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中英文阅读 一书两用

格林童话 (全译本)

The Complete Fairy Tales of The Brothers Grimm

(德)格林兄弟(Brothers Grimm) 著

英语学习大书虫研究室 译

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导 读

雅科布·格林(1785—1863)和威廉·格林(1786—1859)兄弟,德国著名的语言学家,德国语言学的奠基人。他们搜集和编辑的《德国儿童与家庭童话集》(俗称《格林童话》),自1812年至1815年初版以来,受到了世界各国少年朋友乃至成人读者的喜爱。据载《格林童话》至今已被译成七十余种文字,在世界上广为流传,是世界儿童文学的宝贵财富。

格林兄弟生于美因河畔的哈瑙,父亲是个小官吏。1802年和1803年,兄弟俩先后进入大学,遵照父亲的遗命,攻读法律,但他们的真正兴趣却在德国历史、语言学和民间文学方面。大学毕业后,他们埋头研究历史,在德国浪漫派作家阿尔尼姆和布伦塔诺合编的民歌集《儿童的奇异号角》的启发下,于1806年开始搜集、整理民间童话和古老传说,并于1814年、1815年、1822年陆续出版了三卷本的《德国儿童与家庭童话集》。

与此同时,他们研究了德国语言的历史发展及其规律性,编写了《德语语法》(1819—1837)和《德国语言史》(1848),并从1838年开始编纂《德语字典》,可惜的是还没有编完就先后去世了,但这部著作开创了研究日耳曼语言学的先河,也为德意志民族是一个统一的民族提供了论证。

但真正使格林兄弟享誉世界的还是《格林童话》。据说在德国,除了马丁·路德的德译本《圣经》,这部童话集就是印刷次数和印数最多的出版物了。

《格林童话》经过整理,既保持了民间传说的本来面目,又能不同程度地反映出时代精神。《灰姑娘》叙述勤劳善良的灰姑娘终年辛苦

劳作,却换来继母和两个姐姐的辱骂和虐待。她的不幸遭遇引起了神灵的同情,终于帮助她得到了王子的爱情,摆脱了厄运。《渔夫和他的妻子》讽刺了爱财如命的渔夫的妻子,由于不断向救助的那条鱼索要财物,终于一无所获。《蓝灯》描写一个士兵遭到国王的虐待,后来借助神奇的蓝灯力量,终于向国王复了仇。这些故事都充满了对劳动人民、被压迫者的同情,对封建等级制度、贪欲者的鄙视,在一定程度上反映了作者对社会的不满。

《格林童话》来自民间,带有民间故事的许多优点:通俗、幽默、纯朴。这些故事大多叙事生动,寓意深刻。它们有的歌颂忠诚、勤劳、勇敢、朴素等美德,有的对虚伪、自私、懒惰、邪恶等品质进行嘲讽和谴责。人物形象有鲜明的对比,如美丽善良的白雪公主与恶毒凶残的继母,天真无邪的“小红帽”与嗜人如魔的大灰狼,等等。这些童话不仅反映了日耳曼民族的质朴和情趣,还表现了他们的智慧和幽默。

《格林童话》是一部重要的民间文学遗产,是世界儿童文学中的瑰宝,它不仅是广大青少年读者的良师益友,也是成年人教育下一代不可缺少的借鉴的读物。

愿此书的出版带你进入色彩斑斓、瑰丽奇幻的世界童话之国。

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HANSEL AND GRETEL

亨塞尔与格莱特

At the edge of a big forest there lived a poor woodcutter with his wife and his two children; the little boy's name was Hansel and the girl's was Gretel. He had precious little to fill his belly, and once when there was a bad famine in the land he could no longer even get bread from one day to the next. At night he lay in bed worrying, and he tossed and turned and sighed and said to his wife: 'What's to become of us? How can we feed our poor children when we've nothing left for ourselves?' 'I'll tell you what, husband,' answered his wife. 'Tomorrow first thing we'll take the children into the forest, into the very thick of it—we'll make a fire for them and give them each one more piece of bread, then we'll go about our work and leave them by themselves. They won't find the way back home and we'll be rid of them.' 'No, wife,' said her husband, 'I'll not do that; how could I have the heart to leave my children alone in the forest? The wild beasts would soon come and tear them to pieces.' 'Oh you fool,' she said, 'then all four of us will have to starve; you may as well begin planing the boards for our coffins.' And she would give him no peace till he consented. 'But I'm sorry for the poor children all the same,' said the man.

