



Djinn 4: Le Trésor
(Djinn 4: The Treasure)
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<http://comixinflux.com/influx/show/26>

Contributors

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[1:1] I'm on a search for treasure. // [1:2] It's a mad one. Because it's mad to believe that the past responds to questions from the present. But I'm making this mad assumption. // [1:3] It's been many years since another caravan was enveloped by the desert following the same mirage. A genie was present. She was my grandmother. She came back. She... // [1:4] And the others? It was 1912. // Soldier: One of our patrols found him in open desert. We identified him by his uniform. He belonged to the two army corps led by Von Henzig.

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[2:1] Hawkins: "belonged". Why employ the past tense? // Soldier: Because he doesn't belong to anything any more, you excellency. You can judge for yourself. // [2:2] No, physically he's been hit, but now... // [2:3] The doors opened... // [2:4] Hawkins: Relax, you're safe at the moment. We want to help you. Get you better. I'd simply like you to answer a few questions. // [2:5] Questions, yes. That's a good idea, sir. One can never ask enough. // [2:6] Hawkins: Von Henzig was your officer? // Man: Von Henzig doesn't exist anymore. // Hawkins: Where did you go in the desert? // Man: Nowhere. // [2:7] Or rather, yes... there something hisses, there something creeps. I don't want to creep.

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[3:1] It's needed, though, if they want to pass. // [3:2] Hawkins: Pass where? Were you mounting a military campaign? Did you have Turkish guides? // Man: Turks? // [3:3] Ah yes... we had this woman... very beautiful... in her veils danced... danced... I worked out that it was a demon who had led us to our ruin. // [3:4] Jade was her name, but one couldn't look her in the eye. We needed to bow... creep... if we wanted to pass. // [3:5] It's true my grandmother was beautiful. It's also true that she was a demon. Why would that frighten me? // [3:6] I am becoming like her? Everyone says so. // [3:7] You've changed.

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[4:1] Fazila: The blood of the genies runs within you. Did you reach the heart of the harem? // Kim: I completed the rite of 30 bells. If that's what you want to hear. // [4:2] Hmm. That's not enough. Muslim can verify it. // [4:3] Good. You're already relaxed. // [4:4] More open. // [4:6] Ah! Something's quivering under the skin.

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[5:1] A tattoo is appearing. // [5:2] It's the letters of a name. // [5:3] Whose? // [5:4] Jade. // [5:5] Jade!!! // [5:6] Now her heart knows no emotion. Don't fall in love with a genie Ibram Malik. // [5:7] It's too late Lady Fazila. // [5:8] Fazila: You have power now. // Kim: What power? // [5:9] The power to become rich, my dear.

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[6:1] To open the big door. You've not a word to say, an incantation to voice... // [6:2] Amin ...the one you learned from Ebu Sarki. // Kim: The only link that escaped you. // [6:3] If Ebu Sarki let you escape it was to give you the opportunity to retrieve the treasure. It's he who'll judge you worthy. // [6:4] Exactly. The only question I'll ask is this: When do we leave? // [6:5] Ibram: We need the money for an expedition. // Amin: Ah! That's true! I fear being irredeemably ruined. A state I hardly find inviting. // [6:6] I'll finance the materials you require. Against 5% of what you discover. // [6:7] Amin: From your share? // Kim: From your share. Take it or leave it. // [6:8] There's a second condition. You turn Kémal over. He assaulted one of my courtesans. He must pay.

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[7:1] What? It was for you sir. You let me use that girl. // [7:2] Use, Kémal, not abuse. // [7:3] As an example of betrayal I've never heard better. // [7:4] Ziria, bring penises. // [7:5] With pleasure mistress. // [7:6] Let us pass. We shall discuss matters more comfortably there. // [7:7] Kémal: But... but... And me? // Amin: We won't lie to you my friend: Bend over. // [7:8] Bend over!

