

{AT329} Hiding from the Devil.

A man hides himself three times (in the belly of the fish, etc.).

(Sometimes combined with Types 301 or 313.)

I. The Task,

(a) A princess (devil) assigns her suitors the task of hiding themselves,

(b) She has magic windows that give her magic sight,

(c) Unsuccessful suitors have their heads placed on stakes before her palace.

II. youngest Brother Undertakes Task. After his elder brothers have lost their lives the youngest undertakes the task,

(b) He receives the help of grateful animals or

(c) of an old man.

III. Accomplishment,

(a) After hiding himself through the animal's help in a raven's egg and in the belly of a fish and being discovered, the hero is turned into an insect (or the like) under the princess' hair - in her anger she breaks her magic window,

(b) He is disenchanted and they marry.

Motifs:

I.

[H321] Suitor test: hiding from princess. She has magic sight.

[D1323.3] Magic clairvoyant windows. Twelve, each more powerful than the next.

[H901.1] Heads placed on stakes for failure in performance of task.

II.

[L13] Compassionate youngest son.

[D684] Transformation by helpful animals.

[H982] Animals help man perform task.

[N825.2] Old man helper.

III.

[D641] Transformation to reach difficult place.

[D700] Disenchantment.

[L161] Lowly hero marries princess.

Bibliography :

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*BP III 365 (Grimm No. 191);

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Finnish 5;

Lithuanian 1;

Danish 4, Grundtvig No. 51;

Irish 137, Beal IV 439ff., XI 14ff., XIX 53ff.;

French 1;

Catalan: Amades No. 46;

Rumanian 2, Sainenu 770;

Hungarian 3;

Serbocroatian 2;

Polish (329, 329A*) 2;

Russian: Azadovsky Russkaya Skazka Nos. 1, 13;

Andrejev Ukraine 2, Afanasiev 23;

Greek 4, Hahn No. 59;

Turkish: Eberhard-Boratav No. 64 4.

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Franco-American 13, French Antilles 1;

Spanish-American: Rael Nos. 258, 261 (U.S.).

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{AT329A*} Man Gives (Sells) his Shadow to the Devil.

(Cf. Q552.9 and Type 775.)

Bibliography :

French 2.

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