A FOLK STORY BY TURKISH TEAM;

KEREM AND ASLI

Folk tales which belong to all the members of the public are the first examples of the transition from nomadic life to settled life. Themes of folk tales are generally love and heroism. Now we are going to tell a folk tale from Turkish culture.

A ruler and his guard can't have children. The guard is also a wise man. The ruler's and the wise man's wife promised each other while they were eating the apple which a man gave to them. The promise is that if they ever have children they are going to marry them with each other. Time passes, wise man has a daughter and the ruler has a son. The ruler names his son Ahmet Mirza, and the wise man names his daughter Kara Sultan. One day, wise man decides that her daughter's marriage with the ruler's son would be inappropriate, so he changes his mind and moves to Kayseri with his family. Years pass, Ahmet Mirza becomes a young man, and Kara Sultan becomes a young girl. One day Ahmet Mirza goes to Kayseri with his friend. He sees a girl at a garden. He asks:

Ahmet Mirza: "Which poem could be more poetic than your beauty?"

Girl answers: "Let me go"

Ahmet Mirza: (Falls in love with the girl) "Your name is now Aslı. And mine is Kerem."

(They hold hands)

Narrator: Wise man, who couldn't prevent their love, informs the ruler and engages Aslı to Kerem. But Wise Man still doesn't want this marriage, and they forsake Kerem even though Aslı doesn't want this. Kerem begins to search for them with his friend. He learns that Aslı's mother is a dentist, so he pulls one of his teeth everyday to be closer to Aslı. Wise man finds this out and tells this situation to the Lord of Kayseri, he complains about this situation. The lord puts Kerem in prison. But Kerem explains everything to the Lord. And then the Lord, to understand Kerem's love, dresses many girls the same and he meets them with Kerem in a rose garden. But the only thing Kerem sees is Aslı. And he says these verses:

If you are ever going to the strangers i know,

Let me say you something to tell twilight wind,

I have a salutation, i wanna send to my beloved

See my precious Aslı today, twilight wind

Lord, who saw that Kerem does not look at anyone other than Aslı, decides to marry them. But the wise man promised himself not to give his daughter to Kerem. He makes Aslı wear a tricky shirt and Kerem can not open buttons of it. When he couldn't open it he inhales passionately. He lights up and becomes ash. While Aslı collects his meshed up ashes with her hair, a spark ignites her. Only the ashes of the lovers reunites. These two lovers are said to meet in heaven.