IMM

FIRY

IRD

ertain king had a beautiful garden, and in the garden stood a tree which e golden apples. These apples were always counted, and about the time en they began to grow ripe it was found that every night one of them was e. The king became very angry at this, and ordered the gardener to keep ch all night under the tree. The gardener set his eldest son to watch; but ut twelve o'clock he fell asleep, and in the morning another of the apples missing. Then the second son was ordered to watch; and at midnight too fell asleep, and in the morning another apple was gone. Then the d son offered to keep watch; but the gardener at first would not let him, fear some harm should come to him: however, at last he consented, and young man laid himself under the tree to watch. As the clock struck lve he heard a rustling noise in the air, and a bird came flying that was ure gold; and as it was snapping at one of the apples with its beak, the dener's son jumped up and shot an arrow at it. But the arrow did the no harm; only it dropped a golden feather from its tail, and then flew y. The golden feather was brought to the king in the morning, and all the ncil was called together. Everyone agreed that it was worth more than he wealth of the kingdom: but the king said, 'One feather is of no use to I must have the whole bird.'

Then the gardener's eldest son set out and thought to find the golden very easily; and when he had gone but a little way, he came to a wood, by the side of the wood he saw a fox sitting; so he took his bow and

evening came to the village where the two inns were; and in one of thes
people singing, and dancing, and feasting; but the other looked very
and poor. 'I should be very silly,' said he, 'if I went to that shabby
and left this charming place'; so he went into the smart house, and a
drank at his ease, and forgot the bird, and his country too.

Time passed on; and as the eldest son did not come back, and no t
were heard of him, the second son set out, and the same thing happe
him. He met the fox, who gave him the good advice: but when he
to the two inns, his eldest brother was standing at the window whe
merrymaking was, and called to him to come in; and he could not wit
the temptation, but went in, and forgot the golden bird and his cou
the same manner.

Time passed on again, and the youngest son too wished to set o
the wide world to seek for the golden bird; but his father would not li
it for a long while, for he was very fond of his son, and was afraid tha
ill luck might happen to him also, and prevent his coming back. Ho
at last it was agreed he should go, for he would not rest at home; and
came to the wood, he met the fox, and heard the same good counse
he was thankful to the fox, and did not attempt his life as his brothe
done; so the fox said, 'Sit upon my tail, and you will travel faster.' So
down, and the fox began to run, and away they went over stock and
so quick that their hair whistled in the wind.

When they came to the village, the son followed the fox's counse
without looking about him went to the shabby inn and rested there al
at his ease. In the morning came the fox again and met him as h
beginning his journey, and said, 'Go straight forward, till you com
castle, before which lie a whole troop of soldiers fast asleep and snorin
no notice of them, but go into the castle and pass on and on till you
to a room, where the golden bird sits in a wooden cage; close by it st

took hold of it and put it into the golden cage. But the bird set up such
ud scream that all the soldiers awoke, and they took him prisoner and
ied him before the king. The next morning the court sat to judge him;
when all was heard, it sentenced him to die, unless he should bring the
g the golden horse which could run as swiftly as the wind; and if he did
, he was to have the golden bird given him for his own.

So he set out once more on his journey, sighing, and in great despair,
n on a sudden his friend the fox met him, and said, 'You see now what
happened on account of your not listening to my counsel. I will still,
ever, tell you how to find the golden horse, if you will do as I bid you.
must go straight on till you come to the castle where the horse stands
is stall: by his side will lie the groom fast asleep and snoring: take away
horse quietly, but be sure to put the old leathern saddle upon him, and
the golden one that is close by it.' Then the son sat down on the fox's
, and away they went over stock and stone till their hair whistled in the
d.

All went right, and the groom lay snoring with his hand upon the golden
dle. But when the son looked at the horse, he thought it a great pity to
the leathern saddle upon it. 'I will give him the good one,' said he; 'I
sure he deserves it.' As he took up the golden saddle the groom awoke
cried out so loud, that all the guards ran in and took him prisoner, and
he morning he was again brought before the court to be judged, and
sentenced to die. But it was agreed, that, if he could bring thither the
utiful princess, he should live, and have the bird and the horse given him
his own.

Then he went his way very sorrowful; but the old fox came and said, 'Why
not you listen to me? If you had, you would have carried away both the
l and the horse; yet will I once more give you counsel. Go straight on,
in the evening you will arrive at a castle. At twelve o'clock at night the

moment she came to her father's house the guards awoke and he was
prisoner again.

Then he was brought before the king, and the king said, 'You shall
have my daughter unless in eight days you dig away the hill that sto
view from my window.' Now this hill was so big that the whole world
not take it away: and when he had worked for seven days, and had don
little, the fox came and said. 'Lie down and go to sleep; I will work fo
And in the morning he awoke and the hill was gone; so he went mer
the king, and told him that now that it was removed he must give hi
princess.

Then the king was obliged to keep his word, and away went the
man and the princess; and the fox came and said to him, 'We will ha
three, the princess, the horse, and the bird.' 'Ah!' said the young man
would be a great thing, but how can you contrive it?'

'If you will only listen,' said the fox, 'it can be done. When you
to the king, and he asks for the beautiful princess, you must say, "He
is!" Then he will be very joyful; and you will mount the golden hors
they are to give you, and put out your hand to take leave of them; but
hands with the princess last. Then lift her quickly on to the horse b
you; clap your spurs to his side, and gallop away as fast as you can.'

All went right: then the fox said, 'When you come to the castle
the bird is, I will stay with the princess at the door, and you will ride
speak to the king; and when he sees that it is the right horse, he will
out the bird; but you must sit still, and say that you want to look at
see whether it is the true golden bird; and when you get it into your
ride away.'

This, too, happened as the fox said; they carried off the bird, the pr
mounted again, and they rode on to a great wood. Then the fox cam
said, 'Pray kill me, and cut off my head and my feet.' But the young

people said 'No,' unless he would bestow all his money upon the rascals buy their liberty. Then he did not stay to think about the matter, but d what was asked, and his brothers were given up, and went on with him ards their home.

And as they came to the wood where the fox first met them, it was so l and pleasant that the two brothers said, 'Let us sit down by the side he river, and rest a while, to eat and drink.' So he said, 'Yes,' and got the fox's counsel, and sat down on the side of the river; and while he pected nothing, they came behind, and threw him down the bank, and k the princess, the horse, and the bird, and went home to the king their ster, and said. 'All this have we won by our labour.' Then there was great icing made; but the horse would not eat, the bird would not sing, and princess wept.

The youngest son fell to the bottom of the river's bed: luckily it was rly dry, but his bones were almost broken, and the bank was so steep t he could find no way to get out. Then the old fox came once more, scolded him for not following his advice; otherwise no evil would have allen him: 'Yet,' said he, 'I cannot leave you here, so lay hold of my tail hold fast.' Then he pulled him out of the river, and said to him, as he upon the bank, 'Your brothers have set watch to kill you, if they find you he kingdom.' So he dressed himself as a poor man, and came secretly he king's court, and was scarcely within the doors when the horse began at, and the bird to sing, and princess left off weeping. Then he went to king, and told him all his brothers' roguery; and they were seized and ished, and he had the princess given to him again; and after the king's th he was heir to his kingdom.

A long while after, he went to walk one day in the wood, and the old fox him, and besought him with tears in his eyes to kill him, and cut off his d and feet. And at last he did so, and in a moment the fox was changed

ANS IN LUCK

e men are born to good luck: all they do or try to do comes right– all
t falls to them is so much gain–all their geese are swans–all their cards
trumps–toss them which way you will, they will always, like poor puss,
ht upon their legs, and only move on so much the faster. The world may
likely not always think of them as they think of themselves, but what
they for the world? what can it know about the matter?

One of these lucky beings was neighbour Hans. Seven long years he had
ked hard for his master. At last he said, 'Master, my time is up; I must
ome and see my poor mother once more: so pray pay me my wages and
me go.' And the master said, 'You have been a faithful and good servant,
s, so your pay shall be handsome.' Then he gave him a lump of silver as
as his head.

Hans took out his pocket-handkerchief, put the piece of silver into it,
w it over his shoulder, and jogged off on his road homewards. As he
t lazily on, dragging one foot after another, a man came in sight, trotting
y along on a capital horse. 'Ah!' said Hans aloud, 'what a fine thing it is
ide on horseback! There he sits as easy and happy as if he was at home,
he chair by his fireside; he trips against no stones, saves shoe-leather, and
on he hardly knows how.' Hans did not speak so softly but the horseman
rd it all, and said, 'Well, friend, why do you go on foot then?' 'Ah!' said
'I have this load to carry: to be sure it is silver, but it is so heavy that
n't hold up my head, and you must know it hurts my shoulder sadly.'

his elbows, turned out his toes, cracked his whip, and rode merrily o
minute whistling a merry tune, and another singing,

> 'No care and no sorrow,
> A fig for the morrow!
> We'll laugh and be merry,
> Sing neigh down derry!'

After a time he thought he should like to go a little faster, so he sm
his lips and cried 'Jip!' Away went the horse full gallop; and before
knew what he was about, he was thrown off, and lay on his back by the
side. His horse would have ran off, if a shepherd who was coming by, d
a cow, had not stopped it. Hans soon came to himself, and got upon h
again, sadly vexed, and said to the shepherd, 'This riding is no joke, w
man has the luck to get upon a beast like this that stumbles and fling
off as if it would break his neck. However, I'm off now once for all:
your cow now a great deal better than this smart beast that played m
trick, and has spoiled my best coat, you see, in this puddle; which, by t
smells not very like a nosegay. One can walk along at one's leisure b
that cow–keep good company, and have milk, butter, and cheese, ever
into the bargain. What would I give to have such a prize!' 'Well,' sa
shepherd, 'if you are so fond of her, I will change my cow for your h
like to do good to my neighbours, even though I lose by it myself.' 'I
said Hans, merrily. 'What a noble heart that good man has!' thoug
Then the shepherd jumped upon the horse, wished Hans and the cow
morning, and away he rode.

Hans brushed his coat, wiped his face and hands, rested a whil
then drove off his cow quietly, and thought his bargain a very luck
'If I have only a piece of bread (and I certainly shall always be able

e tied her to the stump of a tree, and held his leathern cap to milk into;
not a drop was to be had. Who would have thought that this cow, which
to bring him milk and butter and cheese, was all that time utterly dry?
ns had not thought of looking to that.

While he was trying his luck in milking, and managing the matter very
nsily, the uneasy beast began to think him very troublesome; and at last
e him such a kick on the head as knocked him down; and there he lay
ong while senseless. Luckily a butcher soon came by, driving a pig in a
eelbarrow. 'What is the matter with you, my man?' said the butcher, as
helped him up. Hans told him what had happened, how he was dry, and
nted to milk his cow, but found the cow was dry too. Then the butcher
e him a flask of ale, saying, 'There, drink and refresh yourself; your cow
give you no milk: don't you see she is an old beast, good for nothing
the slaughter-house?' 'Alas, alas!' said Hans, 'who would have thought
What a shame to take my horse, and give me only a dry cow! If I kill
what will she be good for? I hate cow-beef; it is not tender enough for
If it were a pig now –like that fat gentleman you are driving along at his
e–one could do something with it; it would at any rate make sausages.'
ll,' said the butcher, 'I don't like to say no, when one is asked to do
ind, neighbourly thing. To please you I will change, and give you my
fat pig for the cow.' 'Heaven reward you for your kindness and self-
ial!' said Hans, as he gave the butcher the cow; and taking the pig off the
eel-barrow, drove it away, holding it by the string that was tied to its leg.
So on he jogged, and all seemed now to go right with him: he had met
n some misfortunes, to be sure; but he was now well repaid for all. How
ld it be otherwise with such a travelling companion as he had at last got?
The next man he met was a countryman carrying a fine white goose. The
ntryman stopped to ask what was o'clock; this led to further chat; and
ns told him all his luck, how he had so many good bargains, and how all

I was dreadfully afraid when I saw you that you had got the squire's p
you have, and they catch you, it will be a bad job for you. The leas
will do will be to throw you into the horse-pond. Can you swim?'

Poor Hans was sadly frightened. 'Good man,' cried he, 'pray get m
of this scrape. I know nothing of where the pig was either bred or bor
he may have been the squire's for aught I can tell: you know this co
better than I do, take my pig and give me the goose.' 'I ought to
something into the bargain,' said the countryman; 'give a fat goose for
indeed! 'Tis not everyone would do so much for you as that. However,
not be hard upon you, as you are in trouble.' Then he took the str
his hand, and drove off the pig by a side path; while Hans went on th
homewards free from care. 'After all,' thought he, 'that chap is prett
taken in. I don't care whose pig it is, but wherever it came from it has b
very good friend to me. I have much the best of the bargain. First the
be a capital roast; then the fat will find me in goose-grease for six m
and then there are all the beautiful white feathers. I will put them in
pillow, and then I am sure I shall sleep soundly without rocking. How
my mother will be! Talk of a pig, indeed! Give me a fine fat goose.'

As he came to the next village, he saw a scissor-grinder with his
working and singing,

'O'er hill and o'er dale
So happy I roam,
Work light and live well,
All the world is my home;
Then who so blythe, so merry as I?'

Hans stood looking on for a while, and at last said, 'You must b
off, master grinder! you seem so happy at your work.' 'Yes,' said the

er; 'you only want a grindstone; the rest will come of itself. Here is one t is but little the worse for wear: I would not ask more than the value our goose for it–will you buy?' 'How can you ask?' said Hans; 'I should he happiest man in the world, if I could have money whenever I put my d in my pocket: what could I want more? there's the goose.' 'Now,' said grinder, as he gave him a common rough stone that lay by his side, 'this most capital stone; do but work it well enough, and you can make an nail cut with it.'

Hans took the stone, and went his way with a light heart: his eyes sparkled joy, and he said to himself, 'Surely I must have been born in a lucky hour; ything I could want or wish for comes of itself. People are so kind; they n really to think I do them a favour in letting them make me rich, and ng me good bargains.'

Meantime he began to be tired, and hungry too, for he had given away last penny in his joy at getting the cow.

At last he could go no farther, for the stone tired him sadly: and he gged himself to the side of a river, that he might take a drink of water, rest a while. So he laid the stone carefully by his side on the bank: but, e stooped down to drink, he forgot it, pushed it a little, and down it ed, plump into the stream.

For a while he watched it sinking in the deep clear water; then sprang up danced for joy, and again fell upon his knees and thanked Heaven, with s in his eyes, for its kindness in taking away his only plague, the ugly vy stone.

'How happy am I!' cried he; 'nobody was ever so lucky as I.' Then up he with a light heart, free from all his troubles, and walked on till he reached mother's house, and told her how very easy the road to good luck was.

ORINDA AND JORINDEL

ere was once an old castle, that stood in the middle of a deep gloomy od, and in the castle lived an old fairy. Now this fairy could take any pe she pleased. All the day long she flew about in the form of an owl, or ot about the country like a cat; but at night she always became an old nan again. When any young man came within a hundred paces of her le, he became quite fixed, and could not move a step till she came and him free; which she would not do till he had given her his word never to e there again: but when any pretty maiden came within that space she changed into a bird, and the fairy put her into a cage, and hung her up chamber in the castle. There were seven hundred of these cages hanging he castle, and all with beautiful birds in them.

Now there was once a maiden whose name was Jorinda. She was prettier n all the pretty girls that ever were seen before, and a shepherd lad, ose name was Jorindel, was very fond of her, and they were soon to be rried. One day they went to walk in the wood, that they might be alone; Jorindel said, 'We must take care that we don't go too near to the y's castle.' It was a beautiful evening; the last rays of the setting sun ne bright through the long stems of the trees upon the green underwood eath, and the turtle-doves sang from the tall birches.

Jorinda sat down to gaze upon the sun; Jorindel sat by her side; and both sad, they knew not why; but it seemed as if they were to be parted from another for ever. They had wandered a long way; and when they looked

Well-a-day! Well-a-day!
He mourn'd for the fate of his darling mate,
Well-a-day!'

when her song stopped suddenly. Jorindel turned to see the reaso
beheld his Jorinda changed into a nightingale, so that her song ende
a mournful /jug, jug/. An owl with fiery eyes flew three times round
and three times screamed:

'Tu whu! Tu whu! Tu whu!'

Jorindel could not move; he stood fixed as a stone, and could n
weep, nor speak, nor stir hand or foot. And now the sun went quite
the gloomy night came; the owl flew into a bush; and a moment aft
old fairy came forth pale and meagre, with staring eyes, and a nose an
that almost met one another.

She mumbled something to herself, seized the nightingale, and went
with it in her hand. Poor Jorindel saw the nightingale was gone– but
could he do? He could not speak, he could not move from the spot wh
stood. At last the fairy came back and sang with a hoarse voice:

'Till the prisoner is fast,
And her doom is cast,
There stay! Oh, stay!
When the charm is around her,
And the spell has bound her,
Hie away! away!'

On a sudden Jorindel found himself free. Then he fell on his knees
the fairy, and prayed her to give him back his dear Jorinda: but she la

ched with it was disenchanted, and that there he found his Jorinda again.
In the morning when he awoke, he began to search over hill and dale for pretty flower; and eight long days he sought for it in vain: but on the h day, early in the morning, he found the beautiful purple flower; and he middle of it was a large dewdrop, as big as a costly pearl. Then he cked the flower, and set out and travelled day and night, till he came in to the castle.

He walked nearer than a hundred paces to it, and yet he did not become d as before, but found that he could go quite close up to the door. Jorindel very glad indeed to see this. Then he touched the door with the flower, it sprang open; so that he went in through the court, and listened when heard so many birds singing. At last he came to the chamber where the y sat, with the seven hundred birds singing in the seven hundred cages. en she saw Jorindel she was very angry, and screamed with rage; but she ld not come within two yards of him, for the flower he held in his hand his safeguard. He looked around at the birds, but alas! there were many, ny nightingales, and how then should he find out which was his Jorinda? ile he was thinking what to do, he saw the fairy had taken down one of cages, and was making the best of her way off through the door. He or flew after her, touched the cage with the flower, and Jorinda stood ore him, and threw her arms round his neck looking as beautiful as ever, beautiful as when they walked together in the wood.

Then he touched all the other birds with the flower, so that they all took r old forms again; and he took Jorinda home, where they were married, lived happily together many years: and so did a good many other lads, ose maidens had been forced to sing in the old fairy's cages by themselves, ch longer than they liked.

HE TRAVELLING
IUSICIANS

honest farmer had once an ass that had been a faithful servant to him a
at many years, but was now growing old and every day more and more
t for work. His master therefore was tired of keeping him and began to
k of putting an end to him; but the ass, who saw that some mischief was
he wind, took himself slyly off, and began his journey towards the great
, 'For there,' thought he, 'I may turn musician.'

After he had travelled a little way, he spied a dog lying by the roadside
panting as if he were tired. 'What makes you pant so, my friend?' said
ass. 'Alas!' said the dog, 'my master was going to knock me on the head,
ause I am old and weak, and can no longer make myself useful to him in
ting; so I ran away; but what can I do to earn my livelihood?' 'Hark ye!'
l the ass, 'I am going to the great city to turn musician: suppose you go
n me, and try what you can do in the same way?' The dog said he was
ing, and they jogged on together.

They had not gone far before they saw a cat sitting in the middle of the
d and making a most rueful face. 'Pray, my good lady,' said the ass,
at's the matter with you? You look quite out of spirits!' 'Ah, me!' said
cat, 'how can one be in good spirits when one's life is in danger? Because
n beginning to grow old, and had rather lie at my ease by the fire than
about the house after the mice, my mistress laid hold of me, and was

weather for our washing-day, and yet my mistress and the cook don't
me for my pains, but threaten to cut off my head tomorrow, and make
of me for the guests that are coming on Sunday!' 'Heaven forbid!' sa
ass, 'come with us Master Chanticleer; it will be better, at any rate
staying here to have your head cut off! Besides, who knows? If we c
sing in tune, we may get up some kind of a concert; so come along wi
'With all my heart,' said the cock: so they all four went on jollily tog

They could not, however, reach the great city the first day; so when
came on, they went into a wood to sleep. The ass and the dog laid them
down under a great tree, and the cat climbed up into the branches;
the cock, thinking that the higher he sat the safer he should be, flew
the very top of the tree, and then, according to his custom, before he
to sleep, looked out on all sides of him to see that everything was w
doing this, he saw afar off something bright and shining and calling
companions said, 'There must be a house no great way off, for I see a
'If that be the case,' said the ass, 'we had better change our quarters, f
lodging is not the best in the world!' 'Besides,' added the dog, 'I shou
be the worse for a bone or two, or a bit of meat.' So they walked off to
towards the spot where Chanticleer had seen the light, and as they drew
it became larger and brighter, till they at last came close to a house in
a gang of robbers lived.

The ass, being the tallest of the company, marched up to the windo
peeped in. 'Well, Donkey,' said Chanticleer, 'what do you see?' 'Wh
I see?' replied the ass. 'Why, I see a table spread with all kinds of
things, and robbers sitting round it making merry.' 'That would be a
lodging for us,' said the cock. 'Yes,' said the ass, 'if we could only g
so they consulted together how they should contrive to get the robber
and at last they hit upon a plan. The ass placed himself upright
hind legs, with his forefeet resting against the window; the dog got

robbers had left, with as much eagerness as if they had not expected to again for a month. As soon as they had satisfied themselves, they put out lights, and each once more sought out a resting-place to his own liking. donkey laid himself down upon a heap of straw in the yard, the dog tched himself upon a mat behind the door, the cat rolled herself up on hearth before the warm ashes, and the cock perched upon a beam on the of the house; and, as they were all rather tired with their journey, they n fell asleep.

But about midnight, when the robbers saw from afar that the lights were and that all seemed quiet, they began to think that they had been in great a hurry to run away; and one of them, who was bolder than the , went to see what was going on. Finding everything still, he marched the kitchen, and groped about till he found a match in order to light andle; and then, espying the glittering fiery eyes of the cat, he mistook m for live coals, and held the match to them to light it. But the cat, not erstanding this joke, sprang at his face, and spat, and scratched at him. s frightened him dreadfully, and away he ran to the back door; but there dog jumped up and bit him in the leg; and as he was crossing over the d the ass kicked him; and the cock, who had been awakened by the noise, ved with all his might. At this the robber ran back as fast as he could his comrades, and told the captain how a horrid witch had got into the se, and had spat at him and scratched his face with her long bony fingers; a man with a knife in his hand had hidden himself behind the door, and bbed him in the leg; how a black monster stood in the yard and struck with a club, and how the devil had sat upon the top of the house and d out, 'Throw the rascal up here!' After this the robbers never dared to back to the house; but the musicians were so pleased with their quarters t they took up their abode there; and there they are, I dare say, at this day.

LD SULTAN

hepherd had a faithful dog, called Sultan, who was grown very old, and lost all his teeth. And one day when the shepherd and his wife were nding together before the house the shepherd said, 'I will shoot old Sultan orrow morning, for he is of no use now.' But his wife said, 'Pray let the r faithful creature live; he has served us well a great many years, and we ht to give him a livelihood for the rest of his days.' 'But what can we with him?' said the shepherd, 'he has not a tooth in his head, and the ves don't care for him at all; to be sure he has served us, but then he did o earn his livelihood; tomorrow shall be his last day, depend upon it.'

Poor Sultan, who was lying close by them, heard all that the shepherd his wife said to one another, and was very much frightened to think orrow would be his last day; so in the evening he went to his good friend wolf, who lived in the wood, and told him all his sorrows, and how his ster meant to kill him in the morning. 'Make yourself easy,' said the wolf, vill give you some good advice. Your master, you know, goes out every rning very early with his wife into the field; and they take their little child n them, and lay it down behind the hedge in the shade while they are at k. Now do you lie down close by the child, and pretend to be watching and I will come out of the wood and run away with it; you must run after as fast as you can, and I will let it drop; then you may carry it back, and y will think you have saved their child, and will be so thankful to you that y will take care of you as long as you live.' The dog liked this plan very

good fellow, you must tell no tales, but turn your head the other way w
want to taste one of the old shepherd's fine fat sheep.' 'No,' said the S
'I will be true to my master.' However, the wolf thought he was in jok
came one night to get a dainty morsel. But Sultan had told his master
the wolf meant to do; so he laid wait for him behind the barn door, and
the wolf was busy looking out for a good fat sheep, he had a stout c
laid about his back, that combed his locks for him finely.

Then the wolf was very angry, and called Sultan 'an old rogue,' and
he would have his revenge. So the next morning the wolf sent the b
challenge Sultan to come into the wood to fight the matter. Now Sulta
nobody he could ask to be his second but the shepherd's old three-
cat; so he took her with him, and as the poor thing limped along with
trouble, she stuck up her tail straight in the air.

The wolf and the wild boar were first on the ground; and when
espied their enemies coming, and saw the cat's long tail standing strai
the air, they thought she was carrying a sword for Sultan to fight with
every time she limped, they thought she was picking up a stone to thr
them; so they said they should not like this way of fighting, and the bo
down behind a bush, and the wolf jumped up into a tree. Sultan an
cat soon came up, and looked about and wondered that no one was
The boar, however, had not quite hidden himself, for his ears stuck
the bush; and when he shook one of them a little, the cat, seeing some
move, and thinking it was a mouse, sprang upon it, and bit and scratch
so that the boar jumped up and grunted, and ran away, roaring out,
up in the tree, there sits the one who is to blame.' So they looked up
espied the wolf sitting amongst the branches; and they called him a cow
rascal, and would not suffer him to come down till he was heartily ash
of himself, and had promised to be good friends again with old Sultan

HE STRAW, THE COAL, ND THE BEAN

a village dwelt a poor old woman, who had gathered together a dish of ns and wanted to cook them. So she made a fire on her hearth, and that it ht burn the quicker, she lighted it with a handful of straw. When she was otying the beans into the pan, one dropped without her observing it, and on the ground beside a straw, and soon afterwards a burning coal from fire leapt down to the two. Then the straw began and said: 'Dear friends, n whence do you come here?' The coal replied: 'I fortunately sprang out he fire, and if I had not escaped by sheer force, my death would have n certain,–I should have been burnt to ashes.' The bean said: 'I too have aped with a whole skin, but if the old woman had got me into the pan, ould have been made into broth without any mercy, like my comrades.' d would a better fate have fallen to my lot?' said the straw. 'The old nan has destroyed all my brethren in fire and smoke; she seized sixty of m at once, and took their lives. I luckily slipped through her fingers.'

'But what are we to do now?' said the coal.

'I think,' answered the bean, 'that as we have so fortunately escaped th, we should keep together like good companions, and lest a new misnce should overtake us here, we should go away together, and repair to a ign country.'

The proposition pleased the two others, and they set out on their way

coal slipped after her, hissed when she got into the water, and breath
last. The bean, who had prudently stayed behind on the shore, cou
but laugh at the event, was unable to stop, and laughed so heartily th
burst. It would have been all over with her, likewise, if, by good fo
a tailor who was travelling in search of work, had not sat down to r
the brook. As he had a compassionate heart he pulled out his need
thread, and sewed her together. The bean thanked him most prettily,
the tailor used black thread, all beans since then have a black seam.

RIAR ROSE

ing and queen once upon a time reigned in a country a great way off, re there were in those days fairies. Now this king and queen had plenty honey, and plenty of fine clothes to wear, and plenty of good things to eat drink, and a coach to ride out in every day: but though they had been rried many years they had no children, and this grieved them very much eed. But one day as the queen was walking by the side of the river, at the tom of the garden, she saw a poor little fish, that had thrown itself out he water, and lay gasping and nearly dead on the bank. Then the queen k pity on the little fish, and threw it back again into the river; and before wam away it lifted its head out of the water and said, 'I know what your n is, and it shall be fulfilled, in return for your kindness to me–you will n have a daughter.' What the little fish had foretold soon came to pass; the queen had a little girl, so very beautiful that the king could not cease king on it for joy, and said he would hold a great feast and make merry, show the child to all the land. So he asked his kinsmen, and nobles, friends, and neighbours. But the queen said, 'I will have the fairies also, t they might be kind and good to our little daughter.' Now there were teen fairies in the kingdom; but as the king and queen had only twelve den dishes for them to eat out of, they were forced to leave one of the ies without asking her. So twelve fairies came, each with a high red cap her head, and red shoes with high heels on her feet, and a long white d in her hand: and after the feast was over they gathered round in a ring

king's daughter shall, in her fifteenth year, be wounded by a spindle, a
down dead.' Then the twelfth of the friendly fairies, who had not yet
her gift, came forward, and said that the evil wish must be fulfilled, bu
she could soften its mischief; so her gift was, that the king's daughter,
the spindle wounded her, should not really die, but should only fall
for a hundred years.

However, the king hoped still to save his dear child altogether fro
threatened evil; so he ordered that all the spindles in the kingdom sho
bought up and burnt. But all the gifts of the first eleven fairies were
meantime fulfilled; for the princess was so beautiful, and well behave
good, and wise, that everyone who knew her loved her.

It happened that, on the very day she was fifteen years old, the ki
queen were not at home, and she was left alone in the palace. So she
about by herself, and looked at all the rooms and chambers, till at la
came to an old tower, to which there was a narrow staircase ending
a little door. In the door there was a golden key, and when she tur
the door sprang open, and there sat an old lady spinning away very
'Why, how now, good mother,' said the princess; 'what are you doing t
'Spinning,' said the old lady, and nodded her head, humming a tune,
buzz! went the wheel. 'How prettily that little thing turns round!' sa
princess, and took the spindle and began to try and spin. But scarcel
she touched it, before the fairy's prophecy was fulfilled; the spindle wo
her, and she fell down lifeless on the ground.

However, she was not dead, but had only fallen into a deep slee
the king and the queen, who had just come home, and all their cou
asleep too; and the horses slept in the stables, and the dogs in the cou
pigeons on the house-top, and the very flies slept upon the walls. Ev
fire on the hearth left off blazing, and went to sleep; the jack stoppe
the spit that was turning about with a goose upon it for the king's

he king's daughter was called): so that, from time to time, several kings' s came, and tried to break through the thicket into the palace. This, ever, none of them could ever do; for the thorns and bushes laid hold of m, as it were with hands; and there they stuck fast, and died wretchedly. After many, many years there came a king's son into that land: and an man told him the story of the thicket of thorns; and how a beautiful ace stood behind it, and how a wonderful princess, called Briar Rose, in it asleep, with all her court. He told, too, how he had heard from grandfather that many, many princes had come, and had tried to break ough the thicket, but that they had all stuck fast in it, and died. Then young prince said, 'All this shall not frighten me; I will go and see this ar Rose.' The old man tried to hinder him, but he was bent upon going. Now that very day the hundred years were ended; and as the prince came he thicket he saw nothing but beautiful flowering shrubs, through which vent with ease, and they shut in after him as thick as ever. Then he came ast to the palace, and there in the court lay the dogs asleep; and the horses e standing in the stables; and on the roof sat the pigeons fast asleep, with r heads under their wings. And when he came into the palace, the flies e sleeping on the walls; the spit was standing still; the butler had the jug le at his lips, going to drink a draught; the maid sat with a fowl in her ready to be plucked; and the cook in the kitchen was still holding up her d, as if she was going to beat the boy.

Then he went on still farther, and all was so still that he could hear every ath he drew; till at last he came to the old tower, and opened the door of little room in which Briar Rose was; and there she lay, fast asleep on a ch by the window. She looked so beautiful that he could not take his eyes her, so he stooped down and gave her a kiss. But the moment he kissed she opened her eyes and awoke, and smiled upon him; and they went together; and soon the king and queen also awoke, and all the court, and

HE DOG AND THE PARROW

hepherd's dog had a master who took no care of him, but often let him er the greatest hunger. At last he could bear it no longer; so he took to heels, and off he ran in a very sad and sorrowful mood. On the road he a sparrow that said to him, 'Why are you so sad, my friend?' 'Because,' l the dog, 'I am very very hungry, and have nothing to eat.' 'If that be answered the sparrow, 'come with me into the next town, and I will soon you plenty of food.' So on they went together into the town: and as y passed by a butcher's shop, the sparrow said to the dog, 'Stand there ttle while till I peck you down a piece of meat.' So the sparrow perched n the shelf: and having first looked carefully about her to see if anyone watching her, she pecked and scratched at a steak that lay upon the e of the shelf, till at last down it fell. Then the dog snapped it up, and mbled away with it into a corner, where he soon ate it all up. 'Well,' l the sparrow, 'you shall have some more if you will; so come with me to next shop, and I will peck you down another steak.' When the dog had en this too, the sparrow said to him, 'Well, my good friend, have you had ugh now?' 'I have had plenty of meat,' answered he, 'but I should like to e a piece of bread to eat after it.' 'Come with me then,' said the sparrow, d you shall soon have that too.' So she took him to a baker's shop, and ked at two rolls that lay in the window, till they fell down: and as the dog

sparrow, seeing that the carter did not turn out of the way, but wo
on in the track in which the dog lay, so as to drive over him, calle
'Stop! stop! Mr Carter, or it shall be the worse for you.' But the
grumbling to himself, 'You make it the worse for me, indeed! what ca
do?' cracked his whip, and drove his cart over the poor dog, so th
wheels crushed him to death. 'There,' cried the sparrow, 'thou cruel
thou hast killed my friend the dog. Now mind what I say. This deed o
shall cost thee all thou art worth.' 'Do your worst, and welcome,' sa
brute, 'what harm can you do me?' and passed on. But the sparrow
under the tilt of the cart, and pecked at the bung of one of the casks t
loosened it; and than all the wine ran out, without the carter seeing
last he looked round, and saw that the cart was dripping, and the cask
empty. 'What an unlucky wretch I am!' cried he. 'Not wretch enoug
said the sparrow, as she alighted upon the head of one of the horse
pecked at him till he reared up and kicked. When the carter saw t
drew out his hatchet and aimed a blow at the sparrow, meaning to ki
but she flew away, and the blow fell upon the poor horse's head wit
force, that he fell down dead. 'Unlucky wretch that I am!' cried he.
wretch enough yet!' said the sparrow. And as the carter went on wi
other two horses, she again crept under the tilt of the cart, and pecke
the bung of the second cask, so that all the wine ran out. When the
saw this, he again cried out, 'Miserable wretch that I am!' But the sp
answered, 'Not wretch enough yet!' and perched on the head of the
horse, and pecked at him too. The carter ran up and struck at her
with his hatchet; but away she flew, and the blow fell upon the second
and killed him on the spot. 'Unlucky wretch that I am!' said he. 'Not
enough yet!' said the sparrow; and perching upon the third horse, she
to peck him too. The carter was mad with fury; and without looking
him, or caring what he was about, struck again at the sparrow; but

thousands of birds sitting upon the floor eating up his corn, with the
rrow in the midst of them. 'Unlucky wretch that I am!' cried the carter;
he saw that the corn was almost all gone. 'Not wretch enough yet!' said
sparrow; 'thy cruelty shall cost thee they life yet!' and away she flew.
The carter seeing that he had thus lost all that he had, went down into
kitchen; and was still not sorry for what he had done, but sat himself
rily and sulkily in the chimney corner. But the sparrow sat on the outside
he window, and cried 'Carter! thy cruelty shall cost thee thy life!' With
t he jumped up in a rage, seized his hatchet, and threw it at the sparrow;
it missed her, and only broke the window. The sparrow now hopped in,
ched upon the window- seat, and cried, 'Carter! it shall cost thee thy
' Then he became mad and blind with rage, and struck the window-seat
n such force that he cleft it in two: and as the sparrow flew from place
place, the carter and his wife were so furious, that they broke all their
niture, glasses, chairs, benches, the table, and at last the walls, without
ching the bird at all. In the end, however, they caught her: and the wife
l, 'Shall I kill her at once?' 'No,' cried he, 'that is letting her off too easily:
shall die a much more cruel death; I will eat her.' But the sparrow began
lutter about, and stretch out her neck and cried, 'Carter! it shall cost
e thy life yet!' With that he could wait no longer: so he gave his wife the
chet, and cried, 'Wife, strike at the bird and kill her in my hand.' And
wife struck; but she missed her aim, and hit her husband on the head so
t he fell down dead, and the sparrow flew quietly home to her nest.

HE TWELVE DANCING RINCESSES

ere was a king who had twelve beautiful daughters. They slept in twelve s all in one room; and when they went to bed, the doors were shut and ked up; but every morning their shoes were found to be quite worn through f they had been danced in all night; and yet nobody could find out how appened, or where they had been.

Then the king made it known to all the land, that if any person could over the secret, and find out where it was that the princesses danced in night, he should have the one he liked best for his wife, and should be g after his death; but whoever tried and did not succeed, after three days nights, should be put to death.

A king's son soon came. He was well entertained, and in the evening was en to the chamber next to the one where the princesses lay in their twelve s. There he was to sit and watch where they went to dance; and, in order t nothing might pass without his hearing it, the door of his chamber was open. But the king's son soon fell asleep; and when he awoke in the rning he found that the princesses had all been dancing, for the soles of r shoes were full of holes. The same thing happened the second and third nt: so the king ordered his head to be cut off. After him came several ers; but they had all the same luck, and all lost their lives in the same nner.

Then she gave him a cloak, and said, 'As soon as you put that on yo
become invisible, and you will then be able to follow the princesses wh
they go.' When the soldier heard all this good counsel, he determined
his luck: so he went to the king, and said he was willing to underta
task.

He was as well received as the others had been, and the king ordere
royal robes to be given him; and when the evening came he was led
outer chamber. Just as he was going to lie down, the eldest of the prin
brought him a cup of wine; but the soldier threw it all away secretly,
care not to drink a drop. Then he laid himself down on his bed, a
a little while began to snore very loud as if he was fast asleep. Wh
twelve princesses heard this they laughed heartily; and the eldest said,
fellow too might have done a wiser thing than lose his life in this way!'
they rose up and opened their drawers and boxes, and took out all the
clothes, and dressed themselves at the glass, and skipped about as i
were eager to begin dancing. But the youngest said, 'I don't know
is, while you are so happy I feel very uneasy; I am sure some mischan
befall us.' 'You simpleton,' said the eldest, 'you are always afraid; hav
forgotten how many kings' sons have already watched in vain? And
this soldier, even if I had not given him his sleeping draught, he woul
slept soundly enough.'

When they were all ready, they went and looked at the soldier;
snored on, and did not stir hand or foot: so they thought they were
safe; and the eldest went up to her own bed and clapped her hands, a
bed sank into the floor and a trap-door flew open. The soldier saw
going down through the trap-door one after another, the eldest leadi
way; and thinking he had no time to lose, he jumped up, put on the
which the old woman had given him, and followed them; but in the
of the stairs he trod on the gown of the youngest princess, and she cri

Then they came to another grove of trees, where all the leaves were of
d; and afterwards to a third, where the leaves were all glittering diamonds.
d the soldier broke a branch from each; and every time there was a loud
se, which made the youngest sister tremble with fear; but the eldest still
d, it was only the princes, who were crying for joy. So they went on till
y came to a great lake; and at the side of the lake there lay twelve little
ts with twelve handsome princes in them, who seemed to be waiting there
the princesses.

One of the princesses went into each boat, and the soldier stepped into
same boat with the youngest. As they were rowing over the lake, the
nce who was in the boat with the youngest princess and the soldier said,
o not know why it is, but though I am rowing with all my might we do
get on so fast as usual, and I am quite tired: the boat seems very heavy
ay.' 'It is only the heat of the weather,' said the princess: 'I feel it very
m too.'

