

The Little Red Hen



DULCE RODRIGUES

Russian folktale

Author: Dulce Rodrigues





Personal website: www.dulcerodrigues.info



Children's website: www.barry4kids.net

© Dulce Rodrigues. All rights reserved.

Reproduction of this text in any form without the permission of the author is illegal and punishable by law. Please do not participate in or encourage piracy of copyrighted materials. Your support of the author's rights is appreciated.

The Little Red Hen

There was once a clever little red  Hen who lived in a farm and was friends with a noisy  Duck, a gluttonous  Pig and a burrowing  Rabbit.

One day, when searching the ground for worms, one of her favourite meals, our nice little red  Hen found some wheat  grains. She went to join her friends immediately and asked them:

- "Who will help me plant these seeds?"

- "Not I!" quacked the noisy  Duck .

- "Not I!" the burrowing  Rabbit screamed.

- "Not I!" the gluttonous  Pig grunted.

- "Then I'll ask our neighbours to help me!" the little red



Hen said.

And our nice little red  Hen went to find her

neighbours the milk  Cow, the stubborn



Donkey and the woolly  Sheep, whom she

made the same question: "Who will help me plant these


seeds?"






- "Not I!" the stubborn Donkey brayed.

- "Not I!" the milk  Cow mooed while quietly grazing the grass.

- "Not I!" the woolly  Sheep bleated.

- "Then I will plant them by myself!" he little red  Hen said.

And our clever little red  Hen planted the wheat  grains all by herself.

Some time later, when the wheat  grains that our clever little red  Hen had planted had grown into tall golden  spikes, she went to meet again her friends and

neighbours in the  farm and asked them:

- "Who will help me with the harvest?"

- "Not I!" the noisy  Duck quacked.

- "Not I!" the milk  Cow mooed while quietly grazing the grass.

- "Not I!" the burrowing  Rabbit screamed.

- "Not I!" the gluttonous  Pig grunted.

- "Not I!" he stubborn  Donkey brayed t.


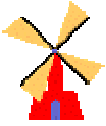
- "Not I!" the woolly yellow  Sheep bleated.

- "Then I'll cut the crops all by myself!" And so she did.

Once the whole golden wheat  spikes had been cut,

our little red  Hen went again to meet her friends and

neighbours in the  farm and she asked them:

"Who will help me take the  wheat spikes to the  mill to be ground into flour?"

- "Not I!" the milk  Cow mooed.

- "Not I!" the burrowing  Rabbit screamed.

- "Not I!" the noisy  Duck quacked.

- "Not I!" the stubborn  Donkey brayed.

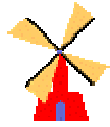
- "Not I!" the woolly yellow  Sheep bleated.

- "Not I!" the gluttonous  Pig grunted.

- "Then I will take them myself!" the tired little red



Hen said. And she brought the wheat to her friend Miller's



mill.

Mr Miller had just finished his working day, but he

warmly volunteered to make some extra hours and help

his friend the little red



Hen ground the wheat into

flour. She was very thankful to him and then carried the

heavy



sack back to the



farm.

The following morning, our clever little red



Hen met

again all the other



animals and asked them:

- "Who will help me bake  bread?"

- "Not I!" the noisy  Duck quacked.

- "Not I!" the milk  Cow mooed.

- "Not I!" the burrowing  Rabbit screamed.

- "Not I!" the gluttonous  Pig grunted.

- "Not I!" the stubborn  Donkey brayed

- "Not I!" the woolly yellow  Sheep bleated.

- "Then I'll bake the  bread myself!"

And our clever little red hen  Hen headed to the

kitchen, put on her nice green  apron, prepared the

dough and took it to the oven. When she had finished

baking the  read, an agreeable smell filled the air

and all the other  animals came to see what was

going on. Then our tired little red  Hen asked them:

"Who will help me eat the  bread?"

- "I will!" the milk  Cow mooed.


- "I will!" the burrowing  Rabbit screamed.

- "I will!" the gluttonous  Pig grunted.


- "I will!" the stubborn  Donkey brayed.

- "I will!" the woolly yellow  Sheep bleated.

- "I will!" the noisy  Duck quacked.

- "No, I can have it all to myself!" replied the clever little
red  Hen.

Ashamed of themselves, all the  animals lowered
their eyes. Then our nice little red  Hen told them:


"What you really deserve is that I eat the  bread


all by myself because you never helped me. But you are my



friends and I forgive you. I hope you will learn the lesson

for the future." And when saying this, the little red 

Hen cut the  bread in equal shares and gave a

piece to the noisy  Duck, another to the

burrowing  Rabbit, another to the gluttonous

 Pig, another to the milk  Cow,

another to the stubborn  Donkey and still another

to the woolly yellow  Sheep. And they all lived

happy since then.

The Author

Dulce Rodrigues

About the Author

Dulce Rodrigues was born in Lisbon, Portugal. After a professional career that took her to other cities and countries, she now spends her life either travelling or among books; writing for children is for her a rewarding challenge and an engaging act of creation.

Following the publication some years ago in Belgium of her first book for children, now also published in English, Dulce Rodrigues created the pedagogical project www.barry4kids.net that opened the way to collaborations in different European countries, namely France, Belgium, Luxembourg and even Romania.

Dulce Rodrigues has university courses in the field of science as well as languages and literatures, and she was awarded scholarships in Germany and Belgium. A few of her children's tales and stories were awarded literary prizes in France at European level contests. She speaks six living languages and writes regularly in at least three.

Her books have been published in more than one European country, and performances of her children's play "Penguin and the Fig Tree" have already taken place in Romania and Luxembourg. The Portuguese version of "Father Christmas has the Flu" was performed in Portugal and her recent script play "Há Festa no Céu" was also performed in Luxembourg.

Books for children by the same Author

Piloto e Lassie, uma outra estória de Romeu e Julieta, 2011 - play

Der Weihnachtsmann ist verschnupft, 2010 – play

Father Christmas has the Flu, 2010 – play

Barry's Adventure, 2010 – tale

Il était une fois une Maison, 2009 – tale

Le Père Noël est enrhumé (bilingual), 2008 – play

Le Théâtre des Animaux, 2008 – play

A Aventura do Barry (CD-Rom), 2001 – tale (out of print)

L'Aventure de Barry, 1999 – tale (out of print)

Play scripts (available in English) by the same Author:

The Little Ladybird

The Miracle of Saint Nicholas (Christmas)