

THE FILE

(DOSYA)

A play in two acts

by

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CAST:

TAMER Around 45 years old.
NURGUL Around 40 years old.
YESIM Around 20 years old.
SONER Around 40 years old.
SAIDE Around 40 years old.
HAMDI Around 55 years old.
OMER Around 45 years old.

A MAN

A MAN COMING FROM ATTORNEY GENERAL

PHOTOGRAPHER

MAN

THE SET:

The play takes place in three places: Living room of an apartment flat: It should be prepared by keeping in mind a husband and wife, a working state employee family. Businessman Omer's office: Should be quite striking in appearance. Director Hamdi's room: A director's room of an administrative office. Yet in the course of the events, these three places should be used at the same time. None of these should be paid insufficient attention while preparing the surrounding arrangements.

PLACE: Istanbul

TIME : 1981

ACT I

The Living Room of an Apartment Flat

(Nurgul turns on the light and enters in with packages in her hands. She leaves the packs on the table. Hangs her coat. She's tired. She casually collects the scattered mess of the house. She sees her husband's pajamas on the armchair, his socks on the carpet. She gets upset and leaves them alone. She opens the packages. Door opens. Yesim comes in. Books in her hands).

YESIM Are you here mom?

NURGUL Can't you see?

YESIM You're mad again

NURGUL Well, I work my butt off in the office day and night, wear myself out... Come home at night, same old story continues... I'm tired of my life. Am I a human being, woman, machine or an animal?

YESIM Why are you mad at me?

NURGUL Well just look at that, like you don't leave any work at home...

YESIM Moom!

NURGUL Look at the mess of this house. His pajamas are on the armchair, socks on the floor... His shirt is under the drape... As if he is intending to do that...

YESIM Get mad at him...

NURGUL Don't you see the condition in your room?

YESIM My room is spotless...

NURGUL What about those books, notes, papers? They're scattered everywhere...

YESIM That's how I study mom.

NURGUL If someone opens your door and sees that, what do I say? You're grown girl... They won't blame you they'll condemn me... They'll say, "she just hasn't given proper discipline to her daughter... I'm thinking about the pharmacy you plan to open up... With your untidiness it won't be any different than grocery store...

YESIM *(While sitting down and stretching her legs)* We'll pick it up, we'll pick it up...

NURGUL Don't rebuke.

YESIM I'll pick them up, let me rest a little, I'm so tired. We rushed from one class to another all day long...

NURGUL Honey you get tired at the cafeterias... Mess, mess... Everything is mess...

Dear get up and pick up all of these... Oh my, I get tedious in this house...

YESIM Be patient, one more year and your soul won't get tedious any more... You'll get rid of me...

NURGUL With this disorder, Metin will not put up with you either... He'll shoot you back..

YESIM Metin? Me? Don't make me laugh... Can't you see? *(She takes out the sweater from the bag and shows it.)*

NURGUL *(Softens up)* Did Metin?

YESIM *(Proud, boastfully)* We were having coffee in the cafeteria... Our Nesrin and Fatos were with me too. Suddenly he put a package on the table... I looked up,

Metin!. “It was today that we had met”, he said.. Mom that pleased me so much... Nesrin seemed to like it too, but everything could be read from her eyes... She was so jealous of me...

NURGUL Well don't let him give you presents in front of everybody, like in the cafeteria... I swear, you'll be struck by evil eye and you'll splinter into pieces..

YESIM Than we got comfortable in Metin's car and came... And just to spite, I let him drop Nesrin to her home...

NURGUL Look! Don't make your friend too thick with Metin... They won't care about the engagement or anything, they'll snatch him from your hands...

YESIM Who, Metin? Come on mooom... He can't do without me...

NURGUL Don't say that, everyone would want someone like him... Even though he doesn't have the great handsome looks, he's a rich boy... Don't forget one thing, plenty of people would want a wealthy person.

YESIM So what?... If he's rich, I'm beautiful... Plus my school is almost finished... Where is he gonna find a girl like me? Wealth is not everything mom... As rich as he can be, a person who didn't even finish High School, certainly can't find someone better than me...

NURGUL The streets are full of girls.

YESIM Full of men too.

NURGUL If you continue with this attitude, you'll loose the fortune that came all the way to your hands.

YESIM Nothing will happeseen. *(Omer in his office phones somewhere. The phone rings.)*

YESIM Hellooo..

OMER Hello...

YESIM Yes. Go on...

OMER Is Tamer home?

YESIM He's not here yet.

OMER Who might you be?

YESIM I'm his daughter.

OMER Oh, what's your name?

YESIM Yesim.

OMER Well, Yesim dear, when does your dad come home?

YESIM He should be here soon.

OMER Listen dear, my name is Omer... You tell him Uncle Omer has called... Tell him his friend from high school... My number is *(Says a phone no.)* I missed him a lot... Make sure he calls me...

YESIM When he gets in?

OMER I'm leaving now. He can call me tomorrow, next day or whenever... Even if I'm not here, he can leave a message to my secretary, okay?

YESIM Okay.

OMER Alright, I kiss your eyes... Say hi... Give my regards to your mother...

YESIM With pleasure... *(Hangs up)*

NURGUL Who was it?

YESIM A friend of my dad's from high school... named Omer..

NURGUL Omer? Omer, Omer... I can't recall him..

YESIM How can you recall him? Have you met my dad when he was in high school?
 NURGUL Your dad had mentioned of his friends... Ahaa! Omer, Omer... *(While going to the kitchen with packages in her hands)* Come on now, put this place in order. *(Yesim picks up the shirt below the drapes, socks from the floor. Door bell rings. Yesim opens it)*

TAMER *(Comes in with an business suitcase in his hand)* Good evening...
 YESIM Good evening daddy...
 TAMER Is she in?
 YESIM She's mad at you again.
 TAMER What for?
 YESIM *(Shows the socks and shirt in her hands. Shows the pajamas on the floor)*
 TAMER What can I do? I left in a hurry...
 YESIM Daddy don't throw them everywhere... Because of she yells at me too...
 TAMER *(Calls to kitchen smiling)* Nurguuul!.. Nurgul!..
 NURGUL *(Her voice)* What is it?
 TAMER Look now... But no matter what you do, you can't make get me upset tonight.
 YESIM What is that daddy? Did they give you a raise?
 TAMER More important than that... I finished the work today... *(He takes his pajamas from Yesim's hands, on the other hand he gets undressed and dressed again)* I gave the file into process. Now let them take care of that mess. Let them see what it is like to cause millions to the Government.

YESIM What did you do again?
 TAMER The researches that I've been doing for a month, showed how right I am. A regiment of unlawfulness, and all documented. Lots of heads will roll... Boy they'll be burned... They'll see, look... When I threw the file that I've been preparing, in front of the chief, the Man was shocked... I even passed through the documents and took the date number... *(Opens his briefcase, pulls a file with a red cover)* And the copies are here.. See what I caught... What infraction of rules, what unlawfulness... Look and see what these people are stirring. Take it and check it out.

YESIM I wouldn't understand.
 TAMER Tonight is a night to drink. Look in the fridge... There should be some Uzo *(Yesim goes to the kitchen, Tamer examines the file with pleasure. He scatters some documents on the table)*

YESIM *(Yesim returned with a bottle in her hand)* Here dad.
 TAMER Hold it there. That's not enough. You can't even squeeze a shot out of this. Before it gets dark, get another one from the store... *(pulls money out of his wallet)* get the biggest one... Otherwise it won't be enough. *(Yesim leaves, Nurgul enters)*

NURGUL Are you gonna drink again?
 TAMER Yes.
 NURGUL Clear the mess from the table.
 TAMER Give me an envelope... A rather large envelope...
 NURGUL You are gonna let me burn all of these.
 TAMER Hold it, hold it, hold it! These are important.
 NURGUL Clean up!.. I'm going to bring the food.

TAMER *(He's clearing the table and also)* This file, you see this file?.. It's gonna burn a lot of people. I'm saving the Government from millions of dollars of damages...

NURGUL Good. Maybe they'll give you a buck or two as a reward.
Don't let me forget in the morning, I barrowed two thousand liras from Seher.

TAMER Why did you barrow?

NURGUL We stopped by the market on the way back home. I was short with my money.

TAMER We'll pay back in two days. It's almost the new month.

NURGUL They are state workers too. I said I would pay back tomorrow.

TAMER Act like you forgot. God knows I don't have any money at all... We have just enough to commute.

NURGUL You have enough to get some drink .. *(She goes in)*

YESIM *(She walks in with the bottle of uzo)* You have bought some groceries from the market.

TAMER Not me!

NURGUL *(As she walks in with some plates on her hands)* I did! And it totaled to 3000 liras...

TAMER Okay! Okay! We'll pay it!

NURGUL My God! Would you please help me. Not even one of God's creature bothers to help me... *(As Yesim helps her mother, Tamer finds a big envelope. He places the documents from the red file into big envelope. He places the envelope into cabinet with great care. He places some other documents to the red file and puts on the cabinet. He pours some drink to his glass. The phone rings while they have their dinner)*

YESIM Hello...Hellooo... *(She waits... She hangs up after no response)* Oho! Some one named Omer called you.

TAMER Omer?

YESIM He said he was your friend from High School.

TAMER When?

YESIM Just before you came in...

TAMER *(He picks up the notepaper from Yesim and gets up to make a call)*

YESIM He said, he is going out now but, you call him any time...

TAMER He has became very wealthy now. It's been a long time since we've seen each other. Where did he get our number?

YESIM I didn't ask. *(The phone rings again. She gets up to answer)* Hello...
Helloooooo...

TAMER Don't hang up right away...

YESIM There is no voice...

TAMER They could be calling from pay phone... Wait a little bit...

YESIM Ooho , come on... *(Hangs up)*

TAMER You should have waited...

YESIM Why?

TAMER They call from paid phone, but sometimes they forget to drop the coin...

NURGUL Don't impute what you do to others...

YESIM They shouldn't forget...

TAMER Don't be perverse...

YESIM Next time you wait daddy...

TAMER Don't get on my nerves again...

YESIM I have exams tomorrow... I can't wait by the phone for them to drop a coin...

TAMER You better finish that faculty soon... So than you can marry that thoughtless Mr. Mehmet..

YESIM My fiancée's name is Metin..

TAMER He is a lout, exactly a lout... He has no manners, doesn't know discipline...

YESIM Enough daddy, cut it out...

TAMER What are you saying?

YESIM Nothing...

TAMER Of course, you can't say anything anyway... What could be said a pharmacist girl like you to prefer a lout like him... Is he your equal?

