

Story 1457 (1992 Tape 3)

Narrator: Leylâ Özdemir, 25

Location: Kırklareli, capital of
Kırklareli Province

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The Consistent Film

Temel¹ and Cemal² once went to the cinema together.

Throughout most of the film they sat very quietly in their theatre seats and said nothing to each other. Late in the film, however, there was a horse-racing episode which excited them and caused them to talk. At the beginning of the horse-race Temel said, "Cemal, let us bet on which of the horses will win this race. I am going to bet 100 liras that horse Number 5 will win."

"Very well," answered Cemal. "I shall bet 100 liras that horse Number 2 will win."

When the race was finished, Number 5 was the winner, and Cemal paid Temel 100 liras. A few minutes later Temel confessed

¹In tales about the stereotyped Laz as dummer or fool, the male characters usually have one or another of five or six very common Laz names. Temel is the name used most often, with Dursun in second place. Thus if either of these names occurs in a folk-tale, the audience knows at once that it is a Laz tale.

²Less frequently used is the name Kemal. It becomes part of the humor of the tale because Laz people do not pronounce the name with standard Turkish pronunciation. They pronounce it Jemal, which in Turkish is spelled Cemal, for in Turkish c is used to represent the English j sound. Thus, before they have heard the name of the beverage spoken, Turks pronounce Coca-Cola as Joja-Jola.

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that he had been unfair Cemal "I want tell you
thing, Cemal had this lm before

"Oh, had also seen i before said Cemal "but did
not think that the same horse would win the race two times in
row!