

Little Red Riding Hood

Nar: Once there was a little girl named Little Red Riding Hood.

(LRRR enters and skips across the stage while the Nar is introducing her. While Nar talks about her hood, she takes it off, admires it, and puts it back on again. She stops to pick a flower, etc, while Nar talks about her dawdling.)

Nar: Now, you might think that Little Red Riding Hood is a strange name for a girl, but her most loved possession was a hood given to her by her grandmother. Actually, her name was “Susan”, but nobody called her that, except her mother when she was annoyed. So “Little Red Riding Hood” was the name that everyone called her.

Little Red Riding Hood was a sweet girl, but she had one fault. She dawdled. She diddled. She didn’t obey right away.

(Enter Mom at far right top stage)

Mom: Little Red Riding Hood! I need you to take some soup to your Grandmother.

(LRRH keeps on admiring the flowers)

Mom: Little Red Riding Hood! Soooooosan! Little Red Riding Hood. Come right now!

(LRRH finally listens, drops flower, and TRUDGES to Mom.)

LRRH: Coming, Mom!

Mom: Little Red Riding Hood, here is some soup for your Grandmother. Take it to her quickly, before it gets cold. And watch out for the wolf in the forest!

LRRH: (listlessly) Yes, Mom. (She takes the kettle and LEISURELY starts to walk away, swinging the kettle.)

Mom: Little Red Riding Hood. Susan!

LRRH: (turns) Yes, Mom.

Mom: Quickly, girl. That soup will be cold. And don't swing the kettle like that. You will spill it.

LRRH: Yes, Mom. (Starts off, NOT swinging the kettle, briskly) As she gets farther away, though, she slows down and starts looking at flowers and picking some, setting the kettle down to do so. She wanders away from the kettle, picking flowers)

Chorus sings "Do It Now!" First verse

LRRH: Oh! The soup will be getting cold! (She picks up the kettle once more.) I must hurry. (She again starts off briskly, but, again, something catches her attention, and she sets the kettle down to look at it.)

LRRH: Oh! A butterfly! Wouldn't Grandma like to have a butterfly along with these flowers? (Mimics looking at a butterfly and catching it.)

(All this time, while LRRH is looking at flowers and playing with the butterfly, the WOLF is skulking around the stage, hiding and spying on her.)

LRRH: (With imaginary butterfly on her finger) Whoops! The soup! (Picks up the flowers and the soup (with difficulty balancing them) and continues to Grandmother's house.)

LRRH: (calls) Grandmother! I have some soup and some flowers and a butterfly for you!

(She enters Grandma's house, to find Grandma sitting in the rocker.)

LRRH: I brought some soup for you, Grandma. Would you like some now?

Grandma: Why, yes, dear. How nice of you to bring me some nice hot soup. I must be coming down with a cold. I feel quite chilly.

LTTH: Here, Grandma.(Ladles some into a bowl, gives it to Grandma.)

(Grandma takes a big slurp, recoils)

Grandma: Why, it's COLD! Didn't your mother send HOT soup?

LRRH: Yes, Grandma. How did it get cold so fast?

Grandma: (a bit sternly) Probably while you dawdled and diddled along the way, picking flowers and playing with butterflies. You need to learn to not waste time like that, dear. That is not obeying right away!

LRRH: (looking contrite) I'm sorry, Grandma. I'll do better next time. I'll see you tomorrow.

(LRRH starts home, but she does the same things, stopping to rest and look at the sky, picking flowers, etc.)

Nar: Little Red Riding Hood started for home, but she soon forgot the stone cold soup, and started diddling around again.

LRRH: Ahhh. It's so nice and cool here in the woods. I think I'll take a nap.

Nar: But what Little Red Riding Hood didn't know was that while she dawdled along the way, the WOLF was watching her every move. When she laid down, he stole quietly toward her.

LRRH: (wakes up) Nice nap! Oh, I must get going (Wolf dodges behind some shrubbery.)

Nar: Little Red Riding leisurely walked home. When she got home, her mother was waiting for her.

Mom: Susan! Little Red Riding Hood! Where have you been?

LRRH: Taking the soup to Grandma, Mom.

Mom: THIS long? What else did you do?

LRRH: (Looks down and makes circles with her toe on the floor) I sort of picked some flowers, and I took her a butterfly.

Mom: Flowers? A butterfly? But what of my hot soup? Was it still hot?

LRRH: (hands behind her back, still looking down) Well, uh, it was ...sort of...cold.

Mom: COLD? When are you going to learn, child, to do things right away and not dawdle. That is not obeying! Go sit in the corner! (LRRH sits dejectedly in the chair while the chorus sings. Mom turns her back to signal passage of time.)

Nar: The next day, Little Red Riding Hood was again outside when her mother called.(LRRH acts as the first time, not paying attention, dreamingly looking at the sky, etc.)

Mom: Little Red Riding Hood! Soooooan! Little Red...Sooooosan!

Chorus: "Do It Now!"

LRRH: (Looking up, but not coming) Yes, Mom?

Mom: Come here, child. Right now! I have some hot soup for you to take to Grandma. Now, remember yesterday. Walk fast! DON'T pick flowers, DON'T chase butterflies. Remember the WOLF! He can be anywhere!