NURGUL There is a saying "a cat calls the liver unclean if it can't reach it"... He's a wealthy boy... My daughter will be comfortable... She won't live in misery like us...

TAMER Why are we in misery?

NURGUL Yeah, We dine by the Bosphorus, greet dawn in the casinos ...

TAMER Do you call "staying sleepless and stay awake all night in the clubs life?..
(*Phone rings, Tamer gets up*) Helloo... Hello... Helloooo...

YESIM Wait daddy... Maybe they'll deposit the coin so you can talk...

TAMER Hello... Helloooo... (*hangs up*) Is the phone out of order?

NURGUL We just talked earlier..

TAMER (*Dials a number*) Soner!.. Our phone rings, we answer but there's no voice... I wonder if it's out of order... Can you call us right back? (*Hangs up. Waits. Phone rings*) Hello... Aha Soner! What are you doing? I'm drinking a class or two... If you like stop by on your way here... We can drink.. Can have a heart-to-heart talk... (*Nurgul opens her eyes wide, and makes moves as if she will walk over Tamer*) Bring along Saide too.. We'll sit down...

YESIM I need to study...

TAMER Okay... I'll stop by... You call too... Okay, bye bye.. (*hangs up*)

NURGUL Why do you invite them?

TAMER There is no one to chat few words here.. I'd tell Soner what happened today...

NURGUL On top of it you invite his wife... Don't you know she doesn't like anything? Than everything about us becomes gossip...

TAMER We're doing it as a procedure damn it.

NURGUL What if she comes?

TAMER So what if she comes? She'll just get on our nerves a little bit, that's all. We are use to it by now anyway.

YESIM Don't turn on the Radio or TV too loud... (*Goes to her room. Nurgul clears the table. She carries what she has on her hands to kitchen from time to time. Tamer gets up and turns on the tape player. Music*)

NURGUL (*Enters the room. Lowers the volume*)

TAMER Let's go and sleep..

NURGUL Dishes need to be washed...

TAMER Come oon...

NURGUL If I leave it for next day, we get flies..

TAMER So what if there is flies everywhere... Come on...

NURGUL (*Frees herself from him*) I said "no"..

TAMER What is this I get from you?

NURGUL Stop it! *(Goes to kitchen. From inside)* Before you go to bed, fill up the buckets... Water has been cut off again...

TAMER *(Gets upset)* Check her out man!
(Lights get dimmer. Morning. Alarm clock rings loudly. Nurgul comes out of her room. Enters Yesim's room. Tamer comes. As sitting on the armchair, he starts to shave by shaving machine as he looks on the mirror in his hand. First Nurgul then Yesim enter. Nurgul goes to kitchen)

TAMER Put some water in the teapot... *(Yesim goes to the kitchen)*

NURGUL *(Enters)* You didn't fill the buckets...

TAMER Water wasn't running...

NURGUL If you waited a little, it would've run...

YESIM We have no water...

TAMER Am I not gonna have the fortune to drink a cup of tea in this house?

YESIM How am I going to wash my face?

NURGUL There's little bit in the bathroom... Use carefully... *(Opens the door and looks)*
The doorman didn't bring the bread again...

TAMER My teeth will break from eating stale bread..

NURGUL We don't even have old bread.
(Goes to her room. Tamer's shaving is done. Opens the machine, just when he was about to empty it into the ashtray, Nurgul walks in and sees it)

TAMER That scatters all over the house... Go and empty it in the bathroom... *(Tamer goes murmuring)*

YESIM *(Comes while getting dry)* I'll be late again...

NURGUL Get ready then instead of talking...

TAMER *(Comes in with a shirt in his hand)* This shirt is dirty...

NURGUL If you throw it on the floor, it gets dirty...

TAMER What should I do?

NURGUL Go without wearing a shirt...

TAMER I'm getting a new one from the wardrobe...

NURGUL Why are you asking? Don't throw it on the floor again! Take it to the bathroom...
(Tamer goes to the bathroom murmuring. Yesim has gotten dressed in hurry. Books in her hands)

YESIM I don't have money for the bus...

NURGUL Wait! Eat something...

YESIM I'll grab a sandwich.. I'm getting late...
(Tamer enters)

NURGUL Would you give Yesim money for the bus?

TAMER There's no money...

NURGUL Should she walk?

TAMER Not that much... *(Gives money from his wallet)*

NURGUL *(Upon seeing Yesim's 'not enough' sign)* Give her a little more... She is leaving without having breakfast..

TAMER Have breakfast than...

YESIM I'm late dad...

TAMER Get up earlier than ...

YESIM It was 4:00 am when I went to bed... *(Takes the money that her dad gives)*
Okay, I'll see you later.

NURGUL Bye dear... Be careful when crossing the streets...

YESIM Gees, you might as well cross me over...
(Exits)

NURGUL Stop fooling around... I'm ready even though I am a woman... We'll be late..
We'll miss the bus...

TAMER *(Has been dressed in hurry)* Where are my clean socks?

NURGUL Where they always are...

TAMER Where is that "always" place?

NURGUL *(Goes in and out in fury)* Here!.. Take the other ones to the bathroom.
Everyday by the head pillow... *(Looks out from the window)* Aren't you ready yet?

TAMER I'm ready, I'm ready...
(Tamer wears his overcoat and shoes. They exit. Shortly after... Door opens quietly. A man enters in.... Starts to take things from the living room. He searches the drawers of the china cabinet, wardrobe. Just when he was about to enter the bedroom, he sees the red covered file. Takes it. Just when he was about to exit he notices the telephone. (Dials a number. Mr. Hamdi's room brightens. Phone rings)

A MAN Hello...

HAMDI It's me...

A MAN Where are you calling from?

HAMDI From their house...

A MAN Have you find it?

HAMDI Yes I did... A red covered file...

A MAN Okay don't waste any time... Come at once...

A MAN Okay...
(They hang up the phones)
(Night. Tamer comes in. Hangs his overcoat. Upon seeing no one he seats down, pulls out a yellow envelope. Silently reads the paper. He is confused. He reads again and again. He goes near the phone indicated, dials a number)

TAMER Hellooo... Soner? It's me... When are you gonna finish your work? We'll talk... Yes... Don't leave your office... I'm calling from home... I'm coming to you... We'll talk when I get there.. I think the lines are getting mixed up... I'm coming to you, don't move... *(Hangs up the phone. Takes his overcoat, just when he was about to leave, the phone rings)* Hello... Soner? We'll talk when I get there... No, I'm coming... No... About me... You don't have to... I would've come.. Okay... I am waiting... *(Hangs up the phone. He hangs his overcoat back again. He thinks. He settles in the armchair. He thinks. The phone rings again. Picks it up)* Hello... Hello... Hello... Helloooo...
(Carrying a full string net. Enters. Turns on the light. Sees him) You are early.

NURGUL I got really tired today...

TAMER

NURGUL You are sitting without lights on...
TAMER Did Yesim come yet...
NURGUL She is buying yogurt... *(Runs to the window, opens and yells)* Yesiiim! Get some eggs too!... Ten is enough!.. *(Closes the window)* What happened this time?

TAMER I'm just tired... Meetings one after the other...
NURGUL Are you the only one working? Look! On top of it I've got to go to the kitchen.
TAMER I'm not in condition to argue with you.
NURGUL You have three more years left before your retirement... Let's see what are you gonna give as an excuse?

TAMER Three years left before my retirement..
NURGUL Why are you talking this way? Something is wrong with you today...
TAMER Nothing's wrong...
NURGUL Yes there is, you 're hiding something from me...
TAMER I'm tired that's all... My brother is coming soon...
NURGUL *(Thinking that he is coming for dinner)* Boy, what should I prepare now. There is nothing at home...
TAMER He is coming alone...
NURGUL Couldn't you call me and let me know?
TAMER We just talked... Couple minutes before you walked in.
NURGUL God knows you invited him here... I told you before not to call him without my knowledge...
TAMER I don't want to argue with you...
(Doorbell rings. Not to know what to make of it, Nurgul exits. Opens the door)
YESIM *(Extends the eggs)* Take them mom. And that's the change...
NURGUL Is that all left?
YESIM They rise the prices again... Good evening dad..
TAMER Good evening dear.
NURGUL What should I prepare? What should I cook?
TAMER Cook whatever you want...
NURGUL Than he puts the pressure on me...
TAMER Shot up... He is not coming to dinner.
NURGUL God knows you invited him...
TAMER What the hell are you talking about? Are you trying to make seen 'cause my brother is coming to our house.
NURGUL Not because he is coming to our house, I'm upset at you, because we don't even have a plate of food to serve him...
TAMER *(Gets up)* If you say another word... Get out of here! *(Confused Nurgul leaves)*
YESIM What happened dad?
TAMER Nothing...
YESIM Why did you get mad at mom?
TAMER Will you look at her?
YESIM But she gets exhausted...
TAMER Don't I get exhausted?
YESIM She gets more exhausted...
TAMER I hope you won't treat your husband like this...

YESIM As long as my husband doesn't treat me this way... Why do you blame mom? She's at work all day... In the kitchen at night... Laundry, ironing, cleaning, everything is on her shoulders... I can't even put up with that for a day.

TAMER What would you do?

YESIM I would throw the ring away...

TAMER What are you saying?

YESIM Isn't my mom human?

TAMER If you continue with this frame of mind, I'm afraid you can't even keep that boy...

YESIM I am not gonna stay quiet when I'm right.

TAMER That's enough... Don't get cranky...

YESIM Because what I'm saying is true...

TAMER Don't make me slap you!..

YESIM When you're cornered, "I'll slap you"...

TAMER *(Walks towards her. Yesim escapes inside)* And she is going to be a pharmacist... Instead of giving me all that hot talk, get your ass in the kitchen and help your mom that you dearly protect, little bitch!
(Goes and sits down. Lights up a cigarette.)

NURGUL *(Enters)* What's wrong with you? Come on!.. Come on tell me.

TAMER You made that girl just like you?

NURGUL *(Takes her husband's head in her hands and caresses)* She is just a child...

TAMER She's a grown girl...

NURGUL What happened, say it?

TAMER I'm bored...

NURGUL I get tired Tamer... I really get exhausted.

TAMER You create scenes for no reason. Soner said "I have some things to discuss with you".. Should I have told him not to come?

NURGUL I grumbled because we didn't have food... You know his wife.. She won't take into consideration that are working... She finds a thousand of negatives for whatever we do.. Am I wrong? *(Doorbell rings. Nurgul opens the door)*

NURGUL Hi Soner, welcome..

SONER Good evening Nurgul.. Good evening bro...

TAMER Good evening..

YESIM *(Comes in)* Good evening uncle Soner..

SONER How is Metin?

