

## **500 The Name of the Supernatural Helper.**

(E.g. Tom Tit Tot, Rumpelstilzchen, Trillevip.)

A father (mother) boasts that his daughter can spin gold or impossible amounts of yarn. Or, a mother beats her daughter because she is lazy. The king asks why and the mother says she will not stop spinning [H914].

The young woman's talent is to be tested and she is shut in a room to spin [H1021.8, H1092]. If she fails she will die, but if she succeeds the king will marry her. She cries. A supernatural being (a little man) agrees to help her [D2183] if she will promise him her first child (herself) if she cannot guess his name [H521, S222, S222.1]. In some variants she has to remember his name after a long time.

The young woman passes the test and the king marries her. After a year the little man, certain that she could not guess his name, comes back to take her child away. By chance the name is discovered (by a servant, the husband or the woman herself) when the little man sings it triumphantly in the forest [N475]. When the woman says the correct name to the helper he vanishes or sinks into the earth [C432.1].

Combinations: 501.

Remarks: Documented by Madame L'Héritier de Villandon, *L'Histoire de Ricdin-Ricdon* (1705).