

**Red Riding Hood by Hyman, Pinkney & Perrault**

Published by Raphael Tuck, London (1895)

PZ6 1895 .R427

<http://resolve.library.ubc.ca/cgi-bin/catsearch?bid=2241562>





The outline and shape of this book are outstanding, tracing out a side view of the protagonist's face. The cover and inside pages are cut in such a manner that the face visible in the cover can still partially be viewed in the inside pages. The inside pages alternate between a two-tone (red and black) line print and full-colour hand-painted images. The unique visual layout and planning of this edition are what drew me to this edition of *Red Riding Hood*.

The illustrations of the female characters are quite interesting. On the one hand, it is encouraging to have a lead female character who is not drawn with unrealistic body proportions in mind. This is especially important since this is a representation of a child in a book meant for children. On the other hand, it is disappointing to see that her grannie is startlingly young – resembling a mother or even an older sister.

Lastly, this is the only reproduction of Red Riding Hood I have personally come across which has a somewhat violent depiction of the wolf's slaughter. I like this because it makes children confront the value of the wolf's life and the consequences of killing, even in self-defence.



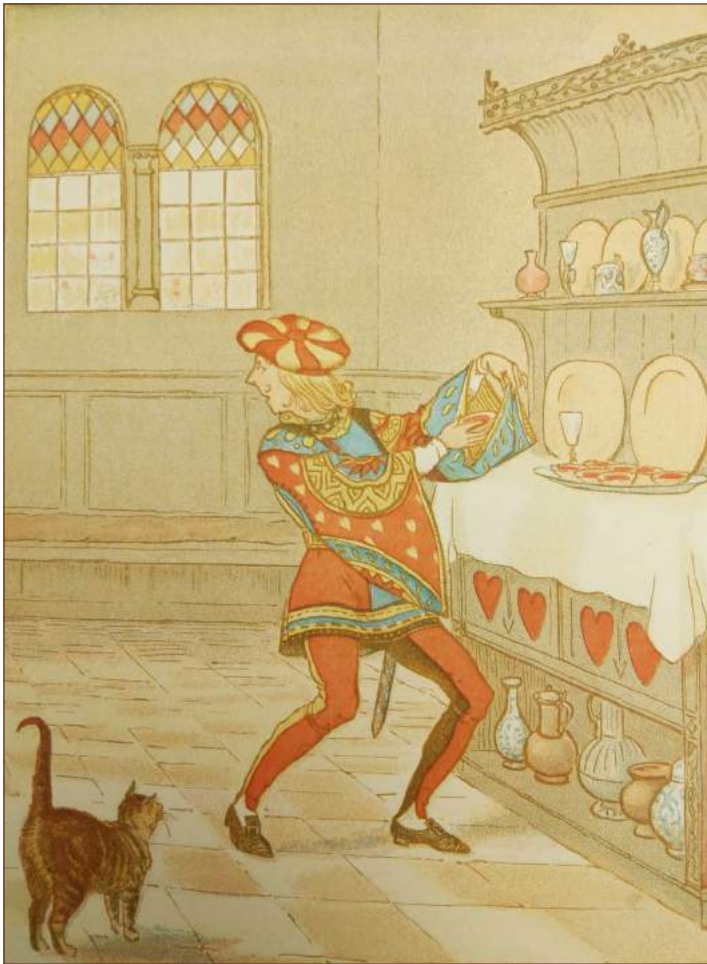
The Queen of Hearts by Randolph Caldecott

Published by G. Routledge, London (1881)

