

A REVISION OF THE FAIRY TALE BY
HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN



The
Snow Queen

ILLUSTRATED BY BAGRAM IBA TOULINE

Tuesday 9th February 2021

Skills work - Fronted adverbials

How

When

Where

Skills 2 – Apostrophe for contractions

- I will
- They have
- He is
- You are
- Do not
- Would have
- Does not
- It is
- We are
- I'll
- They've
- He's
- You're
- Don't
- Would've
- Doesn't
- It's
- We're

"No," said Gerda. And she told all that had happened to her, and how fond she was of little Kay.

The robber girl looked at her seriously and said, "They won't harm you even if I do get angry with you." Then she dried Gerda's eyes and put her hands into the beautiful muff that was so soft and warm.

When the coach stopped, they were in the courtyard of the robbers' castle. The yard was filled with ravens and crows and big bulldogs that each looked as if it could swallow a man. The dogs jumped but they did not bark, for that was forbidden.

In the great smoky hall, a bright fire burned upon the stone floor. A large kettle of soup was boiling, and rabbits were roasting on a spit.

"Tonight you'll sleep with me and all my little animals," said the robber girl.



After supper they went to a corner where straw was spread out. Nearby, more than a hundred pigeons sat on boards and perches.

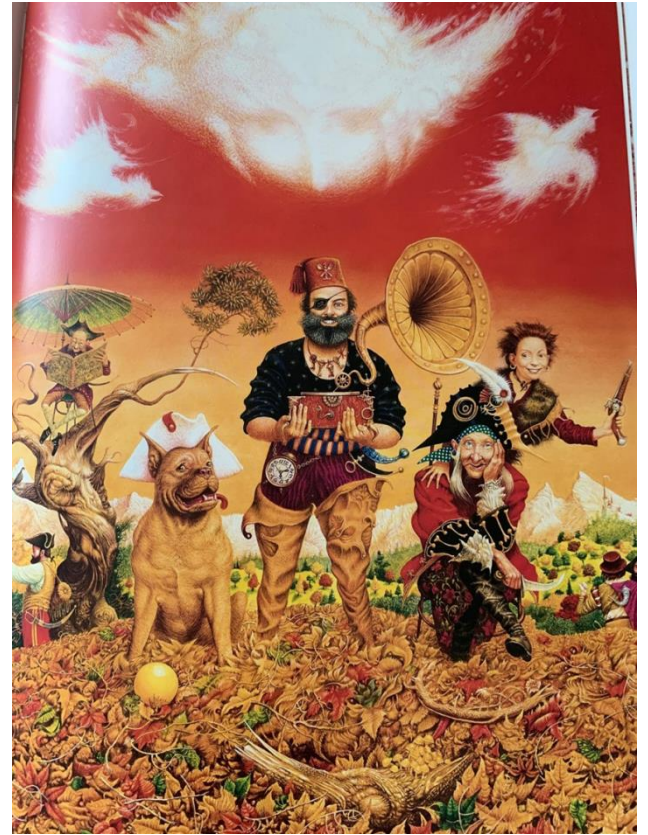
"All these belong to me," said the little robber girl. She seized one by the feet and shook it so that it beat its wings.

"Kiss it!" she cried, laughing as the pigeon flapped in Gerda's face. "And here's my old sweetheart, Ba!" She pulled out a reindeer by its antlers and let her knife glide over its neck.

"Do you keep the knife with you while you're asleep?" asked Gerda, looking at it with fear.

"I always sleep with my knife," replied the robber girl. "You never know what may happen. But tell me again what you told me about little Kay, and why you came out into the wide world."

And Gerda told it again from the beginning, as the pigeons cooed above them. The little robber girl put one arm around Gerda's neck and slept, holding her knife in the other hand. Poor Gerda could not close her eyes at all because the robbers sat around the fire, singing and drinking and tumbling about in a frightening way. It was quite horrible for any little girl to behold.



Then a pigeon spoke to Gerda. "Coo! Coo! I have seen little Kay. He sat in the Snow Queen's carriage, which drove close by the forest as we lay in our nests."

"Tell me," asked Gerda, "do you know where the Snow Queen was traveling to?"

"She was probably journeying to Lapland, where they always have ice and snow. Ask the reindeer that is tied beside you."

"There is snow and ice in Lapland, and it is glorious," said the reindeer. "One may run about freely on the great glittering plains. There the Snow Queen has her summer tent, but her castle is up toward the North Pole."

"Oh, Kay!" sighed Gerda. Her sighs woke the robber girl, who exclaimed, "You must lie still or I shall get angry!"

In the morning Gerda told her all that the pigeon had said, and the robber girl nodded. She looked over at the reindeer. "Do you know where Lapland is?"

The reindeer replied, "Who should know better than I?" Its eyes sparkled. "I was born and bred there and used to run free over its snow fields."

"Listen!" said the robber girl to Gerda. "All our men have gone away. Only Mother is here. Every day at noon she drinks out of a big bottle, and then she sleeps. When this happens today, I'll do something for you."

The mother drank out of her bottle and took a nap, just as the robber girl had said she would. Then the girl went to the reindeer.

"I should like very much to tickle you a few more times with my knife, but for now I must loosen your cord and help you out, so that you may run to Lapland. Use your legs well, and carry this little girl to the palace of the Snow Queen, where her playfellow is."

The reindeer leaped with joy. The robber girl lifted Gerda onto its back and then gave her her own little cushion as a saddle.

"Don't forget your boots," said the robber girl, "for it will be cold. I'll keep the muff because it's so pretty. Still, you won't freeze. Here are my mother's big mittens. They'll reach up to your elbows. Go ahead! Stick your hands in them. And here is some bread and a ham so you won't be hungry."

Gerda wept for joy.

"I can't bear to see you crying," said the robber girl. "Off you go!" She turned to the reindeer.

"Run," she said, "and take good care of this little girl."

Gerda held out her hands and said, "Thank you and farewell!" The reindeer ran over rock and stone, away through the great forest, over marshes and plains, as quickly as it could go. Wolves howled and ravens croaked. It seemed as if the sky were flashing fire.

"Those are my old Northern Lights," said the reindeer. "Look how they glow!" And then it ran on faster than ever, day and night, on toward Lapland.



Activity 1 - The Robber Girl - Story Map

1. Gerda in the carriage gets ambushed as the sun sets by a band of robbers
2. They take Gerda to their old horrible castle with nasty ravens and wild vicious dogs.
3. The young girl threatens and teases her animals with her knife
4. Gerda talks to some pigeons. They say they know that Kay has been taken by the Snow Queen.
5. Gerda explains to the robber girl. She feels sorry for Gerda and helps her escape.
6. The robber girl gives Gerda her reindeer to escape on and look for Kay.

The robber girl
story map

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Activity 1 –
The Robber
Girl Story
Map

Activity 2 - The Robbers Castle

With a jolt, the golden coach stopped in a dark and terrifying courtyard. Evil looking ravens perched on the bare branches of trees their dark eyes, cold and piercing. Large bull dogs jumped and snarled but did not bark because they were scared of their masters. The castle was not grand like the one the prince and princess had. It was a crumbled ruin of broken stone with smashed windows and cold dark rooms. **On the stone floor**, in the middle of the great hall, a smoky fire burned. **Over the fire**, hung a large kettle of soup and several rabbits were roasting on a spit. **“This is our bit. Sit down!”** snarled the young robber girl with a mischievous grin.

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