

# THE THREE LITTLE PIGS

By Bob May

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# THE THREE LITTLE PIGS

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**SYNOPSIS:** These three little pigs are living happy farm lives until it comes to outwitting the Big Bad Wolf who just happens to have the most epic lungs in farm history. When Farmer John takes Mama Pig on the county fair circuit, he leaves the little pigs with cash to build strong new homes. Shortly after to settling into their new homes, Wolf captures two of the pigs and sets out to nab the third until the children in the audience and some farm friends team up to defeat the Big Bad Wolf in a big, brave finish.

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

*(1 female, 1 male, 6 either)*

JOHN (m).....	A farmer. (47 lines)
LILLY (f/m).....	A cow. (16 lines)
RALPH (f/m).....	A chicken. (27 lines)
MAMA (f).....	A pig. (28 lines)
BUSTER (f/m).....	A little pig. (45 lines)
BEAU (f/m).....	A second little pig. (94 lines)
BUDDY (f/m).....	A third little pig. (38 lines)
WOLF (f/m).....	A big bad wolf (81 lines)

**DURATION:** 40 minutes.

## SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

Written so that the action is continuous, there should never be a complete blackout. The sets are very simple, all in front of the same backdrop.

**SCENE 1:** Farmyard

**SCENE 2:** A fork in the road

**SCENE 3:** Building supplies store

**SCENE 4:** Buster's straw house

**SCENE 5:** Buddy's stick house

**SCENE 6:** Beau's brick house

**SCENE 7:** County Fair (Carnival Booth)

**COSTUMES**

JOHN	Overalls, flannel shirt, work shoes; Apron and Salesman Hat; Pig Disguise (pig snout and ears)
LILLY	White long underwear top and bottom with black markings, pink skirt and blouse; Pig Disguise (pig snout and ears)
RALPH	Yellow shorts, striped knee-high stockings, shirt with big bow tie, chicken feet; Pig Disguise (pig snout and ears)
MAMA	Pig Snout, Pig Ears, Dress
BUSTER	Pig Snout, Pig Ears, Shorts, white shirt, bow tie
BEAU	Pig Snout, Pig Ears, Shorts, shirt, tie, and coat; Chicken Disguise (flippers, wings, cone beak, sunglasses)
BUDDY	Pig Snout, Pig Ears, Bib-overall Shorts, Flannel Shirt
WOLF	Plaid Knickers, Suspenders, Shirt, and Saddle Oxfords; Pig Disguise (pig snout and ears)

**PROPS**

- Bundle of straw
- Bundle of sticks
- Three sticks with round bundles tied on one end for traveling
- Cash (enough to give John, Buddy, Buster, and Beau)
- Bushel basket
- Turnips to go in bushel basket
- Rope
- Apple
- Ladder
- Nasal Inhaler
- Cardboard cut-out of wolf and pig
- Two mouth gags (bandanas)

**PRODUCTION HISTORY**

*The Three Little Pigs* had its world premiere at the Central Lakes College – Brainerd (MN).

***DEDICATION***

To my wife, Cathy, and my daughter, Lauren.

DO NOT COPY

## SCENE 1

**SETTING:** *A farmyard between the barn and the house.*

**AT RISE:** *FARMER JOHN enters.*

**JOHN:** *(Calling.)* Miss Pig? Mama? I have some news for you. Are you in the barn? Mama Pig? *(He sees the audience.)* Oh, hello. Have you seen Mama Pig? *(Hopefully, the children say "no.")* I have some news for her, plus it's dinnertime and I'm here to feed her and her piglets. What are all of you doing here? Are you here to get a tour of my farm? *(The children will react that they are here to see a play. If not, JOHN should just act like they did.)* You're here to see a play? Oh, that's right. Now I remember. That's why I'm here also. I'm not here to feed the pigs. I am here to tell you the story. The story of...? I can't remember the name of the play. Do you know? *(The children react and say "The Three Little Pigs.")* That's right. *The Three Little Pigs.* I remember now... *The Three Little Pigs.* I'm very familiar with the three little pigs. You see, they used to live on my farm. My name is Farmer John and this is... *(His mind goes blank mid-sentence.)* Have you seen Mama Pig? *(The children say "no.")* I'm sorry; I am getting so forgetful in my old age. I just can't remember what it is I was going to do or say. I'll be right in the middle of a story and forget what happens next. But if we work together, you children can help me. Will you do that? *(The children say "yes.")* Good. If I forget what I am saying, I will ask you, "Where am I?" And you just answer, "Here!" And I'll remember. Do you understand? *(The children say "yes.")* Good. Let's try it. *(He shouts.)* WHERE AM I? *(The children yell, "here.")* I don't think that was loud enough. You see, not only am I getting old and forgetful, but also my hearing is not so good anymore. I could hardly hear you. Let's try it again. *(He shouts.)* WHERE AM I? *(The children yell "here.")* That's much better. So why don't we get started with the play. *(The children react.)* Okay, I have been a farmer for more than 40 years and during that time I have not traveled a lot. Well, things were about to change. Things went something like this. *(Calling.)* Mama Pig, are you in the barn?