YESIM He is alright...

SONER I'm sorry, I came empty handed... *(Sits down)*

NURGUL Oh please, there is no need...

YESIM Uncle Soner, if you'll excuse me, let me go to my room... I need to study..

SONER Okay, I wish you success...

NURGUL You should've brought Saide..

SONER You know, I go home so late... We'll come one day...

NURGUL I'll go to kitchen... Let me make your favorite soup...

SONER I won't stay for dinner... I just wanted to see my brother... I must leave soon..

TAMER Would you like to drink coffee?

SONER Okay...

NURGUL Would you like one also?

TAMER Okay... *(Nurgul exits)*

SONER Alright Tamer, what is it?
TAMER They... They took me off my duty...
NURGUL (*Opens the door*) How would you like your coffee?
SONER Ooh. Light on sugar please... (*Nurgul pulls the door suspiciously*)
SONER I didn't hear it wrong, did I?
TAMER No...
SONER When?
TAMER Towards the end of our shift.
SONER (*Collects himself*) Thank God... I thought it was something important...
You're not the first one to be taken off duty... Where did they appoint you?
TAMER Nowhere.
SONER What do you mean? I didn't understand...
TAMER They took me of my duty...
SONER So, in other words... Did they fire you?
TAMER Yeah...
SONER But!.. Why?
TAMER I don't know... They haven't shown me any reason...
SONER So you are not gonna work there anymore?
TAMER (*He pulls the paper out of his pocket, extends it*) Nowhere...
SONER (*Reads*) This is impossible! How long has it been?
TAMER Twenty-two years...
SONER But there must be a reason for this! An investigation or something...
TAMER I didn't go through any kind of investigation...
SONER Yeah but, what will happen to those twenty two years...
TAMER I don't have a clue... I only had three more years before my retirement...
(*Silence*)
SONER Let's apply to judiciary organs.
TAMER All the judicial ways are closed for those fired from this kind of work...
SONER They put you front of the door after twenty-two years... And all the judicial
ways are closed! It's impossible...
NURGUL Alright, it's done... (*Nurgul comes in. Leaves their coffee and exits*)
SONER Brother... I'm gonna ask you something... Did something happen that you're
hiding or I don't know, like you don't want to say...
TAMER What could I hide from you? You are my little brother...
SONER Maybe something you can't even tell me...
TAMER No there is not! Plus there is nothing that I can't tell you... I always tried to be
perfect... After I started to work as a director, I fought against bunch of
unlawfulness... At the end I exposed a big unlawful act regarding the buying
in the work place... It was just yesterday I gave the files to them. Even the
thank you letters that I received because of my good work became big file.
(*Extends the file that he takes out of china cabinet's drawer*) But some strange
things were happening, things that I can't solve, things that I couldn't
understand were being done for me... Or was that just how I felt? Some things
were happening... As if everybody knew some thing was up about me... I can
recall it better now... Yes, yes! As if everybody knew everything...
SONER What did they know?
TAMER They were looking as if they were feeling sorry... They were whispering...
When I had eye contact, they would escape their eyes from me...

SONER What do you plan to do?
TAMER How am I going to tell my wife? Or my daughter?
SONER Maybe you should save it for couple days...
TAMER Tomorrow is the first of the month... Payday... Every first of the month we put our salary on the table... *(He gets silent)*
I have to say it... I will go to the office tomorrow... I will see Mr. Hamdi and try to learn the reason for this...
SONER Who is Mr. Hamdi?
TAMER Our director...
SONER What good will learning the reason do for you?
TAMER How can I defend myself now? Only then I can rebut their reasoning... And than I can easily return to my work... Same incident had happen to someone else before... But he didn't quit... He ran one place to another, proved they were baseless and returned to his work... I'm not going to let this go by... I gave my twenty two years... I can't let this go...
SONER Oh, I'm saying... What if you still can't return to your work?
TAMER *(Confident)* I have a lot of friends... Then I will find another job... We won't go hungry I guess...
NURGUL *(Enters)* Would you like anything else?
SONER Thanks a lot Nurgul...
TAMER Sit down... Don't be sad though... Something really bad happened... But nothing that can't be resolved..
(Gives the paper)
NURGUL *(Reads)* Did it happen today?
TAMER Yes...
NURGUL Oh my God! Why? How?
TAMER Don't tell anyone... To your family, no one... To neighbors... Workmates... Until this is resolved, nobody should know this..
NURGUL What are we gonna do? How are we gonna make the both ends meet? The girl is going to get married... The rent! Oh my God!
SONER Nurgul! Can you leave us alone for short while? *(Nurgul exits... Soner pulls some money from his wallet, and squeezes to his brother's hands)* We are brothers... You are not in good condition... I do believe work situation will improve... I help you up until than... However I do want something from you... Nobody should know that I am helping you...
We are brothers, but our spouses are strangers... Drop by my place after you meet with Mr. Hamdi... I want to know the process... *(While exiting)* Good night brother...
(While Tamer looks at the money in his hand in oppression)

Director Hamdi's Room

SECRETARY *(Her voice)* Mr. Tamer would like to see you sir.
HAMDI *(Makes a sour face)* Where?
SECRETARY *(Her voice)* He is in the waiting room sir...
HAMDI Couldn't you get rid of him?
SECRETARY *(Her voice)* He insisted sir...

HAMDI Send him in. Hold it! If it takes more than five minutes... As usual... You got it?

SECRETARY *(Her voice)* Yes sir I do...

TAMER *(Opens the door, enters)* I hope I am not disturbing you sir?

HAMDI *(Lifts his head up from reading the papers in front of him)* What do you mean? What do you mean Mr. Tamer? *(By his hand he indicates Tamer to sit)* What do you mean by “disturbing”? I guess it would be only proper I say “I couldn’t sleep an ounce last night. Was that proper to a person, who is well mannered and as honest as you? How long has it been since your service?

TAMER I was going to retire three years later sir.

HAMDI My God, what a pity! It’s really sad... I am very sorry... Really...

TAMER I guess your sorrow begun when you were signing the papers about me.

HAMDI No sir, of course not! It has started before I let those papers be written. Because I was notified to pursue this kind of procedure concerning you... I was shocked... Why, how could this be? I yelled, screamed... But I couldn’t let anybody listen... They were determined... They say “This has to happen”, and that’s all they say... What can you do my dear friend, We have an elephant that’s bigger than a lion...

TAMER Do you believe in my innocence?

HAMDI What I believe doesn’t change anything... However I was very happy from you... Whether by way of your work or attitude, I must admit you had succeeded to leave an excellent impression on us...

TAMER But you signed...

HAMDI I had no choice... It was an order from my superiors...

TAMER It’s an unfair order...

HAMDI I tried to object, but I couldn’t let anybody listen... I signed it even though I was heart broken... Yet I don’t deny that...

TAMER You can’t, because the signature is yours...

HAMDI Seems like you are blaming me...

TAMER I am not blaming only you...

HAMDI It’s not like I have made a decision regarding you, and proceed with that decision... There is an elephant that’s bigger than a lion...

TAMER If I didn’t misunderstand you, you have mentioned to defend me... Meaning that you don’t agree with the decision regarding me... Okay then, how can you sign a decision that you don’t agree with?

HAMDI I’m a mediator here sir... On top of it I have a child... And I’m letting this child get an education in University...

TAMER I have child too... And I’m letting my daughter get an education in University too... Plus you can retire anytime you’d like... You earned that right...

HAMDI I’m here so that the service can continue...

TAMER Do you believe signing wrong decision is a way of service?

HAMDI *(Gets irritated. But trying not to show it)* I overlook all of these things you have said, by keeping in mind your psychological state you are in right now. You are right, to reach a conclusion like this after so long on the job, is rather tragic... If some thing like this had happen to me, I would have shown the same strong reactions... However, I would be happy if you would speak more carefully...

Because I am not your enemy... You would have done the same thing... You wouldn't endanger your position for someone else's... You would've sign it...
 TAMER I guess you have forgotten... You had gone to vacation last year... I was acting as your representative... There was a young man working as a jobholder...He would go to cinemas, theaters... He was hard working, harmless guy... He'd read a lot... I had not signed the papers regarding him...
 HAMDI We came across a few days agog... He thanked me...
 TAMER Why? For signing the papers that ended his duty?
 HAMDI Maybe this will surprise you but, yes that's why... He went into his own business, and he is doing very well... He almost embraced my hands, for saving him from the government job...
 TAMER He has managed to open his own business, what about the other one?
 HAMDI Which one?
 TAMER You know, the one had fifteen years on the job...
 HAMDI The one that had lost hair?
 TAMER The one you are talking about, lost his hair after he got fired... I guess you mixed him up with the other...
 HAMDI Who is the other one you're talking about?
 TAMER The one with lame leg...
 HAMDI (*Can't recall*) Yeah... He also came and thanked me...
 TAMER You mix them up again sir... The lame lagged one was brought here, but he could not thank you... Because he had committed suicide... His funeral was taken after a ceremony conducted in front of our establishment... As a matter fact, you had given a speech in front of the casket, and lined up his services one by one...
 HAMDI Yes I remember...
 TAMER Later on it was found out he was innocent... His committing suicide was due to the dragging of correspondence...
 HAMDI He didn't have a strong personality... He didn't know how to be patient...
 TAMER He had waited five months...
 HAMDI If he had waited fifteen more days, he was going to return to his duty...
 TAMER His wife wasn't working either... They had four kids and the house that they lived in was rent... When I heard his wife and kids were forced to evacuate their home...
 HAMDI It was a rushed judgment...
 TAMER Let's say you were in the same situation...
 HAMDI God forbid!.. What are you trying to get at?
 TAMER Think about your wife and children are being forced to evacuate your home, because they can't pay the rent...
 HAMDI My wife and children can't be forced to evacuate from home, because we own our home...
 TAMER But we are tenants...
 HAMDI I hope you're not thinking to commit suicide...
 TAMER I've told you this to give an example of the man's situation...
 HAMDI First of all, your wife is working... In addition, you have a brother who makes a lot of money... I believe he was in construction business...
 TAMER Architect...
 HAMDI I'm sure he will support you

TAMER As long as he can hide it from his wife...

HAMDI Pardon me?

TAMER You know, what you call "support"...

(*By his hand makes a gesture as if giving money*)

HAMDI I get it...

SECRETARY (*Her voice*) Mr. Director, your meeting will start shortly...

HAMDI Okay dear...

TAMER I came to you once and for all today... I won't disturb you again...

HAMDI Not at all... My door is always open to you... Here...

TAMER My reason to come here is, to beg your support from you...

HAMDI (*Misunderstands him*) I have a child in University..

