

Pretty Fatma

An Azerbaijani Fairytale
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: کوچرلی، فریدونیی Kochărli, Firidunbai

Pretty Fatma: an Azerbaijani fairytale/ Firidun Bey Kocharli; translated by Amin Amirdabbaghian; illustrated by Maryam Borzouyan Dastjerdi,

عنوان و نام پدیدآور

مشخصات نشر

تبریز: انتشارات زبان آکادمیک، ۱۳۹۷ = ۱۰۱۸

مشخصات ظاهرى

٠٥ص ٢٩ × ٢٢ يسم. 978-600-8652-63-2

وضعيت فهرست نويسي بادداشت

عنوان به فارسى: فاطمه زيبا: افسانه آذربايجاني.

بادداشت

عنوان اصلى: Göyçək Fatmanın Nağılı.

بالداشت

داستانهای ترکی آذربایجانی -- قرن ۲۰م.

آوانويسي عنوان موضوع

Azerbaijani fiction -- 20th century

: امير دباغيان، امين، ١٣٤٨ -، مترجم

شناسه افزوده

Amirdabbaghian, Amin :

شناسه افزوده

: برزویان دستجردی، مریم، ۱۳۴۷ -، تصویرگر

شناسه افزوده

Borzouyan Dastjerdi, maryam PLT14/594 1799 :

شناسه افزوده رده بندی کنگره

194/4614 :

رده بندی دیویی

D1.Y.FY .

شماره کتابشناسی ملی

Pretty Fatma: An Azerbaijani Fairytale فاطمه زيبا: افسانه آذربايجاني

مترجم: آقای امین امیردباغیان تصویرگر: خانم مریم برزویان دستجردی قیمت: ۳۵۰۰۰۰ ریال انتشارات زیان آکادمیک

نشانی مرکز پخش: تبریز، فلکه دانشگاه، برج بلور، انتشارات زبان آکادمیک www.zabanac.com وبسایت ۹۱٤٤٠٦۲۷۹۷ ویسایت

«كليه حقوق براي ناشر محفوظ است. هيچ بخشي از كتاب به هيچ شكلي اعم از كپي يا اسكن در هرگونه رسانهای از جمله کتاب، جزوه، لوح فشرده، سایت اینترنتی یا مجلات، بدون اجازه کتبی از مولف غیر قانونی بوده و موجب پیگرد قانونی است»



Once upon a time, there was a couple who had a daughter named Fatma. Fatma was a wise and beautiful girl. One day, her mom got sick and told Fatma that after her death, daddy would marry another woman, and she would harass Fatma very much. However, you have to take care of our black cow and pasture it yourself.





After mom's death, Fatma's daddy got married. The stepmother had an ugly daughter from her previous marriage. The stepmother was beating Fatma so much every day. Fatma could only be patient and took her cow to the pasture daily. Every day, the stepmother was giving Fatma wool and comb to separate. Fatma was giving the wool to her cow to eat. Then, the cow was swallowing the wool and returned it in







One day, wind held Fatma's comb and took it into the sky. Fatma ran towards the wind and said:

- I cherish your wing Drop it uncle wind

The wind dropped her comb into a chimney where an old woman with swollen lips was living there. The old woman was patting a frog. She was a demon's mother.

Fatma asked her to return the comb.

The old woman said:

- First, look at my head, then I will return it.

Fatma looked over her head and saw so many snakes and frogs inside it.

The old woman asked:

-Whose head is beautiful? Mine or your

mom's?

Fatma replied:

- Yours!

The old woman asked again:

- Which one is beautiful? This frog or



- Beauty is in the eyes of the beholder! old woman liked Fatma's words. returned her comb and - While you are leaving here, you will face first a bright fountain, second a dark fountain and last a scarlet fountain. Take a bath in the bright fountain, wash your hair in the dark fountain and rub on your cheeks and lips from the scarlet fountain. And the old woman gave Fatma a hair strand of her and said:

-Whenever you need my help, burn my hair! I will be right by your side.