*LILLY enters.*

**LILLY:** What's all the commotion about?

**JOHN:** Lilly, what are you still doing here? Why aren't you at your new home?

**LILLY:** I was there. At your nephew, Jack's, and he sold me for five magic beans, so I ran away from the guy who bought me.

**JOHN:** You'll have to go back.

**LILLY:** I would prefer to move to Farmer Borden's milk farm.

**JOHN:** We can talk about that later.

**LILLY:** Oh, I see. You haven't told the pig family the news yet, have you?

*RALPH enters.*

**RALPH:** Tell them what news?

**JOHN:** Nothing. Have you seen Mama Pig?

**RALPH:** She's in the barn. *(Calling.)* Hey, Mama Pig!

*MAMA PIG enters.*

**MAMA:** I'm not deaf. What is it?

**RALPH:** Farmer John has something to tell you and your boys.

**MAMA:** What?

**JOHN:** Where are your three little pigs?

**MAMA:** *(Calling.)* Yo, pig, sookie!

*BUSTER enters on the run.*

**BUSTER:** Yes, Mother dear. I am always here to serve you.

**MAMA:** You're a good son, Buster. Have you seen your brothers?

*BEAU enters.*

**BEAU:** What could possibly be so important that you would take me away from my buying and selling of hog futures?

**MAMA:** Beau, where is your brother, Buddy.

**BEAU:** You know as well as I that he is probably rummaging in the garbage pile. Now, if you'll excuse me.

**JOHN:** Please go find your brother, Beau.

**BEAU:** I am not my brother's keeper.

**BUSTER:** I'll find him.

*BUSTER turns to leave, but BUDDY enters on the run.*

**BUDDY:** Wolf. There's a wolf on the farm. Wolf.

**BEAU:** Oh, if it isn't the pig who cried wolf.

**BUDDY:** No, there is a wolf.

*The WOLF enters. The first thing he does is sneeze. All scream when they see the WOLF and run to hide behind JOHN.*

**BUDDY:** See, I told you so. A wolf!

**WOLF:** I've not seen this much bacon since I was on the Oscar Mayer farm.

**JOHN:** You're not welcome here. What do you want?

**WOLF:** *(He sneezes and sniffles.)* I came in search of a tissue for my nose. But I'll settle for three little pigs and one big mama.

**MAMA:** That won't be happening. I think it's time you left.

**WOLF:** Okay, relax. I'm leaving. But beware, pigs. I have my eyes on you. *(He sniffles.)* How about that tissue?

**MAMA:** Have you ever seen an angry mama pig?

**WOLF:** You can't watch your little pigs all the time.

*LILLY steps beside MAMA.*

**LILLY:** I think you better do as Mama Pig says.

**JOHN:** Come on, everyone, if we stand together, we can get rid of him.

*JOHN and the others step forward.*

**ALL:** Yeah!

**WOLF:** Okay, I'm outta here. But beware. You all can't be together all the time. *(Exits.)*

**MAMA:** I'm glad he's gone. Now, Farmer John, what's all the yelling about?

**RALPH:** Farmer John sold the farm.

*All animals start talking.*

**JOHN:** Quiet! Everyone, please, be quiet. It's not the end of the world.

**BEAU:** No, it's just the day before.

**JOHN:** I have sold the farm, but you will all be taken care of.

**LILLY:** Our home is the farm. If you don't have the farm... we can't live here.

**RALPH:** She's right, where will we go?

**JOHN:** Ralph, I've found new homes for you and Lilly. Why aren't you both there now?

**LILLY:** I told you if I am going to moo-ve, I prefer the Borden Dairy Farm. One farm is as good as the utter.

**RALPH:** I'm a free-range chicken now.

**MAMA:** And what about me and my boys, Farmer John? You don't have any place for us to go, do you?

**JOHN:** I do for you, Mama. I've got big plans for you. We're going to travel the state, from county fair to fair, and you're going to be my prize-winning pig. I see lots of blue ribbons in our future.