The two children were so hungry that they hadn't been able to get to sleep either, and had heard what their stepmother had said to their father. Gretel cried bitterly and said to Hansel: 'Now we're done for.' 'Hush, Gretel,' said Hansel, 'don't be sad, I'll soon find a way.' And when their parents had gone to sleep he got up, pulled on his coat, opened the back door

在一座大森林跟前,住着一个贫苦的樵夫和他的妻子,他们有两个孩子,男孩叫亨塞尔,女孩叫格莱特。平时樵夫已缺吃不少,再碰上国内闹饥荒,他就连每天的面包也都弄不回来了。夜里他躺在床上动脑筋,翻来覆去,终于叹了口气,对妻子讲:“咱们可怎么办呢?自己都没一点吃的,又能拿什么来养活咱们可怜的孩子呢?”“听我说,他爹,”妻子回答。“明天一大早,咱们把孩子领到森林中最茂密的地方去——在那儿给他们生一堆火,再给他们每人一块面包,然后咱们就去干自己的活儿,让他们单独留在那里。他们找不到回家的路,这样咱们就省心啦。”“不行啊,老婆,”丈夫说,“这我不能干;我怎能忍心把我的孩子们单独丢在林子里呢?野兽很快会来吃掉他们的。”“哦,你这个傻瓜啊,”妻子说,“不那样,咱们四个全得饿死;你也许该为我们备四口棺材啦。”接着一直闹个没完,最后他只好同意了。“可我还是可怜我这些苦命的孩子,”丈夫说。

两个孩子也饿得睡不着,听见了继母对父亲说的话。格莱特伤心地哭起来,对亨塞尔讲:“这下我俩完啦。”——“别吱声,格莱特,”亨塞尔说,“不要难过,我自有办法。”等他们的父母终于睡着了,他便下床来穿上外套,打开后边的门,溜出房外。月光皎洁,房子外面白色小石子闪闪发

and crept out. There was bright moonlight, and the white pebbles outside the house shone like so many little silver coins. Hansel bent down and filled his coat pockets with as many as would go into them. Then he went in again and said to Gretel: 'Don't worry, little sister, you can go to sleep now, God won't forsake us.' And he got back into bed.

At daybreak, before it was even sunrise, the woman came and woke the two children: 'Get up, you idle brats, we're going into the forest to fetch wood.' Then she gave each of them a piece of bread and said: 'There's something for your lunch, but don't eat it before then because you'll get nothing else.' Gretel put the bread under her apron, because Hansel had the stones in his pockets. Then they all set out together along the path to the forest. When they had been walking for a little, Hansel stopped and looked back towards the house, and he kept on doing this. His father said: 'Hansel, what are you lagging behind for and looking at? Watch what you're doing and get a move on.' 'Oh, father,' said Hansel, 'I'm looking at my white kitten, it's sitting up there on the roof and wants to say goodbye to me.' The woman said: 'You silly boy, that's not your kitten, it's the light of the morning sun on the chimney.' But Hansel hadn't been looking at the kitten; each time he had been throwing one of the shining pebbles in his pocket on to the path.

When they had reached the middle of the forest, their father said: 'Now, you children, gather some wood, I'll make a fire so you won't freeze.' Hansel and Gretel collected firewood and made quite a little pile of it. It was set alight, and when the flames were burning high the woman said: 'Now lie down by the fire, children, and have a rest. We're going into the forest to chop wood. When we're done, we'll

