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The wife who went away with the fairies *Read by Anne Sinclair*

There was a man they used to call Grey Alasdair and he was a Robertson in Bohespic up on the Duke of Atholl's estate. His wife set off to go to the peat moss and they didn't know where she'd gone. She didn't come home to tell the tale and she was away for seven years.

One day her husband and a neighbour went up the hill on the western part of Sliabh Bohespic, cutting turf to thatch houses, when they heard the noise of a whirlwind coming over Geata an t-Sliabh and Grey Alasdair told the neighbour to pick up a big handful of earth and throw it high into the whirlwind. A woman appeared and came down onto the ground and Grey Alasdair said that if his wife was alive, that that was his wife. They went to talk to the woman and she told them that she was with the fairies, dancing and playing music. She didn't understand that seven years had passed but felt it was only like one day. And she spent many days and years with her husband after the seven years she spent with the fairies.

Story collected from Mrs MacPherson and read by Anne Sinclair from 'Tales from Highland Perthshire Collected by Lady Evelyn Stewart Murray' - Translated and Edited by Sylvia Robertson and Tony Dilworth

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