

Lecture Eight

Little Red Riding Hood is a [fairy tale](#) for young children. It is a story about a young [girl](#) and a [wolf](#). The story comes from a [folktale](#) which means that it was a spoken story for a long time before it was a written story. It was first written down in the late 1600s. The best-known version (the way the story is told) of Little Red Riding Hood is by the [Brothers Grimm](#) and dates from the [19th century](#) (1800s).

Grimm Brothers

Jacob Grimm was born in 1785 and his brother Wilhelm Grimm was born in 1786. Their parents had nine children, so they had seven other siblings. Throughout their lives they basically did the same thing and achieved the same achievements. They both went to the University of Marburg (**Marburg** is a [university town](#) in the [German federal state](#) (Bundesland) of [Hesse](#)) and studied law. They were both influenced by the folk poetry collection of Clemens Brentano and Achim von Arnim, so they began to collect folk tales. When their parents died they decided to get jobs as librarians in order to support their younger siblings. In 1812 they published volume 1 of Children and Household Tales that contained 86 folk tales. They published another six editions of this. In 1819 they both received honorary doctorates from the University of Marburg and their scholarly work on linguistics, folklore and medieval studies continued, resulting in many publications. From 1829-1830, they both resigned as librarians and accepted positions at the University of Göttingen as librarians and professors. They continued their scholarly work, political activities and dedicated a lot of their time to their own studies and research. Wilhelm died in 1859 and Jacob followed in 1863.

Tale's History

Earliest Versions

The origins of the Little Red Riding Hood story can be traced to versions from various European countries and more than likely preceding the 17th century, of which several exist, some significantly different from the currently known, Grimms-inspired version. It was told by [French](#) peasants in the 10th century. In Italy, the Little Red Riding Hood was told by peasants in 14th century, where a number of versions exist, including La finta nonna (The False Grandmother). It has also been called "The Story of Grandmother". It is also possible that this early tale has roots in very similar Oriental tales (e.g. "Grandaunt Tiger").

These early variations of the tale differ from the currently known version in several ways. The antagonist is not always a wolf, but sometimes an [ogre](#) or a 'bzuu' ([werewolf](#)), making these tales relevant to the werewolf-trials (similar to witch trials) of the time (e.g. the trial of [Peter Stumpp](#)).

Interpretations

Besides the overt warning about talking to strangers, there are many interpretations of the classic fairy tale, many of them are sexual. Some are listed below.

Natural Cycles

[Folklorists](#) and [cultural anthropologists](#) such as [P. Saintyves](#) and [Edward Burnett Tylor](#) saw "Little Red Riding Hood" in terms of solar myths and other naturally-occurring cycles. Her red hood could represent the bright sun which is ultimately swallowed by the terrible night (the wolf).

Alternatively, the tale could be about the season of spring, or the month of May, escaping the winter.

Rebirth

[Bruno Bettelheim](#), in [The Uses of Enchantment](#), recast the Little Red Riding Hood motif in terms of classic [Freudian](#) analysis, that shows how fairy tales educate, support, and liberate the emotions of children. The motif of the huntsman cutting open the wolf, he interpreted as a "rebirth"; the girl who foolishly listened to the wolf has been reborn as a new person.

Moral

Children, especially attractive, well bred young ladies, should never talk to strangers, for if they should do so, they may well provide dinner for a wolf. I say "wolf," but there are various kinds of wolves. There are also those who are charming, quiet, polite, unassuming, complacent, and sweet, who pursue young women at home and in the streets. And unfortunately, it is these gentle wolves who are the most dangerous ones of all.

Meanings

As with many fairy tales, hidden messages can be found in Little Red Riding Hood. People have very different interpretations (ways of understanding the hidden meanings). There are two main ways that the story of Little Red Riding Hood can be interpreted.

The first type of interpretation is about [morality](#). It is about what is right and what is wrong.

The easiest message for children to understand is that it can be [dangerous](#) to trust strangers.

A more adult interpretation is about [sexuality](#). Some people think that the story of the girl being "eaten" is really a [symbol](#) for [rape](#). [Susan Brownmiller](#) wrote a book about it, called *Against Our Will*. Some of the other versions of the story seem to be more about rape than the way that the Brothers Grimm wrote it, which was for children.

