

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 50

OLD JANOSH. For now, it would be paramount to know that the gateway to the unity of things isn't the mind, is not science, is not tradition, is not mythology, but is one's own experience.

LYNNETTE. But before it reaches the brain, it goes through the heart.

A VOICE. That's true.

WILLIAM (snores).

OLD JANOSH (opens his jacket and gets out a pocket edition of Grimms' Household Tales).

ROLAND. Everybody's Broken.

LYNNETTE. Yadda, yadda, yadda.

WILLIAM (half aroused). H ... has he already kissed her?

LYNNETTE (pinches in his arm).

WILLIAM. Owww!

MRS. STADNIKOW. Honestly, so we will never wake up. The ball is in your court! Yes, Sir, you in the stately uniform!

OLD JANOSH. It is obvious that the number fifteen indicates the minimum number of years which are needed until the princess falls completely under the spell. Unfortunately, the fairytale does not tell us what was happening at the royal court up from the day the curse was cast to the day when the girl pricked herself at the spindle. But there is no doubt that the first heroes set out to try their luck far away during this time, but the limelight doesn't fall on them, but, as the fairytale tells, on the castle and its residents assiduously conjure the old times. Among them Briar Rose is the only person who, due to the curse, has revolted

against the king, the queen and, more than likely, against the ruling priest caste by abjuring the legendary unity.

MRS. STADNIKOW. And so, today, nobody believes in...

DOCTOR BARON. Metaphysics.

OLD JANOSH. Hoping for all and believing in nothing.

MR. GILDERSLEEVE. Don't lose sight that Briar Rose could well have been the first to fall under the spell of the curse, while her deep sleep is a collective matter today. Everything that took place in the fairytale castle must be understood as a precedent that has developed into the norm of all cases of today. For that reason, everybody lulls everybody else deeper and deeper into sleep.

MRS. STADNIKOW. This might mean that it was not the spinning wheel that was evil but the fact that we never stop turning it, right?

MR. GILDERSLEEVE. If we concern ourselves with nothing but things, we produce the impression that what we see would already be the whole of life.

OLD JANOSCH (reads). "What sort of thing is that, which rattles round so merrily?"

MR. GILDERSLEEVE. The fairytale tells us that we snatch only a glimpse of liveliness from our usual view. The thorn of disunity is sitting deeply in our side. It has made us dizzy or sleepy, and if we don't pull it out soon...

LYNNETTE. The devil will take us.

MRS. STADNIKOW. Life also can be tough, Madam.

LYNNETTE. Mrs. Stadnikow!

MRS. STADNIKOW. I suggested life can be very tough.

LYNNETTE. I should hope so too!

ROLAND. At The End of Twilight.

OLD JANOSH. Because anyone who doesn't adapt, will be left out.

WILLIAM. Out where?

MRS. STADNIKOW. Not out of my apartment; out of life.

LYNNETTE. And adapting to what?

OLD JANOSH. To put it in the language of this evening: to the diversity and to the unity.

MR. GILDERSLEEVE (nods his assent).

MRS. STADNIKOW (with her eyes set on the officer). Golly! Now we are completely surprised at what a profound audience we have today. Certainly, we are no longer standing naively and without points of view in the focus of those questions that refer to our awakening. The right measure, in this most basic case, the measure in which we take individuality, the social and the cosmic order and truth into account, is still one of the four cardinal virtues, which hail from antiquity along with wisdom, justice and morally profound bravery. Excellent, ladies and gentlemen! I suppose we should next bring up the question of whom or what the prince embodies, as he wakes up the girl after one hundred years. Does the number one hundred tells us that Sleeping Beauty can be awakened only at a certain time or does the number suggest that it needs a good while till the girl is ready to be awakened? The sir with the spectacles has an idea!

DOCTOR BARON. Mrs. Stadnikow! Either she's able to manage it quite

alone or it is simply not to be.

WILLIAM. We should be able to kiss ourselves.

MRS. STADNIKOW (to the doctor). Aha, and we have learned to read and write on our own too.

OLD JANOSH (superciliously). If the doctor could count to three ...

COMMISSIONER (to Old Janosh). Careful, Mister! You have already been admonished.

LYNNETTE (impatiently). Who then is the prince? Maybe you, Mr. Gildersleeve? This is just a costume, isn't it?

MRS. STADNIKOW. Ladies and gentlemen! Condemned by the program, Roland will give us an answer to this question in a song.

DOCTOR BARON (with a skeptical glimpse at Mr. Gildersleeve's evening attire). A pure masquerade, if I may say so.

OLD JANOSH. Masks are not meant to hide behind, Doctor; they help you to change.

MRS. STADNIKOW. Please, ladies and gentlemen! Are we done? Great! Well, the question was: Who is the prince that awakes Sleeping Beauty? As an answer, let us hear Roland Mueller, who perhaps can enlighten us with another song from his new album! Applause! (Overhead off.)

ROLAND (spot on; sings and plays Let Us Go a Part Of the Way.)

Come, brother, let us go  
together a part of the way.

Let us face the world  
with two sets of eyes and show...  
come, come, let us go!