Fatma took the hair and did whatever the old woman told her. She turned to be a unique beautiful girl afterwards.



When stepmother saw Fatma coming to home, she said to her daughter:

- WOW...! Come and see how Fatma is!

Her daughter went out and saw Fatma is turned to be a more beautiful girl, whose face is really eye-catching. When Fatma arrived home; the stepmother scolded her.

She saw Fatma's prettiness and asked:

- How could you get this much pretty?!

Fatma told whatever happened to her.

Fatma told whatever happened to her.

And the stepmother decided to send her daughter to pasture the cow tomorrow instead of Fatma.

Next day, the daughter went to a valley to pasture the black cow. Again, wind took her comb and dropped it from the chimney of the old woman's house. The daughter ran towards the wind and entered the house. She asked the old woman:

- Give my comb!
The old woman replied:
- Look into my head first!



The daughter looked over her head.

Then the old woman asked:

- Whose head is beautiful? Mine or your mom's?

The daughter answered:

- Your head is ugly. My mom's head is beautiful.

The old woman suffered from her words and said:

- When you are leaving here, you will face first a bright fountain, second a darkfountain. Take a bath in the dark fountain and wash your hair in the bright one.





The daughter did what the old woman told and turned to be uglier than before. The stepmother got angry when she saw her daughter and decided to kill the black cow. One day, the stepmother clasped two loaves of crust on her back and rubbed saffron on her face; then slept in a blanket. When her husband entered home, she rolled to the right and left and broke the crusts. Her husband asked:

- What happened to you? Your bones are crackling, and your face looks wan?

 The stepmother replied:
- | am sick. | have to eat the cow's meat to be cured.
- The husband did not want to annoy Fatma and said:
- Wait for Fatma to go out then, you can eat the cow's meat.

The black cow understood their thoughts, turned to Fatma and said:

-They will kill me. Try not to eat my meat.

Gather my bones and bury them.

Whenever you need help, come to my tomb, and you will find a set of garments and a pair of golden shoes.

When Fatma and the black cow returned home from pasture, his father sent her out and killed the cow. After she came back home again, saw the black cow is dead and cried a lot. She did not eat the meat but buried the bones.





Next week, it was announced that the prince would hold a ceremony to choose a beautiful girl to marry. The stepmother poured millets on the ground and told Fatma to gather them one by one into a bowl. And next, she gave her a jug and urged to fill it with teardrops. The stepmother and her daughter dressed and went to the ceremony. Poor Fatma became very sad and started to cry.



Suddenly, she remembered the old woman. Fatma burnt the old woman's hair and at the same time, she appeared. Fatma explained to the old woman whatever happened to her.



The old woman said:

- Do not be sad. Everything will be fine soon.

The old woman stamped the ground and suddenly a hen with chicks came out and ate the millets. Afterwards, she filled the bowl with new millets. Then, she turned to Fatma and said:

-Fill the jug with plain water and put a little bit salt in it to look like teardrops.



After that, Fatma and the old woman went to the black cow's tomb. They dug the tomb and found a set of silk dress and a pair of golden shoes. Fatma put on the dress and shoes. Then, they went to the ceremony. When they arrived in the ceremony, the old woman turned to the guards and said:



- She is my granddaughter. Please let her dance.

The old woman put soil in a hand of Fatma, and gold in her other hand and said:

- While dancing, pour the soil to your stepmother's side and pour gold to the other guests' side!

Fatma was dancing very nice and did whatever the old woman told. Everyone liked her dancing.

After dancing, she urgently ran towards home. Because of her rush, while she was passing a bridge, one of her shoes dropped in the river. The stepmother and her daughter returned home and saw that Fatma did all her tasks. Fatma asked the stepmother:

- How was the ceremony?



The stepmother replied with anger:

- There was a girl who looked like you. She was dancing and pouring soil to our side and gold on the other guests' side.

