

An Exotic Adventure in Ancient Persia

Designed & Written by Bruce Hoffman

Illustrated by Raimund Redlich and Brian Poff

COMPREHEND

ITERACTIVE NOVELS with graphics

Understands fulland multiple sentence commands

Vocabulary of over 1001 words

Over 150 sheik graphics

Includes sand, real live camels, and palm trees all the comforts of your own oasis

P. LARWARE

Designed and Written by Bruce Hoffman Challenging the Sands of Time

Illustrated by Raimund Redlich and Brian Poff

Alarm! Alarm! Something evil hath entered into the Persian Empire! There are reports of crops withering; livestock dying in multitude; bizarre, unpredictable weather changes; and many other strange, mystical occurrences throughout the land. The king's favored magician, Schazabe, believed that an evil and powerful genie had been summoned to wreck such havoc. He ventured forth to locate the genie and unearth an ancient **Talisman** that he believed could be used to spell the being's destruction!



Over a year hath passed and the mystic hath vanished without a trace! As conditions grow worse with each passing day, Great King Darius hath proclaimed that another shalt seek the magician and rid the land of the evil by whatever means possible! As a lowly and dispensible prisoner of the King, ye art assigned this task. Succeed, and ye shalt win thy freedom . . . fail, and ye shalt bring about the fall of the empire!



Accompanied by the King's chief vizor, the strong but dim-witted Abu, thy journeys shalt lead thee through lush forests and barren deserts, up towering mountains and across vast oceans; into bustling bazaars and deserted ruins, and to splendid palaces and famished villages. This will not be an easy endeavor—suspense and danger will await thee at every turn as ye try to unfold the secrets of the land. Please realize that ye may even fight against magic itself, as ye quest for the magician, the genie and the mystical Talisman!



COMPREHEND INTERACTIVE NOVELS with graphics

Enter a whole new world of your computer as you become the main character in a COMPREHEND interactive novel! You control the outcome of the story by typing in all actions, such as "Abu, scale the palace wall," or "go east and bury your head in the sand."

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bruce "Xerxes" Hoffman has always been fascinated by the ancient world, so it came as no surprise to Polarware when Bruce announced that his first adventure would take place in exotic Persia. We were quite unprepared, however, for the dramatic changes that it would cause in him. It's hard to say what we first noticed—the robes he had taken to wearing, his insistence to be recognized as "Xerxes," the sudden traffic through the office by hooded men known only as "the Magi,"—and no one could be

persuaded to touch that strange lamp on his monitor! We soon realized that Bruce was living in his own world . . . and now, through **Talisman**, that world is opened to you!



Talisman, Challenging the Sands of Time, is a trademark of Polarware Inc.; Polarware is a registered trademark of Polarware Inc.; Comprehend is a trademark of Polarware Inc.; Apple is a registered trademark of Apple Computer Inc.; IBM is a registered trademark of International Business Machines Inc.; Penguins vote by majority rule.

P. LARWARE

521 Hamilton Street, P.O. Box 311, Geneva, IL 60134 (312) 232-1984

Talisman -- Challenging the Sands of Time

By Royal Proclamation of His Excellency, King Darius

Comprehend Addendum

It has been ordered that all adventurers with Apple computers shalt require 128K and all IBM adventurers shalt require 256K.

If ye wouldst like to speed up the title screen, simply press ESCAPE key.

Booting thy diskette

Apple: Booteth Side 1 (label side up) of thy EMPIRE disk. Turn diskette over at prompt. IBM: Booteth a DOS diskette in drive A. When ye get the A> prompt, remove thy DOS diskette and insert thy EMPIRE diskette. Type NOVEL and press the ENTER key.

Saving thy game

Apple and IBM: Up to 8 games may be saved on thy diskette. Simply type SAVE. Ye will be prompted by thy computer as to diskette swap. (Thy saved games shalt be saved on thy LANDS BEYOND diskette.)

Restoring thy saved games

Apple and IBM: At any time during play, type RESTORE. Thy computer shalt ask which game ye wouldst like to restore. Type in that number, and follow thy computer prompt as to whether ye shouldst leave in thy EMPIRE diskette or switch to thy LANDS BEYOND diskette.

HINTS

If ye find thyself in a dangerous situation, it might be helpful to SAVE thy game before venturing further. Remember, it is always a good idea to make a map.

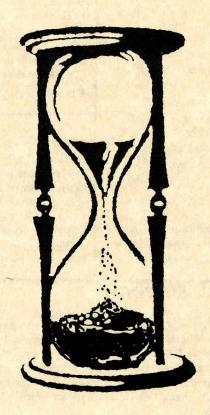
If ye find thyself hopelessly stuck, fear thee not. By order of King Darius, adventurers may send for a coded hint booklet by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope (that is an envelope addressed to thee with a 22-cent stamp affixed). Insert that envelope into another envelope and send to:

POLARWARE Talisman Hint Department P. O. Box 311 Geneva, IL 60134

Be it further proclaimed, that if such self-addressed, stamped envelope is not included, thy request for hints will be forever lost in King Darius' vault and thee will not receive Talisman hints!