Come, sister, let us go  
together a part of the way.

Let us face the world  
with two sets of eyes and show...  
come, come, let us go!

Come, mother, let us go  
together a part of the way.  
Let us face the world  
with two sets of eyes and me,  
come, come, let us see!  
(Thomas feels obliged to join in  
singing.)

Come, mother, let us see,  
go, understand,  
together a part of the way.  
Let us face the world  
with two sets of eyes and me,  
come, come, let us see!

(Spot off, applause, overhead on.)

MRS. STADNIKOW. My word, Roland,  
what a gripping song!

COMMISSIONER. And a lousy accom-  
panist.

WILLIAM (to Thomas.) As a stopgap,  
you sing quite well, boy. Harharhar!

DOCTOR BARON. If it had been a dog  
howling like that, I'd have strung  
him up.

MRS STADNIKOW. That's just what we  
have from the Tokay, the officer has  
brought from Lake Balaton as a pre-  
sent for the host.

A VOICE. And precisely, where will we  
*go together* now?

DOCTOR BARON. Down.

MRS. STADNIKOW. Mr. Gildersleeve,  
where will we go a part of the way  
together with our dear guests?

OLD JANOSH. Development without  
interrupting progress; underworld  
without becoming tired of the  
world of things.

YOUNG LADY. May I ask a question?

MRS. STADNIKOW. Correct, well

guessed!

OLD JANOSH (shocked). Mrs. Stadnikow! --- Do I look like I am guessing?

MRS. STADNIKOW. You look strange anyway, Officer. Uch. (She clumsily shifts the little crown on her head.) Probably, we all need an extra outfit, if we want to interest us in something new. Fact is that we can gather from the protocol that “development” and “progress” are correct. To go on as prescribed, we would like to watch the interviews we have prepared at this point. Run the film! (Overhead off.)

HOLECTION (of six interviews in front of the Civic Center and in the parking lot in front of the Live Learning Academy on Treasure Island. Question: What does tell you the term “progress”?)

MRS. STADNIKOW (overhead on.) We would suggest that we start viewing the second block to be able to compare them and see how far phase three is yet in people’s mind. (Overhead off.)

HOLECTION (of six interviews in the Claremont County Club and at a kiosk in Golden Gate Park. Question: What does the word “development” tell you?)

MRS. STADNIKOW (overhead on). In the opposite circle of questions, we see that the respondents had little use for “development” and that they put it with “progress” in one basket. How can we get on, if we have no idea what development and progress imply?

OLD JANOSH. All are cursed, all are sleeping heavily.

LYNNETTE. Who all?

OLD JANOSH. Everybody, everyone.

LYNNETTE. I'm certainly not.

MRS. STADNIKOW. Señorías! Be reminded that in sleep, we aren't conscious of the fact that we are sleeping.

OLD JANOSH (reads from the book of fairytales). "The horses, too, went to sleep in the stable, the dogs in the yard, the pigeons upon the roof, the flies on the wall, even the fire that was flaming on the hearth became quiet and slept, the roast meat stopped sizzling, and the cook, who was just going to pull the hair of the scullery boy for forgetting something, let him go, and went to sleep. And the wind fell, and on the trees before the castle not a leaf moved again."

MRS. STADNIKOW. You, little angel!

YOUNG LADY. Question. Do we have to go through phase two, is it necessary to abide the long sleep, or is there a short cut either?

MRS. STADNIKOW. Who would like to answer? We? Here we go!

OLD JANOSH. Since man learns in baby steps it must well be that the girl passes through the knowledge till she sees that she has to believe if she wants to comprehend.

WILLIAM (delighted). This would mean that there is a way through the earth into the sky too.

DOCTOR BARON. Mister, hundred years are up faster than you think.

LYNNETTE. And good things come to those who wait.

MRS. STADNIKOW. Let us take over, establish some order and take us up to the intermission then.

OLD JANOSH. I can't stand disorder either, Mrs. Stadnikow. I was an

officer of the guard only because of my liking for order. And when I was pensioned off in my twenty-fifth year, I set out to trace the phenomena to a higher order.

DOCTOR BARON. Firsthand, I can assure that the ones who lack an inner order are often obsessed with tidying up appearances, while many of those who have an internal order live like the pigs. Therefore it is said that order is half of life and not the whole of it.

WILLIAM. My wife cleans all day, she hunts down every speck of dust!

LYNNETTE (bops William one on the head).

MRS. STADNIKOW. Ladies and gentlemen! Don't drive me mad. The officer has the floor!

OLD JANOSH. In order not to get bogged down in details, we should stick to the fairytale. It seems important that the old woman who Briar Rose finds at the spinning wheel in the tower room is the same person who cursed her fifteen years earlier. She is the thirteenth fairy, who is not wise but clever.

LYNNETTE (angry). He won't admit that he who curses babies would be clever!

MRS. STADNIKOW. Let's look into the nature of the curse more precisely!