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[8:1] Come on girls, he's ours. // [8:2] Wait. // [8:3] And Ziria had her revenge for what had happened. Kémal screamed for many minutes. Then nothing more. Not one of us reacted. No-one was interested in his end. We are there. // [8:4] We didn't help even at the death of a man. // [8:5] Are you writing your diary? // [8:6] Kim: No. I'm adding a few notes to my mother's notebook. She sometimes dreamed of this treasure, but she was afraid as well. // Ibram: Afraid of what? The adventure? // [8:7] Kim: The treasure is protected Malek. We won't obtain it easily. // Ibram: Bah! You know the incantation. What can happen to us? // [8:8] The same thing that happened to the expedition lead by my grandmother. They were erased from the surface of the Earth.

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[9:1] Kim: Only Jade pulled free. // Ibram: There's always that. // Kim: That's enough for you? // Ibram: As long as nothing happens to you. // [9:2] Kim: You'd be ready to sacrifice yourself for the treasure? // Ibram: Not for the treasure. For you, yes. // [9:3] Kim: I believed you were a thief, a man without ethics or belief. // Ibram: I always have been, but that didn't stop me from making the biggest mistake of my life. // Kim: I know. // [9:4] Ibram: I've fallen in love. // Kim: And you regret it? // Ibram: Does that change anything? // Kim: No. // [9:5] The imbecile. He doesn't understand anything. // [9:6] Too bad for him. The genie's horn will disembowel him... // [9:7] Exactly like Jade disembowelled the Sultan. // [9:8] Sultan: Jade? And why do you want to meet her? // Hawkins: We would like to ask her some questions your excellency.

[10:1] Hawkins: On the topic of an expedition led by your German allies. We believe your favourite was part of this expedition. // Sultan: And what if she did? What concern of yours is it? // [10:2] Your excellency we are interested in all the movements of the German forces quartered in your country. Furthermore our agents have informed us that this expedition disappeared in the desert sands. Far from here. // [10:3] Sultan: Is that true Youssouf. Have we any news of Jade? // Youssouf: I fear not, master. // [10:5] Excuse me gentlemen. // [10:7] If your excellency will permit, we remain very anxious about the recent disappearance of Lord and Lady Nelson. We found this letter, written in Lady Nelson's hand... // [pp:11] // [11:1] "I love Jade. I never enjoyed my husband's touch. My family should ignore this carry on." // [11:2] A woman of Lady Nelson's standing would avoid this stupid pathos. Are you suggesting suicide? // [11:3] Or a crime disguised as such. The only one who can explain this mystery is your favourite Jade. It's why we hoped to find her at your side. // [11:4] That's not the case gentlemen. I shall inform you if there is any news. Now I must leave. My duties call. // [11:5] Your excellency, we will not leave the matter of two of our eminent countrymen disappearing in this country without knowing exactly what happened to them. // [11:6] Sultan: Is that a threat, sir? // Hawkins: A statement, merely a statement. // [11:7] This time it's war. // [11:8] War. // [pp:12] // [12:1] Youssouf, one question. Have you and Jade betrayed me? // [12:2] I... // [12:3] I shall never see my favourite again. Is that right? She has taken the gold I was going to give to the Germans. // [12:4] Mercy, master, mercy. No-one can resist a genie. // [12:5] It's true. My time. I feel my entrails tearing apart. // [12:6] But it is a question of obeying now. You to your master, me to my destiny. Tomorrow at daybreak... // [12:7] ...you will free the birds.

[13:2] And you will assemble the entire harem.

[14:1] A bad wind is blowing in our direction. A wind of equality that brings coal and powder, baseness and envy. By hesitating between the past and the future we have exhausted ourselves. But there are songs of our infancy that we learn never to forget. // [14:2] To all those who have these songs in their heart I shall grant a new freedom. You may return to your families. To each of you I will grant a dowry of enough consequence to enable marriage. // [14:3] You will erase these places from your memory, the sound of my steps, the sound of orders, the suffocating cloth. Nothing must remain. // [14:4] Go now, and beware that the light outside doesn't burn your soul. // [14:5] We will never forget these doors, master. Our life was here. You've given us everything. There remains nothing for the others. // [14:6] We have no desire to know the others.

