

Story #656 (1976, Tape #17)

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Location: Village of Hilmiye, kaza of İnegöl, Bursa Province

Date: February 9, 1976

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Inheritance of a Purse, a Ring, and a Hat

Once there was a man who had a son. He told his son that when he died, he would leave him three items: a purse, a ring, and a felt hat. He also told him not to give away those items to anyone. When the father died, the son remembered his will, ^(document) and he asked his mother to get these items left to him by his father from her storage chest. ^{trunk} Then he asked her what purpose the purse would serve. His mother told him he was too young yet to protect these items properly, and that she would give them to him when he was old enough to have them.

When the boy became of age--I guess when he was sixteen, eighteen or twenty--he succeeded in obtaining his legacy. Once again he asked his mother why the purse was special, and she told him that if one dropped a lira into the purse, the purse filled up with liras. If one dropped a gold piece into the purse, the purse then would fill up with gold pieces. She warned him not to let anyone take away the purse.

The boy tried the purse. He dropped a lira into it, and it filled up with liras; he dropped a gold piece into it, and the purse filled up with gold pieces. At that time the lira and the gold piece were still valuable. The boy was overjoyed to have his financial future secured.

In those days world beauties were greatly admired, and people would sometimes pay 100, 500, or even 1000 liras to see them. The boy went to see the beauty of that year. He asked how much it would cost him and was told 1000 liras. The boy paid the amount and saw the most beautiful girl in the world. He then stayed on, and paid, *girl--most beautiful in world* for a second and third viewing. The world beauty noticed the boy in the front row, and the fact that he could pay to see her over and over again attracted her attention. In fact he never seemed to run out of money. *servant--personal* The girl had her personal servants call the boy to her presence. When he went to her, she told him that he had attracted her attention by being there all the time. She wondered who he was, and how it was that he did not exhaust his funds. At first the boy gave evasive replies to the girl's questions. But her charm got the better of his reason. He showed her his purse and told her that he never needed to worry about running out of money. *Magic object--stolen* tried to get the boy to give her the purse, but the boy would not. Then the girl told him she just wanted to take a look at the purse and would return it to him. Thus, she succeeded in fooling the boy. As soon as she had the purse in her hands, she called her servants and told them to throw the boy out. He was thrown out, and could not go back in because he did not have the entrance fee.

He went home and told his mother that he had had the purse taken away from him, and now he wanted the rest of his father's legacy. The mother protested, saying, "You are certainly not ready to have

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these items, since you have not been able to hold onto the purse."

But the boy vehemently insisted on having them, and demanded the ring. The mother protested and refused to give him any other item his father had left him, but the boy would not listen to reason, and he finally got the ring from his mother. The ring was also very *Magic object--* special and has been touched by magic. When one licked the ring, *ten ring -- produced* ten Arabs appeared and asked the owner of the ring to state his wish, *when licked* which they readily fulfilled. The boy licked the ring immediately, and when the Arabs appeared, he said, "I want you to surround the building in which the world beauty is housed and retrieve from her the purse that had been taken from me."

The Arab leader went to the place where the world's beauty was being exhibited and had many other Arabs surround the place. He demanded the purse which she had taken from the boy, and she had no alternative but to return it

The boy, however, was duped by the girl one more time. She told him that she had just played a joke on him by taking the purse and that he should not have taken it so seriously as to have Arabs surround the place and use force against her. She said, "I should very much like to know how you were able to have those Arabs do your bidding. Now that we are alone, you can tell me." He then showed her how he could summon the Arabs to do his bidding by licking the ring, and how when the desired wish was fulfilled, he would lick the ring again, and the Arabs would disappear.

[Ahmet Uysal: "Did this happen just one time?"

^{If he}
Narrator: "No, that was the magic power, ^ wished anything, he would lick the ring, and the Arab would appear to make his wish come true. And when the deed was done, the owner would lick the ring again, and the Arab would disappear. The act could be repeated as often as the owner wished."

Uysal: "I see."]

After the boy explained the magic power of the ring, the girl showed great admiration for him and begged to be allowed to take a good look at the ring. When he handed it over to her, she once again grabbed his treasure away from him. The girl licked the ring, and when the Arab appeared and asked her bidding, she told him to throw the boy out. So the boy once again found himself thrown out empty-handed. He had once again lost the treasure which was his father's legacy to him.

*Magic hat--weaver
became
invisible*
He went back to his mother and told her he had been deceived once again and asked for the hat, which was the third item left to him by his father. When she gave him the hat, he put it on his head. The magic power of the hat was that no one could see its wearer. The world beauty had forty servants tending her needs. At night the boy would wear the felt hat, and he would go to the world beauty's mansion and disrupt the servants' sleep because they had gotten the better of him. He would tug at one's hair, pull an ear here and there, thus preventing them all from sleeping.