On the other side of the lake stood a fine illuminated castle, from which
e the merry music of horns and trumpets. There they all landed, and
t into the castle, and each prince danced with his princess; and the soldier,
was all the time invisible, danced with them too; and when any of the
cesses had a cup of wine set by her, he drank it all up, so that when she
the cup to her mouth it was empty. At this, too, the youngest sister
terribly frightened, but the eldest always silenced her. They danced on
three o'clock in the morning, and then all their shoes were worn out,
hat they were obliged to leave off. The princes rowed them back again
r the lake (but this time the soldier placed himself in the boat with the
est princess); and on the opposite shore they took leave of each other, the
cesses promising to come again the next night.

When they came to the stairs, the soldier ran on before the princesses,
laid himself down; and as the twelve sisters slowly came up very much

before the king with the three branches and the golden cup; and the
princesses stood listening behind the door to hear what he would say
when the king asked him. 'Where do my twelve daughters dance at n
he answered, 'With twelve princes in a castle under ground.' And th
told the king all that had happened, and showed him the three branche
the golden cup which he had brought with him. Then the king call
the princesses, and asked them whether what the soldier said was truc
when they saw that they were discovered, and that it was of no use to
what had happened, they confessed it all. And the king asked the s
which of them he would choose for his wife; and he answered, 'I am no
young, so I will have the eldest.'–And they were married that very da
the soldier was chosen to be the king's heir.

HE FISHERMAN AND HIS VIFE

ere was once a fisherman who lived with his wife in a pigsty, close by the side. The fisherman used to go out all day long a-fishing; and one day, as at on the shore with his rod, looking at the sparkling waves and watching line, all on a sudden his float was dragged away deep into the water: and drawing it up he pulled out a great fish. But the fish said, 'Pray let me ! I am not a real fish; I am an enchanted prince: put me in the water in, and let me go!' 'Oh, ho!' said the man, 'you need not make so many ds about the matter; I will have nothing to do with a fish that can talk: swim away, sir, as soon as you please!' Then he put him back into the er, and the fish darted straight down to the bottom, and left a long streak lood behind him on the wave.

When the fisherman went home to his wife in the pigsty, he told her how had caught a great fish, and how it had told him it was an enchanted nce, and how, on hearing it speak, he had let it go again. 'Did not you ask or anything?' said the wife, 'we live very wretchedly here, in this nasty y pigsty; do go back and tell the fish we want a snug little cottage.'

The fisherman did not much like the business: however, he went to the shore; and when he came back there the water looked all yellow and green. d he stood at the water's edge, and said:

go; she does not like living any longer in the pigsty, and wants a snug cottage.' 'Go home, then,' said the fish; 'she is in the cottage alread the man went home, and saw his wife standing at the door of a nic little cottage. 'Come in, come in!' said she; 'is not this much bette the filthy pigsty we had?' And there was a parlour, and a bedchambe a kitchen; and behind the cottage there was a little garden, planted w sorts of flowers and fruits; and there was a courtyard behind, full of and chickens. 'Ah!' said the fisherman, 'how happily we shall live now will try to do so, at least,' said his wife.

Everything went right for a week or two, and then Dame Ilsabil 'Husband, there is not near room enough for us in this cottage; the cou and the garden are a great deal too small; I should like to have a large castle to live in: go to the fish again and tell him to give us a castle.' said the fisherman, 'I don't like to go to him again, for perhaps he angry; we ought to be easy with this pretty cottage to live in.' 'Nons said the wife; 'he will do it very willingly, I know; go along and try!'

The fisherman went, but his heart was very heavy: and when he to the sea, it looked blue and gloomy, though it was very calm; and he close to the edge of the waves, and said:

'O man of the sea!
Hearken to me!
My wife Ilsabill
Will have her own will,
And hath sent me to beg a boon of thee!'

'Well, what does she want now?' said the fish. 'Ah!' said the dolefully, 'my wife wants to live in a stone castle.' 'Go home, then,' sa fish; 'she is standing at the gate of it already.' So away went the fishe

The next morning when Dame Ilsabill awoke it was broad daylight, and jogged the fisherman with her elbow, and said, 'Get up, husband, and tir yourself, for we must be king of all the land.' 'Wife, wife,' said the n, 'why should we wish to be the king? I will not be king.' 'Then I ,' said she. 'But, wife,' said the fisherman, 'how can you be king–the fish not make you a king?' 'Husband,' said she, 'say no more about it, but and try! I will be king.' So the man went away quite sorrowful to think t his wife should want to be king. This time the sea looked a dark grey our, and was overspread with curling waves and the ridges of foam as he d out:

'O man of the sea!
Hearken to me!
My wife Ilsabill
Will have her own will,
And hath sent me to beg a boon of thee!'

'Well, what would she have now?' said the fish. 'Alas!' said the poor man, wife wants to be king.' 'Go home,' said the fish; 'she is king already.' Then the fisherman went home; and as he came close to the palace he a troop of soldiers, and heard the sound of drums and trumpets. And en he went in he saw his wife sitting on a throne of gold and diamonds, n a golden crown upon her head; and on each side of her stood six fair dens, each a head taller than the other. 'Well, wife,' said the fisherman, you king?' 'Yes,' said she, 'I am king.' And when he had looked at her a long time, he said, 'Ah, wife! what a fine thing it is to be king! Now we ll never have anything more to wish for as long as we live.' 'I don't know that may be,' said she; 'never is a long time. I am king, it is true; but egin to be tired of that, and I think I should like to be emperor.' 'Alas,

blew over the waves and rolled them about, but he went as near as he
to the water's brink, and said:

'O man of the sea!
Hearken to me!
My wife Ilsabill
Will have her own will,
And hath sent me to beg a boon of thee!'

'What would she have now?' said the fish. 'Ah!' said the fisherman
wants to be emperor.' 'Go home,' said the fish; 'she is emperor alread

So he went home again; and as he came near he saw his wife Ilsabill s
on a very lofty throne made of solid gold, with a great crown on her
full two yards high; and on each side of her stood her guards and atten
in a row, each one smaller than the other, from the tallest giant do
a little dwarf no bigger than my finger. And before her stood prince
dukes, and earls: and the fisherman went up to her and said, 'Wife, a
emperor?' 'Yes,' said she, 'I am emperor.' 'Ah!' said the man, as he
upon her, 'what a fine thing it is to be emperor!' 'Husband,' said she
should we stop at being emperor? I will be pope next.' 'O wife, wife!
he, 'how can you be pope? there is but one pope at a time in Christen
'Husband,' said she, 'I will be pope this very day.' 'But,' replied the hus
'the fish cannot make you pope.' 'What nonsense!' said she; 'if he can
an emperor, he can make a pope: go and try him.'

So the fisherman went. But when he came to the shore the wind wa
ing and the sea was tossed up and down in boiling waves, and the ship
in trouble, and rolled fearfully upon the tops of the billows. In the m
of the heavens there was a little piece of blue sky, but towards the sou
was red, as if a dreadful storm was rising. At this sight the fisherma
dreadfully frightened, and he trembled so that his knees knocked tog

e wants to be pope.' 'Go home,' said the fish; 'she is pope already.'

Then the fisherman went home, and found Ilsabill sitting on a throne t was two miles high. And she had three great crowns on her head, and und her stood all the pomp and power of the Church. And on each side er were two rows of burning lights, of all sizes, the greatest as large as highest and biggest tower in the world, and the least no larger than a ll rushlight. 'Wife,' said the fisherman, as he looked at all this greatness, you pope?' 'Yes,' said she, 'I am pope.' 'Well, wife,' replied he, 'it is a nd thing to be pope; and now you must be easy, for you can be nothing ater.' 'I will think about that,' said the wife. Then they went to bed: but ne Ilsabill could not sleep all night for thinking what she should be next. last, as she was dropping asleep, morning broke, and the sun rose. 'Ha!' ught she, as she woke up and looked at it through the window, 'after all nnot prevent the sun rising.' At this thought she was very angry, and ened her husband, and said, 'Husband, go to the fish and tell him I must ord of the sun and moon.' The fisherman was half asleep, but the thought htened him so much that he started and fell out of bed. 'Alas, wife!' said 'cannot you be easy with being pope?' 'No,' said she, 'I am very uneasy ong as the sun and moon rise without my leave. Go to the fish at once!' Then the man went shivering with fear; and as he was going down to shore a dreadful storm arose, so that the trees and the very rocks shook. d all the heavens became black with stormy clouds, and the lightnings ved, and the thunders rolled; and you might have seen in the sea great k waves, swelling up like mountains with crowns of white foam upon their ds. And the fisherman crept towards the sea, and cried out, as well as he ld:

'O man of the sea!
Hearken to me!

HE WILLOW-WREN AND HE BEAR

ce in summer-time the bear and the wolf were walking in the forest, and bear heard a bird singing so beautifully that he said: 'Brother wolf, what l is it that sings so well?' 'That is the King of birds,' said the wolf, 'before om we must bow down.' In reality the bird was the willow-wren. 'IF that's case,' said the bear, 'I should very much like to see his royal palace; come, e me thither.' 'That is not done quite as you seem to think,' said the wolf; u must wait until the Queen comes,' Soon afterwards, the Queen arrived n some food in her beak, and the lord King came too, and they began eed their young ones. The bear would have liked to go at once, but the f held him back by the sleeve, and said: 'No, you must wait until the l and lady Queen have gone away again.' So they took stock of the hole ere the nest lay, and trotted away. The bear, however, could not rest until had seen the royal palace, and when a short time had passed, went to it in. The King and Queen had just flown out, so he peeped in and saw five ix young ones lying there. 'Is that the royal palace?' cried the bear; 'it wretched palace, and you are not King's children, you are disreputable dren!' When the young wrens heard that, they were frightfully angry, screamed: 'No, that we are not! Our parents are honest people! Bear, will have to pay for that!'

The bear and the wolf grew uneasy, and turned back and went into their

and every other animal the earth contained. And the willow-wren sumi
everything which flew in the air, not only birds, large and small, but m
and hornets, bees and flies had to come.

When the time came for the war to begin, the willow-wren sent ou
to discover who was the enemy's commander-in-chief. The gnat, wh
the most crafty, flew into the forest where the enemy was assembled, a
herself beneath a leaf of the tree where the password was to be anno
There stood the bear, and he called the fox before him and said: 'Fox, y
the most cunning of all animals, you shall be general and lead us.' '
said the fox, 'but what signal shall we agree upon?' No one knew that,
fox said: 'I have a fine long bushy tail, which almost looks like a plume
feathers. When I lift my tail up quite high, all is going well, and you
charge; but if I let it hang down, run away as fast as you can.' Wh
gnat had heard that, she flew away again, and revealed everything, d
the minutest detail, to the willow-wren. When day broke, and the batt
to begin, all the four-footed animals came running up with such a nois
the earth trembled. The willow-wren with his army also came flying th
the air with such a humming, and whirring, and swarming that eve
was uneasy and afraid, and on both sides they advanced against each
But the willow-wren sent down the hornet, with orders to settle benea
fox's tail, and sting with all his might. When the fox felt the first
he started so that he one leg, from pain, but he bore it, and still ke
tail high in the air; at the second sting, he was forced to put it dow
moment; at the third, he could hold out no longer, screamed, and p
tail between his legs. When the animals saw that, they thought all wa
and began to flee, each into his hole, and the birds had won the battl

Then the King and Queen flew home to their children and cried:
dren, rejoice, eat and drink to your heart's content, we have won the b
But the young wrens said: 'We will not eat yet, the bear must come

HE FROG-PRINCE

e fine evening a young princess put on her bonnet and clogs, and went to take a walk by herself in a wood; and when she came to a cool spring vater, that rose in the midst of it, she sat herself down to rest a while. v she had a golden ball in her hand, which was her favourite plaything; she was always tossing it up into the air, and catching it again as it fell. er a time she threw it up so high that she missed catching it as it fell; and ball bounded away, and rolled along upon the ground, till at last it fell n into the spring. The princess looked into the spring after her ball, but as very deep, so deep that she could not see the bottom of it. Then she an to bewail her loss, and said, 'Alas! if I could only get my ball again, I ld give all my fine clothes and jewels, and everything that I have in the ld.'

Whilst she was speaking, a frog put its head out of the water, and said, ncess, why do you weep so bitterly?' 'Alas!' said she, 'what can you do me, you nasty frog? My golden ball has fallen into the spring.' The frog l, 'I want not your pearls, and jewels, and fine clothes; but if you will love and let me live with you and eat from off your golden plate, and sleep n your bed, I will bring you your ball again.' 'What nonsense,' thought princess, 'this silly frog is talking! He can never even get out of the spring visit me, though he may be able to get my ball for me, and therefore I tell him he shall have what he asks.' So she said to the frog, 'Well, if will bring me my ball, I will do all you ask.' Then the frog put his head

marble staircase: and soon afterwards there was a gentle knock at the
and a little voice cried out and said:

'Open the door, my princess dear,
Open the door to thy true love here!
And mind the words that thou and I said
By the fountain cool, in the greenwood shade.'

Then the princess ran to the door and opened it, and there she sa
frog, whom she had quite forgotten. At this sight she was sadly frigh
and shutting the door as fast as she could came back to her seat. The
her father, seeing that something had frightened her, asked her what w
matter. 'There is a nasty frog,' said she, 'at the door, that lifted my b
me out of the spring this morning: I told him that he should live wi
here, thinking that he could never get out of the spring; but there h
the door, and he wants to come in.'

While she was speaking the frog knocked again at the door, and sa

'Open the door, my princess dear,
Open the door to thy true love here!
And mind the words that thou and I said
By the fountain cool, in the greenwood shade.'

Then the king said to the young princess, 'As you have given your
you must keep it; so go and let him in.' She did so, and the frog h
into the room, and then straight on–tap, tap–plash, plash– from the b
of the room to the top, till he came up close to the table where the pr
sat. 'Pray lift me upon chair,' said he to the princess, 'and let me si
to you.' As soon as she had done this, the frog said, 'Put your plate

'Open the door, my princess dear,
Open the door to thy true love here!
And mind the words that thou and I said
By the fountain cool, in the greenwood shade.'

And when the princess opened the door the frog came in, and slept upon pillow as before, till the morning broke. And the third night he did same. But when the princess awoke on the following morning she was onished to see, instead of the frog, a handsome prince, gazing on her with most beautiful eyes she had ever seen, and standing at the head of her .

He told her that he had been enchanted by a spiteful fairy, who had nged him into a frog; and that he had been fated so to abide till some ncess should take him out of the spring, and let him eat from her plate, sleep upon her bed for three nights. 'You,' said the prince, 'have broken cruel charm, and now I have nothing to wish for but that you should go n me into my father's kingdom, where I will marry you, and love you as g as you live.'

The young princess, you may be sure, was not long in saying 'Yes' to all ; and as they spoke a gay coach drove up, with eight beautiful horses, ked with plumes of feathers and a golden harness; and behind the coach e the prince's servant, faithful Heinrich, who had bewailed the misfortunes is dear master during his enchantment so long and so bitterly, that his rt had well-nigh burst.

They then took leave of the king, and got into the coach with eight horses, all set out, full of joy and merriment, for the prince's kingdom, which y reached safely; and there they lived happily a great many years.

AT AND MOUSE IN ARTNERSHIP

ertain cat had made the acquaintance of a mouse, and had said so much ner about the great love and friendship she felt for her, that at length mouse agreed that they should live and keep house together. 'But we st make a provision for winter, or else we shall suffer from hunger,' said cat; 'and you, little mouse, cannot venture everywhere, or you will be ght in a trap some day.' The good advice was followed, and a pot of fat bought, but they did not know where to put it. At length, after much sideration, the cat said: 'I know no place where it will be better stored than in the church, for no one dares take anything away from there. We set it beneath the altar, and not touch it until we are really in need of So the pot was placed in safety, but it was not long before the cat had a at yearning for it, and said to the mouse: 'I want to tell you something, e mouse; my cousin has brought a little son into the world, and has asked to be godmother; he is white with brown spots, and I am to hold him the font at the christening. Let me go out today, and you look after house by yourself.' 'Yes, yes,' answered the mouse, 'by all means go, and ou get anything very good to eat, think of me. I should like a drop of et red christening wine myself.' All this, however, was untrue; the cat no cousin, and had not been asked to be godmother. She went straight he church, stole to the pot of fat, began to lick at it, and licked the top

Before long the cat was seized by another fit of yearning. She said
mouse: 'You must do me a favour, and once more manage the house
day alone. I am again asked to be godmother, and, as the child has a
ring round its neck, I cannot refuse.' The good mouse consented, b
cat crept behind the town walls to the church, and devoured half th
of fat. 'Nothing ever seems so good as what one keeps to oneself,' sai
and was quite satisfied with her day's work. When she went home the
inquired: 'And what was the child christened?' 'Half-done,' answere
cat. 'Half-done! What are you saying? I never heard the name in m
I'll wager anything it is not in the calendar!'

The cat's mouth soon began to water for some more licking. 'All
things go in threes,' said she, 'I am asked to stand godmother again
child is quite black, only it has white paws, but with that exception,
not a single white hair on its whole body; this only happens once eve
years, you will let me go, won't you?' 'Top- off! Half-done!' answere
mouse, 'they are such odd names, they make me very thoughtful.' 'Y
at home,' said the cat, 'in your dark-grey fur coat and long tail, an
filled with fancies, that's because you do not go out in the daytime.' I
the cat's absence the mouse cleaned the house, and put it in order, b
greedy cat entirely emptied the pot of fat. 'When everything is eaten u
has some peace,' said she to herself, and well filled and fat she did not
home till night. The mouse at once asked what name had been given
third child. 'It will not please you more than the others,' said the ca
is called All-gone.' 'All-gone,' cried the mouse 'that is the most susp
name of all! I have never seen it in print. All-gone; what can that n
and she shook her head, curled herself up, and lay down to sleep.

From this time forth no one invited the cat to be godmother, but
the winter had come and there was no longer anything to be found ou
the mouse thought of their provision, and said: 'Come, cat, we will go

seized her, and swallowed her down. Verily, that is the way of the world.

HE GOOSE-GIRL

e king of a great land died, and left his queen to take care of their only d. This child was a daughter, who was very beautiful; and her mother ed her dearly, and was very kind to her. And there was a good fairy who was fond of the princess, and helped her mother to watch over her. en she grew up, she was betrothed to a prince who lived a great way off; as the time drew near for her to be married, she got ready to set off on journey to his country. Then the queen her mother, packed up a great ny costly things; jewels, and gold, and silver; trinkets, fine dresses, and in rt everything that became a royal bride. And she gave her a waiting-maid ide with her, and give her into the bridegroom's hands; and each had a se for the journey. Now the princess's horse was the fairy's gift, and it called Falada, and could speak.

When the time came for them to set out, the fairy went into her bed- mber, and took a little knife, and cut off a lock of her hair, and gave it to princess, and said, 'Take care of it, dear child; for it is a charm that may of use to you on the road.' Then they all took a sorrowful leave of the ncess; and she put the lock of hair into her bosom, got upon her horse, set off on her journey to her bridegroom's kingdom.

One day, as they were riding along by a brook, the princess began to feel y thirsty: and she said to her maid, 'Pray get down, and fetch me some er in my golden cup out of yonder brook, for I want to drink.' 'Nay,' said maid, 'if you are thirsty, get off yourself, and stoop down by the water

Then all rode farther on their journey, till the day grew so warm the sun so scorching, that the bride began to feel very thirsty again; a last, when they came to a river, she forgot her maid's rude speech, and 'Pray get down, and fetch me some water to drink in my golden cup. the maid answered her, and even spoke more haughtily than before: 'I if you will, but I shall not be your waiting-maid.' Then the princess w thirsty that she got off her horse, and lay down, and held her head ov running stream, and cried and said, 'What will become of me?' And th of hair answered her again:

> 'Alas! alas! if thy mother knew it,
> Sadly, sadly, would she rue it.'

And as she leaned down to drink, the lock of hair fell from her b and floated away with the water. Now she was so frightened that she d see it; but her maid saw it, and was very glad, for she knew the charm she saw that the poor bride would be in her power, now that she had lo hair. So when the bride had done drinking, and would have got upon F again, the maid said, 'I shall ride upon Falada, and you may have my instead'; so she was forced to give up her horse, and soon afterwards t off her royal clothes and put on her maid's shabby ones.

At last, as they drew near the end of their journey, this treacherous s threatened to kill her mistress if she ever told anyone what had happ But Falada saw it all, and marked it well.

Then the waiting-maid got upon Falada, and the real bride rode the other horse, and they went on in this way till at last they came royal court. There was great joy at their coming, and the prince flew to them, and lifted the maid from her horse, thinking she was the one wh to be his wife; and she was led upstairs to the royal chamber; but th

he said, 'I have a lad who takes care of my geese; she may go and help .' Now the name of this lad, that the real bride was to help in watching king's geese, was Curdken.

But the false bride said to the prince, 'Dear husband, pray do me one ce of kindness.' 'That I will,' said the prince. 'Then tell one of your ghterers to cut off the head of the horse I rode upon, for it was very uly, and plagued me sadly on the road'; but the truth was, she was very ch afraid lest Falada should some day or other speak, and tell all she done to the princess. She carried her point, and the faithful Falada was ed; but when the true princess heard of it, she wept, and begged the man ail up Falada's head against a large dark gate of the city, through which had to pass every morning and evening, that there she might still see sometimes. Then the slaughterer said he would do as she wished; and off the head, and nailed it up under the dark gate.

Early the next morning, as she and Curdken went out through the gate, said sorrowfully:

'Falada, Falada, there thou hangest!'

and the head answered:

'Bride, bride, there thou gangest!
Alas! alas! if thy mother knew it,
Sadly, sadly, would she rue it.'

Then they went out of the city, and drove the geese on. And when she e to the meadow, she sat down upon a bank there, and let down her ing locks of hair, which were all of pure silver; and when Curdken saw it ter in the sun, he ran up, and would have pulled some of the locks out, she cried:

Then there came a wind, so strong that it blew off Curdken's ha
away it flew over the hills: and he was forced to turn and run after it; t
the time he came back, she had done combing and curling her hair, an
put it up again safe. Then he was very angry and sulky, and would not
to her at all; but they watched the geese until it grew dark in the ev
and then drove them homewards.

The next morning, as they were going through the dark gate, the
girl looked up at Falada's head, and cried:

'Falada, Falada, there thou hangest!'

and the head answered:

'Bride, bride, there thou gangest!
Alas! alas! if they mother knew it,
Sadly, sadly, would she rue it.'

Then she drove on the geese, and sat down again in the meadow
began to comb out her hair as before; and Curdken ran up to her
wanted to take hold of it; but she cried out quickly:

'Blow, breezes, blow!
Let Curdken's hat go!
Blow, breezes, blow!
Let him after it go!
O'er hills, dales, and rocks,
Away be it whirl'd
Till the silvery locks
Are all comb'd and curl'd!

happened. And Curdken said, 'When we go in the morning through the k gate with our flock of geese, she cries and talks with the head of a horse t hangs upon the wall, and says:

'Falada, Falada, there thou hangest!'

and the head answers:

'Bride, bride, there thou gangest!
Alas! alas! if they mother knew it,
Sadly, sadly, would she rue it.'

And Curdken went on telling the king what had happened upon the adow where the geese fed; how his hat was blown away; and how he was ed to run after it, and to leave his flock of geese to themselves. But the king told the boy to go out again the next day: and when morning came, placed himself behind the dark gate, and heard how she spoke to Falada, how Falada answered. Then he went into the field, and hid himself in ush by the meadow's side; and he soon saw with his own eyes how they ve the flock of geese; and how, after a little time, she let down her hair t glittered in the sun. And then he heard her say:

'Blow, breezes, blow!
Let Curdken's hat go!
Blow, breezes, blow!
Let him after it go!
O'er hills, dales, and rocks,
Away be it whirl'd
Till the silvery locks
Are all comb'd and curl'd!

for her that she did so, for when she had done the king ordered royal c
to be put upon her, and gazed on her with wonder, she was so bea
Then he called his son and told him that he had only a false bride; fo
she was merely a waiting-maid, while the true bride stood by. And the
king rejoiced when he saw her beauty, and heard how meek and patie
had been; and without saying anything to the false bride, the king o
a great feast to be got ready for all his court. The bridegroom sat
top, with the false princess on one side, and the true one on the othe
nobody knew her again, for her beauty was quite dazzling to their eye
she did not seem at all like the little goose-girl, now that she had her b
dress on.

When they had eaten and drank, and were very merry, the old kin
he would tell them a tale. So he began, and told all the story of the pri
as if it was one that he had once heard; and he asked the true wa
maid what she thought ought to be done to anyone who would behave
'Nothing better,' said this false bride, 'than that she should be thrown
cask stuck round with sharp nails, and that two white horses should b
to it, and should drag it from street to street till she was dead.' 'Th
she!' said the old king; 'and as thou has judged thyself, so shall it be
to thee.' And the young king was then married to his true wife, and
reigned over the kingdom in peace and happiness all their lives; and the
fairy came to see them, and restored the faithful Falada to life again.

HE ADVENTURES OF HANTICLEER AND ARTLET

.1 HOW THEY WENT TO THE MOUNTAINS TO EAT NUTS

e nuts are quite ripe now,' said Chanticleer to his wife Partlet, 'suppose go together to the mountains, and eat as many as we can, before the irrel takes them all away.' 'With all my heart,' said Partlet, 'let us go make a holiday of it together.'

So they went to the mountains; and as it was a lovely day, they stayed re till the evening. Now, whether it was that they had eaten so many s that they could not walk, or whether they were lazy and would not, I not know: however, they took it into their heads that it did not become m to go home on foot. So Chanticleer began to build a little carriage of shells: and when it was finished, Partlet jumped into it and sat down, bid Chanticleer harness himself to it and draw her home. 'That's a good e!' said Chanticleer; 'no, that will never do; I had rather by half walk me; I'll sit on the box and be coachman, if you like, but I'll not draw.' ile this was passing, a duck came quacking up and cried out, 'You thieving

walking together along the road: and the needle cried out, 'Stop, stop
said it was so dark that they could hardly find their way, and such
walking they could not get on at all: he told them that he and his frien
pin, had been at a public-house a few miles off, and had sat drinking ti
had forgotten how late it was; he begged therefore that the travellers
be so kind as to give them a lift in their carriage. Chanticleer obs
that they were but thin fellows, and not likely to take up much room
them they might ride, but made them promise not to dirty the wheels
carriage in getting in, nor to tread on Partlet's toes.

Late at night they arrived at an inn; and as it was bad travelling
dark, and the duck seemed much tired, and waddled about a good dea
one side to the other, they made up their minds to fix their quarters
but the landlord at first was unwilling, and said his house was full, th
they might not be very respectable company: however, they spoke civ
him, and gave him the egg which Partlet had laid by the way, and sai
would give him the duck, who was in the habit of laying one every d
at last he let them come in, and they bespoke a handsome supper, and
the evening very jollily.

Early in the morning, before it was quite light, and when nobod
stirring in the inn, Chanticleer awakened his wife, and, fetching th
they pecked a hole in it, ate it up, and threw the shells into the fire
they then went to the pin and needle, who were fast asleep, and seizing
by the heads, stuck one into the landlord's easy chair and the other in
handkerchief; and, having done this, they crept away as softly as po
However, the duck, who slept in the open air in the yard, heard them co
and jumping into the brook which ran close by the inn, soon swam
their reach.

An hour or two afterwards the landlord got up, and took his handke
to wipe his face, but the pin ran into him and pricked him: then he w

ks.

.2 HOW CHANTICLEER AND PARTLET WENT TO VIST MR KORBES

other day, Chanticleer and Partlet wished to ride out together; so Chanti-
r built a handsome carriage with four red wheels, and harnessed six mice
t; and then he and Partlet got into the carriage, and away they drove.
n afterwards a cat met them, and said, 'Where are you going?' And
anticleer replied,

'All on our way
A visit to pay
To Mr Korbes, the fox, today.'

Then the cat said, 'Take me with you,' Chanticleer said, 'With all my
rt: get up behind, and be sure you do not fall off.'

'Take care of this handsome coach of mine,
Nor dirty my pretty red wheels so fine!
Now, mice, be ready,
And, wheels, run steady!
For we are going a visit to pay
To Mr Korbes, the fox, today.'

Soon after came up a millstone, an egg, a duck, and a pin; and Chanticleer
e them all leave to get into the carriage and go with them.
When they arrived at Mr Korbes's house, he was not at home; so the mice
w the carriage into the coach-house, Chanticleer and Partlet flew upon

became quite furious, and, jumping up, would have run out of the hous
when he came to the door, the millstone fell down on his head, and
him on the spot.

15.3 HOW PARTLET DIED AND WAS I IED, AND HOW CHANTICLEER I OF GRIEF

Another day Chanticleer and Partlet agreed to go again to the mou
to eat nuts; and it was settled that all the nuts which they found sho
shared equally between them. Now Partlet found a very large nut; b
said nothing about it to Chanticleer, and kept it all to herself: howe
was so big that she could not swallow it, and it stuck in her throat.
she was in a great fright, and cried out to Chanticleer, 'Pray run as f
you can, and fetch me some water, or I shall be choked.' Chanticle
as fast as he could to the river, and said, 'River, give me some wat
Partlet lies in the mountain, and will be choked by a great nut.' The
said, 'Run first to the bride, and ask her for a silken cord to draw u
water.' Chanticleer ran to the bride, and said, 'Bride, you must give
silken cord, for then the river will give me water, and the water I will
to Partlet, who lies on the mountain, and will be choked by a great
But the bride said, 'Run first, and bring me my garland that is hang
a willow in the garden.' Then Chanticleer ran to the garden, and to
garland from the bough where it hung, and brought it to the bride; an
the bride gave him the silken cord, and he took the silken cord to the
and the river gave him water, and he carried the water to Partlet; but
meantime she was choked by the great nut, and lay quite dead, and

climbed upon the hearse.

So on they went till they came to a rapid stream. 'How shall we get over?' l Chanticleer. Then said a straw, 'I will lay myself across, and you may s over upon me.' But as the mice were going over, the straw slipped away fell into the water, and the six mice all fell in and were drowned. What to be done? Then a large log of wood came and said, 'I am big enough; ll lay myself across the stream, and you shall pass over upon me.' So he himself down; but they managed so clumsily, that the log of wood fell nd was carried away by the stream. Then a stone, who saw what had pened, came up and kindly offered to help poor Chanticleer by laying self across the stream; and this time he got safely to the other side with hearse, and managed to get Partlet out of it; but the fox and the other urners, who were sitting behind, were too heavy, and fell back into the er and were all carried away by the stream and drowned.

Thus Chanticleer was left alone with his dead Partlet; and having dug a ve for her, he laid her in it, and made a little hillock over her. Then he down by the grave, and wept and mourned, till at last he died too; and ll were dead.

APUNZEL

ere were once a man and a woman who had long in vain wished for a d. At length the woman hoped that God was about to grant her desire. ese people had a little window at the back of their house from which a ndid garden could be seen, which was full of the most beautiful flowers herbs. It was, however, surrounded by a high wall, and no one dared go into it because it belonged to an enchantress, who had great power was dreaded by all the world. One day the woman was standing by this dow and looking down into the garden, when she saw a bed which was nted with the most beautiful rampion (rapunzel), and it looked so fresh green that she longed for it, she quite pined away, and began to look pale miserable. Then her husband was alarmed, and asked: 'What ails you, r wife?' 'Ah,' she replied, 'if I can't eat some of the rampion, which is in garden behind our house, I shall die.' The man, who loved her, thought: oner than let your wife die, bring her some of the rampion yourself, let ost what it will.' At twilight, he clambered down over the wall into the den of the enchantress, hastily clutched a handful of rampion, and took o his wife. She at once made herself a salad of it, and ate it greedily. asted so good to her–so very good, that the next day she longed for it ee times as much as before. If he was to have any rest, her husband must e more descend into the garden. In the gloom of evening therefore, he himself down again; but when he had clambered down the wall he was ibly afraid, for he saw the enchantress standing before him. 'How can

The man in his terror consented to everything, and when the woma
brought to bed, the enchantress appeared at once, gave the child the
of Rapunzel, and took it away with her.

Rapunzel grew into the most beautiful child under the sun. Whe
was twelve years old, the enchantress shut her into a tower, which
a forest, and had neither stairs nor door, but quite at the top was a
window. When the enchantress wanted to go in, she placed herself be
it and cried:

> 'Rapunzel, Rapunzel,
> Let down your hair to me.'

Rapunzel had magnificent long hair, fine as spun gold, and whe
heard the voice of the enchantress she unfastened her braided tresses,
them round one of the hooks of the window above, and then the ha
twenty ells down, and the enchantress climbed up by it.

After a year or two, it came to pass that the king's son rode th
the forest and passed by the tower. Then he heard a song, which
charming that he stood still and listened. This was Rapunzel, who
solitude passed her time in letting her sweet voice resound. The king
wanted to climb up to her, and looked for the door of the tower, but
was to be found. He rode home, but the singing had so deeply touch
heart, that every day he went out into the forest and listened to it.
when he was thus standing behind a tree, he saw that an enchantress
there, and he heard how she cried:

> 'Rapunzel, Rapunzel,
> Let down your hair to me.'

Then Rapunzel let down the braids of her hair, and the encha

e like a friend, and told her that his heart had been so stirred that it had
him have no rest, and he had been forced to see her. Then Rapunzel lost
fear, and when he asked her if she would take him for her husband, and
saw that he was young and handsome, she thought: 'He will love me more
n old Dame Gothel does'; and she said yes, and laid her hand in his. She
l: 'I will willingly go away with you, but I do not know how to get down.
ng with you a skein of silk every time that you come, and I will weave
dder with it, and when that is ready I will descend, and you will take
on your horse.' They agreed that until that time he should come to her
y evening, for the old woman came by day. The enchantress remarked
hing of this, until once Rapunzel said to her: 'Tell me, Dame Gothel,
it happens that you are so much heavier for me to draw up than the
ng king's son–he is with me in a moment.' 'Ah! you wicked child,' cried
enchantress. 'What do I hear you say! I thought I had separated you
n all the world, and yet you have deceived me!' In her anger she clutched
unzel's beautiful tresses, wrapped them twice round her left hand, seized
air of scissors with the right, and snip, snap, they were cut off, and the
ly braids lay on the ground. And she was so pitiless that she took poor
unzel into a desert where she had to live in great grief and misery.

On the same day that she cast out Rapunzel, however, the enchantress
ened the braids of hair, which she had cut off, to the hook of the window,
when the king's son came and cried:

'Rapunzel, Rapunzel,
Let down your hair to me.'

she let the hair down. The king's son ascended, but instead of finding his
rest Rapunzel, he found the enchantress, who gazed at him with wicked
venomous looks. 'Aha!' she cried mockingly, 'you would fetch your

heard a voice, and it seemed so familiar to him that he went towards i
when he approached, Rapunzel knew him and fell on his neck and wept
of her tears wetted his eyes and they grew clear again, and he could se
them as before. He led her to his kingdom where he was joyfully rec
and they lived for a long time afterwards, happy and contented.

UNDEVOGEL

ere was once a forester who went into the forest to hunt, and as he entered e heard a sound of screaming as if a little child were there. He followed sound, and at last came to a high tree, and at the top of this a little d was sitting, for the mother had fallen asleep under the tree with the d, and a bird of prey had seen it in her arms, had flown down, snatched way, and set it on the high tree.

The forester climbed up, brought the child down, and thought to himself: u will take him home with you, and bring him up with your Lina.' He k it home, therefore, and the two children grew up together. And the , which he had found on a tree was called Fundevogel, because a bird had ried it away. Fundevogel and Lina loved each other so dearly that when y did not see each other they were sad.

Now the forester had an old cook, who one evening took two pails and an to fetch water, and did not go once only, but many times, out to the ng. Lina saw this and said, 'Listen, old Sanna, why are you fetching so ch water?' 'If you will never repeat it to anyone, I will tell you why.' So a said, no, she would never repeat it to anyone, and then the cook said: rly tomorrow morning, when the forester is out hunting, I will heat the er, and when it is boiling in the kettle, I will throw in Fundevogel, and boil him in it.'

Early next morning the forester got up and went out hunting, and when was gone the children were still in bed. Then Lina said to Fundevogel:

bedroom to fetch Fundevogel and throw him into it. But when she ca
and went to the beds, both the children were gone. Then she was te
alarmed, and she said to herself: 'What shall I say now when the fo
comes home and sees that the children are gone? They must be fo
instantly to get them back again.'

Then the cook sent three servants after them, who were to run and
take the children. The children, however, were sitting outside the fores
when they saw from afar the three servants running, Lina said to Funde
'Never leave me, and I will never leave you.' Fundevogel said: 'Neithe
nor ever.' Then said Lina: 'Do you become a rose-tree, and I the rose
it.' When the three servants came to the forest, nothing was there
rose-tree and one rose on it, but the children were nowhere. Then said
'There is nothing to be done here,' and they went home and told the
that they had seen nothing in the forest but a little rose-bush with on
on it. Then the old cook scolded and said: 'You simpletons, you should
cut the rose-bush in two, and have broken off the rose and brought it
with you; go, and do it at once.' They had therefore to go out and lo
the second time. The children, however, saw them coming from a dis
Then Lina said: 'Fundevogel, never leave me, and I will never leave
Fundevogel said: 'Neither now; nor ever.' Said Lina: 'Then do you b
a church, and I'll be the chandelier in it.' So when the three servants
nothing was there but a church, with a chandelier in it. They said the
to each other: 'What can we do here, let us go home.' When they got
the cook asked if they had not found them; so they said no, they had
nothing but a church, and there was a chandelier in it. And the cook s
them and said: 'You fools! why did you not pull the church to piece
bring the chandelier home with you?' And now the old cook herself
her legs, and went with the three servants in pursuit of the children
children, however, saw from afar that the three servants were coming

HE VALIANT LITTLE AILOR

e summer's morning a little tailor was sitting on his table by the window; was in good spirits, and sewed with all his might. Then came a peasant nan down the street crying: 'Good jams, cheap! Good jams, cheap!' This g pleasantly in the tailor's ears; he stretched his delicate head out of the dow, and called: 'Come up here, dear woman; here you will get rid of r goods.' The woman came up the three steps to the tailor with her vy basket, and he made her unpack all the pots for him. He inspected n one, lifted it up, put his nose to it, and at length said: 'The jam seems me to be good, so weigh me out four ounces, dear woman, and if it is a rter of a pound that is of no consequence.' The woman who had hoped ind a good sale, gave him what he desired, but went away quite angry grumbling. 'Now, this jam shall be blessed by God,' cried the little or, 'and give me health and strength'; so he brought the bread out of the board, cut himself a piece right across the loaf and spread the jam over 'This won't taste bitter,' said he, 'but I will just finish the jacket before ke a bite.' He laid the bread near him, sewed on, and in his joy, made ger and bigger stitches. In the meantime the smell of the sweet jam rose where the flies were sitting in great numbers, and they were attracted descended on it in hosts. 'Hi! who invited you?' said the little tailor, drove the unbidden guests away. The flies, however, who understood no

hear of it!' and his heart wagged with joy like a lamb's tail. The tail
on the girdle, and resolved to go forth into the world, because he th
his workshop was too small for his valour. Before he went away, he s
about in the house to see if there was anything which he could take
him; however, he found nothing but an old cheese, and that he put
pocket. In front of the door he observed a bird which had caught it
the thicket. It had to go into his pocket with the cheese. Now he to
the road boldly, and as he was light and nimble, he felt no fatigue.
road led him up a mountain, and when he had reached the highest
of it, there sat a powerful giant looking peacefully about him. The
tailor went bravely up, spoke to him, and said: 'Good day, comrade, s
are sitting there overlooking the wide-spread world! I am just on m
thither, and want to try my luck. Have you any inclination to go with
The giant looked contemptuously at the tailor, and said: 'You ragam
You miserable creature!'

