The Little Red Hen

Retold
by Ailyn Breck
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A little red hen lived on a farm.
The little red hen lived with a dog, a cat, and a yellow duck.

One day, the little red hen found seeds on the ground.
The little red hen had an idea.
She would plant the seeds.

An excited little red hen asked,

"Who will help me plant the seeds?"
"Not I," whined the dog.
"Not I," mewed the cat.
"Not I," warbled the yellow duck.

"Then I will," said the little red hen.

The little red hen planted the seeds by herself.

- The little red hen put on the farmer's old boots.
- She watered the seeds when the weather was dry.
- She pecked out the thistles that grew beside them.
- She watched most of the seeds grow into fine golden wheat.
A proud little red hen asked,

"Who will help me cut the wheat?"

"Not I," whined the dog.
"Not I," mewed the cat.
"Not I," warbled the yellow duck.

"Then I will," said the little red hen.

The little red hen cut the wheat all by herself:

- The little red hen put on the farmer's old boots
- She sharpened and oiled an old scythe
- She cut the wheat

A sweating little red hen asked,

"Who will help me prepare the wheat for the mill?"

"Not I," barked the dog.
"Not I," purred the cat.
"Not I," quacked the yellow duck.

"Then I will," said the little red hen.

The little red hen prepared the wheat for the mill all by herself:

- The little red hen put on the farmer's old boots
- She threshed and winnowed the wheat
- She put the chaff in her nest, and the wheat in a small sack and a big sack
A thirsty little red hen asked,

"Who will help me take the wheat to the mill to be ground into flour?"

"Not I," whined the dog.
"Not I," mewed the cat.
"Not I," warbled the yellow duck.

"Then I will," said the little red hen.

The little red hen brought the wheat to the mill to be ground into flour all by herself.

- The little red hen put on the farmer's old boots
- She carried the stack of wheat to the mill, and gave the miller the small sack of wheat
- While the rest of wheat was ground into flour, the little red hen had a drink of water...
- She carried a large sack of flour back to the farm

A tired little red hen asked,

"Who will help me bake the bread?"

"Not I," whined the dog.
"Not I," mewed the cat.
"Not I," warbled the yellow duck.

"Then I will," said the little red hen.

The little red hen baked the bread all by herself:

- The little red hen put on the farmer's old boots
- She stirred sweet water and yeast into the flour, and kneaded the dough
- She stoked the fire for the oven
- She baked the bread
An exhausted little red hen asked,

"Who will help me eat the bread?"

"I will!" barked the dog.
"I will!" purred the cat.
"I will!" quacked the yellow duck.

"No!" cackled the little red hen.

The little red hen took the loaf of bread far from the dog, the cat, and the duck.

- The little red hen ate a quarter of the loaf at once
- She stored half the loaf safely in her nest
- She toasted the rest of the loaf, and spread the slices with butter
- She put the warm fresh slices on a plate

The farmer woke up, and was delighted with the toast.

But, the note confused him...

Next season, we need new boots!

Yours truly,

Little Red Hen