

Story #587 (1963 Tape #4)

Narrator: Yaşar Gezer

Location: Pazarören village  
Pınarbaşı kaza  
Kayseri Province

Date: Summer 1963

How to Hunt Horses #587

A fox had grown quite old and was no longer able to catch much prey, and thus he was having difficulty providing for himself. While he was prowling one day, he met a lion. Taking one look at the fox, the lion realized that he was in poor condition. "Come along, brother fox," said the lion. "How did you fall into such decrepit shape? Why are you so thin?"

"What can I do now that I have grown old? I can no longer provide for myself. That is my problem."

"Well, come along, and I shall take care of you," said the lion, and he took the fox to the top of a nearby hill. When they looked down from this height, they saw a broad plain with a river running through it. There were many horses and mules grazing on the grass there. The lion said to the fox, "Now stand in front of me and tell me if my eyes are getting red."

"Yes, sir, they are," said the fox.

"Now stand behind me and tell me if my anus is expanding and contracting."

The fox looked and said, "Yes, sir, it is moving in and out."

Hearing that, the lion rushed onto the plain and jumped upon a horse from behind, killing it. "Come now and help yourself to food,"

## Story #587

said the lion. He left the fox with the carcass of the horse. The fox fed upon this meat for several days, and before long he had regained his former state of health.

One day soon after that, the fox met a very scrawny jackal. He said, "Oh, jackal brother, why are you in such poor condition? Why are you so thin?"

"What can I do?" asked the jackal. "I am too old and feeble to catch any prey, and so I cannot feed myself properly."

"Come along, jackal brother, and I shall take care of you," said the fox. He had the jackal climb up the same hill that the lion had taken him to earlier, and when they looked down upon the plain, they saw animals grazing there. The fox had the jackal stand before him, and he told him, "Jackal brother, look at my eyes and see if they are getting red."

"No, sir, they are not," said the jackal.

"Oh, but you are supposed to say, 'Yes, sir, they are growing red.'"

"Very well," said the jackal, "they are getting red."

"Now go around behind me. Is my anus expanding and contracting?"

"No, sir," said the jackal.

"Oh, but you are supposed to say, 'Yes, sir, it is moving in and out.'"

"All right, then, it is moving in and out."

At that, the fox ran down the hill toward one of the horses, approaching him from behind. The horse kicked and dealt the fox such

## Story #587

a blow on the forehead that he fell to the ground unconscious.

The jackal came to the spot and saw the dying fox. "O fox brother," he said, "your eyes are really red now, and your anus is really moving in and out."