'Oh, indeed?' answered the little tailor, and unbuttoned his coat
showed the giant the girdle, 'there may you read what kind of a man
The giant read: 'Seven at one stroke,' and thought that they had bee
whom the tailor had killed, and began to feel a little respect for th
fellow. Nevertheless, he wished to try him first, and took a stone in his
and squeezed it together so that water dropped out of it. 'Do that like
said the giant, 'if you have strength.' 'Is that all?' said the tailor, 't
child's play with us!' and put his hand into his pocket, brought out th
cheese, and pressed it until the liquid ran out of it. 'Faith,' said he, 'tha
a little better, wasn't it?' The giant did not know what to say, and cou
believe it of the little man. Then the giant picked up a stone and threw
high that the eye could scarcely follow it. 'Now, little mite of a man, d
likewise,' 'Well thrown,' said the tailor, 'but after all the stone came do
earth again; I will throw you one which shall never come back at all,' a

self on a branch, and the giant, who could not look round, had to carry y the whole tree, and the little tailor into the bargain: he behind, was e merry and happy, and whistled the song: 'Three tailors rode forth from gate,' as if carrying the tree were child's play. The giant, after he had gged the heavy burden part of the way, could go no further, and cried: rk you, I shall have to let the tree fall!' The tailor sprang nimbly down, ed the tree with both arms as if he had been carrying it, and said to the nt: 'You are such a great fellow, and yet cannot even carry the tree!'

They went on together, and as they passed a cherry-tree, the giant laid d of the top of the tree where the ripest fruit was hanging, bent it down, e it into the tailor's hand, and bade him eat. But the little tailor was ch too weak to hold the tree, and when the giant let it go, it sprang back in, and the tailor was tossed into the air with it. When he had fallen down in without injury, the giant said: 'What is this? Have you not strength ugh to hold the weak twig?' 'There is no lack of strength,' answered the e tailor. 'Do you think that could be anything to a man who has struck n seven at one blow? I leapt over the tree because the huntsmen are oting down there in the thicket. Jump as I did, if you can do it.' The nt made the attempt but he could not get over the tree, and remained ging in the branches, so that in this also the tailor kept the upper hand. The giant said: 'If you are such a valiant fellow, come with me into cavern and spend the night with us.' The little tailor was willing, and owed him. When they went into the cave, other giants were sitting there he fire, and each of them had a roasted sheep in his hand and was eating The little tailor looked round and thought: 'It is much more spacious here n in my workshop.' The giant showed him a bed, and said he was to lie n in it and sleep. The bed, however, was too big for the little tailor; he not lie down in it, but crept into a corner. When it was midnight, and giant thought that the little tailor was lying in a sound sleep, he got up,

he lay there, the people came and inspected him on all sides, and read
girdle: 'Seven at one stroke.' 'Ah!' said they, 'what does the great w
want here in the midst of peace? He must be a mighty lord.' They wer
announced him to the king, and gave it as their opinion that if war s
break out, this would be a weighty and useful man who ought on no ac
to be allowed to depart. The counsel pleased the king, and he sent
his courtiers to the little tailor to offer him military service when he a
The ambassador remained standing by the sleeper, waited until he stre
his limbs and opened his eyes, and then conveyed to him this proposal
this very reason have I come here,' the tailor replied, 'I am ready to ent
king's service.' He was therefore honourably received, and a special dw
was assigned him.

The soldiers, however, were set against the little tailor, and wishe
a thousand miles away. 'What is to be the end of this?' they said a
themselves. 'If we quarrel with him, and he strikes about him, seven
will fall at every blow; not one of us can stand against him.' They
therefore to a decision, betook themselves in a body to the king, and b
for their dismissal. 'We are not prepared,' said they, 'to stay with a
who kills seven at one stroke.' The king was sorry that for the sake
he should lose all his faithful servants, wished that he had never set e
the tailor, and would willingly have been rid of him again. But he d
venture to give him his dismissal, for he dreaded lest he should strik
and all his people dead, and place himself on the royal throne. He th
about it for a long time, and at last found good counsel. He sent to the
tailor and caused him to be informed that as he was a great warrior, h
one request to make to him. In a forest of his country lived two giants
caused great mischief with their robbing, murdering, ravaging, and bu
and no one could approach them without putting himself in danger of
If the tailor conquered and killed these two giants, he would give him hi

waiting here, I alone will soon finish off the giants.' Then he bounded the forest and looked about right and left. After a while he perceived h giants. They lay sleeping under a tree, and snored so that the branches ed up and down. The little tailor, not idle, gathered two pocketsful of nes, and with these climbed up the tree. When he was halfway up, he ped down by a branch, until he sat just above the sleepers, and then let stone after another fall on the breast of one of the giants. For a long e the giant felt nothing, but at last he awoke, pushed his comrade, and l: 'Why are you knocking me?' 'You must be dreaming,' said the other, 'I not knocking you.' They laid themselves down to sleep again, and then tailor threw a stone down on the second. 'What is the meaning of this?' d the other 'Why are you pelting me?' 'I am not pelting you,' answered first, growling. They disputed about it for a time, but as they were weary y let the matter rest, and their eyes closed once more. The little tailor an his game again, picked out the biggest stone, and threw it with all his ht on the breast of the first giant. 'That is too bad!' cried he, and sprang ike a madman, and pushed his companion against the tree until it shook. e other paid him back in the same coin, and they got into such a rage t they tore up trees and belaboured each other so long, that at last they h fell down dead on the ground at the same time. Then the little tailor ot down. 'It is a lucky thing,' said he, 'that they did not tear up the tree which I was sitting, or I should have had to sprint on to another like a irrel; but we tailors are nimble.' He drew out his sword and gave each of m a couple of thrusts in the breast, and then went out to the horsemen said: 'The work is done; I have finished both of them off, but it was hard k! They tore up trees in their sore need, and defended themselves with m, but all that is to no purpose when a man like myself comes, who can seven at one blow.' 'But are you not wounded?' asked the horsemen. u need not concern yourself about that,' answered the tailor, 'they have

He took a rope and an axe with him, went forth into the forest, and
bade those who were sent with him to wait outside. He had not long to
The unicorn soon came towards him, and rushed directly on the tailor
it would gore him with its horn without more ado. 'Softly, softly; it ca
done as quickly as that,' said he, and stood still and waited until the a
was quite close, and then sprang nimbly behind the tree. The unicor
against the tree with all its strength, and stuck its horn so fast in the
that it had not the strength enough to draw it out again, and thus
caught. 'Now, I have got the bird,' said the tailor, and came out from b
the tree and put the rope round its neck, and then with his axe he
the horn out of the tree, and when all was ready he led the beast awa
took it to the king.

The king still would not give him the promised reward, and made a
demand. Before the wedding the tailor was to catch him a wild boa
made great havoc in the forest, and the huntsmen should give him thei
'Willingly,' said the tailor, 'that is child's play!' He did not take the hun
with him into the forest, and they were well pleased that he did not, f
wild boar had several times received them in such a manner that the
no inclination to lie in wait for him. When the boar perceived the ta
ran on him with foaming mouth and whetted tusks, and was about to
him to the ground, but the hero fled and sprang into a chapel which wa
and up to the window at once, and in one bound out again. The bo
after him, but the tailor ran round outside and shut the door behind i
then the raging beast, which was much too heavy and awkward to lea
of the window, was caught. The little tailor called the huntsmen thithe
they might see the prisoner with their own eyes. The hero, however,
to the king, who was now, whether he liked it or not, obliged to ke
promise, and gave his daughter and the half of his kingdom. Had he l
that it was no warlike hero, but a little tailor who was standing befor

en he has fallen asleep shall go in, bind him, and take him on board a
which shall carry him into the wide world.' The woman was satisfied
this; but the king's armour-bearer, who had heard all, was friendly with
young lord, and informed him of the whole plot. 'I'll put a screw into
business,' said the little tailor. At night he went to bed with his wife
he usual time, and when she thought that he had fallen asleep, she got
opened the door, and then lay down again. The little tailor, who was
pretending to be asleep, began to cry out in a clear voice: 'Boy, make
the doublet and patch me the pantaloons, or I will rap the yard-measure
your ears. I smote seven at one blow. I killed two giants, I brought
y one unicorn, and caught a wild boar, and am I to fear those who are
nding outside the room.' When these men heard the tailor speaking thus,
were overcome by a great dread, and ran as if the wild huntsman were
ind them, and none of them would venture anything further against him.
he little tailor was and remained a king to the end of his life.

ANSEL AND GRETEL

d by a great forest dwelt a poor wood-cutter with his wife and his two dren. The boy was called Hansel and the girl Gretel. He had little to and to break, and once when great dearth fell on the land, he could no ger procure even daily bread. Now when he thought over this by night is bed, and tossed about in his anxiety, he groaned and said to his wife: hat is to become of us? How are we to feed our poor children, when we longer have anything even for ourselves?' 'I'll tell you what, husband,' wered the woman, 'early tomorrow morning we will take the children out the forest to where it is the thickest; there we will light a fire for them, give each of them one more piece of bread, and then we will go to our k and leave them alone. They will not find the way home again, and we l be rid of them.' 'No, wife,' said the man, 'I will not do that; how can I r to leave my children alone in the forest?–the wild animals would soon e and tear them to pieces.' 'O, you fool!' said she, 'then we must all four of hunger, you may as well plane the planks for our coffins,' and she left no peace until he consented. 'But I feel very sorry for the poor children, he same,' said the man.

The two children had also not been able to sleep for hunger, and had heard t their stepmother had said to their father. Gretel wept bitter tears, and to Hansel: 'Now all is over with us.' 'Be quiet, Gretel,' said Hansel, 'do distress yourself, I will soon find a way to help us.' And when the old folks fallen asleep, he got up, put on his little coat, opened the door below,

else.' Gretel took the bread under her apron, as Hansel had the pebbles
pocket. Then they all set out together on the way to the forest. Whe
had walked a short time, Hansel stood still and peeped back at the
and did so again and again. His father said: 'Hansel, what are you lo
at there and staying behind for? Pay attention, and do not forget h
use your legs.' 'Ah, father,' said Hansel, 'I am looking at my little
cat, which is sitting up on the roof, and wants to say goodbye to me.
wife said: 'Fool, that is not your little cat, that is the morning sun wh
shining on the chimneys.' Hansel, however, had not been looking back
cat, but had been constantly throwing one of the white pebble-stones
his pocket on the road.

When they had reached the middle of the forest, the father said:
children, pile up some wood, and I will light a fire that you may not be
Hansel and Gretel gathered brushwood together, as high as a little hil
brushwood was lighted, and when the flames were burning very hig
woman said: 'Now, children, lay yourselves down by the fire and rest, w
go into the forest and cut some wood. When we have done, we will
back and fetch you away.'

Hansel and Gretel sat by the fire, and when noon came, each ate a
piece of bread, and as they heard the strokes of the wood-axe they be
that their father was near. It was not the axe, however, but a branch
he had fastened to a withered tree which the wind was blowing back
and forwards. And as they had been sitting such a long time, thei
closed with fatigue, and they fell fast asleep. When at last they awo
was already dark night. Gretel began to cry and said: 'How are we
out of the forest now?' But Hansel comforted her and said: 'Just
little, until the moon has risen, and then we will soon find the way.'
when the full moon had risen, Hansel took his little sister by the hand
followed the pebbles which shone like newly-coined silver pieces, and s

erything is eaten again, we have one half loaf left, and that is the end.
e children must go, we will take them farther into the wood, so that they
not find their way out again; there is no other means of saving ourselves!'
e man's heart was heavy, and he thought: 'It would be better for you to
re the last mouthful with your children.' The woman, however, would
en to nothing that he had to say, but scolded and reproached him. He
o says A must say B, likewise, and as he had yielded the first time, he had
lo so a second time also.

The children, however, were still awake and had heard the conversation.
en the old folks were asleep, Hansel again got up, and wanted to go out
pick up pebbles as he had done before, but the woman had locked the
r, and Hansel could not get out. Nevertheless he comforted his little
er, and said: 'Do not cry, Gretel, go to sleep quietly, the good God will
o us.'

Early in the morning came the woman, and took the children out of their
s. Their piece of bread was given to them, but it was still smaller than the
e before. On the way into the forest Hansel crumbled his in his pocket,
often stood still and threw a morsel on the ground. 'Hansel, why do you
o and look round?' said the father, 'go on.' 'I am looking back at my
e pigeon which is sitting on the roof, and wants to say goodbye to me,'
wered Hansel. 'Fool!' said the woman, 'that is not your little pigeon, that
ne morning sun that is shining on the chimney.' Hansel, however little by
e, threw all the crumbs on the path.

The woman led the children still deeper into the forest, where they had
er in their lives been before. Then a great fire was again made, and the
her said: 'Just sit there, you children, and when you are tired you may
p a little; we are going into the forest to cut wood, and in the evening
en we are done, we will come and fetch you away.' When it was noon,
tel shared her piece of bread with Hansel, who had scattered his by the

and were very hungry, for they had nothing to eat but two or three b
which grew on the ground. And as they were so weary that their legs
carry them no longer, they lay down beneath a tree and fell asleep.

It was now three mornings since they had left their father's house.
began to walk again, but they always came deeper into the forest,
help did not come soon, they must die of hunger and weariness. When
mid-day, they saw a beautiful snow-white bird sitting on a bough, whic
so delightfully that they stood still and listened to it. And when its so
over, it spread its wings and flew away before them, and they followed i
they reached a little house, on the roof of which it alighted; and whe
approached the little house they saw that it was built of bread and c
with cakes, but that the windows were of clear sugar. 'We will set t
on that,' said Hansel, 'and have a good meal. I will eat a bit of the ro
you Gretel, can eat some of the window, it will taste sweet.' Hansel r
up above, and broke off a little of the roof to try how it tasted, and
leant against the window and nibbled at the panes. Then a soft voic
from the parlour:

'Nibble, nibble, gnaw,
Who is nibbling at my little house?'

The children answered:

'The wind, the wind,
The heaven-born wind,'

and went on eating without disturbing themselves. Hansel, wh
the taste of the roof, tore down a great piece of it, and Gretel push
the whole of one round window-pane, sat down, and enjoyed herself w

The old woman had only pretended to be so kind; she was in reality a
ked witch, who lay in wait for children, and had only built the little house
read in order to entice them there. When a child fell into her power, she
ed it, cooked and ate it, and that was a feast day with her. Witches have
eyes, and cannot see far, but they have a keen scent like the beasts, and
aware when human beings draw near. When Hansel and Gretel came
her neighbourhood, she laughed with malice, and said mockingly: 'I
e them, they shall not escape me again!' Early in the morning before the
dren were awake, she was already up, and when she saw both of them
ping and looking so pretty, with their plump and rosy cheeks she muttered
erself: 'That will be a dainty mouthful!' Then she seized Hansel with her
velled hand, carried him into a little stable, and locked him in behind a
ted door. Scream as he might, it would not help him. Then she went to
tel, shook her till she awoke, and cried: 'Get up, lazy thing, fetch some
er, and cook something good for your brother, he is in the stable outside,
is to be made fat. When he is fat, I will eat him.' Gretel began to weep
erly, but it was all in vain, for she was forced to do what the wicked witch
manded.

And now the best food was cooked for poor Hansel, but Gretel got nothing
crab-shells. Every morning the woman crept to the little stable, and
d: 'Hansel, stretch out your finger that I may feel if you will soon be fat.'
nsel, however, stretched out a little bone to her, and the old woman, who
dim eyes, could not see it, and thought it was Hansel's finger, and was
onished that there was no way of fattening him. When four weeks had
e by, and Hansel still remained thin, she was seized with impatience and
ld not wait any longer. 'Now, then, Gretel,' she cried to the girl, 'stir
rself, and bring some water. Let Hansel be fat or lean, tomorrow I will kill
, and cook him.' Ah, how the poor little sister did lament when she had
etch the water, and how her tears did flow down her cheeks! 'Dear God,

her bake in it, and then she would eat her, too. But Gretel saw wh
had in mind, and said: 'I do not know how I am to do it; how do I g
'Silly goose,' said the old woman. 'The door is big enough; just look,
get in myself!' and she crept up and thrust her head into the oven.
Gretel gave her a push that drove her far into it, and shut the iron doo
fastened the bolt. Oh! then she began to howl quite horribly, but Gret
away and the godless witch was miserably burnt to death.

Gretel, however, ran like lightning to Hansel, opened his little stabl
cried: 'Hansel, we are saved! The old witch is dead!' Then Hansel s
like a bird from its cage when the door is opened. How they did rejoic
embrace each other, and dance about and kiss each other! And as the
no longer any need to fear her, they went into the witch's house, and in
corner there stood chests full of pearls and jewels. 'These are far bette
pebbles!' said Hansel, and thrust into his pockets whatever could be g
and Gretel said: 'I, too, will take something home with me,' and fill
pinafore full. 'But now we must be off,' said Hansel, 'that we may get
the witch's forest.'

When they had walked for two hours, they came to a great stre
water. 'We cannot cross,' said Hansel, 'I see no foot-plank, and no b
'And there is also no ferry,' answered Gretel, 'but a white duck is swim
there: if I ask her, she will help us over.' Then she cried:

> 'Little duck, little duck, dost thou see,
> Hansel and Gretel are waiting for thee?
> There's never a plank, or bridge in sight,
> Take us across on thy back so white.'

The duck came to them, and Hansel seated himself on its back, an
his sister to sit by him. 'No,' replied Gretel, 'that will be too heavy f

they lived together in perfect happiness. My tale is done, there runs a use; whosoever catches it, may make himself a big fur cap out of it.

HE MOUSE, THE BIRD, ND THE SAUSAGE

ce upon a time, a mouse, a bird, and a sausage, entered into partnership set up house together. For a long time all went well; they lived in great nfort, and prospered so far as to be able to add considerably to their es. The bird's duty was to fly daily into the wood and bring in fuel; the use fetched the water, and the sausage saw to the cooking.

When people are too well off they always begin to long for something . And so it came to pass, that the bird, while out one day, met a fellow l, to whom he boastfully expatiated on the excellence of his household angements. But the other bird sneered at him for being a poor simpleton, o did all the hard work, while the other two stayed at home and had a d time of it. For, when the mouse had made the fire and fetched in the er, she could retire into her little room and rest until it was time to set table. The sausage had only to watch the pot to see that the food was perly cooked, and when it was near dinner-time, he just threw himself the broth, or rolled in and out among the vegetables three or four times, there they were, buttered, and salted, and ready to be served. Then, en the bird came home and had laid aside his burden, they sat down to le, and when they had finished their meal, they could sleep their fill till following morning: and that was really a very delightful life.

Influenced by those remarks, the bird next morning refused to bring in

till the sausage returned with the fuel for the following day. But the sa
remained so long away, that they became uneasy, and the bird flew
meet him. He had not flown far, however, when he came across a dog
having met the sausage, had regarded him as his legitimate booty, a
seized and swallowed him. The bird complained to the dog of this bare
robbery, but nothing he said was of any avail, for the dog answered th
found false credentials on the sausage, and that was the reason his li
been forfeited.

He picked up the wood, and flew sadly home, and told the mouse
had seen and heard. They were both very unhappy, but agreed to ma
best of things and to remain with one another.

So now the bird set the table, and the mouse looked after the food
wishing to prepare it in the same way as the sausage, by rolling in an
among the vegetables to salt and butter them, she jumped into the po
she stopped short long before she reached the bottom, having already p
not only with her skin and hair, but also with life.

Presently the bird came in and wanted to serve up the dinner, b
could nowhere see the cook. In his alarm and flurry, he threw the wood
and there about the floor, called and searched, but no cook was to be
Then some of the wood that had been carelessly thrown down, caugh
and began to blaze. The bird hastened to fetch some water, but his p
into the well, and he after it, and as he was unable to recover himself, h
drowned.

IOTHER HOLLE

ce upon a time there was a widow who had two daughters; one of them beautiful and industrious, the other ugly and lazy. The mother, however, ed the ugly and lazy one best, because she was her own daughter, and so other, who was only her stepdaughter, was made to do all the work of house, and was quite the Cinderella of the family. Her stepmother sent out every day to sit by the well in the high road, there to spin until she de her fingers bleed. Now it chanced one day that some blood fell on to spindle, and as the girl stopped over the well to wash it off, the spindle denly sprang out of her hand and fell into the well. She ran home crying ell of her misfortune, but her stepmother spoke harshly to her, and after ng her a violent scolding, said unkindly, 'As you have let the spindle fall the well you may go yourself and fetch it out.'

The girl went back to the well not knowing what to do, and at last in her ress she jumped into the water after the spindle.

She remembered nothing more until she awoke and found herself in a utiful meadow, full of sunshine, and with countless flowers blooming in y direction.

She walked over the meadow, and presently she came upon a baker's oven of bread, and the loaves cried out to her, 'Take us out, take us out, or ! we shall be burnt to a cinder; we were baked through long ago.' So she the bread-shovel and drew them all out.

She went on a little farther, till she came to a free full of apples. 'Shake

my bed in the right way, for I wish you always to shake it thoroug
that the feathers fly about; then they say, down there in the world, tha
snowing; for I am Mother Holle.' The old woman spoke so kindly, th
girl summoned up courage and agreed to enter into her service.

She took care to do everything according to the old woman's biddi
every time she made the bed she shook it with all her might, so th
feathers flew about like so many snowflakes. The old woman was as
as her word: she never spoke angrily to her, and gave her roast and
meats every day.

So she stayed on with Mother Holle for some time, and then she be
grow unhappy. She could not at first tell why she felt sad, but she b
conscious at last of great longing to go home; then she knew she was hom
although she was a thousand times better off with Mother Holle tha
her mother and sister. After waiting awhile, she went to Mother Hol
said, 'I am so homesick, that I cannot stay with you any longer, for alt
I am so happy here, I must return to my own people.'

Then Mother Holle said, 'I am pleased that you should want to g
to your own people, and as you have served me so well and faithfully,
take you home myself.'

Thereupon she led the girl by the hand up to a broad gateway. Th
was opened, and as the girl passed through, a shower of gold fell upo
and the gold clung to her, so that she was covered with it from head t

'That is a reward for your industry,' said Mother Holle, and as she
she handed her the spindle which she had dropped into the well.

The gate was then closed, and the girl found herself back in the old
close to her mother's house. As she entered the courtyard, the cock wh
perched on the well, called out:

'Cock-a-doodle-doo!
Your golden daughter's come back to you.'

Like her sister she awoke in the beautiful meadow, and walked over it till came to the oven. 'Take us out, take us out, or alas! we shall be burnt cinder; we were baked through long ago,' cried the loaves as before. But lazy girl answered, 'Do you think I am going to dirty my hands for you?' walked on.

Presently she came to the apple-tree. 'Shake me, shake me, I pray; my les, one and all, are ripe,' it cried. But she only answered, 'A nice thing sk me to do, one of the apples might fall on my head,' and passed on.

At last she came to Mother Holle's house, and as she had heard all about large teeth from her sister, she was not afraid of them, and engaged self without delay to the old woman.

The first day she was very obedient and industrious, and exerted herself please Mother Holle, for she thought of the gold she should get in return. next day, however, she began to dawdle over her work, and the third she was more idle still; then she began to lie in bed in the mornings refused to get up. Worse still, she neglected to make the old woman's properly, and forgot to shake it so that the feathers might fly about. So her Holle very soon got tired of her, and told her she might go. The lazy was delighted at this, and thought to herself, 'The gold will soon be mine.'

her Holle led her, as she had led her sister, to the broad gateway; but as was passing through, instead of the shower of gold, a great bucketful of h came pouring over her.

'That is in return for your services,' said the old woman, and she shut gate.

So the lazy girl had to go home covered with pitch, and the cock on the called out as she saw her:

'Cock-a-doodle-doo!
Your dirty daughter's come back to you.'

ITTLE RED-CAP (or ITTLE RED RIDING OOD)

ce upon a time there was a dear little girl who was loved by everyone who ked at her, but most of all by her grandmother, and there was nothing t she would not have given to the child. Once she gave her a little cap of velvet, which suited her so well that she would never wear anything else; he was always called 'Little Red- Cap.'

One day her mother said to her: 'Come, Little Red-Cap, here is a piece ake and a bottle of wine; take them to your grandmother, she is ill and k, and they will do her good. Set out before it gets hot, and when you going, walk nicely and quietly and do not run off the path, or you may and break the bottle, and then your grandmother will get nothing; and n you go into her room, don't forget to say, "Good morning", and don't p into every corner before you do it.'

'I will take great care,' said Little Red-Cap to her mother, and gave her d on it.

The grandmother lived out in the wood, half a league from the village, just as Little Red-Cap entered the wood, a wolf met her. Red-Cap did know what a wicked creature he was, and was not at all afraid of him.

'Good day, Little Red-Cap,' said he.

know it,' replied Little Red-Cap.

The wolf thought to himself: 'What a tender young creature! w
nice plump mouthful–she will be better to eat than the old woman. I
act craftily, so as to catch both.' So he walked for a short time by th
of Little Red-Cap, and then he said: 'See, Little Red-Cap, how pret
flowers are about here–why do you not look round? I believe, too, tha
do not hear how sweetly the little birds are singing; you walk gravely
as if you were going to school, while everything else out here in the w
merry.'

Little Red-Cap raised her eyes, and when she saw the sunbeams da
here and there through the trees, and pretty flowers growing everywhe
thought: 'Suppose I take grandmother a fresh nosegay; that would plea
too. It is so early in the day that I shall still get there in good time'; a
she ran from the path into the wood to look for flowers. And whenev
had picked one, she fancied that she saw a still prettier one farther o
ran after it, and so got deeper and deeper into the wood.

Meanwhile the wolf ran straight to the grandmother's house and kn
at the door.

'Who is there?'

'Little Red-Cap,' replied the wolf. 'She is bringing cake and wine
the door.'

'Lift the latch,' called out the grandmother, 'I am too weak, and c
get up.'

The wolf lifted the latch, the door sprang open, and without say
word he went straight to the grandmother's bed, and devoured her. Th
put on her clothes, dressed himself in her cap laid himself in bed and
the curtains.

Little Red-Cap, however, had been running about picking flowers
when she had gathered so many that she could carry no more, she re

'But, grandmother, what big eyes you have!' she said.
'The better to see you with, my dear.'
'But, grandmother, what large hands you have!'
'The better to hug you with.'
'Oh! but, grandmother, what a terrible big mouth you have!'
'The better to eat you with!'
And scarcely had the wolf said this, than with one bound he was out of and swallowed up Red-Cap.
When the wolf had appeased his appetite, he lay down again in the bed, asleep and began to snore very loud. The huntsman was just passing the se, and thought to himself: 'How the old woman is snoring! I must just if she wants anything.' So he went into the room, and when he came he bed, he saw that the wolf was lying in it. 'Do I find you here, you sinner!' said he. 'I have long sought you!' Then just as he was going ire at him, it occurred to him that the wolf might have devoured the ndmother, and that she might still be saved, so he did not fire, but took air of scissors, and began to cut open the stomach of the sleeping wolf. en he had made two snips, he saw the little Red-Cap shining, and then made two snips more, and the little girl sprang out, crying: 'Ah, how htened I have been! How dark it was inside the wolf'; and after that the d grandmother came out alive also, but scarcely able to breathe. Red-, however, quickly fetched great stones with which they filled the wolf's y, and when he awoke, he wanted to run away, but the stones were so vy that he collapsed at once, and fell dead.
Then all three were delighted. The huntsman drew off the wolf's skin went home with it; the grandmother ate the cake and drank the wine ch Red-Cap had brought, and revived, but Red-Cap thought to herself: long as I live, I will never by myself leave the path, to run into the wood, n my mother has forbidden me to do so.'
It also related that once, when Red-Cap, as again, taking cakes to the

they did not speak, or open the door, so the grey-beard stole twice or
round the house, and at last jumped on the roof, intending to wait
Red-Cap went home in the evening, and then to steal after her and c
her in the darkness. But the grandmother saw what was in his though
front of the house was a great stone trough, so she said to the child:
the pail, Red-Cap; I made some sausages yesterday, so carry the wa
which I boiled them to the trough.' Red-Cap carried until the great t
was quite full. Then the smell of the sausages reached the wolf, and he s
and peeped down, and at last stretched out his neck so far that he co
longer keep his footing and began to slip, and slipped down from th
straight into the great trough, and was drowned. But Red-Cap went jo
home, and no one ever did anything to harm her again.

HE ROBBER RIDEGROOM

ere was once a miller who had one beautiful daughter, and as she was wn up, he was anxious that she should be well married and provided for. said to himself, 'I will give her to the first suitable man who comes and s for her hand.' Not long after a suitor appeared, and as he appeared to very rich and the miller could see nothing in him with which to find fault, betrothed his daughter to him. But the girl did not care for the man as rl ought to care for her betrothed husband. She did not feel that she ld trust him, and she could not look at him nor think of him without an ard shudder. One day he said to her, 'You have not yet paid me a visit, hough we have been betrothed for some time.' 'I do not know where your se is,' she answered. 'My house is out there in the dark forest,' he said. tried to excuse herself by saying that she would not be able to find the thither. Her betrothed only replied, 'You must come and see me next day; I have already invited guests for that day, and that you may not take the way, I will strew ashes along the path.'

When Sunday came, and it was time for the girl to start, a feeling of ad came over her which she could not explain, and that she might be able nd her path again, she filled her pockets with peas and lentils to sprinkle he ground as she went along. On reaching the entrance to the forest she nd the path strewed with ashes, and these she followed, throwing down

The girl looked up and saw that the voice came from a bird hangi
cage on the wall. Again it cried:

> 'Turn back, turn back, young maiden fair,
> Linger not in this murderers' lair.'

The girl passed on, going from room to room of the house, but the
all empty, and still she saw no one. At last she came to the cellar, and
sat a very, very old woman, who could not keep her head from shaking.
you tell me,' asked the girl, 'if my betrothed husband lives here?'

'Ah, you poor child,' answered the old woman, 'what a place for
come to! This is a murderers' den. You think yourself a promised
and that your marriage will soon take place, but it is with death tha
will keep your marriage feast. Look, do you see that large cauldron of
which I am obliged to keep on the fire! As soon as they have you in
power they will kill you without mercy, and cook and eat you, for th
eaters of men. If I did not take pity on you and save you, you would be

Thereupon the old woman led her behind a large cask, which qui
her from view. 'Keep as still as a mouse,' she said; 'do not move or
or it will be all over with you. Tonight, when the robbers are all asle
will flee together. I have long been waiting for an opportunity to esca

The words were hardly out of her mouth when the godless crew ret
dragging another young girl along with them. They were all drunk, an
no heed to her cries and lamentations. They gave her wine to drink,
glasses full, one of white wine, one of red, and one of yellow, and wit
her heart gave way and she died. Then they tore of her dainty clothin
her on a table, and cut her beautiful body into pieces, and sprinkle
upon it.

The poor betrothed girl crouched trembling and shuddering behi

'The old woman is right,' said the robbers, and they ceased looking for finger and sat down.

The old woman then mixed a sleeping draught with their wine, and before g they were all lying on the floor of the cellar, fast asleep and snoring. As n as the girl was assured of this, she came from behind the cask. She was ged to step over the bodies of the sleepers, who were lying close together, every moment she was filled with renewed dread lest she should awaken m. But God helped her, so that she passed safely over them, and then and the old woman went upstairs, opened the door, and hastened as fast hey could from the murderers' den. They found the ashes scattered by wind, but the peas and lentils had sprouted, and grown sufficiently above ground, to guide them in the moonlight along the path. All night long y walked, and it was morning before they reached the mill. Then the girl l her father all that had happened.

The day came that had been fixed for the marriage. The bridegroom ved and also a large company of guests, for the miller had taken care to te all his friends and relations. As they sat at the feast, each guest in n was asked to tell a tale; the bride sat still and did not say a word.

'And you, my love,' said the bridegroom, turning to her, 'is there no tale know? Tell us something.'

'I will tell you a dream, then,' said the bride. 'I went alone through a st and came at last to a house; not a soul could I find within, but a bird t was hanging in a cage on the wall cried:

'Turn back, turn back, young maiden fair,
Linger not in this murderers' lair.'

and again a second time it said these words.'

'My darling, this is only a dream.'

They gave her three kinds of wine to drink, white, red, and yellow, and
that she died.'

'My darling, this is only a dream.'

'Then they tore off her dainty clothing, and cut her beautiful bod
pieces and sprinkled salt upon it.'

'My darling, this is only a dream.'

'And one of the robbers saw that there was a gold ring still left o
finger, and as it was difficult to draw off, he took a hatchet and cut o
finger; but the finger sprang into the air and fell behind the great cas
my lap. And here is the finger with the ring.' and with these words the
drew forth the finger and shewed it to the assembled guests.

The bridegroom, who during this recital had grown deadly pale, u
tried to escape, but the guests seized him and held him fast. They del
him up to justice, and he and all his murderous band were condemn
death for their wicked deeds.

OM THUMB

oor woodman sat in his cottage one night, smoking his pipe by the fireside, le his wife sat by his side spinning. 'How lonely it is, wife,' said he, as uffed out a long curl of smoke, 'for you and me to sit here by ourselves, hout any children to play about and amuse us while other people seem happy and merry with their children!' 'What you say is very true,' said wife, sighing, and turning round her wheel; 'how happy should I be if ad but one child! If it were ever so small–nay, if it were no bigger than thumb–I should be very happy, and love it dearly.' Now–odd as you may k it–it came to pass that this good woman's wish was fulfilled, just in very way she had wished it; for, not long afterwards, she had a little boy, was quite healthy and strong, but was not much bigger than my thumb. hey said, 'Well, we cannot say we have not got what we wished for, and, e as he is, we will love him dearly.' And they called him Thomas Thumb. They gave him plenty of food, yet for all they could do he never grew ger, but kept just the same size as he had been when he was born. Still, eyes were sharp and sparkling, and he soon showed himself to be a clever e fellow, who always knew well what he was about.

One day, as the woodman was getting ready to go into the wood to cut , he said, 'I wish I had someone to bring the cart after me, for I want to e haste.' 'Oh, father,' cried Tom, 'I will take care of that; the cart shall n the wood by the time you want it.' Then the woodman laughed, and , 'How can that be? you cannot reach up to the horse's bridle.' 'Never

said one: 'there is a cart going along, and I hear a carter talking to the
but yet I can see no one.' 'That is queer, indeed,' said the other; 'let us
the cart, and see where it goes.' So they went on into the wood, till
they came to the place where the woodman was. Then Tom Thumb,
his father, cried out, 'See, father, here I am with the cart, all right an
now take me down!' So his father took hold of the horse with one han
with the other took his son out of the horse's ear, and put him down
straw, where he sat as merry as you please.

The two strangers were all this time looking on, and did not know w
say for wonder. At last one took the other aside, and said, 'That little
will make our fortune, if we can get him, and carry him about from to
town as a show; we must buy him.' So they went up to the woodma
asked him what he would take for the little man. 'He will be better off
they, 'with us than with you.' 'I won't sell him at all,' said the fathe
own flesh and blood is dearer to me than all the silver and gold in the
But Tom, hearing of the bargain they wanted to make, crept up his fa
coat to his shoulder and whispered in his ear, 'Take the money, fathe
let them have me; I'll soon come back to you.'

So the woodman at last said he would sell Tom to the strangers
large piece of gold, and they paid the price. 'Where would you like t
said one of them. 'Oh, put me on the rim of your hat; that will be
gallery for me; I can walk about there and see the country as we go
So they did as he wished; and when Tom had taken leave of his fathe
took him away with them.

They journeyed on till it began to be dusky, and then the little ma
'Let me get down, I'm tired.' So the man took off his hat, and put him
on a clod of earth, in a ploughed field by the side of the road. Bu
ran about amongst the furrows, and at last slipped into an old mous
'Good night, my masters!' said he, 'I'm off! mind and look sharp aft

Just as he was falling asleep, he heard two men passing by, chatting
ether; and one said to the other, 'How can we rob that rich parson's
se of his silver and gold?' 'I'll tell you!' cried Tom. 'What noise was
t?' said the thief, frightened; 'I'm sure I heard someone speak.' They
d still listening, and Tom said, 'Take me with you, and I'll soon show
how to get the parson's money.' 'But where are you?' said they. 'Look
ut on the ground,' answered he, 'and listen where the sound comes from.'
last the thieves found him out, and lifted him up in their hands. 'You
e urchin!' they said, 'what can you do for us?' 'Why, I can get between
iron window-bars of the parson's house, and throw you out whatever you
t.' 'That's a good thought,' said the thieves; 'come along, we shall see
t you can do.'

When they came to the parson's house, Tom slipped through the window-
s into the room, and then called out as loud as he could bawl, 'Will you
e all that is here?' At this the thieves were frightened, and said, 'Softly,
ly! Speak low, that you may not awaken anybody.' But Tom seemed as
e did not understand them, and bawled out again, 'How much will you
e? Shall I throw it all out?' Now the cook lay in the next room; and
ring a noise she raised herself up in her bed and listened. Meantime the
ves were frightened, and ran off a little way; but at last they plucked up
r hearts, and said, 'The little urchin is only trying to make fools of us.'
hey came back and whispered softly to him, saying, 'Now let us have no
e of your roguish jokes; but throw us out some of the money.' Then Tom
ed out as loud as he could, 'Very well! hold your hands! here it comes.'

The cook heard this quite plain, so she sprang out of bed, and ran to open
door. The thieves ran off as if a wolf was at their tails: and the maid,
ing groped about and found nothing, went away for a light. By the time
came back, Tom had slipped off into the barn; and when she had looked
ut and searched every hole and corner, and found nobody, she went to

the hay into the cow's rick, and the cow had taken Tom up in a mo
of it. 'Good lack-a-day!' said he, 'how came I to tumble into the mill'
he soon found out where he really was; and was forced to have all hi
about him, that he might not get between the cow's teeth, and so be cr
to death. At last down he went into her stomach. 'It is rather dark,' sa
'they forgot to build windows in this room to let the sun in; a candle
be no bad thing.'

Though he made the best of his bad luck, he did not like his qu
at all; and the worst of it was, that more and more hay was always c
down, and the space left for him became smaller and smaller. At l
cried out as loud as he could, 'Don't bring me any more hay! Don't
me any more hay!'

The maid happened to be just then milking the cow; and hearing so
speak, but seeing nobody, and yet being quite sure it was the same voic
she had heard in the night, she was so frightened that she fell off her
and overset the milk-pail. As soon as she could pick herself up out
dirt, she ran off as fast as she could to her master the parson, and saic
sir, the cow is talking!' But the parson said, 'Woman, thou art surely
However, he went with her into the cow-house, to try and see what w
matter.

