

Little Red Riding Hood

US : 1911 : dir. : Essanay
prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:

Silent : ? min

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Eva Prout

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	€	M	⌘	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
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If you go down to the woods today be sure of a big surprise..

Source: A Pictorial History of the Silent Screen

Excerpt from A Pictorial History of the Silent Screen general note on 1911:

"...Companies continued filming the classics. Thanhouser did "DAVID COPPERFIELD" and "ROMEO AND JULIET". Edison made "THE THREE MUSKETEERS" and a film version of the opera "AIDA", while Pathé released "FAUST" and "IL TROVATORE"... Vitagraph's contribution to the screening of well-known novels included "A TALE OF TWO CITIES", "VANITY FAIR" and "THE DEERSLAYER". Monopol distributed "DANTE'S INFERNO". Both Selig and Thanhouser made a film of "CINDERELLA"..."

[no listing in "Classics of the Silent Screen", "Silent Movies: A Picture Quiz Book", "Halliwell's Film Guide", "Leonard Maltin's Movie and Video Guide 2001", ""The Critics' Film Guide", "The Good Film and Video Guide", "Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89", "Rating the Movies (1990)", "Speelfilm Encyclopedie", "The Sunday Times Guide to Movies on Television", "The Time Out Film Guide", "TV Times Film & Video Guide 1995", "Variety Movie Guide 1993", "Video Movie Guide 1993" or "The Virgin Film Guide"]

No further information currently available. Early enough, but we can't be sure this was the first cinematic treatment of such an oft-filmed tale. Britain released its own edition later the same year, and talking versions included one in 82 (using Balinese head masks), in 83 (with Mary Steenburgen absurdly cast in the title role), in 84 – **"THE COMPANY OF WOLVES"** – and 89 – **"PIROSKA E FARKAS"** – and there will certainly be many others.

Eva Prout's age is not known, but she makes a bosomy "little girl" and, as so often with these women in child roles, one has to wonder why the studio didn't simply find a suitable girl actress for the job. The pantomime convention – established due to tight legal constraints on child stage performers – spilled over into cinema where the same constraints never applied. As late as 1976 (for British TV) **"PETER PAN"** was *still* being produced with a woman – Mia Farrow – as the "boy who would not grow up".

See also **"CAPERUCITA ROJA"**, **"CAPERUCITA Y PULGARCITO CONTRA LOS MONSTRUOS"**, **"CAPERUCITA Y ROJA"**, **"CAPERUCITA Y SUS 3 AMIGOS"** and subject index under [FANTASY / FOLK TALES / FAIRY TALES](#), [GRANDPARENTS](#) and [SILENT CINEMA](#).