470 Friends in Life and Death

[M253].

Two friends promise each other to be guests at each other's weddings. One of them dies but takes part invisibly in the wedding of the living friend. He invites him for a return visit [E238].

The living friend also takes part in the wedding of his friend in the otherworld. They take a long journey through the otherworld and see strange things: a broad and a narrow road to heaven and hell [F171.2], fat cattle in a poor pasture and Jean cattle in a green one (formerly rich and poor people) [F171.1], people and animals who argue [F171.3], etc.

When the living man returns he finds that he has been away many (three) centuries [D2011]. All is changed and he knows no one. He dies or turns to dust.

Cf. Type 471.

Remarks: Documented in the 15th century in *Speculum exemplorum* (1487) and in the Dutch Christian legend *Een dooden ridder*.