

Story 1442 1971 Tape 7)

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Silifke kaza,
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How to Remove a Calf's Head from a Jar

There was a well in Karakaya which contained "crazy water." No one in the village ever did anything without first drinking some of this "crazy water." There was a new bride who came to the village, however, and the first time she was preparing to bake bread, she took flour from the sack without first having drunk any "crazy water." After that, the people called her "Smart Bride," for she was thought to be the wisest person in Karakaya.

One day a calf stuck its head into an earthenware jar and then was unable to pull it back out of the jar. The villagers pulled and pulled on the jar, but none of them was able to remove it from the head of the calf. They then decided to ask "Smart Bride" for help.

"Smart Bride" came and said, "Cut off the calf's head." After the calf's head had been cut off, she then ordered them, "Now break the jar." They did as she had ordered, and in this way they finally were able to remove the calf's head from the earthenware jar