

The Picture behind the Curtain

TALES FROM RUMI

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Print and Binding

Seçil Ofset

100. Yıl Matbaacılar Sitesi 4. Cad. No: 77

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2014



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A long time ago in a faraway land, there lived some very skilled painters. One day, the Chinese and Greek painters began to speak about the paintings that they had created.

"We paint very beautiful paintings," the Chinese painters bragged.

"In fact, no one can paint more beautiful paintings than us!"

"Hah!" The Greek painters responded. "We can paint pictures more beautiful than anything you can imagine!"

They then began to argue over whose paintings were better.







The painters took their argument to the Sultan. This Sultan was a man who loved paintings. He called the painters to the throne.

"I hear that each of you say that your paintings are best," said the sultan. "From my treasure I am going to give you as many brushes and as much paint as you want. I want you to show everyone your talent. We will then find out who paints the most beautiful pictures!"

The Chinese and Greek painters were very happy with this plan.

"We are very grateful to your majesty for giving us this chance to paint," they all replied.