Charles Perrault makes his meaning quite clear. At the end of the story he writes:

"From this story one learns that children, especially young lasses, pretty, courteous and well-bred, do very wrong to listen to strangers.... all wolves are not of the same sort.... there is one kind [that is not] noisy, nor hateful, nor angry, but tame, obliging and gentle, following the young maids in the streets, even into their homes. Alas! these gentle wolves are ... the most dangerous!"

Some people who are [feminists](#) (supporters of the rights of women) do not like this story and say that it does not show women in a good way. This is because, through the story, Red Riding Hood does not think or act for herself. She does not do any of the actions of the story; she only does what she is told to do by a [male](#) character, and has things done to her male characters. She does what wolf tells her to do, even though it is against the advice of her mother. She comes near the male wolf when he tells her, against her own fear. She is eaten by the male character. She cannot help herself and is saved only because a strong male character comes along at the right time. Feminists believe that stories like this do not help girls to be independent.

In old French and Italian versions of the story, the girl is independent and clever. She tricks the wolf and escapes without any help.

Lessons in "Little Red Riding Hood"

"Little Red Riding Hood" is one of the most famous children's books ever. And like most children's books, it has a moral. The story is about a little girl who wants to visit her grandma. But in order to do this, she must walk through dangerous woods alone. Along the way, she meets the Big Bad Wolf, an animal that would eventually eat her grandma.

• Don't Talk to Strangers

Even though Little Red Riding Hood didn't talk to the wolf for very long, what she disclosed to the wolf resulted in her grandmother being eaten. The wolf asked her what she was doing out in the woods. She replied that she was going to her grandma's house. It was at that point that the wolf ran along, ate Little Red Riding Hood's Grandma and then tried to eat her.

Little Red Riding Hood said: "I'm on my way to see my grandma who lives through the forest, near the brook."

Listen to Your Mother

Though Little Red Riding Hood intended to listen to her mother and "go straight to grandma's house," she stopped in the woods along the way to pick some flowers. As she was doing this, the

wolf approached her. By disobeying her mother, Little Red Riding Hood put herself in a vulnerable position and the wolf pounced on the opportunity to take advantage of her.

Her mother warned: "Remember, go straight to grandma's house. Don't dawdle along the way and please don't talk to strangers. The woods are dangerous."

Watch Out For Yourself

When Little Red Riding Hood arrived at her grandma's home, she was cautious because her "grandma" looked different. She questioned her grandma and observed her appearance to determine if it is truly her. When she discovered that it wasn't, she ran away and prevented herself from being eaten.

Little Red Riding Hood said: "But Grandmother, what big ears you have. But Grandmother, what big eyes you have. But Grandmother, what big teeth you have."

Don't Send Your Child Into the Woods Alone

If Little Red Riding Hood's mother hadn't sent her daughter into the "dangerous" woods alone, she could have prevented grandma from being eaten. Parents should be careful about what they allow their children to do, the book teaches. Even though the trip to her grandma's house might have been a short one, the woods are the habitat for hungry wolfs, and are dangerous.

Lecture 9

- The Sleeping Beauty

- Snowdrop and Seven Little Dwarfs

- The Goose-Girl

"*The Sleeping Beauty*" ([French](#): *La Belle au bois dormant*, "The Beauty sleeping in the wood") by [Charles Perrault](#) or "*Little Briar Rose*" ([German](#): *Dornröschen*) by the [Brothers Grimm](#) is a classic fairytale involving a beautiful princess, enchantment of sleep, and a handsome prince. Written as an original literary tale, it was first published by [Charles Perrault](#) in *Histoires ou contes du temps passé* in 1697.

Author Information - Charles Perrault

The original story of Sleeping Beauty was written in 1696 by Charles Perrault, a French writer who is best known for writing *Little Red Riding Hood*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Cinderella*, and many more fairy tales. Charles was born in Paris to a wealthy family, and studied at some of the best schools. Charles Perrault is best known for setting the foundations of a "new literary genre," fairytale.

What is the moral of Sleeping Beauty?

The moral of Sleeping Beauty might be that life, and growing up, presents unavoidable risks. But perhaps it has no moral. Sleeping Beauty is a fairy tale, not a fable. Fables were meant to be instructive and provide moral guidance. Fairy tales were frequently sometimes just the opposite. They provided entertainment, sometimes of a spooky kind, and while some of them might indirectly provide instruction it was certainly not the purpose.