Servants--forty
The annoyed servants thought it was lice which kept them awake,

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the boy invisible while wearing his athe fel hat Af
 sleepless night he world greatest beaut also got up at
 night disturbed by her restless ants Walking around she
 dentally bumped into the boy and knocked of his hat Suddenly he
 boy stood there with the hat knocked and he had become vis ble
 again She immediately ognize him and asked what he doing
 her house She realized tha had been he who had been dis bing
 the household many nights She licked her ring and when he
 Arab appeared she ordered him "Take this boy out he edge
 and leave him ky ridge where he will be ble
 return disturb ince she knew nothing of he magical powe
 he hat she just left lying he floor aft had been knocked
 of the boy head

The Arab took the boy to he skirt he town ound he
 huge rocky ridge le him there and the disappeared The boy stood
 the and ried to discover way descend th rock but he did
 dare start down because ery high and steep. Afte he had
 stayed he for two days he realized he would die of hunger and thirst
 if he di not ge The he decided at emnt escend
 he slippery rock by rolling down short distanc ime He
 lled and rested and he rolled li le and ed
 again Gradually he making his way down in his At about
 halfway down he bush vered with juicy red berries ^{banes}
 He was so hungry and thirsty ha he picked mmediately and at
 them As he had swallowed then, ho about te appeare

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on his forehead. He became frightened and tried to remove it, but the horn could not be budged. He took out his handkerchief, and he picked some more red berries and tied them in his handkerchief. He continued to roll down the rocky cliff as slowly as he could. Finally he rolled to the foot of the cliff where a bush of big, juicy, yellow berries stood at the barren rocks. He once again was very thirsty and hungry, and he decided that the worst had already happened anyway. So he picked some yellow berries and ate them. As soon as he ^{horn -- water} had swallowed them, his horn disappeared, as quickly as it had appeared. ^{long -- disappears} He was elated to have found the cure for his peculiar ailment. ^{from forehead} He took another handkerchief from his pocket, and filled it with the big ^{after person sets} yellow berries. He then made his way towards the town, and after a ^{magic yellow} long and weary journey on foot, he arrived at his own house. ^{berries}

After a good night's rest, he disguised himself as a vendor the ^{disguise -- of fruit vendor} next day. He placed the red fruit he had picked into a basket and went out. It was a winter day with snow on the ground, and fruit was a rarity. He passed in front of the mansion of the beauty and shouted, "Fresh fruit, I have fresh berries for sale."

The beautiful girl quickly looked out from an upper window and called him to the door. Her servant came out to buy the fruit from him, but he said that this was a rare type of fruit and that he would have to supervise personally whoever would be eating it. So most of the household, including the beautiful girl, came out, and he gave them each a berry. When all had the berries in their mouths, he told them to chew, and then to swallow. As soon as they had swallowed the

berries, a long horn appeared on each of their forehead. The boy quickly disappeared in the commotion that followed.

He stayed away from the beauty's mansion for a long time. Finally, when two or three months had gone by, the boy once again disguised himself, this time as a doctor, ^{disguise - as doctor} and went about the beautiful girl's neighborhood crying out, "Doctor, doctor! I can cure the most unusual ailments!"

There was no response from the beautiful girl's household, for the mistress had seen all the famous doctors of that time and had tried innumerable cures to no avail. The boy, however, did not give up. Each day he went by disguised as a doctor offering his services. Finally, when two weeks had passed, the beautiful girl heard him soliciting business and thought she might just as well try one more doctor and one more cure. It certainly could do no harm. She had one of the servants call him in.

He examined all those who had the peculiar horn, and then he gave each one, except the beautiful girl, a yellow berry, and told them to eat it. As soon as they had, the horns on their foreheads disappeared. The beauty grew ecstatic and demanded that she be cured immediately also. But the so-called doctor told her that they would have to negotiate and asked to be taken to a private room.

When they were alone, he asked her, "Did you once trick a boy out of his purse?"

She replied, "Yes, I did."

He told her to bring the purse and place it on the table. Then he asked her, "Do you not also have a ring that you tricked a boy out of?" She brought the ring out and placed it on the table too. Then he said, "I also want the hat the boy left behind here in your home." She brought the felt hat out and placed it on the table along with the ring and the purse. He told the girl that those three items were only a portion of his price for curing her. "I want you to turn one half of your property over to me, and I want your consent to marry me." Then, when she had accepted his conditions, he gave her a yellow berry, and the horn on her forehead disappeared.

They had a wedding that lasted forty days and forty nights. I was not present at their wedding, for if I had been, I would not have been here to tell you about it.