

Charles Perrault <i>Histoires ou Contes du temps passé</i> (1697) LA BELLE AU BOIS DORMANT	<i>The fairy tales of Charles Perrault</i> (Clarke, 1922) THE SLEEPING BEAUTY IN THE WOOD
<p><i>Il estoit une fois un Roi & une Reine qui estoient si faschez de n'avoir point d'enfans, si faschez qu'on ne sçauroit dire. Ils allerent à toutes les eaux du monde : vœux, pelerinages, menuës devotions, tout fut mis en œuvre, & rien n'y faisoit. Enfin, pourtant, la Reine devint grosse, & accoucha d'une fille ; on fit un beau Baptesme ; on donna pour Maraines à la petite Princesse toutes les Fées qu'on pust trouver dans le País (il s'en trouva sept), afin que, chacune d'elles luy faisant un don, comme c'estoit la coutume des Fées en ce temps-là, la Princesse eust, par ce moyen, toutes les perfections imaginables. Après les ceremonies du Baptesme, toute la compagnie revint au Palais du Roi, où il y avoit un grand festin pour les Fées. On mit devant chacune d'elles un couvert magnifique, avec un estui d'or massif où il y avoit une cuillier, une fourchette, & un couteau de fin or, garnis de diamants & de rubis. Mais, comme chacun prenoit sa place à table, on vit entrer une vieille Fée, qu'on n'avait point priée, parce qu'il y avait plus de cinquante ans qu'elle n'estoit sortie d'une Tour, & qu'on la croyoit morte ou enchantée. Le Roi lui fit donner un couvert ; mais il n'y eut pas moyen de lui donner un estuy d'or massif, comme aux autres, parce que l'on n'en avoit fait faire que sept pour les sept Fées. La vieille crût qu'on la méprisait, & grommela quelques menaces entre ses dents. Une des jeunes Fées qui se trouva auprés d'elle, l'entendit, et, jugeant qu'elle pourroit donner quelque fâcheux don à la petite princesse, alla dés qu'on fut sorti de table, se cacher derrière la tapisserie, afin de parler la dernière, & de pouvoir réparer, autant qu'il luy seroit possible, le mal que la vieille aurait fait. Cependant les Fées commencerent à faire leurs dons à la Princesse. La plus jeune luy donna pour don qu'elle seroit la plus belle personne du monde, celle d'après qu'elle auroit de l'esprit comme un Ange, la troisième qu'elle auroit une grace admirable à tout ce qu'elle feroit ; la quatrième</i></p>	<p>THERE were formerly a King and a Queen, who were so sorry that they had no children, so sorry that it cannot be expressed. They went to all the waters in the world; vows, pilgrimages, all ways were tried and all to no purpose. At last, however, the Queen proved with child, and was brought to bed of a daughter. There was a very fine christening; and the Princess had for her god-mothers all the Fairies they could find in the whole kingdom (they found seven), that every one of them might give her a gift, as was the custom of Fairies in those days, and that by this means the Princess might have all the perfections imaginable. After the ceremonies of the christening were over, all the company returned to the King's palace, where was prepared a great feast for the Fairies. There was placed before every one of them a magnificent cover with a case of massive gold, wherein were a spoon, knife and fork, all of pure gold set with diamonds and rubies. But as they were all sitting down at table, they saw come into the hall a very old Fairy whom they had not invited, because it was above fifty years since she had been out of a certain tower, and she was believed to be either dead or enchanted. The King ordered her a cover, but could not furnish her with a case of gold as the others, because they had seven only made for the seven Fairies. The old Fairy fancied she was slighted, and muttered some threat between her teeth. One of the young Fairies, who sat by her, overheard how she grumbled; and judging that she might give the little Princess some unlucky gift, went, as soon as they rose from the table, and hid herself behind the hangings, that she might speak last, and repair, as much as possible she could, the evil which the old Fairy might intend. In the mean while all the Fairies began to give their gifts to the Princess. The youngest gave her for gift, that she should be the most beautiful person in the world; the next, that she should have the wit of an angel; the third, that she should have a wonderful grace in every thing she did; the fourth, that she should dance perfectly well; the fifth, that she should sing like a nightingale; and the sixth, that she should play upon all kinds of music to the utmost perfection. The old Fairy's turn coming</p>

