

245. TWIN BROTHERS: SEVEN TONGUES

Compare Antigua, J. H. Johnson, 77-80; Nova Scotia, Fauset 3: 13-15; Quebec, Barbeau (30), 82-86; Cape Verde Islands, Parsons 17: I, 263-272; Fjort, Dennett, 60-64; Angola, Chatelain, 84-97; Portuguese East Africa, Macdonald, II, 341-344; Kabyles, Rivière, 193-199; Bengal, Day, 178-184; Portugal, Pedroso, XI; Portugal, Braga, I, 117-119; Spain, De Soto, XXIV; Spain, Catalonia, Maspons, I, 25-32; Italy, Pentamerone, 64-78, 88-96; comparative, Bolte u. Polivka, I, 528-556; comparative, Aarne, no. 303.

For Seven Tongues exclusive of Twin brothers, compare Hayti, Comhaire-Sylvain 3: (50), 283-284, 286-288; Jamaica, P. C. Smith, 57; Jamaica, Milne-Home, 68-69; Jamaica, Beckwith 1: 114-115; Jamaica, Jekyll, 54-57; New Hampshire-Quebec, Lanctot, 266-271; Quebec, Barbeau (29), 33-37, 42-45, 144-145; Nova Scotia, Fauset 3: 13-14; (?) Taos Pueblo, Parsons 30: 79-80; Brazil, Roméro, 86-87; Cape Verde Islands, Parsons 17: I, 261-263, 264-266, 269-270; Yukaghir, Bogoras, 12-14; Portugal, Braga, I, 126-127; Spain, De Soto, XXI; Germany, Grimm, CXI; comparative, Boas 2: 258, n. 4; comparative, Parsons 15: 194-201; comparative, Aarne, no. 300.

A. *Trinidad* (I, 44-47)

The man and woman are three hundred years old. He goes fishing, she raises chickens. As he is fishing, they tell him his wife has borne two handsome boys. When he comes ashore he sees that his bitch has littered two handsome pups; and his little horse, two handsome colts. When the two boys are three days old, they speak to their father. They say they have not come to stay, but to travel the islands. "My sons, what do you want me to give you?" He gives each a little dog, a little horse, a sword, a rose from a rose bush that has two roses and a sack of money. "Whenever you take from it to do evil, it will be used up; to do good, it will never be used up." The boy runs his horse for three days without stopping. He enters an inn on the same day the king is sending the princess to the seven-headed beast. "By the permission of Moses let me find a suit all of silver!" The girl says he better return lest the beast devour him, too. At eleven o'clock the beast appears, they fight, he cuts off

three heads. The next day her father sends her again to the cave. He asks for a suit of gold. He goes to sleep in the lap of the girl. A tear falls and wakes him up. He cuts off the other four heads, he cuts out the seven tongues. He takes the girl home, he tells her to tell nobody who killed the seven-headed beast. In one year and a day he will return. An old charcoal burner sees the seven heads on the ground, he carries them to the king and says he killed the beast. The king wants the girl to marry the charcoal burner. She agrees to marry him in one year and three days. The day of the wedding the boy who killed the beast arrives. He tells his little dog (no dogs in that country) that when he sees the darkest of the gentlemen taking a drink to take his glass and bring it to him. The king sends three hundred soldiers to kill the dog. The boy says, "If you touch my dog, I will kill you all." The king sends a letter to the boy to come immediately. The boy says the king can send a carriage and seven horses. He goes and marries the girl.

One morning he sees a fire. His wife says if he goes there, he will turn to stone. He meets an old man who warns him whatever he hears not to look behind. He hears cruel things, he is frightened, he turns to look, he turns to stone. The rose in his mother's house begins to drop its petals. His brother knows he is in danger. The first house he enters is his brother's house. He refuses to embrace his brother's wife and puts his sword between them in bed. When he meets the old man, he gives him a little bottle and tells him to empty it on even the smallest stones so that all the people there will rise up. He does this, he takes his brother home to his wife. His brother embraces him and takes him to the king. The king gives him a princess, they get married, they live like that until they die.

