

Story 1258 (1988 Tape 1)

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The Psychologist Mazhar Osman and a Patient

There was once a famous psychologist in Turkey named Mazhar¹ Osman. He gave very close attention to the problems of his patients, and he observed the behavior of these patients very carefully.

One day Mazhar Osman was tending a patient lying in bed. With no warning whatsoever, the patient jumped out of bed and ran outside holding in his hand a small piece of paper with something written on it. The patient ran until he reached a telephone pole. He climbed this telephone pole and stuck the piece of paper to the very top of the pole. Then he climbed down the pole, went back to bed, and lay down again.

Mazhar Osman did not understand what had happened. Why had his patient acted in this unusual way? What was written on the piece of paper which the patient had attached to the top of the telephone pole?

After he had left the patient, Mazhar Osman decided to find out what was written on the paper. Climbing the pole

¹Mazhar is probably not part of the name here. Mazhar is an adjective meaning greatly honored or distinguished. It seems to be used here as a complimentary term, an honorific.

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carefully, the psychologist reached the top of the pole and looked at the message on the paper. It said, "This is the top of the pole."