What is the moral of story *Sleeping Beauty*?

Love and goodness conquer all.

What is the setting of the story *Sleeping Beauty*?

The setting of the sleeping beauty is the in a **far away land**...

Who is the villain in *Sleeping Beauty*?

The wicked fairy who curses the baby princess is the villain in *Sleeping Beauty*.

The Goose Girl

The Goose Girl is a [German fairy tale](#) collected by the [Brothers Grimm](#). Since the second edition published in 1819, *The Goose Girl* has been recorded as Tale no. 89.

It was first published in 1815 as no. 3 in vol. 2 of the first edition of their *Kinder- und Hausmärchen* (Children's and Household Tales—Grimms' Fairy Tales). It was translated into English by Margaret Hunt in 1884. [Andrew Lang](#) included it in *The Blue Fairy Book*.

Fairy tales often share common characteristics-the use of the number three, magical elements, transformations, misleading appearances, and the conquest of good over evil. Additionally, the hero or heroine is often infallible. Which elements did Shannon Hale decide to incorporate into *The Goose Girl*? Which ones did she omit? Why do you think so?

One of the major themes of the *Goose Girl* is **accepting each other's differences**.

Another theme is **discrimination**.

Because the *Goose Girl* is a fairy tale, **there must be a villain**. However, in the story there are **two**.

Lecture 10

Babes in the Wood is a traditional children's tale, as well as a popular [pantomime](#) subject. It has also been the name of some other unrelated works. The expression has passed into common language, referring to inexperienced innocents entering unawares into any potentially dangerous or hostile situation.

Traditional tale

The traditional children's tale is of two children [abandoned](#) in a wood, who die and are covered with leaves by [robins](#).

First published as an anonymous [broadside ballad](#), printed by [Thomas Millington](#) in [Norwich](#) in 1595 with the title "The Norfolk gent his will and Testament and how he Committed the keeping of his Children to his own brother who dealt most wickedly with them and how God plagued him for it". The tale has been reworked in many forms; it frequently appears attributed as a [Mother Goose](#) rhyme.

The ballad tells of two small children left in the care of an uncle and aunt after their parents' death. The uncle gives the children to [ruffians](#) to be killed, in order to acquire their inheritance. The children, wandering alone in the woods, die, and are covered by leaves by the birds. Unlike many morality tales, the story ends there; no [retribution](#) is described as happening to the uncle.

The Queen Bee

The Queen Bee is a German [fairy tale](#) collected by the [Brothers Grimm](#).

The Queen Bee is an updated retelling of the fairy tale about seeking fortune, breaking a spell and discovering the identity of the real prince with the help of ants, ducks, and a regal Queen Bee, with role reversals and undercurrent themes of both the value of education and being kind to animals.

The story teaches some basic and profound lessons. It blends classic fairy tale magic with modern ideas...while still allowing the girl most deserving of praise to marry her fairy tale prince. The book also has a nice reversal of roles, with the heroine saving the enchanted prince...Gwen receives her just reward not because she is the most beautiful girl in the land but because she is genuinely good, intelligent and respectful of her fellow creatures."

This is the timeless folktale of a young prince who undoes the terrible spell on a castle by accomplishing three impossible tasks with the help of some small creatures he saved from cruelty.

Yet the impossible becomes possible with the help of small creatures he rescued from torment.

Vocabulary

wasteful - extravagant, not used in a thoughtful manner

dwarf - a little man

ant-hill - place where ants live (made of dirt)

to suffer someone - impose upon someone to do, or experience something

hollow - empty in the middle

trunk - base of tree

stables - structure that houses horses

marble - hard, decorative mineral that is often used in the construction of beautiful buildings

wicket - small door or gate

bed-chamber - bedroom

eldest - the oldest

tablet - slab of stone upon which something important is written

disenchanted - freed from a magic spell

moss - green plant growth often found on trees, in the grass, etc. usually found in damp places

foretold - something that has been predicted before

tiresome - very tiring

heap - mixed-up pile of things

brink - on the border

syrup - sweet, thick liquid

spell - magic charm

Lecture 14

Summary Of Pinocchio

Once upon a time there was a woodcarver, called Geppetto who lived without a child. So he decided to make a puppet, naming 'Pinocchio' like a real boy. As he began to carve the wood, in surprise him, Pinocchio laughed at him. When Geppetto was getting finished, the puppet kicked the old man and ran-out of the door.