TAMER It's not material support... I want to know something from you... What is the motive behind this decision about me?

HAMDI I don't know...

TAMER How can you not know?

HAMDI I simply don't know...

TAMER You just mentioned earlier that you defended me...

HAMDI And I always defend you...

TAMER Without knowing the truth?

HAMDI Without knowing the truth...

TAMER Didn't they tell you the reason even you defended me?

HAMDI Yes, no!.. They never said it. They just said "take him of duty"... That's all..

TAMER Please do me this favor... Let me know what they accuse me of, so that I can try to rebut their lies... Please... Tell me the reason...

HAMDI I don't know...

TAMER I assure you, whatever you say will be between you and me...

HAMDI If it's gonna be between you and me, then how can it be beneficial for you?

TAMER How can I defend myself if I don't know what I am accused with...

HAMDI Do you want to show me as the source of your defense?

TAMER Believe it, I will do my defense as based on prediction...

HAMDI Even though if I know and explain it to you, your case is hopeless... You already have attracted the lightning...

TAMER Maybe it's hopeless to you... Please let me have that chance... Did you examine the file that I gave you? If you just examine that you will see it... I'm a man who did his job...

HAMDI I would've tried to find out if I knew it would help...

TAMER Even if it's not gonna help, I just want to be sure... In the course that I'm gonna set out for the future, I don't want to live in regret of how I should have investigated...

I have all these years on the job... I have a daughter... Please...

HAMDI I don't know... My meeting will start now...

TAMER Since you're not able explain this, are you included in this plot?

HAMDI What are you trying to say?

TAMER Are you also among the ones who prepared this plot?

HAMDI Watch your words... There is no plot set out for you... The truth just could not be ignored...

TAMER What kind of truth?

HAMDI I don't know...

TAMER You said “truth’, you do know...

HAMDI I said I don’t know...

TAMER You’re lying...

HAMDI You’re crossing the line!

TAMER You can’t fool me!

HAMDI I’ll have you thrown out of here!

TAMER I can leave on my own!

HAMDI I acted as a human being, but you didn’t understand!

TAMER If you acted as a human being, you would have said the reason!

HAMDI I am saying, I don’t know!.. Your situation is a puzzle!.. What else can I do, I took you in, talked with you...

TAMER Yeah, you had talked!

HAMDI *(Gets mad)* On one hand you’ll be part of the wheel, on the other hand you’ll go against this wheel!.. It just doesn’t work that way! You can’t oppose to everything, every order!..

TAMER I tried to correct them... I fought against the unlawfulness...

HAMDI Who are you to correct them?

TAMER I never Okayed the wrongfulness... I saved the Government from millions of dollar of damages..

HAMDI You were protecting your supporters... Come ooon...

TAMER I was protecting the rightful...

HAMDI You were a contradiction, and the contradiction is taken care of...

TAMER I didn’t do anything outside the written rules...

HAMDI Every written rule is not put there to be forced. But you weren’t even aware of that. Don’t you get it?

TAMER You didn’t speak the truth...

HAMDI I don’t know...

TAMER I will look for my right...

HAMDI That’s your problem... But I want to be frank with you, give a new direction to your life without losing any time, that would be much better for you...

TAMER I believe people who are in the higher office are unaware of this kind of procedures... I’m going to take the files that I have of this unlawfulness to the higher offices... If I have to! *(Exits. Phone rings)*

VOICE ON THE PHONE: Is he with you?

HAMDI He just left...

V.O.PHONE Why did he come?

HAMDI He tried to learn the reason...

V.O.PHONE What was he gonna do? How was it gonna benefit him?

HAMDI He said he needed for his defense..

V.O.PHONE Hasn’t he got it in his head yet? I feel sorry for his wife and daughter...

HAMDI His brother has been helping him out. Until his sister in-law finds out of course..

V.O.PHONE That’s good...

HAMDI He said to fight for his rights, and take the file that he has to the higher offices..

TAMER He couldn’t take care of a file, that clumsy man... Now listen up good...

Omer's Office

SECRETARY (*Her voice*) Your friend is here..

TAMER Mister...

OMER (*Gets up at once. Opens he door, greets him*)Woaaa, Come on in, come on in!.. Tamer!.. My dear!.. (*They hug and kiss*) Let me take a look at you... Wow!... Let me hug you again... (*Hugs again*) Come on sit down... Man, let me hear you for once... Did you swallow your tongue or what, speak up...

TAMER You didn't give me a chance...

OMER If I don't call you, you would've never call... You, good-for-nothing man... I was going through some of the old pictures couple of days ago... What do I see, you are in almost all of the pictures. You know our Tahsin, I've got your number from him anyway.. Man o man, let me look at you from here little bit... Gosh! What do we drink? Coffee, tea, Cola? If you like I whisky too... I only offer it to my special guests, ok!.. (*While pouring into his own class*) You would drink too, right?

TAMER Okay, let's drink...

OMER You know, time doesn't pass by otherwise brother. Life has no pleasure unless you zip a class or two... Relax for God's sake... We are old buddies...

TAMER I am comfortable...

OMER You know how much I like you...

TAMER Thanks...

OMER Stop that thanking shit brother... Why do you put boundaries to your words?

TAMER I'm not, it's just a habit..

OMER I guess you are not too thrilled to see me...

TAMER No way... How can I forget the high school years?

OMER Then why are you quiet?

TAMER Look!.. I felt like someone was fallowing me...

OMER Who?

TAMER I don't know...

OMER When was this?

TAMER A little earlier... I had left home to come to you... As if some one was waiting me... Later on I saw the same man on the bus... He got off at the same bus stop...

OMER Had you seen him before?

TAMER His face wasn't unfamiliar...

OMER Do you have an enemy?

TAMER No I don't...

OMER Why would he fallow you then? Maybe it just seemed like that to you.

TAMER Could be.

OMER Stretch your legs man.

TAMER From what I see, your business...

OMER Is all right... I made system that carries on itself... When I said by itself, I have a good trained staff to perform that... So it's moving clockwork... It goes on whether I'm here or not... I am not here most of the time anyways... I travel a lot... Out of country mostly... Who would have thought this would happen?

TAMER Of course... Did you get divorce?
 OMER Why do I need to get divorced? We also have two kids..
 TAMER I don't see a ring on your finger...
 OMER Oh well, that's the type of marriage we have... I stop by home once in a while.
 TAMER You haven't change a bit...
 OMER Life doesn't pass by otherwise... It's no spring with just one flower... But don't think I am irresponsible...
 TAMER Of course not...
 OMER For Christ's sake stop that "of course not" crap... Didn't we steal enough cherries from the gardens? I'm sending the kids to the best schools... My daughter is studying abroad... She is getting higher education...
 TAMER Wow she has grown that much...
 OMER I was the first one to wear the captivity ring, you know it...
 TAMER I've heard you got married while you were still a student...
 OMER Yes sir... In ones life chance of a lifetime comes only once... I was still a student... I was hanging out in the corners of dormitories... But you know I was handsome...
 TAMER You still are...
 OMER Still ha... No way Jose... What should I do with this belly?
 Our getting acquainted with my wife was just like in the movies... I was in the cafeteria... My friends introduced me a girl... Oh she wasn't too bad... I got the news fast; the girl's dad was wealthy... Think of my situation on the other hand...I was beat trying to survive on few bucks that my dad was sending... I said "for goodness sake, grab on tight"...Of course we started our hanky panky, but to no avail, the old fart was insisting...
 TAMER Who is the old fart?
 OMER The girl's dad... When I heard the news; "I've got no girl to give to a penniless boy"... Good heavens, is that you said that? I went in from the girl's mouth and out from her nose. Made her attach me really good... More than attach, I ballooned her belly... Then underhandedly I made it known to the man... He better not give her to me... As a matter fact the old fart gave in... He was about to collapse on my feet... He arranged a wedding ceremony, boy like a poem... The waiters carried whisky by the cases... It was after two years of our marriage... The four wheels carried off our old fart...
 TAMER I didn't get it...
 OMER He died, as you understand... Than boom, I was in charge of the already established business...
 TAMER You have self-confidence... You have no worries. You don't have worries for your children's future...
 OMER You know, I never forgot you? I think of the high school years some times... You were hard worker... To study was simply a goal for you...
 TAMER I didn't have any other choice...
 OMER I struggled to get enough grades to slip by. You gave me quiet a bit copies in written tests... And one time you wrote my name on your written test paper and slid that front of me... Why were you helping me?
 TAMER Maybe, 'cause you were doing the things that I couldn't do...
 OMER We were both kids from middle-income families... Perhaps poor... But you were different... Do you recall the day we were stuck on the garden fence?

You're inside... I'm in the garden... The girl's brother is coming... I'm giving the signal upwards...

While we were passing through the fences in hurry, our shirts, pans all get stuck in the wire... But still we manage to slip and escape... Gush good old days...

TAMER Those days are way in the past... Whereas life continues with all bitterness...
OMER *(Gets serious)* I know a lot of people... Thousands that I can't even recall their names... Sometimes a feeling of loneliness just dooms my soul... As if I am all by myself among those thousands of people... Yet everything is based on self interest... I have no real friend. I don't have a buddy like you. You should come here often... Let's get together... Let's go out. Let's be tomcats, chase women...

TAMER I was forced to quit my job...

OMER I didn't get it...

TAMER I am jobless...

OMER *(Laughs)* Since when?

TAMER It'll be almost a month...

OMER Is that why you had a long face?

TAMER Only three more years before my retirement...

OMER Are you crazy man? Is it worth to be sad?

TAMER We rent... I have a daughter in higher education... We are trying to make it with my wife's salary... And than my brother is helping a little...

OMER Gee whiz, I been trying to tell you something for the last hour... Since you have a situation like this, why haven't you called me right away?

TAMER I appealed for the mistakes to be corrected... I was more or less waiting for their reply...

OMER Did it come?

TAMER Not yet. But...

OMER Man cut it out... How much do they pay you?

TAMER Only three more years before my retirement...

OMER For God's sake damn it, forget about the retirement, Are you crazy?

Whatever you were making there, I'll double it... If you want I'll triple it crying out loud... I mean, if it were possible for you to go back, would you go?

TAMER For me this is a matter of self-respect...

OMER Forget it. If you have money, you always have self-respect my friend... What do you call self-respect?

TAMER What kind of job can you give me anyway?

OMER Isn't there work for a man like you here? Can't you come here and raise a hell or two when I'm not around?

SECRETARY *(Her voice)* Some one wants to talk to you... On the phone...

OMER Who?

SECRETARY *(Her voice)* He didn't say his name...

OMER Find out his name..

SECRETARY *(Her voice)* He says it is private... He says he can only discuss it with you...

