

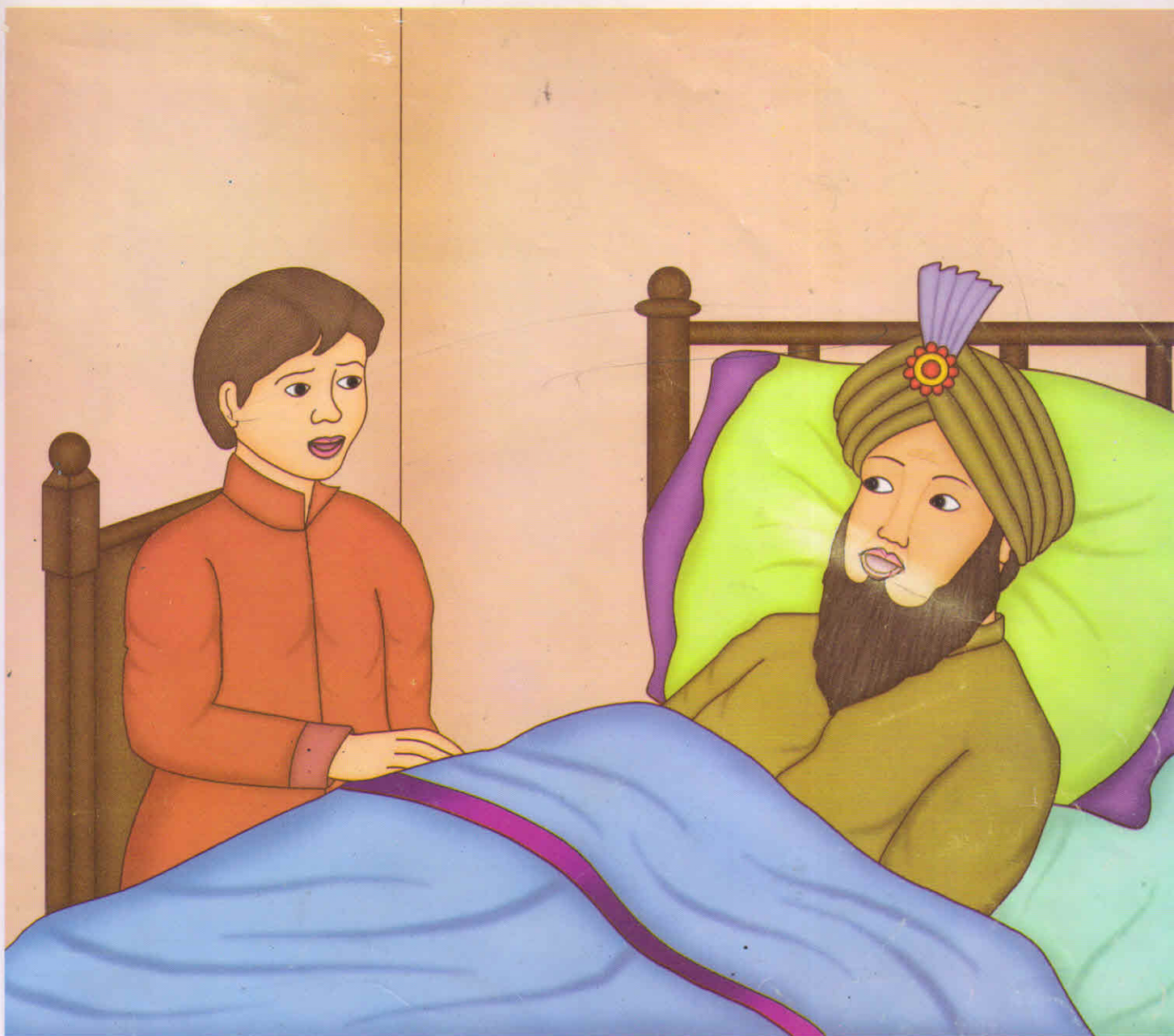
Sunrise Fairy Tales

# The Flying Trunk

5E







Once upon a time, a very wealthy merchant and his son lived in a town. The merchant was extremely rich. His wealth knew no bounds. It was said of him that he was so rich that he could have paved the street with silver. After his death, he left a great fortune for his son. The father was a good businessman and he had saved a lot of money prudently. The son was unlike his father. He spent the money in a foolish way and very shortly, he