**MAMA:** But what about my boys?

**JOHN:** I've set aside some money from the sale of the farm for each of them. It's time they went out into the world and lived on their own. The money should be enough to get them started. (*He gives each pig some money.*) Pack your bags, Mama Pig, the truck is leaving in half an hour. The [Name of your state] State Fair starts tomorrow and I want to get a good parking spot.

*JOHN, LILLY, and RALPH exit.*

**BUSTER:** I wanna go with you, Mama.

**BUDDY:** Me too... can't we?

**BEAU:** Come on, are you pigs or are you piglets? This is what we've all been waiting for... at least I have, all my life. We can build a house. Farmer John just gave us the cash we need. We can do it and live happily ever after.

**BUDDY:** You think you are so smart.

**BUSTER:** Living happily ever after only happens in fairy tales.

**BEAU:** What do you think this is?

**BUSTER:** I'm tired of you thinking you are the best. Why Mama, why did you always treat him like he was the best?

**MAMA:** Maybe I did favor Beau... I never meant to. He's smart and I only wanted what was best for my little boys.

**BUSTER:** I'd rather live alone.

**BEAU:** Grow up!

**MAMA:** He's right. It's time you all grew up and took your place in society.

**BUDDY:** But I'm a country pig. A farm pig.

**MAMA:** And you should be proud of that.

**BUSTER:** But Farmer John has always taken care of us.

**MAMA:** We live in a new age. Go out and discover the world.

**BUDDY:** But there are wild animals out there.

**MAMA:** That's true; don't forget the Big Bad Wolf that was just here.

**BUDDY:** That's right. A wolf.

*He squeals, runs, and hides.*

**MAMA:** So stick together. Rely on your brother. There is safety in numbers.

**BUSTER:** Sure, Buddy, stick with me. I'm not scared of anything.

**BEAU:** (*Sarcastically.*) Oh, yeah, you betcha!

**BUSTER:** Shut up, Beau. You might be smart, but I'm brave.

**BEAU:** Sure you are!

*BUSTER and BEAU start squabbling.*

**MAMA:** Boys!!! Please be nice.

**BUDDY:** Will we ever see you again?

**MAMA:** Of course. I'm only going on the fair circuit. I will write to you. And our county fair is only a few days away. I'll see you then.

**BEAU:** *(Trying to scare his brothers.)* That is... if the Big Bad Wolf doesn't see us first!!!

**BUSTER:** I'm not afraid of the Big Bad Wolf.

**BUDDY:** But how can a little pig protect himself from a big wolf?

**MAMA:** Use the money Farmer John gave you and invest it in some shelter.

**BEAU:** And stick with me.

**MAMA:** I've gotta run. Be brave little pigs and soon you'll be big little pigs. *(Exits.)*

**ALL:** Bye, Mama.

**BEAU:** She's right. Come on, let's go.

**BUSTER:** Who elected you the leader?

**BEAU:** I'm the oldest and smartest...

**BUSTER:** I'm glad you think so.

**BUDDY:** Neither one of you know what you are talking about.

**BUSTER:** We should all just move to town and get a job.

**BEAU:** Who's going to hire a pig? Come on, pack your things and meet me at the fork in the road on the North Forty.

*BEAU, BUDDY, and BUSTER exit and JOHN enters. As he delivers his next speech, the set changes to the next scene.*

**JOHN:** Hello. So Goldilocks sat down at the table and began to eat the porridge. First, she ate Papa Bear's... it was too hot. Then she began to eat... Wait a second... *(He yells at the children in the audience.)* Where am I? *(The children reply "HERE!")* Right! So the three little pigs went off to pack their bags and meet at the fork in the road on the North Forty. Little did they know that the Big Bad Wolf was on the prowl near the North Forty.

