

Story 1555 (1992 Tape 2)

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Location: Derinkuyu, kaza town
of Nevşehir Province

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Living Through a Hunter's Tale

In a coffeehouse one day a local hunter began telling a hunting story. At first the people sitting around the hunter paid no attention to his story. "Once while I was hunting deep in the forest, I saw a very large bear approaching me. I raised my rifle to shoot at the bear, but I did not pull the trigger. He kept coming until the distance between us was only four or five meters, and he was still approaching.

By the time the hunter reached this point in his story, the people around him began to pay attention to what he was saying. They were now listening very closely to what he was saying. "The bear was getting closer and closer to me, but still I did not pull the trigger. Soon the distance between the bear and the end of my rifle was only half a meter, but still I did not shoot." All of the people in the coffeehouse were now listening in great excitement. "Yes, the bear got closer and closer. Then he opened up his big jaws, forced my head in his mouth, and bit it off."

When the hunter said that, everyone in the coffeehouse started laughing. Then they said to him, "Stop talking such nonsense! If the bear had bitten off your head, how could you be living now?"

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The hunter answered in a perfectly serious manner, "Oh, do you call this living?"