

GEORGE M GROW JR



# AWAKEN, YOU SLEEPING BEAUTY

A PLAY FOR FUN AND STUDY IN 3 ACTS  
BASED ON THE FAIRY TALE  
BY THE BROTHERS GRIMM



From the series Books of Life®  
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## THERE'S STILL ONE SEAT LEFT

What if we all, like the enchanted princess, are in a deep sleep right now? Can this bold claim be corroborated? If so, all the elements which appear in the fairy tale must play a central role in our lives: the castle, the spinning wheel, the spindle, the needle, the hundred-year sleep, the hedge of thorns, the prince, the kiss and the wise women. And who is the 13th Wise Woman who puts Snow White under a sleeping spell, a witch or a fairy, anyway? And why does the whole royal court fall into slumber in company with the girl?

To clarify these questions once and for all, an illustrious society from all over the world comes together in Nob Hill, San Francisco, to the salon of Madame Stadnikow - a dazzling diva of bygone days - and, as it seems, discover the eternal secrets of life.

Don't miss the next volume!

The Books of Life®

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## Reading sample, page 8

MR. GILDERSLEEVE. All things considered, today, we would like to pose five questions: Who is Briar Rose? Why is she sleeping? What happens when she sleeps? How can we wake her up? And, what happens if she awakes and which consequences arise from this for her, for all of us?

ROLAND. I think the first question, who Briar Rose would be, has already been answered. The sleeping girl is me (to the hostess) is you (to Mr. Gildersleeve) and you, (to the audience) she is all of us.

OLD JANOSH (with twitching eyes). Perhaps you and you, but certainly not me! (He guffaws.) How can old Janosh be Sleeping Beauty since he is her redeemer, since he brings everything under one roof, and this is magic!

MRS. STADNIKOW (slightly disconcerted). Absolutely! (She scrutinizes the aged Janosh in his blue guard uniform from head to foot.) Wonderful. (To the audience.) Well, Señorías! We have asked the people in the

street what Sleeping Beauty's slumber can tell us. Let us see the interviews we have prepared! (Overhead off.)

HOLECTION. (Five interviews in South Market Street and in Noe Valley. Question: What does Sleeping Beauty's slumber mean to you?)

MRS. STADNIKOW (spotlight on, to the audience). Now we would like to ask what we think of this sleep. Raise your hands and I will call on each of you in turn. Short interjections are welcome. Off we go!

Yes, in the second row?

LYNNETTE. If we abide by the fairytale, then all of us are sleeping till a dashing prince comes along and kisses us awake. But where is this fellow?

MRS. STADNIKOW (to the audience). Someone else? No! Perhaps we can better answer the question of whether we are sleeping or not if we turn to the second question: Why is the girl sleeping? The matter of the curse seems to be important. We should wonder, who the thirteenth wise woman could be, why was she told not to come and why did she curse the king's daughter. Who or what does she embody? How do we all reply this question?

YOUNG MAN. By the way here, I figured out this curse. It is the economization. People for the sake of working and not work to benefit the people, it is said. That's what the spinning wheel and the sleep at the royal court stand for.

LYNNETTE. Don't over-analyze things!

YOUNG MAN. Who? Me?

COMMISSIONER. Fore sure! A fish rots from the head down and from the fin up, young friend. Businessmen follow the market demand or they go bankrupt.

LYNNETTE. Aha, still more commercials.

YOUNG MAN. It's never too late for...

A VOIVE. Atishoo!

MRS. STADNIKOW. In order to not to risk our last bit of liberty, today, heading for tomorrow, we don't want to deal with revolution but with evolution. Certainly all of us have noticed! This evening, the commissioner - to put it plainly -

has been imposed on us by the municipal authorities. By act of the new public and media law, a referee has to be present at events of ten and more participants.

TWO VOICES. Shoot the ref, shoot the ref!!!

MRS. STADNIKOW. Since the gentleman from the magistrate is just present, we would rejoice if he actively takes part in our play and doesn't just brandish his red card. Here we are. Yes, my sweet angel, you, in the first row!

YOUNG LADY. Couldn't it be that the curse put on the girl is actually fueled by her parents, the king and the queen, who permanently dictate to her what she has to do? So, I thought, she never will come of age, bides her time, sleeping.

