

Story #202

Narrator: Saliha Arel

Location: Sivas

Date: May 1962 taken from tape in  
Milli Kütüphane

Hilili and Dilili

TEK Once there was and twice there wasn't, when God's creatures were many and it was a sin to talk too much--well, in those times there were a husband and wife, and both were fools. They were crazy, but they had a clever daughter. They somehow got their daughter married to a wealthy man, and they lived together in their own house.

One day the old folks were cooking meat on the fire when all of a sudden Hilili became very lonesome and wanted to see her daughter. She said, "Dilili?"

And Dilili said, "What is it, Hilili?"

"Well, I miss my daughter. Why don't we go and see her?"

He said, "All right. Let's go."

So they put a heavy lid on the kettle and they left the house. They closed the door and locked it and put the key under the black stone on the doorstep and they started on their way. When they were on their way they met a horseman coming toward them. They said, "Oh, horseman, don't you dare go to our home and don't you ever take the key from under the black stone in front of the door and don't you go in and open the lid and eat our meat out of the kettle." And they went on their way.

Sure enough, the horseman went directly to the house and took the key from under the black stone on the doorstep and opened the door and got in. He opened the kettle and ate all the meat, till there was nothing left for the big black fly buzzing in the kettle. He put the lid on again, and then he went out

and locked the door. After he had put the key under the black stone in of the door, he got on his horse and rode away.

As for H1l1l1 and D1l1l1, the foolish couple, they went on their way until they arrived at their daughter's house. Well, she was married to a very wealthy man with horses and cattle and turkeys and roosters and hens and geese. When she saw her mother and father she was happy, and she welcomed them in. said they had missed her, and they were happy to get there, only they had been on the way and they were dirty. So she ordered the maids to get the bath ready for them. They were washed and cleaned, and in the evening they ate

Now the husband didn't know that his in-laws were fools, so after dinner the daughter wanted to have her parents as far away from her husband as she could manage. She told the maid to make up their beds in the attic.

After everybody had gone to sleep, H1l1l1 woke up and said, "D1l1l1?"

"There is a can of something here. I smell something. It must be the perfume that our daughter uses, which smells so good. Shall we use some for ourselves?"

"Yes," decided the foolish couple. They upped and they went to the can, which was full of tar, and they smeared themselves with tar and got back into their bed. By morning they were stuck together

In the morning the daughter waited and waited for her parents to come down. Tea was ready and the breakfast was ready and they never came down. So she went up and they were still in bed. She opened the covers and she saw that her parents were stuck together with tar. "Oh!" she said. "What am I going to do? What am I going to do?" She called the maids and told them to rub her parents with oil to soften the tar, and to make the bath ready and wash them and make them clean, and not to say anything about it to her husband. So they were cleaned of the tar and made fresh and ready

"Oh!" said Hıllıı.

"What?" said Dıllıı.

Hıllıı said, "Look at that crow! Isn't he cold, poor thing? And on his bare feet! Oh, Dıllıı, let's give our boots to him!" So they both took off their boots and threw them to the crow, and they walked on

A little later they came to some trees. It was windy, and the trees were swaying here and there, and shaking. And Hıllıı said, "Dıllıı?"

And Dıllıı said, "What, Hıllıı?"

"Don't you see those trees? How cold they must feel in this cold weather, all naked, without anything to keep them warm. What shall we do?"

Of course they decided to wrap the cloth they had around the trees and tie it with the yarn. Then they said, "Well, now you'll be nice and warm. They started on their way again, and went until they came home.

When they came home they were cold and hungry. They took the key from under the black stone on the doorstep, and they opened the door and went in. They took the lid off the kettle, but there was nothing in the kettle except a big, black fly that flew out and settled on Hıllıı's forehead.

Hıllıı tried to blow the fly off her forehead by blowing over her nose, Hfff, but the fly still stood there. She did it again, Hffff, and the fly didn't fly away. And she did it again disgustedly for the third time--Hfffff!

This was too much for her husband. Wanting to help his wife, he came back with an axe and he killed that fly right in the middle of his wife's forehead. That was the end of the

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