



CHAPTER IX. GREETING TO THE BAALITES! When Metem accepted bribes from Isachar...

chamber to enthrone her in the palace of the goddess, which was her father's domain...

metem, and her brain, crushed beneath the weight of the misery, could grasp nothing...

to Jerusalem she refused to be married to my uncle, to whom she was betrothed...

"Yes, but not all of it. Surely he added other words," she broke in, eagerly.

"I desire none of these," he heart seemed to answer; "I desire him only whom I have lost."



THERE APPEARED IN THE DOORWAY THE SHADID, FOLLOWED BY PRIESTS AND PRIESTESSES.

not there, where I shall lose you. If, indeed, you love me, I pray you return not there.

and that you are her father's guest. Therefore, for your own sake it is best that she should be placed beyond your reach.

"Is it so?" replied the voice. "Then bid him burn incense upon the altar of El and take him to yourself."

Again Elissa protested, but before the words had left her lips there appeared in the doorway he who had been husband of the dead Lady Baalite...

"I have earned my hire well, and you must pay it," he troubles me to think that I have touched this business.

"What seek you here, Phoenician?" he asked, glancing at him over his shoulder.

"Sweet words, Aziel," she answered, smiling, "of which we shall learn the value when the hour of trial comes, as come, I think, it will."

CHAPTER X. THE EMBASSY. Weak as she was with recent illness, and half fainting with the shock of the terrible fate that had overtaken her, Elissa was borne in triumph to the palace...

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have made it impossible that the Prince Aziel should wed the daughter of Sakon. "Yes, rogue, I know it, by causing her to be consecrated Baalite and thus building a barrier against me, I shall find it too hard to climb, since she will scarcely choose me of her own will, and to offer violence to the Baalite is a sacrifice from which any man may shrink..."

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