qu'elle danseroit parfaitement bien, la cinquième qu'elle chanteroit comme un Rossignol, & la sixième, qu'elle joüeroit de toutes sortes d'instrumens dans la dernière perfection. Le rang de la vieille Féee estant venu, elle dit, en branlant la teste, encore plus de dépit que de vieillesse, que la Princesse se perceroit la main d'un fuseau & qu'elle en mourroit. Ce terrible don fit fremir toute la compagnie, & il n'y eut personne qui ne pleurât. Dans ce moment, la jeune Féee sortit de derrière la tapisserie, dit tout haut ces paroles : Rassurez-vous, Roi & Reine, vostre fille n'en mourra pas. Il est vrai que je n'ay pas assez de puissance pour défaire entierement ce que mon ancienne a fait. La Princesse se percera la main d'un fuseau ; mais, au lieu d'en mourir, elle tombera seulement dans un profond sommeil qui durera cent ans, au bout desquels le fils d'un Roi viendra la réveiller. Le Roi, pour tâcher d'éviter le malheur annoncé par la vieille, fit publier aussi tost un Edit par lequel il deffendoit à toutes personnes de filer au fuseau, ny d'avoir des fuseaux chez soy, sur peine de la vie. Au bout de quinze ou seize ans, le Roi & la Reine estant allez à une de leurs Maisons de plaisirance, il arriva que la jeune Princesse, courant un jour dans le Château, & montant de chambre en chambre, alla jusqu'au haut d'un Donjon dans un petit galletas, où une bonne Vieille estoit seule à filer sa quenoüille. Cette bonne femme n'avoit point ouï parler des deffenses que le roi avoit faites de filer au fuseau. Que faites-vous là, ma bonne femme ? dit la Princesse, Je file, ma belle enfant, luy répondit la vieille, qui ne la connoissoit pas. Ha ! que cela est joli, reprit la Princesse ; comment faites-vous ? donnez-moy que je voye si j'en ferois bien autant. Elle n'eust pas plutost pris le fuseau, que, comme elle estoit fort vive, un peu estourdie, & que d'ailleurs l'Arrest des Féees l'ordonnoit ainsi, elle s'en perça la main & tomba évanouie. La bonne vieille, bien embarrassée, crie au secours : on vient de tous costez ; on jette de l'eau au visage de la princesse, on la délasse, on luy frappe dans les mains, on luy frotte les tempes avec de l'eau de

next, with a head shaking more with spite than age, she said, that the Princess should have her hand pierced with a spindle, and die of the wound. This terrible gift made the whole company tremble, and every body fell a-crying. At this very instant the young Fairy came out from behind the hangings, and spake these words aloud: "Be reassured, O King and Queen; your daughter shall not die of this disaster: it is true, I have no power to undo intirely what my elder has done. The Princess shall indeed pierce her hand with a spindle; but instead of dying, she shall only fall into a profound sleep, which shall last a hundred years; at the expiration of which a king's son shall come and awake her." The King, to avoid the misfortune foretold by the old Fairy, caused immediately proclamations to be made, whereby every-body was forbidden, on pain of death, to spin with a distaff and spindle or to have so much as any spindle in their houses. About fifteen or sixteen years after, the King and Queen being gone to one of their houses of pleasure, the young Princess happened one day to divert herself running up and down the palace; when going up from one apartment to another, she came into a little room on the top of a tower, where a good old woman, alone, was spinning with her spindle. This good woman had never heard of the King's proclamation against spindles. "What are you doing there, Goody?" said the Princess. "I am spinning, my pretty child," said the old woman, who did not know who she was. "Ha!" said the Princess, "this is very pretty; how do you do it? Give it to me, that I may see if I can do so." She had no sooner taken the spindle into her hand, than, whether being very hasty at it, somewhat unhandy, or that the decree of the Fairy had so ordained it, it ran into her hand, and she fell down in a swoon. The good old woman not knowing very well what to do in this affair, cried out for help. People came in from every quarter in great numbers; they threw water upon the Princess's face, unlaced her, struck her on the palms of her hands, and rubbed her temples with Hungary-water; but nothing would bring her to herself. And now the King, who came up at the noise, bethought himself of the prediction of the Fairies, and judging very well that this must necessarily come to pass, since the Fairies had said it, caused the Princess to be carried into the finest

