

At A Picnic



This is Sultansuyu recreation spot. We would prepare our own food. My deceased husband had an Armenian friend. He would come to our door in his car, we would all pile in and go. Then, we would jump rope after eating.

My life was spent at home, working and raising children. My husband was an extremely good person. We used to go to the movies, to the theatres, to musical entertainments. We used to buy bulk tickets (tickets bought at the beginning of the season, for movies playing at a certain time and certain day in a movie theatre throughout the year). We used to dress in our best clothes to go to the movies. On musical nights, we would watch artists like Perihan Altındag Sozeri, Adnan Shenses (Turkish Art Music performers). It was a privilege to go to the matinees in Maksim Casino (the most famous casino of the times). The matinees were for ladies only on Wednesdays, and ladies and gentlemen on Sundays. Women's matinees were a complete chaos. Food would be prepared at home, the artists would perform different routines. We used to go to Chinarcik (a vacation area close to Istanbul) in summers. The sea was clear blue. We had fun with our friends. The men came only for the weekends. We would go on picnics. Sultansuyu was one of the picnic spots we went to. The children had a lot of fun, and we would be happy.