B. Saint Lucia (I, 116-117)

Rabbit finds the king's daughters in the house of the seven-headed beast. This chief of demons offers Rabbit a dagger to fight him. Rabbit says his own little knife is enough. The demon cuts off Rabbit's arm. Rabbit calls on God and his arm is restored. Rabbit cuts off two heads and wraps the tongues in a pocket handkerchief. The demon cuts off Rabbit's head which is restored when Rabbit calls on God. Rabbit cuts off four heads. The last head asks for peace. Rabbit exacts the keys of the house, then cuts off the last head and wraps up the seven tongues. Tiger passes by, takes the seven heads and the two girls and tells the king he killed the demon. The king invites all the big gentlemen to Tiger's wedding. Rabbit goes to the kitchen and asks for a drink of water. The servant cries out to the king a gentleman has come to rob the kitchen. A troupe of soldiers captures Rabbit. The two girls have not spoken, eaten, or laughed. As soon as they see Rabbit they ask for food, they begin to laugh. Rabbit asks the king if he thinks the tongues are in the heads. Then he places the tongues on the king's table. The king calls Rabbit down from the gallows and asks if he will judge Tiger.

Tiger is immured with bread that crumbles in the wind and water that falls drop by drop on his lips. Tiger's son is nailed up in a barrel and rolled down the mountain. The wedding lasts forty days and nights.

Rabbit has a brother. He sees Tiger being punished. He takes him out and pays his fine. Tiger kills this boy, thinking he had been in his house. When he returns home his wife tells him she had written to the boy to ask him to free her husband, she had never seen the boy. Tiger revives the boy with the vial the demon gave him. He begs a thousand pardons on his knees. From that, when you do good to a person, very often he does you ill.

C. Saint Lucia (I, 120-123)

From the age of six to one hundred and fifty a man goes fishing every day and catches nothing. This day he catches a little sardine who tells him to cut him in three pieces, to give his wife the middle piece; his horse, the tail; his dog, the head; and to bury the two fins one at each house post. Within the hour his wife has two little boys; the dog, two puppies; the horse, two foals; and on the terrace are two rose bushes, each with a sword. Their father gives each boy a horse, a sword, a rose bud, a dog. At the crossroads Béouladain takes the road to town, and Béoula the country road. Béouladain gets married and asks his wife about a little fire he sees. It is the fire of Queen Sofar. Whoever goes there does not come back. On his way he meets the Holy Virgin. She asks for one of his dumplings. He refuses. On going to drink, he finds the water turned to blood. He sees the house with the fire. The old woman gives him some coffee, and asks for a strand of hair from the middle of his head, a knob of hair from his dog, a tail hair from his horse. They all turn into rose bushes.

Béoula takes the same road. His brother's wife wants to embrace him. He sees from the window the same little fire. After he gives the dumpling to the old woman, she tells him not to give the hair to the old lady, but to seize her and say, "Unless she gives you the vial to raise the dead, you will kill her. Kill her in either case. You will find a box containing a hummingbird. Kill it and you will find an egg. Break the egg. You will find a box with an egg in it. Break it. In it you will find a vial." The boy sprinkles the rose bushes from the vial, the people get up, as do his brother, horse, and dog. When Béoula shows Béouladain the house he spent the night in Béouladain kills him. Béouladain's wife says, "Last night you did not wish to see me. What are you coming for today?" He sprinkles his brother from the vial. His brother gets up. The next morning they go to bathe. The horses, the dogs, and the two brothers turn into fish.

D. Martinique (I, 267-271)

The brothers walk for ten years without meeting anybody. Little brother says to throw away their money. They come to a port with

vessels of all nations and a vessel which is loaded to go to the country where day never dawns. They go on board. Three days away from the country where day never dawns, Little brother proposes to Big brother to sink the vessel. The two brothers escape in a boat. They come to an old house. They sing to tell they have been shipwrecked. The old woman gives them food and drink and a good bed. She says whatever they hear they are not to speak. If they say a word they will lose their lives. They hear fighting. A big beast is fighting with the old woman. The beast has a big trunk in which day is shut up. The old woman wants to open it. Whenever she seizes the beast and swallows him, the beast comes out from behind. Little brother cuts off the beast's head as he comes out from the old woman. Another head grows in its place. So he cuts off six, puts his finger into the old woman and keeps the beast from coming out until his big brother heats some water. He drags the old woman to the pot, takes out his finger, the beast comes out and falls into the pot of hot water and dies. He cuts off his head. They open the trunk. Day dawns.¹ Little brother cuts off the seven tongues and puts them in his pocket. The king has his drum beaten to announce that if he who has made day dawn will come to the house he will marry him to his daughter and give him half his kingdom. The old woman has a son who makes charcoal. She proposes to him to carry the heads to the king and say that he killed the beast. Little brother proposes to Big brother to go to the royal wedding. The king keeps before the door a horse with a bundle of bones and a seven-headed dog with grass for each to eat. Hungry beasts! They devour everything that passes. Little brother tells Big brother to put the bones before the dog and the grass before the horse. In proof Little brother shows the seven tongues to the king. The king has the charcoal burner guillotined. Little brother tells the king he must give a big dinner in Heaven. They all go on a rope ladder. Little brother knocks on the door. St. Peter opens it. He catches St. Peter and sends him off. He does the same to St. Paul.² He tells his brother to go in. He goes in behind him and cuts the rope. All the people fall down dead. Little brother and Big brother are serving as St. Peter and St. Paul in Heaven to this day.

