

Story 2100 (1988 Tape 16)

Narrator: Ragıp Güngör, 75

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How a Hunter Killed a Dead Duck

One day a well-known hunter went out into a wilderness area to enjoy his favorite sport. He walked quite a while through wooded and brushy areas in search of game, but nowhere did he find any quarry. As he was starting home, he was thinking about how he could protect his reputation as a skilled hunter. He finally decided to go to a shop where hunters sold game which they realized they would not themselves be able to use. Cherishing fame as a killer of wild game, he went to that shop and bought a duck.

When he reached home, he handed the duck to his and said, "I was not at all lucky today, and as a result I managed to kill only this one wild duck. Will you cook it for dinner?"

Having no actual knowledge about when that duck killed, she took it into the kitchen and began to work on it. She began to pull off its feathers, but she immediately began to sense an unpleasant odor. The more

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feathers she pulled, the heavier became that odor. A few minutes later the whole kitchen was reeking with that foul smell. She called to her husband and said, "My dear, this duck smells awfully bad. It is so bad, in fact, that I cannot even finish removing its feathers."

The husband replied, "I also noticed a strange smell, but by then it was too late for me to avoid killing this duck, for I had already pulled the trigger."<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>In the Turkish oral tradition stories by and about hunters constitute the largest group of tall tales.