

Story #300 Tape #10, Summer 1970)

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Location: Köse Köy, separate village unit or mahalle of Akça Bey Köy, kaza of Gerece, Bolu Province

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*Shepherd*  
The Giant in the Padishah's Orchard

A giant used to come and eat apples from the garden of a padishah who had three sons. The eldest son said, "Father, I am going to guard the apple tree." When the giant came to get the apples, the son was afraid and kept quiet. The giant took the apples

The next year, the middle brother guarded the apple tree when the giant came, he also lay low and couldn't do anything to him.

The next year, the youngest son said, "Father, I shall guard the tree."

"Well, all right," the padishah said. "Your elder brothers couldn't do it. Perhaps you will be able to."

When the giant came that night, the youngest brother attacked him and scared off the giant, who got no apples. The youngest son reported this to his father in the morning. Then the three brothers went after the giant.

As they went, the eldest brother said, "I'll go in front."

The middle son said, "No, it's mine."

*Youngest son, successful*

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youngest brother said, "No, I'll go first."

came to a well. The brothers lowered the eldest, who shouted, "I'm burning! I'm burning!" and they pulled him up.

The brothers then lowered the middle one, who shouted, "I'm burning! I'm burning!" and they pulled him up.

The youngest brother said, "The more I say, 'I'm burning the more you should lower me. Lower me whether I say I'm burning or freezing."

They lowered him. He reached the bottom of the well, where he saw a huge heart lying on one side. He shouted at the giant, and the giant replied, "Did you have to come and find me here, too?"

*Unlabeled 44-46*

The young man struck the giant with his sword and cut him into two pieces. Then he came to a cave mouth, where three girls appeared. They said to him "Your brothers will not pull you up."

I trust my brothers," he said.

*Brothers - older, headless*

*A girl expects*

"No, they won't take you up," the girls said. "Take these hairs, and when you're in trouble, rub them together and a black ram will come. If you mount it, you'll go down seven layers into the earth. If you mount the white ram, you'll reach the top of the well."

The young man shouted to his elder brother, "Here is your kismet. Take her up." And the first girl was pulled up

The young man shouted to the middle brother, "Here is your kismet. Take her up." And the second girl was pulled up.

But when the youngest sister was being pulled up, the elder brothers quarreled, both saying, "She is mine." They finally

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cut the rope she was being pulled up with.

young man rubbed the two hairs, and two rams came, and he mounted the black one and went down seven layers into the earth. In those days, there used to be a stream there that ran once a year, and a giant wouldn't let the water run. That year, the padishah's daughter was to be offered as a sacrifice. Every year, they had to give the giant a girl. The padishah's daughter was taken to the side of the spring.

The young man said, "Hold fast to my back."

When the giant came to the girl, the young man tore the giant into two pieces.

*9 defecation via body  
hand print*

The girl said, "Mashallah! Mashallah!" She dipped her hand into the blood of the giant and pressed her hand onto the young man's back. Then the water started running.

padishah made an announcement: "Whoever has done this should come to me."

young man was brought to the padishah's presence, and the padishah said, "Wish what you will from me."

"I don't want anything," the young man said

When the padishah insisted, he said, "Give me three days to consider." He went then and sat by the trunk of a large tree. Atop that tree was the nest of an Anka bird. One of its young was eaten by a large snake every year. When the young man saw the snake climbing the tree singing çırık, çırık, he shot an arrow at it and nailed it to the trunk of the tree, where the big snake was killed. When the Anka bird returned, she started fighting with the young man, but the young birds said, "Don't

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fight with the young man who saved us. Look at the trunk of the tree."

When the bird looked at the trunk of the pine tree, she saw that the snake was hanging, drooped, with a broken back. She then spread her wings over the young man, and he slept.

Then the snake said, "O son of man! Ask what you will from me

He answered, "Let me think for three days." Then the young man said to the bird, "I wish you to find a way to carry me back to the surface."

*Bird - speaks human language*

She said, "I want forty sheep and forty skins of wine from you."

During the three days, he went to the padishah and asked him to provide these things. The forty sheep were slaughtered and the forty skins of wine were provided.

The young man made two heaps on the bird's back and sat between them. "Let us go!" he said.

He gave the bird wine when it said "Gok."

*Bird says*

He gave the bird meat when it said "Gak."

But before they reached the top, they ran out of meat. When the bird asked for meat, the boy cut some meat from his leg and gave it to the bird. But the bird didn't eat it--just put it in its mouth.

At the top of the well, the bird asked, "What happened to your leg?"

He said, "I cut off a piece to give it to you."

She then took the piece of meat from her mouth and gave it

back. "Now you may go."

[Ahmet Uysal: "Was it put back on the leg?"]

Narrator: "Yes."]

Well, they came, all back I'm afraid I'll confuse this part). At the wedding games, the youngest son wounded the leg of the eldest brother and the arm of the middle brother. He gave the eldest girl to the son of the first vizier, and the middle girl to someone else. The youngest man finally married the youngest girl.