Story 1295 (1989 Tape 13)  
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**The Anxiety of a Grocer**

One day three children went to a grocery store. The first child said, "I want to buy a piece of *lokum.*" There were not many customers who came to that store to buy *lokum,* and so the grocer kept it in a jar on the highest shelf. The grocer got a ladder, and with some difficulty he found the *lokum* jar. He took out a piece of *lokum,* carefully climbed down, and handed it to the child. Turning to the second child, he asked "And what do you want?"

"I want a piece of *lokum.*"

Quite annoyed, the grocer climbed up the ladder again and removed another piece of *lokum* from the jar. Before he climbed down, however, he spoke to the third child, "Do you also want a piece of *lokum?"

"sir," the child replied.

grocer therefore climbed down carefully again and handed the piece of *lokum* to the second child. Then turning to

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1A gummy type of candy, often covered with powdered sugar, *lokum* is one of the most popular confections. It is often referred to (especially in the tourist trade) as **Turkish Delight.**
the third child, he asked, "Well, what is it that you want?"
    "I want two pieces of lokum."