

Story #335 (Tape #1, 1972)

Narrator: Fatma Uysal, 36

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Enemy children
Thief Detected in the Dreams of Three Friends from Horasan

Once upon a time there were three friends. They were such intimate friends that they shared all their secrets. They were natives of Horasan who went to another country to work. At the end of two or three months they managed to save a lira each. In those times a lira had much more value than it has today. Since they now had some money saved, they decided to return to their native land. They met one evening with the purpose of discussing future plans.

One of them said, "I saved a lira."

"So did I," said the second.

"So did I. Then let us go back to our home town," the third said.

"Where are we going to sleep tonight?"

"At the courtyard of the mosque. Then we'll leave early tomorrow morning."

In the meantime, a thief was eavesdropping on this conversation, unknown to the three friends. That night he went to the mosque courtyard and stole the three liras from the pockets of the three friends as they were sleeping. One of the friends was told this in his dream: "Your native land is Horasan. His wife's name is Kezban." The second friend was told this: "The name of the first is Fatma, the third one was Kezban." The third friend was told this: "There is a bath around the house, and a billiard table on the street."

When they woke up each related his dream to the other. One of them said, "I was told, 'The name of the ship is Batman'"

The second said, "His wife's name is Kezban, and the name of the neighborhood is Hodja Hasan."

The last one related, "His wife's name is Kezban. He is from Horasan, and the billfold is on the shelf."¹

They decided to take the boat sailing for Horasan, although they did not have any money. The thief had just disembarked and gone home. He told his wife to put his billfold on the shelf. The three friends also landed and went to the district of Hodja Hasan in search of the thief's house. They located the house and knocked on the door, saying

the same time, "The name of the ship is Batman, his native land is Horasan, his wife's name is Kezban, the billfold is on the shelf. When the thief heard this, he grew frightened and told his wife to give the billfold to the three friends. Now the friends had their money secured.

¹ There is some discrepancy between what is told them in their dream and what they relate to each other after they wake up. The dream is rendered in verse, and the last words of the lines rhyme; however, it is difficult to convey the rhyme into the English translation. The words that rhyme are Horasan, Kezban, Hoca (Hodja) Hasan, Batman, and cüzdan (billfold).