la Reine de Hongrie ; mais rien ne la faisoit revenir. Alors le Roy, qui estoit monté au bruit, se souvint de la prédiction des fées, et, jugeant bien qu'il falloit que cela arrivast, puisque les Fées l'avoient dit, fit mettre la Princesse dans le plus bel appartement du Palais, sur un lit en broderie d'or & d'argent. On eût dit d'un Ange, tant elle estoit belle : car son évanouissement n'avoit pas osté les couleurs vives de son teint : ses joues estoient incarnates, & ses levres comme du corail ; elle avoit seulement les yeux fermez, mais on l'entendoit respirer doucement : ce qui faisoit voir qu'elle n'estoit pas morte. Le Roi ordonna qu'on la laissast dormir en repos, jusqu'à ce que son heure de se réveiller fust venue. La bonne Fée qui luy avoit sauvé la vie en la condamnant à dormir cent ans estoit dans le Royaume de Mataquin, à douze mille lieues de là, lorsque l'accident arriva à la Princesse ; mais elle en fut avertie en un instant par un petit Nain qui avoit des bottes de sept lieues (c'estoit des bottes avec lesquelles on faisoit sept lieues d'une seule enjambée). La Fée partit aussi tost, & on la vit, au bout d'une heure, arriver dans un chariot tout de feu, traîné par des dragons. Le Roi luy alla presenter la main à la descente du chariot. Elle approuva tout ce qu'il avoit fait ; mais, comme elle estoit grandement prévoyante, elle pensa que, quand la Princesse viendrait à se réveiller, elle seroit bien embarrassée toute seule dans ce vieux château : voicy ce qu'elle fit. Elle toucha de sa baguette tout ce qui estoit dans ce Chateau (hors le Roi & la Reine) : Gouvernantes, Filles-d'Honneur, Femmes-de-Chambre, Gentils-Hommes, Officiers, Maistres d'Hostel, Cuisiniers, Marmitons, Galopins, Gardes, Suisses, Pages, Valets-de-pied ; elle toucha aussi tous les chevaux qui estoient dans les Ecuries, avec les Palfreniers, les gros mâtin de basse-cour, & la petite Pouffe, petite chienne de la Princesse, qui estoit auprès d'elle sur son lit. Dés qu'elle les eust touchez, ils s'endormirent tous, pour ne se réveiller qu'en mesme temps que leur Maistresse, afin d'estre tout prests à la servir quand elle en auroit besoin : les broches mêmes

apartment in his palace, and to be laid upon a bed all embroidered with gold and silver. One would have taken her for an angel, she was so very beautiful; for her swooning away had not diminished one bit of her complexion; her cheeks were carnation, and her lips like coral; indeed her eyes were shut, but she was heard to breathe softly, which satisfied those about her that she was not dead. The King commanded that they should not disturb her, but let her sleep quietly till her hour of awakening was come. The good Fairy, who had saved her life by condemning her to sleep a hundred years, was in the kingdom of Matakin, twelve thousand leagues off, when this accident befell the Princess; but she was instantly informed of it by a little dwarf, who had boots of seven leagues, that is, boots with which he could tread over seven leagues of ground at one stride. The Fairy came away immediately, and she arrived, about an hour after, in a fiery chariot, drawn by dragons. The King handed her out of the chariot, and she approved every thing he had done; but, as she had a very great foresight, she thought, when the Princess should awake, she might not know what to do with herself, being all alone in this old palace; and this was what she did: She touched with her wand every thing in the palace (except the King and the Queen), governesses, maids of honour, ladies of the bed-chamber, gentlemen, officers, stewards, cooks, under-cooks, scullions, guards, with their beef-eaters, pages, footmen; she likewise touched all the horses which were in the stables, as well as their grooms, the great dogs in the outward court, and pretty little Mopsey too, the Princess's little spaniel-bitch, which lay by her on the bed. Immediately upon her touching them, they all fell asleep, that they might not awake before their mistress, and that they might be ready to wait upon her when she wanted them. The very spits at the fire, as full as they could hold of partridges and pheasants, did fall asleep, and the fire likewise. All this was done in a moment. Fairies are not long in doing their business. And now the King and the Queen, having kissed their dear child without waking her, went out of the palace, and put forth a proclamation, that nobody should dare to come near it. This, however, was not necessary; for, in a quarter of an hour's time, there grew up, all round about the park, such a vast

