THE COCK THE LITTLE

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On another hill, not far away, there was another little house.

THE COCK, THE MOUSE AND THE LITTLE RED HEN

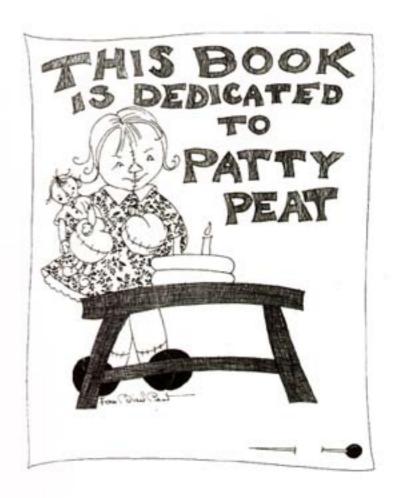
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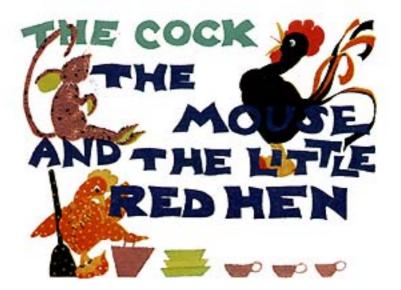
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ONCE upon a time there was a hill, and on the hill was a little house.

It was a pretty little house with one little door and four little windows.

In it there lived

a Cock,

a Mouse,

and a

Little

Red

Hen.

On another hill, not far away, there was another little house.

It was an ugly little house with one little door but only two little windows.

And in this house there lived a big bad fox and four

little

bad

foxes.



AND THE LITTLE RED HEN



One morning the four little bad foxes went to the big bad fox and said:

"Oh,

father,

we

are

very

hungry!"

"We had nothing to eat yesterday," said one.

"And almost nothing the day before," said another.



"And only a very small chicken the day before that," said the third.



"And only two small ducks the day before that," said the fourth.

The

big

bad

fox

sat

thinking for

a

long

time



At last he said: "On the hill over there, I see a house. And in that house there lives a Cock."

"And a Mouse," said two of the little bad foxes.

"And

a

Little

Red

Hen,"

said

the

other

two.



AND THE LITTLE RED HEN

"And they are fat," went on the big bad fox. "This very day I will take my great sack, and I will go up that hill, and in at that door, and into my great sack I will put the Cock,

the Mouse,

and

the

Little

Red

Hen."



"We'll make a great fire to cook the Cock," said one little fox.

"And the Mouse," said the second.

"And the Little Red Hen," said the third.

"And I'll eat the most when they are all cooked," said the fourth.



So
the
four
little
bad
foxes

dancing about.

went

AND THE LITTLE RED HEN



And the

big bad fox

went to get

his great sack.



But, all this time, what was happening to the Cock, the Mouse, and the Little Red Hen?

Well, it was a bad day for the Cock and the Mouse. They were cross as cross could be.

The Cock said the day was too hot. The Mouse said it was too cold.

"Hot!"

"Cold!"

"Hot!"

"Cold!"

they

saying.

kept

The Little Red Hen was as pleasant as could be. She said the day was just right.

AND THE LITTLE RED HEN

"I shan't," said the Cock, and

"I shan't," said the Mouse.

"Then I'll do it myself," said the Little Red Hen.

So

off

she

ran

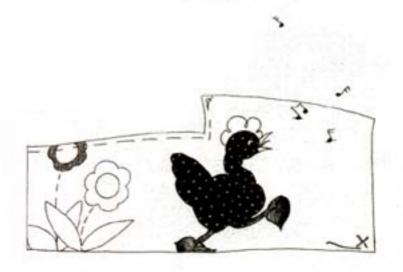
to

get

the

sticks.





AND THE LITTLE RED HEN



"And now, who will bring some water from the spring?" she asked.

"I shan't," said the Cock, and

"I shan't," said the Mouse.



"Then, I'll bring it myself," said the Little Red Hen.
And she ran

to fetch

the water.

"And now who will get the breakfast ready?" she asked.

"I shan't," said the Cock, and

"I shan't," said the Mouse.



"Then,
I'll

do

it

myself,"

said

the

Little Red Hen.

So the Little Red Hen got the breakfast.

AND THE LITTLE RED HEN

All during breakfast time, the Cock kept saying the day was too hot.



The

Mouse

kept

saying

it

was

too cold.

The Little Red Hen still said it was just right.

AND THE LITTLE RED HEN



"Now, who will make the beds?" asked the Little Red Hen after breakfast.

"I shan't," said the Cock, and

"I shan't," said the Mouse.

"Then,

I'll

do

it

myself," said

the

Little

Red

Hen.

And up the stairs she went to make the beds.



The Cock and the Mouse sat down by the fire and soon they were fast asleep.

Then the big bad fox came and knocked at the door of the pretty little house on the hill.



AND THE LITTLE RED HEN

"Who

can

that

be?"

said the Mouse, opening his eyes.