亮,完全就像一块块银币。亨塞尔弯下腰,尽量往外套口袋里塞了一些。随后他回屋对格莱特说:“别担心,妹妹,只管睡觉好了,上帝不会抛弃我们的。”说完,他又回到了床上。

天刚亮,太阳还没出来,继母已经走进来,叫醒两个孩子:“起床啦,你们两个懒虫,咱们这就进林里去拣柴。”说着,她给每个孩子一小块面包,说:“这是你们的午饭。可别提前吃掉啊,因为你们再也甭想得到任何东西。”格莱特接过面包来藏在围裙底下,亨塞尔口袋里已装满石头子。随后他们全体上了路,朝着森林走去。走了一会儿,亨塞尔便停下来,回头瞅瞅自己的家,并且一再反复这么做。父亲说:“亨塞尔,你落在后边看什么哟?当心你脚下。”“唉,爸爸,”亨塞尔回答,“我在看我的白猫,它蹲在屋顶上,想对我说再见。”继母说:“你这个傻孩子,那不是你的小猫,那是早上的太阳照耀在烟囱上。”亨塞尔也并非真在看小猫,而是每次都把亮晃晃的石头子从袋里掏出来扔在路上。

到了密林中,父亲说:“喏,孩子们,去拣些柴来,我给你们生堆火,免得你们冻着。”亨塞尔和格莱特拾来柴禾,堆了不小一堆。柴禾点燃了,火焰升起老高,这时继母就讲:“现在躺在火边去吧,孩子们,好好休息一下,我们去林中砍木头。等活儿干完了,我们再来接你们。”

come back and fetch you.'

Hansel and Gretel sat by the fire, and at mid-day they ate their pieces of bread. And hearing the blows of a woodcutter's axe, they thought their father was nearby. But it wasn't the axe, it was a branch he had tied to a withered tree and the wind was blowing it to and fro. And when they had been sitting and sitting, their eyes dropped shut with weariness and they fell fast asleep. When they finally woke up, it was already pitch dark. Gretel began to cry and said: 'How shall we find the way out of the forest!' But Hansel comforted her: 'Just wait a little till the moon rises, then we'll find the way all right.' And when the full moon had risen, Hansel took his little sister by the hand and followed the pebbles; they glistened like new silver sixpences and showed them the way. They walked all through the night and got back to their father's house at daybreak. They knocked at the door, and when the woman opened it and saw it was Hansel and Gretel she said: 'You naughty children, why did you sleep so long in the forest, we thought you would never come back.' But their father was glad, for he had been heartsore at having left them behind all by themselves.

Not long after that times got very hard again everywhere, and at night the children heard their mother saying to their father in bed: 'Everything's been eaten up again, we've just got half a loaf of bread left and then that'll be the end of the story. The children must go, we'll take them deeper into the forest so they won't be able to find the way out again; it's our only way of saving ourselves.' The man's heart grew heavy and he thought: It would be better to share the last bite with your children. But his wife would not listen to anything he said; she scolded him and reproached him. Take one step

亨塞尔和格莱特于是坐在火边。到了中午,各人吃掉那一小块面包。因为一直听得见樵夫砍树的响声,他们相信自己的父亲就在近旁。哪知那并不是斧子,它是樵夫绑在枯树上的一根树枝,让风一吹便撞来撞去。兄妹俩坐了好久好久,由于疲倦眼皮儿便垂了下来,很快他俩便睡着了。等他们终于醒来,已是漆黑的夜晚。格莱特开始哭道:“这下咱们怎么出得了森林!”亨塞尔却安慰她说:“等一会儿月亮出来了,我们准能找到路。”当一轮满月升起来时,亨塞尔便牵着小妹妹的手,循着那些像新铸的六便士银币似的闪闪发光的石头子儿指的路,向前走去。他俩走了整整一夜,在黎明时又回到了父亲的家。他们敲门,继母开门一见是亨塞尔和格莱特,说:“你们这两个淘气的孩子,怎么在森林中睡这么久?我们还以为你们再也不回来了。”父亲却喜出望外,把两孩子孤零零地丢下,他心中很难受。

不久以后,全国又发生饥荒。一天夜里,孩子们又听见继母在床上对父亲说:“东西全吃光了,就剩下半个面包,再往后便完蛋啦。孩子必须走,咱们可以领他们进更深的密林,叫他们再也走不出来;这是我们唯一自救的办法。”丈夫心情很沉重,暗想:你和你的孩子们分食最后一口面包,不更好么?可是,不管他说什么,老婆都听不进去,还一个劲儿骂他,责备他。迈出第一步,就得迈第二步。既然第一次让了步,就非让第二次不可。

and you must take the next; and because he had given in the first time, he had to do so again.

