

Ali Baba and the 40 Thieves:

1943 Universal Pictures, Co.

Maria Montez, Jon Hall, and Turhan Bey

Available in GRCC Library in the Basic Skills Collection

Hulago Khan (chief of the Mongols)

Caliph of Baghdad

Ali, son of the Caliph

Prince Kasim, advisor (and traitor) to the Caliph

(Lady) Amara, daughter of Kasim

Jamil, slave of Lady Amara and follower of Ali Baba

In the beginning of the story Hulago Khan and his men took over the city of Baghdad, but the Caliph escaped. Khan decreed that 100 of the Caliph's followers would be tortured and killed every day until the Caliph died.

Meanwhile, at Prince Kasim's home, Ali and Lady Amara cut their wrists and shared their blood to make a pledge to one another. Ali explained that even while he must leave her home to be with his father he would always be a part of her (and she a part of him) because they shared each other's blood. Lady Amara was sad and kissed him goodbye. The Caliph told his son, "Now you become a man. "

As the Caliph made his escape in a boat he was called back to shore by Prince Kasim. But there was no reason to call the Caliph back. Kasim was a traitor and betrayed the Caliph to the Khan's men. Ali was helped over the side of the boat by a loyal follower of the Caliph's. Ali watched as his father was killed. The boats were set on fire and Ali swam away to escape.

Much later Ali was wandering in the desert and heard a loud noise from the side of a cave. He hid in the rocks and watched as the 40 thieves rode out into the desert. The last thief turned back to the cave and said, "Close Oh Sesame!" After the thieves left, Ali tried to open the cave. He said "Open Oh Sesame!" He was successful!

He went into the cave and was amazed by all the jewels and gold. He drank water and played with a beautiful sword. He was tired after his long journey in the desert and fell asleep.

The 40 thieves came back to the cave, but were surprised to find that the cave was open. They walked carefully into the cave and looked around. They saw small Ali sleeping on the blankets. One thief said, "We caught a mouse!"

Ali explained to the thieves that his father had been killed and betrayed by Kasim. He asked them to follow him. The thieves said that they had no love for the Mongols, so they would work with him. Abdullah was told to watch over Ali. Old Baba told Ali that he would feel lucky to have a son such as Ali. Ali got the new name, Ali Baba.

Ali lived and grew up with the thieves. Meanwhile Kasim gave his daughter, Amara, to Hulago (the ruthless Khan) as a wife. Lady Amara traveled to Baghdad to meet Hulago Khan. She went to take a bath in the water near her caravan. Ali Baba talked to her, but was captured by soldiers who were with her. She felt sorry for Ali Baba and asked Jamil, her slave to make sure that the prisoner did not thirst.

When the caravan arrived in Baghdad, Ali Baba was placed in the town center. He would be killed the next day. The 40 thieves came to rescue him. They cut the ropes on his hands and feet and gave him a horse. Ali Baba caught Lady Amara and brought her back to the cave with the 40 thieves. Old Baba was hurt in this fight and died. He told Ali Baba that he is the new chief.

Ali Baba gave a message to Jamil which told Hulago that he would trade Lady Amara for Kasim. If Kasim did not come by the next day, Ali Baba would kill Lady Amara. Kasim did not come to take his daughter's place. The 40 thieves wanted to kill Lady Amara, but Ali Baba couldn't do it. He remembered his pledge to Lady Amara, and could not kill her. Lady Amara still didn't know that Ali Baba was the same Ali, son of the Caliph, whom she grew up with and pledged herself to. Ali sent Lady Amara back to her father.

Lady Amara went back to her father and learned that Ali of the thieves is the Ali of her childhood. She refused to marry Hulago. Her father pretended to be tortured until Amara agreed to marry Hulago. She thought that her father would be killed if she did not marry Hulago.

One of Lady Amara's servants was a spy for Kasim. She told Hulago and Kasim everything. Jamil realized when he was delivering a message from Ali Baba to Lady Amara that he had been overheard by Amara's servant.

Ali Baba and the thieves came to Baghdad on Ramadan, an important muslim holiday, to free Lady Amara and to free Baghdad. They brought 40 jars of oil, but with no people inside. There was only sand. Ali Baba pretended to be an oil merchant from Basra. Kasim knew Ali Baba's original plan from his spy. Kasim planned to kill the 40 thieves and Ali Baba. He had swordsmen do a performance for Hulago Khan. The performance ended with

a sword in all of the jars of oil. Ali Baba acted surprised, but there was only sand in the jars. Khan was displeased with Kasim and killed him.

Outside the gates of the city the 40 thieves told people in the crowd to be ready to fight for Baghdad. Fighting began in the city. Jamil and Amara opened the gates of the city to let the people in to fight to regain Baghdad. Ali Baba fought with Hulago, but finally it was Abdullah who killed Hulago. Jamil put up the flag of Baghdad on the castle. Amara went to 6Baba.

And they all lived happily ever after. The End!