

331 The Spirit in the Bottle.

A man (son of a woodcutter, smith , fisherman, soldier) frees an evil spirit from a vessel (bottle) out of curiosity (because he was asked by the spirit) [R181]. The spirit (which stretches out to an enormous height,) wants to take revenge for being locked for so long, and threatens to kill his rescuer. The man tricks the spirit He pretends he does not believe that the spirit could grow small again and thus induces him to go back into the vessel [K717]. The man stoppers the bottle and the spirit is trapped.

In some variants, he is released again in return for a gift (wonderful remedy, magic power [D1240, D2102]). Cf. Types 155, 735A.

Combinations: 155, 330, and 332.