

THE MOORISH ROCK

This rock is very famous in the whole region of Bocelo, not only for its big size, since according to its peasants there is not a bigger rock in Spain, but also for the amount of gold it keeps inside itself.

The rock was not born there, an old woman brought it on her head as she came spinning some thread. However it must have been very heavy because as soon as the old woman put it down, she said:

- Damn it, you rock, you are quite heavy; to hell with you!

At that very moment, the rock was struck by lightning and part of it was cut off. Nowadays, we can still see that piece next to the rock.

Someone cast a spell on the rock with a copper pot full of gold, a rope made of silk and a walking stick. They wrapped up the pot with the rope, and making three crosses over it, with the walking stick, they said:

- The one who wants to remove the spell from you shall with this stick three times hit you!

As soon as these words were said, the rope turned into an ugly snake, which ran away into the earth, with the pot.

Now, to disenchant it, we have to look for the walking stick and the book of San Cibrao, which, as far as I know, was in the hands of a priest from somewhere near As Corredoiras,.

The highlanders have worked very hard to dig up the treasure, and they have spent some sleepless nights sweating blood only to meet disappointment.

One day came a priest asking for the rock, and a neighbour from A Moruxosa took him there. Once by the rock, the priest told the man:

- Look, you are going to do all the things that I do, but without saying a word.

Once he said that, the priest started to read and unread things, and as he was reading, the rock began to open up until it was wide open and an altar with golden saints appeared in front of them. Then the priest put down the open book, with some stones on it so that it would not close, because if that happened, the rock would also close. He went up to the altar and took one of the saints. But the peasant was frightened and didn't want to follow the priest, who came out angrily and touched the book accidentally. The book closed, and so did the rock. Today we can still see a breach at the place where the rock opened.



A Pena da Moura, Bocelo- Toques (Terra de Melide)
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