

653A The Rarest Thing in the World.

A princess is offered to whichever of three suitors (friends, brothers) brings the best (rarest, most precious) thing in the world [T68.1] (three men with extraordinary abilities woo the princess). They acquire wonderful (magic) objects: a mirror (telescope, spectacles) which shows everything that is happening in the world [D1323.15], a flying coat (flying carpet) [D1520.18, D1520.19] and a fruit (apple, lemon, etc.) or an ointment that heals (resuscitates) [D1500.1.5.1, E106].

When they meet they use the telescope to see that the princess is sick (dead). They go to her immediately with the carpet and use the fruit to heal her (restore her to life). A dispute follows as to who is to marry her [H621.2, Z16]. (She chooses the one who loves her most.)