

{ AT565 } The Magic Mill.

Grinds an enormous amount of meal or salt when the man who has stolen it cannot stop it.

I. The Magic Mill (Pot).

The hero or heroine receives

- (a) a magic pot that fills itself with porridge or
- (b) a mill that grinds meal or salt,
- (c) Only the owner can command it to stop.

II. The Mill Keeps Grinding.

- (a) In the absence of the heroine her mother commands the pot to work but she cannot stop it and it fills the house with porridge until the owner returns to stop it; or
- (b) the thief of the object cannot stop it and must give it back to the owner; or
- (c) a ship-captain steals the mill and takes it aboard ship, where he commands it to grind salt. He cannot stop it and it sinks the ship and keeps grinding. This is why the sea is salt.

Motifs:

I.

[D1601.10.1] Self-cooking pot.

[D1472.1.9] Magic pot supplies food and drink.

[D1601.21.1] Self-grinding salt-mill.

[D1651] Magic object obeys master alone.

II.

[D1651.3] Magic cooking-pot obeys only master.

[C916.3] Magic porridge-pot keeps cooking. Against command, mother of owner bids pot to cook. It fills house with porridge and will not stop until ordered by mistress.

[A1115.2] Why the sea is salt: magic salt mill.

Bibliography :

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Aarne JSFO XXVII (1909) 67, 80;

*Liungman SSF III 205ff.;

Krohn FFC XCVI 48.

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Finnish 52;

Finnish-Swedish 6';

Estonian 6;

Livonian 1;

Lithuanian 4;

Lappish 1;

Swedish 32 (Uppsala 8, Stockholm 1, Goteborg 8, Lund 2, Liungman 4, misc. 9);

Norwegian 8;

Danish 26, Grundtvig No. 65;

Icelandic 3;

Irish 62, Beal III 53f. No. 3, XIV 215, XVIII 94f.;

French 3;

Catalan: Amades No. 57;

German: Ranke 15;

Austrian: Haiding No. 4;

Czech: Tille Soupis I 530f. 2;

Slovenian 5;

Serbocroatian 3;

Polish 3, (738) 2;

Russian: Andrejev 1;

Greek 1;

Indonesian: DeVries No. 189;

Chinese: Eberhard FFC CXX 107f. No. 63, FFC CXXVIII 81f. No. 38.

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Franco-American 3;

Cape Verde Islands: Parsons MAFLS XV (1) 238 n. 2;

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African (Basuto): Jacottet 220 No. 33.

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