Story 1008 (1974 Tape 23)  
**Narrator:** Behçet Mahir  

**Location:** Erzurum, Erzurum Province  

**Date:** Summer 1974  

This tale is extracted from very long Tale 318. There it used as an *exemplum*.

---

**Behnul Dane Remains Cool in Hell**

In spite of all his endeavors, Behnul could not awaken his elder brother, who was like a padisah, to his own situation. He saw his brother's many wrong-doings, but he was unable to make his brother fully aware of them.

One day Behnul saw this blessed man of coming along the street toward him. "Where are you coming from?" he asked Behnul.

"From hell!"

People who heard this laughed. They said, this is the business of a lunatic! What does he mean by saying this?"

"Well, why had you gone to hell?" asked his

---

1Legendary mad half-brother of the great Abbasid Caliph Harun Reşit (Haroun al-Raschid). His feigned madness was a "cover" for his satire and moralizing aimed at the wealthy and powerful, notably the Caliph himself. Like the Jewish *schlemihl*, he is a saintly fool.
Story 1008

brother.

"To get warm! I felt cold. I went to get warm," said Behlül.

"Well, did you feel warm there?"

"No, I could not find any fire."

"Why?"

"Because everyone else who had gone there had taken his own fire. Not even a single spark fell upon me."  

That is, all the alleged flames of Hell are brought there by the sufferers themselves—within their own hearts.