[15:2] Jade: What's happening? What's that noise? // Man: You've ignored everything? // [15:3] Man: The Sultan has freed his women. // Jade: All of them? // Man: All. Novices, spouses, concubines, the harem is empty. // [15:4] Youssouf. Provided he's kept silent.

[16:1] Youssouf, do Jade's plans include a return to Constantinople? // [16:2] Youssouf: She asked Mustapha to prepare a passport. // Sultan: For her alone? // [16:3] No. Theoretically she'll be accompanied by the Nelsons. // [16:4] Sultan: So, they're still alive. Was the idea to flee with the treasure? // Youssouf: With what they could find, yes. // [16:5] They found it. Youssouf, take this dagger. // [16:6] It belonged to my father. The blade has never been soiled. But today is different. // [16:6] You will plunge it into Jade's body, and you will bring me her head. I know there's not much time for it. // [16:7] Sultan: You have you a family, A sister with children? // Youssouf: They've already profited from your generosity, sir. // [16:8] Youssouf Sarki, I free you from your debts.

[17:1] Simoun. // [17:2] What did they do? Did they collapse? // [17:3] I know the bite of sand. I've already paid. // [17:4] Come on, charge. // [17:5] Faster, faster. // [17:6] She's mad.

[18:1] Between light and shadow... // [18:2] ...you accept the desert. // [18:5] Brakes. Watch out.

[19:1] There. // [19:2] An opening. // [19:3] It's clearing up ahead. // [19:5] What's this debris. // [19:6] It's debris, as you said.

[20:1] It's all that remains of the expedition led by Jade. They've been here almost a century. // [20:2] Amin: If I understand it properly, we're caught in a trap. // Ibram: Exactly, the opening has closed. // [20:3] The doors. There are more. // [20:4] Ibram: Where are you going? // Kim: I want to be at the heart of it. // [20:6] By the wishes of the master, move back and abstain yourself.

[21:1] Carry on. Quickly. // [21:2] What happened? // Kim: We were in front of the first door, therefore not far from our destination. // [21:3] Amin: The map.. // Kim: Leave it, it's not important. // [21:4] The walls have closed. We'll never arrive there. // [21:5] Yes.

[22:2] The storm, it's going away. // [22:3] Jade: Nothing broken? // My leg, I think. // [22:4] This wasn't envisaged. You've led us into a... // [22:5] But... // [22:6] Von Helzig: A temple. // Jade: There is where we find my master's treasure. You see, I've not betrayed you.

[24:1] and abstain. // [24:2] Follow me. // [24:3] Amin: Incredible. You're familiar with this place. // Jade: You wouldn't believe me if I told you. // [24:4] It appeared to me in another life, the life of a genie. // [24:5] What a stench. I'd say cannabis, from rotting plants. // [24:6] A hallucinogenic gas. Go back. // [24:7] No, we must continue. Hold your breath.

[26:1] I've got to take hold of my senses. Not let myself be taken away. // [26:2] Banker: Regarding this code. I assume that none of you pose a problem. // Kim: How? // [26:3] Yes, the code to access your deposit. It's involves an important sum. Think. The ancient treasure of the sultans. Gold, rubies, opals, gems, all converted to bonds and Swiss francs. A currency held in high esteem. // [26:4] The code you found in your notebook. I remember it. // [26:5] Ibram: Z.I.B. 432.000.3344 27. // Banker: Perfect. // [26:6] Banker: You're together? // Ibram: Yes. Is that a problem? // [26:7] No concern of mine, Yours perhaps. Choose a box number. // [26:8] 52 // [26:9] Box 52 is at your service.

