

450—459 Brother or Sister

450 *Little Brother and Little Sister*. The boy is turned into a roe by the cruel stepmother. Lives with his sister in the forest. The king marries the sister. Her stepmother usurps her place as wife. Disclosure, punishment, and reunion. Cf. Types 403, 480, 533.

I. *Cruel Stepmother*. A widower yields to the persuasion of his daughter and marries again. The new wife is cruel to the stepchildren.

II. *Kind and Unkind*. The good maiden is granted beauty and other gifts but her evil sister receives ugliness as a gift. Cf. Types 403, 480.

III. *The Children's Flight from Home*. (a) Brother and sister escape together. (b) The brother is transformed by the stepmother into a roe or sheep, (c) when he drinks from an animal's track; — or (d) the brother takes service with a king whom he tells about his beautiful sister.

IV. *False Bride*. The sister marries a king but is replaced by another: (a) on the way to the wedding, (b) when a child is born; — or (c) she is thrown into the water and abandoned, or (d) transformed by the stepmother into a bird or fish, or (e) caught by a mermaid or swallowed by a fish. (f) The impostor is usually a stepsister.

V. *Persecuted Brother*. The king (a) has the brother thrown into a snake pit and (b) marries the false bride.

VI. *Denouement*. (a) Conversation of brother and sister overheard by a servant or the king. (b) The queen returns at night in her animal form to learn about her family and is disenchanted by decapitation or by cutting of the chain which binds her. (c) The dead queen returns at night from the grave to suckle her child.

VII. *Punishment*. The villain is given the punishment she has unwittingly suggested.

Motifs:

I. S31.5. Girl persuades her father to marry a widow who has treated her kindly. S31. Cruel stepmother. L55. Stepdaughter heroine.

II. Q2. Kind and unkind.

III. P253. Sister and brother. S301. Children abandoned (exposed). S143. Abandonment in forest. D683.2. Transformation by witch (sorceress). D555.1. Transformation by drinking from animal's track. D135. Transformation: man to sheep. D114.1.1. Transformation: man to deer. P253.2. Sister faithful to transformed brother. T11.1. Love from description.

IV. N711.1. King (prince) finds maiden in woods (tree) and marries her. L162. Lowly heroine marries prince (king). K1911. The false bride (substituted bride). K2212.1. Treacherous stepsisters. K1911.1.1. False bride takes true bride's place on way to wedding. K1911.1.2. False bride takes true bride's place when child is born. S142. Person thrown into the water and abandoned. S432. Cast-off wife thrown into water. K1911.2.2. True bride pushed into water by false. K1911.2.1. True bride trans-

formed by false. D150. Transformation to bird. D170. Transformation to fish. B82. Mermaid. K1911.2.2.1. True bride lives in fish's belly. F913. Victims rescued from swallower's belly.

V. Q465.1. Throwing into pit of snakes as punishment.

VI. H13. Recognition by overheard conversation. E322.2. Dead wife returns to wake husband. E323.1.1. Dead mother returns to suckle child. D688. Transformed mother suckles child. D711. Disenchantment by decapitation. D757. Disenchantment by holding enchanted person during successive transformation. D762. Disenchantment by proper person waking from magic sleep. The enchanted person appears three times and if the sleeper does not wake by the third times the enchantment must last.

VII. Q581. Villain nemesis.

*BP I 79 (Grimm No. 11; cf. No. 141). — Finnish 21; Estonian 4; Livonian 1; Lithuanian 43; Swedish 6 (Stockholm 1, misc. 5); Danish 2, Grundtvig No. 38; Irish 1; French 12; Spanish 1; German 20; Italian 7 (Pentamerone cf. V No. 8, Tuscan 451 a, d, e 3, Sicilian 3, Gonzenbach Nos. 48, 49); Rumanian 11; Hungarian 20, Dégh No. 16; Czech: Tille Soupis I 106 3; Serbocroatian 5; Russian: Afanasiev 15, Greek 6, Loukatos Nos. 9, 10; Turkish: Eberhard-Boratav No. 168 32; South Arabia: Jahn 28. — Franco-American 3; Spanish-American: Hansen (Puerto Rico) 1, (Chile **425A) 1; West Indies (Negro) 6. — African 1.

450A *The Brother Transformed to a Snake*. See analysis of 450.

III. (c) A brother and sister are driven forth by their stepmother. The boy kills a snake. A flowering tree grows from its body. The girl puts one of the flowers on her brother and he is changed into a snake.

IV. (b) The brother is disenchanting.

India 4.

451 *The Maiden Who Seeks her Brothers*. The twelve brothers are changed into ravens. Cf. *The Speechless Princess*, Types 705, 710.

I. *The Brothers and their Sister*. (a) Seven (twelve) brothers have a younger sister. (b) The parents have promised the death of the brothers if a daughter is born; the brothers discover this; the mother lets them know by a sign if a girl is born; the brothers flee; the sister finds them; or (c) the boys leave home out of fear of their father or stepmother.

II. *Transformation of Brothers to Ravens*. (a) Through a wish of their father or (b) stepmother or (c) because their younger sister has plucked twelve flowers from an enchanted garden, the brothers are transformed to ravens.

III. *The Sister's Quest*. (a) The sister seeks for them and asks direction of sun, moon, and stars and finds them on a glass mountain (and they are thereby disenchanting) or (b) the sister must remain speechless for years and make shirts.

IV. *The Calumniated Wife*. (a) A king sees the speechless girl and marries her. (b) On the birth of her children they are stolen and she is accused of killing them.