E. Martinique (I, 272-273)

The seven-headed beast takes the three princesses into a hole in a tree. The king promises to him who can get the princesses half his kingdom and marriage with the princess he chooses. All the birds try and fail, and all the quadrupeds. Hummingbird sings and fights with the seven-headed beast. He puts the tongues in his pocket. Charcoal burner monkey passes by and carries the heads to the king. The princesses have

¹ See Tale 246.

² Variant: St. Peter goes so fast he makes a light, St. Paul makes a noise. Since then, there are lightning and thunder; it is they, they have no place to stay.

given Hummingbird a pocket handkerchief, a ring, a snuff box. Hummingbird walks near the kitchen. Monkey tells the king to have him arrested. On the scaffold Hummingbird tells the king to look for the seven tongues. He does not find them. Then Hummingbird shows the tongues to the king. The king asks Hummingbird what punishment to give Monkey. He says to heat an oven very hot and to put Monkey into it because he is an animal that likes heat.

F. Dominica (I, 465-466)

Daily the king has to give a person to the beast with seven heads to keep him from destroying the country. A boy kills the beast, takes out the seven tongues and wraps them in a handkerchief. A charcoal burner takes the heads to the king, saying he killed the beast. The king is to marry him to his daughter. Meanwhile the boy asks the king for work and is put to take care of the poultry. At the wedding the boy produces the seven tongues.

G. Guadeloupe (II, 75)

A female devil in a tree has turned three hundred and fifty people into rocks. A man warns his son not to go under the tree, but the boy who has two wands from his fairy godmother and has been meeting a red dragon as he walks out alone, passes under the tree and is changed into a rock. His father sends his cousin who is a powerful sorcerer to look for him. The sorcerer says a single word in Latin and the female devil disappears. He sprinkles all the rocks from his vial and revives the people, including his nephew.

H. Guadeloupe (II, 95-96)

A king has supplied thousands of persons to the beast with seven heads. Rose, the last of seven sisters, is to go to the beast. She meets Prince Frederick who asks why she is crying. They go together to the foot of a big mountain. Prince Frederick hides behind a big tree and, when the beast rushes upon Rose, Frederick cuts off two heads with a single stroke of his sword. He keeps the two tongues. Rose tells the king that the beast has told her to come back the next day. This time Prince Frederick cuts off three heads and keeps three tongues. The beast goes back into his hole almost dead. Rose reports to the king and her mother. Repeats for the last two heads. Before leaving him, Rose gives Frederick a diamond ring. The king has his drum beaten in all the countries of the world. To the man who has killed the seven-headed beast he will give half his kingdom and his fortune. The charcoal burner takes the seven heads to the king. Prince Frederick arrives on the eve of the marriage and presents the seven tongues. He kneels before Rose and shows the ring. The charcoal burner is passed through the mill of razors.

I. Guadeloupe (II, 96-97)

For him to give water to the country the beast with seven heads demands a girl every day. Peter cuts off one of the heads. The beast says, "Head cut off, head stick on!" Peter says, "Head cut off, don't stick on!" Repeats for the other heads. Peter sprinkles holy water on the fifty-five people killed by the beast, and all revive. Peter marries the daughter of the giant.

J. Guadeloupe (II, 97-100)

A woman is so poor that her little boy has to wear a banana leaf for clothes and pick up shell-fish for food. He picks up bits of cloth and has his mother make him a suit of thirty-six colors. The king makes Thirty-six Colors his pigherd. His fairy godmother gives him a little bone to call on when he is in danger. He swims to an island and kills the Silver Giant. The next day on the second island he kills the Gold Giant and the next day the Diamond Giant. Then he rescues Mademoiselle Marie, the king's daughter, from the seven-headed beast, appearing first in silver, then in gold, then in diamonds. The charcoal burner has claimed the girl, but Thirty-six Colors presents the tongues of the beast and the ring and handkerchief Marie had given him.

