

SUMMARY

Donkeyskin, All-Fur and Mouse-Fur – the Folktale Sisters

A Study of the Folktale Type ATU 510B

The monograph is the first study in Poland of the fairy tale type ATU 510B. The book attempts to answer the question of both the origins of Perrault's *Donkeyfur* and the Brothers Grimm's *Allerleirauh* (*All-Fur*) and the Polish variants of these fairy tales, as well as the causes and consequences of the differences between the French, German and Polish realisations of this fairy tale motif. The authors propose a story about an exceptional fairy tale, since it touches upon such issues as cultural taboos, violent behaviour or social inequality. It is a story about a girl who runs away from her father and conceals her identity through unusual clothing. Drawing on the perspectives of their respective philologies, the authors focus on texts of folk provenance, literary works and their accompanying paratexts, as well as complex and reception testimonies conditioned by multiple factors.

The most important protagonists of the study are *Donkeyskin*, *All-Fur* and *Mouse-Fur* – fairytale sisters whose fates are presented in three chapters referring to French, German and Polish literary and cultural contexts. The monograph consists of three main analytical chapters and an appendix in which readers will find both Polish versions of *All-Fur* and selected source texts of folk provenance.

In the first chapter, Eliza Pieciul-Karmińska focuses on the tale realising the ATU 510B plot in the form given it by Jacob and Wilhelm Grimm. The events in successive editions of this fairy tale provide insight into Jacob and Wilhelm's working method and the circumstances of the original collection. In particular, the variant from the first edition (1812) stands out due to its special treatment of incest issues and is also unique compared to other realisations of the ATU 510B plot. In Chapter Two, Kamila Kowalczyk draws attention to the various ways in which the fairy tale motif of ATU 510B functions in Polish culture. Her descriptions and analyses focus on the native variants of the 'Mouse-Fur (*Mysi Kózuszek*)' fairy tale type. The author proposes to focus on

the complex and entangled in a number of cultural contexts status of the ATU 510B thread. In Chapter Three, Anna Loba focuses on Charles Perrault's seventeenth-century French version of the fairy tale. By distinguishing two constituent elements of this plot that prove its originality and distinguish it from the related plot of ATU 510A ('Cinderella'), namely incest and animal disguise, the author points to the fairy tale's medieval and Renaissance roots, as well as to its later, related realisations present in the oeuvre of the Brothers Grimm and in Polish folklore. The analyses and interpretations presented here do not close the research door, but are intended as an invitation to discuss the complex workings of the fairy tale motif in ATU 510B.