



# The Small Good Wolf

Books Reviewed:

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Reviewer:

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~~Editor's Choice:~~

off

Media type:

Book

BfK Rating:

4

In the folk tale tradition the wolf has long been cast as a villain and Rayner herself has perpetuated this image in some of her Pig family stories. More recently though, the wolf has been given a chance to have his say chiefly through alternative version of 'The Three Little Pigs'. Now Rayner has created a version of 'Little Red Riding Hood' which mother wolves might tell their cubs in the den: a Small Good Wolf dresses up in Grandma's clothes for fun and only dives into her bed to hide: 'What a nutter ... doesn't she know a wolf when she sees one?' he thinks when Red Riding Hood enters and speaks her well known lines; and it is only the food in her basket that the Small Good Wolf is interested in eating. We learn that the original version of the tale was invented by Grandma to preserve her reputation. The matter-of-fact retelling with its nice blend of irony and suspense, and the gently humorous water-colour illustrations make this picture book a treat to read and to share.

Running Order:

59

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