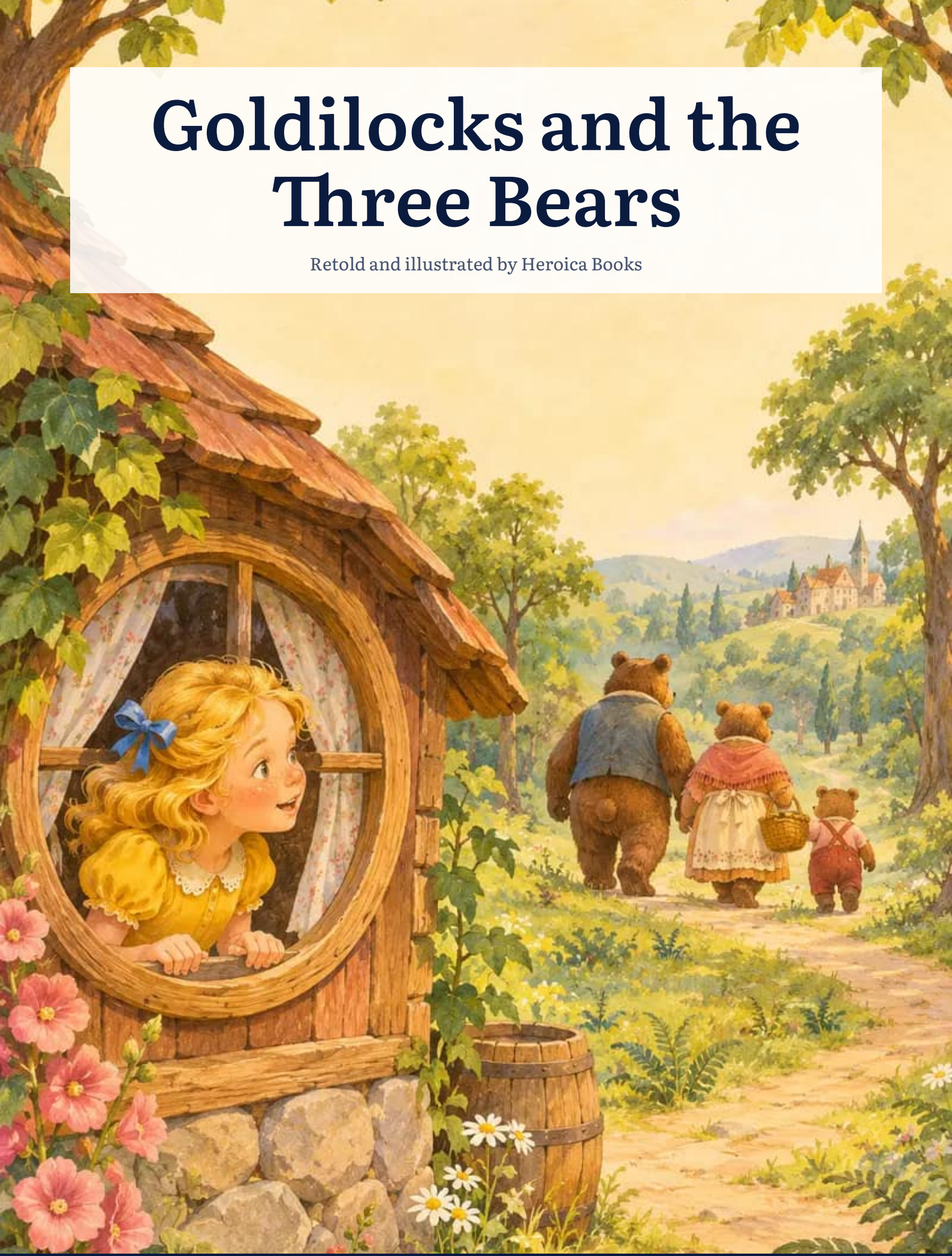
Goldilocks and the Three Bears

Retold and illustrated by Heroica Books



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Where does this story come from?

The first known printed version is by Robert Southey, published in England in 1837, and in it the intruder was an old woman. During the nineteenth century the character became a little girl, and the name Goldilocks took hold in the early twentieth century. In this retelling she apologises to the bears before she leaves.

What is the moral of the story?

Respect other people's homes and things, ask before you go in, and say sorry when you get it wrong.



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Once upon a time three bears lived in a little wooden cottage in the woods: big Father Bear, middle-sized Mother Bear and tiny Baby Bear in his red scarf.

One morning Mother Bear made porridge, but it was far too hot. "Let's go for a walk while it cools," said Father Bear. And off went the three of them, leaving the bowls on the table by the window.



Soon a little girl with golden curls came by. Everyone called her Goldilocks. Curious, she peeked through the window, pushed the door open and went inside.

On the table were three bowls. She tasted the porridge in the big bowl: "Ouch, too hot!" She tasted the middle bowl: "Brr, too cold!" Then she tasted the little bowl: "This one is just right!" And she ate it all up.



Then Goldilocks wanted a rest. She sat in the big chair: "Too hard!" She sat in the middle chair: "Too soft!" She sat in the little chair: "This one is just my size!"

But she rocked so much that the little chair went crack... and broke! Goldilocks landed on the floor with a bump and a big surprise.



Feeling tired, she went upstairs and found the bears' bedroom. She lay on the big bed: "Too high!" She lay on the middle bed: "Too squashy!" She lay on the little bed: "This one is just right!"

She pulled up the blanket and, within a minute, was fast asleep.



The three bears came home from their walk. "Someone's been eating my porridge!" said Father Bear. "Someone's been sitting in my chair!" said Mother Bear. "Someone's eaten all my porridge and broken my chair!" cried Baby Bear.

They went up to the bedroom, and Baby Bear pointed: "Look! Someone's sleeping in my bed!"



Goldilocks woke up at the sound of their voices and jumped when she saw the three bears. Embarrassed, she said sorry: "I'm so sorry! I came in without asking, ate your porridge and broke your chair. I won't do it again."

Then she ran home through the woods, and Baby Bear waved from the window. From that day on, Goldilocks never went into anyone's house without being invited. The end.

NOW IT'S YOUR CHILD'S TURN

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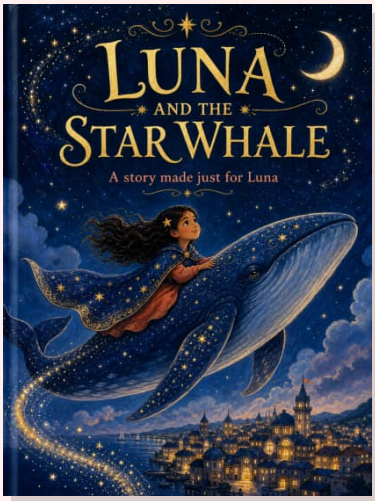

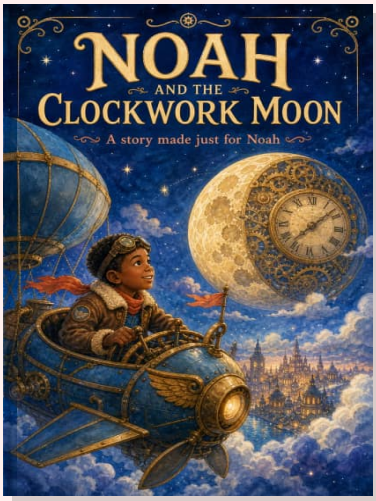



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