But the children had been still awake and had heard the conversation. When their parents were asleep, Hansel got up again and tried to get out to collect pebbles like the last time, but the woman had locked the door and Hansel couldn't get out. But he comforted his little sister and said: 'Don't cry, Gretel, just go to sleep, God will help us.'

Early in the morning the woman came and fetched the children out of bed. They were given their pieces of bread, but they were even smaller pieces than before. On the way to the forest Hansel crumbled it in his pocket, and kept stopping to throw a crumb on the ground. 'Hansel, why are you stopping and looking behind you?' said his father. 'Keep on walking.' 'I'm looking back at my little dove. It's sitting on the roof and wants to say goodbye to me,' answered Hansel. 'You silly boy,' said the woman, 'that's not your dove, that's the morning sunlight on the chimney up there.' But little by little Hansel dropped all the crumbs on the path.

The woman led the children still deeper into the forest, to where they had never yet been in their lives. A big fire was lit again, and their mother said: 'Just you sit here and wait, children, and if you're tired you can sleep a little—we're going into the forest to chop wood, and in the evening when we're done we'll come and fetch you.' At midday Gretel shared her bread with Hansel, who had scattered his piece on the path. Then they fell asleep, and the evening passed, but no one came to fetch the poor children. They didn't wake up till it was pitch dark, and Hansel comforted his little sister and said: 'Just wait, Gretel, till the moon rises, then we'll see the breadcrumbs I dropped; they'll show us the way home.' When the moon came they set

可是呢,孩子们仍然醒着,听到了他们的谈话。等他俩睡着了,亨塞尔又爬起来,想像上次一样去外边拣石头子儿;可是继母却把门锁上了,亨塞尔无法出去。他安慰小妹妹说:“别哭,格莱特,乖乖儿睡觉吧,上帝会帮助咱们的。”

大清早,继母就来把孩子们拽下了床。他们每人得到一块儿面包,但比上次的还更小一些。在去森林的路上,亨塞尔把放在衣袋里的面包捏碎,不时停下来把面包屑洒在地上。“亨塞尔,你停下来向后边看什么?”父亲说。“只管走你的路吧。”“我在看我的小鸽子,它站在房顶上,想对我说再见哩,”亨塞尔回答。“你这个傻孩子,”继母叫道,“那不是你的鸽子,那是早上的太阳照耀在烟囱上边。”然而亨塞尔却一点一点地在路上洒完了他的面包屑。

继母把孩子们领进密林更深处,即使他们也从没到过。到了那儿又生起一大堆火,接着继母就说:“好好坐在这儿等着,孩子们,要是困了,你们可以稍睡一会儿——我们去林子里砍木头,傍晚活儿干完了就来接你们。”到了中午,格莱特让亨塞尔分着吃她的面包,因为他的已经洒在路上了。随后,兄妹俩又睡着了。过了半夜,谁也没来接这两个可怜的孩子。等他们醒来,四周已一片漆黑。亨塞尔安慰自己的小妹妹说:“别着急,格莱特!月亮一出来,我们便看得见洒在地上的面包屑;它们会指给我们回家的路。”月亮升起来了,兄妹俩准备动身,可却不见一点面包屑,因为有

out, but they didn't find any breadcrumbs, because all the thousands of birds that fly about in the forest and over the fields had pecked them away and eaten them. Hansel said to Gretel: 'Never mind, we'll find the way,' but they didn't find it. They walked all night and all next day from morning till evening, but they still hadn't got out of the forest, and they were ever so hungry, for they had nothing to eat but the few berries that grew on the ground. They were so tired that their legs wouldn't carry them any further, so they lay down under a tree and fell asleep.