Fatma said:

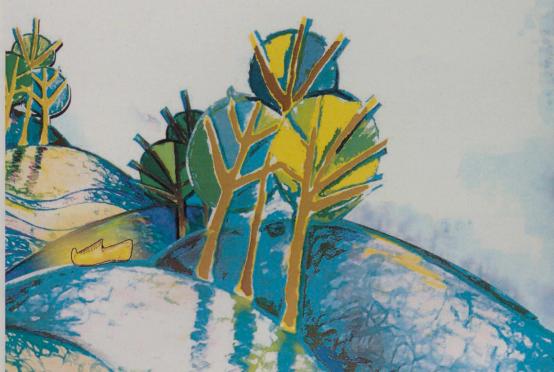
- I was at home and did whatever you asked me.

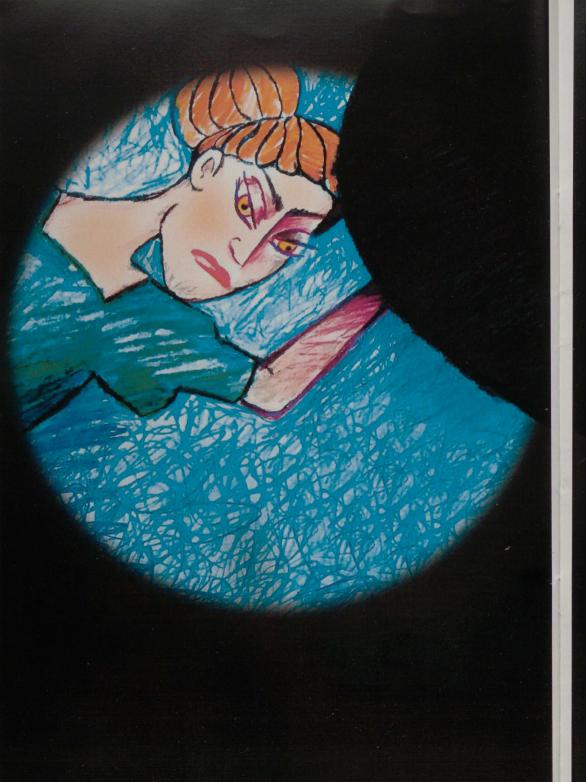


One day, the prince went on hunting. While he was passing the bridge, he decided to water his horse. But the horse scared and denied to drink.



The prince ordered to the servants to search along the river. The servants found a golden shoe there. The shoe was very elegant. The prince liked the shoe and decided to find its owner and marry her.

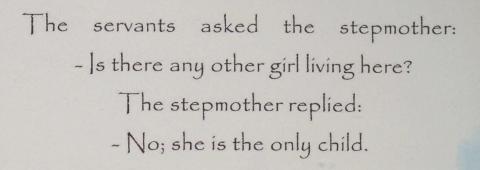




The heralds announced that the prince would like to marry the shoe owner. Fatma's stepmother heard this message. The stepmother roped Fatma very tightly and put her into the fireplace oven. Then, she washed her daughter's feet to look white and pretty.



The prince and servants were searching all the houses one by one. When they arrived in Fatma's house, they faced an ugly girl. A servant put the golden shoe on her foot but it was not fit.









Fatma had a rooster, and it was there when the servants were in the house.

Suddenly, the rooster started to crow:

-cock-a-doodle-doo

Fatma has lost her shoe, She is captive in the oven Put on her golden shoe.

The stepmother tried to displace the rooster, but it flew on top of the roof and crowed again:

- cock-a-doodle-doo
Fatma has lost her shoe,
She is captive in the oven
Put on her golden shoe.



The prince himself looked into the fireplace oven and found a pretty girl roped and bounded inside.

When the prince met Fatma, he fell in love with her and tried the shoe on Fatma's foot; and amazingly the shoe was fit.