OMER Get the hell rid of him...

SECRETARY *(Her voice)* He is very insistent... He says there is something extremely important concerning you...

OMER What does he want to discuss? Let me have it. Hello. Yeah. That's me. Who are you? Who?.. Yes... Who the hell are you? Yes I'm listening... Like what? Can't be understood... I'm listening... I got it... Nope... Why? I'm trying to understand it... Yes. Yes.. He is a very good person... I know... Okay... Yes... Okay... I didn't get that... Yes... Okay... Bye bye... Okay... All right.
(Hangs up)

TAMER What happened?

OMER Nothing.

TAMER You look distressed.

OMER Of course, God damn it...

TAMER He didn't give his name I guess...

OMER A private matter... for God's sake...

TAMER What happened?

OMER My mind is on that call... Whatever...

TAMER If there's anything I can do...

OMER No no!
(Silence)

TAMER You look stressed out... I better go...

OMER Okay... I'm happy that you came... We talked about the old days...

TAMER *(Extends his hand)* When should I call you?

OMER Me.. Now, I'm going out of Istanbul... I'll be back probably in fifteen to twenty days...

TAMER I'll call you...

OMER I'll call you when I get back... I have your home number anyway...
(They kiss. Tamer exits. Omer sits by his desk and thinks)

TAMER *(His voice)* I felt like someone was following me...

VOICE ON THE PHONE Don't try to help him... You haven't seen him in years... Do you know what kind of person he turned out to be?

TAMER *(His voice)* I felt like someone was following me...

VOICE ON THE PHONE That undesirable can harm you too... You didn't make it all the way here easily... The balance can easily be damaged... To be even seeing together can be wrong... I will call you again...
(While Omer is thinking)

Living Room Of The Apartment

HAMDI Good evening...

NURGUL Good evening...

HAMDI Is Mr. Tamer home?

NURGUL He hasn't come yet...

HAMDI When does he get in?

NURGUL I guess he should come any time now...

HAMDI I'm sorry, I didn't introduce myself... I am Mr. Tamer's supervisor...

NURGUL Mr. Hamdi?

HAMDI Yes... I have some things to discuss with Mr. Tamer...

NURGUL Well come on in sir... Come in... He'll be here any moment...

HAMDI I don't want to disturb you...

NURGUL Not at all... I beg your pardon, because our home is in little mess...
(On the other hand she is gathering up things)

YESIM Hello

HAMDI Hi, are you his daughter?

YESIM Yes sir...

NURGUL I am sorry sir... It's just our house...

HAMDI Oh, don't worry... Our home is the same... What can you do, we are working people...

NURGUL *(Sits down)* So, how are you?

HAMDI I'm fine thank you... And how are you?

NURGUL Just running from one place to the other... Work in the day, home at night...

HAMDI Yeah, that's the way it is... Is he gonna be late?

NURGUL No, he won't be late? We was going to stop by his friend... You know... Were you going to meet with him?

HAMDI Yes, yes... What was your daughter's name?

NURGUL Yesim...

HAMDI Where are you studying at?

YESIM Pharmaceutical sir... If God's willing, this is the last year...

HAMDI Oh how nice... My daughter is studying literature... But she will finish it next year...

NURGUL Hopefully...

HAMDI Yes hopefully madame, I hope so..

NURGUL Would you take a cup coffee?

HAMDI Oh, don't get in trouble...

NURGUL Please...

HAMDI Sugarless then... *(Yesim enters the kitchen)* You are working right?

NURGUL Yes sir...

HAMDI Where at?

NURGUL In a bank...

HAMDI You must be busy... Oh those banks, horrible...

NURGUL Don't ask sir, don't ask... Today interest rates are like this, tomorrow it'll go up, next day it will deduct again... Surely this situation effects our work too... Okay here we go, do the calculation all over again...

HAMDI You are right...

NURGUL What are we making anyway!

HAMDI You got it tough... Then the things happened to Mr. Tamer... Made us all very sad... To an honest man like him... *(Yesim brings the coffee)* Thank you...

YESIM Would you like water also?

HAMDI Yeah that would be good... I'm troubling you dear but...

YESIM Not at all, please... *(Exits)*

HAMDI You have very ladylike girl... Hmm, pharmacist lady... It'll suit her well...

NURGUL Thank you sir...
(Yesim gives the water)

HAMDI *(Takes it)* Are you engage?

YESIM Yes sir...

HAMDI Is your fiancée a student also?

YESIM He is self-employed sir... Actually with his father...

HAMDI Good, that's good...

(Doorbell rings. Nurgul opens. It's Tamer)

NURGUL (Quietly) Mr. Hamdi is inside...

TAMER Which Mr. Hamdi? The Director?

NURGUL Yes...

TAMER Why did he come?

NURGUL He said to talk with you... You better behave...

TAMER Hello sir, welcome...

HAMDI Thank youuu, How are you Tamer.

TAMER Okay, as you see...

HAMDI I've come to talk to you Tamer...

TAMER Go ahead...

NURGUL We'll leave you alone...

HAMDI If you like, you can stay...

NURGUL You talk freely...

HAMDI I'm not gonna take long... You know how much I care for you... Even though I was forced to speak little harsh with you... But what do you do, that's work... I am sorry... Forgive me...

TAMER Don't mention it...

HAMDI Now Tamer, let's get to the problem... A day before you were taken off duty, you gave a file to document regarding the unlawfulness that was done... In fact it was brought from the document and you had notified me of the situation, to do the necessary procedures... I must admit that I couldn't examine the file right away... In any case, everything had developed so fast that, next day you were taken of your duty...

TAMER Yes...

HAMDI However I recently had a chance to examine the file and I saw that this occurrence is huge... This unlawfulness has wrapped up the chimney... In other words, you are right... The more I got into it, there are lots more than you know... We are faced with a multi dimension of unlawfulness and bribe... Why do we live in this world Tamer? We as State employees, do we have any inheritance to leave to our children besides our dignity?

TAMER We don't sir...

HAMDI What had happened to you today can happen to me tomorrow... Isn't that so?

TAMER Right sir?

HAMDI If we don't take care of our own, who will take care of us? I could not sleep for nights... I thought, and I got distress... And I decided to do my duty...

TAMER God bless you sir...

HAMDI We are going to solve this act Tamer... This thing has got to be solved... I talked over with some important people about you... I don't want to give names... Extremely important people... I'm waiting for a news from them... I'm waiting for their answer tonight... I'm going to have this act straighten out and you will return to your job... This government is able to stay on it's feet, because of honest people like you... If there were no people like you, the beardless orphan's share would end up in a few capital bosses' packets... Thank you... This country is grateful to you... Justice prevails... And it will prevail...

TAMER What if even with all our efforts I can't...

HAMDİ *(Shuts him up)* You will return... Don't even think about the opposite... But if something goes wrong, and if it's beyond my strength, Than I assure you I will ask for my retirement and... I will make everything public... I'm behind you...

TAMER *(Gets emotional)* Thank you sir...

HAMDİ It's our job... You do have the copies right?

TAMER Yes I do sir... Here... *(Takes out an envelope from the drawer)*

HAMDİ No, no. no!.. Put them where they were... Good thing we have them... If we can't succeed, then we reveal it to all the media, if needed just as we had flattered the Prime Minister, then we can submit to him... But I just hope we can solve this issue before it gets that big...

TAMER Thank you sir...

HAMDİ *(Gets up)* With your permission I will go right away Tamer... I'll go see the people that I want to hear from... Let's finish this act...

TAMER Thank you sir... Nurguuul...
(Nurgul and Yesim enter)

NURGUL *(Acts as if she didn't hear anything)* You should've stayed sir... You should've stayed for dinner...

HAMDİ No... But I hope one day we'll disturb you with my wife an my daughter... We should not waste any time... Good bye... *(Kisses Tamer)* Tamer, Tamer!.. Good night...

TAMER Bye bye sir... bye bye...

TAMER *(Behind him)* We would appreciate it if you give our love and regards to your wife sir...

HAMDİ I will sir... I will... wait for my call...
(They close the door. Delight)

TAMER Did you hear it?

NURGUL How could I not hear it? I was behind the door...

YESİM We heard it dad...

TAMER You see... We shouldn't look at the matters negatively... Justice prevails even if it takes little long... What goes around comes around...

NURGUL For a while I had lost my hope...

TAMER I knew it was gonna work out this way... Disappointment and tears await those who mess with me...

YESİM Don't believe in fortunetellers mooom.

NURGUL How can I not believe? See it worked out...

TAMER Of course it was gonna work out this way... See how he knew I was right... Plus conscience... There is a matter of conscience. He said "I will defend it to the end"... He said "I am behind you"... This man is actually a good person... He is determined, confident...
(phone rings)

TAMER *(While looking)* Maybe it's from him... Here you go ma'am... *(Gets mad. While Yesim is lifting the headset)* God damn it, what a lout...

YESİM He'll hear you... We're not getting along these days anyway...

TAMER At least say good night... lout!

YESİM Hellooo! Yes... I'm listening...

NURGUL Don't let him hear you...

TAMER So what if he hears me!.. "Is Yesim there?" Hick!

(Goes to kitchen)

YESIM Okay... Alright, alright... Tomorrow... Okay bye bye... *(Hangs up)* What is he murmuring again?

NURGUL Honey he can at least say "good night"...

YESIM But I can't force him... He is aware that dad doesn't like him...

NURGUL Then it's time he should learn to say "how are you?"... That is just too much...

YESIM Okay, okay...
(Goes to her room)

TAMER *(Confidently)* This marriage will be a huge mistake... This guy won't even let us see our daughter when they get married tomorrow... He'll make a big incident from going in and out of their house!

NURGUL Nothing will happen... He knows your attitude... He just cuts it short in to avoid talking...

TAMER If he cuts it short today, than tomorrow we'll really get into each other... This girl should let it go... Instead of trying to get divorced tomorrow with a pack of children, she should give up from the start...

NURGUL Don't say that Tamer... Are we going to be able to open up a pharmacy when the school is over tomorrow? Metin is an assurance... He'll open up his wife's pharmacy... You know it's a lot of money...

TAMER I will open her up a pharmacy...

NURGUL With what?

TAMER I will retire in three years... We don't have any other child anyway... My pension will be enough for us... Even if we rent a hotel room, our monthly income would be enough...

NURGUL What should this girl do for three years?.. Come on, let it go!
(Phone rings)

TAMER *(Runs)* Yes sir... Oh is that you? There have been good developments Soner... My work will be straighten out probably... I swear... I will call you... I am waiting for a call... They had realized I was right... Okay... Alright... We are waiting tomorrow night... all right bye bye... *(Hangs up)* It's Soner... He was delighted...

