Little Red And The Very Hungry Lion
**Synopsis**

Little Red is on her way to visit Auntie Rosie with a basket of goodies and some spot medicine. Along the way she meets the Very Hungry Lion. The Lion is eager to gobble up Little Red. The Lion’s plan doesn’t work out the way he wanted. Little Red and the Very Hungry Lion is a fractured fairy tale version of Little Red Riding Hood. It's a classic fairy tale with a safari twist! Alex T. Smith’s fun, bold art brings Little Red Riding Hood to life in a refreshing new way that will delight young readers.

**Book Information**

Hardcover: 32 pages  
Publisher: Scholastic Press (July 26, 2016)  
Language: English  
ISBN-10: 0545914388  
Product Dimensions: 10 x 0.4 x 10.9 inches  
Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)  
Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars  See all reviews (8 customer reviews)  
Best Sellers Rank: #118,007 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)  #68 in Children’s Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Africa  #150 in Children’s Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Multicultural  
Age Range: 3 - 5 years  
Grade Level: Preschool - Kindergarten

**Customer Reviews**

This riff on the Little Red Riding Hood story is filled with humor and twists that will delight. Little Red’s auntie has woken up with spots and so Little Red must cross the Savannah to bring her some medicine and some doughnuts. Little Red makes it past all sorts of animals until she stops in the shade of a tree. That’s when the Very Hungry Lion appears. When he asks Little Red where she is off to, the Lion hatches a plan that involves pretending to be her auntie and then eating both Little Red and her aunt. Little Red though is not fooled at all. So when she sees the Lion in her auntie’s clothes and in her bed, Little Red launches into action. Soon the Lion has a new hairstyle, has brushed his teeth and changed into a ruffled dress. The Lion though has had enough and roars. Little Red does not back down and soon a friendship is starting, with some strict rules in place. Little Red is a great heroine. She is smart and fearless, facing down a hungry lion with stern
warnings. It is also the humor of this book that works so well. The braiding of the Lionâ€™s hair is a wonderful moment as is his changing clothes once again at Little Redâ€™s insistence. It is in those moments that story becomes something new and fresh and where the audience will understand that this is a very different Little Red Riding Hood than in the original tale. Smithâ€™s art is zany and bright. The look on the Lionâ€™s face is lovely, particularly when Little Red is forcing him to do things. Little Red pops on the page with her red dress and arching braids. She is particularly small next to the huge lion and still manages to hold her own on each page. Filled with humor and color, these are images that will work with groups of children very well. One to roar about, add this to your twists on well-known tales or in any story time about lions. Appropriate for ages 3-5.

Honestly, I love anything and everything Alex does in children’s books! He just knows how to tell a great story with wonderful words and pictures. Loved it! It’s not often that we see wonderful stories with beautiful black characters as the star, but this one is fabulous!

LITTLE RED AND THE VERY HUNGRY LION by Alex T. Smith is an adorable and sometimes hilarious picture book retelling of a classic fairy tale. This fractured fairytale based on Little Red Riding Hood tells that story of a young African American girl and her encounter with a lion while on the way to her Auntieâ€™s house. Although the lion has a sinister plan, Little Red has other ideas. Children of all ages will enjoy the whimsical illustrations and engaging text. Librarians will find this humorous fairy tale popular with young children. However, it will also be of interest to older youth exploring fractured fairytales as part of a language arts unit. Children will enjoy comparing this adaptation with other versions theyâ€™ve read. To learn more about the author, go to [...] Published by Scholastic on July 26, 2016. ARC courtesy of the published.

We loved this book. My daughters were so tickled by the illustrations the fun nature of the story. Lots of laughs with this great addition to our story-time rotation!

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