



Storytelling

Little Red Riding Hood

Folktale

Once upon a time there was a little girl who lived at the edge of a forest. She always wore a red coat so everyone called her Little Red Riding Hood. One day her mother asked her to visit her grandmother.

"Take this basket of goodies to your grandma's cottage, but don't talk to strangers on the way!" she urged. Promising not to, Little Red Riding Hood skipped off and began walking happily through the forest. On her way she met the Big Bad Wolf.

"Where are you going, little girl?" he asked.

"To my grandma's, Mr. Wolf!" answered Little Red Riding Hood and off she skipped further along the path to grandma's cottage. The Big Bad Wolf then quickly ran to her grandmother's cottage much before Little Red Riding Hood and locked poor grandma up in the cupboard!

The wicked wolf then wore Grandma's clothes and lay on her bed, waiting patiently for Little Red Riding Hood. When Little Red Riding Hood reached the cottage, she entered and went to Grandma's bedside.

"My! What big eyes you have, Grandma!" she exclaimed in surprise. "All the better to see you with, my dear!" replied the wolf.

"My! What big ears you have, Grandma!" said Little Red Riding Hood. "All the better to hear you with, my dear!" sneered the wolf.

"What big teeth you have, Grandma!" remarked Little Red Riding Hood.

"All the better to eat you with!" growled the wolf pouncing on her.

Little Red Riding Hood screamed as loud as she could and a hunter in the forest came running to the cottage. He captured the Big Bad Wolf and rescued Grandma from the cupboard. Grandma hugged Little Red Riding Hood with joy. The Big Bad Wolf ran away never to be seen again.



Storytelling

The Three Billy Goats Gruff

Norwegian folktale

Once upon a time there were three goats who were on their way to the meadow to eat some grass. To do so, however, they must first cross a bridge, under which lives a fearsome troll, who is so territorial that he eats anyone who tries to cross the bridge.

The smallest billy goat is the first to cross and is stopped abruptly by the troll. "Who is tripping over my bridge?" roared the troll.

"Oh, it is only I, the tiniest Billy Goat Gruff, and I'm going up to the hillside meadow to make myself fat," said the billy goat, with such a small voice.

"Now, I'm coming to gobble you up," said the troll.

"Oh, no! don't take me. I'm too little" said the billy goat.

"Wait a bit till the second Billy Goat Gruff comes. He's much bigger."

"Well, off you go" said the troll.

A little while after came the second Billy Goat Gruff to cross the bridge. Trip, trap, trip, trap, trip, trap, went the bridge.

"Who's that tripping over my bridge?" roared the troll.

"

Oh, it's the second Billy Goat Gruff, and I'm going up to the hillside to make myself fat," said the billy goat, who hadn't such a small voice.

"Now I'm coming to gobble you up," said the troll.

"Oh, no! Don't take me. Wait a little till the big Billy Goat Gruff comes. He's much bigger."

"Very well! Off you go" said the troll.

But just then up came the big Billy Goat Gruff

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Trip, trap, trip, trap, trip, trap! went the bridge, for the billy goat was so heavy that the bridge creaked and groaned under him.

"Who's that tramping over my bridge?" roared the troll.

"It's I! The big Billy Goat Gruff," he said with an ugly hoarse voice of his own.

"Now I'm coming to gobble you up," roared the troll.

"Well come along," said the big Billy Goat Gruff and knocked the troll off the bridge with his big horns. The troll falls into the stream and is carried away by the current. From then on the bridge is safe, and all three goats are able to go to the rich fields and they all live happily ever after.



Storytelling

The Princess and the Pea

By H.C. Andersen

Once upon a time in a land far away there lived a king and a queen with their son. The king and queen were getting older and therefore wanted to surrender the crown to the son, the prince, so he would become the king of the country. It was just a problem, the prince had no wife so who would then become the queen of the country? The king talked to his son. The prince then promised that he would ride out in the world to look for a wife. The queen then told his son that it must be a real princess.

The Prince rode into the wide world to look for a wife, but could not find anyone. The prince explained that it was difficult to find out whether they were real princesses.

One evening, when the king, the queen and the prince sat by the fire playing a board game, a terrible storm broke out. The rain poured down, with thunder and lightning and it blew up to a real storm.

Just then a they heard a knock on the door. "Who can be out in this storm," said the queen. The old king went to open the door. A young woman was at the door with water running down from her hair and clothes.

"May I stay the night? I was out for ride with my horse and got lost in this terrible storm. I am a princess."

The queen asked her if she really was a real princess. The girl promised that she was. The queen said she would stay overnight, but first she would have dry clothes and something to eat. The queen went for himself to arrange the guest room. She asked the servants to get twenty mattresses and twenty featherbeds. At the bottom she laid a small hard pea.

The next day, they asked the girl how she had slept.

"Terribly bad. Goodness knows what there was in the bed. It was as if I was lying on something hard, I am black and blue all over my body", said the young woman.

Now they could see that she was a real princess, who had such a delicate skin so she could feel the little pea through twenty mattresses and twenty feather bolsters.

The prince asked if the princess wanted to marry him and she said yes. They lived happily ever after.