*JOHN exits. WOLF enters at the back of the audience. The scene is still being shifted. WOLF sneezes.*

**WOLF:** Bless me. She must have come this way. I know she came this way. I'm a wolf and I have a good sense of smell. If I lose my smell, I might as well pack it in and give myself up to the zoo ... or join the circus... or make Walt Disney films. *(He shudders.)* She had to have come this way. *(To the children.)* Has anyone seen a little girl in a red coat and a hood? She was on her way to her grandmother's house... I was following her, but I lost her a mile or so back in the woods. That little red brat. *(To himself.)* Maybe I am losing my smell. That would be awful... no one would ever write fairy tales about wolves. That would mean the little boy could never cry wolf again or Little Bo Peep wouldn't have to worry about losing her sheep. *(He starts to cry.)* I'm a failure. I'm sorry, Mom. And I'm so hungry I could eat a...

## SCENE 2

**AT START:** *The lights come up on stage. The setting is the fork in the road. The action is continuous. There should be no blackout. BEAU, BUSTER, and BUDDY enter carrying their belongings.*

**BEAU:** I'm telling you...

**WOLF:** A PIG!!!

**BEAU:** ...if we pool our money, we can build a big beautiful house.

One that's strong enough to keep any intruder out.

**BUSTER:** Stop telling us what to do.

**BUDDY:** Yeah.

**WOLF:** Three little pigs!!! Who cares about a skinny little girl in a red hood when I can have pork chops for a month. Remember, a healthy attitude toward food is the basis for making good food choices throughout life. *(He runs and hides.)*

**BUSTER:** We can build a nice comfortable house for half the money that I hold in my hand.

**BUDDY:** I don't want to spend all my money on a house. I want to have some to spend on other things. Remember, Mama said the fair was gonna be in town in a few days. I want to have some money to spend at the fair.

**BEAU:** Mama also said to stick together. Come on. *(He starts upstage left.)*

**BUDDY:** Why are we going that way? I want to go this way. *(He points upstage right.)*

**BUSTER:** No, this way. *(He points downstage left.)*

**BEAU:** I wonder if we really are brothers? We can never agree on anything.

**BUDDY:** You can go any way you want. I'm going this way.

**BEAU:** That way leads to the lowlands... the swamps. This way will take us to the high country.

**BUSTER:** This way is closer to town.

**BUDDY:** I don't want to live close to town. I'm a farm pig. This way!

**BUSTER:** No, this way.

*BEAU, BUSTER, and BUDDY start bickering over which way to go.*

**BEAU:** All right... all right. Go any way you want. I'm going this way. *(He starts upstage left.)* And good luck if you run across the Big Bad Wolf.

**BUSTER:** I'm not scared of any ol' wolf.

**BUDDY:** Me neither.

**BEAU:** Well, you both should be. Now, this is your last chance... are you coming with me?

**BUSTER:** No.

**BEAU:** How about you, Buddy?

**BUDDY:** I'm going this way.

**BEAU:** Suit yourself. Goodbye.

*He exits upstage left.*

**BUDDY:** You wanna come with me?

**BUSTER:** And eat out of garbage cans the rest of my life? No thank you. I think I'll go this way.

**BUDDY:** I hope you choke on the city smog.

**BUSTER:** I hope you're happy living in a swamp.

*BUSTER exits down left. BUDDY exits up right. The WOLF comes out of hiding.*

**WOLF:** Oh, decisions... decisions? Which one to make a meal of first? The dumb farm one? The city one? Or the smart one? Let's see... eeny, meeny, miney, moe. Catch a piglet by the toe. If he squeals, don't let him go, eeny, meeny, miney, moe. Aha! The city one! Now, which way did he go? *(He starts to sniff, then sneezes.)* Come on, sniffer... don't fail me now.

*The WOLF exits down left. JOHN enters. As he delivers this next speech, the set is shifted to the next scene.*

**JOHN:** So the three little pigs went their separate ways: Buster towards town, Buddy to the lowlands, and Beau off to the high country... with the wolf close behind them. Each pig found what he thought would be a suitable place to build a house. But what should they build their houses out of? They decided to go into town and purchase some building materials. Buster, because he lived closest to town, got there first.

