

Shireen, Nadia. *Good Little Wolf*. New York: Alfred A Knopf. 2011. Print.

*Good Little Wolf* is British illustrator Nadia Shireen's picture book debut, and a successful one at that. Shireen, who earned an MA in Children's Book Illustration from Angela Ruskin University in Cambridge, originally planned a career in law but thankfully pursued her passion for illustration and now, authorship.

The story begins with the narrator ensuring a group of youngsters, including a red-hooded girl and a (soother) suckling pig are all comfortable. Rolf is a good little wolf. He is helpful to his friends, the elderly Mrs. Boggins and Little Pig, eats his vegetables and enjoys baking. One day Rolf meets a Big Bad Wolf, who is clearly surprised by Rolf's goodness; young children will delight at the Big Bad Wolf sniffing Rolf's butt to confirm that he is, indeed, a wolf. A few tests are in order to determine his wolf-ness and Rolf fails miserably – until the Big Bad Wolf shows up with Mrs. Boggins and a fork. Suddenly Rolf shows his fierce side and the Big Bad Wolf is going to reform – or so it seems.

The quirky illustrations and fresh take on a traditional tale will delight the 4-8 crowd, though parents may need to do some explaining after the final twist when we learn the identity of the narrator . I look forward to Shireen's next book and won't have to wait long – "*Hey, Presto!*" is due out this summer.

Recommended: 3 out of 4 stars

Reviewer: Debbie Feisst