It was the third morning now since they had left their father. They started to walk again, but only got deeper and deeper into the forest, and knew that unless help reached them soon they would die of hunger. When it was midday they saw a lovely snow-white bird sitting on a branch, and it sang so beautifully that they stopped to listen to it. And when it had finished its song, it flapped its wings and flew along in front of them, and they followed it till they came to a little house, where it perched on the roof. And when they came right up to it, they saw that the little house had walls made of bread and a roof made of cake and windows made of clear bright sugar. 'Well, here's something for us,' said Hansel, 'and God bless this food to do us good. I'll eat a slice of the roof, Gretel, and you can start on the window; it'll taste sweet enough.' Hansel reached out and broke off a bit of the roof to try how it tasted, and Gretel stood by the window-panes and nibbled at them. It was then that they heard a thin little voice calling out to them from the parlour:

'Nibble nibble, little rat,

It's my house you're nibbling at.'

The children answered:

'We're the wind, we're the breeze

成千上万只鸟儿在林间和田野上飞来飞去,面包屑全让它们给啄走吃掉啦。亨塞尔对格莱特说:“不要紧,我们肯定能找到路,”可事实上却没找到。他俩走了一个通宵,第二天又从早到晚走了整整一天,可就是走不出森林,他们已经很饿很饿,因为除去地上长的几颗草莓,他们没什么可吃的。同时,他们已疲倦得两腿再也走不动,就倒在一棵树下睡着了。

自从他们离开父亲的家,现在已是第三天早上啦,他们又开始走。却越走越陷入密林深处,要是不能马上得救,他们很快就要饿死了。走到中午,他们突然发现一只雪白漂亮的小鸟站在一棵树丫上,它唱着歌,唱得动听极了,兄妹俩不由得停下来倾听。唱完了,它便振动翅膀,飞到他们面前,他们于是跟着小鸟走去,直到一幢小屋前面,小鸟降落在屋顶上。他俩到跟前才发觉,小屋和墙壁竟是面包做的,屋顶由蛋糕做成,窗户却是明亮的糖块。“好了,这下咱们可有东西吃啦,”亨塞尔说,“上帝赐予我们这种食物,真是太好了。我要吃一块屋顶,格莱特,你可以吃窗户,它准甜。”亨塞尔便举起手掰下一小块屋顶来,尝味道怎么样。格莱特却站在窗框边,一点一点地咬着那糖玻璃。正在这时,他们听到从屋里传出一点细小的噪音:

“哎呀,啃呀,小老鼠

你们在吃我的房子儿。”

孩子们回答:

“是风啊,是风啊,

That plays in the trees'

and just went on steadily eating. Hansel, who was enjoying the roof very much, pulled off a big slab of it, and Gretel bashed out a whole round window-pane and sat down and had a real treat. Then suddenly the door opened and an aged crone, bent double on a crutch, came creeping out. Hansel and Gretel were so scared that they dropped what they had in their hands. But the old woman wagged her head and said: 'Why, you nice little things, how did you get here? Come in and stay with me, you'll come to no harm.' She took them both by the hand and led them into her little house. Then she set a fine meal before them, milk and pancakes with sugar and apples and nuts. Afterwards she made up two lovely little beds with white linen, and Hansel and Gretel lay down in them and thought they must be in heaven.

But the old woman had only been pretending to be kind, for in fact she was an evil witch who lay in wait for children and had only built the little bread house to lure them her way. When a child fell into her power she would kill it, cook it and eat it, and that was a day of feasting for her. Witches have red eyes and can't see far, but they have a keen sense of smell like animals and notice when people come anywhere near. As Hansel and Gretel approached, she laughed a wicked laugh and said mockingly: 'Here's two for me who shan't escape.' Early next morning before the children were awake she was already on her feet, and as she looked down at them sleeping so sweetly, with their full rosy cheeks, she muttered to herself: 'This will make a tasty morsel.' Then she seized Hansel with her horny hand and carried him off to a little shed and locked him up behind a door with iron bars; he screamed his head off but it did him no good. Then she went to Gretel, shook her awake and

它们在树林中穿梭。”