PZ6 1881 C357

<http://resolve.library.ubc.ca/cgi-bin/catsearch?bid=93566>

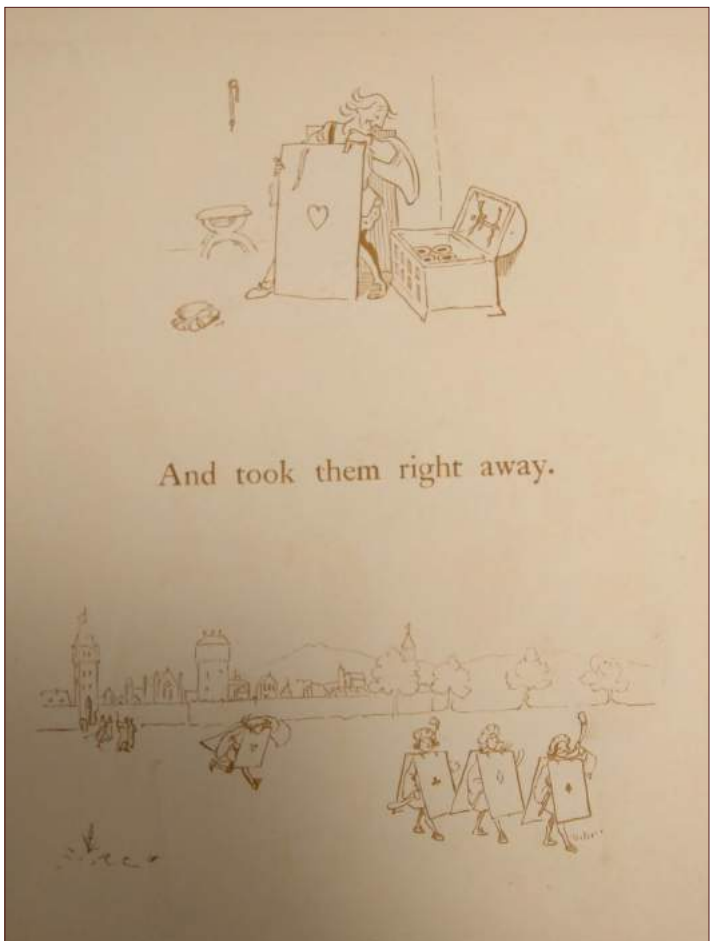




This is the only book that made it onto my list purely on the basis of comedy. *Queen of Hearts* is a hilarious tale, not owing to its basic plotline of a knave stealing a queen's tarts, but to its visual storytelling. The images in this text are more than supplementary, they add their own quirky details to the text.

In the bottom-left image, one of the queen's servants is informed that the knave of hearts stole the tarts. The little detail added by the image here is that the informant is a cat. This not only serves the purpose of being adorable and funny, but also adds a touch of fantasy to this land as we have now established that talking animals are canonical.

In the bottom-right image, the text merely says that the knave took the tarts right away. The images provide much more detail, showing us that he stows them away in a treasure chest with a grin of excitement. Not to mention, we get to see the knave of hearts run late as he struggles to up with the cards of the other suits. This adds an animation to the tale that the mere words could not achieve.



**Peeps into Fairy Land by F. E. Weatherly (editor)**

Published by Ernest Nister, London (1896)

PZ6 1896 .P446

<http://resolve.library.ubc.ca/cgi-bin/catsearch?bid=341282>



**Selected Fairy Tale from *Peeps into Fairyland*:  
The Fairy Fir-cones by M. A. Hoyer**

A Panorama  
Picture Book



*The Fairy Fir-cones* is undoubtedly the most traditional fairy tale in my list of books; it features lost children, cursed bears and snow fairies. In an act of reciprocal kindness, the bears help guide the two children home and the children help break the curse on the three bears, turning them back into fairies.

This book has many lively line drawings such as the vivacious dancing bears below. The quick effortless lines in the original sketches lend a movement to these still images. Yet what sets the book apart are its full-colour pop-up images, as seen above. It details the gorgeous ice crystal cave the children stumble into, where they meet the snow fairies and their queen. I am particularly impressed with the rendering of the iridescent rainbow wings of the fairies.

What I like most about this story is that I imagine it as a patchwork quilt of cherished canon tales from my childhood. The two lost children are from Hansel and Gretel, the three bears are from Goldilocks, the fairies are from Tinkerbell and the curse is reminiscent of Beauty and the Beast.



