

{AT612} The Three Snake-Leaves.

A man has himself shut up in the grave of his dead wife. Example of the snakes.

#### I. Death Pact.

- (a) The hero promises his bride that if she dies before him he will be buried with her.
- (b) This happens shortly after the wedding.

#### II. Resuscitation.

- (a) In the grave he sees a snake revive another with leaves and in this way he resuscitates his wife; or
- (b) she is restored to life in reply to a prayer, on condition that the husband give up twenty years of his life.

#### III. Treacherous Wife.

The wife now falls in love with shipmaster and the two of them throw the husband into the sea.

#### IV. Denouement.

- (a) A faithful servant resuscitates him with the snake- leaves.
- (b) The guilty pair are punished.

— Adapted from BP.

Parts I and II often appear alone; likewise parts III and IV.

Motifs:

I.

[M254] Promise to be buried with wife if she dies first.

[S123.2] Burial of living husband or wife with dead spouse.

II.

[B512] Medicine shown by animal. It heals another animal with a medicine (herb, water, etc) and thus shows the man the remedy. Sometimes the medicine resuscitates the dead. (The animal is most frequently the serpent.)

[B491.1] Helpful serpent.

[D1500.1.4] Magic healing plant.

[E165] Resuscitation of wife by husband giving up half his remaining life (sometimes vice versa).

III.

[K2213.5] The faithless resuscitated wife.

[K2213.2] Faithless wife and paramour throw hero overboard.

[S142] Person thrown into the water and abandoned.

IV.

[P361] Faithful servant.

[E105] Resuscitation by herbs (leaves).

[Q261] Treachery punished.

Bibliography :

\*BP I 126 (Grimm No. 16);

Wesselski Marchen 188;

Lingman SSF III 222.

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Lithuanian (612A) 2, (612B) 1;

Swedish 2 (Liungman 1, misc. 1 );

Danish 3;

Basque 1;

French 4;

Spanish 1;

Catalan: Amades cf. No. 193;

German 3;

Italian (Sicilian 2 );

Rumanian 3;

Hungarian 3;

Czech: Tille Soupis II (2) 212—221 6;

Slovenian 3;

Serbocroatian 1;

Polish 9;

Russian: Andrejev 7, Azadowsky Russkaya Skazka No. 15;

Greek 14;

Turkish: Eberhard-Boratav No. 120 3;

India 2;

Indonesian: DeVries No. 194.

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Franco-American 1;

French Antilles 1;

English-American: Baughman 1;

Spanish-American: Rael Nos. 227, 302 (U.S.);

Cape Verde Islands: Parsons MAFLS XV (1) 198.

— Literary Treatment: Chauvin VIII 119.

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{AT612A} The Ungrateful Wife Restored to Life.

See analysis of 612.

II. (c) The wife is bitten by a snake and dies.

III. (a) The man and his wife are separated,

(b) The husband becomes an adviser to the king,

(c) The wife, who has become a prostitute or dancer, pleases the king and is granted a boon,

(d) She demands the death of her husband, whom she recognizes,

(e) He tells his story, asking his wife to return what he had given her, and she dies.

Bibliography :

India 7.

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{AT612\*} The Faithful Lover.

A boy in love with a girl of noble family leaves. The girl promises to wait for him. She dies; the boy in learning this (sometimes by miracle)

returns home, vivifies the dead girl, and marries her.

Bibliography :

Polish 5.

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