

{AT707} The Three Golden Sons.

The queen bears marvelous children. They are stolen away. The queen is banished. The quest for the speaking bird, the singing tree, and the water of life.

I. Wishing for a Husband

(a) Three girls make a boast that if they marry the king they will have triplets with golden hair, a chain around the neck, and a star on the forehead,

(b) The king overhears the youngest and marries her.

II. Calumniated Wife,

(s) The elder sisters substitute a dog for the newborn children and accuse the wife of giving birth to the dog.

(b) The children are thrown into a stream but rescued by a miller (or a fisher),

(c) The wife is imprisoned.

III. The Children s Adventures.

(a) After the children have grown up, the eldest son sets out to find his father or

(b) to seek the speaking bird, the singing tree, and the water of life. —

(c) He and his brother, who goes for him, both fail and are transformed to marble columns,

(d) The sister by courtesy and obedience to an old woman succeeds in rescuing them and bringing back the magic objects.

Restoration of Children.

(a) The attention of the king is drawn to the children and the magic objects,

(b) The bird of truth reveals to him the whole history,

(c) The children and the wife are restored; the sister-in-law is punished.

Motifs:

I.

- [N201] Wish for exalted husband realized.
- [H71.2] Gold (silver) hairs as sign of royalty.
- [H71.3] Pearls from hair as sign of royalty.
- [H71.7] Child born with chain around neck: sign of royalty.
- [H71.1] Star on forehead as sign of royalty.
- [N455.4] King overhears girl's boast as to what she should do as queen.
- [L50] Victorious youngest daughter.
- [L162] Lowly heroine marries prince (king).

II.

- [K2212] Treacherous sister.
- [K2110.1] Calumniated wife.
- [S410] Persecuted wife.
- [K2115] Animal-birth slander.
- [S430] Disposal of castoff wife.
- [S301] Children exposed.
- [S142] Person thrown into the water and abandoned.
- [R131.2] Miller rescues abandoned child.
- [R131.4] Fisher rescues abandoned child.

III.

- [H1381.2.2.1] Son seeks unknown father.
- [H1320] Quest for miraculous objects or animals.
- [H1331.1.1] Quest for Bird of Truth.
- [H1333.1.1] Quest for singing tree.
- [H1321.5] Quest for singing water.

[H1321.4] Quest for dancing water.

[H1321.1] Quest for Water of Life (water which will resuscitate).

[D231.2] Transformation: man to marble column.

[Q2] Kind and unkind.

[N825.3] Old woman helper.

[R158] Sister rescues brother(s).

IV.

[H151.1] Attention drawn by magic objects: recognition follows.

[K1911.3.1] Substitution of false bride revealed by animal.

[B131.2] Bird reveals treachery.

[Q261] Treachery punished.

[S451] Outcast wife at last united with husband and children.

Bibliography :

*BP II 380 (Grimm No. 96);

*JAFL XXVII 230;

Coffin 7; Anderson Novelline Nos. 9, 50;

*Espinosa II 446—460;

Straparola IV No. 3.

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Finnish 73;

Finnish-Swedish 4;

Estonian 22;

Livonian 3;

Lithuanian 65;

Swedish 28 (Uppsala 11, Stockholm 2, Gdteborg 4, Lund 1, Liungman 2, misc. 8);

Norwegian 1;

Danish 20, Grundtvig No. 44;

Icelandic 1;

Irish 92, Beal II 396ff.;

Basque 1;

French 29;

Spanish 7;

Catalan: Amades Nos. 98, 153, 177, 180, cf. No. 102;

Flemish 3;

German 25 (Archive 23, Meckl. Nos. 53, 84);

Austrian: Haiding No. 27;

Italian: D'Arconco Fiabe 70 (Tuscan 707 a—h, 1, m, q, r, t—z, 709 m 18, Sicilian 7);

Rumanian 22, Sainenu 391;

Hungarian 17, Berze Nagy 707 I*, 452* 10;

Czech: Tille Soupis I 499ff., II (1) 192ff. 18;

Slovenian 11;

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Polish 14;

Russian: Azadovsky Russkaya Skazka No. 2, Andrejev Ukraine 11, Afanasiev 50;

Albanian: Lambertz 156;

Greek Archive 40, Loukatos No. 20, Laographia X 381ff., XI 427ff., XVI 199ff.;

Turkish: Eberhard-Boratav No. 239, cf. 223, 306 III 55; India 44.

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Franco-American 14;

Spanish-American: Rael Nos. 123—125 (U.S.), Hansen (Chile) 2, (Dominican Republic) 4;

Cape Verde Islands: Parsons MAFLS XV (1) 296 n. 1, cf. 289 n. 1;

West Indies (Negro) 15;

American Indian: Thompson C Coll II 387ff.

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African 10.

{AT707A} Introduction to Three Golden Sons: Ogre Schoolmaster.

One girl does not tell of his eating the children. He leaves her in front of palace. Cf. Type 894.

Bibliography :

Greek 4.

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{AT707A*} Virgin to Bear Child.

Girl boasts that if she marries a prince [N455.4] she will bear a child while still a virgin. To test this the prince confines her to a tower. She manages to get a peasants child as substitute, satisfies the prince and marries him.

Bibliography :

Greek (874*) 1,

Hahn No. 112.

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{AT707B*} The Wandering Husband.

A prince runs away from home, defeats his rival, and marries a beautiful girl. After having been parted from his wife for a while, he returns home just as she is about to marry another man. While they are parted again, he wants to marry another woman. But then the children of his first wife arrive and tell him about their mother.

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Russian: Andrejev 3.

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