Aarne-Thompson-Uther classification system of folktales (= Tale Type Index; ATU)

- a multivolume cataloque (register) of folktale types - an essential tool for folklorists

- organizes and classifies traditional European folktales based on identifying typical motifs and plot patterns in the narrative structures (every single type is given a number)

- first developed by Anti Aarne in 1910, later translated, revised, and enlarged by [Stith Thompson](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stith_Thompson)  in 1928 and 1961, and finally by Hans Jörg Uther in 2004.

[1 Animal Tales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Animal_tales)  ( = tales where animals act as the main characters)

1.1. [Wild Animals 1–99](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Wild_Animals_1.E2.80.9399)

 1.1.1 [The Clever Fox or other animal 1–69](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#The_Clever_Fox_or_other_animal_1.E2.80.9369)

[1.1.2 Other Wild Animals 70–99](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Other_Wild_Animals_70.E2.80.9399)

[1.2 Wild Animals and Domestic Animals 100–149](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Wild_Animals_and_Domestic_Animals_100.E2.80.93149)

[1.3 Wild Animals and Humans 150–199](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Wild_Animals_and_Humans_150.E2.80.93199)

[1.4 Domestic Animals 200–219](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Domestic_Animals_200.E2.80.93219)

[1.5 Other Animals and Objects 220–299](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Other_Animals_and_Objects_220.E2.80.93299)

[2 Fairy Tales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Fairy_Tales)

( = classic stories with magic aspect, good vs. evil conflict, hero´s journey, obstacles, antagonists, happy ending…)

[2.1 Supernatural Opponents 300–399](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Supernatural_Opponents_300.E2.80.93399)

[2.2 Supernatural or Enchanted Relatives 400–459](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Supernatural_or_Enchanted_Relatives_400.E2.80.93459)

[2.2.1 Wife 400–424](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Wife_400.E2.80.93424)

[2.2.2 Husband 425–449](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Husband_425.E2.80.93449)

[2.2.3 Brother or Sister 450–459](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Brother_or_Sister_450.E2.80.93459)

[2.3 Supernatural Tasks 460–499](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Supernatural_Tasks_460.E2.80.93499)

[2.4 Supernatural Helpers 500–559](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Supernatural_Helpers_500.E2.80.93559)

[2.5 Magic Items 560–649](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Magic_Items_560.E2.80.93649)

[2.6 Supernatural Power or Knowledge 650–699](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Supernatural_Power_or_Knowledge_650.E2.80.93699)

[2.7 Other stories of the supernatural 700–749](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Other_stories_of_the_supernatural_700.E2.80.93749)

[3 Religious Tales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Religious_Tales)

( = tales originating in christian legends with characters of the God and the saints and heaven and hell concept)

[3.1 God Rewards and Punishes 750–779](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#God_Rewards_and_Punishes_750.E2.80.93779)

[3.2 The Truth Comes to Light 780–791](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#The_Truth_Comes_to_Light_780.E2.80.93791)

[3.3 Heaven 800–809](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Heaven_800.E2.80.93809)

[3.4 The Devil 810–826](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#The_Devil_810.E2.80.93826)

[3.5 Other Religious Tales 827–849](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Other_Religious_Tales_827.E2.80.93849)

[4 Realistic Tales, or Novelles](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Realistic_Tales.2C_or_Novelles)  ( = adventure stories without any supernatural aspect)

[4.1 The Man Marries the Princess 850–869](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#The_Man_Marries_the_Princess_850.E2.80.93869)

[4.2 The Woman Marries the Prince 870–879](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#The_Woman_Marries_the_Prince_870.E2.80.93879)

[4.3 Proofs of Fidelity and Innocence 880–899](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Proofs_of_Fidelity_and_Innocence_880.E2.80.93899)

[4.4 The Obstinate Wife Learns to Obey 900–909](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#The_Obstinate_Wife_Learns_to_Obey_900.E2.80.93909)

[4.5 Good Precepts 910–919](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Good_Precepts_910.E2.80.93919)

[4.6 Clever Acts and Words 920–929](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Clever_Acts_and_Words_920.E2.80.93929)

[4.7 Tales of Fate 930–949](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Tales_of_Fate_930.E2.80.93949)

[4.8 Robbers and Murderers 950–969](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Robbers_and_Murderers_950.E2.80.93969)

[4.9 Other Realistic Tales 970–999](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Other_Realistic_Tales_970.E2.80.93999)

[5 Tales of the Stupid Ogre, Giant, or Devil](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Tales_of_the_Stupid_Ogre.2C_Giant.2C_or_Devil)