qui estoient au feu, toutes pleines de perdrix & de faysans, s'endormirent, & le feu aussi. Tout cela se fit en un moment : les Fées n'estoient pas longues à leur besogne. Alors le Roi & la Reine après avoir baisé leur chere enfant sans qu'elle s'éveillast, sortirent du chasteau, & firent publier des deffenses à qui que ce soit d'en approcher. Ces deffenses n'estoient pas necessaires, car il crut dans un quart d'heure tout au tour du parc une si grande quantité de grands arbres & de petits, de ronces & d'épines entrelassées les unes dans les autres, que beste ny homme n'y auroit pû passer : en sorte qu'on ne voyoit plus que le haut des Tours du Chasteau, encore n'estoit-ce que de bien loin. On ne douta point que la fée n'eust encore fait là un tour de son métier, afin que la Princesse, pendant qu'elle dormiroit, n'eust rien à craindre des Curieux. Au bout de cent ans, le fils du roi qui regnoit alors, & qui estoit d'une autre famille que la princesse endormie, estant allé à la chasse de ce costé-là, demanda ce que c'estoit que des Tours qu'il voyoit au-dessus d'un grand bois fort épais, chacun luy répondit selon qu'il en avoit ouï parler. Les uns disoient que c'estoit un vieux Château où il revenoit des Esprits ; les autres, que tous les Sorciers de la Contrée y faisoient leur sabbat. La plus commune opinion estoit qu'un Ogre y demeuroit, & que là il emportoit tous les enfans qu'il pouvoit attraper, pour les pouvoir manger à son aise & sans qu'on le pust suivre, ayant seul le pouvoir de se faire un passage au travers du bois. Le prince ne sçavoit qu'en croire, lors qu'un vieux Paysan prit la parole & luy dit : Mon Prince, il y a plus de cinquante ans que j'ay ouï dire à mon pere qu'il y avoit dans ce Chasteau une Princesse, la plus belle du monde ; qu'elle y devoit dormir cent ans, & qu'elle seroit réveillée par le fils d'un Roi, à qui elle estoit réservée. Le jeune Prince à ce discours se sentit tout de feu ; il crut sans balancer qu'il mettroit fin à une si belle avantage, & poussé par l'amour & par la gloire, il résolut de voir sur le champ ce qui en estoit. À peine s'avança-t-il vers le bois que tous ces grands arbres, ces ronces, & ces épines

number of trees, great and small, bushes and brambles, twining one within another, that neither man nor beast could pass thro'; so that nothing could be seen but the very top of the towers of the palace; and that too, not unless it was a good way off. Nobody doubted but the Fairy gave herein a sample of her art, that the Princess, while she continued sleeping, might have nothing to fear from any curious people. When a hundred years were gone and past, the son of the King then reigning, and who was of another family from that of the sleeping Princess, being gone a-hunting on that side of the country, asked, what were those towers which he saw in the middle of a great thick wood? Every one answered according as they had heard; some said that it was a ruinous old castle, haunted by spirits; others, that all the sorcerers and witches of the country kept there their sabbath, or nights meeting. The common opinion was that an Ogre[1] lived there, and that he carried thither all the little children he could catch, that he might eat them up at his leisure, without any-body's being able to follow him, as having himself, only, the power to pass thro' the wood. The Prince was at a stand, not knowing what to believe, when a very aged countryman spake to him thus: "May it please your Royal Highness, it is now above fifty years since I heard my father, who had heard my grandfather, say that there then was in this castle, a Princess, the most beautiful was ever seen; that she must sleep there a hundred years, and should be awaked by a king's son; for whom she was 54 THE PRINCE ENQUIRIES OF THE AGED COUNTRYMAN reserved." The young Prince was all on fire at these words, believing, without a moment's doubt, that he could put an end to this rare adventure; and pushed on by love and honour resolved that moment to look into it. Scarce had he advanced towards the wood, when all the great trees, the bushes and brambles, gave way of themselves to let him pass thro'; he walked up to the castle which he saw at the end of a large avenue which he went into; and what a little surprised him was, that he saw none of his people could follow him, because the trees closed again, as soon as he had pass'd thro' them. However, he did not cease from continuing his way; a young and amorous Prince is always valiant. He came into a spacious outward

s'écartèrent d'elles-mesmes pour le laisser passer : il marche vers le Chasteau qu'il voyoit au bout d'une grande avenuë où il entra, & ce qui le surprit un peu, il vit que personne de ses gens ne l'avoit pu suivre, parce que les arbres s'estoient rapprochez dés qu'il avoit esté passé. Il ne laissa pas de continuer son chemin : un Prince jeune & amoureux est toujours vaillant. Il entra dans une grande avancour, où tout ce qu'il vit d'abord estoit capable de le glacer de crainte : c'estoit un silence affreux, l'image de la mort s'y presentoit par tout, & ce n'estoit que des corps étendus d'hommes & d'animaux, qui paroisoient morts. Il reconnut pourtant bien au nez bourgeonnez & à la face vermeille des Suisses, qu'ils n'estoient qu'endormis, & leurs tasses où il y avoit encore quelques gouttes de vin, montroient assez qu'ils s'estoient endormis en beuvant. Il passe une grande cour pavée de marbre, il monte l'escalier, il entre dans la salle des Gardes qui estoient rangez en haye, la carabine sur l'épaule, & ronflans de leur mieux. Il traverse plusieurs chambres pleines de Gentilshommes & de Dames, dormans tous, les uns debout, les autres assis ; il entre dans une chambre toute dorée, & il vit sur un lit, dont les rideaux estoient ouverts de tous côtés, le plus beau spectacle qu'il eut jamais veu : Une Princesse qui paroisoit avoir quinze ou seize ans, & dont l'éclat resplendissant avoit quelque chose de lumineux & de divin. Il s'approcha en tremblant & en admirant, & se mit à genoux auprès d'elle. Alors, comme la fin de l'enchantement estoit venue, la Princesse s'éveilla ; & le regardant avec des yeux plus tendres qu'une première veue ne sembloit le permettre ; est ce vous, mon Prince, luy dit-elle ; vous vous êtes bien fait attendre. Le Prince charmé de ces paroles, & plus encore de la maniere dont elles estoient dites, ne sçavoit comment luy témoigner sa joye & sa reconnoissance ; il lassura qu'il l'aimoit plus que luy-mesme. Ses discours furent mal rangez, ils en plurent davantage, peu d'éloquence, beaucoup d'amour : il estoit plus embarassé qu'elle, & l'on ne doit pas s'en estonner ; elle

