

Story #136 (Tape #42, 1961-62)

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The Bektashi and the Promise of a Hearty Afterlife

This is another story about the Bridge of Sirat. A Bektashi once remembered to go to the mosque, and when he arrived there, he found the (hoca) talking about the (Bridge of Sirat) and about the terrible punishments that lay below for those who fell off the bridge. The hoca said that ^{each of} those who broke the Moslem law by drinking alcoholic beverages would have all the bottles he had drunk hung around his neck as he started across the bridge.

The Bektashi asked, "Hoca, will those bottles be full or empty?"

The hoca, in order to frighten his listeners even more than he had already, said, "Full."

"Ah, then, hoca," answered the Bektashi, "there will be a hearty life in the next world too!"