K. Guadeloupe (II, 105-106)

After Nantiquita has cut off the heads of the seven-headed beast to save his mother from eating dung, Nantiquita tells his mother to stay by Dembio's door, he will go down into the forest to see what is there. He finds a mansion and the three young ladies the seven-headed beast had carried away. The ladies give him a little vial to sprinkle on the stones and restore all the people who have been carried off by the beast. Two of the young ladies Nantiquita takes to his house. He tells his mother to make colombo with the seven tongues. He gives pieces from the dish to his brothers. A piece sticks in the throat of his older brother. "What is the matter, brother, is death sweet?" "No, brother, death is not sweet."¹ Nantiquita hits him on the back and the piece comes out and falls in Germany. Repeats for the other brothers. When the piece of tongue falls out from the mouth of the third one, the earth quakes. That was the big earthquake of 1820. The piece flew in the air and set fire to Pointe-à-Pit'e. Nantiquita married one of the girls and the other became her servant.

L. Guadeloupe (II, 106-109)

After dividing the cow for the animals, the boy finds in the woods the girl sent by the king to the beast with seven heads. Through his lion hair the boy turns into a lion, fights with the beast and cuts off two heads, taking out the tongues. The girl gives him a pocket handkerchief

¹ See Tale 130 O, P.

and a ring, both marked with her name. She tells her father that the beast is very sick and has told her to come up tomorrow. The girl is in a seven-storey house with the door closed. The boy turns into a red ant and reaches her room. At three o'clock in the morning they conduct her to the wood with music and drum. "Ho, ho," says the beast, "instead of one there are two!" The boy turns into a still bigger lion, cuts off three heads and takes the tongues. Again as a red ant he visits the girl and learns what her father has to say. The beast has told him that to see the end of him he must go to England and kill Lasse di Pique in whose stomach there is a little white pigeon with two eggs. The boy turns into an eagle and reaches England in six hours. He arrives at the house of a gentleman who has a herd of cattle and is employed as cowherd. The gentleman warns him not to take the cattle to the field of Lasse di Pique who will eat him. He takes them to the field and lashes a whip for Lasse di Pique to hear. The boy turns into a lion and fights from six to eleven. When the gentleman does not see him coming for breakfast he sends the servant who sees a lion fighting with Lasse di Pique. He brings back the cattle, big and handsome. The next day he fights again with Lasse di Pique. He says, "If I had a saintly son to give me a glass of water he would fix the other fellow." The gentleman has sent the servant with a glass of wine. She gives it quickly to the boy. He swallows it and throws the beast to the ground. He splits open his belly. The little pigeon flies out. The boy turns to an eagle, catches the pigeon, finds two eggs in its stomach. When he breaks them, the beast weakens.¹ He brings the cattle back to their master, telling him he can fasten them in any field, Lasse di Pique is dead. He returns to the girl's house as a red ant. When they go up to the beast with seven heads they find him dying. The boy cuts off the last two heads. A charcoal burner carries the heads to the king. The boy goes up to the girl's room and hears that the next day her father is giving her betrothal breakfast. The boy presents the seven tongues and the girl's three handkerchiefs and three rings. After their big, big wedding the boy turns eagle and takes his wife under his wing to England. The master of the cattle gives him a draft. He becomes richer than the king.

M. Guadeloupe (II, 109)

A king loses his power and becomes a poor fisherman. He does not catch anything until one day he takes a little fish. The little fish tells him that if he will let him go he will catch a lot. He throws it back and in a moment he fills his canoe. This repeats for two weeks. His wife says they have been married thirteen years. If he does not bring her the little fish, she will divorce. The little fish says that his wife will become pregnant and bear two boys, Jules and Léon. His horse and his dog will each bear two. The meat of the fish he is to give to his wife, the eyes he is to throw in his yard, and two blossoming trees will grow.

¹ See Tale 298.

N. Guadeloupe (II, 110-111)

Jules sees a procession and learns from his master, a show-maker, that the king has to surrender a daughter to the beast with seven heads every year that rain may fall. Through his lion's hair Jules transforms into a lion, fights with the beast and cuts off one head. Repeats for seven days. The king sends a boat to America to get soap to cleanse the charcoal burner who has brought in the seven heads. Jules' little dog gets on the table and takes the best dish. The girl recognizes the dog and caresses him. The charcoal burner complains to the king who sends a soldier to kill the dog. The soldier cuts off a toe and follows the blood to the house of the dog's master. He reports to the king, who orders the man to present himself. Jules says if the king wants to see him, he must send for him. The king sends a carriage. He proves to the king that the heads have no tongues.

