

# ) Narrator

Location

Date

the Two Brothers, Akili and Deli

*my B. I.*

deli  
name

.y the stupid brother

the bright brother

yw

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Deli thought they spoke. "You'll have the money ready in two months? All right, I'll be back two months later."

When he returned two months later, the tree still did not have his money ready. Of course not. How can a tree give money? This time, Deli became <sup>Angry</sup> furious. He went home, got an axe, and cut one of the trees down. When the tree fell, Deli found, hidden in its trunk, a great amount of gold in a large pot. ~~He~~ <sup>He</sup> ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> ~~extremely~~ <sup>extremely</sup> surprised.

Then Deli took the potful of gold to his village. When Akilla saw him with the gold, he was extremely surprised. He inquired, "Where did you find this gold? I'll divide our father's inheritance with you if you let me have my share of this gold."

Deli accepted the offer. "All right," he said. Akilla ordered, "Go and borrow the muhtar's scales. However, don't tell him that we are going to weigh gold."

Later Deli went to the mayor's house to borrow the scales.

The muhtar asked, "What are you going to weigh with my scales

"We won't weigh gold with them," was Deli's reply.

Upon hearing this answer, the muhtar became suspicious and secretly rubbed the bottom of the scales with tar before he gave them to Deli.

After the brothers finished weighing the gold, Akilla gave his brother the task of returning the scales to the muhtar. When the muhtar got his scales back, he found a gold piece stuck to the tar. He asked Deli, "What is this? You said you were not going to weigh gold."

Deli said, "Let me see, and took the scales from the muhtar and hit the poor man on the head with them. This blow killed the

muhtar. Deli went to the police station and reported the murder, saying, "My brother killed the mayor."

Although he was not guilty, Akıllı was arrested and put in prison. Before they parted Akıllı advised Deli, "Guard the door and the chimney."<sup>2</sup> That evening it stormed, and the roaring in the chimney scared Deli. His fears increased even more when the door rattled in the wind once or twice. From then on, Deli concentrated all his attention on the door and the chimney. When he finally grew tired of watching the door and the chimney, he went to visit his brother in prison. Once more, Akıllı said, "Guard the door and the chimney."

This time Deli became furious, and he ran home to fulfill his brother's advice. He unhinged the door and dislodged the chimney and returned to prison. He then laid the door and chimney at his brother's feet and said, "Here. Keep an eye on them yourself!" Deli was not aware that he was being followed by the gendarmes, who had suspected something amiss in Deli's behavior, but he took advantage of the commotion and freed his brother from prison.

The two brothers managed to flee from the gendarmes and took to the fields<sup>3</sup> and hid themselves in a poplar tree. Deli was

<sup>2</sup> Ak 11 uses a very special idiom in Turkish: "Kapağa, bacaya iyi bak," an idiom which does not have a direct equivalent in English. When literally translated, it reads "Keep an eye on the door and the chimney." Whereas Akıllı advises his brother to take care of the house and guard it from robbers, Deli takes his brother's meaning literally and guards the door and the chimney.

<sup>3</sup> The tape is not very clear here. It sounds as if the narrator says "kırın yüzünde bir kavak ağacına çıkmışlar."

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carrying the door and chimney on his back.

Since the tree was very large, a caravan of merchants happened to be passing by decided to camp under this tree. While the men were enjoying their food and drinks, Deli was suffering pain under the burden of the door and the chimney. He complained to his brother: "I can't bear this burden any longer."

"Hush! They'll hear us," warned Akillı.

No, they can't hear us," replied Deli. "I'll let them go. My shoulders and back hurt terribly."

"All right, but drop them gently," was Akillı's answer.

As soon as Deli got his brother's approval, he let the door and chimney go. They made such a noise in falling that the merchants, thinking the sky was falling on their heads, fled for their lives and left all their goods behind.

Of what the merchants had left behind Deli took a mat<sup>t</sup>ress and blanket while Akillı took only money. Then they took to the woods, hoping eventually to return to their village. When night fell, Deli laid the mat<sup>t</sup>ress under a pine tree and got under blanket and fell asleep. Akillı offered to trade some of his money for Deli's covers because the cold of the night was unbearable. Deli cut off a part of his blanket and gave it to his brother in return for the money. However, such a scanty cover was not sufficient to protect Akillı from the freezing weather of the night, and so he froze to death. His brother woke up warm and cheerful the next morning. Deli said, "Wake up, brother. Let us go. When he got no answer from Akillı, he repeated again, "Wake up, brother. Let us go." This time he took the money, left the

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matress and blanket behind, and returned to his village