Through the lens of an extraordinary family, a number of fascinating stories relating to the wider tumult of late nineteenth-century Europe and beyond are revealed. Originally Lincolnshire tenant farmers, the lives of the Robinsons are traced from the tea estates of Darjeeling, the palaces of Constantinople, the streets of New York, and life in Wilhelmine Germany. The most well-known member of the family was Ahmed "Robenson" who played an instrumental role in the late Ottoman Empire and early Turkish Republic. The celebrated sportsman and founder of the Scouting movement developed close ties with the YMCA before later emigrating to America in the late 1920s.

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