Scarcely had they set foot on the threshold, when Tom called out,
bring me any more hay!' Then the parson himself was frightened; and
ing the cow was surely bewitched, told his man to kill her on the spot.
cow was killed, and cut up; and the stomach, in which Tom lay, was t
out upon a dunghill.

Tom soon set himself to work to get out, which was not a very easy
but at last, just as he had made room to get his head out, fresh ill-luck
him. A hungry wolf sprang out, and swallowed up the whole stomach
Tom in it, at one gulp, and ran away.

try, and ate and drank there to his heart's content. As soon as he had enough he wanted to get away; but he had eaten so much that he could go out by the same way he came in.

This was just what Tom had reckoned upon; and now he began to set a great shout, making all the noise he could. 'Will you be easy?' said wolf; 'you'll awaken everybody in the house if you make such a clatter.' hat's that to me?' said the little man; 'you have had your frolic, now I've ind to be merry myself'; and he began, singing and shouting as loud as ould.

The woodman and his wife, being awakened by the noise, peeped through ack in the door; but when they saw a wolf was there, you may well suppose t they were sadly frightened; and the woodman ran for his axe, and gave wife a scythe. 'Do you stay behind,' said the woodman, 'and when I have cked him on the head you must rip him up with the scythe.' Tom heard this, and cried out, 'Father, father! I am here, the wolf has swallowed ' And his father said, 'Heaven be praised! we have found our dear child in'; and he told his wife not to use the scythe for fear she should hurt . Then he aimed a great blow, and struck the wolf on the head, and ed him on the spot! and when he was dead they cut open his body, and Tommy free. 'Ah!' said the father, 'what fears we have had for you!' s, father,' answered he; 'I have travelled all over the world, I think, in one or other, since we parted; and now I am very glad to come home and fresh air again.' 'Why, where have you been?' said his father. 'I have n in a mouse-hole–and in a snail-shell–and down a cow's throat– and in wolf's belly; and yet here I am again, safe and sound.'

'Well,' said they, 'you are come back, and we will not sell you again for the riches in the world.'

Then they hugged and kissed their dear little son, and gave him plenty at and drink, for he was very hungry; and then they fetched new clothes

UMPELSTILTSKIN

the side of a wood, in a country a long way off, ran a fine stream of er; and upon the stream there stood a mill. The miller's house was close and the miller, you must know, had a very beautiful daughter. She was, reover, very shrewd and clever; and the miller was so proud of her, that one day told the king of the land, who used to come and hunt in the od, that his daughter could spin gold out of straw. Now this king was y fond of money; and when he heard the miller's boast his greediness was ed, and he sent for the girl to be brought before him. Then he led her to hamber in his palace where there was a great heap of straw, and gave her pinning-wheel, and said, 'All this must be spun into gold before morning, you love your life.' It was in vain that the poor maiden said that it was y a silly boast of her father, for that she could do no such thing as spin aw into gold: the chamber door was locked, and she was left alone.

She sat down in one corner of the room, and began to bewail her hard fate; en on a sudden the door opened, and a droll-looking little man hobbled and said, 'Good morrow to you, my good lass; what are you weeping ' 'Alas!' said she, 'I must spin this straw into gold, and I know not how.' hat will you give me,' said the hobgoblin, 'to do it for you?' 'My necklace,' ied the maiden. He took her at her word, and sat himself down to the eel, and whistled and sang:

'Round about, round about,

'What will you give me to do your task?' 'The ring on my finger,' sai
So her little friend took the ring, and began to work at the wheel agai
whistled and sang:

> 'Round about, round about,
> Lo and behold!
> Reel away, reel away,
> Straw into gold!'

till, long before morning, all was done again.

The king was greatly delighted to see all this glittering treasure; bu
he had not enough: so he took the miller's daughter to a yet larger hea
said, 'All this must be spun tonight; and if it is, you shall be my quee
soon as she was alone that dwarf came in, and said, 'What will you gi
to spin gold for you this third time?' 'I have nothing left,' said she. 'Th
you will give me,' said the little man, 'the first little child that you ma
when you are queen.' 'That may never be,' thought the miller's dau
and as she knew no other way to get her task done, she said she
do what he asked. Round went the wheel again to the old song, a
manikin once more spun the heap into gold. The king came in the mo
and, finding all he wanted, was forced to keep his word; so he marri
miller's daughter, and she really became queen.

At the birth of her first little child she was very glad, and forgot the
and what she had said. But one day he came into her room, where sh
sitting playing with her baby, and put her in mind of it. Then she g
sorely at her misfortune, and said she would give him all the wealth
kingdom if he would let her off, but in vain; till at last her tears so
him, and he said, 'I will give you three days' grace, and if during tha
you tell me my name, you shall keep your child.'

Now the queen lay awake all night, thinking of all the odd name

days without hearing of any other names; but yesterday, as I was climbing
gh hill, among the trees of the forest where the fox and the hare bid each
er good night, I saw a little hut; and before the hut burnt a fire; and round
ut the fire a funny little dwarf was dancing upon one leg, and singing:

"'Merrily the feast I'll make.
Today I'll brew, tomorrow bake;
Merrily I'll dance and sing,
For next day will a stranger bring.
Little does my lady dream
Rumpelstiltskin is my name!"'

When the queen heard this she jumped for joy, and as soon as her little
nd came she sat down upon her throne, and called all her court round to
oy the fun; and the nurse stood by her side with the baby in her arms, as
was quite ready to be given up. Then the little man began to chuckle
he thought of having the poor child, to take home with him to his hut in
woods; and he cried out, 'Now, lady, what is my name?' 'Is it JOHN?'
ed she. 'No, madam!' 'Is it TOM?' 'No, madam!' 'Is it JEMMY?' 'It is
' 'Can your name be RUMPELSTILTSKIN?' said the lady slyly. 'Some
ch told you that!– some witch told you that!' cried the little man, and
hed his right foot in a rage so deep into the floor, that he was forced to
hold of it with both hands to pull it out.
Then he made the best of his way off, while the nurse laughed and the
y crowed; and all the court jeered at him for having had so much trouble
nothing, and said, 'We wish you a very good morning, and a merry feast,
RUMPLESTILTSKIN!'

LEVER GRETEL

ere was once a cook named Gretel, who wore shoes with red heels, and
en she walked out with them on, she turned herself this way and that,
quite happy and thought: 'You certainly are a pretty girl!' And when
came home she drank, in her gladness of heart, a draught of wine, and as
e excites a desire to eat, she tasted the best of whatever she was cooking
il she was satisfied, and said: 'The cook must know what the food is like.'
It came to pass that the master one day said to her: 'Gretel, there is a
st coming this evening; prepare me two fowls very daintily.' 'I will see
t, master,' answered Gretel. She killed two fowls, scalded them, plucked
m, put them on the spit, and towards evening set them before the fire,
t they might roast. The fowls began to turn brown, and were nearly ready,
the guest had not yet arrived. Then Gretel called out to her master: 'If
guest does not come, I must take the fowls away from the fire, but it
be a sin and a shame if they are not eaten the moment they are at their
iest.' The master said: 'I will run myself, and fetch the guest.' When
master had turned his back, Gretel laid the spit with the fowls on one
, and thought: 'Standing so long by the fire there, makes one sweat and
sty; who knows when they will come? Meanwhile, I will run into the
ar, and take a drink.' She ran down, set a jug, said: 'God bless it for you,
tel,' and took a good drink, and thought that wine should flow on, and
uld not be interrupted, and took yet another hearty draught.
Then she went and put the fowls down again to the fire, basted them, and

went and looked for her master, and did not see him. It suddenly occur
her: 'Who knows? They are perhaps not coming at all, and have tur
somewhere.' Then she said: 'Well, Gretel, enjoy yourself, one fowl ha
cut into, take another drink, and eat it up entirely; when it is eaten yo
have some peace, why should God's good gifts be spoilt?' So she ra
the cellar again, took an enormous drink and ate up the one chicken in
glee. When one of the chickens was swallowed down, and still her m
did not come, Gretel looked at the other and said: 'What one is, the
should be likewise, the two go together; what's right for the one is rig
the other; I think if I were to take another draught it would do me no l
So she took another hearty drink, and let the second chicken follow th

While she was making the most of it, her master came and cried: '
up, Gretel, the guest is coming directly after me!' 'Yes, sir, I will soon
up,' answered Gretel. Meantime the master looked to see what the
was properly laid, and took the great knife, wherewith he was going to
the chickens, and sharpened it on the steps. Presently the guest cam
knocked politely and courteously at the house-door. Gretel ran, and l
to see who was there, and when she saw the guest, she put her finger
lips and said: 'Hush! hush! go away as quickly as you can, if my m
catches you it will be the worse for you; he certainly did ask you to su
but his intention is to cut off your two ears. Just listen how he is sharp
the knife for it!' The guest heard the sharpening, and hurried down the
again as fast as he could. Gretel was not idle; she ran screaming
master, and cried: 'You have invited a fine guest!' 'Why, Gretel? Wh
you mean by that?' 'Yes,' said she, 'he has taken the chickens which
just going to serve up, off the dish, and has run away with them!' 'Th
nice trick!' said her master, and lamented the fine chickens. 'If he ha
left me one, so that something remained for me to eat.' He called to h
stop, but the guest pretended not to hear. Then he ran after him wi

HE OLD MAN AND HIS -RANDSON

ere was once a very old man, whose eyes had become dim, his ears dull hearing, his knees trembled, and when he sat at table he could hardly d the spoon, and spilt the broth upon the table-cloth or let it run out his mouth. His son and his son's wife were disgusted at this, so the old ndfather at last had to sit in the corner behind the stove, and they gave his food in an earthenware bowl, and not even enough of it. And he used ook towards the table with his eyes full of tears. Once, too, his trembling ds could not hold the bowl, and it fell to the ground and broke. The ng wife scolded him, but he said nothing and only sighed. Then they ught him a wooden bowl for a few half-pence, out of which he had to eat. They were once sitting thus when the little grandson of four years old an to gather together some bits of wood upon the ground. 'What are you ng there?' asked the father. 'I am making a little trough,' answered the d, 'for father and mother to eat out of when I am big.'

The man and his wife looked at each other for a while, and presently an to cry. Then they took the old grandfather to the table, and henceforth ays let him eat with them, and likewise said nothing if he did spill a little nything.

HE LITTLE PEASANT

re was a certain village wherein no one lived but really rich peasants, and one poor one, whom they called the little peasant. He had not even so ch as a cow, and still less money to buy one, and yet he and his wife did vish to have one. One day he said to her: 'Listen, I have a good idea, re is our gossip the carpenter, he shall make us a wooden calf, and paint rown, so that it looks like any other, and in time it will certainly get big be a cow.' the woman also liked the idea, and their gossip the carpenter and planed the calf, and painted it as it ought to be, and made it with head hanging down as if it were eating.

Next morning when the cows were being driven out, the little peasant ed the cow-herd in and said: 'Look, I have a little calf there, but it is still ll and has to be carried.' The cow-herd said: 'All right,' and took it in arms and carried it to the pasture, and set it among the grass. The little always remained standing like one which was eating, and the cow-herd l: 'It will soon run by itself, just look how it eats already!' At night n he was going to drive the herd home again, he said to the calf: 'If can stand there and eat your fill, you can also go on your four legs; I 't care to drag you home again in my arms.' But the little peasant stood his door, and waited for his little calf, and when the cow-herd drove the s through the village, and the calf was missing, he inquired where it was. cow-herd answered: 'It is still standing out there eating. It would not and come with us.' But the little peasant said: 'Oh, but I must have

he might buy a new calf with the proceeds. On the way he passed by a
and there sat a raven with broken wings, and out of pity he took hi
wrapped him in the skin. But as the weather grew so bad and there
storm of rain and wind, he could go no farther, and turned back to th
and begged for shelter. The miller's wife was alone in the house, and s
the peasant: 'Lay yourself on the straw there,' and gave him a slice of
and cheese. The peasant ate it, and lay down with his skin beside hin
the woman thought: 'He is tired and has gone to sleep.' In the mea
came the parson; the miller's wife received him well, and said: 'My hu
is out, so we will have a feast.' The peasant listened, and when he
them talk about feasting he was vexed that he had been forced to mak
with a slice of bread and cheese. Then the woman served up four di
things, roast meat, salad, cakes, and wine.

Just as they were about to sit down and eat, there was a knocking ou
The woman said: 'Oh, heavens! It is my husband!' she quickly hid the
meat inside the tiled stove, the wine under the pillow, the salad on th
the cakes under it, and the parson in the closet on the porch. The
opened the door for her husband, and said: 'Thank heaven, you are
again! There is such a storm, it looks as if the world were coming
end.' The miller saw the peasant lying on the straw, and asked, 'W
that fellow doing there?' 'Ah,' said the wife, 'the poor knave came
storm and rain, and begged for shelter, so I gave him a bit of brea
cheese, and showed him where the straw was.' The man said: 'I ha
objection, but be quick and get me something to eat.' The woman
'But I have nothing but bread and cheese.' 'I am contented with anyt
replied the husband, 'so far as I am concerned, bread and cheese wi
and looked at the peasant and said: 'Come and eat some more wit
The peasant did not require to be invited twice, but got up and ate.
this the miller saw the skin in which the raven was, lying on the groun

said: 'In the second place, he says that there is some roast meat in the
d stove.' 'Upon my word!' cried the miller, and went thither, and found
roast meat. The peasant made the raven prophesy still more, and said:
irdly, he says that there is some salad on the bed.' 'That would be a fine
g!' cried the miller, and went there and found the salad. At last the
sant pinched the raven once more till he croaked, and said: 'Fourthly, he
s that there are some cakes under the bed.' 'That would be a fine thing!'
d the miller, and looked there, and found the cakes.

And now the two sat down to the table together, but the miller's wife
frightened to death, and went to bed and took all the keys with her.
miller would have liked much to know the fifth, but the little peasant
: 'First, we will quickly eat the four things, for the fifth is something
.' So they ate, and after that they bargained how much the miller was to
for the fifth prophecy, until they agreed on three hundred talers. Then
peasant once more pinched the raven's head till he croaked loudly. The
er asked: 'What did he say?' The peasant replied: 'He says that the
il is hiding outside there in the closet on the porch.' The miller said:
e Devil must go out,' and opened the house-door; then the woman was
ed to give up the keys, and the peasant unlocked the closet. The parson
out as fast as he could, and the miller said: 'It was true; I saw the black
al with my own eyes.' The peasant, however, made off next morning by
break with the three hundred talers.

At home the small peasant gradually launched out; he built a beautiful
se, and the peasants said: 'The small peasant has certainly been to the
e where golden snow falls, and people carry the gold home in shovels.'
n the small peasant was brought before the mayor, and bidden to say
n whence his wealth came. He answered: 'I sold my cow's skin in the
n, for three hundred talers.' When the peasants heard that, they too
ned to enjoy this great profit, and ran home, killed all their cows, and

full of holes. He was led forth, and a priest was brought who was to
mass for his soul. The others were all obliged to retire to a distanc
when the peasant looked at the priest, he recognized the man who ha
with the miller's wife. He said to him: 'I set you free from the clos
me free from the barrel.' At this same moment up came, with a fl
sheep, the very shepherd whom the peasant knew had long been wish
be mayor, so he cried with all his might: 'No, I will not do it; if the
world insists on it, I will not do it!' The shepherd hearing that, came
him, and asked: 'What are you about? What is it that you will no
The peasant said: 'They want to make me mayor, if I will but put my
the barrel, but I will not do it.' The shepherd said: 'If nothing mor
that is needful in order to be mayor, I would get into the barrel at
The peasant said: 'If you will get in, you will be mayor.' The shepher
willing, and got in, and the peasant shut the top down on him; then h
the shepherd's flock for himself, and drove it away. The parson went
crowd, and declared that the mass had been said. Then they came and
the barrel towards the water. When the barrel began to roll, the she
cried: 'I am quite willing to be mayor.' They believed no otherwis
that it was the peasant who was saying this, and answered: 'That is
we intend, but first you shall look about you a little down below there
they rolled the barrel down into the water.

After that the peasants went home, and as they were entering the v
the small peasant also came quietly in, driving a flock of sheep and l
quite contented. Then the peasants were astonished, and said: 'Pe
from whence do you come? Have you come out of the water?' 'Yes,
replied the peasant, 'I sank deep, deep down, until at last I got to the b
I pushed the bottom out of the barrel, and crept out, and there were
meadows on which a number of lambs were feeding, and from thence I b
this flock away with me.' Said the peasants: 'Are there any more there?

as one man. Then the entire village was dead, and the small peasant, ole heir, became a rich man.

REDERICK AND ATHERINE

ere was once a man called Frederick: he had a wife whose name was herine, and they had not long been married. One day Frederick said. te! I am going to work in the fields; when I come back I shall be hungry et me have something nice cooked, and a good draught of ale.' 'Very well,' l she, 'it shall all be ready.' When dinner-time drew nigh, Catherine took ce steak, which was all the meat she had, and put it on the fire to fry. The k soon began to look brown, and to crackle in the pan; and Catherine od by with a fork and turned it: then she said to herself, 'The steak is ost ready, I may as well go to the cellar for the ale.' So she left the pan the fire and took a large jug and went into the cellar and tapped the ale k. The beer ran into the jug and Catherine stood looking on. At last it ped into her head, 'The dog is not shut up–he may be running away with steak; that's well thought of.' So up she ran from the cellar; and sure ugh the rascally cur had got the steak in his mouth, and was making off n it.

Away ran Catherine, and away ran the dog across the field: but he ran er than she, and stuck close to the steak. 'It's all gone, and "what can't cured must be endured",' said Catherine. So she turned round; and as had run a good way and was tired, she walked home leisurely to cool self.

upset it; and thus all the ale that had been saved was set swimming o
floor also. 'Ah! well,' said she, 'when one goes another may as well fo
Then she strewed the meal all about the cellar, and was quite pleased
her cleverness, and said, 'How very neat and clean it looks!'

At noon Frederick came home. 'Now, wife,' cried he, 'what have y
dinner?' 'O Frederick!' answered she, 'I was cooking you a steak; but
I went down to draw the ale, the dog ran away with it; and while I ran
him, the ale ran out; and when I went to dry up the ale with the sack o
that we got at the fair, I upset the jug: but the cellar is now quite dr
looks so clean!' 'Kate, Kate,' said he, 'how could you do all this?' Wh
you leave the steak to fry, and the ale to run, and then spoil all the r
'Why, Frederick,' said she, 'I did not know I was doing wrong; you s
have told me before.'

The husband thought to himself, 'If my wife manages matters t
must look sharp myself.' Now he had a good deal of gold in the house:
said to Catherine, 'What pretty yellow buttons these are! I shall put
into a box and bury them in the garden; but take care that you never g
or meddle with them.' 'No, Frederick,' said she, 'that I never will.' As
as he was gone, there came by some pedlars with earthenware plate
dishes, and they asked her whether she would buy. 'Oh dear me, I s
like to buy very much, but I have no money: if you had any use for
buttons, I might deal with you.' 'Yellow buttons!' said they: 'let us h
look at them.' 'Go into the garden and dig where I tell you, and yo
find the yellow buttons: I dare not go myself.' So the rogues went: and
they found what these yellow buttons were, they took them all awa
left her plenty of plates and dishes. Then she set them all about the
for a show: and when Frederick came back, he cried out, 'Kate, wha
you been doing?' 'See,' said she, 'I have bought all these with your
buttons: but I did not touch them myself; the pedlars went themselve

ind. 'It does not matter,' thought she: 'when we turn back, I shall be so
ch nearer home than he.'

Presently she came to the top of a hill, down the side of which there was
oad so narrow that the cart wheels always chafed the trees on each side as
y passed. 'Ah, see now,' said she, 'how they have bruised and wounded
se poor trees; they will never get well.' So she took pity on them, and
de use of the butter to grease them all, so that the wheels might not hurt
m so much. While she was doing this kind office one of her cheeses fell
of the basket, and rolled down the hill. Catherine looked, but could not
where it had gone; so she said, 'Well, I suppose the other will go the
e way and find you; he has younger legs than I have.' Then she rolled
other cheese after it; and away it went, nobody knows where, down the
But she said she supposed that they knew the road, and would follow
and she could not stay there all day waiting for them.

At last she overtook Frederick, who desired her to give him something to
Then she gave him the dry bread. 'Where are the butter and cheese?'
l he. 'Oh!' answered she, 'I used the butter to grease those poor trees that
wheels chafed so: and one of the cheeses ran away so I sent the other after
o find it, and I suppose they are both on the road together somewhere.'
hat a goose you are to do such silly things!' said the husband. 'How can
say so?' said she; 'I am sure you never told me not.'

They ate the dry bread together; and Frederick said, 'Kate, I hope you
ked the door safe when you came away.' 'No,' answered she, 'you did
tell me.' 'Then go home, and do it now before we go any farther,' said
derick, 'and bring with you something to eat.'

Catherine did as he told her, and thought to herself by the way, 'Frederick
ts something to eat; but I don't think he is very fond of butter and cheese:
bring him a bag of fine nuts, and the vinegar, for I have often seen him
e some.'

not carry the nuts and vinegar bottle also–that would be too much of a
so if you please, I'll fasten them to the door.'

Frederick of course made no objection to that plan, and they set o
the wood to look for the thieves; but they could not find them: and w
grew dark, they climbed up into a tree to spend the night there. Scarcel
they up, than who should come by but the very rogues they were looki
They were in truth great rascals, and belonged to that class of peopl
find things before they are lost; they were tired; so they sat down and
a fire under the very tree where Frederick and Catherine were. Fre
slipped down on the other side, and picked up some stones. Then he cl
up again, and tried to hit the thieves on the head with them: but the
said, 'It must be near morning, for the wind shakes the fir-apples dow

Catherine, who had the door on her shoulder, began to be very tire
she thought it was the nuts upon it that were so heavy: so she said
'Frederick, I must let the nuts go.' 'No,' answered he, 'not now, the
discover us.' 'I can't help that: they must go.' 'Well, then, make has
throw them down, if you will.' Then away rattled the nuts down amo
boughs and one of the thieves cried, 'Bless me, it is hailing.'

A little while after, Catherine thought the door was still very hea
she whispered to Frederick, 'I must throw the vinegar down.' 'Pray
answered he, 'it will discover us.' 'I can't help that,' said she, 'go it
So she poured all the vinegar down; and the thieves said, 'What a heav
there is!'

At last it popped into Catherine's head that it was the door itsel
was so heavy all the time: so she whispered, 'Frederick, I must thro
door down soon.' But he begged and prayed her not to do so, for h
sure it would betray them. 'Here goes, however,' said she: and dow
the door with such a clatter upon the thieves, that they cried out 'Mu
and not knowing what was coming, ran away as fast as they could, a

WEETHEART ROLAND

ere was once upon a time a woman who was a real witch and had two ghters, one ugly and wicked, and this one she loved because she was her daughter, and one beautiful and good, and this one she hated, because was her stepdaughter. The stepdaughter once had a pretty apron, which other fancied so much that she became envious, and told her mother t she must and would have that apron. 'Be quiet, my child,' said the woman, 'and you shall have it. Your stepsister has long deserved death; ght when she is asleep I will come and cut her head off. Only be careful t you are at the far side of the bed, and push her well to the front.' It ld have been all over with the poor girl if she had not just then been nding in a corner, and heard everything. All day long she dared not go of doors, and when bedtime had come, the witch's daughter got into bed , so as to lie at the far side, but when she was asleep, the other pushed gently to the front, and took for herself the place at the back, close by the l. In the night, the old woman came creeping in, she held an axe in her t hand, and felt with her left to see if anyone were lying at the outside, then she grasped the axe with both hands, and cut her own child's head

When she had gone away, the girl got up and went to her sweetheart, was called Roland, and knocked at his door. When he came out, she l to him: 'Listen, dearest Roland, we must fly in all haste; my stepmother ted to kill me, but has struck her own child. When daylight comes, and

again: 'Where are you?' 'Here in the kitchen, I am warming myself,
the second drop of blood. She went into the kitchen, but found no one.
she cried again: 'Where are you?' 'Ah, here in the bed, I am sleeping,
the third drop of blood. She went into the room to the bed. What d
see there? Her own child, whose head she had cut off, bathed in her
The witch fell into a passion, sprang to the window, and as she coul
forth quite far into the world, she perceived her stepdaughter hurrying
with her sweetheart Roland. 'That shall not help you,' cried she, 'even
have got a long way off, you shall still not escape me.' She put on her
league boots, in which she covered an hour's walk at every step, and
not long before she overtook them. The girl, however, when she saw t
woman striding towards her, changed, with her magic wand, her swee
Roland into a lake, and herself into a duck swimming in the middle
The witch placed herself on the shore, threw breadcrumbs in, and w
endless trouble to entice the duck; but the duck did not let herself be e
and the old woman had to go home at night as she had come. At th
girl and her sweetheart Roland resumed their natural shapes again, an
walked on the whole night until daybreak. Then the maiden changed
into a beautiful flower which stood in the midst of a briar hedge, a
sweetheart Roland into a fiddler. It was not long before the witch
striding up towards them, and said to the musician: 'Dear musician,
pluck that beautiful flower for myself?' 'Oh, yes,' he replied, 'I will p
you while you do it.' As she was hastily creeping into the hedge an
just going to pluck the flower, knowing perfectly well who the flower w
began to play, and whether she would or not, she was forced to dance,
was a magical dance. The faster he played, the more violent springs w
forced to make, and the thorns tore her clothes from her body, and p
her and wounded her till she bled, and as he did not stop, she had to
till she lay dead on the ground.

It befell, however, that a shepherd kept his sheep in the field and saw flower, and as it was so pretty, plucked it, took it with him, and laid way in his chest. From that time forth, strange things happened in the pherd's house. When he arose in the morning, all the work was already e, the room was swept, the table and benches cleaned, the fire in the rth was lighted, and the water was fetched, and at noon, when he came ne, the table was laid, and a good dinner served. He could not conceive this came to pass, for he never saw a human being in his house, and one could have concealed himself in it. He was certainly pleased with good attendance, but still at last he was so afraid that he went to a e woman and asked for her advice. The wise woman said: 'There is some nantment behind it, listen very early some morning if anything is moving he room, and if you see anything, no matter what it is, throw a white h over it, and then the magic will be stopped.'

The shepherd did as she bade him, and next morning just as day dawned, saw the chest open, and the flower come out. Swiftly he sprang towards and threw a white cloth over it. Instantly the transformation came to an , and a beautiful girl stood before him, who admitted to him that she been the flower, and that up to this time she had attended to his house-ping. She told him her story, and as she pleased him he asked her if she ld marry him, but she answered: 'No,' for she wanted to remain faithful her sweetheart Roland, although he had deserted her. Nevertheless, she mised not to go away, but to continue keeping house for the shepherd.

And now the time drew near when Roland's wedding was to be celebrated, then, according to an old custom in the country, it was announced that the girls were to be present at it, and sing in honour of the bridal pair. en the faithful maiden heard of this, she grew so sad that she thought her rt would break, and she would not go thither, but the other girls came took her. When it came to her turn to sing, she stepped back, until

NOWDROP

vas the middle of winter, when the broad flakes of snow were falling und, that the queen of a country many thousand miles off sat working ner window. The frame of the window was made of fine black ebony, as she sat looking out upon the snow, she pricked her finger, and three ps of blood fell upon it. Then she gazed thoughtfully upon the red drops t sprinkled the white snow, and said, 'Would that my little daughter may as white as that snow, as red as that blood, and as black as this ebony dowframe!' And so the little girl really did grow up; her skin was as white now, her cheeks as rosy as the blood, and her hair as black as ebony; and was called Snowdrop.

But this queen died; and the king soon married another wife, who became en, and was very beautiful, but so vain that she could not bear to think t anyone could be handsomer than she was. She had a fairy looking-glass, which she used to go, and then she would gaze upon herself in it, and say:

'Tell me, glass, tell me true!
Of all the ladies in the land,
Who is fairest, tell me, who?'

And the glass had always answered:

'Thou, queen, art the fairest in all the land.'

But Snowdrop grew more and more beautiful; and when she was seven

melted when Snowdrop begged him to spare her life, and he said, 'I w
hurt you, thou pretty child.' So he left her by herself; and though he th
it most likely that the wild beasts would tear her in pieces, he felt
great weight were taken off his heart when he had made up his mind
kill her but to leave her to her fate, with the chance of someone findi
saving her.

Then poor Snowdrop wandered along through the wood in grea
and the wild beasts roared about her, but none did her any harm.
evening she came to a cottage among the hills, and went in to rest, f
little feet would carry her no further. Everything was spruce and neat
cottage: on the table was spread a white cloth, and there were seve
plates, seven little loaves, and seven little glasses with wine in them
seven knives and forks laid in order; and by the wall stood seven little
As she was very hungry, she picked a little piece of each loaf and d
very little wine out of each glass; and after that she thought she wo
down and rest. So she tried all the little beds; but one was too lon
another was too short, till at last the seventh suited her: and there s
herself down and went to sleep.

By and by in came the masters of the cottage. Now they were seve
dwarfs, that lived among the mountains, and dug and searched for
They lighted up their seven lamps, and saw at once that all was not
The first said, 'Who has been sitting on my stool?' The second, 'W
been eating off my plate?' The third, 'Who has been picking my b
The fourth, 'Who has been meddling with my spoon?' The fifth, 'W
been handling my fork?' The sixth, 'Who has been cutting with my
The seventh, 'Who has been drinking my wine?' Then the first looked
and said, 'Who has been lying on my bed?' And the rest came runn
him, and everyone cried out that somebody had been upon his bed. B
seventh saw Snowdrop, and called all his brethren to come and see he

er in the mountains: but Snowdrop was left at home; and they warned
and said, 'The queen will soon find out where you are, so take care and
no one in.'

But the queen, now that she thought Snowdrop was dead, believed that
must be the handsomest lady in the land; and she went to her glass and
:

'Tell me, glass, tell me true!
Of all the ladies in the land,
Who is fairest, tell me, who?'

And the glass answered:

'Thou, queen, art the fairest in all this land:
But over the hills, in the greenwood shade,
Where the seven dwarfs their dwelling have made,
There Snowdrop is hiding her head; and she
Is lovelier far, O queen! than thee.'

Then the queen was very much frightened; for she knew that the glass
ays spoke the truth, and was sure that the servant had betrayed her. And
could not bear to think that anyone lived who was more beautiful than
was; so she dressed herself up as an old pedlar, and went her way over
hills, to the place where the dwarfs dwelt. Then she knocked at the door,
cried, 'Fine wares to sell!' Snowdrop looked out at the window, and
, 'Good day, good woman! what have you to sell?' 'Good wares, fine
es,' said she; 'laces and bobbins of all colours.' 'I will let the old lady
she seems to be a very good sort of body,' thought Snowdrop, as she ran
n and unbolted the door. 'Bless me!' said the old woman, 'how badly

breathe, and very soon came to life again. Then they said, 'The old w
was the queen herself; take care another time, and let no one in when
away.'

When the queen got home, she went straight to her glass, and sp
it as before; but to her great grief it still said:

> 'Thou, queen, art the fairest in all this land:
> But over the hills, in the greenwood shade,
> Where the seven dwarfs their dwelling have made,
> There Snowdrop is hiding her head; and she
> Is lovelier far, O queen! than thee.'

Then the blood ran cold in her heart with spite and malice, to se
Snowdrop still lived; and she dressed herself up again, but in quite a
dress from the one she wore before, and took with her a poisoned
When she reached the dwarfs' cottage, she knocked at the door, and
'Fine wares to sell!' But Snowdrop said, 'I dare not let anyone in.' Th
queen said, 'Only look at my beautiful combs!' and gave her the po
one. And it looked so pretty, that she took it up and put it into her
try it; but the moment it touched her head, the poison was so powerfu
she fell down senseless. 'There you may lie,' said the queen, and we
way. But by good luck the dwarfs came in very early that evening; and
they saw Snowdrop lying on the ground, they thought what had hap
and soon found the poisoned comb. And when they took it away s
well, and told them all that had passed; and they warned her once mo
to open the door to anyone.

Meantime the queen went home to her glass, and shook with rage
she read the very same answer as before; and she said, 'Snowdrop sha
if it cost me my life.' So she went by herself into her chamber, and got

other side was poisoned. Then Snowdrop was much tempted to taste, the apple looked so very nice; and when she saw the old woman eat, she ld wait no longer. But she had scarcely put the piece into her mouth, en she fell down dead upon the ground. 'This time nothing will save thee,' l the queen; and she went home to her glass, and at last it said:

'Thou, queen, art the fairest of all the fair.'

And then her wicked heart was glad, and as happy as such a heart could

When evening came, and the dwarfs had gone home, they found Snowdrop g on the ground: no breath came from her lips, and they were afraid that was quite dead. They lifted her up, and combed her hair, and washed face with wine and water; but all was in vain, for the little girl seemed e dead. So they laid her down upon a bier, and all seven watched and ailed her three whole days; and then they thought they would bury her: her cheeks were still rosy; and her face looked just as it did while she was e; so they said, 'We will never bury her in the cold ground.' And they de a coffin of glass, so that they might still look at her, and wrote upon n golden letters what her name was, and that she was a king's daughter. d the coffin was set among the hills, and one of the dwarfs always sat by nd watched. And the birds of the air came too, and bemoaned Snowdrop; first of all came an owl, and then a raven, and at last a dove, and sat by side.

And thus Snowdrop lay for a long, long time, and still only looked as ugh she was asleep; for she was even now as white as snow, and as red as od, and as black as ebony. At last a prince came and called at the dwarfs' se; and he saw Snowdrop, and read what was written in golden letters. en he offered the dwarfs money, and prayed and besought them to let him

To the feast was asked, among the rest, Snowdrop's old enemy the q
and as she was dressing herself in fine rich clothes, she looked in the
and said:

'Tell me, glass, tell me true!
Of all the ladies in the land,
Who is fairest, tell me, who?'

And the glass answered:

'Thou, lady, art loveliest here, I ween;
But lovelier far is the new-made queen.'

When she heard this she started with rage; but her envy and cu
were so great, that she could not help setting out to see the bride. And
she got there, and saw that it was no other than Snowdrop, who,
thought, had been dead a long while, she choked with rage, and fell
and died: but Snowdrop and the prince lived and reigned happily ove
land many, many years; and sometimes they went up into the mou
and paid a visit to the little dwarfs, who had been so kind to Snowd
her time of need.

HE PINK

ere was once upon a time a queen to whom God had given no children. ry morning she went into the garden and prayed to God in heaven to tow on her a son or a daughter. Then an angel from heaven came to her said: 'Be at rest, you shall have a son with the power of wishing, so that atsoever in the world he wishes for, that shall he have.' Then she went to king, and told him the joyful tidings, and when the time was come she e birth to a son, and the king was filled with gladness.

Every morning she went with the child to the garden where the wild sts were kept, and washed herself there in a clear stream. It happened e when the child was a little older, that it was lying in her arms and she asleep. Then came the old cook, who knew that the child had the power vishing, and stole it away, and he took a hen, and cut it in pieces, and pped some of its blood on the queen's apron and on her dress. Then he ied the child away to a secret place, where a nurse was obliged to suckle and he ran to the king and accused the queen of having allowed her child e taken from her by the wild beasts. When the king saw the blood on apron, he believed this, fell into such a passion that he ordered a high er to be built, in which neither sun nor moon could be seen and had his e put into it, and walled up. Here she was to stay for seven years without at or drink, and die of hunger. But God sent two angels from heaven in shape of white doves, which flew to her twice a day, and carried her food il the seven years were over.

The two played together, and loved each other with all their hearts, a
old cook went out hunting like a nobleman. The thought occurred t
however, that the king's son might some day wish to be with his fathe
thus bring him into great peril. So he went out and took the maiden
and said: 'Tonight when the boy is asleep, go to his bed and plung
knife into his heart, and bring me his heart and tongue, and if you do
it, you shall lose your life.' Thereupon he went away, and when he ret
next day she had not done it, and said: 'Why should I shed the bl
an innocent boy who has never harmed anyone?' The cook once mor
'If you do not do it, it shall cost you your own life.' When he had
away, she had a little hind brought to her, and ordered her to be kille
took her heart and tongue, and laid them on a plate, and when she sa
old man coming, she said to the boy: 'Lie down in your bed, and dra
clothes over you.' Then the wicked wretch came in and said: 'Where a
boy's heart and tongue?' The girl reached the plate to him, but the
son threw off the quilt, and said: 'You old sinner, why did you want
me? Now will I pronounce thy sentence. You shall become a black
and have a gold collar round your neck, and shall eat burning coals, t
flames burst forth from your throat.' And when he had spoken these
the old man was changed into a poodle dog, and had a gold collar rou
neck, and the cooks were ordered to bring up some live coals, and th
ate, until the flames broke forth from his throat. The king's son rem
there a short while longer, and he thought of his mother, and wondered
were still alive. At length he said to the maiden: 'I will go home to m
country; if you will go with me, I will provide for you.' 'Ah,' she replie
way is so long, and what shall I do in a strange land where I am unkn
As she did not seem quite willing, and as they could not be parted fro
other, he wished that she might be changed into a beautiful pink, an
her with him. Then he went away to his own country, and the poodle

skilful and could get game for him, he should come to him, but that
r had never taken up their quarters in any part of the district or country.
en the huntsman promised to procure as much game for him as he could
sibly use at the royal table. So he summoned all the huntsmen together,
bade them go out into the forest with him. And he went with them and
de them form a great circle, open at one end where he stationed himself,
began to wish. Two hundred deer and more came running inside the
le at once, and the huntsmen shot them. Then they were all placed on
y country carts, and driven home to the king, and for once he was able
leck his table with game, after having had none at all for years.
Now the king felt great joy at this, and commanded that his entire house-
d should eat with him next day, and made a great feast. When they were
assembled together, he said to the huntsman: 'As you are so clever, you
l sit by me.' He replied: 'Lord King, your majesty must excuse me, I am
oor huntsman.' But the king insisted on it, and said: 'You shall sit by me,'
il he did it. Whilst he was sitting there, he thought of his dearest mother,
wished that one of the king's principal servants would begin to speak of
and would ask how it was faring with the queen in the tower, and if she
e alive still, or had perished. Hardly had he formed the wish than the
rshal began, and said: 'Your majesty, we live joyously here, but how is the
en living in the tower? Is she still alive, or has she died?' But the king
ied: 'She let my dear son be torn to pieces by wild beasts; I will not have
named.' Then the huntsman arose and said: 'Gracious lord father she is
e still, and I am her son, and I was not carried away by wild beasts, but
hat wretch the old cook, who tore me from her arms when she was asleep,
sprinkled her apron with the blood of a chicken.' Thereupon he took the
with the golden collar, and said: 'That is the wretch!' and caused live
ls to be brought, and these the dog was compelled to devour before the
t of all, until flames burst forth from its throat. On this the huntsman

and brought forth the pink, and placed it on the royal table, and it w
beautiful that the king had never seen one to equal it. Then the son
'Now will I show her to you in her own form,' and wished that she
become a maiden, and she stood there looking so beautiful that no p
could have made her look more so.

