



THE SIREN OF HOPE

genre:

fantasy adventure

target audience:

8-12 year olds

format:

CGI, 1 X 45' + 25 X 26'



THE STORY

When a rival dynasty defies the rule of Córdoba Caliph, his daughter Maouia embarks on a quest to collect magic gems, which—if brought together—allegedly defeat foes.

Escorted by a Viking bodyguard, an unlikely companion in the action-packed voyage, she crosses the world, deals with risky challenges, and solves charades of life in an incredible journey of maturing and self-discovery.



THE TIME

In the Era of Lead and Iron gods walked among mortals unseen, sea monsters populated nautical charts, and spirits inhabited every stone and tree. Sorcery, alchemy, and a prayer was all humans had against the merciless elements of Nature and ubiquitous mystic beings.

But while Europe plunged in the dark age, the Arabian world celebrated a cultural zenith, peaking in the Córdoba Caliphate. Hosting science facilities, libraries, and schools, its capital was the most beautiful and advanced city of the time—a trade hub, an arts center, and a melting pot of religions and cultures.



THE HERO

Princess Maouia is kind, smart, and respectful. A mid-teen, she can still be mischievous, but she does her best to behave, as she knows she is not a child anymore. Her future is an open book: the Princess will soon join the ranks of the most influential women of the time, and she looks forward to it.

We first meet Maouia when—perfectly drilled in arts, table manners, marriage prospects, and everything in between—she happily accepts the life as envisioned. But uncharted future will soon be upon her, and Princess will face it determined and passionate, finding more to herself than she ever thought there was.



THE VIKING

Looting tribes of North keep attacking Córdoba only to be repeatedly thrown back. Captured savages are enslaved, and—as fate would have it—one of them saves Maouia, when mysterious assassins attack the royal family. Bui the Viking is granted freedom; instead he asks to join Maouia's guard, as something in his past blocks him from home.

A war veteran in his twenties, he now babysits the ever-pampered girl, becoming the target of her pranks. In return Bui bewilders Maouia with questions that test her viewpoints. They start an older brother / younger sister relationship full of silly arguments, insights and mutual assistance.



THE FABLE

Plotting to dethrone Caliph, the Clan of Zirids tricks Maouia to believe she is destined to relieve Córdoba of a crushing Vikings assault. Zirids induce her to attain *The Siren Of Hope*—a magic bracelet, which beads are scattered across the world. For centuries, kings and thugs fought to posses powers contained in the gems, and now Maouia is to bring the stones together and use their combined might against the invaders. The condition is that she leaves without telling anyone and travels incognito.

Thus the Zirids send Maouia on a wild goose chase, while making sure she will never return.



THE ADVENTURE

Bui tags along Maouia, certain that her heroics will soon fizzle, and they'll be back in no time. But the bracelet fable turns to be true! Depending on who owns a bead—a king, a collector, or a villain—our heroes buy gems, cope with impossible tasks to be awarded with one, or fight for them.

Rome, Constantinople, Samarqand, India, Tibet, Japan... Maouia immerses in dozens of cultures, sings and dances to music of Africa and Asia, and tastes the cuisines better left undiscovered. Ultimately the Princess gains knowledge and qualities, which might not be magical, but empower and transform her.

A LONG ROAD HOME

Each bead Princess finds causes a miracle in Córdoba: a dead tree blooming, a dry well bursting with water, a double rainbow bridging sea and land... Mourning the missing daughter, Maouia's mother takes these as signs of hope.

When Maouia reunites with her family, when the enemies are driven out, and when Córdoba restores its bliss, there's one thing left for the Princess to achieve: help Bui with whatever stops him from returning home.

In a crusade to follow she will succeed, and there they will part forever. May be.