Muhammad's Market

featuring exquisite wares for the hut



Sands of Time Hourglass full details page 8

"Charge It" with



Satisfying Customers for Over 200 Years

Dear Friends,

I'm always thinking of ways to make thy life easier. I try to give my customers a little more old-fashioned service and attention by looking for new ways to improve my quality and delivery to thee. This new catalog is filled with the right accessories thou will need to make thy life more comfortable. Choose from my exclusive line of personalized parchment, along with useful items for thy hut, pets, children -- and even thyself. I make it easy for thee to order by mail -- and satisfaction is guaranteed. When I set my signature to something, it's a sign that I'm behind it 100%!



NEW! HONOR THY KING



Wake up every day to the smiling face of thy King. This beautiful 7-1/2" hand-painted clay plate features the likeness of King Darius celebrating his twenty-fifth anniversary in power. Finely detailed with gold trim and hanging loop! (This offer ends when Darius expires.)

KD 88861 Darius Plate 15 Darics

Pain from thy asp got thee down? Try my fast-relief asperin concocted exclusively for Muhammad's Market by Mushnik of Mecca for treatment of asp bites. Guaranteed quick results! SG 57665 Asperin 2 Daries

REGAL SUPPORT



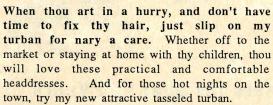
Does thy back ache from bowing and kowtowing to the king? Adjustable back and tummy support brace helps alleviate back pain, muscle fatigue, and slims thy tummy. Helps correct posture, too! Persian-made brace fits comfortably around thy lower back and waist for firm support; invisible under robes. One size fits all.

RS 38213 Back and Tummy Support Brace 30 Darics

Stop knee pain and bruises from kneeling at Darius' feet! My knee pads gives thee protective, soothing support for those long days on thy feet haggling in the marketplace or any time thy knees get a workout. Great for long camel drives!

JJ 38304 Knee Pads 5 Darics

Turbans





TG 16472 Plain Turban 8 Darics PS 16463 Tassled Turban 14 Darics

Cavalcade of Camel Accessories

Does thy camel suffer from bad breath? One swig of Muhammad's secret potion, and his breath will be sweet-smelling for hours. BB 29353 Mouthwash 3 Daries





Keep camels out of thy tent with easy-to-use "Odors Away." Harmless! Effective! Put an end to those pesky camels kicking sand into thy home. Powder emits a special blend of scents that repels camels quickly yet won't harm them. 2 lb. packet. VS 29317 "OdorAway" 5 Daries

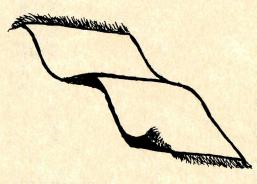
For that pampered pet! Personalized placemat with thy camel's name hand-painted in snappy black! Huge chow-time mat works great under feeding dish to catch that unwanted camel drool. Decorative camel designs in warm sand tones are so cute and identifies pet's special dinner spot. Wipes clean in a jiffy! 3-1/2' X 4' in size. Please print name up to 15 letters. JS 29338 Personalized Camel Placemat 12 Darics



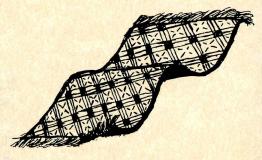


For the Cavorting Camel. Tired of thy camel wandering off in the desert alone? Give thy camel positive lifetime identification with this engraved gold I.D. tag, 7" across with his name, thy name, and hut location. Chain collar included with hook for easy snap attachment. Please print information in following order: Camel's name; owners name; hut location. LS 29339 Camel I.D. tag 19 Darics

Anyone Can Fly In Style!



For the budget minded. Muhammad's standard flying carpet is plain but practical in every way. Soft sand tones accent this wear-defiant, strong, tightly-woven rug. If thou art looking to save some Darics, this is the only way to fly! CP 65011 Economy Carpet 62 Daries



Super DeLuxe. Made exclusively for Muhammad's Market. Hand-crafted by Murphy's of Mecca, this superb carpet features only the finest Persian silk. Richly-colored with a variety of designs. Adorned with 4" fringe. Especially perfect for long flights -- takes you everywhere hands free!

CP 65013 DeLuxe Carpet 99 Darics

TO OUR FOREIGN CUSTOMERS

Most visitors to the Persian Empire art overwhelmed (and overcharged) by the vast bartering establishments of the land. However, haggling with local merchants can be both safe and easy using the Empire's official bargaining procedure developed by Hosni Haake, entrepreneur and the King's personal economist. First, get the merchant's attention by talking to him. Example: "Talk to Hosni." Secondly, tell the merchant what it is that ye wish to buy. Example: "Buy the Yak." Lastly, tell the merchant what ye art willing to pay for the item. Example: "Offer 75." If this price is unacceptable to him, he shalt counter with a different price. Then offer him a new amount, until both of thee art satisfied.

When using thy Darics, ye may use commands such as "Bribe guard with 20 Darics"; or simply, "Bribe guard with 20."

Remember: Muhammad's gladly accepts Arabian Express or Darics only.

Sorry, no checks!

Mohammed's Market
East of the Empire
at the corner of Dune and Oasis

PAID
Persian Empire
Permit #296

Bulk Rate

OCCUPANT