court, where everything he saw might have frozen up the most fearless person with horror. There reigned over all a most frightful silence; the image of death everywhere shewed itself, and there was nothing to be seen but stretched out bodies of men and animals, all seeming to be dead. He, however, very well knew, by the ruby faces and pimpled noses of the beef-eaters, that they were only asleep; and their goblets, wherein still remained some drops of wine, shewed plainly, that they fell asleep in their cups. He then crossed a court paved with marble, went up the stairs, and came into the guard-chamber, where the guards were standing in their ranks, with their muskets upon their shoulders, and snoring as loud as they could. After that he went through several rooms full of gentlemen and ladies, all asleep, some standing, others sitting. At last he came into a chamber all gilded with gold, where he saw, upon a bed, the curtains of which were all open, the finest sight was ever beheld: a Princess, who appeared to be about fifteen or sixteen years of age, and whose bright, and in a manner resplendent beauty, had somewhat in it divine. He approached with trembling and admiration, and fell down before her upon his knees. And now, as the enchantment was at an end, the Princess awaked, and looking on him with eyes more tender than the first view might seem to admit of: "Is it you, my Prince," said she to him, "you have tarried long." The Prince, charmed with these words, and much more with the manner in which they were spoken, knew not how to shew his joy and gratitude; he assured her, that he loved her better than he did himself; his discourse was not well connected, but it pleased her all the more; little eloquence, a great deal of love. He was more at a loss than she, and we need not wonder at it; she had time to think on what to say to him; for it is very probable (though history mentions nothing of it) that the good Fairy, during so long a sleep, had entertained her with pleasant dreams. In short, when they talked four hours together, they said not half what they had to say. In the mean while, all the palace awaked; every one thought upon their particular business; and as all of them were not in love, they were ready to die for hunger; the chief lady of honour, being as sharp set as other folks, grew very 56 "HE SAW, UPON A BED, THE

avoit eu le temps de songer à ce qu'elle auroit à luy dire, car il y a apparence (l'Histoire n'en dit pourtant rien) que la bonne fée pendant un si long sommeil, lui avoit procuré le plaisir des songes agreeables. Enfin il y avoit quatre heures qu'ils se parloient, & ils ne s'estoient pas encore dit la moitié des choses qu'ils avoient à se dire. Cependant tout le Palais s'estoit réveillé avec la Princesse : chacun songeoit à faire sa charge, & comme ils n'estoient pas tous amoureux, ils mouroient de faim. La Dame d'honneur, pressée comme les autres, s'impatienta, & dit tout haut à la Princesse que la viande estoit servie. Le Prince aida la princesse à se lever : elle estoit tout habillée, & fort magnifiquement ; mais il garda bien de luy dire qu'elle estoit habillée comme ma mere grand, & qu'elle avoit un collet monté, elle n'en estoit pas moins belle. Ils passerent dans un salon de miroirs, & y souperent, servis par les Officiers de la Princesse. Les Violons & les Hautbois joüerent de vieilles pieces, mais excellentes, quoyqu'il y eut près de cent ans qu'on ne les joüast plus ; & après soupé, sans perdre de temps, le grand Aumonier les maria dans la Chapelle du Chasteau, & la Dame-d'honneur leur tira le rideau. Ils dormirent peu : la Princesse n'en avoit pas grand besoin, & le Prince la quitta dès le matin pour retourner à la Ville, où son pere devait estre en peine de luy : le Prince luy dit qu'en chassant il s'estait perdu dans la forest, & qu'il avait couché dans la hutte d'un Charbonnier, qui luy avoit fait manger du pain noir & du fromage. Le Roi son pere qui estoit bon-homme, le crut ; mais sa Mere n'en fut pas bien persuadée, & voyant qu'il alloit presque tous les jours à la chasse, & qu'il avoit toujours une raison en main pour s'excuser quand il avoit couché deux ou trois nuits dehors, elle ne douta plus qu'il n'eut quelque amourette : car il vécut avec la Princesse plus de deux ans entiers, & en eut deux enfans, dont le premier qui fut une fille, fut nommée l'Aurore, & le second un fils, qu'on nomma le Jour, parce qu'il paroisoit encore plus beau que sa sœur. La Reine dit plusieurs fois à son fils, pour le faire expliquer,

