

314 Goldener

(previously The Youth Transformed to a Horse). (Including the previous Type 532.) This type combines various introductory episodes with a common main part. Cf. Types 314A, 502, and 530.

Introductory episodes:

(1) A boy has been promised (often in return for magic conception) to a demon (devil, giant) [S211], or he voluntarily becomes a servant in a demon's house [G462]. The demon orders him to care for two (groups of) animals, to feed the one and to neglect the other. The boy does not follow these instructions and thus makes friends with the abused animal (magic horse) [B316]. Against the prohibition of the demon, he enters a certain chamber [C611]. As a mark of disobedience, his hair turns gold [C912]. The boy and the magic horse escape from the demon by a magic flight [D672].

(2) A boy (usually the son of a ruler) and a magic foal are close friends. The mother (stepmother) wants to kill the boy. The magic foal warns the boy of her secret murderous attempts. At last the mother demands that the boy or the foal be killed. The boy pretends to agree but asks his father to be allowed to ride the foal one last time. During this ride the foal flies away together with the boy [B184.1.6].

(3) In return for his magic conception, a boy is promised to a demon [G461]. On the way to the demon's house, the boy is fore-warned (given instructions for how to kill the demon or to flee). In the rooms of the demon's house, the boy finds prisoners or corpses (and his hair turns to gold [C912]). The boy kills the demon and flees.

Main part:

The youth covers his golden hair, pretending to be a scaldhead, and takes service in the king's court as a gardener [K1816. 1]. (He says nothing except, "I don't know". [C495.1]; previously Type 532.) But the youngest princess sees him in his true form (as a golden-haired knight who destroys and restores the garden three times) [H75.4]. She falls in love with Goldener [T91.6.4] and chooses him as her husband by throwing a golden apple to him [T55.1]. They marry but the angry king banishes the couple to a shabby lodging [L132, L113.1.0.1].

The king demands the help of his sons-in-law. Goldener has only a poor kit and is mocked. With the help of his magic horse he achieves various heroic deeds: He obtains the magic remedy (e.g. milk of a bird, water of life) for the king who had grown blind (cf. Type 551), kills a dragon (cf. Type 300), defeats a foreign army three times in disguise. He is wounded and is bandaged by the king. Three times he withdraws and is mocked as a fool. Cf. Type 530.

Goldener's identity is revealed (e.g. by wounds, brands) and his true status is recognized [H55, H56]. The horse asks to be decapitated and becomes a prince (princess, other person).

Combinations: This type is usually combined with episodes of one or more other types, esp. 217, 300-303A, 313, 314A, 315, 321, 325, 327, 327B, 400, 441, 475, 502, 511, 530, 530A, 531, 550, 552A, 551, 554, 590, 613, 725, 1049, 1052, and 1060.