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of Hatay Province

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The Turk at the Theatre for the First Time

One day a man went to the theatre for the first time and found a seat. He said to another man who entered with him, "Will you hold this seat for me for a few minutes? I must go to the toilet, but I shall return quickly."

He started searching for the toilet, but he could not seem to find it. He became quite confused in his directions because the corridors wound around considerably. He asked a passing person where the toilet was, and the person said, pointing, "Over there!" Still he could not locate it. Time was passing, and he knew that the curtain was soon to rise.

At last he went into a large room which contained a table with a vase on it. Thinking that this must be the toilet, he took the vase off the table and urinated in it. Then he returned it to the table, left that room, and started back to his seat in the theatre. By then the curtain had risen, and so he asked his companion what had happened on stage so far.

"Well, to tell you the truth, I do not understand what was going on, but a man came running onto the stage, took that vase from the table, urinated in it, and then stood it on the table again."