As Pinocchio was running on the street, a policeman got custody him. But people said to the policeman that puppet belongs to Geppetto. So the policeman arrested the old man instead of Pinocchio.

Pinocchio had to remain alone at home. When he rest in his bed a talking cricket advised to be listen to his father otherwise, sorry in later. Then Pinocchio felt hungry so, he tried to cook an egg. As it put on hot pan a little chicken flew away. Then he sat by fire and began to sleep when Geppetto came to house. The old man saw the puppet's feed had burnt. He fed some pears to Pinocchio saying-"I'll make you new feet and some clothes to go school like real boy." Geppetto was so poor because he had to sell his coat for Pinocchio's text book.

On the school way, Pinocchio heard some exciting music came from a puppets show. He went there and joined it's show with them. At first the puppet master angry with Pinocchio but later more friend with him and gave five gold coins to Pinocchio

As Pinocchio set off for home, a fox and cat came to steal his money. He escaped from them, by climbing a tall oak tree. luckily Pinocchio rescued by a beautiful blue fairy who lived nearby. The fairy asked about his coins. He said that he had lost his money. Then his nose began to grow longer and longer. The fairy laughed. "that what happens when you tell lies." She said. But he wanted to become real boy, he asked for help from the fairy.

The fox and cat met again to Pinocchio and did steal his coins. When he asked from a policeman about it, he arrested Pinocchio. Meanwhile the old man went to sea for look Pinocchio, but his ship wrecked in a storm.

When Pinocchio was let out of prison, he had to fun with bad boys.

They all became donkeys. As Pinocchio work as donkey in toy land, his leg had broken and throw in to the sea. As soon as he hit to the water Pinocchio turned into the puppet again. In the bottom of the sea, a huge fish swallowed Pinocchio, amazed to see Geppetto also in it's belly. The blue fairy had been watching them, turned to Pinocchio a real boy. At last the old man and Pinocchio became delight and lived happily long.

Pinocchio's Origins

Pinocchio was originally written by Carlo Lorenzini (known by his pen name, Carlo Collodi) between 1881 and 1883 in Italy. Lorenzini began his writing career in newspapers, where he often used satire to express his political views. In 1875, he entered the world of children's literature and used this outlet to transmit his political convictions. The series *Giannettino*, for example, often referred to the unification of Italy.

Pinocchio is a fictional character and the main protagonist of the children's novel *The Adventures of Pinocchio* (1883), by the Italian writer Carlo Collodi. Carved by a woodcarver named [Geppetto](#) in a small Italian village, he was created as a wooden puppet, but dreamed of becoming a real boy. He has also been used as a character who is prone to telling lies and fabricating stories for various reasons. The story has appeared in many adaptations in other mediums. Pinocchio has been called an icon of modern culture, and one of most reimagined characters in the pantheon of children's literature.

Aspects of Pinocchio's character vary depending on the interpretation, although basic aspects such as his creation as a puppet by Geppetto and the size of his nose changing due to his lies or stress remain present across the various formats.

Pinocchio is known for having a short nose that becomes longer when he is under stress (chapter 3), especially while lying. His clothes are made of flowered paper, his shoes are made of wood and his hat is made of bread. In this, the original tale, Pinocchio exhibits obnoxious, bratty, and selfish traits.

The Adventures of Pinocchio is a [novel for children](#) by Italian author [Carlo Collodi](#), written in [Florence](#). The first half was originally a [serial](#) in 1881 and 1882, and then later completed as a book for children in February 1883. It is about the mischievous adventures of [Pinocchio](#), an animated [marionette](#); and his poor father, a [woodcarver](#) named [Geppetto](#)

Pinocchio teaches many moral lessons to the audience. When the Blue Fairy grants Geppetto's wish, she gives Pinocchio a few conditions. He has to prove himself **brave, truthful, and unselfish** in order to become a real boy. The Blue Fairy tells him that he needs to understand the difference between **right and wrong**, he needs to **be a good boy**, he **shouldn't lie**, and he should **listen to his conscience**.

