



# Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs

*Mo Willems (Retelling)*

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## **Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs** Mo Willems (Retelling)

Once upon a time, there were three hungry Dinosaurs: Papa Dinosaur, Mama Dinosaur . . . and a Dinosaur who happened to be visiting from Norway.

One day--*for no particular reason*--they decided to tidy up their house, make the beds, and prepare pudding of varying temperatures. And then--*for no particular reason*--they decided to go...someplace else. They were definitely NOT setting a trap for some succulent, unsupervised little girl.

Definitely not!

This new take on a fairy-tale classic is so funny and so original--it could only come from the brilliant mind of Mo Willems.

## **Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs Details**

Date : Published September 4th 2012 by Balzer + Bray

ISBN : 9780062104182

Author : Mo Willems (Retelling)

Format : Hardcover 40 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Humor, Animals, Dinosaurs

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# From Reader Review Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs for online ebook

## Ronyell says

Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Tale

Edwina, The Dinosaur Who Didn't Know She Was Extinct

Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!

These are the books that I had read from the creative mind of Mo Willems and I will admit that I had enjoyed almost everything that Mo Willems has written over the years! Well, I just read Mo Willems' most recent children's book and that is called "Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs" and it is definitely one story that every children and adult will enjoy for many years!

Once upon a time, there were three dinosaurs (a Papa Dinosaur, a Mama Dinosaur and some Dinosaur who was visiting from Norway) and one day (for no reason), they decided to make three bowls of chocolate pudding at varying temperatures and go...someplace else. They were definitely NOT doing this to set up a trap for an unsupervised little girl who happens to come along to their house. So, when Goldilocks approaches their house, she will be in for a big surprise!

Wow...just...wow! I cannot believe I had never heard of this book (well, the fact that it was just recently made in 2012 had something to do with it), but now that I had finally checked this book out, I am just so amazed at how awesome this book turned out! When I saw the title "Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs," the first thought that came into my head was that we finally had a remake of a classic fairy tale since it has been awhile since I had read children's books that were retellings of old fairy tales. The second thought that came into my head was that the moment I read this title, I knew that this book was going to be something really creative and hilarious and I was right! Mo Willems certainly knows how to create a story that is not only pleasing to children, but also pleasing to adults! I loved the writing style of this book as the characters are hilarious and the narration is sarcastic and witty. Probably my most favorite quote out of this entire book was stated by the narrator:

***"The first bowl of chocolate pudding was too hot, but Goldilocks ate it all anyway, because, hey, it's chocolate pudding, right?"***

Who could resist chocolate pudding? I know I cannot resist chocolate pudding! I loved the idea about Mo Willems using three dinosaurs for this story instead of three bears since it really gave this book a more creative flair and I loved the fact that the baby dinosaur is actually a dinosaur who was visiting from Norway since it was a different twist to the original story. I also loved the way that Mo Willems slightly alerted the readers about the three dinosaurs' plans in trying to get Goldilocks to come to their house and yet used hilarious lines to avert the idea about the dinosaurs preparing to make a meal out of Goldilocks such as:

***"The three Dinosaurs went Someplace Else and were definitely not hiding in the woods waiting for an unsuspecting kid to come by."***

Mo Willems' illustrations are as usual hilarious to look at as the three dinosaurs look cartoony with their long snouts and small round eyes and I loved the fact that both the Mama and Papa dinosaur were green

while the Norwegian dinosaur was red. I also loved the illustrations of Goldilocks herself as she has short blond hair and large round eyes that makes her look so oblivious to anything happening around her.

Overall, "Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs" is a truly brilliant retelling of the classic fairy tale and children everywhere will definitely re-read this book over and over again for many years!

