

# *The Little Red Hen*



**DULCE RODRIGUES**

# Russian folktale

Author: Dulce Rodrigues





Personal website: [www.dulcerodrigues.info](http://www.dulcerodrigues.info)

Children's website: [www.barry4kids.net](http://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  who lived in a farm and was friends with a noisy , a gluttonous  and a burrowing .

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

them:

- "Who will help me plant these seeds?"

- "Not I!" quacked the noisy .

- "Not I!" screamed the burrowing



- "Not I!" grunted the gluttonous



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

red



And our nice little red



went to find her neighbours

the milk



, the stubborn



and the woolly



, whom she made the same question: "Who will

help me plant these seeds?"



- "Not I!" brayed the stubborn






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

- "Not I!" bleated the woolly .

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

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

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

in the  and asked them:

- "Who will help me with the  harvest?"

- "Not I!" quacked the noisy .

- "Not I!" mooed the milk  while quietly grazing

the grass.

- "Not I!" screamed the burrowing .

- "Not I!" grunted the gluttonous .

- "Not I!" brayed the stubborn .

- "Not I!" bleated the woolly yellow .

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

Once the whole golden wheat  had been cut, our little

red  went again to meet her friends and neighbours in

the  and she asked them: "Who will help me take

the  to the  to be ground into flour?"

- "Not I!" mooed the milk  .

- "Not I!" screamed the burrowing  .

- "Not I!" quacked the noisy  .

- "Not I!" brayed the stubborn  .


- "Not I!" bleated the woolly yellow  .



- "Not I!" grunted the gluttonous  .

- "Then I will take it by myself!" said the tired little red

red  .

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

Mr Miller had just finished his working day, but he warmly volunteered to make some extra hours and help his friend the little red  ground the wheat into flour.

She was very thankful to him and then carried the heavy  back to the  .

The following morning, our clever little red hen  met again all the other  and asked them:


- "Who will help me bake a  ?"

- "Not I!" quacked the noisy  .

- "Not I!" mooed the milk  .

- "Not I!" screamed the burrowing  .

- "Not I!" grunted the gluttonous  .

- "Not I!" brayed the stubborn  .

- "Not I!" bleated the woolly yellow  .

- "Then I will bake the  by myself!"

And our clever little red hen  headed to the kitchen,


put on her nice green  , prepared the dough and

took it to the oven. When she had finished baking the

 , an agreeable smell filled the air and all the other



came to see what was going on. Then our tired

little red  asked them: "Who will help me eat the




?"

- "I will!" mooed the milk .

- "I will!" screamed the burrowing .

- "I will!" grunted the gluttonous .


- "I will!" brayed the stubborn .

- "I will!" bleated the woolly yellow .

- "I will!" quacked the noisy .

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

red  .


Ashamed of themselves, all the  lowered their

eyes. Then our nice little red  told them: "What you

really deserve is that I eat the  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  cut the

 in equal shares and gave a piece to the noisy

 , another to the burrowing  , another to

the gluttonous  , another to the milk  
 , another to the stubborn  and still  
another to the woolly yellow  . 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](http://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**

*Barry's Adventure*, 2010, Victoria, B.C., Canada – tale

*Il était une fois... une Maison*, 2009, Paris, France – tale

*Le Père Noël est enrhumé / O Pai Natal está constipado* (bilingual), 2008, Paris, France – theatre

*Le Théâtre des Animaux*, 2008, Paris, France – theatre

*A Aventura do Barry* (CD-Rom), 2001, Lisbon, Portugal – tale

*L'Aventure de Barry*, 1999, Brussels, Belgium – tale

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

Father Christmas has the Flu (Christmas)

The Miracle of Saint Nicholas (Christmas)

The Little Ladybird