{AT300} The Dragon-Slayer.
Rescue of the princess.
Cf. Types 301,303,305*,315, 466, 466*, 466**, 502, 530, 532, 553.
I. The Hero and his Dogs.
(a) A shepherd,
(b) with a sister who afterwards proves to be faithless, or
(c) other hero (d) acquires helpful dogs,
(e) through exchange or (f) because they were born with the hero - or
(g) through kindness he receives the help of animals;
(h) he also'receives a magic stick or sword.
II. The Sacrifice.
(a) A princess is demanded as a sacrifice and
(b) exposed to a dragon. She is offered to her rescuer in marriage.
III. The Dragon
(a) breathes fire and
(b) has seven heads
(c) which magically return when cut off.
IV. The Fight,
(a) While waiting for the dragon, the hero is loused by the princess and (b) falls into a magic sleep,
(c) She awakens him by
(d) cutting off a finger or
(e) letting a tear fall on him.
(f) In the tight, the hero is assisted by his dogs, or
(g) his horse.

- V. The Tongues,
- (a) The hero cuts out the tongues of the dragon and keeps them as proof of the rescue,
- (b) An impostor cuts off the draeon's heads, which he later seeks to use as proof.
- VI. Impostor,
- (a) The hero leaves the princess
- (b) with an injunction ol silence as to his identity; or
- (c) he is murdered and
- (d) resuscitated by his dogs,
- (e) The impostor forces an oath of secrecy from the princess.

VII Recognition,

- (a) The hero intercepts the impostor on the wedding day, when lie secures recognition (b) through the theft of the wedding cake by his dogs, or the presentation of
- (c) the dragon tongues,
- (d) of a ring, or
- (e) of another token.

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Motifs:
I.
[L100] Unpromising hero.
[P412.1] Shepherd as hero.
[K2212] Treacherous sister.
[B421] Helpful dog.
[B312.2] Helpful animals obtained by exchange.
[B311] Congenital helpful animal. Born at same time as master and (usually) by same magic means.
[B350] Grateful animals.
[B391] Animal grateful for food.
[B392] Hero divides spoil for animals.
[B312.1] Helpful animals a gift.
[D1254] Magic stick.
[D1081] Magic sword.
II.
[B11.10] Sacrifice of human being to dragon.
[S262] Periodic sacrifices to a monster.
[T68.1] Princess offered as prize to rescuer.
[Q112] Half of kingdom as reward.
III.
[B11] Dragon.
[G346] Devastating monster. Lays waste to the land.
[B11.2.11] Fire-breathing dragon.
[B11.2.3.1] Seven-headed dragon.
[B11.5.5] Self-returning dragon's head.
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IV.

[D1962.2] Magic sleep by lousing. Picking the lice from the head of an old person or an ogre is used to put him to sleep.

[D1975] Dragon-fighter's magic sleep. While waiting for fight with dragon, hero falls into magic sleep.

[D1978.1] Waking from magic sleep by cutting off finger.

[D1978.2] Waking from magic sleep by letting tear fall on sleeper.

[B11.11] Fight with dragon.

[B11.11.1] Dragon fight: respite granted and dragon returns with renewed strength.

[B11.11.2] Hero's dogs (horse) prevent dragon's heads from rejoining body.

[B524.1.1] Dogs kill attacking cannibal (dragon).

[K1052] Dragon attacks own image in mirror.

[R111.1.3] Rescue of princess (maiden) from dragon.

V.

[H105.1] Dragon-tongue proof. Dragon-slayer cuts out the tongues and uses them later to prove his identity as slayer.

[R111.6] Girl rescued and then abandoned.

[K2262] Treacherous charcoal-burner.

[K2265] Treacherous red knight.

VI.

[C422.1] Tabu: revealing dragon-fighter's identity. Dragon-fighter forbids princess whom he has rescued to tell who he is.

[B515] Resuscitation by animals.

[K1933] Impostor forces oath of secrecy.

[K1932] Impostor claims reward (prize) earned by hero.

[N681] Lover arrives home just as mistress is to marry another.

[T151] Year's respite from unwelcome marriage.

[H151.2] Attention drawn by helpful animals' theft of food from wedding table: recognition follows.

[H83] Rescue tokens. Proof that hero has succeeded in rescue.

[H105.1] Dragon-tongue proof.

[H80] Identification by tokens.

[H113] Identification by handkerchief.

[K1816.0.3.1] Hero in menial disguise at heroine's wedding.

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Coffin 21;
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Finnish 168;
Finnish-Swedish 13;
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Livonian 6;
Lithuanian 88;
Lappish 8;
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Liungman 5, misc. 20);
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{AT300A} The Fight on the Bridge.

Aided by his filly, the strong youth defeats three dragons and their wives, in spite of his sleeping helpers.

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Czech: Tille Soupis I 283ff. 4;

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{AT300B} King of the Snakes.

King of the snakes is offended and devastates the country and carries off girls. The magically conceived hero is advised by a maiden and given an aspen stick with which he defeats the snake and later a dragon. Marriage with the maiden-helper.

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{AT300*} The Boy Rescues the Princess [R112] through her Magic Power.
She changes herself into a golden bird [D150].
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{AT300A*} The Princess is Won.
(Often mixed with Types 303, 304, 315, 316, 550, 552).
(For detailed analysis see Rumanian 300 I* with its subdivisions.)
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