And the king sent two waiting-maids and two attendants into the
to fetch the queen and bring her to the royal table. But when sh
led in she ate nothing, and said: 'The gracious and merciful God wh
supported me in the tower, will soon set me free.' She lived three days
and then died happily, and when she was buried, the two white doves
had brought her food to the tower, and were angels of heaven, followe
body and seated themselves on her grave. The aged king ordered the co
be torn in four pieces, but grief consumed the king's own heart, and he
died. His son married the beautiful maiden whom he had brought wit
as a flower in his pocket, and whether they are still alive or not, is kno
God.

LEVER ELSIE

ere was once a man who had a daughter who was called Clever Elsie. And
n she had grown up her father said: 'We will get her married.' 'Yes,' said
mother, 'if only someone would come who would have her.' At length
an came from a distance and wooed her, who was called Hans; but he
ulated that Clever Elsie should be really smart. 'Oh,' said the father, 'she
plenty of good sense'; and the mother said: 'Oh, she can see the wind
ing up the street, and hear the flies coughing.' 'Well,' said Hans, 'if she
ot really smart, I won't have her.' When they were sitting at dinner and
eaten, the mother said: 'Elsie, go into the cellar and fetch some beer.'
n Clever Elsie took the pitcher from the wall, went into the cellar, and
ped the lid briskly as she went, so that the time might not appear long.
en she was below she fetched herself a chair, and set it before the barrel
hat she had no need to stoop, and did not hurt her back or do herself
unexpected injury. Then she placed the can before her, and turned the
and while the beer was running she would not let her eyes be idle, but
ked up at the wall, and after much peering here and there, saw a pick-axe
ctly above her, which the masons had accidentally left there.

Then Clever Elsie began to weep and said: 'If I get Hans, and we have a
d, and he grows big, and we send him into the cellar here to draw beer,
the pick-axe will fall on his head and kill him.' Then she sat and wept
screamed with all the strength of her body, over the misfortune which
before her. Those upstairs waited for the drink, but Clever Elsie still did

where Elsie and the girl are.' The boy went down, and there sat Cleve
and the girl both weeping together. Then he asked: 'Why are you wee
'Ah,' said Elsie, 'have I not reason to weep? If I get Hans, and we h
child, and he grows big, and has to draw beer here, the pick-axe will
his head and kill him.' Then said the boy: 'What a clever Elsie we have
sat down by her, and likewise began to howl loudly. Upstairs they
for the boy, but as he still did not return, the man said to the woman:
go down into the cellar and see where Elsie is!' The woman went dow
found all three in the midst of their lamentations, and inquired what w
cause; then Elsie told her also that her future child was to be killed
pick-axe, when it grew big and had to draw beer, and the pick-axe fell
Then said the mother likewise: 'What a clever Elsie we have!' and sat
and wept with them. The man upstairs waited a short time, but as hi
did not come back and his thirst grew ever greater, he said: 'I must g
the cellar myself and see where Elsie is.' But when he got into the
and they were all sitting together crying, and he heard the reason, an
Elsie's child was the cause, and the Elsie might perhaps bring one in
world some day, and that he might be killed by the pick-axe, if he
happen to be sitting beneath it, drawing beer just at the very time w
fell down, he cried: 'Oh, what a clever Elsie!' and sat down, and li
wept with them. The bridegroom stayed upstairs alone for along time
as no one would come back he thought: 'They must be waiting for me
I too must go there and see what they are about.' When he got dow
five of them were sitting screaming and lamenting quite piteously, eac
doing the other. 'What misfortune has happened then?' asked he. 'Ah
Hans,' said Elsie, 'if we marry each other and have a child, and he
and we perhaps send him here to draw something to drink, then the pi
which has been left up there might dash his brains out if it were to fall
so have we not reason to weep?' 'Come,' said Hans, 'more understa

when she was fully satisfied, she once more said: 'What shall I do? Shall
t first, or shall I sleep first? I will sleep first.' Then she lay down among
corn and fell asleep. Hans had been at home for a long time, but Elsie
not come; then said he: 'What a clever Elsie I have; she is so industrious
t she does not even come home to eat.' But when evening came and she
stayed away, Hans went out to see what she had cut, but nothing was
and she was lying among the corn asleep. Then Hans hastened home
brought a fowler's net with little bells and hung it round about her, and
still went on sleeping. Then he ran home, shut the house-door, and sat
n in his chair and worked. At length, when it was quite dark, Clever
e awoke and when she got up there was a jingling all round about her,
the bells rang at each step which she took. Then she was alarmed, and
ame uncertain whether she really was Clever Elsie or not, and said: 'Is it
r is it not I?' But she knew not what answer to make to this, and stood
a time in doubt; at length she thought: 'I will go home and ask if it be I,
f it be not I, they will be sure to know.' She ran to the door of her own
se, but it was shut; then she knocked at the window and cried: 'Hans,
lsie within?' 'Yes,' answered Hans, 'she is within.' Hereupon she was
ified, and said: 'Ah, heavens! Then it is not I,' and went to another door;
when the people heard the jingling of the bells they would not open it,
she could get in nowhere. Then she ran out of the village, and no one
seen her since.

HE MISER IN THE BUSH

armer had a faithful and diligent servant, who had worked hard for him ee years, without having been paid any wages. At last it came into the n's head that he would not go on thus without pay any longer; so he went his master, and said, 'I have worked hard for you a long time, I will trust ou to give me what I deserve to have for my trouble.' The farmer was a miser, and knew that his man was very simple-hearted; so he took out eepence, and gave him for every year's service a penny. The poor fellow ught it was a great deal of money to have, and said to himself, 'Why uld I work hard, and live here on bad fare any longer? I can now travel the wide world, and make myself merry.' With that he put his money his purse, and set out, roaming over hill and valley.

As he jogged along over the fields, singing and dancing, a little dwarf him, and asked him what made him so merry. 'Why, what should make down-hearted?' said he; 'I am sound in health and rich in purse, what uld I care for? I have saved up my three years' earnings and have it all in my pocket.' 'How much may it come to?' said the little man. 'Full eepence,' replied the countryman. 'I wish you would give them to me,' the other; 'I am very poor.' Then the man pitied him, and gave him all had; and the little dwarf said in return, 'As you have such a kind honest rt, I will grant you three wishes–one for every penny; so choose whatever like.' Then the countryman rejoiced at his good luck, and said, 'I like ny things better than money: first, I will have a bow that will bring down

countryman, 'I will soon bring it down.' Then he took up his bow, and
fell the thrush into the bushes at the foot of the tree. The miser crep
the bush to find it; but directly he had got into the middle, his comp
took up his fiddle and played away, and the miser began to dance and
about, capering higher and higher in the air. The thorns soon beg
tear his clothes till they all hung in rags about him, and he himself w
scratched and wounded, so that the blood ran down. 'Oh, for heaven's
cried the miser, 'Master! master! pray let the fiddle alone. What
done to deserve this?' 'Thou hast shaved many a poor soul close en
said the other; 'thou art only meeting thy reward': so he played up an
tune. Then the miser began to beg and promise, and offered money
liberty; but he did not come up to the musician's price for some time, a
danced him along brisker and brisker, and the miser bid higher and h
till at last he offered a round hundred of florins that he had in his purs
had just gained by cheating some poor fellow. When the countryman s
much money, he said, 'I will agree to your proposal.' So he took the
put up his fiddle, and travelled on very pleased with his bargain.

Meanwhile the miser crept out of the bush half-naked and in a p
plight, and began to ponder how he should take his revenge, and ser
late companion some trick. At last he went to the judge, and comp
that a rascal had robbed him of his money, and beaten him into the ba
and that the fellow who did it carried a bow at his back and a fiddle
round his neck. Then the judge sent out his officers to bring up the ac
wherever they should find him; and he was soon caught and brought
be tried.

The miser began to tell his tale, and said he had been robbed of his m
'No, you gave it me for playing a tune to you.' said the countryman; b
judge told him that was not likely, and cut the matter short by orderin
off to the gallows.

ge, clerks, and jailer were in motion; all began capering, and no one could
d the miser. At the second note the hangman let his prisoner go, and
ced also, and by the time he had played the first bar of the tune, all
e dancing together–judge, court, and miser, and all the people who had
owed to look on. At first the thing was merry and pleasant enough; but
en it had gone on a while, and there seemed to be no end of playing or
cing, they began to cry out, and beg him to leave off; but he stopped not
hit the more for their entreaties, till the judge not only gave him his life,
promised to return him the hundred florins.

Then he called to the miser, and said, 'Tell us now, you vagabond, where
got that gold, or I shall play on for your amusement only,' 'I stole it,'
the miser in the presence of all the people; 'I acknowledge that I stole
and that you earned it fairly.' Then the countryman stopped his fiddle,
left the miser to take his place at the gallows.

SHPUTTEL

wife of a rich man fell sick; and when she felt that her end drew nigh, called her only daughter to her bed-side, and said, 'Always be a good and I will look down from heaven and watch over you.' Soon afterwards shut her eyes and died, and was buried in the garden; and the little girl t every day to her grave and wept, and was always good and kind to about her. And the snow fell and spread a beautiful white covering over grave; but by the time the spring came, and the sun had melted it away in, her father had married another wife. This new wife had two daughters er own, that she brought home with her; they were fair in face but foul eart, and it was now a sorry time for the poor little girl. 'What does the d-for-nothing want in the parlour?' said they; 'they who would eat bread uld first earn it; away with the kitchen-maid!' Then they took away her clothes, and gave her an old grey frock to put on, and laughed at her, turned her into the kitchen.

There she was forced to do hard work; to rise early before daylight, to g the water, to make the fire, to cook and to wash. Besides that, the ers plagued her in all sorts of ways, and laughed at her. In the evening n she was tired, she had no bed to lie down on, but was made to lie by hearth among the ashes; and as this, of course, made her always dusty dirty, they called her Ashputtel.

It happened once that the father was going to the fair, and asked his wife's ghters what he should bring them. 'Fine clothes,' said the first; 'Pearls

Three times every day she went to it and cried; and soon a little bird
and built its nest upon the tree, and talked with her, and watched ove
and brought her whatever she wished for.

Now it happened that the king of that land held a feast, which was
three days; and out of those who came to it his son was to choose a bri
himself. Ashputtel's two sisters were asked to come; so they called h
and said, 'Now, comb our hair, brush our shoes, and tie our sashes f
for we are going to dance at the king's feast.' Then she did as she was
but when all was done she could not help crying, for she thought to h
she should so have liked to have gone with them to the ball; and at la
begged her mother very hard to let her go. 'You, Ashputtel!' said she
who have nothing to wear, no clothes at all, and who cannot even danc
want to go to the ball? And when she kept on begging, she said at la
get rid of her, 'I will throw this dishful of peas into the ash-heap, an
two hours' time you have picked them all out, you shall go to the feas

Then she threw the peas down among the ashes, but the little m
ran out at the back door into the garden, and cried out:

'Hither, hither, through the sky,
Turtle-doves and linnets, fly!
Blackbird, thrush, and chaffinch gay,
Hither, hither, haste away!
One and all come help me, quick!
Haste ye, haste ye!–pick, pick, pick!'

Then first came two white doves, flying in at the kitchen window
came two turtle-doves; and after them came all the little birds under h
chirping and fluttering in: and they flew down into the ashes. And the
doves stooped their heads down and set to work, pick, pick, pick; and
the others began to pick, pick, pick: and among them all they soon

s into the ashes.

But the little maiden went out into the garden at the back of the house, cried out as before:

'Hither, hither, through the sky,
Turtle-doves and linnets, fly!
Blackbird, thrush, and chaffinch gay,
Hither, hither, haste away!
One and all come help me, quick!
Haste ye, haste ye!–pick, pick, pick!'

Then first came two white doves in at the kitchen window; next came two le-doves; and after them came all the little birds under heaven, chirping hopping about. And they flew down into the ashes; and the little doves their heads down and set to work, pick, pick, pick; and then the others an pick, pick, pick; and they put all the good grain into the dishes, and all the ashes. Before half an hour's time all was done, and out they flew in. And then Ashputtel took the dishes to her mother, rejoicing to think t she should now go to the ball. But her mother said, 'It is all of no use, cannot go; you have no clothes, and cannot dance, and you would only us to shame': and off she went with her two daughters to the ball.

Now when all were gone, and nobody left at home, Ashputtel went sorfully and sat down under the hazel-tree, and cried out:

'Shake, shake, hazel-tree,
Gold and silver over me!'

Then her friend the bird flew out of the tree, and brought a gold and er dress for her, and slippers of spangled silk; and she put them on, and owed her sisters to the feast. But they did not know her, and thought it

from him, unawares, and ran off towards home; and as the prince fo
her, she jumped up into the pigeon-house and shut the door. Then he
till her father came home, and told him that the unknown maiden, wh
been at the feast, had hid herself in the pigeon-house. But when the
broken open the door they found no one within; and as they came bac
the house, Ashputtel was lying, as she always did, in her dirty frock
ashes, and her dim little lamp was burning in the chimney. For she ha
as quickly as she could through the pigeon-house and on to the haze
and had there taken off her beautiful clothes, and put them beneat
tree, that the bird might carry them away, and had lain down again
the ashes in her little grey frock.

The next day when the feast was again held, and her father, mothe
sisters were gone, Ashputtel went to the hazel-tree, and said:

'Shake, shake, hazel-tree,
Gold and silver over me!'

And the bird came and brought a still finer dress than the one sh
worn the day before. And when she came in it to the ball, everyone wo
at her beauty: but the king's son, who was waiting for her, took her
hand, and danced with her; and when anyone asked her to dance, he s
before, 'This lady is dancing with me.'

When night came she wanted to go home; and the king's son fo
here as before, that he might see into what house she went: but she s
away from him all at once into the garden behind her father's hous
this garden stood a fine large pear-tree full of ripe fruit; and Ashputt
knowing where to hide herself, jumped up into it without being seen.
the king's son lost sight of her, and could not find out where she was
but waited till her father came home, and said to him, 'The unknow

'Shake, shake, hazel-tree,
Gold and silver over me!'

Then her kind friend the bird brought a dress still finer than the former , and slippers which were all of gold: so that when she came to the feast one knew what to say, for wonder at her beauty: and the king's son ced with nobody but her; and when anyone else asked her to dance, he l, 'This lady is /my/ partner, sir.'

When night came she wanted to go home; and the king's son would go n her, and said to himself, 'I will not lose her this time'; but, however, again slipped away from him, though in such a hurry that she dropped left golden slipper upon the stairs.

The prince took the shoe, and went the next day to the king his father, said, 'I will take for my wife the lady that this golden slipper fits.' Then h the sisters were overjoyed to hear it; for they had beautiful feet, and no doubt that they could wear the golden slipper. The eldest went first the room where the slipper was, and wanted to try it on, and the mother od by. But her great toe could not go into it, and the shoe was altogether ch too small for her. Then the mother gave her a knife, and said, 'Never d, cut it off; when you are queen you will not care about toes; you will want to walk.' So the silly girl cut off her great toe, and thus squeezed the shoe, and went to the king's son. Then he took her for his bride, and her beside him on his horse, and rode away with her homewards.

But on their way home they had to pass by the hazel-tree that Ashputtel planted; and on the branch sat a little dove singing:

'Back again! back again! look to the shoe!

took her to the king's son: and he set her as his bride by his side
horse, and rode away with her.

But when they came to the hazel-tree the little dove sat there stil
sang:

'Back again! back again! look to the shoe!
The shoe is too small, and not made for you!
Prince! prince! look again for thy bride,
For she's not the true one that sits by thy side.'

Then he looked down, and saw that the blood streamed so much
the shoe, that her white stockings were quite red. So he turned his
and brought her also back again. 'This is not the true bride,' said he
father; 'have you no other daughters?' 'No,' said he; 'there is only a
dirty Ashputtel here, the child of my first wife; I am sure she cannot
bride.' The prince told him to send her. But the mother said, 'No, no,
much too dirty; she will not dare to show herself.' However, the prince
have her come; and she first washed her face and hands, and then w
and curtsied to him, and he reached her the golden slipper. Then sh
her clumsy shoe off her left foot, and put on the golden slipper; and it
her as if it had been made for her. And when he drew near and loo
her face he knew her, and said, 'This is the right bride.' But the n
and both the sisters were frightened, and turned pale with anger as h
Ashputtel on his horse, and rode away with her. And when they came
hazel-tree, the white dove sang:

'Home! home! look at the shoe!
Princess! the shoe was made for you!
Prince! prince! take home thy bride,
For she is the true one that sits by thy side!'

HE WHITE SNAKE

ong time ago there lived a king who was famed for his wisdom through the land. Nothing was hidden from him, and it seemed as if news of most secret things was brought to him through the air. But he had a nge custom; every day after dinner, when the table was cleared, and no else was present, a trusty servant had to bring him one more dish. It was ered, however, and even the servant did not know what was in it, neither anyone know, for the king never took off the cover to eat of it until he quite alone.

This had gone on for a long time, when one day the servant, who took y the dish, was overcome with such curiosity that he could not help rying the dish into his room. When he had carefully locked the door, ifted up the cover, and saw a white snake lying on the dish. But when saw it he could not deny himself the pleasure of tasting it, so he cut of a e bit and put it into his mouth. No sooner had it touched his tongue than heard a strange whispering of little voices outside his window. He went listened, and then noticed that it was the sparrows who were chattering ether, and telling one another of all kinds of things which they had seen in fields and woods. Eating the snake had given him power of understanding language of animals.

Now it so happened that on this very day the queen lost her most beautiful , and suspicion of having stolen it fell upon this trusty servant, who was wed to go everywhere. The king ordered the man to be brought before

what good food they had found; and one said in a pitiful tone: 'Som
lies heavy on my stomach; as I was eating in haste I swallowed a ring
lay under the queen's window.' The servant at once seized her by the
carried her to the kitchen, and said to the cook: 'Here is a fine duck;
kill her.' 'Yes,' said the cook, and weighed her in his hand; 'she has s
no trouble to fatten herself, and has been waiting to be roasted long en
So he cut off her head, and as she was being dressed for the spit, the q
ring was found inside her.

The servant could now easily prove his innocence; and the king, to
amends for the wrong, allowed him to ask a favour, and promised hi
best place in the court that he could wish for. The servant refused every
and only asked for a horse and some money for travelling, as he had a
to see the world and go about a little. When his request was grant
set out on his way, and one day came to a pond, where he saw three
caught in the reeds and gasping for water. Now, though it is said that
are dumb, he heard them lamenting that they must perish so miserably
as he had a kind heart, he got off his horse and put the three prisoner
into the water. They leapt with delight, put out their heads, and cr
him: 'We will remember you and repay you for saving us!'

He rode on, and after a while it seemed to him that he heard a voice
sand at his feet. He listened, and heard an ant-king complain: 'Why c
folks, with their clumsy beasts, keep off our bodies? That stupid
with his heavy hoofs, has been treading down my people without m
So he turned on to a side path and the ant-king cried out to him: 'W
remember you–one good turn deserves another!'

The path led him into a wood, and there he saw two old ravens sta
by their nest, and throwing out their young ones. 'Out with you, yo
good-for-nothing creatures!' cried they; 'we cannot find food for yo
longer; you are big enough, and can provide for yourselves.' But the

isband; but whoever seeks her hand must perform a hard task, and if he
s not succeed he will forfeit his life.' Many had already made the attempt,
in vain; nevertheless when the youth saw the king's daughter he was so
rcome by her great beauty that he forgot all danger, went before the king,
declared himself a suitor.

So he was led out to the sea, and a gold ring was thrown into it, before
eyes; then the king ordered him to fetch this ring up from the bottom of
sea, and added: 'If you come up again without it you will be thrown in
in and again until you perish amid the waves.' All the people grieved for
handsome youth; then they went away, leaving him alone by the sea.

He stood on the shore and considered what he should do, when suddenly
saw three fishes come swimming towards him, and they were the very
es whose lives he had saved. The one in the middle held a mussel in its
uth, which it laid on the shore at the youth's feet, and when he had taken
p and opened it, there lay the gold ring in the shell. Full of joy he took
the king and expected that he would grant him the promised reward.

But when the proud princess perceived that he was not her equal in birth,
scorned him, and required him first to perform another task. She went
n into the garden and strewed with her own hands ten sacksful of millet-
l on the grass; then she said: 'Tomorrow morning before sunrise these
st be picked up, and not a single grain be wanting.'

The youth sat down in the garden and considered how it might be pos-
e to perform this task, but he could think of nothing, and there he sat
owfully awaiting the break of day, when he should be led to death. But
oon as the first rays of the sun shone into the garden he saw all the ten
ks standing side by side, quite full, and not a single grain was missing.
ant-king had come in the night with thousands and thousands of ants,
the grateful creatures had by great industry picked up all the millet-seed
gathered them into the sacks.

golden apple fell into his hand. At the same time three ravens flew do
him, perched themselves upon his knee, and said: 'We are the three
ravens whom you saved from starving; when we had grown big, and
that you were seeking the Golden Apple, we flew over the sea to the
the world, where the Tree of Life stands, and have brought you the a
The youth, full of joy, set out homewards, and took the Golden Apple
king's beautiful daughter, who had now no more excuses left to make.
cut the Apple of Life in two and ate it together; and then her heart b
full of love for him, and they lived in undisturbed happiness to a grea

HE WOLF AND THE
EVEN LITTLE KIDS

ere was once upon a time an old goat who had seven little kids, and loved
m with all the love of a mother for her children. One day she wanted to
into the forest and fetch some food. So she called all seven to her and
l: 'Dear children, I have to go into the forest, be on your guard against
wolf; if he comes in, he will devour you all–skin, hair, and everything.
wretch often disguises himself, but you will know him at once by his
gh voice and his black feet.' The kids said: 'Dear mother, we will take
d care of ourselves; you may go away without any anxiety.' Then the old
bleated, and went on her way with an easy mind.

It was not long before someone knocked at the house-door and called:
en the door, dear children; your mother is here, and has brought some-
g back with her for each of you.' But the little kids knew that it was the
f, by the rough voice. 'We will not open the door,' cried they, 'you are
our mother. She has a soft, pleasant voice, but your voice is rough; you
the wolf!' Then the wolf went away to a shopkeeper and bought himself
eat lump of chalk, ate this and made his voice soft with it. Then he came
k, knocked at the door of the house, and called: 'Open the door, dear
dren, your mother is here and has brought something back with her for
n of you.' But the wolf had laid his black paws against the window, and
children saw them and cried: 'We will not open the door, our mother has

home, and has brought every one of you something back from the fores
her.' The little kids cried: 'First show us your paws that we may know
are our dear little mother.' Then he put his paws in through the windo
when the kids saw that they were white, they believed that all he sai
true, and opened the door. But who should come in but the wolf! They
terrified and wanted to hide themselves. One sprang under the tabl
second into the bed, the third into the stove, the fourth into the kitche
fifth into the cupboard, the sixth under the washing-bowl, and the se
into the clock-case. But the wolf found them all, and used no great cere
one after the other he swallowed them down his throat. The youngest
was in the clock-case, was the only one he did not find. When the wo
satisfied his appetite he took himself off, laid himself down under a t
the green meadow outside, and began to sleep. Soon afterwards the ol
came home again from the forest. Ah! what a sight she saw there!
house-door stood wide open. The table, chairs, and benches were t
down, the washing-bowl lay broken to pieces, and the quilts and pillow
pulled off the bed. She sought her children, but they were nowhere
found. She called them one after another by name, but no one answere
last, when she came to the youngest, a soft voice cried: 'Dear mother
in the clock-case.' She took the kid out, and it told her that the wo
come and had eaten all the others. Then you may imagine how she
over her poor children.

At length in her grief she went out, and the youngest kid ran wit
When they came to the meadow, there lay the wolf by the tree and sno
loud that the branches shook. She looked at him on every side and sa
something was moving and struggling in his gorged belly. 'Ah, heaven
said, 'is it possible that my poor children whom he has swallowed down
supper, can be still alive?' Then the kid had to run home and fetch sc
and a needle and thread, and the goat cut open the monster's stomac

in in the greatest haste, so that he was not aware of anything and never e stirred.

When the wolf at length had had his fill of sleep, he got on his legs, and he stones in his stomach made him very thirsty, he wanted to go to a well drink. But when he began to walk and to move about, the stones in his nach knocked against each other and rattled. Then cried he:

'What rumbles and tumbles
Against my poor bones?
I thought 'twas six kids,
But it feels like big stones.'

And when he got to the well and stooped over the water to drink, the vy stones made him fall in, and he drowned miserably. When the seven s saw that, they came running to the spot and cried aloud: 'The wolf is d! The wolf is dead!' and danced for joy round about the well with their her.

HE QUEEN BEE

o kings' sons once upon a time went into the world to seek their fortunes; they soon fell into a wasteful foolish way of living, so that they could return home again. Then their brother, who was a little insignificant arf, went out to seek for his brothers: but when he had found them they y laughed at him, to think that he, who was so young and simple, should to travel through the world, when they, who were so much wiser, had n unable to get on. However, they all set out on their journey together, came at last to an ant- hill. The two elder brothers would have pulled own, in order to see how the poor ants in their fright would run about carry off their eggs. But the little dwarf said, 'Let the poor things enjoy mselves, I will not suffer you to trouble them.'

So on they went, and came to a lake where many many ducks were swim- g about. The two brothers wanted to catch two, and roast them. But the arf said, 'Let the poor things enjoy themselves, you shall not kill them.' t they came to a bees'-nest in a hollow tree, and there was so much honey t it ran down the trunk; and the two brothers wanted to light a fire under tree and kill the bees, so as to get their honey. But the dwarf held them k, and said, 'Let the pretty insects enjoy themselves, I cannot let you n them.'

At length the three brothers came to a castle: and as they passed by the oles they saw fine horses standing there, but all were of marble, and no n was to be seen. Then they went through all the rooms, till they came

where there were three tablets, containing an account of the means by
the castle might be disenchanted. The first tablet said: 'In the wood,
the moss, lie the thousand pearls belonging to the king's daughter; they
all be found: and if one be missing by set of sun, he who seeks them
turned into marble.'

The eldest brother set out, and sought for the pearls the whole da
the evening came, and he had not found the first hundred: so he was t
into stone as the tablet had foretold.

The next day the second brother undertook the task; but he succ
no better than the first; for he could only find the second hundred
pearls; and therefore he too was turned into stone.

At last came the little dwarf's turn; and he looked in the moss; but
so hard to find the pearls, and the job was so tiresome!–so he sat down
a stone and cried. And as he sat there, the king of the ants (whose
had saved) came to help him, with five thousand ants; and it was no
before they had found all the pearls and laid them in a heap.

The second tablet said: 'The key of the princess's bed-chamber m
fished up out of the lake.' And as the dwarf came to the brink of it, h
the two ducks whose lives he had saved swimming about; and they
down and soon brought in the key from the bottom.

The third task was the hardest. It was to choose out the younges
the best of the king's three daughters. Now they were all beautiful, a
exactly alike: but he was told that the eldest had eaten a piece of suga
next some sweet syrup, and the youngest a spoonful of honey; so he
guess which it was that had eaten the honey.

Then came the queen of the bees, who had been saved by the little
from the fire, and she tried the lips of all three; but at last she sat
the lips of the one that had eaten the honey: and so the dwarf knew
was the youngest. Thus the spell was broken, and all who had been t

HE ELVES AND THE HOEMAKER

ere was once a shoemaker, who worked very hard and was very honest: still he could not earn enough to live upon; and at last all he had in the ld was gone, save just leather enough to make one pair of shoes.

Then he cut his leather out, all ready to make up the next day, meaning ise early in the morning to his work. His conscience was clear and his rt light amidst all his troubles; so he went peaceably to bed, left all his es to Heaven, and soon fell asleep. In the morning after he had said his yers, he sat himself down to his work; when, to his great wonder, there od the shoes all ready made, upon the table. The good man knew not at to say or think at such an odd thing happening. He looked at the kmanship; there was not one false stitch in the whole job; all was so neat true, that it was quite a masterpiece.

The same day a customer came in, and the shoes suited him so well that he ingly paid a price higher than usual for them; and the poor shoemaker, n the money, bought leather enough to make two pairs more. In the ning he cut out the work, and went to bed early, that he might get up begin betimes next day; but he was saved all the trouble, for when he up in the morning the work was done ready to his hand. Soon in came ers, who paid him handsomely for his goods, so that he bought leather ugh for four pair more. He cut out the work again overnight and found it

As soon as it was midnight, there came in two little naked dwarf
they sat themselves upon the shoemaker's bench, took up all the wor
was cut out, and began to ply with their little fingers, stitching and ra
and tapping away at such a rate, that the shoemaker was all wonde
could not take his eyes off them. And on they went, till the job was
done, and the shoes stood ready for use upon the table. This was long
daybreak; and then they bustled away as quick as lightning.

The next day the wife said to the shoemaker. 'These little wight
made us rich, and we ought to be thankful to them, and do them a goo
if we can. I am quite sorry to see them run about as they do; and indee
not very decent, for they have nothing upon their backs to keep off th
I'll tell you what, I will make each of them a shirt, and a coat and wais
and a pair of pantaloons into the bargain; and do you make each of t
little pair of shoes.'

The thought pleased the good cobbler very much; and one evening,
all the things were ready, they laid them on the table, instead of the
that they used to cut out, and then went and hid themselves, to watch
the little elves would do.

About midnight in they came, dancing and skipping, hopped rou
room, and then went to sit down to their work as usual; but when the
the clothes lying for them, they laughed and chuckled, and seemed mi
delighted.

Then they dressed themselves in the twinkling of an eye, and dance
capered and sprang about, as merry as could be; till at last they danc
at the door, and away over the green.

The good couple saw them no more; but everything went well with
from that time forward, as long as they lived.

HE JUNIPER-TREE

g, long ago, some two thousand years or so, there lived a rich man with ood and beautiful wife. They loved each other dearly, but sorrowed much t they had no children. So greatly did they desire to have one, that the e prayed for it day and night, but still they remained childless.

In front of the house there was a court, in which grew a juniper-tree. e winter's day the wife stood under the tree to peel some apples, and as was peeling them, she cut her finger, and the blood fell on the snow. ,' sighed the woman heavily, 'if I had but a child, as red as blood and white as snow,' and as she spoke the words, her heart grew light within and it seemed to her that her wish was granted, and she returned to house feeling glad and comforted. A month passed, and the snow had all ppeared; then another month went by, and all the earth was green. So months followed one another, and first the trees budded in the woods, soon the green branches grew thickly intertwined, and then the blossoms an to fall. Once again the wife stood under the juniper-tree, and it was ull of sweet scent that her heart leaped for joy, and she was so overcome her happiness, that she fell on her knees. Presently the fruit became nd and firm, and she was glad and at peace; but when they were fully e she picked the berries and ate eagerly of them, and then she grew sad ill. A little while later she called her husband, and said to him, weeping. die, bury me under the juniper-tree.' Then she felt comforted and happy in, and before another month had passed she had a little child, and when

boy, it pierced her heart to think that he would always stand in the
her own child, and she was continually thinking how she could get the
of the property for her. This evil thought took possession of her mo
more, and made her behave very unkindly to the boy. She drove hi
place to place with cuffings and buffetings, so that the poor child went
in fear, and had no peace from the time he left school to the time h
back.

One day the little daughter came running to her mother in the
room, and said, 'Mother, give me an apple.' 'Yes, my child,' said th
and she gave her a beautiful apple out of the chest; the chest had
heavy lid and a large iron lock.

'Mother,' said the little daughter again, 'may not brother have on
The mother was angry at this, but she answered, 'Yes, when he com
of school.'

Just then she looked out of the window and saw him coming,
seemed as if an evil spirit entered into her, for she snatched the ap
of her little daughter's hand, and said, 'You shall not have one befor
brother.' She threw the apple into the chest and shut it to. The litt
now came in, and the evil spirit in the wife made her say kindly to hi
son, will you have an apple?' but she gave him a wicked look. 'Mother
the boy, 'how dreadful you look! Yes, give me an apple.' The thoug
to her that she would kill him. 'Come with me,' she said, and she lif
the lid of the chest; 'take one out for yourself.' And as he bent over to
the evil spirit urged her, and crash! down went the lid, and off went th
boy's head. Then she was overwhelmed with fear at the thought of wh
had done. 'If only I can prevent anyone knowing that I did it,' she th
So she went upstairs to her room, and took a white handkerchief out
top drawer; then she set the boy's head again on his shoulders, and
it with the handkerchief so that nothing could be seen, and placed hi

aming to her mother. 'Oh!' she said, 'I have knocked off brother's head,'
then she wept and wept, and nothing would stop her.
'What have you done!' said her mother, 'but no one must know about it,
ou must keep silence; what is done can't be undone; we will make him
puddings.' And she took the little boy and cut him up, made him into
dings, and put him in the pot. But Marleen stood looking on, and wept
wept, and her tears fell into the pot, so that there was no need of salt.
Presently the father came home and sat down to his dinner; he asked,
here is my son?' The mother said nothing, but gave him a large dish of
k pudding, and Marleen still wept without ceasing.
The father again asked, 'Where is my son?'
'Oh,' answered the wife, 'he is gone into the country to his mother's great
le; he is going to stay there some time.'
'What has he gone there for, and he never even said goodbye to me!'
'Well, he likes being there, and he told me he should be away quite six
ks; he is well looked after there.'
'I feel very unhappy about it,' said the husband, 'in case it should not be
right, and he ought to have said goodbye to me.'
With this he went on with his dinner, and said, 'Little Marleen, why do
weep? Brother will soon be back.' Then he asked his wife for more
ding, and as he ate, he threw the bones under the table.
Little Marleen went upstairs and took her best silk handkerchief out of her
tom drawer, and in it she wrapped all the bones from under the table and
ied them outside, and all the time she did nothing but weep. Then she
them in the green grass under the juniper- tree, and she had no sooner
e so, then all her sadness seemed to leave her, and she wept no more. And
the juniper-tree began to move, and the branches waved backwards and
vards, first away from one another, and then together again, as it might
someone clapping their hands for joy. After this a mist came round the

'My mother killed her little son;
My father grieved when I was gone;
My sister loved me best of all;
She laid her kerchief over me,
And took my bones that they might lie
Underneath the juniper-tree
Kywitt, Kywitt, what a beautiful bird am I!'

The goldsmith was in his workshop making a gold chain, when he the song of the bird on his roof. He thought it so beautiful that he g and ran out, and as he crossed the threshold he lost one of his slipper he ran on into the middle of the street, with a slipper on one foot and on the other; he still had on his apron, and still held the gold chain a pincers in his hands, and so he stood gazing up at the bird, while th came shining brightly down on the street.

'Bird,' he said, 'how beautifully you sing! Sing me that song again

'Nay,' said the bird, 'I do not sing twice for nothing. Give that gold and I will sing it you again.'

'Here is the chain, take it,' said the goldsmith. 'Only sing me that a

The bird flew down and took the gold chain in his right claw, an he alighted again in front of the goldsmith and sang:

'My mother killed her little son;
My father grieved when I was gone;
My sister loved me best of all;
She laid her kerchief over me,
And took my bones that they might lie
Underneath the juniper-tree
Kywitt, Kywitt, what a beautiful bird am I!'

Kywitt, Kywitt, what a beautiful bird am I!'

The shoemaker heard him, and he jumped up and ran out in his shirt-
ves, and stood looking up at the bird on the roof with his hand over his
s to keep himself from being blinded by the sun.
'Bird,' he said, 'how beautifully you sing!' Then he called through the
r to his wife: 'Wife, come out; here is a bird, come and look at it and
r how beautifully it sings.' Then he called his daughter and the children,
n the apprentices, girls and boys, and they all ran up the street to look
he bird, and saw how splendid it was with its red and green feathers, and
neck like burnished gold, and eyes like two bright stars in its head.
'Bird,' said the shoemaker, 'sing me that song again.'
'Nay,' answered the bird, 'I do not sing twice for nothing; you must give
something.'
'Wife,' said the man, 'go into the garret; on the upper shelf you will see
air of red shoes; bring them to me.' The wife went in and fetched the
es.
'There, bird,' said the shoemaker, 'now sing me that song again.'
The bird flew down and took the red shoes in his left claw, and then he
t back to the roof and sang:

'My mother killed her little son;
My father grieved when I was gone;
My sister loved me best of all;
She laid her kerchief over me,
And took my bones that they might lie
Underneath the juniper-tree
Kywitt, Kywitt, what a beautiful bird am I!'

My father grieved when I was gone;

two more men left off and listened,

My sister loved me best of all;

then four more left off,

She laid her kerchief over me,
And took my bones that they might lie

now there were only eight at work,

Underneath

And now only five,

the juniper-tree.

and now only one,

Kywitt, Kywitt, what a beautiful bird am I!'

then he looked up and the last one had left off work.

'Bird,' he said, 'what a beautiful song that is you sing! Let me h
too; sing it again.'

'Nay,' answered the bird, 'I do not sing twice for nothing; give m
millstone, and I will sing it again.'

'If it belonged to me alone,' said the man, 'you should have it.'

'Yes, yes,' said the others: 'if he will sing again, he can have it.'

The bird came down, and all the twenty millers set to and lifted

Kywitt, Kywitt, what a beautiful bird am I!'

And when he had finished his song, he spread his wings, and with the in in his right claw, the shoes in his left, and the millstone round his neck, lew right away to his father's house.

The father, the mother, and little Marleen were having their dinner.

'How lighthearted I feel,' said the father, 'so pleased and cheerful.'

'And I,' said the mother, 'I feel so uneasy, as if a heavy thunderstorm e coming.'

But little Marleen sat and wept and wept.

Then the bird came flying towards the house and settled on the roof.

'I do feel so happy,' said the father, 'and how beautifully the sun shines; el just as if I were going to see an old friend again.'

'Ah!' said the wife, 'and I am so full of distress and uneasiness that my h chatter, and I feel as if there were a fire in my veins,' and she tore open dress; and all the while little Marleen sat in the corner and wept, and plate on her knees was wet with her tears.

The bird now flew to the juniper-tree and began singing:

'My mother killed her little son;

the mother shut her eyes and her ears, that she might see and hear noth- but there was a roaring sound in her ears like that of a violent storm, in her eyes a burning and flashing like lightning:

My father grieved when I was gone;

'Look, mother,' said the man, 'at the beautiful bird that is singing so gnificently; and how warm and bright the sun is, and what a delicious

She laid her kerchief over me,
And took my bones that they might lie
Underneath the juniper-tree
Kywitt, Kywitt, what a beautiful bird am I!'

With that the bird let fall the gold chain, and it fell just round the neck, so that it fitted him exactly.

He went inside, and said, 'See, what a splendid bird that is; he has me this beautiful gold chain, and looks so beautiful himself.'

But the wife was in such fear and trouble, that she fell on the floo her cap fell from her head.

Then the bird began again:

'My mother killed her little son;

'Ah me!' cried the wife, 'if I were but a thousand feet beneath the that I might not hear that song.'

My father grieved when I was gone;

then the woman fell down again as if dead.

My sister loved me best of all;

'Well,' said little Marleen, 'I will go out too and see if the bird wi me anything.'

So she went out.

She laid her kerchief over me,

las given me a pair of red shoes.

The wife sprang up, with her hair standing out from her head like flames re. 'Then I will go out too,' she said, 'and see if it will lighten my misery, I feel as if the world were coming to an end.'

