

## Ginger & Lucy by Lili Markey (First Class)

Once upon a time there was a little girl called Lucy. She lived in a little cottage beside a wood. One night there was a terrible hurricane. Lucy was in bed and woke up to the sound of it. She went downstairs and called out Mum, Dad. The house began to tilt. Lucy got scared and ran out the door into the wood. Lucy went into a den and waited till dawn.

She woke up and felt something soft. Lucy saw an orange gleam. Then she sat upright. It was a fox. The fox was staring at her with black shiny eyes. Hello there, she said. Lucy was very fond of animals and had always wanted a pet. Well now I have a pet, she said. I'm going to call you Ginger, Lucy said. Now come on Ginger, let's go into the wood.

Lucy had read lots of stories about wolves including Little Red Riding Hood. So she was alert for wolves. Up ahead she saw a blueberry bush. Come on girl, she said to Ginger. Lucy put one in her mouth and bit. Instantly white foam began gushing from her mouth. She knew these were poisonous berries. Lucy began spitting out. Well there goes that, she said.

Lucy tried to remember the way home. When she got there people were examining the wreckage. Three police cars were

there. One of the men began talking to the police. We found the Mam's and Dad's body but not the child's. Another worker went up to the man. The body obviously blew away in the storm. Idiot, he said. Lucy then thought that if they caught her they would put her in an orphanage.

Lucy ran away as fast as her legs would carry her. Then in the clearing there was a well. Lucy and Ginger went over to the well. Would you like a drink of water Ginger, she said. Ginger nodded her head eagerly. Lucy began winding the bucket up. When it got to the top they got a shock. There wasn't water. There was soup. Lucy took a sip to see if it was poisonous. But it was perfectly fine.

They spent the whole afternoon having the soup. Then they heard someone coming. They hid behind a bush and watched. An old hag entered the clearing. She was blind and had a walking stick. She went over to the well and said, Someone's been eating my soup. Then she cackled. I may be blind but I have a great sense of smell. She began smelling around the place. She was coming nearer to the bush. On the count of three, Lucy whispered to Ginger. One. Two. Three.

They took off avoiding the trees. The hag was not fast and soon was out of sight. I think we had enough for today. Lucy and Ginger went back to the den.

Lucy woke up and felt something nudging her. It was Ginger. She was nodding in the direction of the door. They went out. It was a bright sunny day.

They went over to a stream and had some water. When Lucy thought nothing wild was going to happen, a wolf jumped out. Lucy backed away in fear. Ginger went over to the wolf and snarled. Then Ginger and the wolf began a fight. It was vicious. They attacked and stumbled. Lucy knew it was stupid just to stand there and watch she had to help. Just then there was a howl. Ginger was bitten and the wolf rounded on Lucy.

Lucy came back to her senses. She knew that animals were intelligent peaceful creatures. She mustered all her courage and went over to the wolf. She stretched out her hand and began to rub the wolf. The wolf did nothing but enjoy it. Good boy, Lucy said. Then the wolf ran away.

Lucy picked up Ginger and hurried back to the den careful not to drop her. When they got back to the den she laid him down. Then she tied a leaf over his wounds. In the next few weeks her wound healed. Ginger was back to normal. They went for their usual walk again and they lived happily ever after.

The end.