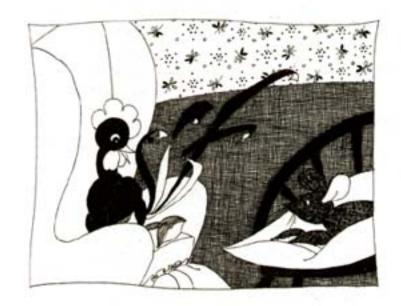
"Go

and

see,"

said the Cock, opening his eyes.

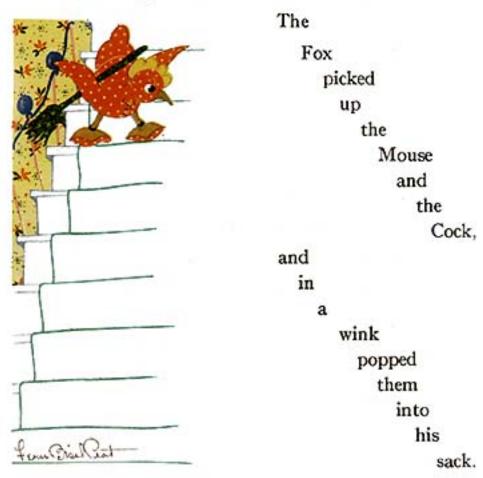
"It may be the postman with a letter for one of us," said the Mouse, going to the door.



He opened it, and into the room jumped the big bad fox, looking very wicked.

"Cock-a-doodle-doo!" screamed the Cock.

"Oh, oh, oh!" squeaked the Mouse.



AND THE LITTLE RED HEN

The Little Red Hen came running down the stairs to see what the matter was, and the big bad fox

popped her

100

into

the

sack,

too.





Then he tied his great sack tight and put it on his back, and

off

he

went

down

the

hill.

"Oh, I wish I had not been so cross and lazy!" said the Cock.

"And I wish I hadn't either," said the Mouse.

"Let us not despair," said the Little Red Hen. "I have

AND THE LITTLE RED HEN

with me my scissors and needle and thread. By and by you will see what I am going to do."

Now the sun was very hot, and Mr. Fox grew tired and warm. At last he put his sack down under a tree, lay down beside it and was soon asleep.

Snore,

snore,

snore,

went

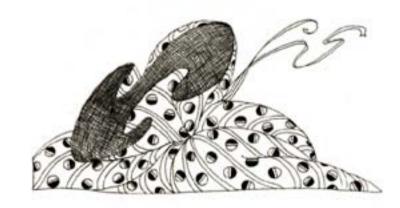
the

big

bad

Fox.

The Little Red Hen heard him!



Then snip, snip, snip, went her scissors. And there was a hole big enough for the Mouse to get through.



"Quick!" she whispered to the Mouse, "run and bring a stone just as large as yourself."

Soon the Mouse came back with a stone just his size and pushed

it

into

the

sack.

AND THE LITTLE RED HEN

Snip, snip, snip, went the Little Red Hen's scissors again. And then the hole was big enough for the Cock to get through.



"Quick!" she whispered to the Cock, "run and bring a stone just as large as yourself."

Soon the Cock came back with a stone just his size and pushed

it

into

the

sack.

After a long time, the fox opened his eyes.

"Dear, dear!" he said. "It is growing dark. I must hurry home."

And he took up his great sack, threw it over his shoulder and trudged on his way toward the hill where his house stood.

The sack was so heavy that the fox had to stop every little while, put it down, and rest.

By and by he came to a brook, which he had to cross. With his sack over his shoulder, the fox could not walk well, and in the middle of the brook

he slipped

and tumbled

into the water kersplash!



AND THE LITTLE RED HEN



He dropped his great sack, and down it went into a deep, deep pool.

And though the big bad fox tried and tried, he couldn't get it out.

After

a

long

time

he

went

home.



AND THE LITTLE RED HEN

At the ugly little house, the four little bad foxes had built a fire and were waiting to cook the Cock, the Mouse, and the Little Red Hen.

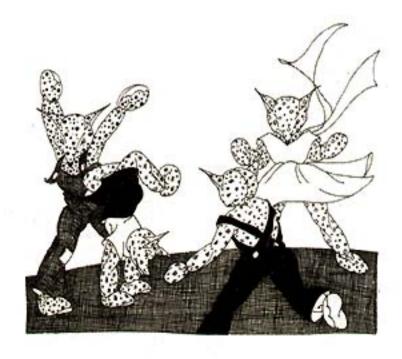
When they heard the big bad fox coming, they jumped up and were all ready

to

open

the

sack.





In came the big bad fox, cold and tired and cross.

He made all the little bad foxes march right straight to bed and he sat down by the fire to warm and dry himself.

The little bad foxes

no
supper
that
night.

AND THE LITTLE RED HEN

In the pretty little house on the hill, the Cock and the Mouse made the fire, brought the water, and cooked the supper.

The Little Red Hen

sat

by

the

fire

and

rested.



The big bad fox never troubled them again, and, for all I know,

the Cock,
and the Mouse,
and the Little Red Hen
are still living in the pretty little house on the hill.



