

Story #172 (Tape #2, Summer 1970) Narrator: Name not recorded; about 14 or 15

Location: Kúlef Kóy  
Gerede  
Bolu vilayet

Date: July 1970

The Keloğlan and His Wise Brothers

Jeki

Once on a time, when the sieve was in the straw, when my grandfather was rocking my grandmother's cradle, there were three brothers in a village. When their father died, the brothers wanted to separate. After dividing the household goods among themselves, they had to divide the livestock, and this they left up to the judgment of the youngest brother, who was bald. He devised the following method to divide the animals. The animals were to be taken to water and on the way back, those which entered the new stable would go to the eldest brother; those which entered the old stable would go <sup>to</sup> the middle brother; those which entered the straw shed would go to Keloğlan himself. Keloğlan devised this plan because he thought most of the animals would prefer to enter the straw shed. His brothers agreed to his plan. On the way back, some animals entered the old stable and some the new, but only a mangy calf entered the straw shed. Thus Keloğlan was punished for his evil intention, while he believed he had been very wise to use such a method.