

### **327 The Children and the Ogre.**

This type refers to a cycle of related tales.

It combines episodes from types 327A, 327B, and 327C.

Combinations: 300, 313, 314, 314A\*, 328, 700, and 1875.

#### **327A Hansel and Gretel.**

A (poor) father (persuaded by the stepmother) abandons his children (a boy and a girl) in the forest [S321, S143]. Twice the children find their way back home, following scattered pebbles [R135]. On the third night, birds eat the scattered peas (bread-crumbs) [R135.1].

The children come upon a gingerbread house which belongs to a witch (ogress) [G401, F771.1.10, G412.1]. She takes them into her house. The boy is fattened [G82], while the girl must do housework. The witch asks the boy to show his finger in order to test how fat he is [G82.1], but he shows her a bone (stick) [G82.1.1]. When the witch wants to cook the boy, the sister deceives her by feigning ignorance and pushes her into the oven [G526, G512.3.2]. (The witch's son finds out that his mother has been killed and pursues the children.)

The children escape, carrying the witch's treasure with them.

Birds and beasts (angels) help them across water. They return home. Cf. Type 327.

Combinations: This type is usually combined with episodes of one or more other types, esp. 327B, 327C, 328, and also 300, 303, 310, 313, 315, 407, 450, 510A, 511, 1119, and 1121.

#### **327B The Brothers and the Ogre**

(previously The Dwarf and the Giant).

Seven (three, twelve, thirty) brothers come to an ogre's house, where they are given night lodging. The ogre intends to cut off the brothers' heads. In order to recognize his own daughters, the ogre gives them nightcaps (head-scarves). One brother (often the youngest, Thumbling) detects the plan, and all brothers put on the nightcaps of the ogre's daughters (exchange their caps for the daughters' head-scarves, change sleeping-places with the daughters). In the night, the ogre cuts off his own daughters' heads by mistake [K1611]. The brothers escape. Cf. Types 327, 1119.

Combinations: This type is usually combined with episodes of one or more other types, esp. 327 A, 328, 531, 1119, and also 301, 303A, 313, 314, 327C, and 1121. Remarks: The oral tradition is widely influenced by Charles Perrault, *Le Petit poucet*.

#### **327C The Devil (Witch) Carries the Hero Home in a Sack.**

A witch (ogre) entices a boy (conceived by magic, Thumbling) into her bag and carries him away (from his home). By deceiving the witch (putting stones, thorns, mud, etc. in his place), the boy is able to escape twice from the bag. The third time, the witch carries him to her home. He is to be killed by the witch's daughter. The boy tricks the daughter (by making her show him how he should prepare to be killed [G526]), throws her into a pot (burns her in the oven), and serves her as a meal to her family [G61]. He taunts the witch, kills her, and returns home (sometimes with the witch's treasure).

Combinations: This type is usually combined with episodes of one or more other types, esp. 327 A, and also 327B, 327F, 327G, 328, 700, 1119, and 1121

### **327D The Kiddelkaddelkar.**

A boy and a girl lose their way in a forest and come to the house of an ogre. The wife protects the children, but the ogre discovers them and intends to hang them. The girl persuades the ogre to show them how it is done. Hanging himself, the ogre begs to be released and promises the children his "kiddelkaddelkar", a magic cart pulled by (golden) bucks, and much treasure.

The children flee and on the way ask three men not to reveal their route. The third man is so much frightened by the ogre that he betrays the children, who hide in a cave. The ogre, not suspecting the children's presence, lies down to sleep and blocks the way out. The children kill him but cannot leave the cave for three nights until a giant bird eats the ogre's corpse. Then they return to their parents with the ogre's treasure.

### **327F The Witch and the Fisher Boy.**

By imitating the words and voice of his mother who brings him food to the shore each day, a witch tries to catch a fisher boy. She succeeds after she has her tongue made thin by a smith [F556.2, K1832], and carries the boy to her home.

When the witch's daughter tries to bake the boy, he pushes her into the oven [G526, G512.3.2]. The boy hides in a tree and tells the witch that she has eaten her own daughter (witch finds the daughter's ring or hair). He is discovered. The witch fells the tree, but at the last moment birds rescue the boy (he makes wings for himself), and he flies home (the witch is trampled by animals, or she bursts while trying to drink the boy's image reflected in the water).

Combinations: 327A-327C, and 327G.

### **327G The Brothers at the Witch's House**

(previously The Boy at the Devil's [Witch's] House). A witch (devil) catches three brothers-one of them a fool - and fattens them. Her youngest daughter is to roast one of them. The fool pretends he does not know how to lie on the bread paddle and roasts the daughter, whom the old witch eats unwittingly. The same happens to the other two daughters [G512.3.2.1]. Then the fool kills the old witch and the three brothers make their way home carrying the witch's corpse. They climb a tree under which they see robbers. The fool drops the witch's corpse, the robbers flee, and the brothers take all their booty [K335.1.2.1]. Cf. Type 1653.

Combinations: 327A-327C, 328, 1119, and 1653.