

2nd  
iteration

## "Demons"—Der Nister

### Outline in class

- I. Outer frame: young imp cajoles an older imp into telling him a story. The main activity of the story is storytelling.
- II. The Demon's Tale

W  
SS

A. Two imps waylay a lone traveler

B. Waylaid man led to a cottage with an old crone and forest warden

C. man spits angrily into a well, and is dragged inside as a result by the imp and the demon (261)

D. Underground Tavern (represents sexual licentiousness, opposite of nozer); Man/devil change places (262)

E. A Vast Assemblage of Demons in a Hall

-one undifferentiated mass, and completely incompatible with one another

-against this background, the man wants to demonstrate something (ability to gain freedom, which demons don't have); makes the demons swear by their "community," which doesn't have real meaning for them.

F. The Mirror: Night Palace

1 The wayfarer marries the imp's daughter in a pseudo-religious ceremony.

2 A child is born.

3 Love scene (271) Enter the hall w/rooster to free the Wayfarer; DAYTIME

Man enacts his essential humanity (264)

Horns & hide slipping from his head (272)

Rescued from inside the mirror by the wayfarer-husband; wife

produces a rooster (273)

...who escapes from the well & betrays the demons; his story  
storytelling; last act before being flayed alive

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