"FINEST SIGHT WAS EVER BEHELD" impatient, and told the Princess aloud, That supper was served up. The Prince helped the Princess to rise, she was entirely dressed, and very magnificently, but his Royal Highness took care not to tell her that she was dressed like his great grand-mother, and had a point-band peeping over a high collar; she looked not a bit the less beautiful and charming for all that. They went into the great hall of looking-glasses, where they supped, and were served by the Princess's officers; the violins and hautboys played old tunes, but very excellent, tho' it was now above a hundred years since they had been played; and after supper, without losing any time, the lord almoner married them in the chapel of the castle, and the chief lady of honour drew the curtains. They had but very little sleep; the Princess had no occasion, and the Prince left her next morning to return into the city, where his father must needs have been anxious on his account. The Prince told him that he lost his way in the forest, as he was hunting, and that he had lain at the cottage of a collier, who gave him cheese and brown bread. The King his father, who was of an easy disposition, believed him; but his mother could not be persuaded this was true; and seeing that he went almost every day a-hunting, and that he always had some excuse ready when he had laid out three or four nights together, she no longer doubted he had some little amour, for he lived with the Princess above two whole years, and had by her two children, the eldest of which, who was a daughter, was named Aurora, and the youngest, who was a son, they called Day, because he was even handsomer and more beautiful than his sister. The Queen said more than once to her son, in order to bring him to speak freely to her, that a young man must e'en take his pleasure; but he never dared to trust her with his secret; he feared her, tho' he loved her; for she was of the race of the Ogres, and the King would never have married her, had it not been for her vast riches; it was even whispered about the court, that she had Ogreish inclinations, and that, whenever she saw little children passing by, she had all the difficulty in the world to refrain from falling upon them. And so the Prince would never tell her one word. But when the King was dead, which happened about two years afterwards; and he saw

qu'il falloit se contenter dans la vie, mais il n'osa jamais se fier à elle de son secret ; il la craignoit quoy qu'il l'aimast, car elle estoit de race Ogresse, & le Roi ne l'avoit épousée qu'à cause de ses grands biens. On disoit même tout bas à la Cour qu'elle avoit les inclinations des Ogres, & qu'en voyant passer de petits enfans, elle avoit toutes les peines du monde à se retenir de se jeter sur eux ; ainsi le Prince ne lui voulut jamais rien dire. Mais, quand le Roy fut mort, ce qui arriva au bout de deux ans, & qu'il se vit le maistre, il declara publiquement son Mariage, & alla en grande ceremonie querir la Reine sa femme dans son Chasteau. On luy fit une entrée magnifique dans la Ville Capitale, où elle entra au milieu de ses deux enfans. Quelque temps après, le Roi alla faire la guerre à l'Empereur Cantalabutte, son voisin. Il laissa la Regence du royaume à la Reine sa mere, & luy recommanda fort sa femme & ses enfans : il devoit estre à la guerre tout l'Esté ; et, dés qu'il fut parti, la Reine-Mere envoya sa bru & ses enfans à une maison de campagne dans les bois, pour pouvoir plus aisément assouvir son horrible envie. Elle y alla quelques jours après, & dit un soir à son Maistre d'Hostel, je veux manger demain à mon dîner la petite Aurore. Ah ! Madame, dit le Maistre-d'Hostel, je le veux, dit la Reine (& elle le dit d'un ton d'Ogresse qui a envie de manger de la chair fraische), & je la veux manger à la Sausse-robert. Ce pauvre homme, voyant bien qu'il ne falloit pas se joüer à une Ogresse, prit son grand cousteau, & monta à la chambre de la petite Aurore : elle avoit pour lors quatre ans, & vint en sautant & en riant se jettter à son col, & luy demander du bon bon. Il se mit à pleurer, le couteau luy tomba des mains, & il alla dans la basse cour couper la gorge à un petit agneau, & luy fit une si bonne sausse que sa maistresse l'assura qu'elle n'avoit jamais rien mangé de si bon. Il avoit emporté en même temps la petite Aurore, & l'avoit donnée à sa femme, pour la cacher dans le logement qu'elle avoit au fond de la basse-cour. Huit jours après, la méchante Reine dit à son Maistre-d'Hostel, je veux manger à mon souper le petit Jour : il ne répliqua pas,

