Story #151 (Tape #2, Summer 1966)

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Location: Tale collected at Ankara,

but informant reared at

Isparta

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The Laz and the Tired Olive

Once a Laz was having a meal in a restaurant. He ordered a salad dish, and when the waiter brought it and placed it before him, the Laz found a large black olive on the top. He wanted to eat the olive first, but when he tried to spear it with his fork, the olive rolled away to the edge of the plate. When he made a second attempt to fork it, it slipped away again and landed on the other side of the plate. He tried several times more, but no matter how hard he tried, he didn't seem to be able to capture it.

All this while, the waiter was watching his customer with curiosity. Finally he said to the Laz, "Please, sir, give me your fork for a second." He took the fork, and, very deftly spearing the olive, handed it back to the customer, saying, "Here you are, sir

The Laz was rather offended at this and said, "You think you have done something great, eh? I'll bet you wouldn't have been able to catch it if I hadn't tired it out first!"