

HAKAN MENGÜÇ

NO ENCOUNTER IS BY CHANCE



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NO ENCOUNTER IS BY CHANCE

Fate does not give up people.
It is constantly being written and rewritten.

Translated & Edited by:

Shih Chun - Mary Bloyd - Andrew Simes



**This book is written
with inspiration from real events.**

You can listen to music specially prepared according to the story of the
book through Spotify and Apple Music.



TRANSLATORS AND EDITORS



Shih-Chun Biography

Shih-Chun is a Taiwanese freelance translator who does interlingual translation (Chinese-English) and intralingual translation. Being extremely interested in English literature and translating, she then obtained her masters degree in translation and interpreting at University of Nottingham in 2017. Currently, she lives in Taiwan and takes freelance translation and subtitling cases.



**Author and Editor:
Mary Bloyd**

A retired corporate manager, Mary lives in Centerville, Ohio USA with her husband. She loves cooking for family and friends. Taught by a professional chef how to use spices and herbs, make stocks and mother sauces, she developed a curiosity about all foods and cuisines. After discovering the wonderful storytelling of Turkish dizis and films, she became interested in and has written many articles about Turkish cuisine, traditions and culture. She loves to travel, is an editor of books and articles, a creative writer and poet, and is working on her first book, a personal memoir.

Along with her writing and editing, Mary also manages Turkish celebrities' social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram).

Mary's writing can be found in the Blog section of www.northamerica-ten.com, North America TEN Turkish Entertainment Network.



Andrew Simes Biography

Andrew Simes (b. 1981) studied Politics at the University of Kent in Canterbury, England. He is a member of a Levantine family that settled in Izmir, Turkey, in 1815. He works as a freelance translator and tutor.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Hakan Mengüç as a writer, a musician and a speaker is recognized by the masses in Turkey.

He has managed to reach hundreds of thousands of readers so far with his books and teachings on Sufi philosophy.

Hakan Mengüç managed to touch the hearts of millions of people through his seminars at home and abroad.

His books have been translated into English, German, Persian, Bulgarian, Albanian and Russian.

The young writer, who is both an academician and president of the Sufi Academy, which was opened under the Girne American University, is also a “ney” virtuoso.

He reached millions with the songs he played with “ney” on social media.

The philosophy of life

While explaining his philosophy of life built on hopefulness and sharing hope, he says: “Hopefulness is not a pure optimism. It is not to ignore the tragedy that humanity faces. Hope means seeing every possibility and doing your best for good rather than sitting at your house and cursing evil.”

Hakan Mengüç argues that it is enough for even one person to believe in the continuity of hope on earth. “Moreover, this person can be you,” he says. “Then, you will continue to expand to become another “you” and another “you” and turn into “we”.

That is why Hakan Mengüç has adopted the idea of “Burn a candle instead of swearing in the darkness...” And as his teachers suggest, the young writer, who aspires to make efforts to enlighten others with the candle he lights, wishes to encourage others to light new candles on this path.

As Rumi said: “When a candle ignites another candle, it does not lose anything from its own light. On the contrary, it leads to the enlightenment of the darkness. ”

What did they say about Hakan Mengüç?

*“I am writing Hakan Mengüç’s
books as a prescription for my patients.”*

- M.D. Zeynep Demirçay

“Hakan Mengüç has a character that is well suited to the definition of his work ... Patient, lenient and tolerant towards every thought. Hakan internalized every technique he applied and completely processed it. I think this makes him even more special and privileged ... ”

- Psy. D. Esra Ezmeci

“It can sometimes be difficult for a person to evaluate himself. While doing this, most of us would like to be objective. But I think it is useful to discriminate ourselves a little positively, to feel better, to realize our energy and to reveal our talents. If you think of it as a journey, the person you want to have with you during this discovery towards yourself is Hakan Mengüç. Even when your faith is lost, he will hold you by hand and help you to skip the steps one by one. The best part of it is that he will make you feel that success belongs to you rather than to himself. My dear friend Hakan, have a bright and unobstructed path.”

- M.D. Murat Aksoy, “My Doctor” Program Host

“When I watched Hakan Mengüç at the seminar for the first time, I thought he had a special light given by God. He illuminates people with this light and touches their hearts. ”

- Ferhat Atik, Award Winning Writer-Director

“Hakan Mengüç is one of the pioneers of the Sufi philosophy in the 21st century.”

- Serhat Akpınar,
Founding President of Girne American University

No encounter is by chance.

Fate does not give up on people. We are the decision-makers, the ones who shape our own fate. As one looks back, they may notice experiences where they do things they thought they would never do, put up with things they said they would never tolerate, or even fall in love with someone they thought they would never love. We might have been in situations where we thought we could not leave, but instead were able to walk away from; we might have days we felt like dying but still lived through that day and into the next. With every challenge overcome, we come closer to understanding our inner self.