himself lord and master, he openly declared his marriage; and he went in great ceremony to fetch his Queen from the castle. They made a magnificent entry into the capital city, she riding between her two children. Some time after, the King went to make war with the Emperor Cantalabutte, his neighbour. He left the government of the kingdom to the Queen his mother, and earnestly recommended to her care his wife and children. He was like to be at war all the summer, and as soon as he departed, the Queen-mother sent her daughter-in-law and her children to a country-house among the woods, that she might with the more ease gratify her horrible longing. "I WILL HAVE IT SO," REPLIED THE QUEEN, "AND WILL EAT HER WITH A SAUCE ROBERT" Some few days afterwards she went thither herself, and said to her clerk of the kitchen: "I have a mind to eat little Aurora for my dinner to morrow." "Ah! Madam," cried the clerk of the kitchen. "I will have it so," replied the Queen (and this she spake in the tone of an Ogress, who had a strong desire to eat fresh meat), "and will eat her with a Sauce Robert."^[2] The poor man knowing very well that he must not play tricks with Ogresses, took his great knife and went up into little Aurora's chamber. She was then four years old, and came up to him jumping and laughing, to take him about the neck, and ask him for some sugar-candy. Upon which he began to weep, the great knife fell out of his hand, and he went into the back-yard, and killed a little lamb, and dressed it with such good sauce, that his mistress assured him she had never eaten anything so good in her life. He had at the same time taken up little Aurora, and carried her to his wife, to conceal her in the lodging he had at the end of the court yard. About eight days afterwards, the wicked Queen said to the clerk of the kitchen: "I will sup upon little Day." He answered not a word, being resolved to cheat her, as he had done before. He went to find out little Day, and saw him with a little foil in his hand, with which he was fencing with a great monkey; the child being then only three years of age. He took him up in his arms, and carried him to his wife, that she might conceal him in her chamber along with his sister, and in the room of little Day cooked up a young kid very tender, which the Ogress found to be wonderfully good. This was hitherto all

résolu de la tromper comme l'autre fois ; il alla chercher le petit Jour, & le trouva avec un petit fleuret à la main, dont il faisoit des armes avec un gros Singe : il n'avoit pourtant que trois ans. Il le porta à sa femme, qui le cacha avec la petite Aurore, & donna à la place du petit Jour, un petit chevreau fort tendre, que l'Ogresse trouva admirablement bon. Cela estoit fort bien allé jusque là, mais un soir cette méchante reine dit au Maistre-d'Hostel, je veux manger la Reine à la mesme sausse que ses enfans. Ce fut alors que le pauvre Maistre-d'Hostel desespera de la pouvoir encore tromper. La jeune reine avoit vingt ans passez, sans compter les cent ans qu'elle avoit dormi : sa peau estoit un peu dure, quoique belle & blanche ; & le moyen de trouver dans la Menagerie une beste aussi dure que cela : il prit la resolution, pour sauver sa vie, de couper la gorge à la reine, & monta dans sa chambre, dans l'intention de n'en pas faire à deux fois ; il s'excitoit à la fureur, & entra le poignard à la main dans la chambre de la jeune Reine : il ne voulut pourtant point la surprendre, & il luy dit avec beaucoup de respect, l'ordre qu'il avoit receu de la Reine-Mere. Faites, faites, luy dit-elle en luy tendant le col ; executez l'ordre qu'on vous a donné ; j'irai revoir mes enfans, mes pauvres enfans, que j'ay tant aimez : elle les croyoit morts depuis qu'on les avoit enlevez sans luy rien dire. Non, non, Madame, lui répondit le pauvre Maistre d'Hostel tout attendri, vous ne mourrez point, & vous ne laisserez pas d'aller revoir vos chers enfans ; mais ce sera chez moy où je les ay cachez, & je tromperay encore la Reine, en luy faisant manger une jeune biche en vostre place. Il la mena aussi-tost à sa chambre, où la laissant embrasser ses enfans & pleurer avec eux : il alla accommoder une biche, que la reine mangea à son soupé, avec le même appetit que si c'eut esté la jeune reine. Elle estoit bien contente de sa cruauté, & elle se préparoit à dire au Roi à son retour, que des loups enragez avoient mangez la Reine sa femme & ses deux enfans. Un soir qu'elle rodoit à son ordinaire, dans les cours & basses-cours du chasteau pour y halener

