

Story 1099 (1974 Tape 49)

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Grain-Fed Virility

There were once three friends in a village who raised turkeys to make their living. One day after their new flocks of turkeys had grown to a good size, one of the men said to his two friends, "Let us take some of our turkeys to town and sell them." The other two agreed with this suggestion, and they tied up several turkeys and placed them in crates to take them to a town. They also took along a bag of corn to feed these birds on their way to the market.

They journeyed to the nearest town and sold many of their turkeys for a very good price. At the end of the market day, only one turkey remained unsold

One of the villagers said, "With all the profit we have made today we should enjoy ourselves a little. Why don't we go to see a cinema before we start home?" His friends agreed with this suggestion, but the one who still had an unsold turkey did not know what to do with this bird while they went to the theatre. He finally solved this problem by hiding the turkey inside his salvar.¹ Who would ever know that he had a

¹ Şalvar are the baggy trousers worn by both men and women in some parts of rural Turkey. Those for men are made of dark cloth: black, gray, or brown. Those of women are made from brightly printed cloth and may be of any color.

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turkey there?

After the film began, the three villagers were quite enraptured by it. Unfortunately, the turkey inside the salvar became restless and began pecking the leg of its owner. This hurt the man enough so that he had to do something about it. Having no other choice, he opened the front of his salvar and allowed the turkey to put its head out. The man held some corn in his hand for the bird to eat.

After a while longer, the show ended, and the lights in the theatre were suddenly turned on. Unable to put the bird back in place immediately, the owner of the turkey sat there with its head in front of him.

A bold woman sitting in the next row looked at this and was amazed at what she saw. She said, "Oh, I must have seen seventy of those things, but never before have I seen one that would eat corn!"