他们边吃边答。亨塞尔觉得屋顶的味道特别美,便扯下一大块来,格莱特也干脆捅出一整扇窗框,坐在地上享用。这当儿,房门突然开了,悄没声儿地走出来一个拄着拐杖的很老的干瘪老太婆。亨塞尔和格莱特一见吓呆了,拿在手里的东西也掉到了地上。老太婆却晃着脑袋开了口:“哎,你们这两个小乖乖,怎么来到这儿的?进屋吧,呆在我这儿不会有事的。”她说着拉住兄妹俩的手,领他们走进小屋。在屋里她端上桌来好吃的东西,牛奶呀,糖饼呀,苹果呀,核桃呀什么的。之后她又给孩子们铺了两张雪白漂亮的小床,亨塞尔和格莱特住上一躺,马上觉得进了天堂。

谁想呢,老太太只是装出一副和善的样子,其实却是个专引诱孩子上当的恶妖婆,她造那糖面包小屋,纯粹为的这个目的。一旦哪个孩子落在她手中,她就杀死他,把他煮来吃掉,而这天便是她的节日。巫婆们生着红红的眼睛,看不远,但嗅觉却灵得跟野兽一样,老远就能发觉有人来了。当亨塞尔和格莱特走近她的时候,她便冷笑一声,狠狠地说:“这俩小东西是我的啦,绝不让他们跑掉。”第二天一早,还不等孩子们醒来,她已起了床,着着俩小人儿睡得那么香甜,脸蛋儿红润,她便嘀咕说:“好一顿美餐呐,”说看便伸出瘦骨嶙峋的手抓住亨塞尔,把他带到一间小厩舍,用铁栅子门把他锁起来。不管他怎么大叫大喊,一点用也没有。随后,老太婆走去把格莱特摇醒,冲她吼道:“起来,懒丫头!去打水来给你哥煮点好吃的,他关在外边的厩舍

shouted: 'Get up, you idle hussy, fetch water and cook something good for your brother, he's sitting out there in the shed and I want him made plump. When he's plump I mean to eat him.' Gretel began to cry bitterly, but it was all in vain and she had to do as the wicked witch told her.

Now the best meals were cooked for poor Hansel, but Gretel got nothing but crabshells. Every morning the old woman crept out to the little shed and shouted: 'Hansel, stick out your finger for me to feel whether you're getting plump.' But Hansel held out a little bone to her, and the old woman, who had weak eyes, couldn't see it and thought it was Hansel's finger, and was amazed that he went on and on not getting plump. When four weeks were up and Hansel was still skinny, she lost patience and refused to wait any longer. 'Now then, Gretel!' she shouted to the little girl, 'look alive and fetch water - tomorrow, whether he's plump or whether he's skinny, I'm going to cut Hansel's throat and cook him.' Oh, how his poor little sister wailed as she was forced to carry the water, and how the tears poured down her cheeks! 'Please, God, help us!' she cried. 'If only the wild beasts had eaten us in the forest, then at least we'd have died together.' 'You can stop all that howling,' said the old woman, 'it'll do you no good.'

Early next morning Gretel had to go out and hang up a cauldron full of water and light the fire. 'We'll bake first,' said the old woman. 'I've heated the oven already and kneaded the dough.' She drove poor Gretel out to where the oven was, and flames were licking out of it already. 'Crawl inside,' said the witch, 'and tell me whether it's properly heated, then we can shove in the bread.' And her plan was to shut the oven door when Gretel was inside, so she

里,我要把他养得肥肥胖胖。等他长胖了,我就吃掉他。”格莱特听罢伤心地哭起来,可是一点没用,只得恶巫婆叫干什么,就干什么。

于是,就给可怜的亨塞尔煮了最好吃的东西,而格莱特只能吃螃蟹壳。每天早上,老太婆都溜到小厩舍前,喊:“亨塞尔,把你的手指头伸出来,让我摸摸你长胖了没有。”亨塞尔呢,却伸给她一根小骨头,老太婆眼睛昏花,看不清楚,以为真是亨塞尔的手指,心里好生奇怪,怎么他一点没胖起来。四个星期过去了,亨塞尔仍旧很瘦,老太婆不耐烦了,不愿意再等。“过来,格莱特!”她冲着小姑娘喝道,“跑快点,明天去打水,无论亨塞尔肥也好,瘦也好,明天反正我要宰掉他,把他煮上。”唉,可怜的小妹妹在不得不去打水时,哭得有多么伤心呵,眼泪顺着她的脸颊一个劲儿地往下掉呀!“上帝,请帮帮我们吧!”她发出呼唤。“要是我们当初在森林里让野兽吃了,最起码还可以死在一起的。”“你不要再叫了,”老太婆说,“没有用的。”

