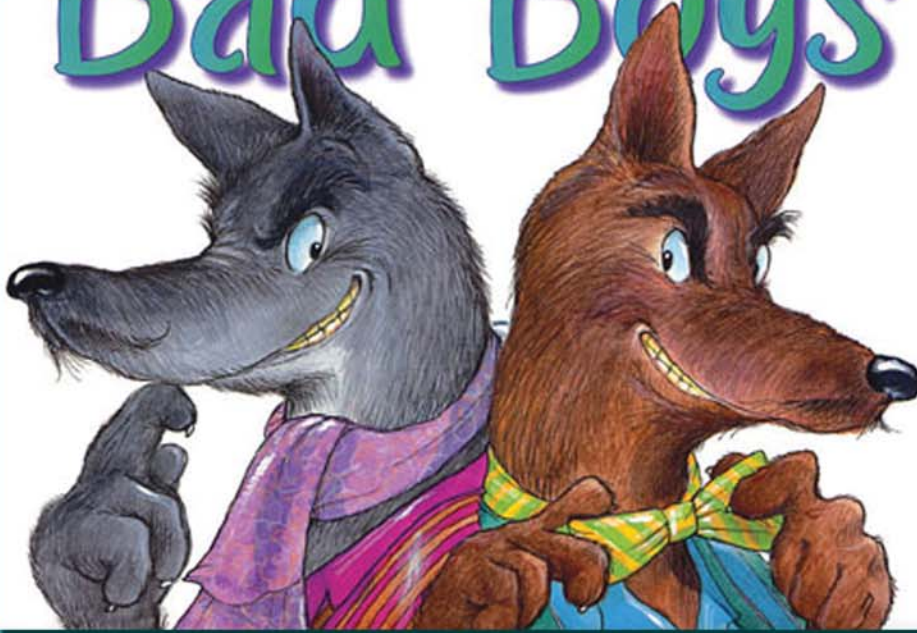


# Reader's Theater

written by Margie Palatini

Margie Palatini • Henry Cole

## Bad Boys



They were bad.  
Oh yes, those boys  
were real bad.



On the run again,  
wolves Willy and Wally  
have the perfect plan.

Cleverly disguised in  
womanly wool-wear, they slip into the  
sheep flock—a hide-out “on the lam.”  
A foolproof plan indeed . . . especially  
for securing a lamb chop or two. But  
when those bad boys—rather,  
*Willimina* and *Wallanda*—meet their  
match in the form of  
three savvy sheep,  
the truth is only a  
close shave away.



Margie Palatini and  
Henry Cole, the team behind the  
hilarious *MOOSETACHE* and *MOOSELTOE*,  
have created a madcap fairy-tale  
read-aloud sure to entertain young  
readers.

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**BULLETIN OF THE CENTER FOR CHILDREN’S BOOKS**

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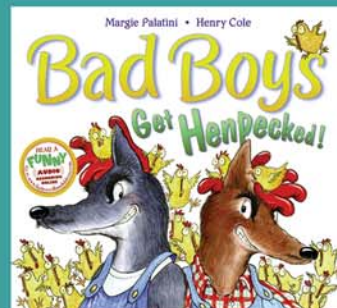
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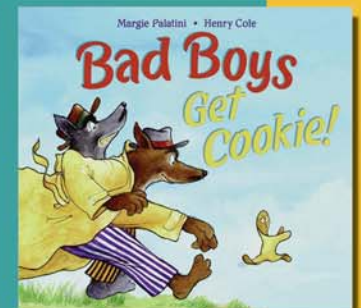
**CHILDREN’S LITERATURE CHOICE**

**BOOKSENSE PICK**

### MORE BAD BOYS FUN!



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# Bad Boys

## Phrases & Vocabulary by Willy & Wally



hot on their tails: Everybody is chasing us!

'the slip': We got away-

dilemma: ONE BIG PROBLEM!

affirmative: Yes!

BRAIN DITTO: agreeing times two!

on the 'lam': hiding out

lay low : hiding out from anyone who is trying to find us!

Fleece the flock: Tricking

pulling the wool over their eyes: We fooled 'em!

devious: really bad!

smorgasbord: a whole lot of goodies

tidbits, morsels: a little delicious taste

eating greens: eating vegetables

hoofing it: walking

mutton: old sheep

swoon: faint

**ewe: girl sheep -- pronounced 'YOU'**

weak in the knees: almost fainting

exposed: found out

HUMIDITY: moisture in the air. Gives you a BAD HAIR DAY!

take a leap: take a chance

held her ground: not changing her mind-



Look for all the funny references to sheep and famous nursery rhymes and fairy tales!