NURGUL My God, oh my God you are almighty...

TAMER Look, you will see... Maybe...

NURGUL When they call you in don't act oppressed... Be confident... Don't you act worn out like we have financial problems... Pretend as we don't need this job...

TAMER In other words, you want me to keep my tail up... That would be he only way..

NURGUL You know, don't jump into it... This is something you deserve...
(Phone rings. Yesim enters the room also)

TAMER *(Answers)* Hellooo... Yes Mr. Hamdi... Go ahead sir... How is that? What am I gonna do? Tomorrow at nine... Okay sir... Thank you sir... *(Hangs up the phone)* It's done!.. This thing is done!..
(They embrace)

ACT 2

SECRETARY (*Her voice*) Mr. Tamer has arrived sir.

HAMDI (*With over exaggerated warmth*) Ohooo! Welcome Tamer, come on in...
(*Gives him a hug and kiss*)

TAMER Thank you sir.

HAMDI So how are you?

TAMER Good, thank you sir...

HAMDI (*Like giving a speech*) You are a person who is a patriot, bright, honest, and a person who loves his government and Nation, a person who knows how to keep government's interests above even family affairs... And this should not be forgotten that, this Nation is able to stay on its feet, because of vast efforts and unshakable strong will of persons like you! An end was given to your job by an enormous mistake... However the happy ending has taken place as usual, and you have returned to your duty... I am so happy Tamer, what would you drink?

TAMER I'll take a cup of coffee sir...

HAMDI Right away Tamer, as you wish...

TAMER Don't say that sir...

HAMDI (*Presses the device in front of him*) Honey... Two cups of coffee for us...
How'd you like yours?

TAMER With some sugar...

HAMDI One with sugar... Don't you forget the water... Now... Let's get back to our subject... I don't want to take your precious time any more than I should...

TAMER Not at all sir...

HAMDI Finally this happy picture has come true, and we have you among us again...
Actually we should have a photographer... But that's okay... We will take care of this deficiency another day... Dear! Is Mr. Tamer's room being cleaned?

SECRETARY (*Her voice*) It has been cleaned sir... And the desk is being changed, as you required...

HAMDI Thank you... Tamer as you know your desk was pretty small... The desk of a hard working employee such as your self should've been rather big as its owner...

TAMER My old desk too...

HAMDI Tamer, Tamer!.. Why do you wearied, pucker? You are the only one that can sit in my place here... And now I am stating the decision that I made last night... Pay attention Tamer... I am retiring...

TAMER You are needed for this government and Nation sir... The work will not continue... Everything will stop...

HAMDI Nooo!.. The era is you youngster's... We benefited enough to this Nation... A person should know when to pull back... This is a relay race... Now because I want to turn over the banner to a sure hand, namely to you...

TAMER Please sir...

HAMDI *(Shuts him up)* I will recommend you... I want to recommend you... This way I won't look back...I was distressed when I was at your house... A heart-breaking situation... The furniture was old... Carpets were worn out... Paint was gone... But among all of this poverty a bright ladylike spouse... A young girl... What was her name?

TAMER Yesim...

HAMDI Yesim, yeah Yesim... Studies pharmaceutical... A bright, bright young brain... Why is this poverty, why is this unemployment? From morality, it is the natural result of being upright... If you were thief, and took bribe, would it be like this?

Plus you were in very good position for this kind of things... Quietly if you liked... What was it to you? But no!. You were upright and poor... They go hand in hand... You have a long life ahead of you Tamer... A life that's yours... I am proud of you Tamer...

TAMER I appreciate it sir...

(At this time, A Man is looking for the envelope in the living room of the apartment)

HAMDI Now, as for the news that I am waiting, I am going to tie down the matter and we are gonna reach the happy ending Tamer...

(Somebody had found the envelope... Takes what is inside, and places something else in it and puts it back... Dials the phone. Phone rings)

A MAN Mr. Hamdi

HAMDI Yes it's me...

A MAN Okay I found it...

HAMDI There is no mistake again?

A MAN I checked...

HAMDI Bring it right away... *(Hangs up. While somebody is exiting)* Now Tamer... You are going to start your job... Right now I am going to make you sit by your desk with my own hands... *(Tamer gets up)* One minute!.. There is only a problem... Explain all of these...

TAMER Explain what sir?

HAMDI The outside sources who helped you to document these unlawfulness...

TAMER Nobody from outside helped me...

HAMDI Look Tamer... Everything depends on this statement... You can take over your desk right now...

TAMER Everything was so obvious sir... All the purchases, sales... Receipts... False documents... Everything was obvious...

HAMDI Everything was not that obvious!. Somebody helped you... Should I remind you of the fact that, those "somebody" happen to be an organization? You are an upright person... But you are being used?

TAMER Who are using me?

HAMDI That's what you should explain!

Living Room Of The Apartment

(Night, Nurgul and Yesim... Doorbell rings. They answer)
NURGUL What happened? Why are you late?
TAMER It didn't work out...
NURGUL How?
TAMER Didn't work out...
NURGUL What do you mean it didn't work out?
TAMER He asked me to explain...
NURGUL Explain what?
TAMER God, I will go insane...
NURGUL Well why didn't you explain whatever they wanted...
TAMER I couldn't do that...
NURGUL Than what did they want? Say it... We've been miserable for weeks, don't you see our situation? Now his wife heard it, so your brother can't help you anymore... You should have explained whatever they wanted... Why don't you speak up?
YESIM Mom don't yell...
TAMER They think someone had helped me in preparation of this file... Where as it was me who prepared it... No one has anything to do with it... Who should I disclose?
NURGUL You should have disclosed whomever they wanted...
YESIM Mom you are making nonsense...
NURGUL *(Starts to cry)* What was it to you? Look at our situation? You did things that doesn't concern you... You should have explained whatever they wanted...
TAMER I say there is none, don't you understand? I have nothing to explain!
Oh no, nooo, there is, there is... I have a one thing to explain! *(Grabs the phone. Dials and waits)* I want the number of Attorney General... I'm waiting... Yes... *(Writes down)* Yes... Thank you...
NURGUL What are you doing?
TAMER Stay out of this...
NURGUL What are you gonna do?
YESIM Dad what are you doing?
TAMER You want me to explain it, so I will explain then...
NURGUL You're gonna open up bigger trouble... Don't do it! Let it go! Let it! Stop! Let it go!..
TAMER *(Pushes his wife. Dials the number. Waits)* Hellooo! I want to speak with Mr. Attorney General... Isn't there anyone fills in for him? I will state an extremely important matter... We have an utmost important situation here... Please connect him... *(Waits)* Yes sir... *(Says the phone no)* Tamer Atik... Very important... I am waiting sir... *(Hangs up the phone. Waits. Phone rings after a while)* Hello!.. Yes that's me sir... I have extremely important files sir. We are faced with matter of great unlawfulness... It's hard for me to explain it on the phone... I don't know your address, but I can find it... I don't want to get on the street sir... There is a big chance that I am being followed... Wouldn't it be better, if I give you my address, you could arrange to send someone? It very important sir... Okay sir... *(He let them write the address)* I am waiting sir...

(Hangs up the phone. Tamer takes the envelope from the drawer)

NURGUL What are we gonna do now?..

YESIM Let it go mom... Maybe he is doing the right thing...

TAMER You bet I am doing the right thing... I will explain everything...
(Doorbell rings. Yesim opens the door. Saide in front, Soner behind her, enter the room. There is a package in Saide's hand. She enters to living room directly)

SAIDE Good evening!.. Yesim take the cake... We came to have a cup of tea with you...

SONER Good evening...

TOGETHER (Unclearly) Good evening...

SAIDE I swear we are coming all the way from Kartal... Soner was so curious... He insisted saying "we should go"... It's not that wasn't curious either... No matter what we are countered a family... What happened? Is there something with you? What's up?

SONER What happened Tamer?

NURGUL (Points to Tamer with her head)

SONER Say it brother...

SAIDE Why don't you say it?

NURGUL It didn't work out...

SAIDE But didn't you say it was done?

SONER My brother said so...

SAIDE What kind of act is this?

TAMER They called me so I went... They said "give us the names of those who gave you the documents, then you can get on your desk"...

SAIDE What documents?.. Whose names?

TAMER They wanted the names of those who gave the documents in the file from me...

SAIDE Then you should've given them (Why didn't you give them?)...

TAMER No one has given me document or anything... Plus what they call documents, were so obvious... I just arrange them...

SAIDE Are they crazy? Are they kidding or what? Why did they call you in then?

NURGUL Now they'll be coming from the Attorney General ...

SAIDE What Attorney General?.. Who? Why?

NURGUL Tamer called them to give the files that he has...

SONER When?

NURGUL Just a while ago... The situation is getting bigger!..

SAIDE Let it get big!.. The worst thing is incisiveness!.. You did good Tamer... (She gets Soner to approve also)

SONER You did the right thing brother...

SAIDE Of course you've done the right thing... Well done... I would do that earlier if I were you... Give and slip out... Let them worry about it, what is it to you? They deprived you from your job, and you were still detaining... Good for you, I loved this... What do you have to lose? At least everything will come up to surface... If I were you, I'd give one to Martial law too. Matter fact I'd mail one to the council... They are screaming and saying, "we'll get on top of lawlessness where ever there is"... Well good, that's the way... What was that

you were staying scared Tamer... Well done, now you got my respect!.. Look how they are gonna watch their behind now...

(Others get hopeful... Even Tamer's moral is boosted)

TAMER

Good thing you came...

SONER

(Butters up his wife) I swear you said it best Saide...

SAIDE

Let me have that envelope... Even though Soner told me, you know he always chews up the words... You can't really say he told everything anyways...
(Takes the envelope. Foot steps from the stairs. Doorbell rings. Nurgul opens it. A man enters, and he has a walkie-talkie. Photographers and if needed others)

MAN FROM ATTORNEY GENERAL Mr. Tamer?

TAMER

That's me...

M. F. A.G

What is it?

TAMER

(Extends the envelope that Saide gives) Her you go...

M. F. A.G

What is this?

TAMER

The documents of unlawfulness...

M. F. A.G

(While opening the envelope) What unlawfulness?

TAMER

A great unlawfulness took place at where I work.

And when I documented the unlawfulness, they took me of my duty... It's a huge unlawfulness... Extremely important...

M. F. A.G

(Has already opened and looked. Gets surprised/confused. Pictures of naked women and a couple pieces of colored newspaper fall on the floor) Are these?

TAMER

Your job is to press onto these...

M. F. A.G

Press onto these? *(Thinks he's crazy)* Yes our job is to press onto these... Sure if my wife let's me..