COMMISSIONER (waves the flyer in his hand). It is written that this evening would occur under the auspices of... (he reads) "the global master plan for the jump from the modern era into the I-times". This I wanted to observe, that's why I came by too!

LYNNETTE. Modern age, I-times, what an absurd idea.

OLD JANOSH. Lady, there are no absurd ideas but only a too feeble will to effect them. Bit for all that, something like this requires not only an outer dimension but also an inner one.

AUDIENCE (whispers).

MRS. STADNIKOW. Wherefore we would like to disregard everything that could pass as polite conversation or as a press release and like to concentrate on the real core, on ourselves.

OLD JANOSH (jumped up). What this

endogenous dimension would be? Spirituality certainly. Of course! (He holds the flyer up and taps his finger repeatedly on it.) Quite so! However, no denomination, no faith, no fixation, no institutionalization!

LYNNETTE. Bravo, sit down!

OLD JANOSH (mumbling). Spirituality that fulfills the scientific requirements, that fulfills the conditions of the experiment. (Sonorously.) Sure! You well know that spirituality cannot be constituted but only experienced! (He chortles.) My God, how I am bothered by today's horrid optimism!

MRS. STADNIKOW. Good approaches! (To Mr. Gildersleeve.) Don't we think so?

MR. GILDERSLEEVE. Indeed, my compliments to the audience, but let us return to the question of whether the thirteenth woman is wise, even she is known as such. Why? She puts hexes on people, hexes that shall bring disaster to a person or to a place, which shall force atonement in a ritual way. The opposite would be a blessing.

MRS. STADNIKOW. I see. Those who damn others doesn't want to change themselves but want to change the others. The blessing would be to let them remain as they are. And because it looks like the course of society would be more determined by curses than by blessings, we do see a ritual in it?

MR. GILDERSLEEVE. Well, this ritual is the one-dimensionality. What does this mean? It implies that our everyday thinking and feeling aims in one single direction. No matter at

what cost, it is targeted at the acquisition, the possession and the use of material THINGS.

DOCTOR SICK. I beg your pardon, but curses are old wives' tales. Even if hundred million people believe in something stupid like that, it remains stupid.

OLD JANOSH. I wish, but magic means to manipulate our attention. Manipulation in our mind is the rule, not the exception. What is illusion, what is reality?

End of the reading sample

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Preview

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# THE BEGGERS' BANQUETE

Comedy

A PLAY FOR FUN AND STUDY  
IN THREE ACTS  
DAWN OF THE NEW ERA



## AN ANSWER TO SAMUEL BECKETT'S RENOWNED PLAY *WAITING FOR GODOT*

The world is still in ruins. Even Manhattan's Central Park has not been spared the devastating consequences of a global society in which everyone is waiting on the next person for nothing to happen, and offers shelter and the opportunity to leave the old world behind and to enter a new one to the derelicts Chad and Babir as well. What the one cannot manage, the other one succeeds in such large and firm steps that he, in a sense, doesn't find the path, not the road and not the street, but the highway to Urtopia, where he's expected by a society which makes a king out of beggars like him.

The pain is fresh, we still can learn why the New York City Council funds courses in which beggars are retrained as figureheads of a new era.

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Preview

GEORGE M GROW JR



# HONEY FONGUS

Beast from the underworld

A SCARY PLAY IN 3 ACTS  
THE FINAL DAYS OF HUMAN KIND?



## HELP, HONEY FONGUS IS APPROACHING! THE BIG FEAST AND DESSERT

Nobody could have expected that the Last Judgment will come not from heaven but from deep under the earth below us.

Or is it just a purely natural phenomenon that extends its devastating antennae over long distances for the life of man, but doesn't separate each of us from lifeblood?

The stage and reading play - it was designed in such a way that it works well when read aloud – keeps track of the murder or suicide case of the young researcher Dr. Weingartner from the Geological Institute in Concord, New Hampshire, USA, as far as Peterborough and the cottage on the edge of human civilization, where the horror seems to have its origin.

Who is the Brotherhood of the Woods, and why do more and more people in the street, out of the sky, keel over dead? Can Dr. Weingartner, who was said to be too good for this world, solve the riddle before he breathes his last breath, or is humanity finally going to the dogs?

Before all this, though, they sing and dance, and the trumpet of Empyrial wisdom resounds. Is its sound so sweet and clear that even the profound scientist sings along with it?

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