[28:1] My hand. I've been bitten. // [28:2] Your friend spoke of destiny. I believe he's met his. Try the game miss? // [28:3] What's happening to me? I can't see clearly? // [28:4] Kim: We should help him. We can't leave him here. // Banker: Rest assured, he's not dying. He's just losing his memory. // [28:5] The memory of his name, his past actions, the ambitions he nourished. In brief, the page is becoming blank. // [28:6] And your page, Miss, what will you write there? // [28:7] Kim, no. I beg you. // [28:8] I can't go back Malek. I've found my past. I,m not abandoning it.

[30:1] 49. // [30:3] Where am I? Ah, yes, with my nanny. She had a surname. What was it? And my parents. I had parents. // [30:4] But he subsists on a differential rate via state imprint. The other part of the progressive amelioration in the context of beneficiary societies doesn't reassure is with regard to the risk of ratings revision. That's the case. // [30:5] Genie. Genie. If you're truly a genie nothing will happen. // [30:7] A box. Is that all that's here? // [30:8] The Maharaja of Eschnapur invites you to his annual ball. Reply to Mr Prim. // [30:9] Ha., ha, ha. The treasure of the Sultan, only an invitation to dance.

[32:5] Nouredim: You've come back. // Jade: That surprises you? // [32:6] Nothing surprises me with respect to a genie. What did you do with the soldiers that accompanied you? // [32:7] The desert winds gnawed them to the bone.

[23:1] The treasure. At last. For my country. For my patriotism. // [23:2] Man: What's he doing. Has he become mad? // Jade: What do you want me to say? // [23:3] The treasure, if there is treasure, we can't take it. Without men, without mounts, it's useless. We are all going to die. // [23:4] It's not a mirage. I've succeeded. I've succeeded. // [23:5] You will succeed if you open the temple doors. // [23:6] Von Helzig: I believe you have an incantation for that. // Jade: Of a fashions. Move away. // [23:7] By the wishes of the master, move back...

[25:1] Ah! Really. Come on, come here. // [25:2] Don't allow yourselves to be impressed. This client arrived before you, but his responses to certain formalities were incorrect. // [25:3] He seems to be a soldier. Wait while I find his name. // [25:4] Here we are. I have his file. Herr Von Henzig... good family, promise of a prestigious career... // [25:5] ...until his arrival at the Zurich Bank. Can you believe he wanted to empty our coffers without even supplying the code. What a pretension!

[27:1] It should be Kim who takes the key, don't you agree? // [27:2] Don't be so naive, son. As from now, it's each to their own. // [27:3] Ibram: You specimen! // Kim: No, leave him. // [27:4] Good reaction Stay clam and all will be well. // [27:5] Except that some will come out of here richer than others. Each to his destiny. // [27:6] Your friend should not open the box. // [27:7] Let's see what's inside.

[29:1] 49 // [29:2] 49 // [29:3] Ah! If you'll permit me? // [29:4] Hallo! Madame Yari. I was just thinking of you. I've had news regarding your investments. Everything's in order. // [29:5] Ibram: Give me that. I'll open the box instead of you. // Kim: No. // [29:6] Kim: The box is mine. Mine alone. // Ibram: I see. // [29:7] You're distrust yourself. You're right. A genie distrusts the entire world. It's the only way to survive at the heart of the harem. // [29:8] A declining dimension of risk is coming translating into a reduction of the volatile stocks. And a reduction of differential between the obligations of the state and those of business. Let's assume the registered gains to be conservative.

[31:1] That's not possible. I must have made a mistake somewhere. // [31:2] Yes, that's it. I've made a mistake. I didn't take a coat. With steering wheels. It'll go well. // [31:3] Kim! Look! // [31:4] I think it would better if you leave now. // [31:5] Soon everything will become unstable.

