

lunch and told him to eat. The boy told her, "I can't make a step ladder long enough to get down there." The girl said, "Go ahead and eat. We will try to think of something for a ladder." The boy could hardly eat because he was worried. She said, "Try to eat and get full so you will have strength and a clear mind." "This is the last task you will have to do. This is the hardest task and almost impossible." The boy did eat and when he finished the girl spoke to him. "It's time now, you do exactly what I tell you and don't make any mistakes. If you do it will show. So listen carefully and no mistakes, you hear?" The boy said alright. She said, "Unjoint my limbs and tie them together so you can climb up and down on them. Start from the top and go down from the tip of my fingers to my toes in this order. When you get through, put me back together exactly the way you took me apart." The boy did what she told him to do. He cleaned the well in no time and went up with the debris four times. When he finished and was climbing back up he missed one joint but did not notice it. He started to put her back together and when he was through she said, "You made one mistake and tomorrow you can go by it. You missed one joint of my finger. See the middle finger? It is crooked. Tomorrow is your last trial. This evening you are going to choose your wife. You will not see our faces. We are going to put our hands out of the window so when you come to me be sure to look at my finger. You know which one is crooked. I'll do the rest this evening." Again they go separate ways to the house. The old lady is still suspicious of the girl. The boy went back to the house and told the man. Red Hat said, "Good. You finished everything I asked you to do. Now the last thing is to choose your wife." That afternoon he called all the girls and told them to go down to the cellar and put their hands out of the window. The old lady is going around and around still suspicious of the girl. Red Hat took the boy around to where the window was so he can look at the hands of the girls. He looked them over and over and finally picked out his wife. The old man said, "You are right. You picked out your wife." But the old lady is mad because she thinks the girl told him how to go about