

CHAPTER ONE

Sinbad the Sailor returns home



The city of Baghdad was just beginning to wake. The river sparkled in the morning light as the sun rose. A tall, handsome man stood alone on the deck of a sailing ship, admiring what he saw. He had been away travelling for three long years and had had many adventures. At last he was back in the city where he was born.

This man was Sinbad the Sailor, one of the richest and most famous travellers in the world. But you would not have known it to look at him. When he went away, a great crowd of people had come to wave him goodbye. But now, there was nobody to welcome him home.

‘Nobody knows I am here,’ he told himself. ‘Everyone thinks I’m dead or that I’ve gone away forever.’ He ran his fingers through his bushy beard and looked down at his dirty clothes. ‘I need to go home, have a bath and change into clean clothes,’ he thought.

Suddenly he had an idea. What fun it would be to keep secret the fact that he was alive! He could wander the streets like a stranger. Perhaps he would find out if anyone still remembered him.



Cambridge University Press
978-1-108-43097-5 — A Tale of Two Sinbads 3 Explorers
Ian Whybrow, Illustrated by Shabab Shamshirsaz
Excerpt
[More Information](#)



He walked slowly through the quiet, narrow streets and the empty market place, but the peace and quiet didn't last. It was not long before babies woke up and started crying. Then donkeys began to bray. More and more people began to get out of bed and throw open their doors. Soon carts were rumbling past and the smell of baking bread filled the air.

Sinbad's tummy rumbled almost as loudly as the carts! He needed a good breakfast. It was then that he remembered that he didn't have any money. He did have a bag of diamonds hidden under his shirt, but he couldn't use diamonds to buy breakfast. What was he going to do?

