

I designed, after my first voyage, to spend the rest of my days at Baghdad, but it was not long ere I grew weary of an indolent life, and I put to sea a second time, with merchants of known probity. We embarked on board of a good ship, and after recommending ourselves to God, set sail. One day we landed on an Island covered with several sorts of fruit-trees, but we could see neither man nor animal. We walked in the meadows, along the streams that watered them. Whilst some diverted themselves with gathering flowers, and others fruits, I took my wine and provisions, and sat down near a stream betwixt two high trees, which afforded a delightful shade. I made a good meal, and afterwards fell asleep. I cannot tell how long I slept, but when I awoke the ship was no longer in view.



In this sad condition, I was ready to die with grief. I cried out in agony, beat my head and breast, and threw myself upon the ground, where I lay some time, overwhelmed by a rushing current of thoughts, each more distressing than the last. When I gazed towards the sea I could discern nothing but sky and water ; but looking over the land I beheld something white ; and coming down, I took what provision I had left, and went towards the object, which was so distant that at first could not distinguish what it was.

As I approached, I thought it to be a white dome, of a prodigious height and extent. I drew near to it, and walked round it ; but found no door to it ; and I found that I had not strength nor activity to climb it, on account of its exceeding smoothness. I made a mark at the place where I stood, and went round the dome, measuring its circumference ; and lo ! it was fifty full paces ; and I meditated upon some means of gaining an entrance into it ; but no means of accomplishing this occurred to me.

By this time the sun was about to set, and all of a sudden the sky became as dark as if it had been covered with a thick cloud. I was much astonished at this sudden darkness but much more when I found it occasioned by a bird of a most extraordinary size, that came flying towards me. I remembered that I had often heard mariners speak of a miraculous bird called the roc, and conceived that the great dome which I so much admired must be her egg. Shortly afterwards, the bird alighted, and sat over the egg.

## A Sailer and A Bird

The writer tells an incident that when he went on his second sea journey with some sailers. They reached on a beautiful island. Everyone got busy enjoying delightful scenery. He also gathered his things and sat down under shady trees. In no time, he went asleep. ~~and~~ When he got up, the ship was gone. He found himself in a helpless situation and got disappointed. He tried to look for the ship as far he could but saw nothing. Then he looked over the ground and saw a big blurred white object which he considered a dome. He went near it and tried to do everything in his capacity to get enter into it but it all went to no vain. Suddenly, a giant bird came and sat on the dome. Then, he found out that it was her egg about which he had heard stories.

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