lost all the wealth, which he had inherited from his late father. He was ignored by his selfish friends when his poverty became obvious to the people. Only one pious person thought well of him. He brought an old trunk and advised him to pack up and leave the town. Having lost all hope, the young boy sat on the trunk.







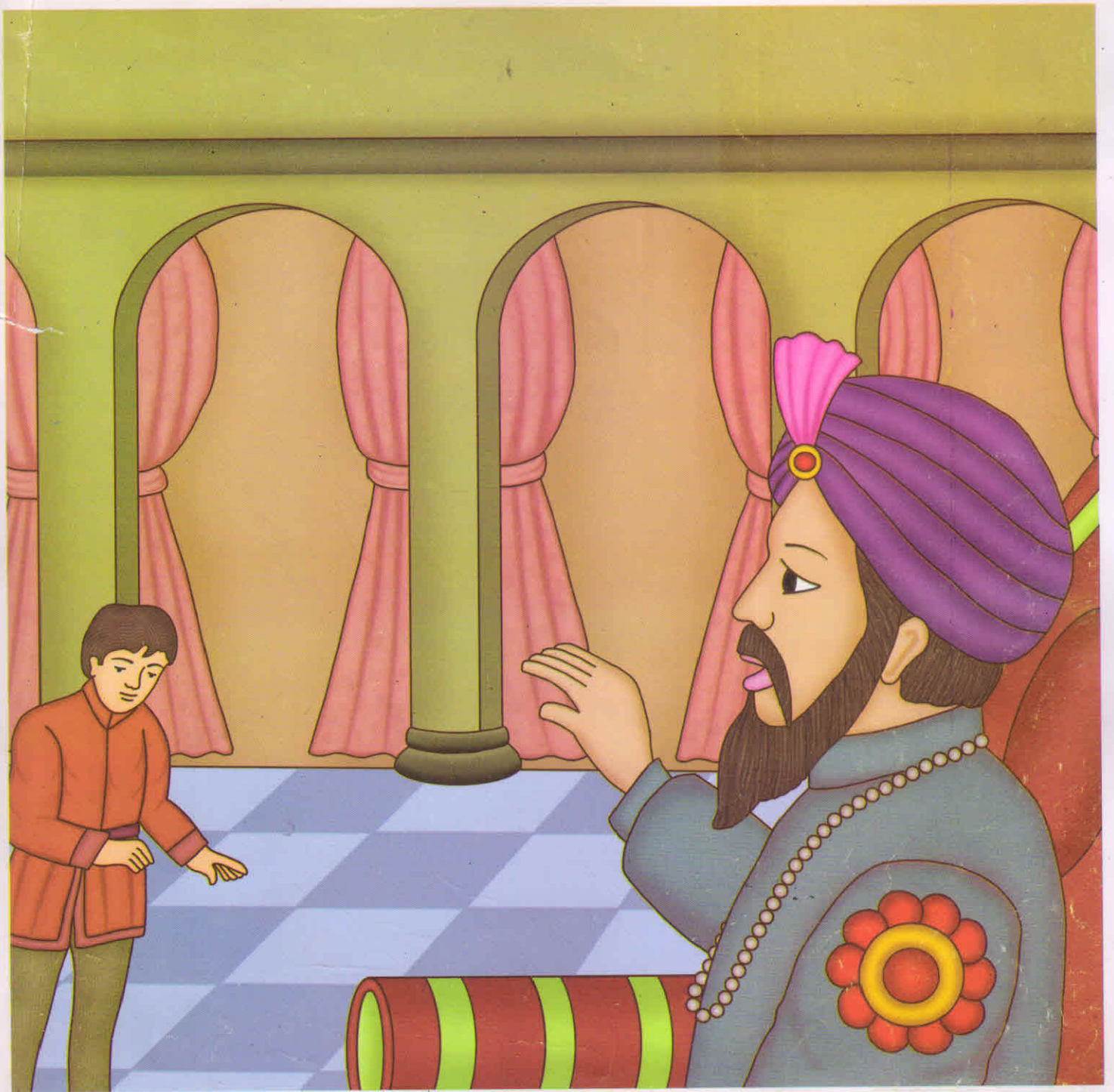
Shortly, an unexpected incident took place. The trunk soared high into the sky after lifting off the ground through an open window. The young lad clung tightly to the box. He could see below him, the ships in the sea, the winding rivers, church spires and scurrying people. All the things down on the ground did not look bigger than insects. Finally, the trunk moved



