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### **Russian and English fairy-tales**

A fairy tale is one of the most popular genres in the world literature and the oldest kind of the folk art. Fairy tales of different nations have both similarities and differences due to socio-cultural characteristics between these two nations. Let's consider the most typical and popular Russian and English fairy tales.

The main types of fairy tales are:

Fairy tales about animals:

English: How Jack Went to Seek His Fortune, Titty Mouse and Tatty Mouse, Henny-Penny

Russian: The Little Straw Bull, the Little House, the Beanstalk [2]

Fairy tales about magic:

English: The Golden Arm, Molly Whuppie

Russian: Geese and Swans, Ivan and ChudoYudo[2]

Fairy tales about everyday life

English: Teeny-Tiny, Jack Hannaford, Lazy Jack [5]

Russian: Zhikharka, the Turnip

As we see, both Russian and English culture of writing fairy tales is the same. They have fairy tales about animals, magic and daily routine.

The usage of the means of expression:

The beginning of the tale

English: Once upon a time..., One day...

Russian: In the kingdom behind nine mountains... In the far-far-far-away kingdom

The end of the tale

English: They lived in a large house..., and with that, it vanished..., never saw again.

Russian: They all lived happily..., if they didn't die, then they still live today...

The beginning and the end are the traditional aspects for Russian fairy tales. They are usually absent in English ones. Russian tales are usually melodic, harmonious and smooth; this is possible by using the rhythmic phrases in the main parts of the tale.[4]

Epithets:

English: *Fairy tales are not so bright. The narration is smooth. There are rarely unexpected turns. These fairy tales narrate the information and state facts. The number of the means of expression is much less than in Russian tales. However, fixed expressions, rhymed remarks and songs about characters can make plots more entertaining and exciting.*[1]

Russian: Fairy tales are about events, daily routine and traditions, that's why different types of epithets are used. This technique helps fairy tales to gain melody and smoothness. Russian fairy tales are more lively, vivid and imaginative. *They have more epithets, fixed expressions, diminutive-affectionate suffixes and songs.*

Characters:

English: Characters in English fairy tales usually have such professions as farmers, peasants, merchants and brownies. They are rather passive and do not care about becoming famous, stronger or wiser, on the contrary, they try to avoid failure.[1] The character only observes the events that take place in the tale. English fairy tales teach a person to be smart, dexterous, calculating and cunning.

Russian: They are usually fictional and give the ideas of moral values – you have to be kind and responsive to other people. The main goal of the Russian fairytale character is to succeed in life, to defeat enemies, to become smarter or to get great wealth. Characters of English tales usually assess situations, while Russian characters rely on luck.[3]

All peoples in the world evolve and advance according to the general laws of history that is why their folk arts have a lot in common. However, the main features of fairy tales are connected with traditions of the area people come from.

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