

# L'l Red Meets Weird Willie Wolf



**Murray J. Rivette**

A wacky adaptation of "Little Red Riding Hood"

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## **Li'l Red Meets Weir'd Willie Wolf**

**FARCE.** Willie Wolf, a vegetarian who stopped eating meat after he accidentally ate a skunk, suffers from a terrible sweet tooth. When he spies Li'l Red on her way to her granny's house carrying a basket of cookies, Willie races to Granny's house, where he hypnotizes Granny, stashes her in a closet, dons her spare nightgown and nightcap, and eagerly waits for Li'l Red to arrive with the sweet treats. Meanwhile, two dimwitted hunters, Barry and Larry, who also happen to be sugar freaks, spy Li'l Red's basket of goodies and track her to Granny's house. Cookies and card tricks abound in this crazy comedy!

**Performance Time:** Approximately 45- 60 minutes.



Wilhelm and Jacob Grimm in an 1855 portrait. Little Red Riding Hood in bed with the wolf in a Gustave Doré engraving.

## About the Story

“Little Red Riding Hood” is a European fairytale that was first published by Charles Perrault in 1697 and was later included in the Brothers Grimm 1812 collection of folklore, *Children’s and Household Tales*. Earliest known versions of the tale were told by French peasants in the 10<sup>th</sup> century, and in Italy the tale dates to the 14<sup>th</sup> century. In the Perrault version of the story, a village girl on her way to deliver food to her sickly grandmother is deceived by a wolf into giving him the location of the grandmother’s house. The wolf arrives ahead of Little Red Riding Hood and eats her grandmother. When Little Red Riding Hood arrives, the wolf tricks her into thinking he is her grandmother and asks the girl to climb into bed with him, where the wolf eats her. In the Grimm Brothers’ version, Little Red Riding Hood and her grandmother are saved from the wolf by a huntsman.

## Characters

(1 M, 3 F, 2 flexible)

**WILSON "WILLIE" W. WOLF:** Wolf who went vegetarian after accidentally eating a skunk and was called "Stink-Mouth Skunk-Breath Willie"; has a terrible sweet tooth; male.

**L'I'L RED:** Has been sent by her mother to deliver some cookies to her granny; wears a red cape and hood; female.

**GRANNY GERTIE:** Li'l Red's granny who loves card tricks and has a sweet tooth; wears a long nightgown and a nightcap; female.

**MOM:** Li'l Red's mother who doesn't love card tricks; female.

**LARRY/LINDA:** Dimwitted hunter with a sweet tooth; flexible.

**BARRY/BELINDA:** Dimwitted hunter with a sweet tooth; flexible.

## Setting

Li'l Red's house and Granny's kitchen.

## Sets

**Kitchen in Li'l Red's house.** Sparse kitchen with a fake stove, fridge, sink; small window with curtain, and a table with two chairs at CS.

**Forest.** There are two or three trees large enough to hide behind and a log big enough to sit on.

**Kitchen in Granny's house.** There is a fridge, stove, sink, table and four chairs CS, a rocking chair to one side, and a low chest of drawers on one wall. Opposite the front door is a closet door.

## SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

**Scene 1:** Kitchen in Li'l Red's house.

**Scene 2:** Forest, early.

**Scene 3:** Another part of the forest, later that day.

**Scene 4:** Kitchen in Granny's House.

## Props

Picnic basket  
Oreo cookies  
Chocolate chip cookies  
Oatmeal-raisin cookies  
Fudge brownies  
2 Toy rifles, for Larry and Barry  
Log large enough to sit on  
Blanket  
Flashlight  
Long nightgown and nightcap, for Willie  
Deck of cards

## SOUND EFFECTS

Knock on the door  
Recording of "As Time Goes By"

"BUT because OF WHAT happened that Night,  
I WAS Forever KNOWN AS  
'STINK-MOUTH SKUNK-BREATH WILLIE.'"

—Willie

## SCENE 1

(AT RISE: Kitchen in Li'l Red's house. Mom places packages in a picnic basket on the table.)

MOM: Li'l Red, sweetheart, are you almost ready to go?

RED: *(Offstage.)* I'll be there in a minute, Mama.

MOM: All right, sweetheart. You need to leave soon so you can bring these goodies to your Granny Gertie and get back home before it gets too dark.

*(Red enters, wearing a red cape and hood.)*

RED: I will, Mama. I'll get home before the sun goes down.

MOM: Good. I don't want you out in that forest any longer than you have to be.

RED: All right, Mama. *(Looks in the basket.)* Watcha putting in there?

MOM: Well, you know how your Granny loves sweets...

RED: Oh, yeah.

MOM: And, of course, magic tricks!

RED: Magic tricks?

MOM: Yep. Granny Gertie saw something at a show one time where a magician did all kinds of card tricks, and she was fascinated by them.

RED: They are kind of fun, aren't they?

MOM: Yes, they are, but Granny is obsessed with them. It was so embarrassing every time we were with company and she would stick a deck of cards in someone's face and yell, "Pick a card! Go ahead, pick a card!"

RED: I can see where that can be annoying.

MOM: It was. And after Grandpa passed on, she kept urging me to learn all the tricks, too.

RED: Why?

MOM: She was afraid that I might not be popular with the other kids, and that way, I'd have kind of an

icebreaker...something to fall back on. She was so good, I don't think I could have done what she did. She'd make a card appear out of nowhere and make it disappear just as fast.

RED: So did you learn some card tricks, too?

*(Mom sits.)*

MOM: Yes, I did, because I didn't want to disappoint her. But as I grew older, I was more interested in other things...like our environment, and animal rescue, and things like that. I felt that card tricks and magic were fine as a hobby, but there were other more important things in this world. And if we don't take care of it, we won't have a decent world to live in anymore. I love your granny, but I have to do what I have to do, too.

RED: She just moved out because of you not wanting to do card tricks?

**[END OF FREEVIEW]**