

story 313 (not on tape)

Narrator: 1112 1961

Location: Ankara, but narrator  
was from Istanbul

Date: April 1962

The Careful Servant and the Curious One

This man had a servant and he took him with him when he went to visit a friend one night. They were breaking their fast during Ramezen, and rich people always want accompanied by their servants.

The man who was the host asked his own servant for glass of water. This servant when he brought the glass of water went to the kerosene lamp, looked in the glass under the light, and then gave this glass to his master.

When they came home, the visitor said to his own servant, "See how he brought the water? He brought in the water, looked at it, and then gave it to his master to drink

But this servant, being a dumb one, didn't understand the meaning of it. However, he thought, "This is something easy. I can do it, too."

After a few days, his master asked for a glass of water from his servant, hoping that he would remember the example of the other servant. Well, he did remember it. He went to the kerosene lamp; he looked into the glass very carefully, and then served his master

He drank a little and gave the glass back to the servant. But the dumb servant, in a hurry, went over to the lamp, looked into the glass, and then walked out.

His master called him back. He said, "well, I understand why you looked at it the first time, when you brought it over. But why did you have to look at it again after I drank the water?"

"Well, sir," he said, "it was just curiosity. When I brought you the water and looked at it under the light, I saw there was a fly in it. That's why I had to look at it again--to see if the fly was still there."