403 The Black and the White Bride.

(Including the previous Types 403A and 403B.) A stepmother hates her stepchildren [S31]. The stepdaughter is kind to someone she meets (e.g. Christ and St. Peter) (she is sent after strawberries in winter [H1023.3], and meets dwarfs who help her). In return she is given great beauty [D1860] (the power of dropping gold or jewels from her mouth [D1454.2, D1454.1.2]). The stepmother's own daughter is unkind under these conditions and is made ugly [D1870] (made to drop toads from her mouth [M431.2]) [Q2].

The stepdaughter's brother is in service at the court of a king. He takes his sister's picture with him. The king sees the girl's picture, falls in love with her, and sends the brother for her [T11.2]. (The beautiful stepdaughter is seen accidentally by a king or prince, who marries her [N711, L162].)

On their journey to the king's court, the stepmother or stepsister casts the true bride out of the carriage (overboard) [S432]. The king marries the ugly stepsister [K1911], and the brother is thrown into prison or a pit of snakes [Q465.1]. (The king's wife gives birth to a child. The stepmother throws her and her child into the water and substitutes her own daughter for the bride [K1911.1.2].)

The true bride is transformed to a duck (goose) [D161.2], and comes to the king's court three times (to care for her child [D688]). The last night the king wakes and disenchants her by decapitation [D711] (cutting her golden belt, holding her during successive transformations [D712.4]).

The brother, unharmed in the den of snakes [B848], is rescued.

The true bride is married or reinstated, and the false bride and her mother are punished [Q261]. Cf. Types 450, 480, 510B, 511.

Combinations: This type is usually combined with episodes of one or more other types, esp. 480, 510A, and also 311, 313, 408, 409, 425, 450, 451, 510B, 511, 533, 707, and 709.

403A See Type 403.

403B See Type 403.

403C The Substituted Bride

(previously The Witch Secretly Substitutes her own Daughter). A witch secretly substitutes her own daughter for the bride. On the way to his home, the bridegroom discovers the substitution and throws the witch's daughter out of the carriage. The girl falls down to the earth (under a bridge), and from her navel grows a reed in which the witch recognizes her own daughter.

Combinations: 409.