(While flash explodes on Tamer)

Omer's Office

SECRETARY *(Her voice)* Your friend had arrived...

OMER

Who?

SECRETARY *(Her voice)* Mr. Tamer...

OMER

What did I warn you?

SECRETARY *(Her voice)* It's not my fault. He knows that you are in...

OMER

(Feels depressed) Send him in! *(Tamer enters, worn out)* Ohoo, was that you?
(Shows him where to sit by half getting up) Which wind threw you here?

TAMER

Did you just come in?

OMER

From where?

TAMER

From your trip!

OMER

What trip? Oh! Yes!.. I arrived last night...

TAMER

I called you twice this week... Even though I left messages, I stopped by hoping that maybe you came...

OMER

I didn't see the notes yet... You know I was going to call you...

TAMER

If you're busy we can discuss it tomorrow...

OMER

You're already here, let's discuss it...

TAMER

You know, I had given a petition regarding my situation. The reply came. This morning...

OMER Is it positive?

TAMER Negative...

OMER I am sorry... I am really sorry...

TAMER It's impossible for me to return now... That door is closed.

OMER Too bad... All that effort...

TAMER There is something strange with you...

OMER Really? It's probably jet lag... My head, brain is like boiling pot... We over drank last night again... Plus the business is bad... The economic situation, you know... The price keep raising... Would you smoke? Come on light up one...

TAMER You are talking like your business has gone bad.

OMER There is no consistency in anything... Nobody can guarantee that I won't be worst next month. I'm saying in general. In general the businesses are bad...
(Silence)

TAMER What is the job you are considering for me?

OMER For you? I can't think of anything right now... But it's possible in the future...

TAMER What kind of behavior is this? Careless, insensitive. Same thing happened when I came last time... I'm left in the air...

OMER I'm not aware of it. I'm just tired

TAMER Where's that old friendship? Oho nooo!. You are the one calling me from my house to come here!.. You are the one greeting me at your door... Today on the other hand, you are acting in a strange way that I don't know what to make of... You owe me an explanation for this...

OMER I am sorry, it's not about you...

TAMER Oho no, don't you be sorry, just explain! Wasn't that you who drag me here, saying, "work with me"? I'm saying it to relieve you; I don't want a job from you, my old friend... But you have to explain me the reason for this different and odd behavior!

OMER It is hard to explain everything.

TAMER I want you to explain everything from you.

OMER There is nothing to explain.

TAMER *(Gets up)* You weren't out of Istanbul. You are lying!.. When your secretary heard my voice, first she had asked me "who is calling ?"... When I gave her my name, then she told me you were out of town... You broke my heart... I know when you lie or when you speak the truth from way back... You haven't changed!.. You haven't changed!... Maybe we should have never run into each other!
(Walks towards the door)

OMER *(Grabs his arm)* Sit down a little... *(Hugs and kisses him, His lips are shaking)* Please? I don't want you to remember this way... Believe me I love you very much... Just, just sit down a little... *(After Tamer sits down)* I had gone to a motel the other day... I got up early in the morning. There were cats by the pier. I'll say twenty, you say thirty maybe forty fifty cats... They were like statue... They had sat their eyes on the sea, waiting... What were they waiting? Then a boat appeared from far away... The fishermen tied the boat to pier... One of the fishermen came close to the cats with a bucket in his hand. He emptied the bucket. And the cats jumped on the emptied fish... I lived poverty just like those cats...

TAMER We were not different...

OMER But I ripped out... I have plenty money! I have cars, houses and summer homes. I have employees by the hundreds... I was sincere when I called you... Because I had no friends. I was even happy when they told me you were fired ... But... I don't want to lose what I have...

TAMER I didn't understand...

OMER Promise me! Promise me not to say a word to anyone, what I'm about to tell you. I will explain it!.. I will explain what had happened...

TAMER I promise... I won't say a word to anyone...

OMER While last time you were here, I had a call. Do you recall?

TAMER Yes.

OMER It was concerning you.

TAMER Concerning me?

OMER Yes, you... They directed a few question towards me... About you... Why did they take you of your job?

TAMER I don't know.

OMER Don't you really know? Can't you even guess?

TAMER I can't. Did he tell you?

OMER He did!.. He said you were dangerous...

TAMER Who was he?

OMER I don't know...

TAMER Some people are trying to harm me... They don't even say who they are... But you take it seriously.

OMER If it wasn't serious, you wouldn't get fired.

TAMER But there is a big misunderstanding here.

OMER Do you believe that?

TAMER I believe it... Because there is no reason for me to be dangerous... Maybe I had talked back and forth just like anybody else... But... What else did he say?

OMER Not needing to help you... Otherwise of the balance to be easily damaged... Not needing to throw myself into fire...

TAMER Someone you don't know you calls you, and you upon that threat, what you called your closest friend...

OMER That was not threat. Later on he called couple more times... He said a lot of things about me. As if he read my past... Like a fortune teller he read my past!.. The things I have forgotten...

TAMER Maybe he told you that even meeting with me would be dangerous...

OMER Yes.

TAMER And he put you into suspicion... I solved it now, I got it. You thought... Maybe it could have been a bluff...

But you couldn't take that risk... And you avoided me... You didn't go out of town... You rebuked the secretary a while ago when I got in. You weren't sure how to get rid of me. So you choused to act weird... You could of achieve my not coming back again if you acted careless and insensitive... And as a matter of fact everything progressed as you wanted... I was broken hearted and about to leave... Why did you grab me and made me sit again?

OMER I don't know...

TAMER I had given you copies in the past... Even if it was to put myself in danger... You owed me... *(He smiles)* Good bye!

(Tamer leaves. Omer pulls out the whisky bottle and a glass. While pouring)

Living Room Of The Apartment

(Same day. Doorbell rings. Nurgul opens. It's Soner. A newspaper in his hand)

SONER Is he in?
NURGUL He's not.
SONER Have you seen it?
NURGUL Yes I have. They left it on my desk. I asked for permission and I came home.
SONER We are disgraced!..
NURGUL How did you get the news?
SONER Saide notified me by phone. I went and got the paper... There was no end to phone calls in the bureau. It was so hard to explain it to everybody. I slammed the door and left... I've been on the streets since the morning.
NURGUL What are we gonna do? What will we do? Why God, did we sin towards you, so that you are letting us suffer these? It's all his fault! There was unlawfulness, so what was it to you, are you gonna correct it? Did you have right to disgrace us like this?
SONER What if we send a denial to the newspaper?
NURGUL *(Takes the newspaper, reads)* He said there was unlawfulness, naked women pictures came out... The insane assistant director showed the press, Ahu Tugba's naked pictures as the unlawfulness. Upon hearing that he was taken of his duty, T.A who served for many years as the assistant director of the establishment, went insane and distributed the naked women pictures to the press as saying "there is unlawfulness!". To the question of the reporter's: "Do you have any other unlawfulness?", the assistant director who replied: I have plenty other unlawfulness". For the pictures that will be presented as unlawfulness, it is now curiously being waited as to whom these will belong to... They even have pictures! How are we going to deny it? Is it lie so we can deny it?
SONER I wonder where did he go?
NURGUL I have no idea.
SONER What if he saw the paper? He is not stable anyway... Worst things can happen... Isn't Yesim here?
NURGUL She hasn't come home either... *(Doorbell rings. Soner hides the newspaper. Nurgul opens. Yesim enters)*
NURGUL What happened dear?
YESIM Nothing mom... Hi uncle Soner...
SONER Hi Yesim... Why don't you come...
YESIM I better go to my room uncle... I'm upset... Don't you know? Why are you act like you don't know? Metin brought it. He yelled "What the hell is going on that we don't know", in front of all my friends!. Then he just left... All because of my father!
NURGUL How?
YESIM Mom! I don't want to talk about this anymore. Please uncle don't push me anymore. Don't!

(Goes to her room. Nurgul goes in after her. Comes back shortly)

NURGUL She is crying. My God!..
SONER Wait up Nurgul! There's a psychiatrist we know. My brother's nerves are really messed up. Let's take him there. Let him get his treatment. I am sure this is just temporary... but we have to put some effort too...

NURGUL What is gonna happen to this girl?
SONER Let it go Nurgul.

NURGUL Who is gonna open up the pharmacy? Her carrier is over too!
SONER Nurgul please...

NURGUL I have no more strength left... I hope I won't go insane too...
SONER We have to act sympathetically...
NURGUL *(Reaches to the paper on the table)* We couldn't even pay the rent... What would we do if we get another notice tomorrow or next day? Where would we stay?

SONER Whatever I had saved up, I gave them to you Nurgul... But there's no more. I have a household too... I don't dwell in wealth... I am just trying to hold on to my business... The market is slow. Nobody has money. The construction has stopped... We are just making it with what I make... Wouldn't I give it to you if I had it?

NURGUL Thank you Soner. What can I say to you? You did whatever you could, more than you possibly could.
(Doorbell rings. Nurgul opens. It's Tamer. Soner tries to hide the newspaper. Tamer sits on the armchair. He is uninterested)

SONER How are you brother?
TAMER Huh?
SONER How are you?
TAMER *(Smiles)* I'm fine.
NURGUL Eat something a little. Come on eat something.
TAMER I don't feel like it.
SONER He hasn't seen the papers... Don't show it to him.
TAMER *(Lights up a cigarette)* Why don't you go home... You're gonna make Saide mad again...
SONER Don't worry.
TAMER You are married to her.
NURGUL Come on please eat something.
TAMER Even Omer turned me down.
NURGUL You are tired. And top of it you're smoking... You're not eating anything... Lie down a little, relax...
TAMER We swallowed the notice, if we get out of this house.
NURGUL *(Shows the bracelets on her arm)* Why do we have these? Weren't they for rainy days? I will exchange them tomorrow, don't worry... Now please lie down a little bit.
(Tamer is thinking. As if he is talking to himself. Doorbell rings. Nurgul opens. It's Saide)
SAIDE *(Enters in directly. To her husband)* Are you here?
SONER I'm here.
SAIDE I am calling the office since this morning. Why aren't you in your place?
SONER You know.

SAIDE Know what? I don't know anything. It's enough! Don't you have a household? You leave your work and running around... Get a hold of yourself!

NURGUL Why don't you sit down Saide?

SAIDE Get your head together!

SONER Why don't you calm down...

SAIDE Did you leave anything to calm about?

SONER Quiet down a little.

SAIDE What quiet down? It's enough!

SONER The neighbors...

SAIDE Let them hear if they want to! Don't get involve in this anymore!

SONER Come ooon! You're crossing the line!.. This is my brother!