**Review is also on: Rabbit Ears Book Blog**

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### **Amanda Harris says**

Before you actually read this book, open the front and back cover and indulge yourself in the rejected names of this book...I certainly laughed out loud when I read that "Goldilocks and the three foot-long hoagies" could have been the title of this book, but was X'd out. Read them all because they are hilarious! (Great read aloud for kids (and reptilian creatures) of all ages, they might even start to think of their own funny names for this classic story)

Now the story:

The story starts out with a mama and papa dinosaur and then "some other dinosaur who happened to be visiting from Norway" and for no particular reason, they make up their beds, position their chairs and make three bowls of chocolate pudding at different temperatures-because "Chocolate-filled-little-girl-bonbons" are Yummy! To make a long story short, they are expecting Goldilocks to visit, fill her with chocolate, hence the yummy bonbon, and have her fall asleep! Goldilocks visits and then realizes it's a trap and then leaves out the back door. The story ends with a happy ending (for Goldilocks) and a disappointing ending (for the dinosaurs). Willems gives readers, and dinosaurs, some good advice at the end, first, "If you ever find yourself in the wrong story, leave", second, if you are a dinosaur "Lock the back door"!

This book is hysterical! One of the funniest and most clever fractured fairy-tales i've ever read-also loved that it had a good, clean humor to it. I can't put into words how amazing this book is. The illustrations are so cute and clever-look for the pigeon, and Mo Willems really has a knack for writing/illustrating books that appeal to everyone. I recommend everyone picking this book up and having a good laugh. I can read this book anytime working in a library, but honestly, it is one that I want to own!

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### **Sophia Triad says**

My children love the books about grumpy Pigeon (e.g. Don't let the Pigeon drive the bus), but also the books about the two best friends Elephant and Piggy by Mo Willems. Naturally, we have sought more books by the same author.

Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs is a funny (mostly sarcastic really) version of the classical tale of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. This time Goldilocks has made a mistake and she doesn't visit/trespass the house of the cute bear family, but the house or three hungry dinosaurs who may or may not have set a trap. The moral of the story is that: *"If you ever find yourself in the wrong story, leave!"*

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## **Matt says**

In this retelling, the three dinosaurs have heard all about the antics of Goldilocks and how she enjoys traipsing into random homes. They set a trap, complete with massive bowls of chocolate pudding, in hopes of luring this little treat into their abode. Exaggerating their departure, the dinosaurs hide in the forest and hope for the best. Lo and behold, Goldilocks emerges and devours all the chocolate pudding she can find. However, with massive chairs and beds, Goldilocks decides that this is no place for her. Finding the back door open and hearing the dinosaurs rushing back, Goldilocks is able to flee just before she becomes a chocolate bonbon treat for her prehistoric enemies. Moral of the story, always lock the back door. Neo loved this twist on a traditional story and hopes we can find more alternative tellings of fairy tales in the coming weeks.

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## **Lisa Vegan says**

[ "If you ever find yourself in the wrong story, leave." (hide spoiler)]

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## **Kaylin (The Re-Read Queen) says**

Mo Willems' once again writes a delightful children's book infused with.... attempted murder, dark humor and subverted expectations??

(Small-fry giggles the whole time, especially when I read the "TIME FOR BON BONS" line like the muppet's Swedish Chef)

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## **The Library Lady says**

Okay, okay, here I go again proving that I just can't fit in with the rest of the children's librarians because I didn't like this one any more than I liked Knuffle Bunny Free

I reverence Mo Willems, but even a great writer sometimes lays an egg and this to me is his. It tries too hard. It's sort of like something a parent might tell a child if they wanted to retell a classic known story and have the child going "No, Daddy, THAT'S not how it goes".

Only it's just not that funny. And I suspect that a lot of the people giving this 4 or 5 stars wouldn't be doing so if it wasn't Mo Willems.

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## **midnightfaerie says**

Once again Mo Willems has a winner in this one! A story both my 5-yr-old and twin 2-yr-olds could get into,

the fun pictures and unusual twist to Goldilocks had us all laughing. A solid level 2 reading book, if you're looking for one, or just a great story to read out loud to your children, to ensure early reader enjoyment. I highly recommend this author if you're looking for new books to read to your kids!

