

Turkish transcript:

Peki Mine Amerika'ya ilk nasıl geldiğini anlatır mısın?

Anlatayım. Ben şimdi lise arkadaşım Ayşe vardı. Benim yakınımında Mount Holyoke College'da okuyor o da. Onla birlikte uçmuştuk. Hatta Paris aktarmalıydı uçuşumuz. İstanbul-Paris, Paris-Boston yaptık. Sonra Boston'da indik böyle. Toplam altı valizimiz var. Ben de Ayşe'yle bir, iki kişiyiz, doğal olarak dört kolumuz var. Altı valizimizle kıpırdayamıyoruz. Havaalanından otogara gitmemiz gerekiyor. Sonra etraftaki insanlar yardım etti, otobüse bindik. Otogarın orada otobüsten indik. Şehirlerarası otobüse bineceğiz bu sefer. Okuduğumuz yere gelebilmek için. Ama kesinlikle hiçbir yere kıpırdayamıyoruz, altı valiz var etrafta hiç kimse yok, olanlar bile hani gelip geçiyor. Kimse anlamıyor falan böyle. Asansöre binip zaten...o şehiriçi otobüsten indiğimiz yerden asansöre binip üst kata çıkcaz. Çünkü yerin altındaydı otobüs durağı. Biz üst kattaki şehirlerarası otobüslerine gitmek istiyoruz. Ve hiç çaresiz bir şekilde bakıyoruz etrafa, hiçbir şekilde kıpırdayamıyoruz. Hani üç kişi olsak, biri bekliyecek, diğeri taşıyacak, diğeri de diğeri uça bekliyecek falan ama iki kişiyle hiçbir şekilde taşınmıyor onlar.

Sonra böyle çaresiz bir şekilde beklerken uzaktan bir çocuk geldi böyle Fenerbahçe formalı, yanında da İtalyan bir arkadaş. Siz Türk müsünüz dedi? Biz de 'Evet' diye bağırdık böyle. Sonra çocuk yardım edelim istiyorsanız dedi, ettiler bize. Sonra da biz de sorduk doğal olarak, bizim Türk olduğumuzu nerden anladınız diye. Sonra da çocuk da dedi, bize anlattı işte, Ayşe'nin valizinde böyle, Ayşe valizini iple bağlamıştı. Çocuk da olsa olsa bunu bir Türk yapar [demiş]. Yani Türk'lüğümüz bir kere işe yaradı.

English translation:

Okay, Mine, will you tell how you first came to the U.S.?

I will tell [you]. There was Ayşe, my friend from high school. She is studying at Mount Holyoke College, close to me. We flew over together. Our flight had a connection in Paris. We did Istanbul to Paris, then Paris to Boston. Then we got off in Boston. We had six suitcases in total. With Ayşe, there were two of us; naturally, we had four arms. We could not go anywhere with our six suitcases. We had to get from the airport to the bus station. Then people around us helped us. We got on the bus. We got on the bus at the bus station. Then we were going to get on an intercity bus, so that we could get to the place where we would be studying. But we couldn't move anywhere at all. [We] had six suitcases, but there was no one around. Even the people around just walked past. No one understood. Getting on the elevator . . . we needed to get to the floor above us, [above] where we had gotten off the inner-city bus, because the bus station was underground.

We wanted to go to the inter-city buses in the floor above us. And we were looking around us helplessly; we were not able to move at all. If there were three of us, one [could] go wait, the other [could] go wait; the other is going to wait at the other corner. But with two people it is not possible to carry these things at all.

Then, while we were waiting helplessly, a kid in a Fenerbahçe¹ jersey came from far off, with an Italian friend beside him. He asked, “Are you Turkish?” We shouted, “Yes!” Then the kid told us that he could help us if we’d like him to. And then, of course, we asked, “How did you know that we were Turkish?” And then the child said, he explained to us [that it was] Ayşe’s suitcase...Ayşe had tied her suitcase with a rope. So the kid thought to himself, only a Turk would do that. I mean, for the first time, our being Turkish was worth something.

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¹ Extremely popular Turkish sports club