

Story 1811 1969 Tape 9)

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Weaving with Living Shuttle

There was once a padishah who had two daughters. After the older daughter had been married for some time, the padishah sent his younger daughter to visit her older sister. The younger one asked the older one, "Sister, what is it like when you go to live with a man? What is it like to be married?"

older one answered, "Oh, don't be too concerned about that. If your leg is not in pain, why bother to wrap it with a bandage? A husband lays all sorts of heavy work upon his wife. It would be better to remain single. He makes you do this and do that, and much of it is unpleasant work."

"If that is the way it is, I shall not get married," said the younger daughter.

remained single for some time and could not be convinced to have interest in any young man. Finally, however, a well-qualified young man admired her and became determined to find some way of persuading her to marry

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him. After thinking about this matter for a while, he arrived at a plan of action. He called several of his friends together and agreed to pay them for their help. He said to them, "When I am walking along before the padishah's palace, I want you to call to me, 'Hello Ahmet! Oh, you man without genitals, where are you going?'"

When he started walking past the palace on the following day, his friends shouted, "Hello, Ahmet! Oh you man without genitals, where are you going?"

The younger daughter was watching from a palace window. When she heard what had been said about Ahmet she knocked on the window and said, "Come back, young man!" When he had returned, she asked him, "Would you like to marry me?"

"Yes, I should, my lady," answered Ahmet.

The girl then sent a message to her father, saying "I think that I should like to marry such and such a young man." After the padishah and his wife had met Ahmet, and after they had talked at length about a possible marriage, wedding arrangements were made.

After the wedding celebration had been completed, the bride was taken to the nuptial chamber, where the

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bridegroom was waiting for her arrival. Nothing of the usual sort happened in the bridal chamber, however, for the girl believed that she had married a man without genitals.

They lived together for a while under these unusual circumstances. Ahmet became very frustrated over this odd situation, and he kept trying to think of some way to change it. One day a band of gypsies arrived and set up their camp at the edge of the city. Ahmet went to the gypsy leader and explained his situation to him. "In order to persuade the daughter of the padishah to marry me, I had others inform her that I was a man without genitals. As a result, I now have no way of enjoying myself with her."

The gypsy leader said, "Oh, gentleman, go and get your wife and bring her here. Leave this matter to us, and we shall bring about the change that you wish."

Ahmet returned home and said to his wife, "Come along, my lady. Let us walk around in the city for a while." During their walk, Ahmet of course led his wife to the gypsy encampment.

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The gypsies welcomed their two guests and did everything possible to show them hospitality. They carpets on the floor of the tent into which they led their guests. While the guests were being entertained there, a young gypsy couple began to fondle each other, and soon they were actually copulating. When the padishah's younger daughter saw this, she asked her husband, "Ahmet what are they doing?"

When Ahmet asked the gypsies what they were doing, they answered, "We are weaving with a shuttle."

Ahmet and his wife continued to watch with great interest, and then after a while longer, they went home. After they had arrived there, the younger daughter of the padishah said, "Ahmet, why don't we weave with a shuttle?"

"Certainly, if that is what you would like to do," answered Ahmet

His wife enjoyed this weaving very much. In fact, after that, she began to ask more and more frequently, "Ahmet, let us weave with a shuttle! Ahmet, let us weave with a shuttle!" This happened so often that it began to be painful to Ahmet.

One morning just after they had awakened, his wife

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said, "Ahmet, let us weave with a shuttle

Ahmet pretended to take something from his clothing  
throw it out the window into the garden. He said,  
you have just seen, I have thrown the shuttle out the  
window

The bride went outside immediately and began  
searching for the shuttle. She was observed doing this by  
her mother, who was looking out one of the palace windows  
at just that time. Wondering what her daughter was looking  
she went down to the garden and asked, "My daughter,  
what are you doing here? What have you lost?"

The daughter said, "Ahmet threw my shuttle out the  
window, and I am looking for it." When she heard this,  
the mother also bent down and started looking for the  
shuttle

In the meantime, the padishah began to wonder why  
his wife did not return. He said to himself, "I had better  
and see if I can discover where my lady has gone  
Looking from a window, he saw his wife and younger  
daughter walking back and forth as they searched for  
something in the garden. They had been walking around in  
palace garden so much that they were beginning to

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destroy its grass and plants.

Wearing his slippers and nightgown, the padishah went down to the garden to see what they were doing

"What are you looking for, my lady?" he asked

His wife answered, "Ahmet threw our daughter's shuttle out the window, and I am helping her look for it."

Neither the padishah nor his wife knew what kind of a shuttle their daughter was seeking. When the padishah leaned over in search of the lost object, his nightgown fell open. Seeing her father's shuttle, his daughter said, "There it is! That is my lost shuttle!"

When the padishah heard this, he realized what the situation was. He said, "My daughter, everything is all right. Your shuttle is with Ahmet."