

Story #567 (1969 Tape #11)

Narrator: Mehmet Tekçe, green grocer, 50

Location: Aliçerçi village, kaza of Bozkır, Province of Konya--narrator's home, but tale was taped at nearby village of Akça Pınar

Date: Autumn 1969

The Unreliable Borrowers

Once there was a man in a village who went to Aydın to work. When he left his home, his wife was healthy and in good condition, but upon his return, he found her ill. He was upset by this partly because, after being separated for some time, he wished to have intercourse with his wife

"In the name of Allah!" she said. "I am not the same as when you left. I am sick and lying here like one dead."

"I am dying myself," her husband said. "I shall do it with you anyway, whether you are dead or alive."

"Please do not, please do not," she said. When the man insisted further, she said, "Just a minute. I shall go and see our neighbor, Sister Emine, for a second." She went to the neighbor's house and shouted, "Sister Emine! Sister Emine!"

"What is the matter, Sister Ayşe?"

"Well, Mehmet Ağa has returned unexpectedly today, and he wants to sleep with me. Do you mind sleeping with him, just so long as I pay you back some time? How about sleeping with him? I can pay you back later by sleeping with your husband."

Sister Emine's husband heard this. She said to him, "Sister Ayşe is saying such-and-such. What do you think about it?" The woman herself was interested in this proposal.

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Her husband said, "You can lie by me--and may a donkey screw you!
Those people have never been very reliable about what they have borrowed!"