

567 The Magic Bird-Heart.

A man eats the heart of a magic bird and thereby receives the power of spitting gold [B113.1] (of finding a coin under his pillow every day, he becomes king [D1561.1.1, M312. 3]). A woman (his own wife) causes him to vomit the bird-heart, eats it herself (because she learned its secret from an old woman) [D861.5] and casts him out. He finds a magic herb that transforms people into donkies [D965, D983, D551.2, D132.1, D661]. With the help of the herb he changes the woman to donkey (and makes it work hard). Cf. Type 566.

In some variants he changes the woman back to a human being and marries her.

Combinations: This type is usually combined with episodes of one or more other types, esp. 300, 303, 518, 531, 566, and 567 A.

Remarks: Probably of Oriental origin (see Tuti-Näme and Somadeva' s Kathâsaritsâgara). The variants of the Types 566, 567, and 567A are often mixed with each other or they are not clearly differentiated. (Type 567 may originate from a combination with Type 566.) Often an introduction to type 303.