was pretending to be a lawyer in that beguiling city of tall structures and sky scapes that appeared and disappeared through the clouds and the mist.

### Alhambra

It was really a luxurious spot, among wild flowers and aromatic herbs, with birds singing around us. A modern suite, intended for the use of the Governor was made available to him, but in the course of his wanderings he came across a locked door.

### Tales and Legends of the Alhambra

Although not considered part of the Alhambra, it is closely connected as the Moorish kings used this palace as a resting place. For this exploit the king allows him a peseta the fifth of a duro, or dollar per day, and has dignified him with the title of Don.

### Tales of the Alhambra : Irving, Washington, 1783

The Alhambra was developed into a magnificent fortress by its Moorish rulers in the 14th century, and is a major tourist attraction today. The sultan, blinded by dismay, and on the occasion of a party in the room that bears the name of the family, had the 37 knights who bore the name of Abencerrajes beheaded on their fountain.

### Tales from the Alhambra : Irving, Washington, 1783

Probably its derelict condition added to the romantic wonder with which Irving beheld it. At length you see the mules slowly winding along the cragged defile, sometimes descending precipitous cliffs, so as to present themselves in full relief against the sky, sometimes toiling up the deep arid chasms below you. It was so cool to see several monuments to Irving as we toured the Alhambra.

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