[33:1] And the man who commanded them found a pitiful death. Without light at the bottom of a pit with things that hiss and creep. // [33:2] Nouredim: The temple houses numerous traps. // Jade: You can't avoid them unless you correctly pronounce the incantation that opens the doors. // [33:3] Jade: I omitted the end of the incantation. // Nouredim: I know you well there. My men will be able to pass without trouble? // [33:4] I need you Nouredim, just as you need me if you want to become rich. Your men can move without fear. The treasure is ours. // [33:5] It will take the entire night to empty the temple. And it's two days journey to the port where our boat awaits. // [33:6] Nouredim: Why aren't you coming with us? If you stay the Sultan's anger will fix on you. You risk your head. // Jade: I'm leaving the country for another place. // Nouredim: And you won't be alone. // [33:7] I'm never alone Nouredim. // [pp:34] // [34:1] One is never alone under the sight of the all-powerful. // [34:2] At he feet of which today I disposed of the power conferred upon me. Because I am the last. The one who will see the great fire light up. Death knocks at the walls of my city. May my ancestors pardon me, I did not have their strength. // [34:3] Take your shoes off gentlemen, and leave your weapons. They'll be no help to you here. // [34:5] You've come to sniff your prey Enver Pacha? You've been waiting for this for a long time, haven't you? But beware, all power is heavy and difficult to digest. // [34:6] You'll regurgitate me without being aware of it.

[35:1] I'll leave you. I hope you'll know how to lead my country to victory. // [35:3] Soldier: Forgive us Sir. // Sultan: Get up my friend. // [35:4] I'm nothing. Just a vision. The vision of a past of which you have no idea. // [35:5] At last. // [35:6] I'm free. // [35:7] It's here. // [35:8] Someone's knocking on the door.

[36:1] Who is it? // [36:2] Can't you guess? Open it. // [36:3] Jade. // [36:4] I've returned. The world awaits us. // [36:5] You belong to me. // [36:7] I belong to you. // [36:9] I've confided our destination to Mr Nouredim. He ans his smugglers have been entrusted to transport the gold to England. // Lord Nelson: Smugglers? Don't you think they'll betray us? // [pp:37] // [37:1] If you knew Nouredim, you'd not ask those questions. I'm complete confidence in him. He owes me his life. // [37:2] His blood is mine. // [37:3] Drink it. // [37:5] Lord Nelson: Yes! // Boy: You're the foreigner who lives with a genie? // [37:6] I'm the genie. What do you want? // [37:7] You've been sent this. You shouldn't pay me. I've already received two gold pieces.

[38:1] But who sent you. Wait! // [38:2] What's this? // [38:4] Mustapha. // [38:5] Jade: Youssouf. It can only be him. // Lord Nelson: But, why has he done this? // [38:6] Mustapha knew this address. I gave it to him because he was preparing the papers that would let us leave the country. Youssouf made him talk. // [38:7] Lord Nelson: But why didn't he come and surprise us? // Jade: It's me that he wants. He has the papers, he knows where I'm going. // [38:8] And I suspect he'll be waiting.

[40:1] Youssouf: No! don't touch me. // [40:2] I don't know how to love. I cannot love. // [40:3] My name is Youssouf Sarki. // [40:6] His name was Youssouf. // [40:7] He was my ancestor. I sometimes think of him, of those times. As a child he left my family to serve the Sultan. The harem swallowed him. The harem destroyed him. // [40:8] Ebu: You have news? // Asherdan: Yes. The young woman Kim Nelson. My men went back to Lady Fazila. She seemed very upset. It seems the Sultan's treasure was a lie. In any case, she found nothing.

[42:1] ...that caravan carrying the Sultan's treasure. We didn't dream it. It exists. It's offered to us. // [42:2] I can also see a resplendently illuminated room. They're preparing for war there. a simple signature at the end of a piece of paper, so many thousands of deaths. The smell of cigars will never be that of powder. // [42:3] Your excellency, prepare yourself for the worst. // [42:4] Hawkins: You. // Lord Nelson: I've surprised you? I can understand. I'm astonished to be alive myself. // [42:5] Lord Nelson: I've come to tell your excellency that you shouldn't rely on me any longer. This isn't a resignation, but I'm giving you my official report. I'm going to disappear. // Hawkins: Alone, or with the treasure?

