

{AT326} The Youth Who Wanted to Learn What Fear Is.

Various episodes: in the church tower, under the gallows, etc. Cf. Types 1159, 1160.

I. Quest: To Meet Fear. A youth who does not know what fear is goes out to find it.

II. Experiences. He tries various frightful experiences:

- (a) playing cards with devil in church;
- (b) stealing clothes from a ghost;
- (c) staying at night under a gallows,
- (d) in a cemetery, or
- (e) in a haunted house where a dead man's members fall down the chimney; (f) vanquishing ghost-like cats;
- (g) playing ninepins with a reassembled dead man;
- (h) being shaved by barber-ghost;
- (i) cutting devil's finger nails.

III. Learning Fear. After his wedding he learns fear when cold water is thrown on him or eels are put down his back while he is asleep.

Motifs:

I.

[H1376.2] Quest: learning what fear is.

[H1400] Fear test. A person is put to various tests in the attempt to make him show fear.

[Q82] Reward for fearlessness.

II.

[H1421] Fear test: playing cards with devil in church.

[E577.2] Dead person plays cards.

[H1431] Fear test: stealing clothes from ghosts.

[H1415] Fear test: staying under gallows at night.

[H1416] Fear test*: spending night by grave.

[H1411.1] Fear test: staying in haunted house where corpse drops piecemeal down chimney.

[F982.2] Four cats carry coffin.

[H1411.2] Fear test: staying in haunted house infested by cats.

[E423.1.2] Revenant as cat.

[H1433] Fear test: playing game with reassembled dead man.

[E577.3] Dead persons bowl.

[H1422] Fear test: cutting devil's fingernails.

[E571] Ghostly barber.

[E281] Ghosts haunt house.

[E283] Ghosts haunt church. E578] Dead person builds fires.

[E578.1] Revenants want to warm themselves.

III.

[H1441] Fearless hero frightened by being awakened with cold water.

[H1441.1] Fearless hero frightened by being awakened by eels put down his back.

Bibliography :

*See Ranke Schleswig-Holsteinische Volksmarchen 203 for analysis;

**Wisser »Das Marchen von einem der auszog das Fiirchten zu lernen« (cf. Zs. f. Vksk. XXXIV 177);

O'Suilleabhainn Handbook under cf. 326;

Goffin 6.

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Finnish 47;

Finnish-Swedish 10;

Estonian 15;

Livonian 2;

Lithuanian 37;

Swedish 13 (Uppsala 1, Lund 12);

Norwegian 22, Solheim 2;

Danish 124, Grundtvig No. 11;

Icelandic 3;

Scottish 8;

Irish 495, Beal I 398, IV 228f. No. 2, V 25, VII 50, X 188, XI suppl. 75, XVII 203, XIX 29;

French 55;

Spanish 3;

Catalan: Amades No. 95;

Dutch 9;

Flemish 4, Witteryck (p. 289) 5;

German 134 (Archive 128, Merk. 287, Henssen Volk No. 44, Henssen Jiil. No. 454, Meckl. Nos. 45, 47, 48);

Austrian: Haiding No. 59;

Italian: D'Arconco Fiabe 17 (Trieste: Pinguentini No. 12, Friuli 2, Tuscan 326a—d, 1000 5, Sicilian 6, Gonzenbach No. 57);

Rumanian 9, Sainenu 826;

Hungarian 23;

Czech: Tille Soupis II (1) 103ff. 20;

Slovenian 14;

Serbocroatian 21;

Polish 53;

Russian: Andrejev Ukraine (326 III) 8, Afanasiev (326A) 2;

Greek 5, Dawkins Modern Greek Folktales No. 78;

Turkish: Eberhard-Boratav No. 284 6; India 1.

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Franco-American 38;

English-American 5;

Spanish-American: Rael Nos. 176, 177, 276, 478 (U.S.), Hansen (Chile) 3, cf. 326*A (Chile) 1, (Puerto Rico) 1, (326*B) (Puerto Rico) 1;

Portuguese-American: Parsons MAFLS XV (1) 241;

West Indies (Negro) 6;

American Negro (Michigan):

Dorson No. 85;

American Indian: (Zuni): Boas JAFL XXXV 84 No. 5;

New Mexico: Espinosa JAFL XXIV 428 No. 10.

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{AT326*} The Fearless Boy.

The boy escapes from the murderers' house.

Bibliography :

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{AT326A*} Soul Released from Torment.

Poor soldier spends night in haunted house to earn reward offered. He is not afraid of the dragging chains, falling members, etc. He releases soul from punishment by giving its ill-gotten gains to charity. He may keep part of the revealed treasure for himself.

Bibliography :

Spanish 4.

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{326B*} The Fearless Youth takes up a corpse and frightens some robbers with it [K335.1.1.1] .

Cf. Type 1653B; he overpowers the evil spirits and frees a princess,
marries her.

Bibliography :

Lithuanian 15;

Russian (326B*) 1.

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{326C*} Magician and Dragon.

Magician enchants dragon out of the swamp. Is killed with his tail by latter.

Bibliography :

Rumanian (326 I*) 1.

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{326D*} Fearless Boy and Witches. Boy goes unfrightened at midnight to place where witches were burned and to a church.

Bibliography :

Polish (354*) 2.

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