SAIDE Can your brother feed your stomach? Your office is closed since the morning... You are making us uneasy at home... What is gonna to my brother? What is gonna to my brother? That's enough!

SONER It's my duty... *(Yells)* Stay out of this!

SAIDE I am your wife... I interfere!

SONER You can't interfere!

SAIDE I can interfere!

SONER Talk without yelling!

SAIDE I can yell! I can open the windows an yell If I need to!.. I have to protect my nest. My nest will break up! I won't let anyone break up my nest!

SONER Screw your nest!

SAIDE Really? Is that so? *(She is like crying)* So you finally did it huh! You cursed at my nest next to them is that so?

SONER You are over exaggerate things.

SAIDE I'm not over exaggerating things. The matter is already big. It's not what you think. Come on move, we're going home... I have things to tell you Soner.

SONER You go ahead, I'll come later.

SAIDE No, we'll go together!

SONER I am not coming!

SAIDE Should I go alone together with a cab driver at this time of the night? Don't you see what you are doing? How can I go?

SONER Go however you want... I'm not coming...

SAIDE You are not coming huh! You can't find me when you get home!..

SONER What does that mean?

SAIDE I'll pick up my child and go to my mom's... We'll get divorce!

SONER Go if you want!

SAIDE Really! But you will regret it very much?

SONER She would get divorce. Divorce if you want to!

SAIDE *(Pushes the child again)* I am gonna take my child too, you will see.

SONER You can't take the child!

SAIDE I can! She is my child!

SONER She's not yours alone, she's mine too! Whoever does the court give, that's where she stays! She will stay with me, because I work!

SAIDE You are not a mother! You can't show affection. They'll give her to me!

SONER Get the hell out of here! Whatever the hell you are gonna do! Go!

SAIDE *(Sees that it's more than she can chew)* I've got things to tell you, let's go home.

SONER I am not coming!

NURGUL Go Soner.

SAIDE Don't get between husband and wife! *(Softly to Soner)* Don't make me talk anymore Soner! Don't force me explain things!

SONER What are you going to explain? That how you made a issue at home out of my giving few bucks to my brother? Go on! Let it be known!

SAIDE *(Can't put up anymore)* Cops are looking for you! They even came to me. The office is close. Hey were investigating us through the tenants. They had investigate if we had any political activity... It's enough!.. We going through investigation process, because of your brother! Everywhere is full of civil police! They are almost about to raid our home like gang nest!..

SONER What are you saying?

SAIDE It's not what I haven't said yet... Those men are investigating whom do we see... Are you going to burn us too? Should we be seen on TV next to a bunch of head shaved anarchists? Am I lying to you? Let your brother get involve with a bunch of unknown acts, and let hell break loose, you on the other hand stay by his side in the name of duty!.. Close the office and keep following him! What did he do that all of these are on his head, do you ever think about that?

SONER He didn't do anything... He can't!

SAIDE Then why are the cops investigating? An army of civil dressed men is investigating him. After this age, do you want something to happen to us too? What will I do if something happens to you tomorrow? Who is going to take care of our seven-year-old daughter? Should I end up in the bars or cheap nightclubs with my daughter? Whether you come or not I'm going! *(While going with hard steps)*

SONER Saide! Saideee!. Wait up!.. My little bird!.. Wait for me!.. Let me go, I'll call you..

(Exits)

NURGUL You see that right? Do you see that? Everything has turned bottoms up. Precise tragedy. Do you what have you done to this family? Well I have a good news for you, Metin left our daughter...

TAMER Metin? When? Where's my daughter?

NURGUL In her room...

TAMER Yesiim... *(He tries to go in. Yesim comes)* Did you separate?

YESIM Yes.

TAMER But why?

YESIM He saw the papers.

(Nurgul makes gestures as to his not knowing the newspaper incident)

TAMER What newspaper? Tell me, what's going on here? Tell me...

YESIM There is nothing

NURGUL Nothing.

TAMER You said newspaper!

NURGUL We didn't say anything like that.

TAMER What newspaper, tell me!

NURGUL You're hurting my arm, let it go! Let go of my arm, let it go!

YESIM *(Extends the newspaper)* Leave my mom! *(Tamer takes the newspaper, reads, (he really weighs down)*

TAMER Why did you hide this?

NURGUL So you don't get distress.
TAMER Why would I be distressed? You know all of these are lies...
NURGUL We know these are not lies Tamer. We had some men come from the district attorney, don't you remember?
TAMER Am I insane?
NURGUL Oho, no... A little
YESIM *(Enters. While hanging coat)* It's like ground opened and he fell in...
NURGUL This is not a good sign... We must do something.
YESIM Should I call my uncle?
NURGUL I called already... They are not gone yet... Oh my God!.. What if something happened to them? We have to do something... *(Dials the phone again)* Saide, it's me Nurgul... It's very important Saide... Let me have Soner... Please... Soner... It's me... Your brother left... I'm afraid he'll do something... I never seen hem like this before... we yelled behind him, but he didn't even look back... He can commit suicide...
(Cries, can't talk. Hangs up the phone)
NURGUL Boy, we all attacked him too much... We must do something... We've got to do something until your uncle arrives... *(She searches the phone book in commotion. Dials a number)* Hello!.. I want to speak with someone in charge... Mr. Prosecutor... I... I... There was news on the papers today. I am the wife of Mr. Tamer who revealed the unlawfulness... Where from inside the file, naked women.. Yes! Please... *(Waits a little)* Yes sir... Yes... Tamer just left home a while ago... I'm afraid of him taking his own life... He didn't even wear his overcoat... His coat... light brown... Okay sir... Thank you sir...
(Hangs up)
YESIM Maybe he went uncle Omer... *(Dials)* Hello!..
OMER *(In his office)* Hello!..
YESIM I am Mr. Tamer's daughter Yesim... Uncle Omer... Did my dad come over there?
OMER What happened?
YESIM He just left the house earlier... He was very depressed...
(Talking continues. But can't be heard. Mr. Hamdi's room lightens up. Phone rings)
VOICE ON THE PHONE Hamdi!..
HAMDI That's me.
V.O.T.P. Do you know what had happened? Cops are looking for your Tamer...
HAMDI *(Laughs)* What did he do again?
V.O.T.P. In all probability, your friend's about to commit suicide.
HAMDI Why?
V.O.T.P. And you are asking why! You made the man miserable!
HAMDI We did whatever you have ordered sir.
V.O.T.P. Is this the way we ask you to? A situation which you should have salved quietly, instead was heard for miles.
HAMDI But sir...
V.O.T.P. Don't interrupt me! Listen up! You better prey that The Man won't commit suicide or anything. Even though you made him out to be insane, I'm not too certain that he won't leave a letter to his family... In any rate the after the

newspaper incident today, the detectives consider it as denunciation and take action... You're gonna burn all of us!..

HAMDI But what fault have I...

V.O.T.P. Correct it just as you ruined it... Are you going to bag for mercy, or restart him in his job, do whatever you're gonna do... If the coffins double, I may be forced to give speech front of yours... Solve the problem right away... Or give your resignation...

HAMDI For goodness sake sir!

V.O.T.P. Do his procedure with today's date on... Don't forget, today's date... if he commits suicide or anything, you can say we had prepared his papers to restart him today... Do you understand?

HAMDI Thank you sir... I have a household sir...

V.O.T.P. Aren't you listening what I am saying?

HAMDI I understood sir...

V.O.T.P. Go take care of it!.. Prey again that nothing will happen to the man!.. *(Hangs up. Omer also had hanged up the phone... While Hamdi and Omer leave the same office, Tamer's home brighten up. Doorbell rings. Yesim opens)*

SONER *(Enters)* Any news?

NURGUL No.

YESIM There's no news uncle...

NURGUL He was determined... Maybe we should have listen to you and taken him to a physiatrist... What if he does something to himself? What if he's done it already?

YESIM We called uncle Omer. We also notified the District Attorney...

SONER Maybe he has gone to us... Let's not get carried away hopelessly...

NURGUL We all blamed him...

SONER I didn't blame him.

YESIM Your wife did!

SONER Actually Saide is not a bad person... Isn't it just natural for her to try to protect me?

NURGUL Should we call the hospitals too... *(Doorbell rings. Yesim opens. Omer and Hamdi enter in)*

OMER Is there any news?

YESIM No...

HAMDI I'm sorry about this... I hope nothing had happened...

SONER I am Tamer's younger brother... Soner...

OMER Nice to meet you... I am his friend Omer...

HAMDI And I'm his supervisor Hamdi... *(Soner doesn't extend his hand)* We are going to solve this problem... We'll restart him at his work...

NURGUL What good will it be?

YESIM You destroyed my father... With all kinds of intrigues you reduced an even honest person... If something happens to him... This just doesn't end like that... The explanation of this will be asked from you Mr. Hamdi...

HAMDI But I... did all I could...

YESIM You did nothing... Not a thing... *(Doorbell rings. Soner opens. A Man enters in. Has a nylon bag in his hand)*

THE MAN I this Mr. Tamer's home?

YESIM Yes.

THE MAN And you are?
 YESIM I'm his daughter.
 THE MAN His wife?
 NURGUL I am. What happened?
 SONER I am his brother... Did something happen?
 THE MAN Can you come over for a second? Try to be calm please ...Just a while ago someone jumped into the sea and suicide... However he left his jacket... Please take a look... Is this his jacket?
(Nurgul can't look. Soner does)
 HAMDI Did you look in his pockets? Is there a letter or anything?
 THE MAN He didn't leave anything... Does this jacket belong to your husband?
 YESIM *(In delight)* It's not my father's...
 THE MAN Are you positive?
 NURGUL That's not his...
 THE MAN No problem then. We are continuing our search. This suicide act turned into contagious disease. At least thirty people a day. Let's hope for the best. Let it be bygone...
(Leaves. While the rest is sitting quietly doorbell rings again. Yesim opens)
 YESIM Dad! Dad! Daddy!
(Everyone rushes towards the door. Tamer comes in. He is wet. They all crowd around Tamer. Tamer sits down, he is timid)
 TAMER Quiet! Quiet now! Thank God it didn't work out as we feared and Tamer has returned among us... Let it be bygone... Let it be bygone to all of us... My Tamer...
(Hamdi's voice can't be heard anymore. While the lights become dense on Tamer, he turns to his daughter. Tamer is really tense. By taking his point finger to his lips, he stares at them one by one)
 TAMER *(Slowly)* Husssssh.
(Silence)
 YESIM *(Comes next to her father)* No dad...
 SONER *(Touches his shoulder)* No brother...
 NURGUL *(Holds Tamer's hands)* No...

1984, Istanbul.

THE END.