LRRH: Yes, Mom. (Takes the kettle, She again starts out briskly, but soon slows down.)

Nar: Little Red Riding Hood MEANT to walk fast. She MEANT to not pick flowers, She MEANT not to chase butterflies. But her dawdling habits were too hard to break. She saw some nice mushrooms and soon became involved in picking them.

And, just like the day before, the Wolf was spying and stalking her.

Chorus: “The Frog Song”

LRRH: Oh! The soup is going to be cold AGAIN! I must hurry!

Nar: But while Little Red Riding Hood goofed off in the woods, the Wolf had run ahead to Grandmother’s house. Seeing no one home, he popped in, put Grandmother’s nightgown and cap on, and covered up in bed, with all but his nose showing.

(Wolf suits action to what the narrator is saying. LRRH enters)

LRRH: Grandma! Why are you still in bed?

Wolf: Why, dear, I just don’t feel well today.

LRRH: You DO sound a little hoarse. Here, have some hot soup. (Turns back on Wolf, ladles some out, then pauses, puts finger in the soup, tastes it) Oh, I’m sorry, Grandma, it’s cold. I’ll have to warm it up. Here are some more flowers, though, and some mushrooms I picked.

LRRH: There they are, nicely arranged! (Engrossed in the arrangement of flowers, and with her back to the Wolf, while she has been fiddling with the soup and the flowers, the WOLF has been slowly taking off the covers and starting to get up.) Here are the flowers! Aren’t they pretty?

(She turns with the flowers. The WOLF quickly covers up, but his head is now exposed.)

LRRH: Grandma! Your eyes are so red!

Wolf: Just the cold, my dear.

LRRH: But I’ve never seen them so BIG!

Wolf: The better to see you with, my love.

LRRH: Grandma! Your EARS! When did they grow so big and furry? (Sort of stumbles and fades on the word “furry” as she begins to realize that this isn’t Grandma.)

Wolf: The better to hear you with, my sweet. Old ears don’t hear s well as young ears, you know.

LRRH: Grandma! Your teeth! They are so big ...and...sharp! (Falters and sounds scared)

Wolf: The better to EAT you with, foolish one! (Wolf jumps out of bed, throwing off his nightgown dramatically, posturing to show his strength. LRRH screams, rolls the kettle toward him to block him, and runs for the door.)

Wolf: Where are you going, tasty tidbit? (Chase begins as Nar describes it.)

Nar: LRRH ran as quick as she could. No dawdling now! She ran through the forest screaming for help. The wolf was not far behind.

LRRH: Help! Help! Help! Help! The wolf is after me! Help!

Nar: Grandmother had gone with the woodsman to show him what trees she wanted cut down. They heard Little Red Riding Hood screaming, and ran as quickly as they could to help her.

Grandma: Little Red Riding Hood! Here I am! Run to me!

Nar: (Action follows narration) And for ONCE, Little Red Riding Hood did not dawdle. For ONCE, Little Red Riding Hood did not diddle. Little Red Riding Hood obeyed AT ONCE and ran into the safety of Grandma’s arms. The woodsman threatened the wolf with his axe, and the wolf ran off as fast as he could go!

LRRH: Grandma, Mr. Woodcutter! Thank you for saving me!

Grandma: I do believe you had a big part in THAT when you ran directly to me without diddling and dawdling. Have you learned a lesson, dear?

LRRH: Yes, Grandma. Always obey RIGHT AWAY!

Nar: And Little Red Riding Hood HAD learned. She nevermore dawdled and diddled, but obeyed RIGHT AWAY. Her mother no longer got frustrated and called her “Susan”(!) and everybody.... except the Wolf....lived happily ever after!

Costumes....

Little Red Riding Hood, of course, needs a red cape.

Grandma should look like a Grandma, perhaps with a pillow stuffed in front, powdered hair, and an apron.

Mom needs an apron.

Wolf needs a wolf head with a big nose, big furry ears, and sharp teeth, at least, if a handy volunteer cannot be found to make a wolf suit.

Woodcutter needs overalls and a fake ax.

The chorus needs to look like trees or bushes, because they also double as the woods. A cardboard trunk tied to their front, and a green leafy headgear makes them look like trees. “Bushes” can wear cardboard colored to look like bushes. As Little Red Riding Hood walks through the woods, the trees shift to show her movement. During the spying part and the chase, the wolf uses the trees and bushes as concealment.

Flowers need to be scattered around for Little Red Riding Hood to “pick”.

There needs to be a nightgown, mob cap, bed, and cover for the wolf in Grandmother’s house.

If desired, a cardboard house can be placed to show Grandma's house.

Songs in the script are by Ron Hamilton, available from Majesty Music, 733 Wade Hampton Blvd, Greenville, South Carolina 29609

"Do It Now" from Kidnapped on I-Land

"The Frog Song" from Camp Kookawacka Woods

Script songs may be replaced with these, all by Ron Hamilton and Majesty Music:

"Finish the Job", Patch Goes West

"Obey Right Away", Patch Goes to Space

"Obedience", Sing Along with Patch

Written By
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