

# Feeble Fables

Bob Naquin





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ArtAge Publications  
Bonnie L. Vorenberg, President  
PO Box 19955  
Portland OR 97280  
503-246-3000 or 800-858-4998  
[bonniev@seniorthatre.com](mailto:bonniev@seniorthatre.com)  
[www.seniorthatre.com](http://www.seniorthatre.com)

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## FEEBLE FABLES

By Bob Naquin

Feeble Fables is a series of folk tales that have been retold with a modern twist. They can be performed individually as four short programs, or all together, in any order, for a program that will run over an hour.

The individual plays are as follows. Cast members can play multiple roles if needed.

L'il Red Riding Hood

3 women, 1 either

20 minutes

The Three Little Pigs

4 women, 1 either

20 minutes

Jackie and the Bean Stalk

3 women, 3 either

20 minutes

The Grasshopper and the Ant

3 women

20 minutes

### L'IL RED RIDING HOOD

#### CAST

**NARATOR:** Stands at a lectern and narrates the story as it unfolds.

**L'IL RED RIDING HOOD:** Dressed in a red cape, she is on her way to Grandma's house. She is in her sixties, so Granny is probably a bit old herself. She has a basket on her arm. As the years have aged her, she has become a bit of a cougar.

**BIG BAD WOLF:** Dressed more like a rather old pimp. He knows he wants to have Little Red Riding Hood, but he is no longer sure as to why. He has a cane and a top hat. He also has a set of wind up plastic teeth he keeps in his pocket.

NANA: Little Red Riding Hood's grandmother. Old and infirm. She is wheel chair bound and covered with blankets in her home. She wears a granny hat and is wrapped in a shawl.

Place

*On the trail to Nana's house in the woods.*

Time

*Once Upon...*

*Setting: The stage is set with the lectern off to the side of the stage facing the audience. There is a divider in the middle of the stage. On one side of the stage is a woodsy scene with flowers. The other side of the divider is the home of NANA.*

*At Rise: The NARRATOR takes her position behind the lectern. NANA is in her wheel chair and does not look too good.*

NARATOR: Once upon a time in a land far, far away, there lived a little old lady. She was wheel chair bound and subsisting on a Social Security check that had recently been cut by the mean king of the land. Her name was Nana, and she unfortunately was not long for this world. The mean king's court had just cut payments to her doctor and she was not receiving the medical care the previous kings had promised her.

Her granddaughter, Little Red Riding Hood, visiting her, was her one joy left in life.

*(LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD enters on the woods side of the stage and looks at the flowers while the NARRATOR continues)*

NARATOR: To get to her Nana's house, Little Red Riding Hood has to go through the woods. The woods are a very dangerous place for a young lady to be. Alas, Little Red Riding Hood is not so young, so she probably does not have much to worry about. However, there may still be wolves out there. I think I see one coming now.

BIG BAD WOLF: *(Enters, twirling his cane. He looks around and notices LRRH.)* Hey there, Little Red Riding Hood. You sure are looking good.

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD: Who are you? Sam the Sham? Where are your Pharoahs?

BIG BAD WOLF: I am not Sam the Sham. I am just an innocent old wolf without too many teeth left. Where you going, little girl?

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD: I am on my way to Nana's house with a basket of bran muffins.

BIG BAD WOLF: Dang! You have a Nana that is still alive? How OLD is she?

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD: I am not sure. She is pretty old. That is why I just have to get to her house with these bran muffins. Have to keep her regular, you know.

BIG BAD WOLF: Well, I wouldn't be in such a big hurry. You don't want to get in a rush and throw a hip out or anything. Why don't you just take some time to smell the flowers along the way? You don't know how many more times you are going to get to do that at your age.

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD: Well that is a good idea, Mr. Pimp Daddy or whatever your name is.

BIG BAD WOLF: Yes, you just take all the time in the world. There is no need to rush.

