

Story 806 (1970 Tape 18)

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Location: Doğla village, kaza
of Karacabey, Bursa
Province

Date: July 8, 1970

How the Crab Won the Race with the (Fox)

A turtle, a hedgehog, a crab, and a fox once went into partnership in farming. ^{farmed} They all worked together to plow the field. They all worked together to plant the wheat in their field. And at the end of the summer, they all worked together to harvest their crop. When the grain had all been threshed and winnowed, they had a large heap of wheat on one end of their field.

Before they could discuss the division of their crop, the fox thought of a trick by which he could get the whole crop for himself. Knowing that the turtle, the hedgehog, and the crab were all much slower runners than he was, the fox proposed that they race for the grain. He said, "Whoever runs first to the pile of grain will be the one who gets it. When I say, 'Let's go!'¹ we shall all start running. Whoever gets there first, jumps up on the heap, and says, 'Hurrah!'²

¹The Turkish word used here is Haydi, meaning Come on! or Let's go!

²The Turkish word used here is Herrop.

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will win the grain." As he was making this announcement, he was standing alongside the crab

When the fox shouted "Let's go!" the crab attached itself to the tail of the fox. The fox ran in big leaps across the field to the grain heap and looked back to see if the others were coming. As the fox did this, the crab jumped up on the heap and shouted, "Hurrah!" In this way the crab defeated the fox and won the grain