

THE DESCRIPTION OF THE WORLD'S DANGEROUS ANCHORAGE

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strong an entrance that none could come in there with *any* people to do them harm, Z  
 and therefore he has fear of none. Moreover I tell you another thing. If it were to  
 happen that any ship were to come to *any* of these mouths of *the said river·or port·* R R Z  
*through some accident* and anchor, if it were not a ship which came specially to them, L  
 they take *all* them of *the ship* and carry off everything from them and say, Thou Z Z  
 wouldst go to another place and *our God & our very good luck* has sent thee *hither* to FB P Z  
 me, wherefore I take all thy things *which our God & our luck have sent to us*. And then P  
 they take all the things *that they find* from the ship, *and the ship*, and keep them for Z V  
 their own and do not believe that they have sinned thereby; *they say that those ships* VL  
*are not come there except to rob··But if she come[on purpose]to their land they receive her* FB  
*with great honour, & they are well guarded*. And thus it happened in all the parts of  
 these [88b] provinces of Indie, for if some ship goes of *necessity* because of bad weather Z  
 into some place to which it did not wish to go, *and left its own port that it might* Z  
*sail elsewhere*, such ships as these, wherever they arrive in another part or in  
 another place to which they did not wish to go, *except the place to which they wished* Z  
*to go*, they are taken and robbed of all their possessions and their merchandise, for  
 they say, You wished to go elsewhere but my good fortune and my good judgement  
 has sent thee here, so that I ought to have thy possessions. And you may know that  
*all* the ships from Mangi and from other directions come here in the summer V  
 and load in *three days* or in *four<sup>1</sup> days* or *perhaps* in eight and go off as soon as they TA Z  
 can because there is no harbour, and here it is very dangerous to stay since there  
 are beaches and sand and no harbour. Yet it is true that the ships from Mangi  
 are not afraid to go to the beaches as the others are *afraid* because they carry with Z Z  
*them* such great anchors of timber that they hold their ships well in all great storms.  
 Moreover they have lions and *very many* other fierce wild beasts & *many birds·in this* Z P P FB V  
*realm··And likewise* they have *both·good* hunting and chase enough. *There is nothing* L Z L FB  
*else*. Now we have told you of the kingdom of Eli *and so we will go forward and will* V  
*treat of other things*, and we will tell you of the kingdom of Melibar so as you will  
 be able to understand it.

HERE HE TELLS OF THE KINGDOM OF MELIBAR. Melibar is a very great  
 kingdom of *greater Indie* toward sunsetting, of *which I do not wish to stay to* VA R  
 say yet *any other particulars*. They have a king for themselves and a language  
 also, *and* they are idolaters and pay tribute to no one. And from this kingdom the star V  
 of [88c] tramontaine is *even* more seen so that it seems to be about two<sup>2</sup> goues FB  
 high above the water. And you may know that from this *province* of Melibar and Z

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<sup>1</sup> FB: vi

<sup>2</sup> VB: iij