

Turkish transcript:

Zeliha: Peki yemekleri özleyor musun?

Mine: Yemekler nasıl özlenmez. Ben buraya ilk geldiğimde üç gün hiçbirşey yiyemedim çünkü genelde insanlar şey der, açken ne bulursan yersin. Ama ben açken ne bulsam yiyemiyorum, açsam açımdır sonsuza dek. Sonra birisi gelip, Maral diye bir arkadaşım burda Türk pizzacılar var demişti. Bizim Türk pizzacılar da heryerde [bulunuyor] gerçi. Ben de a dedim gittim onlara, ve onlar da kendileri için köfte falan yapmışlardı. Hemen bana da verdiler, yedim, ilk yediğim yemek o oldu Amerika'da.

Sonra alıştım birazcık. Genelde tuzsuz, sade baharatsız yemekler olduğu için çok yiyemiyorum. Genelde kilo kaybediyorum burada, sonra Türkiye'ye gidiyorum alıyorum, burda kilo kaybediyorum, tekrar alıyorum falan. Ama şimdi yiyebileceğim yerler keşfettim. Taylandlı'ların çalıştığı bir restoran var mesala çok hoşuma gidiyor, sonra Cezayirli'lerin sahip olduğu bir restoran var. Yani en azından normalin üstünde kalabalık, derecede kalabalık olan bir kasabada yaşıyorum, ve fazlasıyla bulabileceğim restoran var. Ama okul yemeklerini tercih etmiyorum, çok kötü.

Türkiye'de de en çok özlediğim yemekler, lahmacun, kokoreç, midye dolma, hiç bir yerde bulamıyorum.

English translation:

Zeliha: So, do you miss the food?

Mine: How can one not miss the food! When I first came here, I could not eat anything for three days. People often say that you will eat anything when you are hungry, but I am not capable of eating anything when I am hungry; if I am hungry, I am hungry forever. Then someone came up to me -- I have a friend named Maral -- she said that there were Turkish pizzerias here. Truly, our Turkish pizzerias can be found anywhere. I went to one of them, and they had made themselves meatballs and other things. They gave some to me too; I ate it. That was the first meal I ate in the USA.

Then I got used to it a little bit. Since meals are usually plain, without salt, without spices, I don't eat much here. I usually lose weight here, then I go to Turkey and put on weight. I lose weight here, then I put on again. But now I have found places where I can eat. For example, there is a restaurant where Thai people work; I like it a lot. Then there is another restaurant owned by Moroccans. At least I live in a town which is more crowded than usual, and there are restaurants that I can easily find. But I don't enjoy the

food at school. It is really bad. The foods from Turkey that I miss the most are *lahmacun*¹, *kokoreç*² and mussel *dolma*; I can't find those anywhere.

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¹ Pancakes with spicy meat filling

² lamb's/sheep's intestines grilled on a spit