mighty well: but one evening this wicked Queen said to her clerk of the kitchen: "I will eat the Queen with the same sauce I had with her children." It was now that the poor clerk of the kitchen despaired of being able to deceive her. The young Queen was turned of twenty, not reckoning the hundred years she had been asleep: her skin was somewhat tough, tho' very fair and white; and how to find in the yard a beast so firm, was what puzzled him. He took then a resolution, that he might save his own life, to cut the Queen's throat; and going up into her chamber, with intent to do it at once, he put himself into as great a fury as he could possibly, and came into the young Queen's room with his dagger in his hand. He would not, however, surprise her, but told her, with a great deal of respect, the orders he had received from the Queenmother. "Do it, do it," said she stretching out her neck, "execute your orders, and then I shall go and see my children, my poor children, whom I so much and so tenderly loved," for she thought them dead ever since they had been taken away without her knowledge. "No, no, Madam," cried the poor clerk of the kitchen, all in tears, "you shall not die, and yet you shall see your children again; but it must be in my lodgings, where I have concealed them, and I shall deceive the Queen once more, by giving her in your stead a young hind." Upon this he forthwith conducted her to his chamber; where leaving her to embrace her children, and cry along with them, he went and dressed a hind, which the Queen had for her supper, and devoured it with the same appetite, as if it had been the young Queen. Exceedingly was she delighted with her cruelty, and she had invented a story to tell the King, at his return, how ravenous wolves had eaten up the Queen his wife, and her two children. One evening, as she was, according to her custom, rambling round about the courts and yards of the palace, to see if she could smell any fresh meat, she heard, in a ground-room little Day crying, for his mamma was going to whip him, because he had been naughty; and she heard, at the same time, little Aurora begging pardon for her brother. The Ogress presently knew the voice of the Queen and her children, and being quite mad that she had been thus deceived, she commanded next morning, by break of day (with a most horrible voice, which made every

quelque viande fraîche, elle entendit dans une salle basse le petit Jour qui pleuroit, parce que la Reine sa mere le vouloit faire foüetter, à cause qu'il avoit été méchant, & elle entendit aussi la petite Aurore qui demandoit pardon pour son frere. L'Ogresse reconnut la voix de la Reine & de ses enfans, et, furieuse d'avoir été trompée, elle commande, dés le lendemain matin, avec une voix épouvantable, qui faisoit trembler tout le monde, qu'on apportast au milieu de la cour une grande cuve, qu'elle fit remplir de crapaux, de viperes, de couleuvres & de serpens, pour y faire jeter la Reine & ses enfans, le Maistre d'Hostel, sa femme & sa servante ; elle avoit donné ordre de les amener les mains liées derrière le dos. Ils estoient là, & les bourreaux se preparoient à les jeter dans la cuve, lorsque le Roi qu'on n'attendoit pas sitost, entra dans la cour, à cheval ; il estoit venu en poste & demanda tout estonné ce que vouloit dire cet horrible spectacle. Personne n'osoit l'en instruire, quand l'Ogresse, enragée de voir ce qu'elle voyoit, se jeta elle-mesme la teste la premiere dans la cuve, & fut devorée en un instant par les vilaines bestes qu'elle y avoit fait mettre. Le roi ne laissa pas d'en estre fasché, elle estoit sa mere, mais il s'en consola bientost avec sa belle femme & ses enfans.

body tremble) that they should bring into the middle of the great court a large tub, which she caused to be filled with toads, vipers, snakes, and all sorts of serpents, in order to have thrown into it the Queen and her children, the clerk of the kitchen, his wife and maid; all whom she had given orders should be brought thither with their hands tied behind them. They were brought out accordingly, and the executioners were just going to throw them into the tub, when the King (who was not so soon expected) entered the court on horseback (for he came post) and asked, with the utmost astonishment, what was the meaning of that horrible spectacle? No one dared to tell him; when the Ogress, all enraged to see what had happened, threw herself head-foremost into the tub, and was instantly devoured by the ugly creatures she had ordered to be thrown into it for others. The King could not but be very sorry, for she was his mother; but he soon comforted himself with his beautiful wife, and his pretty children.

MORALITÉ

Attendre quelque temps pour avoir un Époux Riche, bien-fait, galant & doux, La chose est assez naturelle : Mais l'attendre cent ans, & toujours en dormant, On ne trouve plus de femelle Qui dormist si tranquillement. La Fable semble encor vouloir nous faire entendre Que souvent de l'Hymen les agreeables noeuds, Pour estre differez, n'en sont pas moins heureux, Et qu'on ne perd rien pour attendre. Mais le sexe avec tant d'ardeur Aspire à la foy conjugale Que je n'ay pas la force ny le cœur De luy prescher cette morale.

The Moral

To get as prize a husband rich and gay, Of humour sweet, with many years to stay, Is natural enough, 'tis true; To wait for him a hundred years, And all that while asleep, appears A thing entirely new. Now at this time of day. Not one of all the sex we see Doth sleep with such profound tranquillity: But yet this Table seems to let us know That very often Hymen's blisses sweet, Altho' some tedious obstacles they meet, Are not less happy for approaching slow. 'Tis natures way that ladies fair Should yearn conjugal joys to share; And so I've not the heart to preach A moral that's beyond their reach.