

Chapter 11

FAIRY TALES AND THEIR IMPACT ON YOUNG LEARNERS STUDYING TURKISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE: CINDERELLA CASE

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INTRODUCTION

One of the most common fairy tales, the all known Cinderella by Perrault, always gains attention from different points of view. This paper delves into its entrepreneurial characteristics. “Fairy tales are a natural choice of motivational reading material because of their inherent meaning for children. Fairy tales present a crystal clear world that is compelling to children, appealing to their sense of absolute right and wrong” (Worthy and Bloodgood, 1992: 290). Worthy and Bloodgood state referring to Bettelheim (1976) by underlining the point that “Cinderella” is one of the mostly known and copied of fairy tales, which has more than 700 versions, almost in every culture (Ohmer, 1993). The triumph of right and wrong regarding to relations between siblings is portrayed within. But what is the entertainment value and moral behind that classic favourite among fairy tales, based on Grimm’s “Cinderella” ? Psychologist Bruno Bettelheim (1977) views the

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are observed to be unhappy and hardly learn faster than their peers in classes, this unhappiness might be solved by giving them tales in colourful visualized tales and also by power and magic activated in their minds and hearts so that they become the part of the country in a colourful mosaic and contribute to social life by bringing up their strength. Fairy tales could be remedies because of their presenting different characters in society and their social relationships. This plays an important role since they allow opportunity for discriminating selection. It should be recalled that fairy tales carry valuable statements in symbolic form about human nature. Then, young learners have a basis for understanding that there are great differences between people, and that therefore one has to make choices about which one they want to be. Several fairy tales are presented to illustrate their allegorical value in understanding human mental processes and to offer solutions to human issues, ultimately leading to transformation and more fulfilling lives. That is why, it is extremely important to tell young immigrant learners fairytales and legends because these things are instrumental symbols with whose help unconscious strengths emboldening consciousness, interpretation in the society wherein they are hosted.

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