

Story 1454 (1992 Tape 5)

Narrator: Mukaddes Darwish

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How Questions Answer Questions

One day Temel¹ was talking with one of his friends from Istanbul. After they had been talking for a while, Istanbul man asked, "Temel, why is it that so often Laz people answer a question with another question?"

"Well, why shouldn't they?" asked Temel.

¹In comic jokes about the stereotyped Laz dummer or fool, the male characters usually have one or another of five or six very common Laz names. Most frequently used is Temel, with Dursun in second place. Thus when either of those names occurs in a Turkish folktale, the audience knows at once that it is a Laz tale.