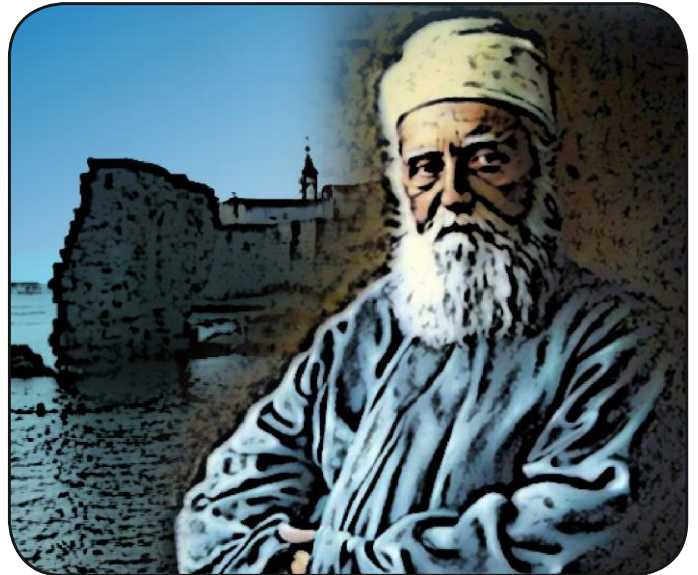
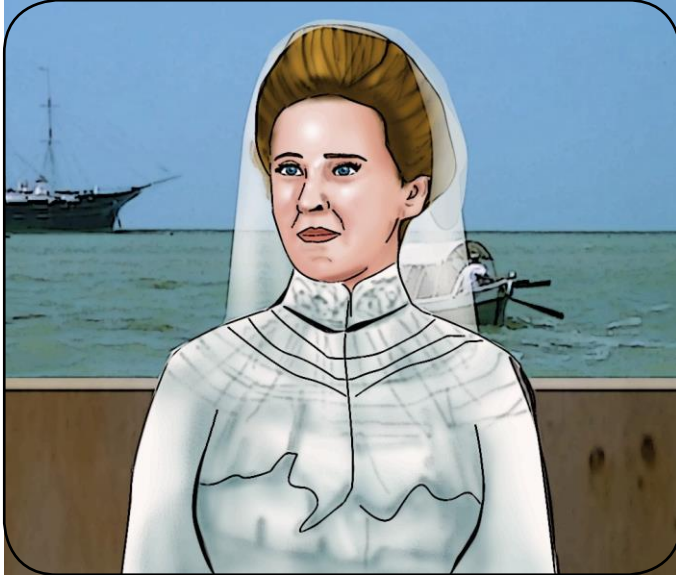


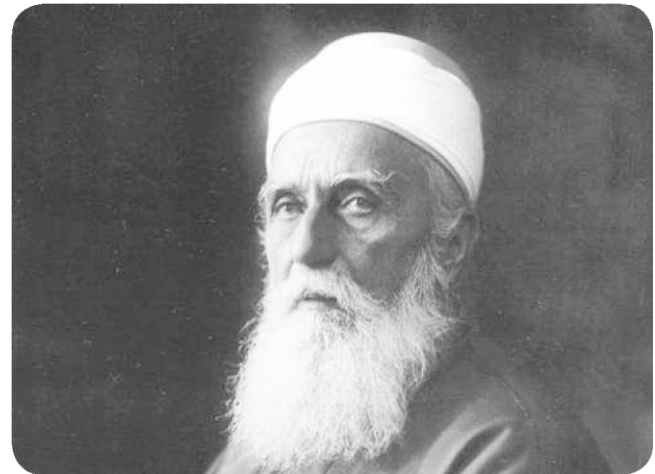
How to serve



Lua Getsinger was one of the early Bahá'ís in the West who visited 'Abdu'l-Bahá in the prison-city of 'Akká. One day during her visit, the Master took her aside and explained to her that He had many pressing matters to attend to and would not be able to call upon a friend who was very sick. He wished Lua to go in His place. He told her to take some food to the sick man and care for him as He had been doing.



Lua learned the address of the man and immediately set off to do as ‘Abdu’l Bahá had asked. She felt proud that ‘Abdu’l-Bahá had entrusted her with a task that He would usually have carried out Himself.



But, only a short while later, she returned to ‘Abdu’l-Bahá in a state of excitement. “Master,” she exclaimed, “*surely you cannot realize to what a terrible place you sent me. I almost fainted from the awful stench, the filthy rooms, the degrading condition of that man and his house. I fled lest I contract some terrible disease.*”



‘Abdu’l-Bahá gazed at her sadly and sternly. If she wanted to serve God, He explained, she must serve her fellow man, because in every person she should see the image and likeness of God. Then He told her to go back to the sick man’s house. If the house was dirty, she should clean it. If he was hungry, she should feed him. He asked her not to come back until all of this was done. ‘Abdu’l-Bahá had done these things for His friend many times, and she should be able to do them this once, He told her with firmness. That is how Lua learned an important lesson about what it means to serve her fellow human beings.

Source: <https://ruhichildrenstories.files.wordpress.com/2015/04/book-gr2-eng1.pdf>