The encounters you run into are the weavers of your fate. Some people may come into your life unexpectedly while others drift away. One minute you wonder “What is this about?”, and the next minute you find yourself in a perfect story.

You are a passenger in your own story. Everywhere you go and everyone you love is a part of you. In other words, with every aspect in life, you can discover another piece of yourself. You may come to realise that this road is full of challenges.; however, all these obstacles in life actually serves you. In this universe, not a single leaf moves without a reason, even the wind has something to whisper. As long as your heart is willing to stay awake and receptive, you will never cease to grow. Don't ever think "I am perfect" at any moment because that prevents you from improving. Living is about learning and adapting. To say "I am perfect" would also mean that "There's nothing for me to live for".

*“Everyone can look at the same direction as you,
but not everyone can see what you see.
Everyone can fall in love, but no one can love like you do.
You are what makes it special.
And what makes you special is not the person you love,
but your love itself.”*

– Shams of Tabriz

I have realised that any encounter appearing to be coincidental will ultimately affect my destiny, and my learning process will never end in this realm of life. As I continue this journey of life, I will weave my beautiful story with this sacred ink. Something that I experienced a few years ago has helped me to see every gain and loss in a new light.

I am currently a lecturer at a university. Being a lecturer is a dream job for me, I enjoy telling stories to my students. I love my work so much. In the process of helping others, I help myself as well. This is another reason why I never shy away from sharing

my knowledge as a lecturer. I know that the more I give, the more I will gain in life. Giving lectures always brings me indescribable and endless pleasure.

A few years back when I was still a young and inexperienced lecturer, the great passion I had for my lectures quickly led me to develop an intense pace in my work. I was travelling a lot, giving seminars at universities, associations, and municipalities around Turkey. I was enthusiastic and grateful when I was invited to Izmir. When I arrived at the venue for my lecture, I was greeted by a friendly group. I knew the lecture was already off to a good start because the participants had arrived on time and were waiting patiently. No one on the list was late that day and I was flattered to be in this situation.

Not willing to keep anyone waiting, I was preparing to start the lecture promptly at the scheduled time. As I was about to begin speaking, a woman from the audience stood up and walked towards the podium. She was confident in her movements and caught me off guard with her actions. I was curious about her intentions and stood waiting to see what she would do. Without asking for my permission, she reached for my notebook that was laying on the podium and opened it. Without looking into my face, she placed a small piece of paper inside the notebook, then turned around and walked out of the lecture hall.

She did not utter a single word and did not give her name. Some of the attendants smirked when they noticed how surprised I was. It was really strange. This was not a public event . It was only open to a limited number of participants. This woman had paid the attendance fee like everyone else and then settled in her seat to wait for the presentation to begin. However, she had then

gotten up from her place, left a note in my notebook, and left the hall before the seminar even started. She did not return to the hall until the end of the seminar. I did not know what to think of her behavior.

Despite being confused by what had happened, I began my lecture. It was hard to think about anything but the content of the note she had placed inside my notebook. At the first coffee break for the group, I opened the note and read:

“His Holiness Emir Sultan is expecting you.”

Yes, the note contained just this one line: *“His Holiness Emir Sultan is expecting you.”*

What did that mean? What was I supposed to do?

Was this a joke? Who knows?

Maybe it was a sincere wish from an admirer of Emir Sultan.

Since I am from Bursa, I knew of Emir Sultan. He was born in Medina and is a sacred, holy figure considered to be a valuable scholar. One day he had a dream, left his home and travelled to Bursa on foot. He lived there teaching people from his wisdom until the end of his days. In conversations with friends, we used to talk about the unswerving confidence underlying Emir Sultan’s sense of complete surrender and trust. He entrusted himself to Allah completely on that long and uncertain journey from Medina to Bursa.

I had read a lot about him and visited his tomb many times before I came to this lecture. Visiting Emir Sultan was not a problem for me; I could visit him anytime. For these reasons, the note from this woman seemed quite meaningless to me. I simply put it in my pocket and completely forgot about it.

Two weeks later

Two weeks later, I received a phone call from a local television channel in Bursa. I gladly accepted the invitation when they asked me to be a guest on their television program about Ramadan. My family was living in Bursa. For a long time, I was unable to visit them because of my packed work schedule. This would be a perfect opportunity to spend some time with my family.

I called the guest coordinator to ask about the location for the filming of the program. He replied, “We will be in the courtyard of Emir Sultan’s Tomb”.

I was in shock. This information reminded me of the note that I had put in my pocket days ago. To tell the truth, I had not even considered going to Bursa since I was busy with so many seminars all around the country. Even though I missed my family, I had chosen to set this feeling aside for a time. Once more, life was leading me back to Bursa.

I had no clue about the meaning of all of these coincidences, what would change in my life, or what would happen to me. At first, there did not seem to be any special meaning to them. I thought it was nice that things had come together this way