While Pinocchio is trying to show that he is brave, unselfish and truthful, he gets tempted. On the way to school, Pinocchio gives into Foulfellow's and Gideon's offer to take the "easy road to success." Pinocchio learns his lesson quickly at this point. Stramboli won't let him return home to see his father, but he didn't think about this before he decided to take the easy way out. When he is locked up, he can't get out himself, or even with the help of Jiminy. The only thing that can release him from the captivity is the Blue Fairy-the divine. Once

Pinocchio is out of that bad situation, he is again tempted by Foulfellow. He goes to Pleasure Island which is "a place with no school (knowledge) and laws (morals)" and kids are free to "eat, drink, smoke, fight and destroy at will." Some critics say that Pleasure Island is a metaphor for a life of "ignorance, the search for instant gratification and the satisfaction of the one's lowest impulses." The boys don't receive the lives they thought they would on Pleasure Island. Instead, they are turned into donkeys and used as slaves. Once Pinocchio regains his conscience, he is able to escape the so called "easy road" and go back home.

Characters

[Pinocchio](#) Pinocchio is a naughty, pine-wood marionette who gains wisdom through a series of misadventures which lead him to becoming a real human as reward for his good deeds.

Pinocchio is the main character. He is Geppetto's innocent and well behaved puppet who gets the opportunity to become a real boy. Pinocchio must prove that he is brave, unselfish and truthful in order to become a real boy. Even though he manages to do so, he runs into some temptations along the way.

Pinocchio. The little wooden puppet who was brought to life from Geppetto's wish. He is trying to become a real boy, with the help of his friend/conscience Jiminy Cricket.

Mister Geppetto: Geppetto is an elderly, impoverished woodcarver and the creator (and thus father) of Pinocchio. He wears a yellow wig that looks like cornmeal mush (or *polendina*), and subsequently the children of the neighborhood (as well as some of the adults) call him "Polendina", which greatly annoys him. "Geppetto" is a nickname for Giuseppe.

Gepetto is Pinocchio's creator. He has always wanted a son, and because of his extreme generosity his wish for a son is granted. Gepetto is a very "devoted father, as he attempted to teach Pinocchio valuable lessons." When Pinocchio doesn't return home, he proves to be a magnificent father by not stopping to look for him.

Mister Antonio: Antonio is an elderly carpenter. He finds the log that eventually becomes Pinocchio, planning to make it into a table leg until it cries out "Please be careful!" The children call Antonio "Mastro Cherry" because of his red nose.

The Talking Cricket: the Talking Cricket is a cricket whom Pinocchio kills after it tries to give him some advice. The Cricket comes back as a ghost to continue advising the puppet.

Jiminy the cricket is assigned to be Pinocchio's conscience by the Blue Fairy. Jiminy proves to be a very good friend to Pinocchio and he has stayed by Pinocchio's side throughout the entire movie

Jiminy Cricket

Loyal friend and conscience to Pinocchio, Jiminy is charged with teaching the boy the difference between right and wrong. He also has been trying to teach him about temptation and how to avoid it. He has some difficulty getting through to Pinocchio, but his efforts usually pay off in the end.

the **Serpent:** an enormous snake with a smoking tail.

The Blue Fairy is the one who fulfills "Gepetto's wish, transforms Pinocchio into a living creature, and later into a real boy." She helps Pinocchio and Jiminy out of tough situations. She is the one who teaches Pinocchio the moral lessons of being a good boy, letting his conscience be his guide, and learning to decipher the difference in right and wrong. She teaches

Pinocchio that a lie keeps growing and growing, like his nose did when Stromboli had him trapped.

Blue Fairy

Graceful and elegant, the Blue Fairy came from the wishing star, and granted Pinocchio life because Geppetto wished for it to be so. She has charged Jiminy Cricket as Pinocchio's official conscience, and has set him the task of helping Pinocchio to become a real boy.

What Is the Theme of Pinocchio

Some of the themes in the play Pinocchio were: unconditional love, the meaning of being human, and determination of what is right and wrong. Other themes were the role of moderation in helping us live happy lives, and the importance of education to our success in life.