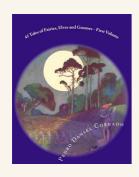
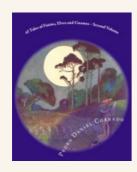
45 TALES OF FAIRIES, ELVES AND GNOMES



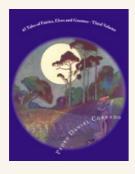
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Second Volume

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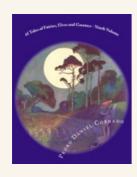
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THE PROHIBITED ROOM

There once was a sorcerer who disguised as a beggar, was touring the houses, charming girls more beautiful than he found, who never returned to the parental home.

A day was to go begging at the door of a very beautiful man who had three daughters when the oldest gave him a large slice of bread.

When she turned back, the sorcerer touched her arm, and even against her will, the poor girl was forced to enter into the basket that the beggar was leaving the slopes; once inside it, the sorcerer took her to his house, located amid a dense forest. Everything was great, and there was all the girl could want.

A few days later the sorcerer said her that he had to undertake a journey, gave her the keys to the house, added that she was free to go through all the rooms, except one, and warned her that if she come in there she would die. At the same time gave her an egg and instructed her greatly that she must avoid losing it.

At soon as the sorcerer left, the young man began to devise throughout the house, finding all the rooms full of beautiful objects. Finally, she came at the gate of the forbidden chamber, and after hesitating for a moment; the curiosity prevailed in her soul and came across their doors.

The spectacle that was offered to her view was terrifying: she saw a myriad of girls that had been taken prisoners, and all of them were as asleep. The young woman, impressed by the immobility of those bodies, ran out of the room, fleeing it as far as possible.

To her horror, the egg dropped from her hand, which was not broken, but when she got up from the ground, warned that it had been stained red, and despite how much she tried, could not clean it.