Story 872 (1996 Tape 1) Narrator: Ahmet Demirel, 20

Location: Kayseri, capital of Kayseri Province

<u>Date</u>: March 13, 1996

Maternal Love Survives in Death

Once there was and once there wasn't a young man who fell in love with a beautiful lady. After awhile he asked for the hand of the girl in marriage. The girl said that she would accept that proposal on one condition: "I shall marry you if you will first bring your mother's heart to me.

After hearing this condition, the young man went to his mother and explained the situation to her. "Mother, I have fallen in love with a beautiful young lady, and I wish to marry her. She will marry me, however, only if I first take your heart to her. Would you be willing to give me your heart for that purpose?"

"Of course I shall!" she answered at once. "My heart and my life are yours. If it will bring you happiness, do not mind giving you my heart."

The young man took his mother's heart and started toward the home of his fiancée. Along the way he stumbled and fell upon the ground. At that moment, his mother's heart, still in his hands, spoke to him, saying, "O my dear son, did you hurt yourself when you fell?"

Story 1872

This story teaches us about important qualities of a mother: love and care and forgiveness. These are feelings she extends to her children, even when they are selfish and thoughtless in their treatment of her.