**Revolving Pictures by Clifton Bingham (editor)**

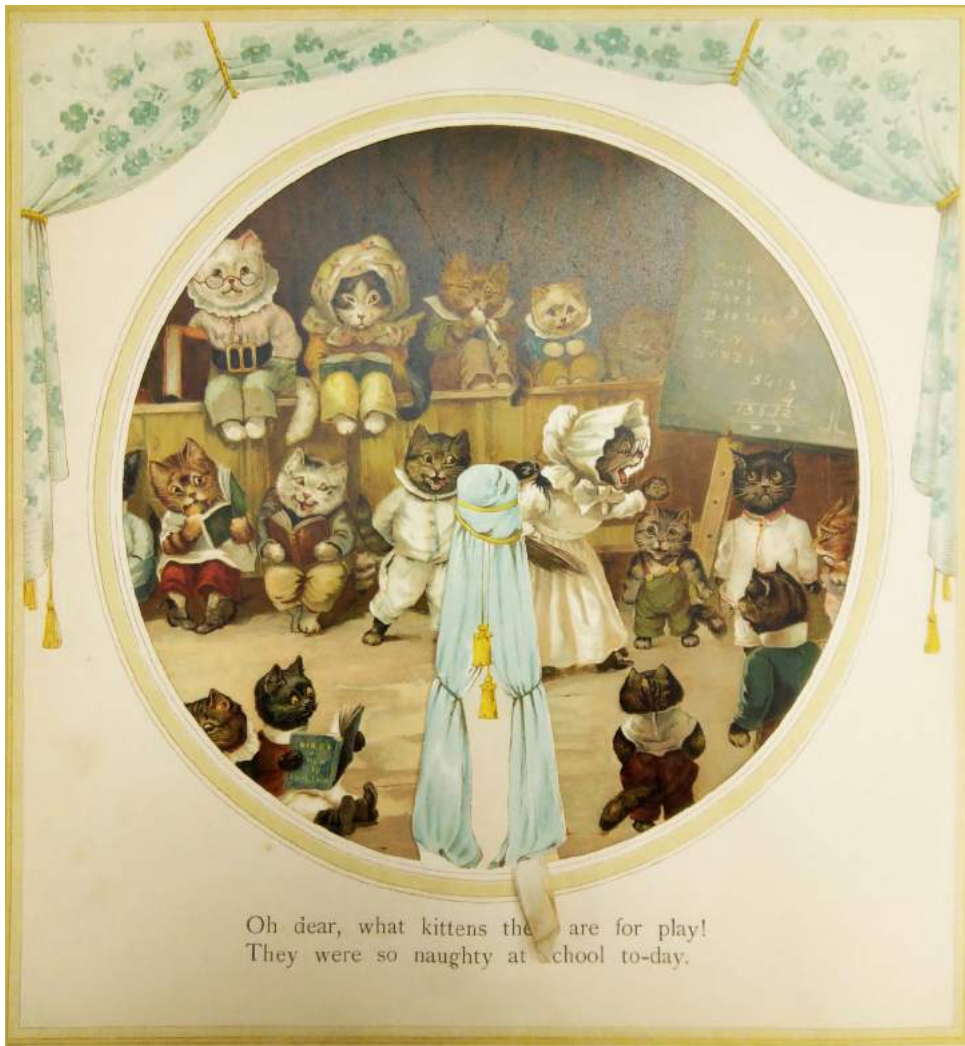
Published by Ernest Nister, London (1895)

PZ6 1895 .R486

<http://resolve.library.ubc.ca/cgi-bin/catsearch?bid=4601754>

**Selected Fairy Tale from *Revolving Pictures*:  
Mischievous Kits by unknown author**





*Mischievous Kits* is quite a simple one-page tale of a teacher, Dame Tabitha, who is too kind. This allows her pupils to run amok and cause chaos, especially because they are not tamed at home either. What makes this tale special, much like the other entries in this list, are the images. This book holds true to its promise of revolving pictures. There is a ribbon at the bottom of the blue curtained pole that can be seen in the picture above. The sliding of this ribbon allows a hidden image to peep out of the curtain and replace the first image as can be seen on the right.

These images have been very thoughtfully designed. In the corner, one kitten can be seen reading a book titled, "Birds & How to Love Them." There is math equation on the blackboard that is terribly inaccurate. One kitten at the top has rolled some paper into a pipe to blow seeds at Dame Tabitha while another kitten is pouring out the entirety of an ink bottle on her shoulder. It is the innovative and interactive images along with the attention to detail that drew me to this book.



