

THE OLD WOLF

Once upon a time there was a very old wolf, who every morning dressed up as an old man to go into the woods and gobble up a passing victim. And this is why he was known as

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That morning, a young girl who was walking along singing on her way to visit her grandmother saw, in the middle of the path, an old man who seemed to be waiting for someone. The man was smartly dressed: a clean new shirt and an expensive fox fur coat. When the man heard the girl passing by, he said to her, "Excuse me, dear. I've had a fall and hurt my knees and can hardly walk. I live near here. Could you go there with me?"

The old man's face reminded the girl of the tenderness of her own grandfather and she replied without hesitation, "Of course, I'd be glad to!"

But what the girl didn't know was that beneath that nice old man's disguise was the old wolf, who was thinking, "Poor little thing. She's so innocent! Little does she know that today I'm going to have her for lunch with potatoes!"

On the way, the old wolf, as he was pretending to limp, leant on the girl; he was gripping her so tightly so that she wouldn't escape that the girl discovered that he was wearing a disguise: hiding behind that nice, smartly dressed old gentleman was the old wolf.

Instead of getting nervous, she kept calm and began to think of how to escape from his clutches. They arrived at the wolf's house and the girl said to him:

“As you are unable to walk, lie down on the bed. Meanwhile I shall prepare some potatoes for your lunch. You’ll lick your lips, I’m a very good cook.”

And the wolf answered, “Thank you so much. You’re a very good girl.”

Meanwhile, he was thinking, “How innocent! Not only is she going to end up in my tummy, she’s also preparing the potatoes to go with the meal. Today’s my lucky day!”

And the wolf was so content with his slyness and his craftiness that he didn’t realise that while they were talking about it, the girl, gently, without him realising, took the key to his house out of his pocket.

While the wolf was waiting in bed thinking that he was going to eat the girl with the potatoes, she took the opportunity to escape. She locked the door and ran off.

And that is how the girl escaped from the wolf’s clutches. In no time she would be with her grandmother, in her warm cosy cottage, showing her the red dress she was wearing for the first time that day.

And the wolf? Well, they say that the old wolf is still there to this day, in bed, licking his lips, waiting for the girl to come in with the potatoes ...