slowly downwards to the ground and stopped near the entrance of a grand palace made of marble. The lad hid the trunk outside the palace before entering into the palace. There he saw a rich Sultan. The Sultan sat cross-legged upon a throne. The throne was made of gold. It was an eastern country. The foolish young lad







boasted about his large personal fortune when he found that the Sultan was very wealthy. The Sultan had a daughter who was very beautiful. She was deeply impressed by the young lad's tales of travels to distant lands. Very soon, she fell in love with the young lad who promised to take her to strange and far off



land. Convinced by the young lad's proposal of love, one day, the princess sought the permission for marriage from her father. After much persuasions, the Sultan agreed to marry his daughter with the young man. The young man narrated the stories of wonder regarding far off countries to every one, rich or poor. The dark-eyed princess accompanied him on all







occasions. He narrated the stories of tall trees and high mountain peaks, which were covered with snow throughout the year. He also told the people about cold weather and the furs which people wore to keep themselves warm.

Wedding preparations at the palace were finally over. One could see goblets for the wedding toast. The goblets were made of silver and gold. There were



shining emeralds and rubies to be worn by the young bride. There were also clothes made of silk and satins in different colours. The young man left the listeners spell bound with his stories. He talked in a convincing language and the people believed that he had great powers in addition to plenty of riches.



