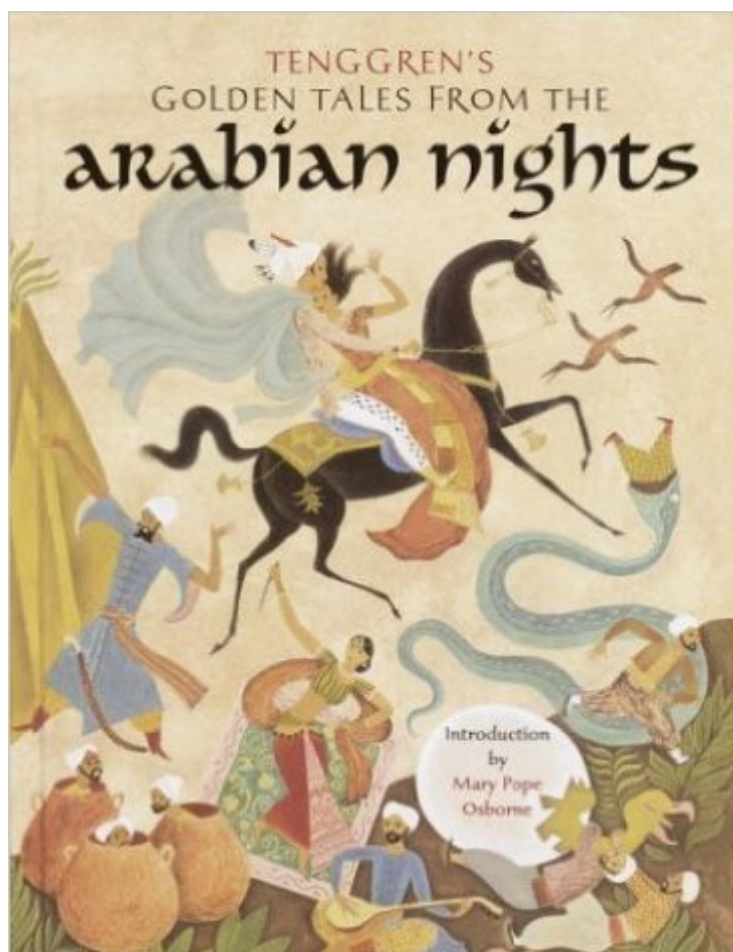


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# Tenggren's Golden Tales From The Arabian Nights



## Synopsis

The city is under siege! The King, enraged by his wife's dishonesty, has vowed to marry every young woman in the city only to have each bride beheaded the following day at sunrise. But Scheherazade, the beautiful and wise daughter of the King's vizier, foils the King's plans by telling stories so captivating and imaginative that the King delays her death every day to hear how each enchanted tale ends. From "Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp" and "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves" to "Sinbad the Sailor," the most famous stories from the great classic *A Thousand and One Nights* comprise this collection of beautifully told tales brought powerfully to life by the vivid illustrations of Gustaf Tenggren. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

## Book Information

Library Binding: 128 pages

Publisher: Golden Books; 1 edition (September 9, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0375926364

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Product Dimensions: 8.6 x 0.6 x 11.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (10 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,621,362 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #121 in [Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Asian](#) #6399 in [Books > Children's Books > Classics](#) #52298 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction](#)

Age Range: 6 - 12 years

Grade Level: 1 - 7

## Customer Reviews

I am delighted to see that this classic of my childhood has been reissued. This selection of stories from the 1001 Arabian Nights is a delightful introduction to the famous compilation, and the brilliant illustrations are lyrical and evocative of the cultures of the Middle East in medieval times. Some of the tales are familiar (the stories of Aladdin, Ali Baba, and Sinbad, for example), others may be unknown to most young people (the story of the Serpent Queen), but all are nicely retold by Gustaf Tenggren to appeal to children between the ages of 7 and 12.

I adored this exotic, superbly illustrated book when I was a child and was happy to find it again for my own child, who is now six. She is just ready for it -- many of the stories are rather gory in parts, but their fantastical elements keep them from seeming too threatening. (However, 4-8 as suggested by , is not the appropriate age, not only because of the stories' violent themes, but their narrative complexity. 6-10 is probably closer to the mark, with few children under eight ready to read these alone.) We are both really enjoying this as a read-aloud, and I agree with the reader who suggested that, given our current unfortunate military engagements, the material is peculiarly timely. One interesting element to note in reading these stories to children, is the emphasis in some of them on female invention and resourcefulness -- in Scheherazade and Ali Baba, we see women as oppressed underdogs who manage to save the day through their courage and craftiness. Yeah!

The collaborative effort of Margaret Soifer and Irwin Shapiro and recommended for school and community library Folklore/Fairytale collections, Tenggren's *Golden Tales From The Arabian Nights* is a folklore picture book presenting the most famous stories taken from the classic "A Thousand And One Nights". Filled with excitement, danger, and wonder, this entertaining anthology with stylized color illustrations by the late Gustaf Tenggren (1896-1970) is especially recommended to young folks with good reading comprehension skills.

Most people know the premise of *One Thousand and One Nights*, aka *The Arabian Nights*: Scheherazade is married by choice to King Shahryār. After his first wife betrayed him, he has decided that no woman is worthy of love and trust. Thus, he marries a different woman every day and executes her the next morning. Scheherazade, daughter of the Vizier, plots to cure the king. She tells stories nightly to distract him from his anger and eventually wins his heart. I've had my copy of this version since childhood. I can't let it go because it's just that beautiful and it introduced me to the amazing *Thousand and One Nights* and other mythological tales. Gustaf Tenggren's artwork steals the show. Earthy, rich, flowing and sometimes disturbing, the pictures captivated me. The snake queen and Sinbad's monsters are quite chilling. The actual stories aren't "Disney-fied." There's violence, love, devotion, and the versions are (or are close to) the originals. Everyone knows something about Aladdin or Sinbad, but there are delightful, memorable stories here that you never read elsewhere outside a full book version. I finally showed my son this book last year, at age 12. He wouldn't go to bed until we'd read the entire thing together. The only reason I didn't share it when he was little is that I didn't want him to destroy a favorite and hard to replace book! Stories in the book include: Scheherazade or The Story of These Stories, Aladdin and the Wonderful Lamp, Ali

Baba and the Forty ThievesThe Caliph and the CucumbersThe Magic HorseThe Fisherman and the JinniThe Sleeper AwakenedSinbad the SailorThe Man Who Never LaughedThe Serpent QueenThe Poor Man's Dream

Beautifully illustrated and well told stories. I first read this book when I was very young, and was thrilled to be able to pick up a copy on in such great shape. Now I'm happy to be reading this book to my children. Compared to modern retellings, some of the stories in this volume may seem a bit gruesome, but it could also be argued that the modern versions are too watered down. Regardless, I find this to be a volume well worth owning.

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