



Once Hodja was seriously ill, and he lay in his bed at home. His wife was very concerned and came to his bed crying.

When Hodja saw her crying he said to her, "Why are you crying, my dear? Go put on your best clothes and smile."

"But why?" she asked. "Hodja, I can't do that, not while you're in pain!"

Hodja smiled at her and said, "My dear, I want you to do it. If the angel of death comes, he will see how beautiful you are and take you instead."