

{AT545} The Cat as Helper.

Visit to the castle. Disenchantment.

#### I. The Helpful Cat.

- (a) A boy or
- (b) girl inherits nothing but a cat (or fox).

#### II. The Cat at the Palace.

- (a) The cat takes the girl (boy) to the palace,
- (b) He tells the king that the boy (girl) is a dispossessed prince,
- (c) The cat woos the princess for the boy.
- (d) The boy (girl) always says that he (she) has better things at home.

#### III. Visit to the Castle.

- (a) The king is to visit the boy's (girl's) castle,
- (b) The cat goes ahead and has peasants say they are working for his master (mistress),
- (c) He goes to a giant's castle and through trickery kills the giant and takes possession of the castle for his master (mistress).

#### IV. Disenchantment,

- (a) The cat's head is cut off and it becomes a prince (or princess).

Motifs:

I.

[N411.1.1] Cat as sole inheritance.

[B211.1.8] Speaking cat.

[B422] Helpful cat.

[B435.1] Helpful fox.

II.

[B580] Animal helps man to wealth and greatness.

[B581] Animal brings wealth to man.

[B582.1.1] Animal wins wife for his master (Puss in Boots).

[B582.1.2] Animal wins husband for mistress.

[K1952.1] Poor boy said by helpful cat to be dispossessed prince.

[K1952.2] Better things at home.

[K1954.1] Helpful cat borrows measure for his master's money.

[K1917.3] Penniless wooer: helpful animal reports master wealthy and thus wins girl for him.

[K1952.1.1] Poor boy said by helpful animal to be dispossessed prince (wealthy man) who has lost clothes while swimming (in shipwreck).

III.

[F771.4.1] Castle inhabited by ogres.

[K722] Giant tricked into becoming mouse.

IV. [D711] Disenchantment by decapitation.

Bibliography :

Finnish 112;

Estonian 7;

Swedish 51 (Uppsala 13, Stockholm 5, Goteborg 11, Liungman 4, misc. 18);

Danish 35;

Irish 58, Beal I 239ff., II 10;

Spanish (545C\*) 1;

Flemish 5, Witteryck p. 293 4;

German: Ranke 4;

Italian (Pentamerone II No. 4);

Slovenian 4;

Serbocroatian 1;

Polish 1.

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Franco-American 8;

Spanish-American: Rael Nos. 240, 242 (U.S.), Hansen (Dominican Republic) 5.

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African 10.

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Two forms of the type follows:

{AT545A} The Cat Castle.

The boy inherits a cow, the girl a cat. The cat helps the girl so that she gains the love of a prince and takes possession of the giant's castle for the girl. Cf. Type 505.

See analysis: I b; II a, b, d; III a, b, c; IV a.

Bibliography :

Finnish-Swedish 3;

Lappish 1;

Swedish (Lund) 1;

Norwegian 4;

French 16;

Italian (Sicilian 4);

Russian: Andrejev;

Turkish: Eberhard-Boratav No. 54 III, IV.

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{AT545B} Puss in Boots (or the helpful fox).

The cat coerces the shepherd (and others) to sav that they are servants of the hero, and takes possession of the castle of the serpent (or magician).

See analysis: I a; II a, b, c, d; III a, b, c; IV a.

Bibliography :

\*BP III 487 (Grimm No. 214);

Coffin 1.

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Finnish-Swedish 1;

Livonian 1;

Lithuanian 4;

Lappish 8;

Norwegian 29, Solheim 2;

Italian : D'Arconco Fiabe 13 (Tuscan 545 a—e 5, Sicilian 4, Gonzenbach No. (55);

Rumanian 6, Sainenu 1(35;

Hungarian 5;

Serbocroatian 2;

Russian: Andrejev Ukraine 11, Afanasiev 9;

Greek 20, Hahn II 340ff., Argent i- Rose 1 514ff. No. 11, Loukatos No. 15;

Turkish: Eberhard-Boratav Nos. 34, 36 IV, 189 III 21;

India 19;

Indonesian: DeVries No. 179.

West Indies (Negro) 7.

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African: Frobenius Atlantis III No. 26.

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{AT545C\*} Boaster Wins the Bride. (Like Type 545 without animal helper.)

Bibliography :

Italian (Sicilian \*545C 1).

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{AT545D\*} The Bean King.

Unemployed youth finds a bean on the road. He imagines how rich he could become if he grows beans. He goes to a king and asks for loading places and barrels for his coming crops. The king supposes him wealthy and offers him the princess as wife. When the king wants to see the property of his son-in-law, a grateful ghost whom he has earlier helped furnishes a castle and reports to the king that everything in sight belongs to the youth.

Bibliography :

Hungarian 1.

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{AT545E\*} The Cat Leads to Money.

Brother tells his sister to fry fish while he goes to town. A cat steals the fish and the girl follows it. She finds two piles of money. She tells her brother and they take it and become rich.

Bibliography :

Spanish-American: Hansen (545\*\*D) (Dominican Republic) 1.

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