End of the reading sample

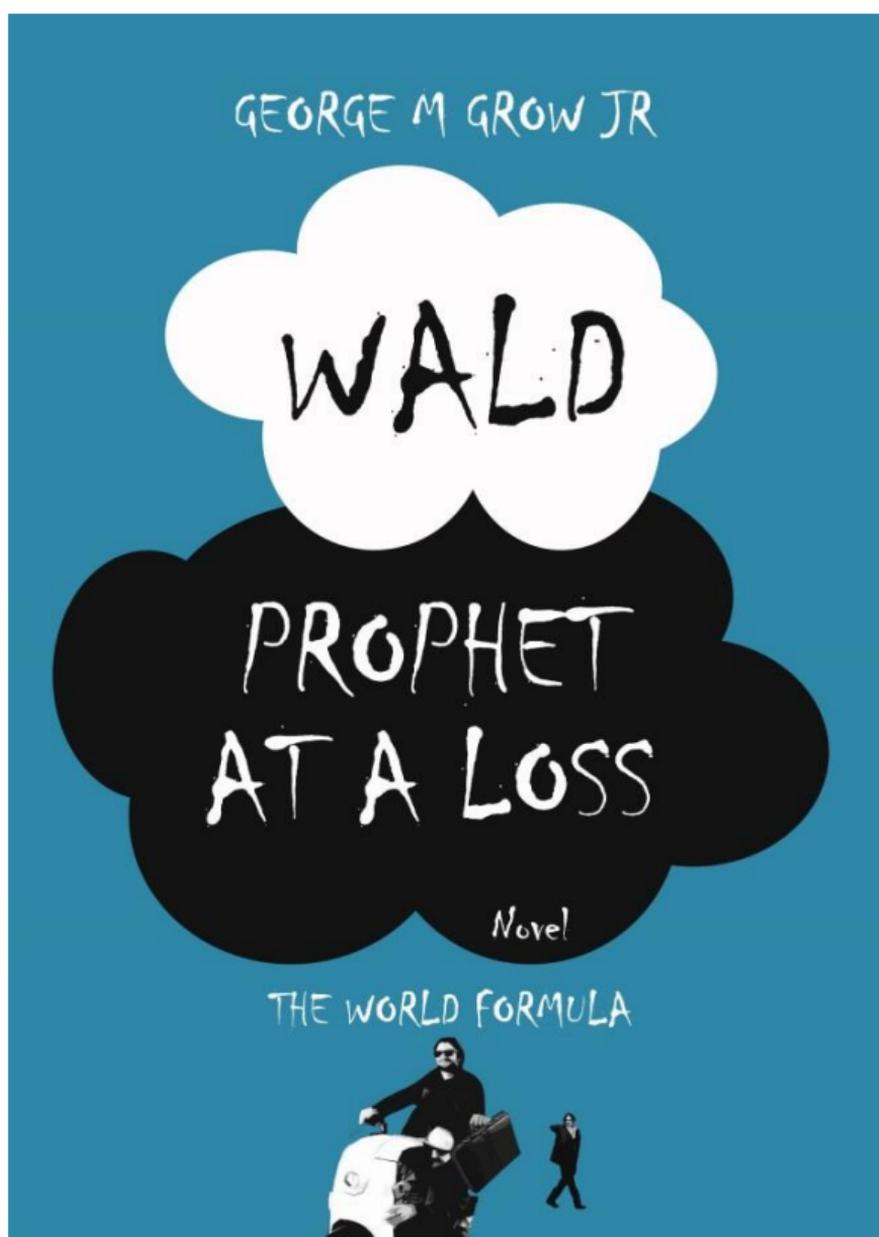
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Preview

## A FANTASTIC JOURNEY TO THE VERY CORE OF REALITY

With the enthusiasm and curiosity of the researcher, Wald Whittman, a rising star of the zombie film genre, immersed in his frenetic party life, surrounded by desirable women, finds himself entering the world of "non-everyday reality". It's an enormous undertaking to create a Buddha who goes beyond the Buddha we have come to know and accept, and turn the vital question of man and humanity on its head, for my young friend Wald who - expelled from Vienna and pursued by Islamic terrorists - makes his way to Kashmir, India, where he not only comes upon the ominous Prince and his companion Mr. Osama bin Laden, but also upon his long-sought love and the reason for his existence.

A comedy of salvation for theists and atheists, a humorous trip full of surprises and, as it seems, the long-sought master key to everyone's desires in this world.

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## Preview

GEORGE M GROW JR



# THE HABITUS

Lifestyle

POWER AND SECRETS OF ELEGANCE



## KEY TO SUCCESS

What is the meaning of success? Countless guidebooks have been pursuing this puzzle since time immemorial.

In essence, anyone who thinks they are successful could write a guide to success. Too often overlooked is that the touchstone of success cannot exclusively be the dominant social model: money gives us some freedom and can open up creative possibilities, why it can be important before and a part, but certainly not the only ingredient of success.

And so there may be a whole list of ingredients of success which make many kinds of wealth possible, but, at the same time, interfere with each other.

In his quest to resolve the question of success, the author follows another path and, as it seems, comes to a far-reaching conclusion which doesn't lie at but rather behind the phenomena.

The Habitus offers you a universal key that can open doors and gates of which you thought they would never open to you.

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