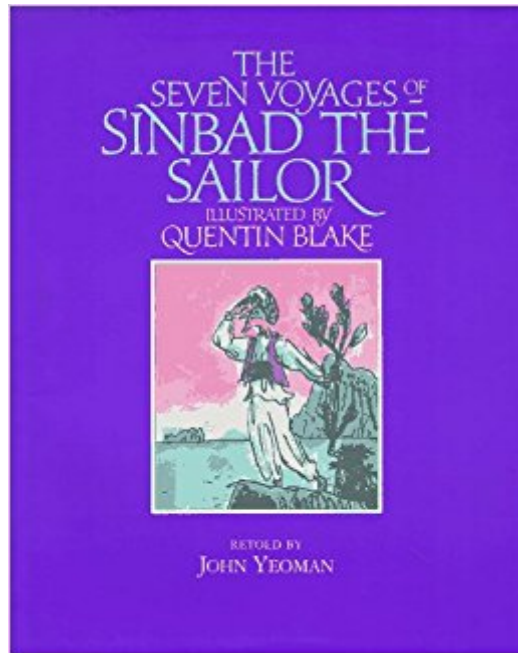




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# The Seven Voyages Of Sinbad The Sailor



## Synopsis

Originally a part of the Arabian Nights stories, the adventures of Sinbad the Sailor are set in the historic lands of the Middle East. On each of Sinbad's journeys there is some disaster and Sinbad must call upon his last ounce of strength to escape the many dangers he finds. 36 black-and-white & 35 color illustrations.

## Book Information

Age Range: 10 and up

Hardcover: 128 pages

Publisher: Margaret K. McElderry; 1st U. S. Edition edition (October 1, 1997)

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## Customer Reviews

Grade 5 Up. Written over five centuries ago, these tales have survived over time as storytellers' favorites. Yeoman's first-person narration pretty much follows the standard Richard Burton translation and leads readers through Sinbad's seven shipwrecks while introducing them to the amazing inhabitants of the islands on which the sailor is inevitably stranded: sea-stallions; the giant Roc and diamond-protecting serpents; Cyclops-like giants; cannibals (and live-burial customs); the Old Man of the Sea with his lethal legs; the generous king of Sarandib; and monsters and the flying "brethren of the demons." In each formulaic tale, Sinbad loses everything, flirts with death, and ends up richer, more generous, and maybe even a bit wiser than before. All of the stories provide numerous opportunities for retelling and embellishing and thus gloriously display the storyteller's craft. This version makes excellent classroom reading and Blake's expressive line drawings and watercolors, about half of which are reproduced in black and white, lend a subtle wit, pathos, and determination to the remarkable revelations of this man of mysterious wealth. An excellent introduction to the "1001" tales that are filled with adventure, luck, ingenuity, and allegory. John

Gr. 4<sup>^</sup>-7. In the framework story, Sinbad the Porter envies the luxurious life of Sinbad the Sailor until his gracious host explains how he obtained his wealth: seven voyages of disaster, horror, and adventure that eventually led to his present state of happiness and prosperity. In the foreword, Quentin Blake explains that the tales, part of The Arabian Nights, probably originated as travelers' yarns. Chalk up their fantastic nature partly to confusion about strange beasts never seen and partly to dramatic effect. Appearing on nearly every spread, Blake's ink drawings with watercolors (some reproduced in color, some in black and white) illustrate the story with style and grace. A handsome edition in every way, this book features good storytelling, lively illustrations, and excellent design.

Carolyn Phelan

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