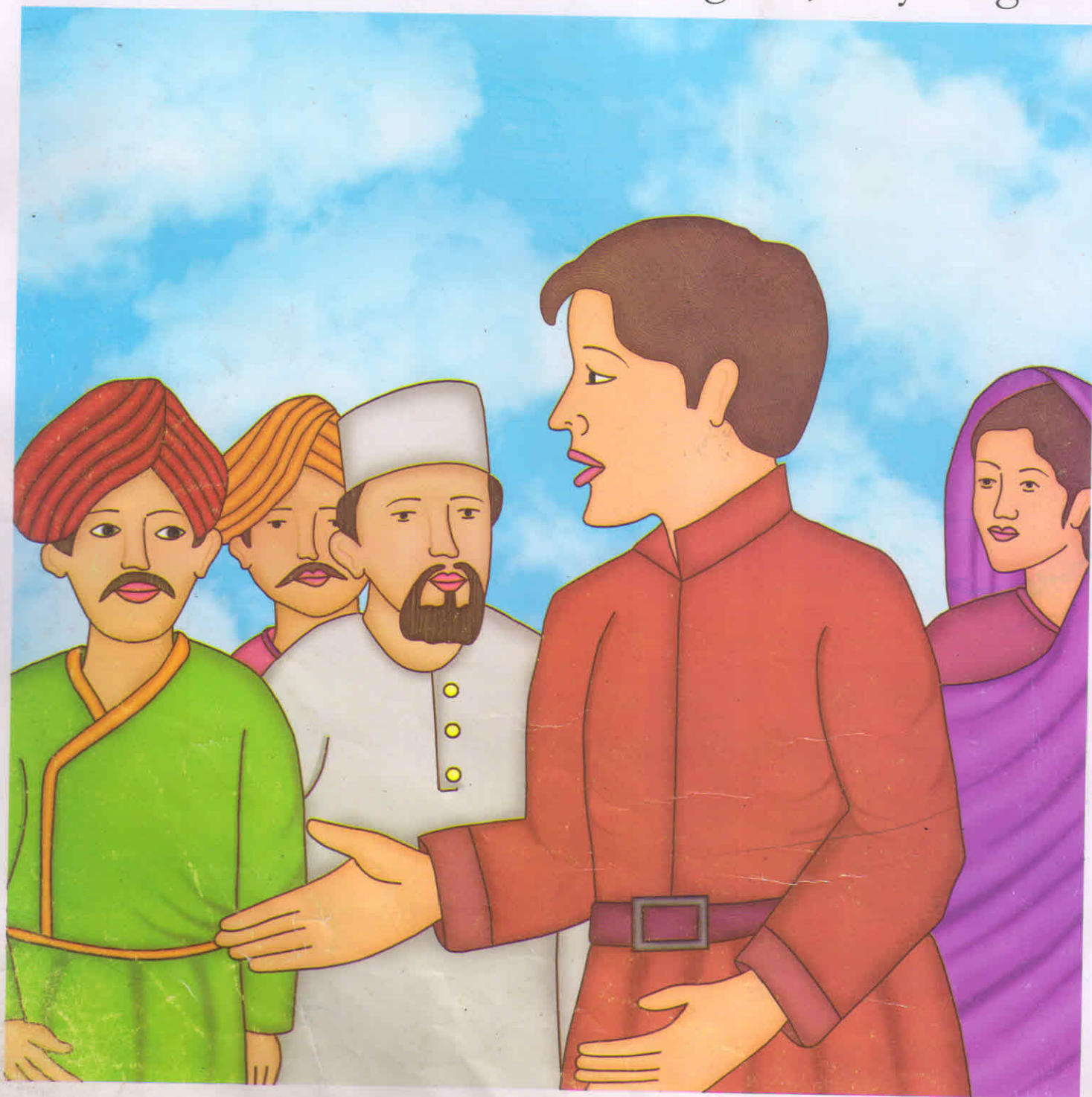




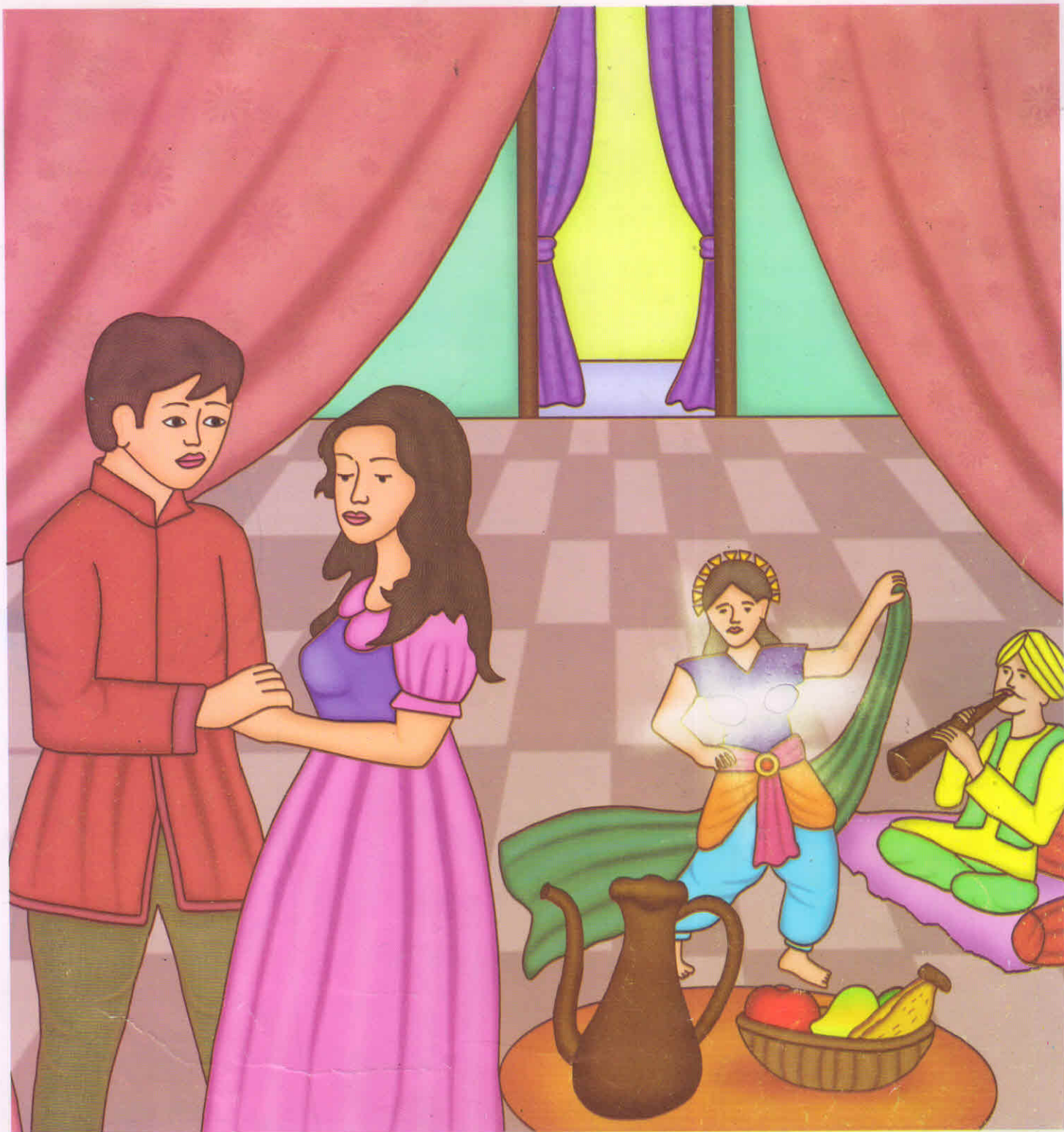
The day of marriage finally arrived. The royal palace bustled with wedding activities. A royal holiday was announced in the kingdom on that day. A feast worthy to remember was prepared in the kitchens of the palace. The palace bustled and sparkled with fireworks according to the custom of the country. Dancing girls danced merrily. Magicians performed their awe-inspiring shows. The marriage was performed in such a regal atmosphere. Before the start of the wedding



ceremony, the young man decided to put his trunk in a safe place. Before he could do so, a small spark of fire fell on the trunk. The fire reduced the trunk to ashes. With the trunk burning away, all the dreams of the young man got burnt, too. Reading that he had nothing to offer to the Sultan's daughter, the young lad







left the palace and the country quietly. He decided to stroll and wander for the rest of his life. The beautiful princess waited for the young man with all the patience at her command. But that was all in vain. She could not find happiness for many years. The young man never



found happiness either. He was foolish. He wasted many opportunities of earning money. He was hungry most of the times. The clothes he wore were shabby and torn. All his time was spent in travelling from one town to another where he would tell his tales in







exchange for food. He narrated the stories of distant lands he had visited, the strange people he had met and the unusual foods, which he had eaten. He also told people of a splendid palace belonging to a Sultan. The walls of the palace were inlaid with gold. He also told about Sultan's daughter who was very beautiful and whose eyes were like shining gems and hair like black silk. Occasionally, when he narrated past incidents to



others, his face became sad, as he recalled the happiness which he had enjoyed. Dejected, he would slowly get up and set out for the next town. He hoped that he would be happy sometime in future. But that was not to be and he remained sad.

