

Story 873 (1996 Tape 1)

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Location: Kırmacı village,  
kaza of Osmaniye,  
Adana Province

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### The Canvas-Needle<sup>1</sup> Found

A man from a small village once went to the city of Maraş, the first city he had ever seen. He knew nothing whatever about city life. While he was walking, rather bewildered, down one of the streets of Maraş, he found a canvas-needle<sup>2</sup> lying near the curb. Picking up this needle, he stuck it in his hat and walked on.

After awhile he climbed up the steep streets to the ancient citadel of the city. From that height, he could see a great crowd of people moving about in the city, some going one way and some another way. It looked to him as if they were all searching for something. The villager said, "Oh, you people down so far below, your search is a hopeless one, because I have already found the canvas-needle!"

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<sup>1</sup>A very large needle, about 6 inches in length. It is the kind of needle used to sew shut grain sacks, to stitch tents, and to make flat-woven carpets.

<sup>2</sup>The narrator used the standard Turkish term for this oversized needle: cuvaldız.