

Story 675 (1973 Tape 3)

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#675

Brothers -- two:

The Two Brothers: Crazy One and Smart One

There were once two brothers, Crazy One and Smart One. They were poor, but they owned a cow. One day Crazy One said, "Let us take this cow and rent it or have it butchered, or something with it." He took the cow to the top of a mountain, and there he said to a large stone, "Stone! I am giving this cow to you. See to it that you give its butter and cheese to me. If you do not, then I shall come and take the cow away from you." *Crazy One -- sells cow to stone -- demanding that to provide him with butter and cheese*

"All right, I shall do that with pleasure," was the answer which he said to himself for the stone.

After he had returned home for several days, he noticed that everyone else was receiving butter and cheese from his or her cows, but he was not getting any. Smart One said to him, "Why have the cheese and butter not been arriving from our cow?"

"Just you wait, brother," Crazy One said. "Let me go and see what that worthless fellow has done with our cow." He went to the mountain top, and there he greeted the stone, "Selâmünaleyküm!"

"Alëykümselâm!" he himself answered.

"What did you do with our cow?"

"The cow died," he said, as if the stone were answering.

Crazy One -- has dialogue with stone -- speaking for both sides

Crazy One -- strikes stone at which he is angry and
discovers gold stone

right, but what did you do with its liver?"

"I ate it."

Crazy One immediately lifted his stick and struck the stone with it. As he did so, "Hiss-s-s-s" --gold poured out of the stone.

"Just a minute," he said. "Let me take a handful of its blood and give it to my brother." Taking a large handful of gold, he took it to his brother and said, "Brother, the cow has died. But, here--take it!--I have brought you a handful of its blood

Smart One said, "Oho! Is there much of this blood?"

"Brother, it is just full of blood over there."

"Let us go and take that blood, then, and bring it all back here. This is not really blood, brother. It is gold!"

One night they took their donkey, and went to the mountain top for the gold. They gathered up all that was within the stone, took it home with them, and hid it in a certain place in their house.

Soon after that Sahnacı, the muhtar of the village, took a container for measuring wheat--it had marks on it to show different quantities--and went from house to house. As he went, he shouted, "I measure wheat! I measure wheat! Sahnacı is here! Sahnacı is here!"

Hey, you Sahnacı!" called Crazy One. "Come here!"

"What is it, crazy son?" he asked.

measurer -- of wheat -- it is to take measure of gold while
measuring gold -- and - billed by Crazy One

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"Come inside and measure our gold."

"Get away from me, you mad dog! You do not have any gold!"

I swear that I am not lying! Just come inside and see!"

Sahnacı went inside and saw that it was indeed really gold. He measured and measured, and while he was doing this, he set one container of gold aside for himself.

Crazy One looked at it and asked, "What is that?"

"I reserved that amount for myself."

Hearing this, Crazy One hit Sahnacı so hard that he killed him. In the meantime, his brother had come home, and Smart One asked, "Ho, Crazy One, what have you done?"

"Brother, I brought him inside here to measure our gold. As he was doing that, he reserved a portion of it for himself. When I saw this, I hit him and killed him."

"Now, look here! Do you realize what you have done to us? We may come to great trouble because of this!"

"What should we do? What should we do?" cried Crazy One

As he was saying this over and over, his brother took the body of Sahnacı and threw it into a deep pit.¹ A few days

¹The word actually used here is kuyu, which is almost always translated as well in English. Very often in Turkish folktales, however, kuyu does not mean what English-speaking people have in mind as a well, for there is often no water in a kuyu. Thus kuyu kebab is lamb cooked in a pit sealed at the top. Kuyu kebab is not cooked in a water well. Traitors sometimes throw a hero into a kuyu which turns out to be an entrance to the underworld, one totally lacking in water. In such cases pit or hole is far more accurate than well.

after that a group of villagers came along saying, "Sahnacı is lost. Does anyone know what has become of our Sahnacı?"

Crazy One told them, "I hit and killed that Sahnacı. Then my brother cut him up and threw him into a deep hole."

"Show us where this deep hole is," the villagers said.

In the meantime, the Smart One had thrown some soil down the hole on top of the body of Sahnacı. Then he killed a (goat), cut up its body, and threw the parts down into the hole.

The crowd came and they lowered Crazy One down into the pit with a rope to bring up Sahnacı. Crazy One shouted up to the people at the top of the pit, "Was your Sahnacı hairy or hairless?"

"He was hairy."

In a short while he shouted up again, "Was your Sahnacı horned or hornless?"²

yes, he was horned.

"Well, pull him up then.

The people pulled up on the rope. What they finally brought up to the surface were the parts of a goat. Everyone of the villagers except Smart One was amazed. Smart One said, "Now take a good look at that! Did I not tell you not to believe

²Horns are a symbol of cuckoldry in many cultures, and the horns referred to here have that meaning. The goat's horns are real; Sahnacı's horns are figurative.

anything that this crazy man said?" After that, the people left their house and their garden.

