

Story 1277 (1987 Tape 1

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Mecitözü kaza, Çorum
Province

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The Faulty Truck of the Faulty Laz

In Turkey there is a well-known brand of truck called the BMC.¹ It is not a very well-built truck, and it breaks down frequently, but people are more able to buy that truck than they are the more expensive brands.

ALL One day a Laz farmer loaded his BMC truck with watermelons[?] to take them to the market at Trabzon. As he was driving along, one motorist after another blew his horn as the truckload of melons went past. The Laz felt very pleased that so many people recognized him, and so he blew his own horn and waved at all these other drivers. It was a very pleasant trip he made that morning, for the truck, for a change, was running faultlessly. He shifted gears from first to second, from second to third, from third to fourth, and finally to fifth gear

As he entered the city of Trabzon, however, his happiness suddenly disappeared. All at once he remembered that he had forgotten to push the button on the instrument panel to close the tailgate of the BMC. When he looked back into the cargo

¹Apparently a British Motors Corporation truck.

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section of the truck, he discovered that not a single watermelon remained there. They had all rolled out. Then he understood the real reason that other motorists had honked at him