

"Not will you be able to succeed. Truly, a very careful watch do they keep over it there where they dwell. An old man at the place abides. And all the while, as often as the day comes round, upon a net he works. Never anywhere does he go, but always there indoors he remains. Now, two are those daughters of his, and only they are continually out of doors."

And this he said to his grandmother: "Nevertheless I will go," he said to his grandmother.

"Very well," he was told by his grandmother.

Now, this was what he then said afterwards: "I will that the sea shall freeze, as thick as the birch-bark covering of the lodge so let this sea freeze."

It was true that it happened according as he had said.

"Now, this is the way I shall look," he said. "I will that I become a hare." So accordingly that truly was the way he looked. Thereupon he then started on his way over the ice. It was true that he did not break through (the ice). Of course it was so that he knew that at yonder place the people were abiding. And so after he was come at the place where they drew water, this then he thought: "I wish that for water some woman would come," he thought. And this he did there where she intended to dip up water: that after he was washed up by the waves of the sea, then he was tossed rolling to the place from which the woman was to draw water. And this he said: "I wish that she would take me for a plaything." So thereupon he lay in wait for her to come for water. Lo, truly he beheld her walking hitherward.

Thereupon soon was she come at the place where he was, at once she dipped out the water.

As soon as he was discovered, forthwith was he seized upon. And after the water had been rubbed from him, then was he taken over there to her home; in the bosom