That night Smart One said to his wife, "Wife, what shall we do to get rid of this mad brother of mine? I shall you. Get up early in the morning and prepare some bread for a journey, and we shall leave him here, and we ourselves shall go away." But Crazy One heard all of this conversation between them

The woman arose early and started baking bread. Crazy One came and asked, "Big sister, what are you doing?"

"I am baking bread

"May I take a loaf and eat it?"

The woman had packed all the bread that was ready into a large basket. When the woman bent over to reach into the oven in the ground for more bread,³ he climbed into the basket and hid there. The woman continued to pile more and more bread into the basket as it was finished baking. did not realize that Crazy One had also climbed into that basket

In the evening her husband came and asked, "Wife, did you bake a batch of bread?"

"Yes."

³In older times some ovens were actually dug into ground. They were usually fueled with wood.

Smart brother and he - plan to move away secretly and thus abandon crazy brother

"Did Crazy One come to you while you were baking?"

"Yes, he did. He came, took one loaf of bread, and then went away.

"All right. Come now and load this huge basket on my back, and then we shall leave." After she had done this, he said, "Now, wife, just follow me."

Crazy one -- companion
floerij brother
and sister-in-law
-- by "kidney"
large basket
They set out and walked a long way. After a while Crazy One could not restrain himself any longer, and he urinated. When some of the urine ran down on Smart One, who was carrying the basket still, he asked his wife, "Woman, what did you do? You put so much butter into that bread that it is running right out of the basket on me--all the way down to my feet."

"Man, what else could I do? To whom should I have left it? I filled that bread with butter."

Crazy brother -- saves
Smart brother and
wife -- from
attacking dogs
After a while a pack of dogs attacked them. Although they ran away from these dogs, the animals continued to follow them. Smart One said, "Oh, wife, this would be a situation in which Crazy One would manage things perfectly. If he were here, he would break those dogs into little pieces."

"Brother, I am here."

"Hey, you! Where are you?"

"I am inside the basket," said Crazy One. Then he climbed down out of the basket and attacked the pack of dogs. He ran among them and threw one to this side and the next one to that side, killing all of them.

Smart brother -- and wife -- plot to drown Crazy Brother -- but
it is Smart Brother's wife who drowned 33

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While he was doing this, Smart One said, "Wife, we shall sleep near a body of water tonight. Stay awake for a while after we have gone to bed, and we shall throw this crazy fellow into the water and get rid of him in that way."

But Crazy One had returned by then, and he heard what they were talking about. He got up after everyone had gone to bed and dragged the bed of the wife over to his own place and then he returned and slept leaning slightly against his brother. Smart One woke up after a while and nudged his "wife." In the dark they went over the place where Crazy One had made his bed. One took one end of the bed, and the other took the opposite end of the bed, and then they threw it into the deep water. Smart One said, "You see, wife, we got rid of that crazy person

And Crazy One said, "Yes brother, we got rid of that daughter-in-law."

"Oh, you Crazy One, you have deprived me of a wife!"

In the morning they arose again and continued on their travels. After a while they saw a giant woman sitting beneath a tree. She was chewing gum. Coming toward them, she asked, "What are you doing here? I have seven sons. If these sons should come along and see you, they would break you into pieces."

Right away Smart One and Crazy One rushed up to her

giants - chews gum Seven sons - of giants
sons -- seven -- of giants
brothers -- Crazy One and Smart One -- suck breasts of giants -- and
thereby become milk brothers -- of her seven sons
milk brothers -- with seven giants -- established by Crazy One and
-- One -- by sucking breasts of giants' mother

Transformation - giant turns two human brothers
 needle and broom -- to protect her from
 seven giant sons
 Story 675 (giants - seven (seven giants))

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breasts.⁴ She took one of them, turned him into a needle,
 and stuck him in her collar; and the other she turned into a
 broom and stood in the corner.

Giant -- detects
 scent of human
 being

When the giant sons arrived home, one of them said,
 "Mother, there is a definite smell of human beings here."

"No, my son," she said. "Where are there human beings
 here? Because of great fear of you and your brothers, not

even birds come into this area; no caravans pass by; nobody
 comes near." Seven giants -- so fierce -- that even birds fear -- fly
Seven giants -- so fierce -- that no caravans pass by their land
 over their property

"Regardless of that, mother, there is still the scent
 of human beings in this house."

"Yes, there actually is, son. Wait a minute, and let me
 explain. Two young men came, and they did such-and-such
 Let them be brothers now to the seven of you. One of them can
 be put to tending the livestock in the pasture, and the other
 one can bring us bread."

"All right, mother," they all agreed.

The next day when the seven giant brothers left, they
 had Smart One stay at the house with their mother. They sent

⁴This utilizes the custom of milk brothers and sisters.
 If a child is nursed even momentarily by a woman other than
 his mother, then he becomes figuratively a son of her family,
 and the two families also become closely united. Thus, nursing
 mothers sometimes nurse each other's infants in order to
 acquire more "relatives"--milk relatives. In Turkish folktales
 this custom is used by protagonists to protect themselves
 from fierce or monstrous people. No matter how old the pro-
 tagonist may be, he may still suck the breast, for a moment,
 of a woman who has dangerous children--such as giants.

