



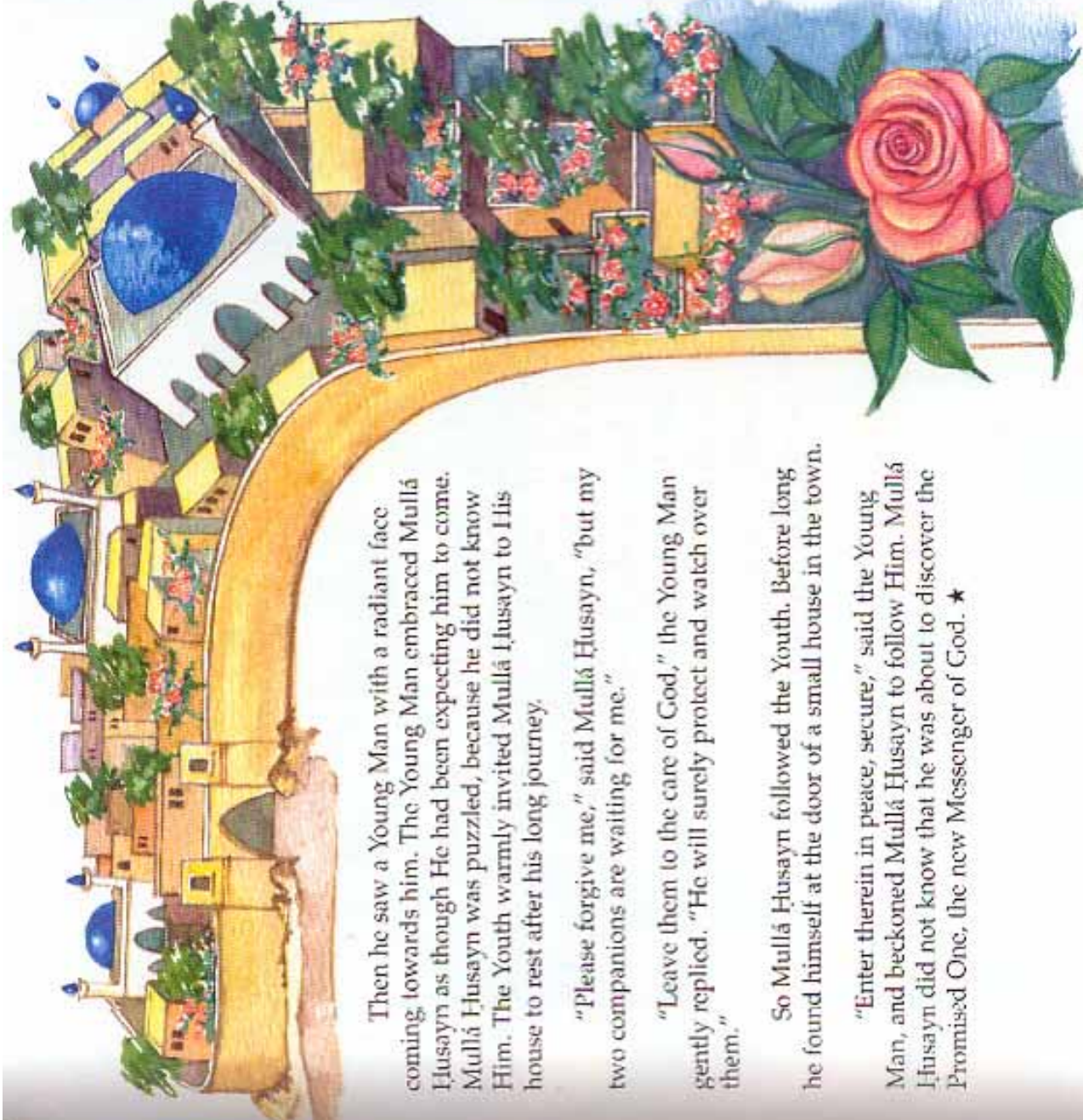
Mullá Husayn's Search

Written by Jacqueline Mahdavi
Illustrated by Nihar Senot

When Mullá Husayn heard that his teacher, Siyyid Kázim, had told his students to search everywhere for the Promised One, he immediately left the town of Karbilá, where he lived. With his brother and nephew, he went to a quiet place outside the town to fast and pray for 40 days. During this time, he asked God to guide him to the Promised One. After the 40 days, he set off with his two companions to begin his search.

They passed through towns and villages, walking for many days under the hot sun. Eventually, they came to Shíráz, a beautiful city of blue-domed mosques and gardens of roses.

Mullá Husayn wanted to be alone to think. He asked his nephew and brother to go on ahead and wait for him at a mosque in the town. He knew God had guided him to Shíráz, but he did not know what was going to happen next.



Then he saw a Young Man with a radiant face coming towards him. The Young Man embraced Mullá Husayn as though He had been expecting him to come. Mullá Husayn was puzzled, because he did not know Him. The Youth warmly invited Mullá Husayn to His house to rest after his long journey.

"Please forgive me," said Mullá Husayn, "but my two companions are waiting for me."

"Leave them to the care of God," the Young Man gently replied. "He will surely protect and watch over them."

So Mullá Husayn followed the Youth. Before long he found himself at the door of a small house in the town.

"Enter therein in peace, secure," said the Young Man, and beckoned Mullá Husayn to follow Him. Mullá Husayn did not know that he was about to discover the Promised One, the new Messenger of God. ★