

THE AMERICAN ARABIAN

A Synopsis and Treatment

by

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On a foggy night with the sound of a buoy's bell CLANGING in the far distance we see that the year is 1916, only a few months before the US enters WW1. Through the thick fog, we see the AL JAZIR, an Arabian ship that was seized by the Ottoman Empire (Turks) docked at a pier in San Francisco bay. We close on Turkish sailors as they're working and loading cargo aboard the ship.

SARA, LILY, MICHAEL and ALBERT (Libby's Fiancée) as they're walking along the docks. Michael and Albert are dressed in full military uniforms, sabers and pistols hang from the sides of their belt straps.

Lily stops Sara and tells her brother Michael that she wants to talk with Sara alone. Michael and Albert reluctantly move ahead, warning them that the docks at night are not a safe place for women. Lily informs Sara that her brother Michael is going to ask Sara's father for his permission to marry Sara before he goes to war.

Back at the AL Jazir, the ship's captain and his first-mate see Sara and Lily. They both agree that the women would be a very valuable cargo to sell when they returned to Arabia.

Out from the thick fog, a few Turkish sailors appear and as they start to abduct Sara and Lily. Michael and Albert come to their rescue but they are overpowered by the Turkish sailors. Albert is killed and Michael is shot and left for dead. Sara and Lily are shanghaied by the Turkish sailors and brought aboard the Al Jazir.

In Arabia a small band of Arabian Nomads are traveling through the desert. RIMAL and his friend and mentor, AMAR are talking. They engage in a horse race and as Rimal avoids a barrel he falls from his horse knocking over the barrel from which oozes oil – 'black sand'.

Then, while aboard the Al Jazir and the voyage back to Arabia, Sara and Lilly learn that they are to be sold as slaves when the ship arrives back in Arabia.

An Arabian tribe is attacked by Turk Solders. They are looking for the young rebel, Rimal.

Back to the Al Jazir, Lily and Sara are at the ship's bow.

At a hospital, Michael explains to Sara's father that Sara and Lily have both been shanghaied and that the ship, the Al Jazir has left the docks. He vows to Sara's father that he will find Sara and Lily and return his daughter back to him.

Rimal's caravan comes across the Arabian village that had been attacked.

A submarine appears and stops the Al Jazir. At first it looks like Sara and Lily maybe rescued from the Turkish sailor but the Sub is German.

Rimal and his caravan make camp outside the city walls of Jiddah.

The Al Jazir is ported in Jiddah.

Michael and a few of his men on a ship in the ocean sailing for Arabia.

Rimal and Amar are at the market place selling their black sand.

Sara and Lilly are taken off the ship and brought to the market place where they are to be auctioned off and sold.

While at the market place, Rimal sees the young Sara being auctioned off and bids for her, but he's no

match for the rich Turkish Sheik that wants her for his harem. He and Amar have enough to buy Lily's freedom.

Then, at night while the Turkish Sheik and his Caravan are camped outside of the city of Jiddah, Rimal sneaks into the camp. He steals a pouch of Lira's from the sleeping Sheik. He then finds Sara in another tent. She realizes that he's the young Arab from the auction that had bid for her. She wants Rimal to take her with him but he refuses.

When Rimal returns to his own camp that night, Lily realizes that Rimal is a half-breed. She convinces Rimal to rescue Sara from the Sheik. The next morning Rimal leaves the camp to get Sara.

The Al Jazir is at sea and is torpedoed by a British sub and shortly after the ship that Michael's on sees the sinking Al Jazir. Michael and his men board the ship and fight with the Turkish sailors.

Michael, in the city of Jiddah with a few other US army men dressed in Arabian attire. Michael learns that Sara and Lilly have been sold at an auction and they are with a Turkish Caravan traveling through the Arabian Desert. He sets out into the desert to find the caravan.

Rimal and Amar are traveling through the desert at night.

Amar questions Rimal about why they are traveling at night and not following the Sheik's caravan to rescue Sara.

Michael and his men are being followed by the Turk solders.

Rimal returns to his own caravan. He has seen Michael and his men and taken note of how the Turk solders follow closely.

The Turk army attacks Michael and his men. Rimal and his men join in on the fight against the Turks. After the fighting is over, Rimal learns that Michael and his men have come to Arabia to find the American women.

While camped with Michael and his men, Rimal and Amar set out on their own to take Sara from the

Sheik. In the morning Michael discovers that they left during the night.

At dusk, we see Rimal and Amar looking down at the Sheik's camp.

Sara is being prepared for the sheik. Then, Rimal and Amar set some of the caravan tents on fire with some of the black sand. Rimal rescues Sara from her tent and they ride off from the burning caravan with Amar.

At an oases Rimal saves Sara from being stung by deadly scorpions.