O. Guadeloupe (II, 111)

After the wedding they have a party to go bathing. The little fish had said that Jules and Léon are never to approach the sea. While Jules is bathing, a whale seizes him. His wife asks the whale to give her her husband's head and his body. He transforms to a pelican and visits his wife. One night he is sitting on his balcony and he asks his wife about the light he sees. It is the light of three giants. He goes to where they are; they hit him; he dies. Now Léon sees his flower in full bloom. He tells his father he is going to see where his brother is. He takes a seat on the balcony of the wife of Jules and asks about the little light. She says, "Yesterday I told you, you ask me again tonight. Who goes there returns not." He goes and finds an old lady who says, "Who enters here returns not." He says, "I have come and I will return." He kills a man who appears before him. He sprinkles the stones to revive those who have died there. The first is his brother. The king marries Léon to his second daughter. She gets a big belly. She takes off her ring. An ant picks it up, takes it on his back. Jules transforms into an ant, goes to the hole, gets the ring, and they have another wedding.

P. Guadeloupe (II, 115-116)

Twin boys. One goes to look for work. His father gives him a horse and a dog. A long way off he asks for lodging. The mistress of the house falls in love with the young man. One evening from the open window he sees a little light in the distance. The mistress says whoever goes there does not return. He leaves with his horse and dog and travels six months before he reaches the light. His dog begins to bark at the old woman there. She asks him to make three knots in one of his hairs so the dog will not bite her. He does it and turns into stone. Repeats for the other brother. At night he puts a sword between him and the mistress of the house, because of the dream, he tells her. He too travels for six months. He tells his dog to eat up the old woman. She gives him

a little vial to sprinkle on the stones and revive the people. After that he makes his dog kill the old woman. All the people thank him. The last to rise up is his brother. On the way when he tells his brother that he slept with his wife the brother kills him with a stroke of his sword. The mistress asks him why he does not again put his sword between them. He revives his brother from the vial.

Q. Guadeloupe (II, 116-118)

Three brothers. The oldest goes out to work. He meets his aunt and says, "Good day, lovely sainted star." She gives him food and drink. He goes on and asks the king's daughter for a little drink of water and a lodging. Then he marries her. He sets out to find the little light. The old woman gives him a little thread to tie his dog. The dog dies, the boy dies. The second brother says he is going to look for his brother. Repeats. The third brother goes. Repeats. He revives his two brothers from the little vial. He tells the eldest to go and find his wife, the other, to find their mother. He himself takes ship for New York. There the king has to give somebody every day to the beast with seven heads. He is about to give up his only daughter. He sets his dog upon the beast and the dog devours the beast. He cuts off the heads and takes out the tongues. The girl's father is so pleased he marries her to the boy.

R. Marie Galante (II, 267-269)

A woman forbids her two daughters to go near the house on top of the mountain, but the elder girl insists on going. Lotine, the younger one, picks a flower in the garden. The beast with seven heads comes out and captures her. The mother goes to the river to sing to the little fish her daughter used to give bread to every day. The fish tells the mother to go to the house on the mountain and to pick one of three apples at the noon bell, not to look behind, but to come and throw the apple into the river. When she throws it behind her into the river the fish turns into a man, Quainqué. He goes to the house and rings the bell. The devil comes out to fight him. At every blow Quainqué drinks from a little bottle. Quainqué cuts off the seven heads and takes out the seven tongues. A prince gets the heads and claims that he has killed the dragon. Quainqué shows the king the seven tongues. They rescue thirty-six thousand young girls from the house of the giant. Quainqué marries a daughter of the king, and Lotine, a son of the king.

S. Montserrat (II, 303-304)

A man leaves a knife, two guns, and tuppence to his two sons. On their way each gets two lion pups. One brother and his pups are turned into stone by an old witch. The younger brother is mistaken for his elder brother by the elder brother's wife but he tells her who he is. He subdues the witch by using a silver shot which dazzles her eyes.

T. Saint Kitts (II, 372)

Two boys run away from home and meet an old lady who gives them a sword, a wolf, and a tiger. They meet a girl crying from fear of the giant. [Unfinished.]

U. Saint Martin (II, 409)

Two brothers find each a bear, a leopard, and a lion, and rear them as pet dogs. With his three "dogs" one of the brothers kills the seven-headed beast that was going to destroy the king's daughter. He takes the seven eyes to the king and marries his daughter. He follows a woman who spits in his face and turns him and his three "dogs" to stone.