

Story 735 (1976 Tape 11)

Narrator: Lütfiye Göbelez, 47

Location: Yakacık village,
Söğüt kaza,
Bilecik Province

Date: August 1976

The Cannibal Daughter *J. Jackson*

Once there was and once there was not a couple who had many sons but no daughter. After the birth of her last son, the woman said, "O God, give me a girl the next time I have a child. I do not care what she is like as long as it is a daughter. I should not even mind if she were to be a cannibal!"

mantra birth
One day not long after that, back in those days, she became pregnant again. Nine months later she gave birth to a child, a female child this time. The child was unusual. Right after she was born, she put on a pair of boots and went to the barn where she started to eat the livestock. She went there day after day to eat cattle and sheep until there were none left. Then she began to eat the livestock in the barn of a neighbor. She did this at night, and so at first no one knew who was eating the animals.

One day the youngest of her brothers discovered that it was his baby sister who was devouring all the livestock. He went right away to his mother and said, "Mother, our little sister is an evil being. It is she who has been eating all

Story 735

of the livestock. Let us kill her. She is little now, but still she is capable of eating livestock. If she grows up, she will soon be eating the people too!"

The mother was furious, and she drove her son away saying, "She is my only daughter! Do not speak any evil of her! Leave this house and leave this village too!" The boy did as his mother ordered.

While the son was away from home, his sister continued to grow, and she preyed upon the farm animals in the area steadily. She ate cattle, sheep, ducks, chickens, and even people. There was only one animal left in the area, and that was a ^{vogel}cock which she was unable to catch. When she chased him along the ground, the cock flew up into a minaret. When she climbed the minaret to get him, the cock flew down to the ground again. This angered her, and the longer it continued, the angrier she became.

After several months had passed, the youngest son grew homesick and wished to visit his parents. He mounted his horse at the place where he was living and rode home to his own village. His sister saw him coming while he was still some distance away, and by the time he reached the gate of their home, she was there to greet him: "Welcome, welcome, Brother! We have not seen each other for a long time. How are you?" Saying this, she led him toward the house. "Brother,

Story

you go ahead inside, and I'll take your horse to the barn to water and feed him."

After she had done this, she returned to the house and prepared some food for her brother. As he was eating, she said, "Brother, I think that your horse probably needs some straw beneath him so that he can lie comfortably on the floor. I'll go and give him some." That time she ate two of the horse's legs, and after she had made a few more trips to the barn, the entire horse was consumed.

The brother had been watching her secretly, and so he was not surprised when she returned the last time and said, "Brother, I am going to eat you now."

"No, do not do that quite yet, for I am very dirty from traveling. Allow me to take a bath before you eat me."

This seemed reasonable to the girl, and she provided hot water in the bath. When he was about to enter the bath, she said, "If I let you enter that room, you may run away."

"No, I won't. You can tie the door shut with a rope. When I am ready to come out, I shall call you." Then he went on into the bathroom. He locked the door behind him from within, climbed out the window, and ran away

After a while the girl knocked on the door several times, but she could hear no sound inside. When she finally burst the door open, she discovered that there was no one inside. So

Story 735

the girl remained in that village all alone except for the presence of the cock. She chased that cock forever without catching him.