

A tale about Little Red Riding Hood and Snowwhite,

Once upon a time a queen-mother was sitting in front of a window with her Singer Sewing Machine. She had a nice view across the snowy fields but was very sad and sighed: 'Dear God, give me one more daughter, a little baby-girl would make me so happy!' Her prayer was answered. As a matter of fact she got two daughters. The eldest was named little Red Riding Hood. She had problems with her ears and therefore had to wear warm woollen hoods. She hated this. But her mother made a red one and that hood was okay. The youngest was called Snowwhite, because of her anaemia. Little princesses have their failures too, you know! Apart from that they were very happy and lively girls who played with their dolls and were spoiled by their parents.

One bright sunny day the girls walked with their doll's prams through the gate to discover the big wide world. The fun lasted very short because the gardener brought them back home. The queen mother told them NEVER to do this again because the outside world was dangerous, full of scary dogs and scary men who could drag you into the bushes. Little Red Riding Hood and Snowwhite were good girls... until the day little Red Riding Hood (16 years of age now) was allowed to visit her grandmother, who lived in a huge villa on the border of the Royal Domain. Granny was a vivid lady who often took a dive in her indoor swimming pool. But now she had strained her ankle during workout and needed a week's rest.

So Little Red Riding Hood walked through the woods with her backpack filled with a bottle of red wine and dark chocolate, and picked some flowers for poor old granny. Because of her bad sense of direction, she got lost and walked...and walked...and walked until she bumped into a huge animal.

'The big bad wolf, I presume??' she said, because she vaguely remembered something, and started to chant: 'What big eyes do you have, what big ears, and...

'No, simpleton!', the beast said and frightened her with a terrible roar.

'I am the Lion King,' he said. "Yeah, and my mother is the queen,' little Red Riding Hood answered, which was the truth.

She looked around. 'This does not look like the Royal Domain'.

'No, this happens to be the Serengeti but I will bring you to the local hunter who has been retrained as a surgeon since all wildlife is protected.'

Little Red Riding Hood uttered a sigh of relief.

'Girls, you will always be safe with a doctor or a vicar', her mother had told her.

So she climbed on the back of the lion and they ran off. After some time they stopped near a mission hospital. A man, dressed in white with a surgical mask round his neck, walked by. He said: Oh dear, what lovely eyes you have! ' Oh, and how pretty these little ears, and look those red m...

In a split second Little Red Riding Hood was thinking: according to me, the story was quite different. But already it was too late. He kissed her and somewhat later dragged her into the bougainvillea bushes. Which, by the way, was quite romantic.

After one gorgeous week, she wrote a letter to her sister: 'Dear Snowwhite, it is splendid out here. No more doctors are left. However plenty of clergymen are available. Those stories about scary dogs and scary men were lies. And the fairytales about the big eyes, ears and mouth is different as well. Please come over as soon as possible.

Don't take the train or the plane but take the lion. He too belongs to the Royal Family'.

And this is how it happened. Snowwhite arrived in the Serengeti, married an Anglican priest, and they lived long and happily ever after.

As a matter of fact: she even got rid of her anaemia and her sister never had problems with her ears anymore.