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD: *(looking at the flowers along the way)* No need to rush where? *(she gets distracted by something flying in the air around her)* Oh! Look! There is a butterfly. *(LRRH looks at imaginary birds in the air and flowers on the side of the trail)*

*(BIG BAD WOLF hurries off the stage)*

NARATOR: Well, this does not look good for Nana. The Big Bad Wolf has distracted Little Red Riding Hood on her way to her Nana's. He is up to something. Let us watch.

*(A doorbell rings at NANA's house)*

NANA: *(angrily)* You dang kids. Go away. I told you I am not buying any more of those peanut butter cookies. *(to herself)* Dressed up in those little green skirts. They think I don't know what they are doing. I know they are just trying to raise money for the Charlie Manson defense fund.

BIG BAD WOLF: *(appearing at NANA's door)* It is not the Girl Scouts, Miss. I'm here to clean your dryer vent.

NANA: Dryer vent? Who the heck needs their dryer vent cleaned? Go away. Just another one of those unneeded services I always have to pay for.

BIG BAD WOLF: Miss, it is all part of the maintenance package. You already paid for it.

NANA: Okay then. Come on in. (*BIG BAD WOLF comes in*) Hey! You are not from the maintenance staff. You are a wolf!

BIG BAD WOLF: Yes I am. I am old. And I am hungry.

NANA: You are not going to eat an old woman like me, are you?

BIG BAD WOLF: Oh, heck no. You are too old and too tough. I am not sure of how many of your body parts are original. I don't want to break a tooth on an artificial hip or something. I want to make a snack of your young granddaughter when she arrives.

NANA: Go ahead. If I have to eat one more of those darn bran muffins she keeps bringing over here, I think I am going to die of boredom. Besides, she's no spring chicken either. If you think you can choke that old bird down, then go ahead.

BIG BAD WOLF: I took a Prilosec this morning so I think eating her will be okay. First, I have to get rid of you. (*He pushes her and her wheel chair behind the screen out of the audience's sight. He comes back out in the wheel chair with NANA's shawl and hat on.*)

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD: (*arrives at NANA's house*) Nana, it's me. I brought your favorite muffins. You know they're good for you.

BIG BAD WOLF: Come in, my dear little one. I am so excited to see you.

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD: That's funny. You have never been excited to see me before. You look different, Nana. Maybe it is these new Costco glasses I just bought for myself. Are you feeling okay?

BIG BAD WOLF: I am fine, Sweetie.

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD: My, Nana, what a deep voice you have. Have you been smoking cigars again?

BIG BAD WOLF: The better to greet you with, my dear. And I haven't been able to get a good cigar since I broke off my affair with Fidel.

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD: Goodness! What big eyes you have.

BIG BAD WOLF: I had them dilated at the doctors this morning. But better to see you with, my dear.

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD: My, Nana, what big hands you have.

BIG BAD WOLF: The better to feel your plump little arm. *(he feels LRRH's arm)*

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD: Feel away, baby. That's the most action I've had in a long time.

*(BIG BAD WOLF drops the set of wind up teeth on the floor, where they chatter away)*

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD: *(picking up the teeth and handing them to BBW.)* My, Nana, what loose teeth you have. You should use more Sea Bond like I told you to do.

BIG BAD WOLF: The better to eat you with, my dear. And I am going to do that right now.

*(BIG BAD WOLF jumps up and throws off the shawl and hat. LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD screams.)*

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD: You are not my Nana. Where is she?

BIG BAD WOLF: I drove her to Assisted Living. That's where she belongs.

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD. I guess you're right. She was so mean. We were all too scared to take her there. Thanks. *(she links her arm in his and cozies up to him)*

BIG BAD WOLF: I am going to eat you up. *(he makes a growling noise)*

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD: With those teeth? You would be lucky to gum down your Jell-O. Stop being silly. Make an old girl happy and take her to dinner. I think we can still get the Early Bird Special. *(she links arms with him and starts to go offstage)*

**END OF FREEVIEW**

***You'll want to read and perform this show!***