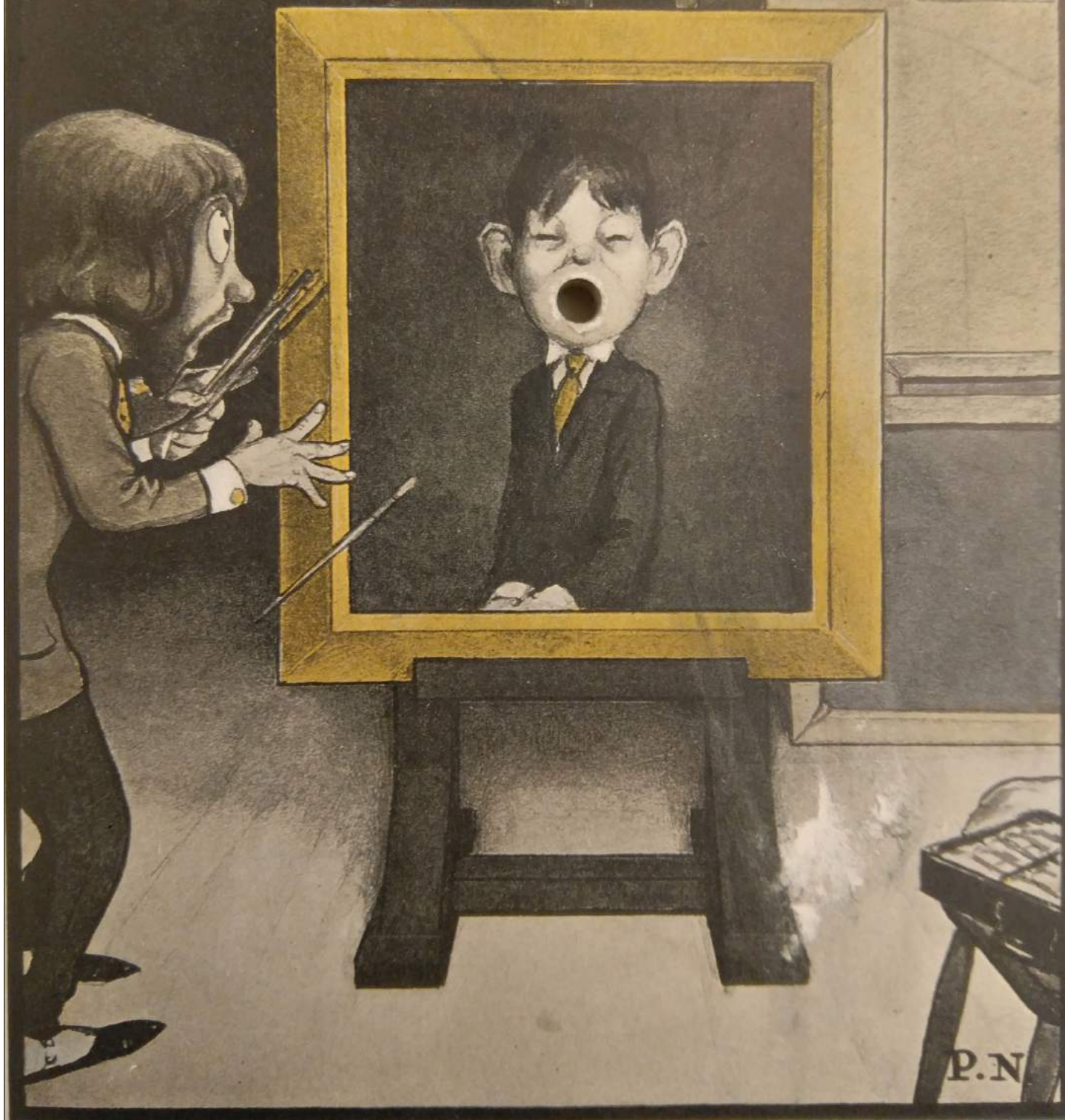


**The Hole Book by Peter Newell**

Published by Harper & Bros, New York (1908)

PZ6 1908 .N483

<http://resolve.library.ubc.ca/cgi-bin/catsearch?bid=8297228>





Tom Potts was fooling with a gun  
(Such follies should not be),  
When—bang! the pesky thing went off  
Most unexpectedly!

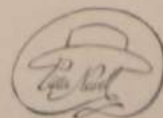
Tom didn't know 'twas loaded, and  
It scared him 'most to death—  
He tumbled flat upon the floor  
And fairly gasped for breath.

The bullet smashed a fine French clock  
(The clock had just struck three),  
Then made a hole clean through the wall,  
As you can plainly see.

Mis' Newlywed had made a cake,  
With icings good and stout—  
The bullet struck its armor belt,  
And meekly flattened out.



And this was lucky for Tom Potts,  
The boy who fired the shot—  
It might have gone clean round the world  
And killed him on the spot.





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*The Hole Book* is a story about Tom Potts, a boy who accidentally shoots a gun. The bullet goes around the world; it breaks a French clock, goes through a painting and cuts the rope of a swing set. Accordingly, the book has a hole punched out in the middle of every page, denoting the destructive path of the bullet. This layout brings a lovely unity and harmony to all the images.

I consider *The Hole Book* ahead of its time in its genre – this bullet that never loses speed and makes its way around the world arguably places the story in the genre of slipstream Sci-Fi. This superpowered bullet is also a clever choice to deliver some black humour. In the last lines, we are told that that if the bullet had not flattened against the armor belt of a cake, it would have boomeranged around the world to kill Tom.

Reading this book in the context of the 21<sup>st</sup> century United States political landscape, I interpret it to be warning readers of the unforeseen consequences of owning a gun, especially in a household where children can stumble upon it.

