
TALK ABOUT TEXTS
The Not-So Big Bad Wolf
Written by Gordon Coutts
Illustrated by Nik Afia

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macmillan education

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Chapter 1

The Wolf



Once upon a time, a wolf lived in a deep, dark forest. He was big but he wasn't bad. He had sharp teeth and claws, but he wasn't fierce.

One day, the wolf went strolling through the forest. He greeted the birds in the trees and the animals playing on the forest floor. He whistled a cheerful tune.

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Then the wolf heard something. There was a noise drifting through the forest. It was a sweet voice. It was singing the most wonderful song.

The wolf bounded towards the sound of the singing. He caught sight of something bright red moving between the brown and green colours of the forest. It was a young girl in a red cloak.



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"What are you doing by yourself in the forest?" he asked the girl. "You should be careful so you don't lose your way among those trees. Let me walk with you."

The startled girl jumped in surprise.



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"You frightened me," she said. "I'm going to visit my Grandma. She told me not to talk to strangers. I definitely shouldn't talk to wolves, especially big, bad ones."

"Hang on there," said the wolf. "Your Grandma is correct about talking to those bad wolves. However, I'm not a bad wolf – I'm a good guy, honestly."

"Hmm, well, you do seem friendly, I suppose," said the girl. "You can walk with me for a while. However, you'd better not try to gobble me up with those big teeth. My name is Red Riding Hood."

The wolf said, "Of course I won't eat you. But I do know some useful shortcuts through the woods. Follow me!"

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Chapter 2

On the Way to Grandma's House



The wolf and Red Riding Hood strolled through the forest together. The wolf showed her secret paths through the thick forest.

Red Riding Hood said, "Wow, you're really smart! I didn't know about these paths. I'll have to tell Grandma and her friend, the woodsman, about them."

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