But as she crossed the threshold, crash! the bird threw the millstone n on her head, and she was crushed to death.

The father and little Marleen heard the sound and ran out, but they only mist and flame and fire rising from the spot, and when these had passed, e stood the little brother, and he took the father and little Marleen by hand; then they all three rejoiced, and went inside together and sat down heir dinners and ate.

HE TURNIP

ere were two brothers who were both soldiers; the one was rich and the er poor. The poor man thought he would try to better himself; so, pulling his red coat, he became a gardener, and dug his ground well, and sowed nips.

When the seed came up, there was one plant bigger than all the rest; it kept getting larger and larger, and seemed as if it would never cease wing; so that it might have been called the prince of turnips for there er was such a one seen before, and never will again. At last it was so big t it filled a cart, and two oxen could hardly draw it; and the gardener w not what in the world to do with it, nor whether it would be a blessing curse to him. One day he said to himself, 'What shall I do with it? if I it, it will bring no more than another; and for eating, the little turnips better than this; the best thing perhaps is to carry it and give it to the g as a mark of respect.'

Then he yoked his oxen, and drew the turnip to the court, and gave it he king. 'What a wonderful thing!' said the king; 'I have seen many nge things, but such a monster as this I never saw. Where did you get seed? or is it only your good luck? If so, you are a true child of fortune.' , no!' answered the gardener, 'I am no child of fortune; I am a poor lier, who never could get enough to live upon; so I laid aside my red coat, set to work, tilling the ground. I have a brother, who is rich, and your esty knows him well, and all the world knows him; but because I am

gold and fine horses for the king; and thought he must have a much
gift in return; for if his brother had received so much for only a turnip,
must his present be wroth?

The king took the gift very graciously, and said he knew not wl
give in return more valuable and wonderful than the great turnip;
soldier was forced to put it into a cart, and drag it home with him.
he reached home, he knew not upon whom to vent his rage and spite
at length wicked thoughts came into his head, and he resolved to k
brother.

So he hired some villains to murder him; and having shown them
to lie in ambush, he went to his brother, and said, 'Dear brother,
found a hidden treasure; let us go and dig it up, and share it betwee
The other had no suspicions of his roguery: so they went out togethe
as they were travelling along, the murderers rushed out upon him,
him, and were going to hang him on a tree.

But whilst they were getting all ready, they heard the trampling of a
at a distance, which so frightened them that they pushed their prisone
and shoulders together into a sack, and swung him up by a cord to th
where they left him dangling, and ran away. Meantime he worked and w
away, till he made a hole large enough to put out his head.

When the horseman came up, he proved to be a student, a merry
who was journeying along on his nag, and singing as he went. As soon
man in the sack saw him passing under the tree, he cried out, 'Good mo
good morning to thee, my friend!' The student looked about everywher
seeing no one, and not knowing where the voice came from, cried out,
calls me?'

Then the man in the tree answered, 'Lift up thine eyes, for behol
I sit in the sack of wisdom; here have I, in a short time, learned grea
wondrous things. Compared to this seat, all the learning of the sch

villingly, 'A little space I may allow thee to sit here, if thou wilt reward well and entreat me kindly; but thou must tarry yet an hour below, till ave learnt some little matters that are yet unknown to me.'

So the student sat himself down and waited a while; but the time hung vy upon him, and he begged earnestly that he might ascend forthwith, his thirst for knowledge was great. Then the other pretended to give way, said, 'Thou must let the sack of wisdom descend, by untying yonder d, and then thou shalt enter.' So the student let him down, opened the k, and set him free. 'Now then,' cried he, 'let me ascend quickly.' As began to put himself into the sack heels first, 'Wait a while,' said the dener, 'that is not the way.' Then he pushed him in head first, tied up sack, and soon swung up the searcher after wisdom dangling in the air. w is it with thee, friend?' said he, 'dost thou not feel that wisdom comes o thee? Rest there in peace, till thou art a wiser man than thou wert.'

So saying, he trotted off on the student's nag, and left the poor fellow to her wisdom till somebody should come and let him down.

LEVER HANS

e mother of Hans said: 'Whither away, Hans?' Hans answered: 'To Gre-
'Behave well, Hans.' 'Oh, I'll behave well. Goodbye, mother.' 'Goodbye,
ns.' Hans comes to Gretel. 'Good day, Gretel.' 'Good day, Hans. What
you bring that is good?' 'I bring nothing, I want to have something given
' Gretel presents Hans with a needle, Hans says: 'Goodbye, Gretel.'
odbye, Hans.'

Hans takes the needle, sticks it into a hay-cart, and follows the cart home.
od evening, mother.' 'Good evening, Hans. Where have you been?' 'With
tel.' 'What did you take her?' 'Took nothing; had something given me.'
hat did Gretel give you?' 'Gave me a needle.' 'Where is the needle, Hans?'
ck in the hay-cart.' 'That was ill done, Hans. You should have stuck the
dle in your sleeve.' 'Never mind, I'll do better next time.'

'Whither away, Hans?' 'To Gretel, mother.' 'Behave well, Hans.' 'Oh,
behave well. Goodbye, mother.' 'Goodbye, Hans.' Hans comes to Gretel.
od day, Gretel.' 'Good day, Hans. What do you bring that is good?'
ring nothing. I want to have something given to me.' Gretel presents
ns with a knife. 'Goodbye, Gretel.' 'Goodbye, Hans.' Hans takes the
fe, sticks it in his sleeve, and goes home. 'Good evening, mother.' 'Good
ning, Hans. Where have you been?' 'With Gretel.' What did you take
?' 'Took her nothing, she gave me something.' 'What did Gretel give
?' 'Gave me a knife.' 'Where is the knife, Hans?' 'Stuck in my sleeve.'
at's ill done, Hans, you should have put the knife in your pocket.' 'Never
d, will do better next time.'

'What did Gretel give you?' 'She gave me a goat.' 'Where is the goat, H
'Put it in my pocket.' 'That was ill done, Hans, you should have put a
round the goat's neck.' 'Never mind, will do better next time.'

'Whither away, Hans?' 'To Gretel, mother.' 'Behave well, Hans.'
I'll behave well. Goodbye, mother.' 'Goodbye, Hans.' Hans comes to G
'Good day, Gretel.' 'Good day, Hans. What good thing do you brin
bring nothing, I want something given me.' Gretel presents Hans w
piece of bacon. 'Goodbye, Gretel.' 'Goodbye, Hans.'

Hans takes the bacon, ties it to a rope, and drags it away behind
The dogs come and devour the bacon. When he gets home, he has the
in his hand, and there is no longer anything hanging on to it. 'Good ev
mother.' 'Good evening, Hans. Where have you been?' 'With Gretel.'
did you take her?' 'I took her nothing, she gave me something.' 'Wh
Gretel give you?' 'Gave me a bit of bacon.' 'Where is the bacon, Han
tied it to a rope, brought it home, dogs took it.' 'That was ill done,
you should have carried the bacon on your head.' 'Never mind, will do
next time.'

'Whither away, Hans?' 'To Gretel, mother.' 'Behave well, Hans.
behave well. Goodbye, mother.' 'Goodbye, Hans.' Hans comes to G
'Good day, Gretel.' 'Good day, Hans, What good thing do you brin
bring nothing, but would have something given.' Gretel presents Han
a calf. 'Goodbye, Gretel.' 'Goodbye, Hans.'

Hans takes the calf, puts it on his head, and the calf kicks his face.
evening, mother.' 'Good evening, Hans. Where have you been?'
Gretel.' 'What did you take her?' 'I took nothing, but had something
me.' 'What did Gretel give you?' 'A calf.' 'Where have you the calf, H
'I set it on my head and it kicked my face.' 'That was ill done, Han
should have led the calf, and put it in the stall.' 'Never mind, will do
next time.'

e with me.' 'Where have you left Gretel?' 'I led her by the rope, tied to the rack, and scattered some grass for her.' 'That was ill done, Hans, should have cast friendly eyes on her.' 'Never mind, will do better.'

Hans went into the stable, cut out all the calves' and sheep's eyes, and ew them in Gretel's face. Then Gretel became angry, tore herself loose ran away, and was no longer the bride of Hans.

HE THREE LANGUAGES

aged count once lived in Switzerland, who had an only son, but he was
oid, and could learn nothing. Then said the father: 'Hark you, my son,
as I will I can get nothing into your head. You must go from hence,
ill give you into the care of a celebrated master, who shall see what he
do with you.' The youth was sent into a strange town, and remained a
ole year with the master. At the end of this time, he came home again,
his father asked: 'Now, my son, what have you learnt?' 'Father, I have
nt what the dogs say when they bark.' 'Lord have mercy on us!' cried
father; 'is that all you have learnt? I will send you into another town, to
ther master.' The youth was taken thither, and stayed a year with this
ster likewise. When he came back the father again asked: 'My son, what
e you learnt?' He answered: 'Father, I have learnt what the birds say.'
en the father fell into a rage and said: 'Oh, you lost man, you have spent
precious time and learnt nothing; are you not ashamed to appear before
eyes? I will send you to a third master, but if you learn nothing this
e also, I will no longer be your father.' The youth remained a whole year
n the third master also, and when he came home again, and his father
uired: 'My son, what have you learnt?' he answered: 'Dear father, I have
year learnt what the frogs croak.' Then the father fell into the most
ous anger, sprang up, called his people thither, and said: 'This man is no
ger my son, I drive him forth, and command you to take him out into the
st, and kill him.' They took him forth, but when they should have killed
they could not do it for pity, and let him go, and they cut the eyes and

without fear, and said: 'Just let me go down to the barking dogs, an
me something that I can throw to them; they will do nothing to harr
As he himself would have it so, they gave him some food for the wild an
and led him down to the tower. When he went inside, the dogs did no
at him, but wagged their tails quite amicably around him, ate what
before them, and did not hurt one hair of his head. Next morning,
astonishment of everyone, he came out again safe and unharmed, and s
the lord of the castle: 'The dogs have revealed to me, in their own lan
why they dwell there, and bring evil on the land. They are bewitche
are obliged to watch over a great treasure which is below in the towe
they can have no rest until it is taken away, and I have likewise learnt
their discourse, how that is to be done.' Then all who heard this re
and the lord of the castle said he would adopt him as a son if he accomp
it successfully. He went down again, and as he knew what he had to
did it thoroughly, and brought a chest full of gold out with him. The h
of the wild dogs was henceforth heard no more; they had disappeare
the country was freed from the trouble.

After some time he took it in his head that he would travel to
On the way he passed by a marsh, in which a number of frogs were
croaking. He listened to them, and when he became aware of what the
saying, he grew very thoughtful and sad. At last he arrived in Rome,
the Pope had just died, and there was great doubt among the cardi
to whom they should appoint as his successor. They at length agree
the person should be chosen as pope who should be distinguished by
divine and miraculous token. And just as that was decided on, the
count entered into the church, and suddenly two snow-white doves f
his shoulders and remained sitting there. The ecclesiastics recognized t
the token from above, and asked him on the spot if he would be
He was undecided, and knew not if he were worthy of this, but the

HE FOX AND THE CAT

appened that the cat met the fox in a forest, and as she thought to herself: is clever and full of experience, and much esteemed in the world,' she ke to him in a friendly way. 'Good day, dear Mr Fox, how are you? How ll with you? How are you getting on in these hard times?' The fox, full ll kinds of arrogance, looked at the cat from head to foot, and for a long e did not know whether he would give any answer or not. At last he l: 'Oh, you wretched beard-cleaner, you piebald fool, you hungry mouse-ter, what can you be thinking of? Have you the cheek to ask how I am ing on? What have you learnt? How many arts do you understand?' 'I erstand but one,' replied the cat, modestly. 'What art is that?' asked fox. 'When the hounds are following me, I can spring into a tree and e myself.' 'Is that all?' said the fox. 'I am master of a hundred arts, and e into the bargain a sackful of cunning. You make me sorry for you; come n me, I will teach you how people get away from the hounds.' Just then e a hunter with four dogs. The cat sprang nimbly up a tree, and sat n at the top of it, where the branches and foliage quite concealed her. en your sack, Mr Fox, open your sack,' cried the cat to him, but the dogs already seized him, and were holding him fast. 'Ah, Mr Fox,' cried the 'You with your hundred arts are left in the lurch! Had you been able to b like me, you would not have lost your life.'

HE FOUR CLEVER ROTHERS

ar children,' said a poor man to his four sons, 'I have nothing to give you; must go out into the wide world and try your luck. Begin by learning e craft or another, and see how you can get on.' So the four brothers k their walking-sticks in their hands, and their little bundles on their ulders, and after bidding their father goodbye, went all out at the gate ether. When they had got on some way they came to four crossways, each ling to a different country. Then the eldest said, 'Here we must part; but day four years we will come back to this spot, and in the meantime each st try what he can do for himself.'

So each brother went his way; and as the eldest was hastening on a man him, and asked him where he was going, and what he wanted. 'I am ng to try my luck in the world, and should like to begin by learning some or trade,' answered he. 'Then,' said the man, 'go with me, and I will teach to become the cunningest thief that ever was.' 'No,' said the other, 'that ot an honest calling, and what can one look to earn by it in the end but gallows?' 'Oh!' said the man, 'you need not fear the gallows; for I will teach you to steal what will be fair game: I meddle with nothing but t no one else can get or care anything about, and where no one can find out.' So the young man agreed to follow his trade, and he soon showed self so clever, that nothing could escape him that he had once set his

The third brother met a huntsman, who took him with him, and t
him so well all that belonged to hunting, that he became very clever
craft of the woods; and when he left his master he gave him a bow, and
'Whatever you shoot at with this bow you will be sure to hit.'

The youngest brother likewise met a man who asked him what he w
to do. 'Would not you like,' said he, 'to be a tailor?' 'Oh, no!' sa
young man; 'sitting cross-legged from morning to night, working back
and forwards with a needle and goose, will never suit me.' 'Oh!' ans
the man, 'that is not my sort of tailoring; come with me, and you wil
quite another kind of craft from that.' Not knowing what better to
came into the plan, and learnt tailoring from the beginning; and when
his master, he gave him a needle, and said, 'You can sew anything wit
be it as soft as an egg or as hard as steel; and the joint will be so fin
no seam will be seen.'

After the space of four years, at the time agreed upon, the four br
met at the four cross-roads; and having welcomed each other, set off to
their father's home, where they told him all that had happened to the
how each had learned some craft.

Then, one day, as they were sitting before the house under a very
tree, the father said, 'I should like to try what each of you can do in this
So he looked up, and said to the second son, 'At the top of this tree the
chaffinch's nest; tell me how many eggs there are in it.' The star-gaze
his glass, looked up, and said, 'Five.' 'Now,' said the father to the
son, 'take away the eggs without letting the bird that is sitting upon
and hatching them know anything of what you are doing.' So the cu
thief climbed up the tree, and brought away to his father the five eggs
under the bird; and it never saw or felt what he was doing, but kept s
on at its ease. Then the father took the eggs, and put one on each co
the table, and the fifth in the middle, and said to the huntsman, 'Cut

ether.

'Well done, sons!' said the old man; 'you have made good use of your e, and learnt something worth the knowing; but I am sure I do not know ch ought to have the prize. Oh, that a time might soon come for you to n your skill to some account!'

Not long after this there was a great bustle in the country; for the king's ghter had been carried off by a mighty dragon, and the king mourned r his loss day and night, and made it known that whoever brought her k to him should have her for a wife. Then the four brothers said to each er, 'Here is a chance for us; let us try what we can do.' And they agreed ee whether they could not set the princess free. 'I will soon find out where is, however,' said the star-gazer, as he looked through his glass; and he n cried out, 'I see her afar off, sitting upon a rock in the sea, and I can the dragon close by, guarding her.' Then he went to the king, and asked a ship for himself and his brothers; and they sailed together over the sea, they came to the right place. There they found the princess sitting, as star-gazer had said, on the rock; and the dragon was lying asleep, with head upon her lap. 'I dare not shoot at him,' said the huntsman, 'for I uld kill the beautiful young lady also.' 'Then I will try my skill,' said the f, and went and stole her away from under the dragon, so quietly and tly that the beast did not know it, but went on snoring.

Then away they hastened with her full of joy in their boat towards the ; but soon came the dragon roaring behind them through the air; for he ke and missed the princess. But when he got over the boat, and wanted ounce upon them and carry off the princess, the huntsman took up his and shot him straight through the heart so that he fell down dead. They e still not safe; for he was such a great beast that in his fall he overset boat, and they had to swim in the open sea upon a few planks. So the or took his needle, and with a few large stitches put some of the planks

not taken her away from the dragon; therefore she ought to be mine.
she is mine,' said the huntsman; 'for if I had not killed the dragon, he
after all, have torn you and the princess into pieces.' 'And if I had no
the boat together again,' said the tailor, 'you would all have been dro
therefore she is mine.' Then the king put in a word, and said, 'Each
is right; and as all cannot have the young lady, the best way is for n
of you to have her: for the truth is, there is somebody she likes a grea
better. But to make up for your loss, I will give each of you, as a r
for his skill, half a kingdom.' So the brothers agreed that this plan
be much better than either quarrelling or marrying a lady who had no
to have them. And the king then gave to each half a kingdom, as h
said; and they lived very happily the rest of their days, and took goo
of their father; and somebody took better care of the young lady, than
either the dragon or one of the craftsmen have her again.

ILY AND THE LION

nerchant, who had three daughters, was once setting out upon a journey; before he went he asked each daughter what gift he should bring back for The eldest wished for pearls; the second for jewels; but the third, who called Lily, said, 'Dear father, bring me a rose.' Now it was no easy task ind a rose, for it was the middle of winter; yet as she was his prettiest ghter, and was very fond of flowers, her father said he would try what he ld do. So he kissed all three, and bid them goodbye.

And when the time came for him to go home, he had bought pearls jewels for the two eldest, but he had sought everywhere in vain for the ; and when he went into any garden and asked for such a thing, the ple laughed at him, and asked him whether he thought roses grew in w. This grieved him very much, for Lily was his dearest child; and as he journeying home, thinking what he should bring her, he came to a fine le; and around the castle was a garden, in one half of which it seemed to summer-time and in the other half winter. On one side the finest flowers e in full bloom, and on the other everything looked dreary and buried in snow. 'A lucky hit!' said he, as he called to his servant, and told him to o a beautiful bed of roses that was there, and bring him away one of the st flowers.

This done, they were riding away well pleased, when up sprang a fierce , and roared out, 'Whoever has stolen my roses shall be eaten up alive!' n the man said, 'I knew not that the garden belonged to you; can nothing

that met him; she came running, and kissed him, and welcomed him
and when she saw that he had brought her the rose, she was still more
But her father began to be very sorrowful, and to weep, saying, 'Ala
dearest child! I have bought this flower at a high price, for I have said I
give you to a wild lion; and when he has you, he will tear you in piece
eat you.' Then he told her all that had happened, and said she shou
go, let what would happen.

But she comforted him, and said, 'Dear father, the word you have
must be kept; I will go to the lion, and soothe him: perhaps he will
come safe home again.'

The next morning she asked the way she was to go, and took le
her father, and went forth with a bold heart into the wood. But th
was an enchanted prince. By day he and all his court were lions,
the evening they took their right forms again. And when Lily came
castle, he welcomed her so courteously that she agreed to marry him
wedding-feast was held, and they lived happily together a long time
prince was only to be seen as soon as evening came, and then he he
court; but every morning he left his bride, and went away by himse
knew not whither, till the night came again.

After some time he said to her, 'Tomorrow there will be a great fe
your father's house, for your eldest sister is to be married; and if you
to go and visit her my lions shall lead you thither.' Then she rejoiced
at the thoughts of seeing her father once more, and set out with the
and everyone was overjoyed to see her, for they had thought her dea
since. But she told them how happy she was, and stayed till the feas
over, and then went back to the wood.

Her second sister was soon after married, and when Lily was asl
go to the wedding, she said to the prince, 'I will not go alone this
you must go with me.' But he would not, and said that it would be

upon the prince. In a moment he disappeared, and when his wife came nd looked for him, she found only a white dove; and it said to her, 'Seven rs must I fly up and down over the face of the earth, but every now and n I will let fall a white feather, that will show you the way I am going; ow it, and at last you may overtake and set me free.'

This said, he flew out at the door, and poor Lily followed; and every now then a white feather fell, and showed her the way she was to journey. us she went roving on through the wide world, and looked neither to the t hand nor to the left, nor took any rest, for seven years. Then she began be glad, and thought to herself that the time was fast coming when all troubles should end; yet repose was still far off, for one day as she was velling on she missed the white feather, and when she lifted up her eyes could nowhere see the dove. 'Now,' thought she to herself, 'no aid of n can be of use to me.' So she went to the sun and said, 'Thou shinest rywhere, on the hill's top and the valley's depth–hast thou anywhere seen white dove?' 'No,' said the sun, 'I have not seen it; but I will give thee asket–open it when thy hour of need comes.'

So she thanked the sun, and went on her way till eventide; and when the on arose, she cried unto it, and said, 'Thou shinest through the night, r field and grove–hast thou nowhere seen my white dove?' 'No,' said the on, 'I cannot help thee but I will give thee an egg– break it when need nes.'

Then she thanked the moon, and went on till the night-wind blew; and raised up her voice to it, and said, 'Thou blowest through every tree and er every leaf–hast thou not seen my white dove?' 'No,' said the night- d, 'but I will ask three other winds; perhaps they have seen it.' Then east wind and the west wind came, and said they too had not seen it, the south wind said, 'I have seen the white dove–he has fled to the Red , and is changed once more into a lion, for the seven years are passed

wind. 'When you are half-way over, throw it down, and out of the
will immediately spring up a high nut-tree on which the griffin will b
to rest, otherwise he would not have the strength to bear you the whol
if, therefore, thou dost forget to throw down the nut, he will let you bo
into the sea.'

So our poor wanderer went forth, and found all as the night-win
said; and she plucked the eleventh rod, and smote the dragon, and th
forthwith became a prince, and the dragon a princess again. But no s
was the princess released from the spell, than she seized the prince l
arm and sprang on to the griffin's back, and went off carrying the
away with her.

Thus the unhappy traveller was again forsaken and forlorn; but sh
heart and said, 'As far as the wind blows, and so long as the cock crows
journey on, till I find him once again.' She went on for a long, long w
at length she came to the castle whither the princess had carried the p
and there was a feast got ready, and she heard that the wedding was
to be held. 'Heaven aid me now!' said she; and she took the casket th
sun had given her, and found that within it lay a dress as dazzling as t
itself. So she put it on, and went into the palace, and all the people
upon her; and the dress pleased the bride so much that she asked whe
was to be sold. 'Not for gold and silver.' said she, 'but for flesh and b
The princess asked what she meant, and she said, 'Let me speak wi
bridegroom this night in his chamber, and I will give thee the dress
last the princess agreed, but she told her chamberlain to give the pr
sleeping draught, that he might not hear or see her. When evening
and the prince had fallen asleep, she was led into his chamber, and s
herself down at his feet, and said: 'I have followed thee seven years.
been to the sun, the moon, and the night-wind, to seek thee, and at
have helped thee to overcome the dragon. Wilt thou then forget me

dow, and was so pleased that she came forth and asked her if she would the brood. 'Not for gold or silver, but for flesh and blood: let me again evening speak with the bridegroom in his chamber, and I will give thee whole brood.'

Then the princess thought to betray her as before, and agreed to what she ed: but when the prince went to his chamber he asked the chamberlain the wind had whistled so in the night. And the chamberlain told him how he had given him a sleeping draught, and how a poor maiden had e and spoken to him in his chamber, and was to come again that night. n the prince took care to throw away the sleeping draught; and when came and began again to tell him what woes had befallen her, and how hful and true to him she had been, he knew his beloved wife's voice, and ang up, and said, 'You have awakened me as from a dream, for the strange cess had thrown a spell around me, so that I had altogether forgotten ; but Heaven hath sent you to me in a lucky hour.'

And they stole away out of the palace by night unawares, and seated mselves on the griffin, who flew back with them over the Red Sea. When were half-way across Lily let the nut fall into the water, and immediately rge nut-tree arose from the sea, whereon the griffin rested for a while, and n carried them safely home. There they found their child, now grown up e comely and fair; and after all their troubles they lived happily together he end of their days.

HE FOX AND THE HORSE

armer had a horse that had been an excellent faithful servant to him: but was now grown too old to work; so the farmer would give him nothing e to eat, and said, 'I want you no longer, so take yourself off out of my ole; I shall not take you back again until you are stronger than a lion.' en he opened the door and turned him adrift.

The poor horse was very melancholy, and wandered up and down in the od, seeking some little shelter from the cold wind and rain. Presently a met him: 'What's the matter, my friend?' said he, 'why do you hang n your head and look so lonely and woe-begone?' 'Ah!' replied the horse, tice and avarice never dwell in one house; my master has forgotten all that ve done for him so many years, and because I can no longer work he has ned me adrift, and says unless I become stronger than a lion he will not e me back again; what chance can I have of that? he knows I have none, e would not talk so.'

However, the fox bid him be of good cheer, and said, 'I will help you; lie n there, stretch yourself out quite stiff, and pretend to be dead.' The se did as he was told, and the fox went straight to the lion who lived in a e close by, and said to him, 'A little way off lies a dead horse; come with and you may make an excellent meal of his carcase.' The lion was greatly ased, and set off immediately; and when they came to the horse, the fox l, 'You will not be able to eat him comfortably here; I'll tell you what–I tie you fast to his tail, and then you can draw him to your den, and eat

'Here he is, master,' said he, 'I have got the better of him': and the farmer saw his old servant, his heart relented, and he said. 'Thou stay in thy stable and be well taken care of.' And so the poor old hors plenty to eat, and lived–till he died.

HE BLUE LIGHT

ere was once upon a time a soldier who for many years had served the king hfully, but when the war came to an end could serve no longer because he many wounds which he had received. The king said to him: 'You may urn to your home, I need you no longer, and you will not receive any more ney, for he only receives wages who renders me service for them.' Then soldier did not know how to earn a living, went away greatly troubled, walked the whole day, until in the evening he entered a forest. When kness came on, he saw a light, which he went up to, and came to a house erein lived a witch. 'Do give me one night's lodging, and a little to eat drink,' said he to her, 'or I shall starve.' 'Oho!' she answered, 'who es anything to a run-away soldier? Yet will I be compassionate, and take in, if you will do what I wish.' 'What do you wish?' said the soldier. at you should dig all round my garden for me, tomorrow.' The soldier sented, and next day laboured with all his strength, but could not finish it he evening. 'I see well enough,' said the witch, 'that you can do no more ay, but I will keep you yet another night, in payment for which you must norrow chop me a load of wood, and chop it small.' The soldier spent the ole day in doing it, and in the evening the witch proposed that he should one night more. 'Tomorrow, you shall only do me a very trifling piece vork. Behind my house, there is an old dry well, into which my light has en, it burns blue, and never goes out, and you shall bring it up again.' t day the old woman took him to the well, and let him down in a basket.

suddenly he felt in his pocket and found his tobacco pipe, which wa
half full. 'This shall be my last pleasure,' thought he, pulled it out, li
the blue light and began to smoke. When the smoke had circled abo
cavern, suddenly a little black dwarf stood before him, and said: 'Lord
are your commands?' 'What my commands are?' replied the soldier,
astonished. 'I must do everything you bid me,' said the little man. '(
said the soldier; 'then in the first place help me out of this well.' The
man took him by the hand, and led him through an underground pa
but he did not forget to take the blue light with him. On the way the
showed him the treasures which the witch had collected and hidden
and the soldier took as much gold as he could carry. When he was a
he said to the little man: 'Now go and bind the old witch, and car
before the judge.' In a short time she came by like the wind, riding
wild tom-cat and screaming frightfully. Nor was it long before the littl
reappeared. 'It is all done,' said he, 'and the witch is already hangi
the gallows. What further commands has my lord?' inquired the dwar
this moment, none,' answered the soldier; 'you can return home, only
hand immediately, if I summon you.' 'Nothing more is needed than th
should light your pipe at the blue light, and I will appear before you at
Thereupon he vanished from his sight.

The soldier returned to the town from which he come. He went to th
inn, ordered himself handsome clothes, and then bade the landlord f
him a room as handsome as possible. When it was ready and the soldi
taken possession of it, he summoned the little black manikin and said: '
served the king faithfully, but he has dismissed me, and left me to h
and now I want to take my revenge.' 'What am I to do?' asked the
man. 'Late at night, when the king's daughter is in bed, bring her here
sleep, she shall do servant's work for me.' The manikin said: 'That is a
thing for me to do, but a very dangerous thing for you, for if it is disco

Next morning when the princess arose she went to her father, and told that she had had a very strange dream. 'I was carried through the streets n the rapidity of lightning,' said she, 'and taken into a soldier's room, and ad to wait upon him like a servant, sweep his room, clean his boots, and all kinds of menial work. It was only a dream, and yet I am just as tired f I really had done everything.' 'The dream may have been true,' said king. 'I will give you a piece of advice. Fill your pocket full of peas, and ke a small hole in the pocket, and then if you are carried away again, they fall out and leave a track in the streets.' But unseen by the king, the nikin was standing beside him when he said that, and heard all. At night en the sleeping princess was again carried through the streets, some peas ainly did fall out of her pocket, but they made no track, for the crafty nikin had just before scattered peas in every street there was. And again princess was compelled to do servant's work until cock-crow.

Next morning the king sent his people out to seek the track, but it was n vain, for in every street poor children were sitting, picking up peas, and ng: 'It must have rained peas, last night.' 'We must think of something ,' said the king; 'keep your shoes on when you go to bed, and before you e back from the place where you are taken, hide one of them there, I will n contrive to find it.' The black manikin heard this plot, and at night en the soldier again ordered him to bring the princess, revealed it to him, told him that he knew of no expedient to counteract this stratagem, that if the shoe were found in the soldier's house it would go badly with . 'Do what I bid you,' replied the soldier, and again this third night the ncess was obliged to work like a servant, but before she went away, she her shoe under the bed.

Next morning the king had the entire town searched for his daughter's e. It was found at the soldier's, and the soldier himself, who at the reaty of the dwarf had gone outside the gate, was soon brought back, and

'Go wheresoever they take you, and let them do what they will, onl
the blue light with you.' Next day the soldier was tried, and though h
done nothing wicked, the judge condemned him to death. When he w
forth to die, he begged a last favour of the king. 'What is it?' aske
king. 'That I may smoke one more pipe on my way.' 'You may smoke t
answered the king, 'but do not imagine that I will spare your life.' Th
soldier pulled out his pipe and lighted it at the blue light, and as so
a few wreaths of smoke had ascended, the manikin was there with a
cudgel in his hand, and said: 'What does my lord command?' 'Strike
to earth that false judge there, and his constable, and spare not the kin
has treated me so ill.' Then the manikin fell on them like lightning, d
this way and that way, and whosoever was so much as touched by his c
fell to earth, and did not venture to stir again. The king was terrifi
threw himself on the soldier's mercy, and merely to be allowed to live
gave him his kingdom for his own, and his daughter to wife.

HE RAVEN

ere was once a queen who had a little daughter, still too young to run
ne. One day the child was very troublesome, and the mother could not
et it, do what she would. She grew impatient, and seeing the ravens flying
nd the castle, she opened the window, and said: 'I wish you were a raven
would fly away, then I should have a little peace.' Scarcely were the
ds out of her mouth, when the child in her arms was turned into a raven,
flew away from her through the open window. The bird took its flight to
ark wood and remained there for a long time, and meanwhile the parents
ld hear nothing of their child.

Long after this, a man was making his way through the wood when he
rd a raven calling, and he followed the sound of the voice. As he drew
r, the raven said, 'I am by birth a king's daughter, but am now under the
l of some enchantment; you can, however, set me free.' 'What am I to
' he asked. She replied, 'Go farther into the wood until you come to a
se, wherein lives an old woman; she will offer you food and drink, but you
st not take of either; if you do, you will fall into a deep sleep, and will not
able to help me. In the garden behind the house is a large tan-heap, and
that you must stand and watch for me. I shall drive there in my carriage
wo o'clock in the afternoon for three successive days; the first day it will
drawn by four white, the second by four chestnut, and the last by four
ck horses; but if you fail to keep awake and I find you sleeping, I shall not
set free.'

eat anything, at least you might take a draught of wine; one drink cou
nothing,' and at last he allowed himself to be persuaded, and drank.

As it drew towards the appointed hour, he went outside into the g
and mounted the tan-heap to await the raven. Suddenly a feeling of f
came over him, and unable to resist it, he lay down for a little while
determined, however, to keep awake; but in another minute his eyes clo
their own accord, and he fell into such a deep sleep, that all the noises
world would not have awakened him. At two o'clock the raven came d
along, drawn by her four white horses; but even before she reached the
she said to herself, sighing, 'I know he has fallen asleep.' When she e
the garden, there she found him as she had feared, lying on the tan
fast asleep. She got out of her carriage and went to him; she called hi
shook him, but it was all in vain, he still continued sleeping.

The next day at noon, the old woman came to him again with foo
drink which he at first refused. At last, overcome by her persistent entr
that he would take something, he lifted the glass and drank again.

Towards two o'clock he went into the garden and on to the tan-h
watch for the raven. He had not been there long before he began to
tired that his limbs seemed hardly able to support him, and he cou
stand upright any longer; so again he lay down and fell fast asleep.
raven drove along her four chestnut horses, she said sorrowfully to her
know he has fallen asleep.' She went as before to look for him, but he
and it was impossible to awaken him.

The following day the old woman said to him, 'What is this? You a
eating or drinking anything, do you want to kill yourself?'

He answered, 'I may not and will not either eat or drink.'

But she put down the dish of food and the glass of wine in front o
and when he smelt the wine, he was unable to resist the temptatio
took a deep draught.

placed beside him a loaf, and some meat, and a flask of wine, of such a
d, that however much he took of them, they would never grow less. After
t she drew a gold ring, on which her name was engraved, off her finger,
put it upon one of his. Finally, she laid a letter near him, in which, after
ng him particulars of the food and drink she had left for him, she finished
n the following words: 'I see that as long as you remain here you will never
able to set me free; if, however, you still wish to do so, come to the golden
le of Stromberg; this is well within your power to accomplish.' She then
urned to her carriage and drove to the golden castle of Stromberg.

When the man awoke and found that he had been sleeping, he was grieved
heart, and said, 'She has no doubt been here and driven away again, and
now too late for me to save her.' Then his eyes fell on the things which
e lying beside him; he read the letter, and knew from it all that had
pened. He rose up without delay, eager to start on his way and to reach
castle of Stromberg, but he had no idea in which direction he ought to
He travelled about a long time in search of it and came at last to a dark
st, through which he went on walking for fourteen days and still could
find a way out. Once more the night came on, and worn out he lay down
er a bush and fell asleep. Again the next day he pursued his way through
forest, and that evening, thinking to rest again, he lay down as before,
he heard such a howling and wailing that he found it impossible to sleep.
waited till it was darker and people had begun to light up their houses,
then seeing a little glimmer ahead of him, he went towards it.

He found that the light came from a house which looked smaller than
eally was, from the contrast of its height with that of an immense giant
stood in front of it. He thought to himself, 'If the giant sees me going
my life will not be worth much.' However, after a while he summoned
courage and went forward. When the giant saw him, he called out, 'It is
y for that you have come, for I have not had anything to eat for a long

asked him if he could direct him to the castle of Stromberg. The giant
'I will look on my map; on it are marked all the towns, villages, and ho
So he fetched his map, and looked for the castle, but could not find it. '
mind,' he said, 'I have larger maps upstairs in the cupboard, we wil
on those,' but they searched in vain, for the castle was not marked ev
these. The man now thought he should like to continue his journey, b
giant begged him to remain for a day or two longer until the return
brother, who was away in search of provisions. When the brother came
they asked him about the castle of Stromberg, and he told them he
look on his own maps as soon as he had eaten and appeased his h
Accordingly, when he had finished his supper, they all went up toget
his room and looked through his maps, but the castle was not to be
Then he fetched other older maps, and they went on looking for the
until at last they found it, but it was many thousand miles away. 'Hov
I be able to get there?' asked the man. 'I have two hours to spare,' sa
giant, 'and I will carry you into the neighbourhood of the castle; I mus
return to look after the child who is in our care.'

The giant, thereupon, carried the man to within about a hundred le
of the castle, where he left him, saying, 'You will be able to walk the re
der of the way yourself.' The man journeyed on day and night till he re
the golden castle of Stromberg. He found it situated, however, on a
mountain, and looking up from the foot he saw the enchanted maiden
round her castle and then go inside. He was overjoyed to see her, and l
to get to the top of the mountain, but the sides were so slippery that
time he attempted to climb he fell back again. When he saw that
impossible to reach her, he was greatly grieved, and said to himself,
remain here and wait for her,' so he built himself a little hut, and th
sat and watched for a whole year, and every day he saw the king's dau
driving round her castle, but still was unable to get nearer to her.

inst any door through which he wished to pass, and it immediately flew
n. Another told him that he had found a cloak which rendered its wearer
sible; and the third had caught a horse which would carry its rider over
obstacle, and even up the glass mountain. They had been unable to
de whether they would keep together and have the things in common,
vhether they would separate. On hearing this, the man said, 'I will give
something in exchange for those three things; not money, for that I have
got, but something that is of far more value. I must first, however, prove
ther all you have told me about your three things is true.' The robbers,
efore, made him get on the horse, and handed him the stick and the
k, and when he had put this round him he was no longer visible. Then
fell upon them with the stick and beat them one after another, crying,
ere, you idle vagabonds, you have got what you deserve; are you satisfied
!'

After this he rode up the glass mountain. When he reached the gate of
castle, he found it closed, but he gave it a blow with his stick, and it flew
e open at once and he passed through. He mounted the steps and entered
room where the maiden was sitting, with a golden goblet full of wine in
t of her. She could not see him for he still wore his cloak. He took the
which she had given him off his finger, and threw it into the goblet, so
t it rang as it touched the bottom. 'That is my own ring,' she exclaimed,
d if that is so the man must also be here who is coming to set me free.'

She sought for him about the castle, but could find him nowhere. Mean-
le he had gone outside again and mounted his horse and thrown off the
k. When therefore she came to the castle gate she saw him, and cried
ud for joy. Then he dismounted and took her in his arms; and she kissed
, and said, 'Now you have indeed set me free, and tomorrow we will
brate our marriage.'

HE GOLDEN GOOSE

ere was a man who had three sons, the youngest of whom was called mmling,[1] and was despised, mocked, and sneered at on every occasion.

It happened that the eldest wanted to go into the forest to hew wood, before he went his mother gave him a beautiful sweet cake and a bottle vine in order that he might not suffer from hunger or thirst.

When he entered the forest he met a little grey-haired old man who bade good day, and said: 'Do give me a piece of cake out of your pocket, and me have a draught of your wine; I am so hungry and thirsty.' But the er son answered: 'If I give you my cake and wine, I shall have none for self; be off with you,' and he left the little man standing and went on.

But when he began to hew down a tree, it was not long before he made a e stroke, and the axe cut him in the arm, so that he had to go home and e it bound up. And this was the little grey man's doing.

