

Story #631 (1977, Tape #21)

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Location: Parağı village,
Elâzığ Province

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#631 Fortune-Telling of a Magician

One day I witnessed the following happenings. In our town, Elâzığ, we have a park called "oto-park."¹ One day a magician came to perform at this place. After the performance, everyone went to the magician to have his fortune told. People wrote down what they wished to find out about their future and folded the paper and handed it to the magician. The magician burned the paper, then looked at the ashes, and told that person his or her fortune

There was a woman here called Ayşe. She also went to have her fortune told. Pardon my saying it, but the woman was pregnant. She wanted to know whether her baby would be a girl or a boy. The magician looked at everyone's paper. Finally, the woman's paper came up. He called out for her to stand up. Her husband did instead and said it was their joint fortune and that Ayşe was his wife.

The magician said that Ayşe would have to stand up herself. So she did. He told her that it would be inappropriate to tell

¹This expression, a combination of two loan words, means exactly what it says phonetically: auto park.

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her fortune in public and that she should come to see him at his tent after everyone else had left.²

² Although this tale sounds incomplete, there was apparently no more to it. There was still ample tape remaining on Tape #21 for any additional comments that he might have had.