

Chapter 4

The seven dwarfs

4.1 The cottage

Little snow-white was so hungry and thirsty that she ate some vegetables and bread from each plate and drank a drop of wine out of each mug, for she did not wish to take all from one only. Then, as she was so tired, she laid herself down on one of the little beds, but none of them suited her, one was too long, another too short, but at last she found that the seventh one was right, and so she remained in it, said a prayer and went to sleep.

4.2 The dwarfs

When it was quite dark the owners of the cottage came back. They were seven dwarfs¹ who dug and delved in the mountains for ore. They lit their seven candles, and as it was now light within the cottage they saw that someone had been there, for everything was not in the same order in which they had left it.

1. The first said, “who has been sitting on my chair.”
2. The second, “who has been eating off my plate.”
3. The third, “who has been taking some of my bread.”
4. The fourth, “who has been eating my vegetables.”
5. The fifth, “who has been using my fork.”
6. The sixth, “who has been cutting with my knife.”
7. The seventh, “who has been drinking out of my mug.”

Then the first looked round and saw that there was a little hollow on his bed, and he said, who has been getting into my bed. The others came up and each called out, somebody has

¹Walt Disney was the first one to give names to the dwarfs: Dopey, Grumpy, Doc, Happy, Bashful, Sneezy and Sleepy.