

**STORY HOUR  
READERS. THIRD  
YEAR. BOOK THREE**

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Story Hour Readers. Third Year. Book Three by Ida Coe & Alice J. Christie

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**IDA COE & ALICE J. CHRISTIE**

**STORY HOUR  
READERS. THIRD  
YEAR. BOOK THREE**



# STORY HOUR READERS

THIRD YEAR

## BOOK THREE

BY

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STORY HOUR READERS,  
BOOK THREE.

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W. F. S

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MICHEL WRIGHT ENLIGHT



## THE LAND OF STORY BOOKS

At evening when the lamp is lit,  
Around the fire my parents sit;  
They sit at home and talk and sing,  
And do not play at anything.

Now with my little gun I crawl,  
All in the dark, along the wall,  
And follow round the forest track  
Away behind the sofa back.

There in the night, where none can spy,  
All in my hunter's camp I lie,  
And play at books that I have read,  
Till it is time to go to bed.

• • • • •

So, when my nurse comes in for me,  
Home I return across the sea,  
And go to bed with backward looks  
At my dear Land of Story Books.

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON.

## HANSEL AND GRETEL

In a little cottage at the edge of a forest in Germany, lived Peter, a poor broom maker, and his wife Gertrude. They had two children, Hansel and Gretel.

One day Hansel and Gretel were left alone at home. Their father had gone to the village to sell brooms. Their mother was away, too.

The children were left busily at work. The boy was mending brooms, the girl knitting stockings.

After a time they became tired of their hard work.

"Come, Gretel, let us have some fun!" cried Hansel.

As he spoke, he threw the broom upon the floor, and pulled the stocking from his sister's hand.

"Oh, yes!" said Gretel. "I will teach you a song, and you can learn the steps of the dance."

Hansel and Gretel danced about the room.  
Gretel sang, while she and Hansel danced,



“First your foot you tap, tap, tap,  
Then your hands you clap, clap, clap;  
Right foot first, left foot then,  
Round about and back again.”

Presently the mother returned home.  
She entered the room and found Hansel  
and Gretel at play.

“You lazy children!” she exclaimed.  
“Why have you not finished your work?”

Taking the broom that Hansel had thrown  
upon the floor, the mother started to punish  
him, but the boy was too quick for her.