

### **328 The Boy Steals the Ogre's Treasure.**

(Corvetto.)

Introduction (sometimes missing):

Three (twelve, thirteen, thirty, etc.) brothers arrive at the house of an ogre (devil). He would kill them in the night, but the smart youngest brother saves them by exchanging their caps with those of the ogre's daughters. (Cf. Types 3278, 1119.) The brothers take service at the king's court.

Main part:

The jealous brothers claim that the youngest can steal the ogre's treasures [H1151, H911]: magic horse [H1151.9], bedspread, carpet, parrot (lamp, sword [D1400.1.4.1], silver or golden poultry, musical instruments [D1233], etc.). Using tricks the youth gets these objects. Cf. Types 1525, 1525A.

At last the brothers claim that the youngest can kidnap the ogre himself [H1172]. In disguise the youth tells the ogre that the thief died and persuades him to lie down in the coffin to measure it [G514.1]. The youth nails up the coffin, traps the ogre, and is given a princess as his wife.

In some variants, the youth sets out to steal from the ogre in order to get revenge for former ill-treatment [G610.1] or to help a friendly king [G610.3].

In some variants, mainly from northern and north-western Europe and the Americas, the protagonist is female.

Combinations: This type is usually combined with episodes of one or more other types, esp. 327A, 327B, 327C, 531, 1119, and also 303A, 314, 326, 327, 1121, 1122, and 1137.

Remarks: Documented in the 17th century by Basile, *Pentamerone* (III,7).