Crazy One out to the pasture to tend the sheep and goats.

Soon after he arrived in the pasture Crazy One said to the sheep, "O my friends, you sheep, listen to what I have to say! I am going to climb up this apple tree and throw down apples and shake others down. Eat these apples, but be sure to set aside a portion for me. If you do not keep a share for me, I shall come down and cut all of your throats."

How could animals understand? The sheep just went along eating all the apples they could find. Looking down, Crazy One saw that an apple was stuck on the horn of a goat. He came down and, taking his knife in his hand, he killed all of the sheep. To the goat he said, "You kept a share for me, and so I would not think of killing you."

After a while Smart One went to the pasture with some bread for his brother. "Let me take a look and see what he is doing," said Smart One to himself. When he reached the pasture, he saw that his brother had killed all of the sheep with his knife. He said, "Oh, what have you done, Crazy One? Now the giants will tear us all to pieces!" After thinking a moment, he said, "You go back to the house and stay with the woman, and I shall remain here. You bring me bread once in a while, and this will make them think that the sheep are still alive."

Crazy One did as his brother directed him. The next morning when he arose, Crazy One said to the giant woman,

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"Mother, your head is badly infested with lice. Come! I shall heat some water and wash your hair."

"That will be good. Prepare the water and wash me."

He started a fire in a ground oven and boiled a large cauldron of water. "Mother," he said, "come and see if the water is warm enough." When she bent over to examine the water, he pulled one of her feet out from under her, and she fell head first into the boiling water. Her front teeth were exposed, as if she were laughing. Crazy One then took her corpse and put it in a sitting position against a tree, with

a cushion under her and some helva⁵ in her hand.

After Crazy One had not come to the pasture with bread -- and placed helva in her hand -- to make for some time, his brother became worried. "He may have her seen alive caused trouble again. I had better go and see what he has done now."

When he arrived at the giants' house, Crazy One said, "Brother, I washed this giant mother in such a way that she is dying of laughter. I was just going to bring you some helva that she had cooked."

"Oh, brother, you have gotten us into some very serious trouble! You have killed the giant mother. What would her sons do to us if they should come home now?" He closed the house door and started running away.

⁵A confection made from sesame flour, butter, and honey.

239. One -- changed with guarding dog
hinge and carrier it with him 37

Story 675 Door guarded by Crazy One -- by carrying
wherever he goes

Crazy One said, "I am supposed to guard the door of this house." He ripped the door from its hinges, put it on his back, and followed his brother. Run and run! They ran a great distance. At night they climbed a tall tree so that the giants would not be able to find them. Crazy One said, "Brother, I am going to take this door up the tree with me."

"Son, you must really be very crazy. Is a door ever carried up to the top of a tree?"

"It makes no difference. I shall take it up with me."

After they had been in the tree for just a short while, they saw a group of merchants stop beneath its branches. They spread out a large meal and greedily began to eat rice and meat from large earthenware jars.

Crazy One said, "Brother, I must urinate!" And he did so.

One of the crowd of merchants said, "What is this? The weather does not look bad. Is this just an April shower?"

When Crazy One saw that they did not run away, he said, "Brother, my shoulder is aching. I am going to release this door."

"That would be too crazy even for you to do. Do you not realize that they would kill us?"

"No, brother!"

When he released the door, it fell with great banging noises as it struck large branches on the way down. Hearing the great disturbance over their heads, the frightened

Crazy One -- urates from treetop -- and merchants running below
think it is an April shower
Crazy One -- drops door from treetop -- and dining merchant
below think sky has burst and flee -- leaving too
Crazy One and brother

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merchants fled, leaving their rice and meat and earthenware jars. They ran away and climbed to the top of a nearby hill. After a while they sent one of their number back, telling him, "Go back and see if you can discover what it was that burst from the sky." *Merchants -- frightened from picnic beneath the -- think*
Crazy Brother and Smart Brother eating their food
 He went back to the tree and saw the two brothers eating. *and*
 He then hastened to rejoin the other merchants, saying, "When *dragons* the sky burst, two dragons fell to earth. They are eating rice and meat with their paws. If they catch us, they will eat us too." Hearing this, the group of merchants ran still farther away.

The two brothers ate as much food as they could. Then they loaded the merchants' goods and all of their baggage on the merchants' animals. "Let us go back to our own home now," said Smart One.

Young boys were the first to see them approaching, and these youths ran through the village saying, "Crazy One and Smart One are coming back, but they are bringing a bride with them, and they have many goods."

The villagers went to meet the brothers, and they all accompanied them to their home to the beating of the drum. Smart One and Crazy One later gave a feast for the village people at the time that Smart One and the bride were married.

They all went that way, but I came this way.⁶

⁶This is a formulaic ending, a brief terminal tekerleme.