After this the second son went into the forest, and his mother gave him, the eldest, a cake and a bottle of wine. The little old grey man met him wise, and asked him for a piece of cake and a drink of wine. But the ond son, too, said sensibly enough: 'What I give you will be taken away n myself; be off!' and he left the little man standing and went on. His ishment, however, was not delayed; when he had made a few blows at tree he struck himself in the leg, so that he had to be carried home.

Then Dummling said: 'Father, do let me go and cut wood.' The father wered: 'Your brothers have hurt themselves with it, leave it alone, you

cinder-cake and sour beer; if that pleases you, we will sit down and
So they sat down, and when Dummling pulled out his cinder-cake, it
fine sweet cake, and the sour beer had become good wine. So they at
drank, and after that the little man said: 'Since you have a good hear
are willing to divide what you have, I will give you good luck. There s
an old tree, cut it down, and you will find something at the roots.' Th
little man took leave of him.

Dummling went and cut down the tree, and when it fell there was a
sitting in the roots with feathers of pure gold. He lifted her up, and
her with him, went to an inn where he thought he would stay the night
the host had three daughters, who saw the goose and were curious to
what such a wonderful bird might be, and would have liked to have
its golden feathers.

The eldest thought: 'I shall soon find an opportunity of pulling
feather,' and as soon as Dummling had gone out she seized the goose
wing, but her finger and hand remained sticking fast to it.

The second came soon afterwards, thinking only of how she might
feather for herself, but she had scarcely touched her sister than she wa
fast.

At last the third also came with the like intent, and the others scre
out: 'Keep away; for goodness' sake keep away!' But she did not under
why she was to keep away. 'The others are there,' she thought, 'I may a
be there too,' and ran to them; but as soon as she had touched her
she remained sticking fast to her. So they had to spend the night wi
goose.

The next morning Dummling took the goose under his arm and se
without troubling himself about the three girls who were hanging on
They were obliged to run after him continually, now left, now right, wh
his legs took him.

ay!' and running after him he took him by the sleeve, but was also held
to it.

Whilst the five were trotting thus one behind the other, two labourers
e with their hoes from the fields; the parson called out to them and
ged that they would set him and the sexton free. But they had scarcely
ched the sexton when they were held fast, and now there were seven of
m running behind Dummling and the goose.

Soon afterwards he came to a city, where a king ruled who had a daughter
was so serious that no one could make her laugh. So he had put forth a
ree that whosoever should be able to make her laugh should marry her.
en Dummling heard this, he went with his goose and all her train before
king's daughter, and as soon as she saw the seven people running on
on, one behind the other, she began to laugh quite loudly, and as if
would never stop. Thereupon Dummling asked to have her for his wife;
the king did not like the son-in- law, and made all manner of excuses
said he must first produce a man who could drink a cellarful of wine.
mmling thought of the little grey man, who could certainly help him; so
went into the forest, and in the same place where he had felled the tree,
saw a man sitting, who had a very sorrowful face. Dummling asked him
t he was taking to heart so sorely, and he answered: 'I have such a great
st and cannot quench it; cold water I cannot stand, a barrel of wine I
e just emptied, but that to me is like a drop on a hot stone!'

'There, I can help you,' said Dummling, 'just come with me and you shall
satisfied.'

He led him into the king's cellar, and the man bent over the huge barrels,
drank and drank till his loins hurt, and before the day was out he had
tied all the barrels. Then Dummling asked once more for his bride,
the king was vexed that such an ugly fellow, whom everyone called
mmling, should take away his daughter, and he made a new condition; he

of bread to be baked. The man from the forest stood before it, beg
eat, and by the end of one day the whole mountain had vanished.
Dummling for the third time asked for his bride; but the king again s
a way out, and ordered a ship which could sail on land and on wate
soon as you come sailing back in it,' said he, 'you shall have my daugh
wife.'

Dummling went straight into the forest, and there sat the little gre
to whom he had given his cake. When he heard what Dummling w
he said: 'Since you have given me to eat and to drink, I will give yo
ship; and I do all this because you once were kind to me.' Then he gav
the ship which could sail on land and water, and when the king saw
he could no longer prevent him from having his daughter. The weddin
celebrated, and after the king's death, Dummling inherited his kingdo
lived for a long time contentedly with his wife.

HE WATER OF LIFE

g before you or I were born, there reigned, in a country a great way off, ng who had three sons. This king once fell very ill–so ill that nobody ught he could live. His sons were very much grieved at their father's ness; and as they were walking together very mournfully in the garden of palace, a little old man met them and asked what was the matter. They l him that their father was very ill, and that they were afraid nothing ld save him. 'I know what would,' said the little old man; 'it is the Water Life. If he could have a draught of it he would be well again; but it is hard to get.' Then the eldest son said, 'I will soon find it': and he t to the sick king, and begged that he might go in search of the Water Life, as it was the only thing that could save him. 'No,' said the king. 'I rather die than place you in such great danger as you must meet with our journey.' But he begged so hard that the king let him go; and the nce thought to himself, 'If I bring my father this water, he will make me heir to his kingdom.'

Then he set out: and when he had gone on his way some time he came deep valley, overhung with rocks and woods; and as he looked around, saw standing above him on one of the rocks a little ugly dwarf, with ugarloaf cap and a scarlet cloak; and the dwarf called to him and said, nce, whither so fast?' 'What is that to thee, you ugly imp?' said the nce haughtily, and rode on.

But the dwarf was enraged at his behaviour, and laid a fairy spell of ill-

till at last the second son said, 'Father, I will go in search of the Water o
For he thought to himself, 'My brother is surely dead, and the kingdo
fall to me if I find the water.' The king was at first very unwilling to l
go, but at last yielded to his wish. So he set out and followed the sam
which his brother had done, and met with the same elf, who stopped h
the same spot in the mountains, saying, as before, 'Prince, prince, w
so fast?' 'Mind your own affairs, busybody!' said the prince scornfull
rode on.

But the dwarf put the same spell upon him as he put on his elder br
and he, too, was at last obliged to take up his abode in the heart
mountains. Thus it is with proud silly people, who think themselves
everyone else, and are too proud to ask or take advice.

When the second prince had thus been gone a long time, the younge
said he would go and search for the Water of Life, and trusted he shoul
be able to make his father well again. So he set out, and the dwarf me
too at the same spot in the valley, among the mountains, and said, 'P
whither so fast?' And the prince said, 'I am going in search of the Wa
Life, because my father is ill, and like to die: can you help me? Pray be
and aid me if you can!' 'Do you know where it is to be found?' asked
dwarf. 'No,' said the prince, 'I do not. Pray tell me if you know.' 'Th
you have spoken to me kindly, and are wise enough to seek for advice,
tell you how and where to go. The water you seek springs from a well
enchanted castle; and, that you may be able to reach it in safety, I wi
you an iron wand and two little loaves of bread; strike the iron door
castle three times with the wand, and it will open: two hungry lions w
lying down inside gaping for their prey, but if you throw them the bread
will let you pass; then hasten on to the well, and take some of the Wa
Life before the clock strikes twelve; for if you tarry longer the door wil
upon you for ever.'

y sat upon a couch; and she welcomed him joyfully, and said, if he would her free from the spell that bound her, the kingdom should be his, if he ld come back in a year and marry her. Then she told him that the well t held the Water of Life was in the palace gardens; and bade him make te, and draw what he wanted before the clock struck twelve.

He walked on; and as he walked through beautiful gardens he came to a ghtful shady spot in which stood a couch; and he thought to himself, as he tired, that he would rest himself for a while, and gaze on the lovely scenes und him. So he laid himself down, and sleep fell upon him unawares, so t he did not wake up till the clock was striking a quarter to twelve. Then sprang from the couch dreadfully frightened, ran to the well, filled a cup t was standing by him full of water, and hastened to get away in time. t as he was going out of the iron door it struck twelve, and the door fell quickly upon him that it snapped off a piece of his heel.

When he found himself safe, he was overjoyed to think that he had got Water of Life; and as he was going on his way homewards, he passed by little dwarf, who, when he saw the sword and the loaf, said, 'You have de a noble prize; with the sword you can at a blow slay whole armies, and bread will never fail you.' Then the prince thought to himself, 'I cannot home to my father without my brothers'; so he said, 'My dear friend, not you tell me where my two brothers are, who set out in search of the ter of Life before me, and never came back?' 'I have shut them up by harm between two mountains,' said the dwarf, 'because they were proud ill-behaved, and scorned to ask advice.' The prince begged so hard for brothers, that the dwarf at last set them free, though unwillingly, saying, ware of them, for they have bad hearts.' Their brother, however, was atly rejoiced to see them, and told them all that had happened to him; he had found the Water of Life, and had taken a cup full of it; and how had set a beautiful princess free from a spell that bound her; and how she

When they came to the sea, they got into a ship and during their v
the two eldest said to themselves, 'Our brother has got the water whi
could not find, therefore our father will forsake us and give him the kin
which is our right'; so they were full of envy and revenge, and agreed to
how they could ruin him. Then they waited till he was fast asleep, and p
the Water of Life out of the cup, and took it for themselves, giving him
sea-water instead.

When they came to their journey's end, the youngest son broug
cup to the sick king, that he might drink and be healed. Scarcely, ho
had he tasted the bitter sea-water when he became worse even than h
before; and then both the elder sons came in, and blamed the younge
what they had done; and said that he wanted to poison their fathe
that they had found the Water of Life, and had brought it with ther
no sooner began to drink of what they brought him, than he felt his si
leave him, and was as strong and well as in his younger days. Then they
to their brother, and laughed at him, and said, 'Well, brother, you fou
Water of Life, did you? You have had the trouble and we shall ha
reward. Pray, with all your cleverness, why did not you manage to kee
eyes open? Next year one of us will take away your beautiful princess,
do not take care. You had better say nothing about this to our fath
he does not believe a word you say; and if you tell tales, you shall los
life into the bargain: but be quiet, and we will let you off.'

The old king was still very angry with his youngest son, and though
he really meant to have taken away his life; so he called his court tog
and asked what should be done, and all agreed that he ought to be
death. The prince knew nothing of what was going on, till one day,
the king's chief huntsmen went a-hunting with him, and they were al
the wood together, the huntsman looked so sorrowful that the prince
'My friend, what is the matter with you?' 'I cannot and dare not tel

gifts of gold and precious stones for his youngest son; now all these were
from the three kings to whom he had lent his sword and loaf of bread,
rder to rid them of their enemy and feed their people. This touched the
king's heart, and he thought his son might still be guiltless, and said to
court, 'O that my son were still alive! how it grieves me that I had him
ed!' 'He is still alive,' said the huntsman; 'and I am glad that I had pity
him, but let him go in peace, and brought home his royal coat.' At this
king was overwhelmed with joy, and made it known thoughout all his
gdom, that if his son would come back to his court he would forgive him.
Meanwhile the princess was eagerly waiting till her deliverer should come
k; and had a road made leading up to her palace all of shining gold; and
her courtiers that whoever came on horseback, and rode straight up to
gate upon it, was her true lover; and that they must let him in: but
ever rode on one side of it, they must be sure was not the right one; and
t they must send him away at once.

The time soon came, when the eldest brother thought that he would make
te to go to the princess, and say that he was the one who had set her free,
that he should have her for his wife, and the kingdom with her. As he
e before the palace and saw the golden road, he stopped to look at it,
he thought to himself, 'It is a pity to ride upon this beautiful road'; so
urned aside and rode on the right-hand side of it. But when he came to
gate, the guards, who had seen the road he took, said to him, he could
be what he said he was, and must go about his business.

The second prince set out soon afterwards on the same errand; and when
ame to the golden road, and his horse had set one foot upon it, he stopped
ook at it, and thought it very beautiful, and said to himself, 'What a pity
that anything should tread here!' Then he too turned aside and rode on
left side of it. But when he came to the gate the guards said he was not
true prince, and that he too must go away about his business; and away

having forgiven him, and of his wish to have him home again: so, befo
wedding with the princess, he went to visit his father, taking her witl
Then he told him everything; how his brothers had cheated and robbe
and yet that he had borne all those wrongs for the love of his father
the old king was very angry, and wanted to punish his wicked sons; bu
made their escape, and got into a ship and sailed away over the wic
and where they went to nobody knew and nobody cared.

And now the old king gathered together his court, and asked a
kingdom to come and celebrate the wedding of his son and the princess
young and old, noble and squire, gentle and simple, came at once c
summons; and among the rest came the friendly dwarf, with the sug
hat, and a new scarlet cloak.

And the wedding was held, and the merry bells run.
And all the good people they danced and they sung,
And feasted and frolick'd I can't tell how long.

HE TWELVE HUNTSMEN

ere was once a king's son who had a bride whom he loved very much. And en he was sitting beside her and very happy, news came that his father sick unto death, and desired to see him once again before his end. Then said to his beloved: 'I must now go and leave you, I give you a ring as emembrance of me. When I am king, I will return and fetch you.' So rode away, and when he reached his father, the latter was dangerously and near his death. He said to him: 'Dear son, I wished to see you once in before my end, promise me to marry as I wish,' and he named a certain g's daughter who was to be his wife. The son was in such trouble that he not think what he was doing, and said: 'Yes, dear father, your will shall done,' and thereupon the king shut his eyes, and died.

When therefore the son had been proclaimed king, and the time of mourn- was over, he was forced to keep the promise which he had given his father, caused the king's daughter to be asked in marriage, and she was promised im. His first betrothed heard of this, and fretted so much about his faith- ess that she nearly died. Then her father said to her: 'Dearest child, why you so sad? You shall have whatsoever you will.' She thought for a ment and said: 'Dear father, I wish for eleven girls exactly like myself in , figure, and size.' The father said: 'If it be possible, your desire shall fulfilled,' and he caused a search to be made in his whole kingdom, until en young maidens were found who exactly resembled his daughter in face, re, and size.

The king, however, had a lion which was a wondrous animal, for he
all concealed and secret things. It came to pass that one evening h
to the king: 'You think you have twelve huntsmen?' 'Yes,' said the
'they are twelve huntsmen.' The lion continued: 'You are mistaken, th
twelve girls.' The king said: 'That cannot be true! How will you prov
to me?' 'Oh, just let some peas be strewn in the ante-chamber,' ans
the lion, 'and then you will soon see. Men have a firm step, and wher
walk over peas none of them stir, but girls trip and skip, and drag thei
and the peas roll about.' The king was well pleased with the counse
caused the peas to be strewn.

There was, however, a servant of the king's who favoured the hunt
and when he heard that they were going to be put to this test he w
them and repeated everything, and said: 'The lion wants to make th
believe that you are girls.' Then the king's daughter thanked him, an
to her maidens: 'Show some strength, and step firmly on the peas.' S
morning when the king had the twelve huntsmen called before him, an
came into the ante-chamber where the peas were lying, they stepped so
on them, and had such a strong, sure walk, that not one of the peas
rolled or stirred. Then they went away again, and the king said to th
'You have lied to me, they walk just like men.' The lion said: 'They hav
informed that they were going to be put to the test, and have assumed
strength. Just let twelve spinning-wheels be brought into the ante- cha
and they will go to them and be pleased with them, and that is what n
would do.' The king liked the advice, and had the spinning-wheels pla
the ante-chamber.

But the servant, who was well disposed to the huntsmen, went to
and disclosed the project. So when they were alone the king's daughte
to her eleven girls: 'Show some constraint, and do not look round
spinning-wheels.' And next morning when the king had his twelve hun

ken, and she fell fainting to the ground. The king thought something had
pened to his dear huntsman, ran up to him, wanted to help him, and drew
glove off. Then he saw the ring which he had given to his first bride, and
n he looked in her face he recognized her. Then his heart was so touched
t he kissed her, and when she opened her eyes he said: 'You are mine, and
n yours, and no one in the world can alter that.' He sent a messenger to
other bride, and entreated her to return to her own kingdom, for he had
ife already, and someone who had just found an old key did not require
ew one. Thereupon the wedding was celebrated, and the lion was again
en into favour, because, after all, he had told the truth.

HE KING OF THE
OLDEN MOUNTAIN

ere was once a merchant who had only one child, a son, that was very ng, and barely able to run alone. He had two richly laden ships then king a voyage upon the seas, in which he had embarked all his wealth, in hope of making great gains, when the news came that both were lost. s from being a rich man he became all at once so very poor that nothing left to him but one small plot of land; and there he often went in an ning to take his walk, and ease his mind of a little of his trouble.

One day, as he was roaming along in a brown study, thinking with no at comfort on what he had been and what he now was, and was like to be, on a sudden there stood before him a little, rough-looking, black dwarf. thee, friend, why so sorrowful?' said he to the merchant; 'what is it you e so deeply to heart?' 'If you would do me any good I would willingly tell ,' said the merchant. 'Who knows but I may?' said the little man: 'tell what ails you, and perhaps you will find I may be of some use.' Then the rchant told him how all his wealth was gone to the bottom of the sea, and he had nothing left but that little plot of land. 'Oh, trouble not yourself ut that,' said the dwarf; 'only undertake to bring me here, twelve years ce, whatever meets you first on your going home, and I will give you as ch as you please.' The merchant thought this was no great thing to ask; t it would most likely be his dog or his cat, or something of that sort,

About a month afterwards he went upstairs into a lumber-room t
for some old iron, that he might sell it and raise a little money; and
instead of his iron, he saw a large pile of gold lying on the floor. At the
of this he was overjoyed, and forgetting all about his son, went into
again, and became a richer merchant than before.

Meantime little Heinel grew up, and as the end of the twelve years
near the merchant began to call to mind his bond, and became very sa
thoughtful; so that care and sorrow were written upon his face. The bo
day asked what was the matter, but his father would not tell for some
at last, however, he said that he had, without knowing it, sold him fo
to a little, ugly-looking, black dwarf, and that the twelve years were c
round when he must keep his word. Then Heinel said, 'Father, give yo
very little trouble about that; I shall be too much for the little man.'

When the time came, the father and son went out together to the
agreed upon: and the son drew a circle on the ground, and set himse
his father in the middle of it. The little black dwarf soon came, and w
round and round about the circle, but could not find any way to ge
it, and he either could not, or dared not, jump over it. At last the bo
to him. 'Have you anything to say to us, my friend, or what do you w
Now Heinel had found a friend in a good fairy, that was fond of hin
had told him what to do; for this fairy knew what good luck was in sto
him. 'Have you brought me what you said you would?' said the dwarf
merchant. The old man held his tongue, but Heinel said again, 'Wh
you want here?' The dwarf said, 'I come to talk with your father, no
you.' 'You have cheated and taken in my father,' said the son; 'pra
him up his bond at once.' 'Fair and softly,' said the little old man; 'r
right; I have paid my money, and your father has had it, and spent it;
so good as to let me have what I paid it for.' 'You must have my co
to that first,' said Heinel, 'so please to step in here, and let us talk it

ner should push him off with his own hand, and that he should thus be adrift, and left to the bad or good luck of wind and weather. Then he k leave of his father, and set himself in the boat, but before it got far off ave struck it, and it fell with one side low in the water, so the merchant ught that poor Heinel was lost, and went home very sorrowful, while the arf went his way, thinking that at any rate he had had his revenge.

The boat, however, did not sink, for the good fairy took care of her friend, soon raised the boat up again, and it went safely on. The young man sat within, till at length it ran ashore upon an unknown land. As he jumped n the shore he saw before him a beautiful castle but empty and dreary hin, for it was enchanted. 'Here,' said he to himself, 'must I find the e the good fairy told me of.' So he once more searched the whole palace ough, till at last he found a white snake, lying coiled up on a cushion in of the chambers.

Now the white snake was an enchanted princess; and she was very glad see him, and said, 'Are you at last come to set me free? Twelve long rs have I waited here for the fairy to bring you hither as she promised, for alone can save me. This night twelve men will come: their faces will be ck, and they will be dressed in chain armour. They will ask what you do e, but give no answer; and let them do what they will–beat, whip, pinch, k, or torment you–bear all; only speak not a word, and at twelve o'clock y must go away. The second night twelve others will come: and the third nt twenty-four, who will even cut off your head; but at the twelfth hour of t night their power is gone, and I shall be free, and will come and bring the Water of Life, and will wash you with it, and bring you back to life health.' And all came to pass as she had said; Heinel bore all, and spoke a word; and the third night the princess came, and fell on his neck and ed him. Joy and gladness burst forth throughout the castle, the wedding celebrated, and he was crowned king of the Golden Mountain.

lived.

Heinel found himself at the gates in a moment; but the guards not let him go in, because he was so strangely clad. So he went u neighbouring hill, where a shepherd dwelt, and borrowed his old froc thus passed unknown into the town. When he came to his father's he said he was his son; but the merchant would not believe him, an he had had but one son, his poor Heinel, who he knew was long since and as he was only dressed like a poor shepherd, he would not even giv anything to eat. The king, however, still vowed that he was his so said, 'Is there no mark by which you would know me if I am really you 'Yes,' said his mother, 'our Heinel had a mark like a raspberry on hi arm.' Then he showed them the mark, and they knew that what he ha was true.

He next told them how he was king of the Golden Mountain, an married to a princess, and had a son seven years old. But the merchan 'that can never be true; he must be a fine king truly who travels abo shepherd's frock!' At this the son was vexed; and forgetting his word, t his ring, and wished for his queen and son. In an instant they stood him; but the queen wept, and said he had broken his word, and ba would follow. He did all he could to soothe her, and she at last seemed appeased; but she was not so in truth, and was only thinking how she punish him.

One day he took her to walk with him out of the town, and show the spot where the boat was set adrift upon the wide waters. Then himself down, and said, 'I am very much tired; sit by me, I will rest m in your lap, and sleep a while.' As soon as he had fallen asleep, ho she drew the ring from his finger, and crept softly away, and wished and her son at home in their kingdom. And when he awoke he found h alone, and saw that the ring was gone from his finger. 'I can never g

n he might know how to set a value upon them. Then they gave him the
k, and he wished himself a fly, and in a moment he was a fly. 'The cloak
ery well,' said he: 'now give me the sword.' 'No,' said they; 'not unless
undertake not to say, "Heads off!" for if you do we are all dead men.'
hey gave it him, charging him to try it on a tree. He next asked for the
ts also; and the moment he had all three in his power, he wished himself
he Golden Mountain; and there he was at once. So the giants were left
ind with no goods to share or quarrel about.

As Heinel came near his castle he heard the sound of merry music; and the
ple around told him that his queen was about to marry another husband.
en he threw his cloak around him, and passed through the castle hall, and
ced himself by the side of the queen, where no one saw him. But when
thing to eat was put upon her plate, he took it away and ate it himself;
when a glass of wine was handed to her, he took it and drank it; and
s, though they kept on giving her meat and drink, her plate and cup were
ays empty.

Upon this, fear and remorse came over her, and she went into her chamber
e, and sat there weeping; and he followed her there. 'Alas!' said she to
self, 'was I not once set free? Why then does this enchantment still seem
ind me?'

'False and fickle one!' said he. 'One indeed came who set thee free, and
s now near thee again; but how have you used him? Ought he to have had
n treatment from thee?' Then he went out and sent away the company,
said the wedding was at an end, for that he was come back to the
gdom. But the princes, peers, and great men mocked at him. However,
would enter into no parley with them, but only asked them if they would
n peace or not. Then they turned upon him and tried to seize him; but he
w his sword. 'Heads Off!' cried he; and with the word the traitors' heads
before him, and Heinel was once more king of the Golden Mountain.

OCTOR KNOWALL

ere was once upon a time a poor peasant called Crabb, who drove with oxen a load of wood to the town, and sold it to a doctor for two talers. en the money was being counted out to him, it so happened that the tor was sitting at table, and when the peasant saw how well he ate and nk, his heart desired what he saw, and would willingly have been a doctor So he remained standing a while, and at length inquired if he too could be a doctor. 'Oh, yes,' said the doctor, 'that is soon managed.' 'What st I do?' asked the peasant. 'In the first place buy yourself an A B C k of the kind which has a cock on the frontispiece; in the second, turn r cart and your two oxen into money, and get yourself some clothes, and atsoever else pertains to medicine; thirdly, have a sign painted for yourself n the words: "I am Doctor Knowall," and have that nailed up above your se-door.' The peasant did everything that he had been told to do. When had doctored people awhile, but not long, a rich and great lord had some ney stolen. Then he was told about Doctor Knowall who lived in such such a village, and must know what had become of the money. So the l had the horses harnessed to his carriage, drove out to the village, and ed Crabb if he were Doctor Knowall. Yes, he was, he said. Then he was go with him and bring back the stolen money. 'Oh, yes, but Grete, my e, must go too.' The lord was willing, and let both of them have a seat he carriage, and they all drove away together. When they came to the leman's castle, the table was spread, and Crabb was told to sit down and

and he got out as fast as he could. The third fared no better, for the p
again said: 'Grete, that is the third.' The fourth had to carry in a dis
was covered, and the lord told the doctor that he was to show his ski
guess what was beneath the cover. Actually, there were crabs. The
looked at the dish, had no idea what to say, and cried: 'Ah, poor C
When the lord heard that, he cried: 'There! he knows it; he must also
who has the money!'

On this the servants looked terribly uneasy, and made a sign to the
that they wished him to step outside for a moment. When therefore h
out, all four of them confessed to him that they had stolen the mone
said that they would willingly restore it and give him a heavy sum in
bargain, if he would not denounce them, for if he did they would be h
They led him to the spot where the money was concealed. With th
doctor was satisfied, and returned to the hall, sat down to the tabl
said: 'My lord, now will I search in my book where the gold is hidden
fifth servant, however, crept into the stove to hear if the doctor kne
more. But the doctor sat still and opened his A B C book, turned the
backwards and forwards, and looked for the cock. As he could not
immediately he said: 'I know you are there, so you had better com
Then the fellow in the stove thought that the doctor meant him, a
of terror, sprang out, crying: 'That man knows everything!' Then
Knowall showed the lord where the money was, but did not say wh
stolen it, and received from both sides much money in reward, and b
a renowned man.

HE SEVEN RAVENS

ere was once a man who had seven sons, and last of all one daughter. hough the little girl was very pretty, she was so weak and small that they ught she could not live; but they said she should at once be christened. So the father sent one of his sons in haste to the spring to get some water, the other six ran with him. Each wanted to be first at drawing the water, so they were in such a hurry that all let their pitchers fall into the well, they stood very foolishly looking at one another, and did not know what lo, for none dared go home. In the meantime the father was uneasy, and ld not tell what made the young men stay so long. 'Surely,' said he, 'the ole seven must have forgotten themselves over some game of play'; and en he had waited still longer and they yet did not come, he flew into a e and wished them all turned into ravens. Scarcely had he spoken these ds when he heard a croaking over his head, and looked up and saw seven ens as black as coal flying round and round. Sorry as he was to see his n so fulfilled, he did not know how what was done could be undone, and nforted himself as well as he could for the loss of his seven sons with his r little daughter, who soon became stronger and every day more beautiful. For a long time she did not know that she had ever had any brothers; her father and mother took care not to speak of them before her: but day by chance she heard the people about her speak of them. 'Yes,' said y, 'she is beautiful indeed, but still 'tis a pity that her brothers should e been lost for her sake.' Then she was much grieved, and went to her

had given her, a loaf of bread in case she should be hungry, a little pitc
water in case she should be thirsty, and a little stool to rest upon wh
should be weary. Thus she went on and on, and journeyed till she ca
the world's end; then she came to the sun, but the sun looked much t
and fiery; so she ran away quickly to the moon, but the moon was col
chilly, and said, 'I smell flesh and blood this way!' so she took herself
in a hurry and came to the stars, and the stars were friendly and kind t
and each star sat upon his own little stool; but the morning star rose u
gave her a little piece of wood, and said, 'If you have not this little pi
wood, you cannot unlock the castle that stands on the glass-mountai
there your brothers live.' The little girl took the piece of wood, rolled
in a little cloth, and went on again until she came to the glass-mountai
found the door shut. Then she felt for the little piece of wood; but wh
unwrapped the cloth it was not there, and she saw she had lost the
the good stars. What was to be done? She wanted to save her brother
had no key of the castle of the glass-mountain; so this faithful little
took a knife out of her pocket and cut off her little finger, that was ju
size of the piece of wood she had lost, and put it in the door and open

As she went in, a little dwarf came up to her, and said, 'What ar
seeking for?' 'I seek for my brothers, the seven ravens,' answered she.
the dwarf said, 'My masters are not at home; but if you will wait til
come, pray step in.' Now the little dwarf was getting their dinner read
he brought their food upon seven little plates, and their drink in seven
glasses, and set them upon the table, and out of each little plate their
ate a small piece, and out of each little glass she drank a small drop; b
let the ring that she had brought with her fall into the last glass.

On a sudden she heard a fluttering and croaking in the air, and the
said, 'Here come my masters.' When they came in, they wanted to ea
drink, and looked for their little plates and glasses. Then said one aft

e girl heard this (for she stood behind the door all the time and listened),
ran forward, and in an instant all the ravens took their right form again;
all hugged and kissed each other, and went merrily home.

HE WEDDING OF MRS OX

.1 FIRST STORY

ere was once upon a time an old fox with nine tails, who believed that his e was not faithful to him, and wished to put her to the test. He stretched self out under the bench, did not move a limb, and behaved as if he were e dead. Mrs Fox went up to her room, shut herself in, and her maid, s Cat, sat by the fire, and did the cooking. When it became known that old fox was dead, suitors presented themselves. The maid heard someone nding at the house- door, knocking. She went and opened it, and it was oung fox, who said:

'What may you be about, Miss Cat?
Do you sleep or do you wake?'

She answered:

'I am not sleeping, I am waking,
Would you know what I am making?
I am boiling warm beer with butter,
Will you be my guest for supper?'

The cat goes up the stairs trip, trap,
The door she knocks at tap, tap, tap,
'Mistress Fox, are you inside?'
'Oh, yes, my little cat,' she cried.
'A wooer he stands at the door out there.'
'What does he look like, my dear?'

'Has he nine as beautiful tails as the late Mr Fox?' 'Oh, no,' ans the cat, 'he has only one.' 'Then I will not have him.'

Miss Cat went downstairs and sent the wooer away. Soon after there was another knock, and another fox was at the door who wish woo Mrs Fox. He had two tails, but he did not fare better than the After this still more came, each with one tail more than the other, bu were all turned away, until at last one came who had nine tails, like o Fox. When the widow heard that, she said joyfully to the cat:

'Now open the gates and doors all wide,
And carry old Mr Fox outside.'

But just as the wedding was going to be solemnized, old Mr Fox s under the bench, and cudgelled all the rabble, and drove them and M out of the house.

56.2 SECOND STORY

When old Mr Fox was dead, the wolf came as a suitor, and knocked door, and the cat who was servant to Mrs Fox, opened it for him. Th greeted her, and said:

'She sits upstairs in her room,
Bewailing her sorrowful doom,
Bewailing her trouble so sore,
For old Mr Fox is no more.'

The wolf answered:

'If she's in want of a husband now,
Then will it please her to step below?'
The cat runs quickly up the stair,
And lets her tail fly here and there,
Until she comes to the parlour door.
With her five gold rings at the door she knocks:
'Are you within, good Mistress Fox?
If you're in want of a husband now,
Then will it please you to step below?

Mrs Fox asked: 'Has the gentleman red stockings on, and has he a pointed ıth?' 'No,' answered the cat. 'Then he won't do for me.'
When the wolf was gone, came a dog, a stag, a hare, a bear, a lion, all the beasts of the forest, one after the other. But one of the good lities which old Mr Fox had possessed, was always lacking, and the cat continually to send the suitors away. At length came a young fox. Then Fox said: 'Has the gentleman red stockings on, and has a little pointed ıth?' 'Yes,' said the cat, 'he has.' 'Then let him come upstairs,' said Mrs , and ordered the servant to prepare the wedding feast.

'Sweep me the room as clean as you can,
Up with the window, fling out my old man!

HE SALAD

a merry young huntsman was once going briskly along through a wood, re came up a little old woman, and said to him, 'Good day, good day; you n merry enough, but I am hungry and thirsty; do pray give me something at.' The huntsman took pity on her, and put his hand in his pocket and e her what he had. Then he wanted to go his way; but she took hold him, and said, 'Listen, my friend, to what I am going to tell you; I will ard you for your kindness; go your way, and after a little time you will e to a tree where you will see nine birds sitting on a cloak. Shoot into midst of them, and one will fall down dead: the cloak will fall too; take t is a wishing-cloak, and when you wear it you will find yourself at any ce where you may wish to be. Cut open the dead bird, take out its heart keep it, and you will find a piece of gold under your pillow every morning en you rise. It is the bird's heart that will bring you this good luck.'

The huntsman thanked her, and thought to himself, 'If all this does hap-, it will be a fine thing for me.' When he had gone a hundred steps or he heard a screaming and chirping in the branches over him, and looked and saw a flock of birds pulling a cloak with their bills and feet; scream- fighting, and tugging at each other as if each wished to have it himself. ll,' said the huntsman, 'this is wonderful; this happens just as the old man said'; then he shot into the midst of them so that their feathers flew about. Off went the flock chattering away; but one fell down dead, and cloak with it. Then the huntsman did as the old woman told him, cut

one of the windows stood an old woman with a very beautiful young la
her side looking about them. Now the old woman was a witch, and s
the young lady, 'There is a young man coming out of the wood who c
a wonderful prize; we must get it away from him, my dear child, fo
more fit for us than for him. He has a bird's heart that brings a piece c
under his pillow every morning.' Meantime the huntsman came neare
looked at the lady, and said to himself, 'I have been travelling so lon
I should like to go into this castle and rest myself, for I have money e
to pay for anything I want'; but the real reason was, that he wanted
more of the beautiful lady. Then he went into the house, and was wel
kindly; and it was not long before he was so much in love that he th
of nothing else but looking at the lady's eyes, and doing everything th
wished. Then the old woman said, 'Now is the time for getting the
heart.' So the lady stole it away, and he never found any more gold
his pillow, for it lay now under the young lady's, and the old woman
it away every morning; but he was so much in love that he never miss
prize.

'Well,' said the old witch, 'we have got the bird's heart, but n
wishing-cloak yet, and that we must also get.' 'Let us leave him that
the young lady; 'he has already lost his wealth.' Then the witch wa
angry, and said, 'Such a cloak is a very rare and wonderful thing, and I
and will have it.' So she did as the old woman told her, and set herself
window, and looked about the country and seemed very sorrowful; th
huntsman said, 'What makes you so sad?' 'Alas! dear sir,' said she, 'y
lies the granite rock where all the costly diamonds grow, and I want so
to go there, that whenever I think of it I cannot help being sorrowful, fo
can reach it? only the birds and the flies–man cannot.' 'If that's al
grief,' said the huntsman, 'I'll take there with all my heart'; so he dre
under his cloak, and the moment he wished to be on the granite mo

there he sat in great grief and fear, not knowing what to do. Now this
belonged to fierce giants who lived upon it; and as he saw three of them
ding about, he thought to himself, 'I can only save myself by feigning to
asleep'; so he laid himself down as if he were in a sound sleep. When the
nts came up to him, the first pushed him with his foot, and said, 'What
m is this that lies here curled up?' 'Tread upon him and kill him,' said
second. 'It's not worth the trouble,' said the third; 'let him live, he'll go
bing higher up the mountain, and some cloud will come rolling and carry
away.' And they passed on. But the huntsman had heard all they said;
as soon as they were gone, he climbed to the top of the mountain, and
n he had sat there a short time a cloud came rolling around him, and
ght him in a whirlwind and bore him along for some time, till it settled
garden, and he fell quite gently to the ground amongst the greens and
bages.

Then he looked around him, and said, 'I wish I had something to eat, if
I shall be worse off than before; for here I see neither apples nor pears,
any kind of fruits, nothing but vegetables.' At last he thought to himself,
an eat salad, it will refresh and strengthen me.' So he picked out a fine
d and ate of it; but scarcely had he swallowed two bites when he felt
self quite changed, and saw with horror that he was turned into an ass.
vever, he still felt very hungry, and the salad tasted very nice; so he ate on
he came to another kind of salad, and scarcely had he tasted it when he
another change come over him, and soon saw that he was lucky enough
ave found his old shape again.

Then he laid himself down and slept off a little of his weariness; and when
woke the next morning he broke off a head both of the good and the bad
d, and thought to himself, 'This will help me to my fortune again, and
ble me to pay off some folks for their treachery.' So he went away to try
find the castle of his friends; and after wandering about a few days he

longed to taste it, and said, 'Dear countryman, let us just taste it.' 'I
sure,' answered he; 'I have two heads of it with me, and will give you
so he opened his bag and gave them the bad. Then the witch hersel
it into the kitchen to be dressed; and when it was ready she could no
till it was carried up, but took a few leaves immediately and put them
mouth, and scarcely were they swallowed when she lost her own form
ran braying down into the court in the form of an ass. Now the servant
came into the kitchen, and seeing the salad ready, was going to carry
but on the way she too felt a wish to taste it as the old woman had
and ate some leaves; so she also was turned into an ass and ran aft
other, letting the dish with the salad fall on the ground. The messeng
all this time with the beautiful young lady, and as nobody came wi
salad and she longed to taste it, she said, 'I don't know where the sala
be.' Then he thought something must have happened, and said, 'I w
into the kitchen and see.' And as he went he saw two asses in the
running about, and the salad lying on the ground. 'All right!' said he;
two have had their share.' Then he took up the rest of the leaves, laid
on the dish and brought them to the young lady, saying, 'I bring yo
dish myself that you may not wait any longer.' So she ate of it, and li
others ran off into the court braying away.

Then the huntsman washed his face and went into the court tha
might know him. 'Now you shall be paid for your roguery,' said he; an
them all three to a rope and took them along with him till he came to
and knocked at the window. 'What's the matter?' said the miller. '
three tiresome beasts here,' said the other; 'if you will take them, give
food and room, and treat them as I tell you, I will pay you whateve
ask.' 'With all my heart,' said the miller; 'but how shall I treat them?'
the huntsman said, 'Give the old one stripes three times a day and hay
give the next (who was the servant-maid) stripes once a day and hay

; my mother forced me to it, it was against my will, for I always loved very much. Your wishing-cloak hangs up in the closet, and as for the l's heart, I will give it you too.' But he said, 'Keep it, it will be just the e thing, for I mean to make you my wife.' So they were married, and d together very happily till they died.

HE STORY OF THE OUTH WHO WENT FORTH O LEARN WHAT FEAR VAS

ertain father had two sons, the elder of who was smart and sensible, and ld do everything, but the younger was stupid and could neither learn nor erstand anything, and when people saw him they said: 'There's a fellow will give his father some trouble!' When anything had to be done, it always the elder who was forced to do it; but if his father bade him fetch thing when it was late, or in the night-time, and the way led through churchyard, or any other dismal place, he answered: 'Oh, no father, I'll go there, it makes me shudder!' for he was afraid. Or when stories were by the fire at night which made the flesh creep, the listeners sometimes : 'Oh, it makes us shudder!' The younger sat in a corner and listened the rest of them, and could not imagine what they could mean. 'They always saying: "It makes me shudder, it makes me shudder!" It does make me shudder,' thought he. 'That, too, must be an art of which I erstand nothing!'