第二天清早,格莱特就被逼出来,把盛满水的锅吊起来,把火点燃。“咱们首先烤面包,”老太婆说。“我已烧燃了炉子,揉好了面。”她把可怜的格莱特推到烤炉前,火焰已经从炉口吐出来。“爬进去,”巫婆命令,“看看是不是烧得够热了,我们能不能往里送面包,她打算在格莱特爬进去后,她就关上炉门,让格莱特在里边烤熟,然后把她也吃掉。好在格莱特

could roast Gretel, and then she would eat her too. But Gretel guessed what she was up to, and said: 'I don't know how to do it; how can I get in there?' 'You silly goose,' said the old woman, 'the opening's big enough, don't you see, I could get in there myself.' And she came hobbling up and stuck her head inside the oven. Then Gretel gave her a push so that she fell in, right into the middle; and she slammed the iron door shut and bolted it. Wow! The old woman began to howl, it was quite horrible; but Gretel ran off, and the godless witch burned miserably to death.

But Gretel ran straight to Hansel, opened his shed and shouted: 'Hansel, we're saved, the old witch is dead.' And Hansel hopped out as a bird does when the door of its cage is opened. How glad they were, how they danced around and hugged and kissed each other! And now that there was nothing more to fear, they went into the witch's house and found cupboards all over it full of pearls and precious stones. 'These are even better than pebbles,' said Hansel, and filled his pockets with as much as would go into them, and Gretel said: 'I'll take some home too,' and filled her apron full. 'But now let's go,' said Hansel, 'if we're to get out of this witchy forest.' When they had walked for a couple of hours, they came to a big wide river. 'We can't get across,' said Hansel, 'I don't see any bridge.' 'And there's no boat either,' answered Gretel, 'but there's a white duck swimming along; if I ask it, it'll help us across.' And she called out:

'Little duck, little white duck,

Gretel and Hansel are stuck.

No bridge, no way to get over,

Except your back, if you'll do us the favour.'

Sure enough the duck came swimming towards them, and Hansel sat down on its back and told

看出了她的心思说:“我不知道该怎么做;怎样才爬得进去呢?”“你这个笨货,”老太婆骂道,“炉口够大的,你没有看到,我自己也能爬进去。”说着便蹒跚着走过来,把脑袋伸进了炉口。格莱特赶紧把她一推,她跌了进去,刚好落到炉火中,然后砰地一声关上铁门,插紧了销子。噫!老太婆在炉子里嚎叫起来,声音可怕极了。格莱特赶快跑开,恶毒的巫婆被烧成了灰烬。

格莱特跑到亨塞尔跟前,打开厥门喊道:“亨塞尔,咱们得救啦,老太婆已经死了。”门一开,亨塞尔像只笼中的小鸟飞跑出来。兄妹俩高兴得又是拥抱,又是亲吻,一个劲儿地欢蹦乱跳!现在再不用害怕了,他们又走进巫婆的房间,发现箱子里装满了珍珠和宝石。“这可比石头子儿更好些,”亨塞尔说,边说边往口袋里猛装。格莱特说,“我也想带点回家去,”同样塞了满满一围裙。为了从这座魔林中逃出去,亨塞尔提出,“现在咱俩该动身啦,”他们走了几个钟头,来到一条大河前。“我们过不去啊,”亨塞尔说,“连一条桥也看不见。”“而且,连只小船也没有哩,”格莱特回答,“那儿游来一只白色的鸭子,如果我求它,它会帮助咱们过河的。”她喊道:

“小鸭儿,小白鸭儿,

格莱特和亨塞尔已等在这儿,

没有桥,没有办法过河,

只有请你把我们驮过去。”

鸭子果真游过来了,亨塞尔坐到它白色的背上,请小妹妹也坐上去。