In the morning at the oases Rimal sees the beauty of Sara's young body while she's bathing in the water hole.

Later, Rimal, Amar and Sara are traveling through the desert. Sara is questioning Amar about the young Arabian. Amar is aware that the young Sara seems to have an interest in his future sheik. Then, in a sand storm, once again Rimal saves Sara's life.

Michael is arriving at Rimal's father's camp. He's reunited with his sister Lily.

Rimal sets out on his own to find them water while Amar and Sara continue to travel the desert. Just when Amar and Sara are about dead from the killing desert, Rimal returns with water and food.

Rimal, Amar and Sara arrive at the village. Sara finds that Michael is alive and that he's traveled half the world to find her and Lily. Rimal then realizes that Michael and Sara have a thing for each other.

Later, Rimal informs Sara, Lily and Michael that he will be taking them back to Jiddah in two days time.

That night, Sara sees Rimal enter his tent with two of the tribe's women. After seeing Rimal inviting the women into his tent, Sara accepts Michael's proposal of marriage. The next day she has regrets of accepting Michael proposal when she learns that the two women are Rimal's sisters.

On their journey back to Jiddah, Rimal's village is attacked. Rimal alone returns to his village and finds his father and sister dead. His other sister has been beaten and raped and dies in his arms.

Before leaving his village, a band of rebel nomads show up and they join up with Rimal.

Rimal and his band of rebel attack the Turkish sheik's caravan. The sheik is killed.

We then go to Amar and his caravan. They find themselves surrounded by Turk soldiers. They only want Rimal and the young Sara and the rest of them may live. At night, Sara rides out of their camp and gives herself to the Turks to save the other peoples lives. In the morning, Amar and Michael find that the Turk army has left and has Sara.

Rimal returns to Amar and finds that Sara has been taken by the Turkish army.

Rimal explains his plan to Amar and Michael. He will give himself up to the Turks and then lead them to the black sand. There, Amar and Michael and their men will set a trap for them.

Rimal gives himself up to the Turks. With the sheik's finger in the pouch, Rimal shows them that the sheik is dead. Rimal is stripped of his shirt his hands tied and forced to walk in the desert heat. He begins to lead them through the desert and to their deaths at the oil pit.

At night, with his body half baked by the desert sun and chilled and fevered by the cold desert night, Sara brings his body back to life with the warmth of her own naked body under a sheep's skin while Rimal sleeps.

In the morning, Rimal questions why she had laid with him. She explains and he thanks her for saving his life.

Then, we go to the oil pit. Amar, Michael and the men are preparing the oil pit as a trap for the Turks.

Rimal and the Turks, He tells the Turk Captain that they will reach the black sand by nightfall.

Rimal leads them into the trap. Once they reach the pit, a ring of oil is set on fire around them. Just as Rimal is about to be killed by the Turkish Captain, Sara throws her dagger killing the Captain. Sara and Rimal escape from the ring of fire on Rimal's horse.

In the morning and we can see that there are many dead Turkish soldiers. Rimal and the rest of them ride off from the oil pit.

In the city of Jiddah a ship is about to sail.

Amar is there to see Lily, Sara and Michael off. Rimal watches from a distance unnoticed. Sara is looking for Rimal and hoping he will come to see her off.

A year later: Rimal, Amar and Sadad are waiting to attack the Turkish soldiers on the Hijaz railway train. In the fight, Amar is shot and Rimal comes to his rescue.

While Amar is recuperating from his wound he receives a letter from Lily; Amar and Rimal learn that Michael has been killed in the war.

The year is 1918 and the war is over. Rimal and Amar are aboard a ship heading to America. Once in America, Lily meets Amar and Rimal at the ship's port.

Sara is in a graveyard. She's standing over Michael's grave with flowers in her hand. She's unaware that someone is standing behind her until he speaks out to her. She turns and sees that it is Rimal. She drops the flower from her hand from shock of seeing Rimal.

Outside of Sara's Father's home. Rimal and Amar are dressed in the business attire of America. Amar complains that he doesn't like the fit of his clothing.

Inside the house Rimal and Amar see Lily and Sara dressed in evening gowns. Rimal is speechless over Sara's beauty. They have dinner and Sara and Rimal can't keep their eyes off of each other.

At the port of San Francisco Rimal, Amar and Lily are boarding a ship back to Arabia.

Sara arrives but it is too late as the ship is sailing off. Once again she is aware that Rimal is standing behind her until she turns and sees him. Rimal questions Sara why she never married Michael and she tells him it was because of him. Rimal then proposes to Sara.

Back in Arabia several years later. Rimal, Sara, Lily Amar and two young children are looking an oil rig. The sign next to the oil well reads, "The Arabian American Oil Company."