[44:1] Lady Nelson: So? // Lord Nelson: We can go. // [44:2] Lord Nelson: At least... // Jade: Don't worry, I've recovered the passports. // [44:3] Lord Nelson: It'll be a long voyage. Perhaps even dangerous. // Lady Nelson: You'll protect us like we'll protect you. // [44:4] Like someone said to me: The world awaits us. // [44:5] That's it. That's exactly it. The world awaits me. My breed will never die out. // [44:6] Because between ourselves... // [44:7] I'm pregnant.

[46:1] ...is that I will never forget Kim Nelson. // [46:2] I'll never forget Ibram Malek. // [46:3] By the billygoat's beard. I've come too late. // [46:4] Fazila: You wanted aboard? // Mr Prim: No, but someone I needed to meet is on board. // [46:5] Someone called Kim Nelson. // [46:6] Fazila: Kim Nelson? // Mr Prim: Yes, I've got a document to give her. // Fazila: And your name is? // [46:7] Mr Prim at your service.

[39:1] At the heart of the harem. // [39:2] You can come in. There's no-one else. They've all left. // [39:3] Youssouf: It seems all legends have ended. Even yours. // Jade: Even mine, but I'm happy. // [39:4] Youssouf: Happy about becoming a woman like the others? A woman with warm skin, whose heart beats like an infidel dog? // Jade: Are you jealous Youssouf? Is that why you betrayed me? // [39:5] It's my master the Sultan that I betrayed. But he forgave me. he ordered me to take your head. I promised it to him. // [39:6] I see. You exercised it on poor Mustapha. It seems you've developed a taste for blood. // [39:7] Youssouf: It's a taste we share. Remember the child you killed near here. // Jade: I was a genie then. // [39:8] Youssouf: And you're not any more. That's why I reject you. // Jade: Reject me? Have you forgotten how you desired me? // [39:7] You're in such a fragile body. Only I can warm it up.

[41:1] Ebu: Impossible. // Asherdan: I assure you sir. It seems they fell into a trap. A mirage enveloped their expedition. // [41:2] Ebu: A mirage. Why not? It's necessary to interpret mirages, and that... // [41:3] ...is something a genie is capable of doing. // [41:4] Fazila: He's breathing. He'll pull through. // Kim: I hope so. He didn't deserve that. // [41:5] Fazila: And 'that' is? // Kim: Madness. The breath of madness. WE we engulfed in a pit of hallucinations. Nothing seemed real. // [41:6] Fazila: And Amin succumbed. // Kim: You've locked him in? // Fazila: In the rose bedroom. // [41:7] They think I'm mad. What a mistake! It's true my memory is no more than a an old torn tapestry, but that's not because I'm an old biddy that doesn't know how to read the signs any more. // [41:8] I can already figure out some things beneath the tapestry. For example...

[43:1] Lord Nelson: Essentially, it's not there. Essentially, it's because Germany can't have this treasure. It was issued in mystery and returns to mystery. // Hawkins: And this mystery. Is it you? // [43:2] Lord Nelson: It's exactly like I've become a mystery. Even in my own eyes. // Hawkins: I could stop you, demand explanations. // [43:3] One doesn't stop a mystery your excellency. // [43:6] I saw again two women waiting at the doors to the market. A beautiful blonde and a beautiful brunette.

[45:1] I'm cursed. I didn't find what I was looking for. My hands were open, but only the desert sand was deposited there. Now I'm living alone... without a genie, all alone. // [45:2] Ibram: Well I think the moment has come. // Kim: I'm sorry Malek. I wish there was choice other than leaving... // [45:3] Ibram: No-one's pushing you into going. // Kim: I've no choice. If I stay with you sooner or later I'm going to hurt you. // Ibram: We could always try. // [45:4] Kim: No, you wouldn't have a chance. A person can't win against a genie. // Ibram: Stop. I don't believe in that nonsense. // [45:5] Kim: You're wrong. Perhaps it's because I've become a genie that there's still a chance of retrieving my heritage. // Ibram: Your heritage! It's in a Swiss bank account. 300 pounds sterling. // [45:6] It's much more than that. You can come and count it one day. // [45:7] What I can count on...