

503 The Gifts of the Little People.

A hunchbacked man takes part in a dance of the witches or people from below the earth (elves, fairies, dwarfs) [F331.1]. He sings their song or adds a missing rhyme or more weekdays [F331.3, F331.4]. As a reward they remove his hump [F344.1] or give him gold [F342.1].

A greedy neighbor (hunchbacked person) wants to get the same reward, but he ruins the song or is unfriendly. The little people add the hump of the other man to his own, or give him coals instead of gold [J2415]. Cf. Type 480D*.

Remarks: Some motifs appear in the 17th century in Ireland and Italy.