

{AT500} The Name of the Helper (Titeliture, Rumpelstilzchen, Tom-Tit-Tot).

The maiden learns the name of her supernatural helper.

I. Impossible Task,

(a) A girl wedded to prince is compelled (to fulfill her mother's false boasting) to spin an impossible amount of yarn or

(b) to spin gold. Cf. Type 501.

II. Bargain with the Helper,

(a) A supernatural being agrees to help the girl

(b) or to reward a man

(c) but she must give him her child or

(d) herself,

(e) if she cannot within a certain time guess his name or

(f) his age.

III. The Helper Overcome,

(a) By chance the name (age) is discovered,

(b) the name is pronounced, and the helper vanishes.

Motifs :

I.

[H914] Tasks assigned because of mother's foolish boasting.

[H1092] Task: spinning impossible amount in one night.

[H1021.8] Task: spinning gold.

II.

[D2183] Magic spinning. Usually performed by a supernatural helper.

[S222] Man promises (sells) child in order to save himself from danger or death.

[S222.1] Woman promises her unborn child to appease offended witch.

[H512] Guessing with life as wager.

[H521] Test: guessing unknown propounder's name.

[H521.1] Test: guessing unknown propounder's age.

III.

[N475] Secret name overheard by eavesdropper.

[C432.1] Guessing name of supernatural creature gives power over him.

Bibliography :

**Clodd Tom-Tit-Tot;

**Pollvka Zs. f. Vksk. X 254—272, 325, 382_396, 438f.;

**von Sydow Tva Spinnsagor; Liungman Rig (1941) 89ff., and Folkminnen och Folktankar (1943) 94ff.;

Hartmann Trollvorstellungen 170;

Boberg FFC CLI 1 Off.;

Coffin 3;

*BP I 490 (Grimm No. 55)."

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Finnish 70;

Finnish-Swedish 3;

Estonian 16;

Lithuanian 8;

Swedish 47 "Uppsala 13, Stockholm 5, Goteborg 12, Lund 4, Liungman 3, misc. 10) ;

Norwegian 4, Solheim 2;

Danish 90, Grundtvig No. 50A;

Icelandic 4-

Irish 171 , Beal I 301f., Ill 467f. No. 10, V 221, VII 105, VIII 150, X 44ff., XII 165;

English 3;

Basque 2;

French 39;

Spanish 1;

Flemish 4;

German: Ranke 96;

Austrian: Haiding No. 46;

Italian 3 (Tuscan [908] 1, Sicilian 2, Gonzenbach No. 84);

Hungarian 6;

Czech- TillSopsis II (2) 129—131 4;

Slovenian 5;

Serbocroatian 2;

Polish 3; Russian: Andrejev;

Turkish: Eberhard-Boratav Anlage Ac 4.

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Franco-American 9;

Spanish-American: Hansen (Puerto Rico) 2;

West Indies (Negro) 26.

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{AT500 *} The Monster Reveals the Riddle.

Students must count the peaks of a mountain • they go to sleep; the monster comes and thinks they are a many-headed monster says that he walked through all the peaks of the mountain and tells their number. Thus they hear and solve the riddle

Bibliography :

Polish (377*) 3.

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