( = stories depicting conflict between a man and supernatural being, finally outwitted)

[5.1 Labor Contract 1000–1029](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Labor_Contract_1000.E2.80.931029)

[5.2 Partnership between Man and Ogre 1030–1059](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Partnership_between_Man_and_Ogre_1030.E2.80.931059)

[5.3 Contest between Man and Ogre 1060–1114](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Contest_between_Man_and_Ogre_1060.E2.80.931114)

[5.4 Man Kills (Injures) Ogre 1115–1144](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Man_Kills_.28Injures.29_Ogre_1115.E2.80.931144)

[5.5 Ogre Frightened by Man 1145–1154](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Ogre_Frightened_by_Man_1145.E2.80.931154)

[5.6 Man Outwits the Devil 1155–1169](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Man_Outwits_the_Devil_1155.E2.80.931169)

[5.7 Souls Saved from the Devil 1170–1199](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Souls_Saved_from_the_Devil_1170.E2.80.931199)

[6 Anecdotes and Jokes](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Anecdotes_and_Jokes) ( = entertaining stories with primarily comical purpose)

[6.1 Stories about a Fool 1200–1349](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Stories_about_a_Fool_1200.E2.80.931349)

[6.2 Stories about Married Couples 1350–1439](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Stories_about_Married_Couples_1350.E2.80.931439)

[6.2.1 The Foolish Wife and Her Husband 1380–1404](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#The_Foolish_Wife_and_Her_Husband_1380.E2.80.931404)

[6.2.2 The Foolish Husband and His Wife 1405–1429](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#The_Foolish_Husband_and_His_Wife_1405.E2.80.931429)

[6.2.3 The Foolish Couple 1430–1439](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#The_Foolish_Couple_1430.E2.80.931439)

[6.3 Stories about a Woman 1440–1524](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Stories_about_a_Woman_1440.E2.80.931524)

[6.3.1 Looking for a Wife 1450–1474](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Looking_for_a_Wife_1450.E2.80.931474)

[6.3.2 Jokes about Old Maids 1475–1499](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Jokes_about_Old_Maids_1475.E2.80.931499)

[6.3.3 Other Stories about Women 1500–1524](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Other_Stories_about_Women_1500.E2.80.931524)

[6.4 Stories about a Man 1525–1724](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Stories_about_a_Man_1525.E2.80.931724)

[6.4.1 The Clever Man 1525–1639](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#The_Clever_Man_1525.E2.80.931639)

[6.4.2 Lucky Accidents 1640–1674](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Lucky_Accidents_1640.E2.80.931674)

[6.4.3 The Stupid Man 1675–1724](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#The_Stupid_Man_1675.E2.80.931724)

[6.5 Jokes about Clergymen and Religious Figures 1725–1849](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Jokes_about_Clergymen_and_Religious_Figures_1725.E2.80.931849)

[6.5.1 The Clergyman is Tricked 1725–1774](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#The_Clergyman_is_Tricked_1725.E2.80.931774)

[6.5.2 Clergyman and Sexton 1775–1799](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Clergyman_and_Sexton_1775.E2.80.931799)

[6.5.3 Other Jokes about Religious Figures 1800–1849](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Other_Jokes_about_Religious_Figures_1800.E2.80.931849)

[6.6 Anecdotes about Other Groups of People 1850–1874](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Anecdotes_about_Other_Groups_of_People_1850.E2.80.931874)

[6.7 Tall Tales 1875–1999](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Tall_Tales_1875.E2.80.931999)

 [7 Formula Tales](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Formula_Tales) ( = tales where the main feature is their repetitive form or play on words)

[7.1 Cumulative Tales 2000–2100](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Cumulative_Tales_2000.E2.80.932100)

[7.1.1 Chains Based on Numbers, Objects, Animals, or Names 2000–2020](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Chains_Based_on_Numbers.2C_Objects.2C_Animals.2C_or_Names_2000.E2.80.932020)

[7.1.2 Chains Involving Death 2021–2024](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Chains_Involving_Death_2021.E2.80.932024)

[7.1.3 Chains Involving Eating 2025–2028](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Chains_Involving_Eating_2025.E2.80.932028)

[7.1.4 Chains Involving Other Events 2029–2075](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Chains_Involving_Other_Events_2029.E2.80.932075)

[7.2 Catch Tales 2200–2299](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Catch_Tales_2200.E2.80.932299)

[7.3 Other Formula Tales 2300–2399](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aarne%E2%80%93Thompson_classification_system#Other_Formula_Tales_2300.E2.80.932399)