

Story 1881 (1995 Tape 2)

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A Rural Woman on Urban Streets

of my friends here in Erzurum is a man named Kadir Hatunoğlu. Kadir Bey had an elderly aunt who had been born in a village and had lived there all of her life. She had never seen a major city, but she finally had an opportunity to go to Istanbul, Turkey's largest city.

After she had been in Istanbul for a few days, she decided to visit her sister-in-law, who lived in a section of the city some distance from where Kadir's aunt was staying. She started walking to the sister-in-law's apartment. In going there, however, she had to cross one of the busiest streets in all Istanbul. Not acquainted with urban traffic control, she started across that congested avenue at a time when the traffic light did not permit pedestrian crossing. This caused a traffic jam.

A policeman rushed out and asked her, "Lady, where do you think you are going?"

woman responded, "I know very well where I am

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going. I am going to visit my sister-in-law, who lives on such and such a street. But why should you be interested in that?"