

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

The Giant and the Tailor

From Vienna. Told by a countrywoman from Döbling (now a district of Vienna), this tale was first published by Franz Ziska in Büsching’s ‘Wöchentliche Nachrichten’ (1819) and then in his *Österreichische Volksmärchen* (Vienna 1822, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. 1906). In 1843 it was included in the brothers Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm’s *Children’s and Household Tales [Kinder- und Hausmärchen]* (Vol. I 1812; Vol. II 1815; Vol. III 1822; many editions since then). Variations on the tale are particularly noted in Styria (cf. Peter Rosegger: *Tannenharz und Fichtennadeln*, Graz/Leipzig 1870).

The Wonder Tree

From Lower Austria. This tale is rare in the German folk tradition. It is taken from Theodor Vernaleken’s *Children’s and Household Tales* (Vienna 1864, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. 1892). Further variations are found in Transylvania and Hungary, as well as in Pomerania.

Wagon “Stick On”

From Upper Austria. This adaptation of the tale told by Eisl, a former miner from Bad Goisern in Upper Austria, is taken from Karl Haidinger’s *Österreichs Märchenschatz* (Vienna, 1953). It is a variant of *Golden Goose* in Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm’s *Children’s and Household Tales*. A wagon that ‘goes by itself’ is also part of the South Slavic oral tradition; the North Germanic tradition tells of a self-driving sleigh.

King Aschelein

From Burgenland. This Animal Bridegroom story was first published in Johann Reinhard Bünker’s *Schwänke, Sagen und Märchen in heanzischer Mundart* (Leipzig 1906). It was transcribed in standard German following the dialect of Tobias Kern, a German road sweeper from Sopron in Hungary, who had learnt many old folk tales from his grandfather and friends of his generation. At the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, his home city of Sopron was an important northern settlement area for the so-called “Heanzen” (the German-speaking population of southern and central Burgenland), and until the evacuation of the West Hungarian Germans, it maintained close cultural links with modern Burgenland (especially in terms of folk customs, dialect, songs and nursery rhymes).

The Old Grey Horse

From Styria. This variant of the Tristan-fairytale (a type of the so-called steed tale) is taken from Anton Schlossar’s *Cultur- und Sittenbilder aus Steiermark* (Graz 1885). There are further variants handed down throughout Styria (the Mürz valley, West Styria), as well as in northern Burgenland and Carinthia. It is also related to the story from Paderborn, *Ferdinand the Faithful and Ferdinand the Unfaithful*, in the Grimm’s *Children’s and Household Tales*.

The Lost Ball of Twine

From Carinthia. Taken from Franz Franzisci’s *Culturstudien über Volksleben, Sitten und Bräuche in Kärnten* (Vienna, 1879). Individual elements are reminiscent of *Mother Holle* in the Brothers Grimm’s *Children’s and Household Tales*. Further variants are known in Lower Austria and Styria for example.

Mill, Mill, Grind for Me!

From Salzburg. Recorded in Salzburg by Helene Haidinger, first published by K. Haller, *Volksmärchen aus Österreich* (Vienna/Stuttgart/Leipzig n.d. [1915]). Variations on this tale are known all over Austria. It is based on a North Germanic legend where the prophetic warrior maidens Fenja and Menja work a magic mill called Grotti. At first it brings happiness and prosperity, but produces such enormous quantities of salt that the ship sinks and makes the sea salty.

The Bear

From Tyrol. First published in Ignaz Vincenz and Joseph Zingerle’s *Kinder- und Hausmärchen aus Süddeutschland*, (Regensburg, 1854). It is a variant of the well-known Hessian tale *The Singing, Springing Lark*, recorded by Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm in the *Children’s and Household Tales*.

The Young Count who Travelled in the Underworld

From Vorarlberg. After Adolf Dörler: *Sagen und Märchen aus Vorarlberg*, Zeitschrift für Österreichische Volkskunde 14 (1908). Further variants are known in Austria (Lower Austria and Burgenland) and Scandinavia.



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