

Story 824 (1974 Tape 18)

Narrator: Enver Tahsin Pir

Location: Tercan, kaza town in
Erzincan Province

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Osman Kalkan as Frustrated Gourmet

Osman Efendi¹ was a great eater, and he could eat much more than most men could. One day he was invited to a party for which the host had prepared all kinds of delicious foods. Osman Efendi ate a large amount from each dish that he came to. To his great dismay, however, he found that he had eaten so much of each of the dishes that he had already tried that he was unable to eat even a morsel from several of the dishes that looked attractive.

Osman Efendi had taken his younger brother, Ali, with him to that party. When he realized that there were several dishes that he had still not even tasted, he began to pray for a remedy to this unfortunate situation. "O God, here is my brother Ali with me. We are very close as brothers. Please enlarge his stomach so that he can eat both for himself and me."

¹ Efendi is an honorific added to a man's name. It once had prestige and was a verbal gesture of respect for a distinguished person. In recent times, however, it has been so devalued that it is applied only to children and servants.