*The action is continuous. No blackout, just crossfade the lights into the next scene.*

### SCENE 3

**AT START:** *The scene is now a building supplies store. JOHN crosses to behind a sales counter and puts on a salesman apron and hat. BUSTER enters.*

**JOHN:** *(As the salesman.)* Building supplies for sale.

**BUSTER:** Yes... I'd like to buy something to build a house with.

**JOHN:** I have straw, which is a good material if you don't smoke. Do you smoke?

**BUSTER:** Smoking is bad for you.

**JOHN:** I also have sticks. Cut from the finest tall trees in the forest. And I have bricks. Probably your best buy.

**BUSTER:** Which is the cheapest?

**JOHN:** Oh, you'd like the economy route. The straw is the right material for you.

**BUSTER:** I'll take it.

*BUSTER hands JOHN some cash. JOHN hands BUSTER a bundle of straw and BUSTER exits. BUDDY then enters.*

**BUDDY:** I want sumpin' cheap to build a house with.

**JOHN:** There was just another pig in here... looked a lot like you ... that bought my cheapest material.

**BUDDY:** I'll take the next cheapest.

**JOHN:** That would be sticks.

**BUDDY:** I'll take 'em.

**JOHN:** Are you sure you don't want to spend a little bit more and purchase the bricks? In the long run, you'll save money on heating bills and it does keep wolves out of the living room.

**BUDDY:** I said I'd take the sticks.

**JOHN:** The sticks are yours.

*BUDDY hands JOHN some cash. JOHN hands BUDDY a bundle of sticks. BUDDY exits. BEAU enters.*

**JOHN:** I know... I know... you're looking for something cheap to build a house with.

**BEAU:** On the contrary. I'd like to purchase your best building materials to make the finest house.

**JOHN:** You'll be wanting the bricks.

**BEAU:** Can you have them shipped out to the high country?

**JOHN:** They're on their way.

**BEAU:** It's been a pleasure doing business with you.

*BEAU hands JOHN some cash. BEAU and JOHN shake hands. BEAU exits.*

**JOHN:** Now, that's a smart pig.

*The WOLF enters.*

**WOLF:** Do you have any nasal spray... to clear a stuffy nose?

**JOHN:** This is a building supplies store. You want the drug store. Right next door.

**WOLF:** Thank you. By the way, have you seen any pigs around here lately?

**JOHN:** Three of them. They just left.

**WOLF:** Thank you. Thank you, very much.

*The WOLF exits. JOHN takes off the apron and hat and once again addresses the audience. As he delivers this next speech, the set is shifted to the next scene.*

**JOHN:** It didn't take the pigs very long to build their houses. By that evening Buster and Buddy had their homes completed. Because Beau was working with bricks, it took him a little while longer. And it didn't take the wolf very long to find the pigs... once he bought some nasal spray and recovered his smell.

*JOHN exits and BUSTER is discovered admiring his new straw home. The action is continuous. No blackout, just crossfade the lights into the next scene.*

#### SCENE 4

**AT START:** *The scene is now BUSTER's straw house. The house can be a small flat painted to look like a straw house or painted cardboard. Optional working door and window so BUSTER can be seen while speaking.*

**BUSTER:** Home sweet home!

*WOLF enters.*

**WOLF:** Not bad, for a beginning.

**BUSTER:** The WOLF! THE BIG BAD WOLF!!!

*He runs into his straw house.*

**WOLF:** Come out, come out... wherever you are.

**BUSTER:** No.

**WOLF:** Little pig, little pig, let me come in.

**BUSTER:** No, no, by the hair on my chinny-chin-chin, I will not let you in.

**WOLF:** A poet, you are not. Now come on, open the door.

**BUSTER:** No way.

**WOLF:** Then, I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow your straw house down.

**BUSTER:** You might be full of air, but it's nothing but hot air. I'm safe inside my new straw house.

**WOLF:** This is your last chance.

**BUSTER:** Blow away.

*The WOLF slowly counts to three. On three, he takes a big breath and blows the straw house down. SFX: wind sound effect.. The straw house falls down around BUSTER.*

**WOLF:** Now who's full of hot air? Come here.

*A chase ensues. BUSTER runs out into the audience with the WOLF after him. They chase each other through the audience and finally exit through the back of the audience. JOHN enters onstage and yells to the children in the audience. During the chase and JOHN's speech, the set is shifted to the next scene.*

**JOHN:** WHERE AM I? WHERE AM I? *(The children reply "Here!!!")*

Buster ran as fast as his little pig legs would go. The wolf almost caught him, but he had to stop and sneeze. Buster ran and ran and soon found himself at the front door to his brother, Buddy's, stick house.

*The action is continuous. No blackout, just crossfade the lights into the next scene.*

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