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### **Kathryn says**

Hilarious! Loved it, loved it, loved it! So witty, so charming. I'm not sure if kids will appreciate all the humor the way adults will (pay careful attention to all the details, especially in the illustrations) but they will still probably get a hoot out of this refreshing take on the traditional Goldilocks tale. I really don't want to say too much about it because the fun is all in the discovery of how the story plays out (you think you know where it's going, but...!) So, I will simply recommend this, most highly, to those who enjoy fractured fairytales, humor, dinosaurs and/or the incomparable Mo Willems!

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### **Dolly says**

We love Mo Willems. His books are so humorous, and the illustrations are so clever and fun. We love this snarky version of the classic Goldilocks And The Three Bears story. The narrative is silly, but entertaining and the illustrations are colorful and cartoonish.

We enjoyed reading this book together, and our girls loved the endpages with the listing of different titles, like "Goldilocks and the Three Squirrels," "Goldilocks and the Three Clams," "Goldilocks and the Three Red Herring," "Goldilocks and the Three Major Networks," and "Goldilocks and the Three Foot-Long Hoagies." It kept us laughing for quite a long time.

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### **Jesse says**

Five stars mostly for the quality of the audience. But it actually was a pretty funny take on the three bears and it had dinosaurs.

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### **Angela Ball says**

(KidLit ED204 category: fairy tale)

"Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs" is a version of Goldilocks, retold by Mo Willems. That is almost a guarantee that the book will be humorous and delight children, young and old!

Instead of the familiar Papa Bear, Mama Bear and Baby Bear, the reader is introduced to Papa Dinosaur, Mama Dinosaur and "some other Dinosaur who happened to be visiting from Norway." The dinosaurs appear to be just a touch on the evil side, and Goldilocks is a bit naughty too. The illustrations are colorful and fun, typical of Mo Willems style. A very fun version of Goldilocks.

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## **Kaethe says**

If I ever win the lottery, you can bet that my home library will be stocked with every single Willems book. Another amusing retelling with a twist. I'm amused that Goldilocks resembles Trixie from *Knuffle Bunny Free: An Unexpected Diversion*. Remember: don't skip the endpapers of a Willems book, there's always at least one reward there, and this time there are many.

Library copy.

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## **paula says**

Oh for god's sake. YET ANOTHER funny and fantastic and understated and overstated book from Mo Willems. I am beginning to think that if he did an illustrated retelling of, I don't know, *The Giving Tree* or *Twilight* or *50 Shades of Gray* I would like even THAT.

With this book, he had me even before the story began, at endpapers decorated with a hundred scratched-out titles: *Goldilocks and the Three Dentists*; *Goldilocks and the Three Goats*.

Yup. When you find yourself laughing out loud at the endpapers, you know you're in trouble.

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## **Tami says**

Mo Willems' new spin on the classic *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* does not disappoint! I was so excited to receive my copy in the mail I read it right away, laughing all the way through it! When my 3rd & 4th Grader saw it they begged to have it added to our bedtime reading along with the chapter books in which we are currently engrossed.

*Goldilocks and the Three Dinosaurs* has the wonderful tongue-in-cheek humor of the *Elephant & Piggie* books (my favorite of all Willems' work!): when Goldilocks stops to think for a minute the author points out that is longer than she usually takes for either.

In this version Papa, Mama and the visiting Dinosaur from Norway already know the story of *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. They use the fairy tale as a blueprint to set a trap for an unsuspecting, "poorly supervised" little girl, plotting to fill her with chocolate pudding and then eat her. The illustrations of Goldilocks literally diving into the bowls of chocolate pudding delighted my 8-year-old; all the chairs are "too tall" since they are for dinosaurs; and Goldilocks never makes it all the way to the beds. There are two delightfully silly morals to the story--one for Goldilocks and one for the dinosaurs.

I highly recommend Mo Willems' latest great contribution to children's literature for ALL ages. Older readers (including adults) will belly-chuckle at the slightly more ascerbic humor that runs parallel just below the surface of the silliness that younger readers will devour in the same way as *Elephant & Piggie*, *Pigeon* and *Knuffle Bunny* and the more recent *Hooray for Amanda and Her Alligator!*