Now it came to pass that his father said to him one day: 'Hearken to me, fellow in the corner there, you are growing tall and strong, and you too

Soon after this the sexton came to the house on a visit, and the
bewailed his trouble, and told him how his younger son was so backw
every respect that he knew nothing and learnt nothing. 'Just think,' sa
'when I asked him how he was going to earn his bread, he actually w
to learn to shudder.' 'If that be all,' replied the sexton, 'he can lear
with me. Send him to me, and I will soon polish him.' The father wa
to do it, for he thought: 'It will train the boy a little.' The sexton the
took him into his house, and he had to ring the church bell. After a
two, the sexton awoke him at midnight, and bade him arise and go u
the church tower and ring the bell. 'You shall soon learn what shud
is,' thought he, and secretly went there before him; and when the bo
at the top of the tower and turned round, and was just going to tak
of the bell rope, he saw a white figure standing on the stairs opposi
sounding hole. 'Who is there?' cried he, but the figure made no repl
did not move or stir. 'Give an answer,' cried the boy, 'or take yours
you have no business here at night.'

The sexton, however, remained standing motionless that the boy
think he was a ghost. The boy cried a second time: 'What do you
here?–speak if you are an honest fellow, or I will throw you down the
The sexton thought: 'He can't mean to be as bad as his words,' utter
sound and stood as if he were made of stone. Then the boy called t
for the third time, and as that was also to no purpose, he ran agains
and pushed the ghost down the stairs, so that it fell down the ten step
remained lying there in a corner. Thereupon he rang the bell, went
and without saying a word went to bed, and fell asleep. The sexton'
waited a long time for her husband, but he did not come back. At leng
became uneasy, and wakened the boy, and asked: 'Do you know whe
husband is? He climbed up the tower before you did.' 'No, I don't k
replied the boy, 'but someone was standing by the sounding hole on the

l must have put them into your head.' 'Father,' he replied, 'do listen
me. I am quite innocent. He was standing there by night like one intent
doing evil. I did not know who it was, and I entreated him three times
er to speak or to go away.' 'Ah,' said the father, 'I have nothing but
appiness with you. Go out of my sight. I will see you no more.'
'Yes, father, right willingly, wait only until it is day. Then will I go forth
learn how to shudder, and then I shall, at any rate, understand one art
ch will support me.' 'Learn what you will,' spoke the father, 'it is all the
e to me. Here are fifty talers for you. Take these and go into the wide
ld, and tell no one from whence you come, and who is your father, for I
e reason to be ashamed of you.' 'Yes, father, it shall be as you will. If
desire nothing more than that, I can easily keep it in mind.'
When the day dawned, therefore, the boy put his fifty talers into his
ket, and went forth on the great highway, and continually said to himself:
could but shudder! If I could but shudder!' Then a man approached
heard this conversation which the youth was holding with himself, and
n they had walked a little farther to where they could see the gallows, the
said to him: 'Look, there is the tree where seven men have married the
emaker's daughter, and are now learning how to fly. Sit down beneath
and wait till night comes, and you will soon learn how to shudder.' 'If
t is all that is wanted,' answered the youth, 'it is easily done; but if I
n how to shudder as fast as that, you shall have my fifty talers. Just
e back to me early in the morning.' Then the youth went to the gallows,
down beneath it, and waited till evening came. And as he was cold, he
ted himself a fire, but at midnight the wind blew so sharply that in spite
is fire, he could not get warm. And as the wind knocked the hanged men
inst each other, and they moved backwards and forwards, he thought to
self: 'If you shiver below by the fire, how those up above must freeze
suffer!' And as he felt pity for them, he raised the ladder, and climbed

to shudder?' 'No,' answered he, 'how should I know? Those fellows up
did not open their mouths, and were so stupid that they let the few ol
which they had on their bodies get burnt.' Then the man saw that he
not get the fifty talers that day, and went away saying: 'Such a yout
never come my way before.'

The youth likewise went his way, and once more began to mut
himself: 'Ah, if I could but shudder! Ah, if I could but shudder!' A wag
who was striding behind him heard this and asked: 'Who are you?' 'I
know,' answered the youth. Then the waggoner asked: 'From wher
you come?' 'I know not.' 'Who is your father?' 'That I may not tel
'What is it that you are always muttering between your teeth?' 'Ah,' r
the youth, 'I do so wish I could shudder, but no one can teach me
'Enough of your foolish chatter,' said the waggoner. 'Come, go with
will see about a place for you.' The youth went with the waggoner, a
the evening they arrived at an inn where they wished to pass the night.
at the entrance of the parlour the youth again said quite loudly: 'If I
but shudder! If I could but shudder!' The host who heard this, laughe
said: 'If that is your desire, there ought to be a good opportunity fo
here.' 'Ah, be silent,' said the hostess, 'so many prying persons have a
lost their lives, it would be a pity and a shame if such beautiful eyes as
should never see the daylight again.'

But the youth said: 'However difficult it may be, I will learn it. Fo
purpose indeed have I journeyed forth.' He let the host have no rest
the latter told him, that not far from thence stood a haunted castle
anyone could very easily learn what shuddering was, if he would but wa
it for three nights. The king had promised that he who would venture s
have his daughter to wife, and she was the most beautiful maiden th
shone on. Likewise in the castle lay great treasures, which were guard
evil spirits, and these treasures would then be freed, and would make a

en night was drawing near, the youth went up and made himself a bright in one of the rooms, placed the cutting-board and knife beside it, and ed himself by the turning-lathe. 'Ah, if I could but shudder!' said he, 'but all not learn it here either.' Towards midnight he was about to poke his and as he was blowing it, something cried suddenly from one corner: 'Au, u! how cold we are!' 'You fools!' cried he, 'what are you crying about? ou are cold, come and take a seat by the fire and warm yourselves.' And n he had said that, two great black cats came with one tremendous leap sat down on each side of him, and looked savagely at him with their eyes. After a short time, when they had warmed themselves, they said: mrade, shall we have a game of cards?' 'Why not?' he replied, 'but just w me your paws.' Then they stretched out their claws. 'Oh,' said he, at long nails you have! Wait, I must first cut them for you.' Thereupon seized them by the throats, put them on the cutting-board and screwed r feet fast. 'I have looked at your fingers,' said he, 'and my fancy for d-playing has gone,' and he struck them dead and threw them out into water. But when he had made away with these two, and was about to down again by his fire, out from every hole and corner came black cats black dogs with red-hot chains, and more and more of them came until could no longer move, and they yelled horribly, and got on his fire, pulled pieces, and tried to put it out. He watched them for a while quietly, but ast when they were going too far, he seized his cutting-knife, and cried: ay with you, vermin,' and began to cut them down. Some of them ran y, the others he killed, and threw out into the fish-pond. When he came k he fanned the embers of his fire again and warmed himself. And as he s sat, his eyes would keep open no longer, and he felt a desire to sleep. n he looked round and saw a great bed in the corner. 'That is the very g for me,' said he, and got into it. When he was just going to shut his s, however, the bed began to move of its own accord, and went over the

king was astonished, but very glad, and asked how he had fared. 'Ver
indeed,' answered he; 'one night is past, the two others will pass lik
Then he went to the innkeeper, who opened his eyes very wide, and s
never expected to see you alive again! Have you learnt how to shudde
'No,' said he, 'it is all in vain. If someone would but tell me!'

The second night he again went up into the old castle, sat down
fire, and once more began his old song: 'If I could but shudder!'
midnight came, an uproar and noise of tumbling about was heard; a
it was low, but it grew louder and louder. Then it was quiet for a
and at length with a loud scream, half a man came down the chimne
fell before him. 'Hullo!' cried he, 'another half belongs to this. This
enough!' Then the uproar began again, there was a roaring and howlin
the other half fell down likewise. 'Wait,' said he, 'I will just stoke
fire a little for you.' When he had done that and looked round agai
two pieces were joined together, and a hideous man was sitting in his
'That is no part of our bargain,' said the youth, 'the bench is mine.
man wanted to push him away; the youth, however, would not allow
but thrust him off with all his strength, and seated himself again in h
place. Then still more men fell down, one after the other; they brough
dead men's legs and two skulls, and set them up and played at nine-pin
them. The youth also wanted to play and said: 'Listen you, can I join
'Yes, if you have any money.' 'Money enough,' replied he, 'but you
are not quite round.' Then he took the skulls and put them in the lat
turned them till they were round. 'There, now they will roll better!
he. 'Hurrah! now we'll have fun!' He played with them and lost some
money, but when it struck twelve, everything vanished from his sight.
down and quietly fell asleep. Next morning the king came to inquir
him. 'How has it fared with you this time?' asked he. 'I have been p
at nine- pins,' he answered, 'and have lost a couple of farthings.' 'Ha

med his hand and laid it on the dead man's face, but he remained cold.
en he took him out, and sat down by the fire and laid him on his breast
rubbed his arms that the blood might circulate again. As this also did
good, he thought to himself: 'When two people lie in bed together, they
m each other,' and carried him to the bed, covered him over and lay down
him. After a short time the dead man became warm too, and began to
ve. Then said the youth, 'See, little cousin, have I not warmed you?' The
d man, however, got up and cried: 'Now will I strangle you.'
'What!' said he, 'is that the way you thank me? You shall at once go
your coffin again,' and he took him up, threw him into it, and shut the
Then came the six men and carried him away again. 'I cannot manage
hudder,' said he. 'I shall never learn it here as long as I live.'
Then a man entered who was taller than all others, and looked terrible.
was old, however, and had a long white beard. 'You wretch,' cried he,
shall soon learn what it is to shudder, for you shall die.' 'Not so fast,'
ied the youth. 'If I am to die, I shall have to have a say in it.' 'I will soon
e you,' said the fiend. 'Softly, softly, do not talk so big. I am as strong as
are, and perhaps even stronger.' 'We shall see,' said the old man. 'If you
stronger, I will let you go–come, we will try.' Then he led him by dark
sages to a smith's forge, took an axe, and with one blow struck an anvil
the ground. 'I can do better than that,' said the youth, and went to the
er anvil. The old man placed himself near and wanted to look on, and
white beard hung down. Then the youth seized the axe, split the anvil
one blow, and in it caught the old man's beard. 'Now I have you,' said
youth. 'Now it is your turn to die.' Then he seized an iron bar and beat
old man till he moaned and entreated him to stop, when he would give
great riches. The youth drew out the axe and let him go. The old man
him back into the castle, and in a cellar showed him three chests full of
d. 'Of these,' said he, 'one part is for the poor, the other for the king, the

Then the gold was brought up and the wedding celebrated; but how much the young king loved his wife, and however happy he was, he sti always: 'If I could but shudder–if I could but shudder.' And this a angered her. Her waiting-maid said: 'I will find a cure for him; he soon learn what it is to shudder.' She went out to the stream which through the garden, and had a whole bucketful of gudgeons brought t At night when the young king was sleeping, his wife was to draw the c off him and empty the bucket full of cold water with the gudgeons in i him, so that the little fishes would sprawl about him. Then he woke u cried: 'Oh, what makes me shudder so?– what makes me shudder so wife? Ah! now I know what it is to shudder!'

ING GRISLY-BEARD

reat king of a land far away in the East had a daughter who was very utiful, but so proud, and haughty, and conceited, that none of the princes came to ask her in marriage was good enough for her, and she only made rt of them.

Once upon a time the king held a great feast, and asked thither all her ors; and they all sat in a row, ranged according to their rank –kings, and ces, and dukes, and earls, and counts, and barons, and knights. Then princess came in, and as she passed by them she had something spiteful ay to every one. The first was too fat: 'He's as round as a tub,' said she. next was too tall: 'What a maypole!' said she. The next was too short: hat a dumpling!' said she. The fourth was too pale, and she called him llface.' The fifth was too red, so she called him 'Coxcomb.' The sixth was straight enough; so she said he was like a green stick, that had been laid lry over a baker's oven. And thus she had some joke to crack upon every but she laughed more than all at a good king who was there. 'Look at ,' said she; 'his beard is like an old mop; he shall be called Grisly-beard.' he king got the nickname of Grisly-beard.

But the old king was very angry when he saw how his daughter behaved, how she ill-treated all his guests; and he vowed that, willing or unwilling, should marry the first man, be he prince or beggar, that came to the door. Two days after there came by a travelling fiddler, who began to play er the window and beg alms; and when the king heard him, he said, 'Let

came to a great wood. 'Pray,' said she, 'whose is this wood?' 'It belo
King Grisly-beard,' answered he; 'hadst thou taken him, all had been
'Ah! unlucky wretch that I am!' sighed she; 'would that I had marrie
Grisly-beard!' Next they came to some fine meadows. 'Whose are
beautiful green meadows?' said she. 'They belong to King Grisly-
hadst thou taken him, they had all been thine.' 'Ah! unlucky wretch
am!' said she; 'would that I had married King Grisly-beard!'

Then they came to a great city. 'Whose is this noble city?' said s
belongs to King Grisly-beard; hadst thou taken him, it had all been
'Ah! wretch that I am!' sighed she; 'why did I not marry King
beard?' 'That is no business of mine,' said the fiddler: 'why should yo
for another husband? Am not I good enough for you?'

At last they came to a small cottage. 'What a paltry place!' sai
'to whom does that little dirty hole belong?' Then the fiddler said, 'T
your and my house, where we are to live.' 'Where are your servants?'
she. 'What do we want with servants?' said he; 'you must do for y
whatever is to be done. Now make the fire, and put on water and co
supper, for I am very tired.' But the princess knew nothing of makin
and cooking, and the fiddler was forced to help her. When they had e
very scanty meal they went to bed; but the fiddler called her up very
in the morning to clean the house. Thus they lived for two days: and
they had eaten up all there was in the cottage, the man said, 'Wife, we
go on thus, spending money and earning nothing. You must learn to
baskets.' Then he went out and cut willows, and brought them hom
she began to weave; but it made her fingers very sore. 'I see this work
do,' said he: 'try and spin; perhaps you will do that better.' So she sat
and tried to spin; but the threads cut her tender fingers till the bloo
'See now,' said the fiddler, 'you are good for nothing; you can do no
what a bargain I have got! However, I'll try and set up a trade in po

rode his horse against her stall, and broke all her goods into a thousand
ces. Then she began to cry, and knew not what to do. 'Ah! what will
ome of me?' said she; 'what will my husband say?' So she ran home
told him all. 'Who would have thought you would have been so silly,'
l he, 'as to put an earthenware stall in the corner of the market, where
rybody passes? but let us have no more crying; I see you are not fit for
sort of work, so I have been to the king's palace, and asked if they did
want a kitchen-maid; and they say they will take you, and there you will
e plenty to eat.'

Thus the princess became a kitchen-maid, and helped the cook to do all
dirtiest work; but she was allowed to carry home some of the meat that
left, and on this they lived.

She had not been there long before she heard that the king's eldest son
passing by, going to be married; and she went to one of the windows and
ked out. Everything was ready, and all the pomp and brightness of the
rt was there. Then she bitterly grieved for the pride and folly which had
ught her so low. And the servants gave her some of the rich meats, which
put into her basket to take home.

All on a sudden, as she was going out, in came the king's son in golden
hes; and when he saw a beautiful woman at the door, he took her by the
d, and said she should be his partner in the dance; but she trembled for
, for she saw that it was King Grisly-beard, who was making sport of
However, he kept fast hold, and led her in; and the cover of the basket
e off, so that the meats in it fell about. Then everybody laughed and
ed at her; and she was so abashed, that she wished herself a thousand
deep in the earth. She sprang to the door to run away; but on the steps
g Grisly-beard overtook her, and brought her back and said, 'Fear me
I am the fiddler who has lived with you in the hut. I brought you there
ause I really loved you. I am also the soldier that overset your stall. I

RON HANS

ere was once upon a time a king who had a great forest near his palace, of all kinds of wild animals. One day he sent out a huntsman to shoot a roe, but he did not come back. 'Perhaps some accident has befallen ,' said the king, and the next day he sent out two more huntsmen who e to search for him, but they too stayed away. Then on the third day, sent for all his huntsmen, and said: 'Scour the whole forest through, and not give up until you have found all three.' But of these also, none came ne again, none were seen again. From that time forth, no one would any ger venture into the forest, and it lay there in deep stillness and solitude, nothing was seen of it, but sometimes an eagle or a hawk flying over it. s lasted for many years, when an unknown huntsman announced himself he king as seeking a situation, and offered to go into the dangerous forest. king, however, would not give his consent, and said: 'It is not safe in re; I fear it would fare with you no better than with the others, and you ld never come out again.' The huntsman replied: 'Lord, I will venture it ny own risk, of fear I know nothing.'

The huntsman therefore betook himself with his dog to the forest. It was long before the dog fell in with some game on the way, and wanted to sue it; but hardly had the dog run two steps when it stood before a deep l, could go no farther, and a naked arm stretched itself out of the water, ed it, and drew it under. When the huntsman saw that, he went back fetched three men to come with buckets and bale out the water. When

thither and said: 'Give me my ball out.' 'Not till you have opened the
for me,' answered the man. 'No,' said the boy, 'I will not do that; th
has forbidden it,' and ran away. The next day he again went and ask
his ball; the wild man said: 'Open my door,' but the boy would no
the third day the king had ridden out hunting, and the boy went once
and said: 'I cannot open the door even if I wished, for I have not th
Then the wild man said: 'It lies under your mother's pillow, you can
there.' The boy, who wanted to have his ball back, cast all thought
winds, and brought the key. The door opened with difficulty, and th
pinched his fingers. When it was open the wild man stepped out, gav
the golden ball, and hurried away. The boy had become afraid; he
and cried after him: 'Oh, wild man, do not go away, or I shall be be
The wild man turned back, took him up, set him on his shoulder, and
with hasty steps into the forest. When the king came home, he observ
empty cage, and asked the queen how that had happened. She knew n
about it, and sought the key, but it was gone. She called the boy, but
answered. The king sent out people to seek for him in the fields, bu
did not find him. Then he could easily guess what had happened, and
grief reigned in the royal court.

When the wild man had once more reached the dark forest, he to
boy down from his shoulder, and said to him: 'You will never see your
and mother again, but I will keep you with me, for you have set me fre
I have compassion on you. If you do all I bid you, you shall fare we
treasure and gold have I enough, and more than anyone in the worl
made a bed of moss for the boy on which he slept, and the next m
the man took him to a well, and said: 'Behold, the gold well is as
and clear as crystal, you shall sit beside it, and take care that nothin
into it, or it will be polluted. I will come every evening to see if you
obeyed my order.' The boy placed himself by the brink of the well, and

boy was already sitting by the well and watching it. His finger hurt him in and he passed it over his head, and then unhappily a hair fell down the well. He took it quickly out, but it was already quite gilded. Iron ns came, and already knew what had happened. 'You have let a hair fall the well,' said he. 'I will allow you to watch by it once more, but if this pens for the third time then the well is polluted and you can no longer ain with me.'

On the third day, the boy sat by the well, and did not stir his finger, ever much it hurt him. But the time was long to him, and he looked at reflection of his face on the surface of the water. And as he still bent n more and more while he was doing so, and trying to look straight into eyes, his long hair fell down from his shoulders into the water. He raised self up quickly, but the whole of the hair of his head was already golden shone like the sun. You can imagine how terrified the poor boy was! He k his pocket- handkerchief and tied it round his head, in order that the n might not see it. When he came he already knew everything, and said: ke the handkerchief off.' Then the golden hair streamed forth, and let boy excuse himself as he might, it was of no use. 'You have not stood trial and can stay here no longer. Go forth into the world, there you learn what poverty is. But as you have not a bad heart, and as I mean by you, there is one thing I will grant you; if you fall into any difficulty, e to the forest and cry: "Iron Hans," and then I will come and help you. power is great, greater than you think, and I have gold and silver in ndance.'

Then the king's son left the forest, and walked by beaten and unbeaten hs ever onwards until at length he reached a great city. There he looked work, but could find none, and he learnt nothing by which he could help self. At length he went to the palace, and asked if they would take him The people about court did not at all know what use they could make

as that into his service; and that he was to send him away at once. The however, had pity on him, and exchanged him for the gardener's boy.

And now the boy had to plant and water the garden, hoe and di bear the wind and bad weather. Once in summer when he was working in the garden, the day was so warm he took his little cap off that t might cool him. As the sun shone on his hair it glittered and flashed s the rays fell into the bedroom of the king's daughter, and up she spr see what that could be. Then she saw the boy, and cried to him: 'Boy, me a wreath of flowers.' He put his cap on with all haste, and gathere field-flowers and bound them together. When he was ascending the with them, the gardener met him, and said: 'How can you take the daughter a garland of such common flowers? Go quickly, and get an and seek out the prettiest and rarest.' 'Oh, no,' replied the boy, 'th ones have more scent, and will please her better.' When he got in room, the king's daughter said: 'Take your cap off, it is not seemly t it on in my presence.' He again said: 'I may not, I have a sore head. however, caught at his cap and pulled it off, and then his golden hair down on his shoulders, and it was splendid to behold. He wanted t out, but she held him by the arm, and gave him a handful of ducats. these he departed, but he cared nothing for the gold pieces. He took to the gardener, and said: 'I present them to your children, they ca with them.' The following day the king's daughter again called to hi he was to bring her a wreath of field-flowers, and then he went in with instantly snatched at his cap, and wanted to take it away from him, held it fast with both hands. She again gave him a handful of ducats, would not keep them, and gave them to the gardener for playthings children. On the third day things went just the same; she could not cap away from him, and he would not have her money.

Not long afterwards, the country was overrun by war. The king ga

trees. Thereupon the wild man appeared immediately, and said: 'What
you desire?' 'I want a strong steed, for I am going to the wars.' 'That you
ll have, and still more than you ask for.' Then the wild man went back
the forest, and it was not long before a stable-boy came out of it, who
a horse that snorted with its nostrils, and could hardly be restrained, and
ind them followed a great troop of warriors entirely equipped in iron, and
r swords flashed in the sun. The youth made over his three-legged horse
he stable-boy, mounted the other, and rode at the head of the soldiers.
en he got near the battlefield a great part of the king's men had already
en, and little was wanting to make the rest give way. Then the youth
oped thither with his iron soldiers, broke like a hurricane over the enemy,
beat down all who opposed him. They began to flee, but the youth
sued, and never stopped, until there was not a single man left. Instead
eturning to the king, however, he conducted his troop by byways back
he forest, and called forth Iron Hans. 'What do you desire?' asked the
d man. 'Take back your horse and your troops, and give me my three-
ged horse again.' All that he asked was done, and soon he was riding on
three-legged horse. When the king returned to his palace, his daughter
t to meet him, and wished him joy of his victory. 'I am not the one who
ied away the victory,' said he, 'but a strange knight who came to my
stance with his soldiers.' The daughter wanted to hear who the strange
ght was, but the king did not know, and said: 'He followed the enemy,
I did not see him again.' She inquired of the gardener where his boy
, but he smiled, and said: 'He has just come home on his three- legged
se, and the others have been mocking him, and crying: "Here comes our
blety jib back again!" They asked, too: "Under what hedge have you
n lying sleeping all the time?" So he said: "I did the best of all, and it
ld have gone badly without me." And then he was still more ridiculed.'
The king said to his daughter: 'I will proclaim a great feast that shall last

had it he galloped away.

On the second day Iron Hans equipped him as a white knight, and
him a white horse. Again he was the only one who caught the apple, a
did not linger an instant, but galloped off with it. The king grew angr
said: 'That is not allowed; he must appear before me and tell his nam
gave the order that if the knight who caught the apple, should go away
they should pursue him, and if he would not come back willingly, they
to cut him down and stab him.

On the third day, he received from Iron Hans a suit of black armou
a black horse, and again he caught the apple. But when he was ridi
with it, the king's attendants pursued him, and one of them got so nea
that he wounded the youth's leg with the point of his sword. The
nevertheless escaped from them, but his horse leapt so violently th
helmet fell from the youth's head, and they could see that he had g
hair. They rode back and announced this to the king.

The following day the king's daughter asked the gardener about hi
'He is at work in the garden; the queer creature has been at the festiva
and only came home yesterday evening; he has likewise shown my ch
three golden apples which he has won.'

The king had him summoned into his presence, and he came and
had his little cap on his head. But the king's daughter went up to hi
took it off, and then his golden hair fell down over his shoulders, and h
so handsome that all were amazed. 'Are you the knight who came
day to the festival, always in different colours, and who caught the
golden apples?' asked the king. 'Yes,' answered he, 'and here the
are,' and he took them out of his pocket, and returned them to the
'If you desire further proof, you may see the wound which your peopl
me when they followed me. But I am likewise the knight who helped y
your victory over your enemies.' 'If you can perform such deeds as tha

opped, the doors opened, and a stately king came in with a great retinue. went up to the youth, embraced him and said: 'I am Iron Hans, and was enchantment a wild man, but you have set me free; all the treasures which ossess, shall be your property.'

AT-SKIN

ere was once a king, whose queen had hair of the purest gold, and was so utiful that her match was not to be met with on the whole face of the h. But this beautiful queen fell ill, and when she felt that her end drew r she called the king to her and said, 'Promise me that you will never rry again, unless you meet with a wife who is as beautiful as I am, and has golden hair like mine.' Then when the king in his grief promised all asked, she shut her eyes and died. But the king was not to be comforted, for a long time never thought of taking another wife. At last, however, wise men said, 'this will not do; the king must marry again, that we may e a queen.' So messengers were sent far and wide, to seek for a bride beautiful as the late queen. But there was no princess in the world so utiful; and if there had been, still there was not one to be found who had den hair. So the messengers came home, and had had all their trouble for hing.

Now the king had a daughter, who was just as beautiful as her mother, had the same golden hair. And when she was grown up, the king looked her and saw that she was just like this late queen: then he said to his rtiers, 'May I not marry my daughter? She is the very image of my dead e: unless I have her, I shall not find any bride upon the whole earth, and say there must be a queen.' When the courtiers heard this they were cked, and said, 'Heaven forbid that a father should marry his daughter! of so great a sin no good can come.' And his daughter was also shocked,

all the beasts in his kingdom, and to take the finest fur out of their
and thus a mantle of a thousand furs was made.

When all were ready, the king sent them to her; but she got up
night when all were asleep, and took three of her trinkets, a golden r
golden necklace, and a golden brooch, and packed the three dresses–
sun, the moon, and the stars–up in a nutshell, and wrapped herself up
mantle made of all sorts of fur, and besmeared her face and hands with
Then she threw herself upon Heaven for help in her need, and went
and journeyed on the whole night, till at last she came to a large woo
she was very tired, she sat herself down in the hollow of a tree and so
asleep: and there she slept on till it was midday.

Now as the king to whom the wood belonged was hunting in it, hi
came to the tree, and began to snuff about, and run round and round
bark. 'Look sharp!' said the king to the huntsmen, 'and see what s
game lies there.' And the huntsmen went up to the tree, and when they
back again said, 'In the hollow tree there lies a most wonderful beast
as we never saw before; its skin seems to be of a thousand kinds of fu
there it lies fast asleep.' 'See,' said the king, 'if you can catch it alive, a
will take it with us.' So the huntsmen took it up, and the maiden awol
was greatly frightened, and said, 'I am a poor child that has neither
nor mother left; have pity on me and take me with you.' Then they
'Yes, Miss Cat-skin, you will do for the kitchen; you can sweep up the
and do things of that sort.' So they put her into the coach, and too
home to the king's palace. Then they showed her a little corner und
staircase, where no light of day ever peeped in, and said, 'Cat-skin, yo
lie and sleep there.' And she was sent into the kitchen, and made to
wood and water, to blow the fire, pluck the poultry, pick the herbs, s
ashes, and do all the dirty work.

Thus Cat-skin lived for a long time very sorrowfully. 'Ah! pretty pri

nobody knew her, and they thought she could be no less than a king's
ghter. But the king came up to her, and held out his hand and danced
n her; and he thought in his heart, 'I never saw any one half so beautiful.'
When the dance was at an end she curtsied; and when the king looked
nd for her, she was gone, no one knew wither. The guards that stood at
castle gate were called in: but they had seen no one. The truth was, that
had run into her little cabin, pulled off her dress, blackened her face and
ds, put on the fur-skin cloak, and was Cat- skin again. When she went
the kitchen to her work, and began to rake the ashes, the cook said, 'Let
t alone till the morning, and heat the king's soup; I should like to run up
and give a peep: but take care you don't let a hair fall into it, or you
run a chance of never eating again.'

As soon as the cook went away, Cat-skin heated the king's soup, and
sted a slice of bread first, as nicely as ever she could; and when it was
dy, she went and looked in the cabin for her little golden ring, and put
nto the dish in which the soup was. When the dance was over, the king
ered his soup to be brought in; and it pleased him so well, that he thought
had never tasted any so good before. At the bottom he saw a gold ring
g; and as he could not make out how it had got there, he ordered the cook
be sent for. The cook was frightened when he heard the order, and said
Cat-skin, 'You must have let a hair fall into the soup; if it be so, you will
e a good beating.' Then he went before the king, and he asked him who
cooked the soup. 'I did,' answered the cook. But the king said, 'That
ot true; it was better done than you could do it.' Then he answered, 'To
the truth I did not cook it, but Cat-skin did.' 'Then let Cat-skin come
said the king: and when she came he said to her, 'Who are you?' 'I am
oor child,' said she, 'that has lost both father and mother.' 'How came
in my palace?' asked he. 'I am good for nothing,' said she, 'but to be
lion-girl, and to have boots and shoes thrown at my head.' 'But how did

and when the dance began he danced with her. After the dance was
end she managed to slip out, so slyly that the king did not see where sh
gone; but she sprang into her little cabin, and made herself into Ca
again, and went into the kitchen to cook the soup. Whilst the coo
above stairs, she got the golden necklace and dropped it into the soup
it was brought to the king, who ate it, and it pleased him as well as b
so he sent for the cook, who was again forced to tell him that Cat-ski
cooked it. Cat-skin was brought again before the king, but she still tol
that she was only fit to have boots and shoes thrown at her head.

But when the king had ordered a feast to be got ready for the third
it happened just the same as before. 'You must be a witch, Cat- skin
the cook; 'for you always put something into your soup, so that it pleas
king better than mine.' However, he let her go up as before. Then sh
on her dress which sparkled like the stars, and went into the ball-room
and the king danced with her again, and thought she had never lool
beautiful as she did then. So whilst he was dancing with her, he put
ring on her finger without her seeing it, and ordered that the dance s
be kept up a long time. When it was at an end, he would have held he
by the hand, but she slipped away, and sprang so quickly through the
that he lost sight of her: and she ran as fast as she could into her little
under the stairs. But this time she kept away too long, and stayed b
the half-hour; so she had not time to take off her fine dress, and thre
fur mantle over it, and in her haste did not blacken herself all over with
but left one of her fingers white.

Then she ran into the kitchen, and cooked the king's soup; and as
as the cook was gone, she put the golden brooch into the dish. Whe
king got to the bottom, he ordered Cat-skin to be called once more
soon saw the white finger, and the ring that he had put on it whilst
were dancing: so he seized her hand, and kept fast hold of it, and whe

NOW-WHITE AND
OSE-RED

ere was once a poor widow who lived in a lonely cottage. In front of the age was a garden wherein stood two rose-trees, one of which bore white the other red roses. She had two children who were like the two rose- s, and one was called Snow-white, and the other Rose- red. They were as d and happy, as busy and cheerful as ever two children in the world were, Snow-white was more quiet and gentle than Rose-red. Rose-red liked ter to run about in the meadows and fields seeking flowers and catching terflies; but Snow-white sat at home with her mother, and helped her her housework, or read to her when there was nothing to do.

The two children were so fond of one another that they always held each er by the hand when they went out together, and when Snow- white said: will not leave each other,' Rose-red answered: 'Never so long as we live,' their mother would add: 'What one has she must share with the other.' They often ran about the forest alone and gathered red berries, and no sts did them any harm, but came close to them trustfully. The little hare ld eat a cabbage-leaf out of their hands, the roe grazed by their side, the leapt merrily by them, and the birds sat still upon the boughs, and sang atever they knew.

No mishap overtook them; if they had stayed too late in the forest, and t came on, they laid themselves down near one another upon the moss,

Snow-white and Rose-red kept their mother's little cottage so nea
it was a pleasure to look inside it. In the summer Rose-red took care
house, and every morning laid a wreath of flowers by her mother's bed
she awoke, in which was a rose from each tree. In the winter Snow-wh
the fire and hung the kettle on the hob. The kettle was of brass and
like gold, so brightly was it polished. In the evening, when the snow
fell, the mother said: 'Go, Snow- white, and bolt the door,' and ther
sat round the hearth, and the mother took her spectacles and read alou
of a large book, and the two girls listened as they sat and spun. And cl
them lay a lamb upon the floor, and behind them upon a perch sat a
dove with its head hidden beneath its wings.

One evening, as they were thus sitting comfortably together, so
knocked at the door as if he wished to be let in. The mother said: '
Rose-red, open the door, it must be a traveller who is seeking shelter.'
red went and pushed back the bolt, thinking that it was a poor man,
was not; it was a bear that stretched his broad, black head within the

Rose-red screamed and sprang back, the lamb bleated, the dove flut
and Snow-white hid herself behind her mother's bed. But the bear be
speak and said: 'Do not be afraid, I will do you no harm! I am half-f
and only want to warm myself a little beside you.'

'Poor bear,' said the mother, 'lie down by the fire, only take care th
do not burn your coat.' Then she cried: 'Snow-white, Rose- red, com
the bear will do you no harm, he means well.' So they both came ou
by-and-by the lamb and dove came nearer, and were not afraid of him
bear said: 'Here, children, knock the snow out of my coat a little'; s
brought the broom and swept the bear's hide clean; and he stretched h
by the fire and growled contentedly and comfortably. It was not long
they grew quite at home, and played tricks with their clumsy guest.
tugged his hair with their hands, put their feet upon his back and rolle

out, and he trotted across the snow into the forest.

Henceforth the bear came every evening at the same time, laid himself n by the hearth, and let the children amuse themselves with him as much hey liked; and they got so used to him that the doors were never fastened il their black friend had arrived.

When spring had come and all outside was green, the bear said one morn- to Snow-white: 'Now I must go away, and cannot come back for the whole mer.' 'Where are you going, then, dear bear?' asked Snow- white. 'I st go into the forest and guard my treasures from the wicked dwarfs. In winter, when the earth is frozen hard, they are obliged to stay below cannot work their way through; but now, when the sun has thawed and med the earth, they break through it, and come out to pry and steal; what once gets into their hands, and in their caves, does not easily see light again.'

Snow-white was quite sorry at his departure, and as she unbolted the r for him, and the bear was hurrying out, he caught against the bolt and ece of his hairy coat was torn off, and it seemed to Snow-white as if she seen gold shining through it, but she was not sure about it. The bear away quickly, and was soon out of sight behind the trees.

A short time afterwards the mother sent her children into the forest to firewood. There they found a big tree which lay felled on the ground, close by the trunk something was jumping backwards and forwards in grass, but they could not make out what it was. When they came nearer y saw a dwarf with an old withered face and a snow-white beard a yard g. The end of the beard was caught in a crevice of the tree, and the little ow was jumping about like a dog tied to a rope, and did not know what lo.

He glared at the girls with his fiery red eyes and cried: 'Why do you stand re? Can you not come here and help me?' 'What are you up to, little

The children tried very hard, but they could not pull the beard o
was caught too fast. 'I will run and fetch someone,' said Rose-red.
senseless goose!' snarled the dwarf; 'why should you fetch someone?
are already two too many for me; can you not think of something be
'Don't be impatient,' said Snow-white, 'I will help you,' and she pull
scissors out of her pocket, and cut off the end of the beard.

As soon as the dwarf felt himself free he laid hold of a bag whi
amongst the roots of the tree, and which was full of gold, and lifted
grumbling to himself: 'Uncouth people, to cut off a piece of my fine
Bad luck to you!' and then he swung the bag upon his back, and we
without even once looking at the children.

Some time afterwards Snow-white and Rose-red went to catch a d
fish. As they came near the brook they saw something like a large grassh
jumping towards the water, as if it were going to leap in. They ran to
found it was the dwarf. 'Where are you going?' said Rose-red; 'you
don't want to go into the water?' 'I am not such a fool!' cried the
'don't you see that the accursed fish wants to pull me in?' The littl
had been sitting there fishing, and unluckily the wind had tangled
beard with the fishing-line; a moment later a big fish made a bite an
feeble creature had not strength to pull it out; the fish kept the upper
and pulled the dwarf towards him. He held on to all the reeds and r
but it was of little good, for he was forced to follow the movements
fish, and was in urgent danger of being dragged into the water.

The girls came just in time; they held him fast and tried to free his
from the line, but all in vain, beard and line were entangled fast tog
There was nothing to do but to bring out the scissors and cut the
whereby a small part of it was lost. When the dwarf saw that he scre
out: 'Is that civil, you toadstool, to disfigure a man's face? Was it not e
to clip off the end of my beard? Now you have cut off the best part o

y. Immediately they heard a loud, piteous cry. They ran up and saw
n horror that the eagle had seized their old acquaintance the dwarf, and
going to carry him off.

The children, full of pity, at once took tight hold of the little man, and
ed against the eagle so long that at last he let his booty go. As soon as
dwarf had recovered from his first fright he cried with his shrill voice:
uld you not have done it more carefully! You dragged at my brown coat
hat it is all torn and full of holes, you clumsy creatures!' Then he took
a sack full of precious stones, and slipped away again under the rock into
hole. The girls, who by this time were used to his ingratitude, went on
r way and did their business in town.

As they crossed the heath again on their way home they surprised the
rf, who had emptied out his bag of precious stones in a clean spot, and
not thought that anyone would come there so late. The evening sun
ne upon the brilliant stones; they glittered and sparkled with all colours
beautifully that the children stood still and stared at them. 'Why do
stand gaping there?' cried the dwarf, and his ashen- grey face became
per-red with rage. He was still cursing when a loud growling was heard,
a black bear came trotting towards them out of the forest. The dwarf
ang up in a fright, but he could not reach his cave, for the bear was already
e. Then in the dread of his heart he cried: 'Dear Mr Bear, spare me, I
give you all my treasures; look, the beautiful jewels lying there! Grant
my life; what do you want with such a slender little fellow as I? you would
feel me between your teeth. Come, take these two wicked girls, they are
der morsels for you, fat as young quails; for mercy's sake eat them!' The
r took no heed of his words, but gave the wicked creature a single blow
n his paw, and he did not move again.

The girls had run away, but the bear called to them: 'Snow-white and
e-red, do not be afraid; wait, I will come with you.' Then they recognized

her window, and every year bore the most beautiful roses, white and

BOUT THE BROTHERS -RIMM

e Brothers Grimm, Jacob (1785-1863) and Wilhelm (1786-1859), were n in Hanau, near Frankfurt, in the German state of Hesse. Throughout r lives they remained close friends, and both studied law at Marburg Uni- sity. Jacob was a pioneer in the study of German philology, and although helm's work was hampered by poor health the brothers collaborated in creation of a German dictionary, not completed until a century after r deaths. But they were best (and universally) known for the collection ver two hundred folk tales they made from oral sources and published in volumes of 'Nursery and Household Tales' in 1812 and 1814. Although r intention was to preserve such material as part of German cultural literary history, and their collection was first published with scholarly es and no illustration, the tales soon came into the possession of young ders. This was in part due to Edgar Taylor, who made the first English nslation in 1823, selecting about fifty stories 'with the amusement of some ng friends principally in view.' They have been an essential ingredient of dren's reading ever since.