

Story 1049 (1974 Tape 51) Narrator: Hicriye Ceren, 70

Location: Limonlu village,
Mersin kaza, İçel
Province

Date: 1974

The Adulterous Wife Detected

There was once a married woman who had lovers. ^{Secret}

People reported to this woman's husband, "Your wife has lovers when you are away from home."

"No, don't tell me that," said the man. "She is my family, and I do not want to hear such things about her."

"Very well," they said. "We shall talk to you some other time about it," and they went away.

The man harnessed his animals and said to his wife, "Woman, I am going to the mill. Will you be afraid to stay here alone while I am gone?"

"Why should I be afraid?" she asked. "This is my home."

In their village there was a ¹³⁹⁻¹⁴¹ hoca¹ whose eyes were blind but whose ears were exceptionally sharp. Before leaving for the mill, the husband took this hoca to his own home to discover what his wife did during his absence

His wife asked him, "Why did you bring this hoca here? We have only a small house, and he will make it

¹A hoca is a Moslem preacher, similar to a priest

Story 1049

very crowded.

Her husband answered, "He is only a poor old hoca who is both blind and deaf. Let him sit here in the presence of God." The woman had the hoca sit in a corner, out of the way.

When night arrived, one of the woman's lovers arrived and knocked on the door

"What is it?" the woman asked.

"Here, take this watermelon," the lover said.

"Let me put it in the corner," she said. Going then into another room the two made love to each other, and then the man left.

When another knock on the door was heard, the woman asked, "What is it?"

Another lover outside answered, "Here, take this sausage.

"Let me put it in the cupboard," said the woman. Going then into another room, the two made love to each other, and the man then left.

Soon another knock was heard, and the woman asked, "What is it?"

"Here is some yoghurt that I have brought for you," the third lover said.

Story 1049

"I'll put it in the closet," she said. Then the two went into another room to make love, but before they were finished, there was another knock on the door. Recognizing the knock, the woman exclaimed, "Oh, my husband has returned!"

"Where shall I hide?"

"Crawl into the oven," she said. And after the third lover had done this, she went and opened the door for her husband

He said, "Come here, woman, and sit on my lap. I am very cold

She went and sat on his lap and asked, "Where are your animals?"

"I tied the animals in the stable and unloaded the flour by the door. Bring me some food to eat."

While the woman went to prepare something for him to eat, the husband spoke to the hoca. He asked, "Brother hoca, are you well?"

"I am fine. Have you now returned?"

"Yes, I have returned, and I am curious to know what you have detected here since I left

"Since I came here, different things have arrived. There were hands and feet, and something heavy arrived--

Story 1049

like a watermelon--and it was put in a corner. Then there were other hands and feet, and there arrived sausage which went into the cupboard. More hands and feet came, something that splashed and flowed, like yoghurt, went into a closet. Now I can hear my heart beating hard, like of the man in the oven."

The husband understood at once the whole situation. He immediately killed both his wife and her lover hiding in the oven.