The Three Little Pigs

Little Red Riding Hood

Baa Baa Black Sheep

Little Bo Peep

**Discuss How and Why Margie uses them!**



# Bad Boys

by Margie Palatini • illustrated by Henry Cole

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## CAST OF CHARACTERS

Willy Wolf: Bad Boy  
Wally Wolf: Bad, Bad Boy

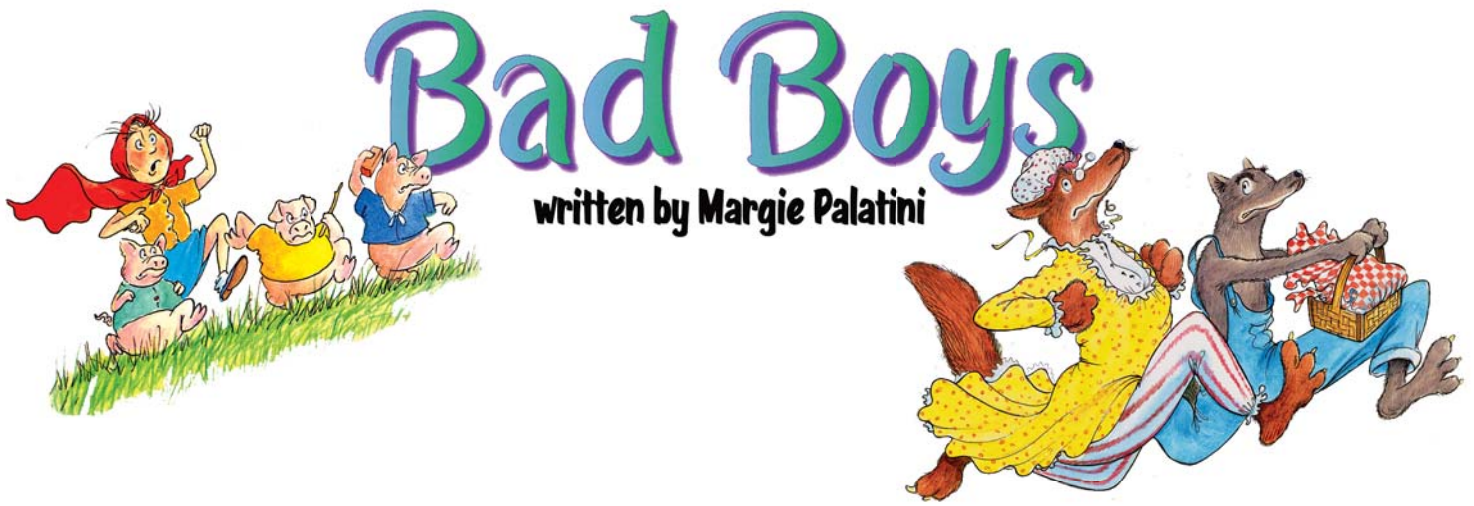
Betty Mutton: Tough, crusty old sheep  
Meryl Sheep: Young, innocent ewe  
Trudie Ewe: Young, school girl lamb

### Narrators

#### Supporting Players

Little Red Riding Hood  
Three Little Pigs  
Flock of Sheep

The 'Barbers'



**Narrator 1:** Those Bad Boys, Willy and Wally Wolf, were in trouble. Again!

**Narrator 2:** And now they were on the run with everyone hot on their tails!

*(Willy and Wally huff and puff across stage, followed by Red Riding Hood and Three Pigs, running, yelling, waving, shouting. The boys see a 'corn field' and jump in.) Red and Pigs run past.*

*(stepping out of his 'granny' skirt and giggling)*

**Willy:** Wally, old chum, I do believe we have given *slip*”

**Wally:** Yes indeedy, that was a close one, dear pal.

As close as a hair on *my chinny chin chin*.

**Willy & Wally:** Oh, yeah, we're bad. We're bad. We're really, really, bad.

**Narrator 1:** Yes, those boys were BIG. They were BAD. And --- they were also out of breath. There wasn't another huff or puff between them.

They needed to lay off those goodies and lay low from the law.

**Narrator 2:** But where, oh where, were two big, bad, wanted wolves going to hide out where nobody would ever find them?

**Willy & Wally:** What to do? What to do? What to do?

**Narrators:** It was a dilemma, all right.

*From off stage, flock of sheep:* Baaa-aaa-aaa

**Willy:** *(eyes blink wide.)* Do you hear what I hear?

**Wally:** *(raises eyebrows and grins)* Affirmative, dear chum!

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sheep: Baaa-aaaa

Willy: *(parts corn stalk)* Do you see what I see?

Wally: *(slurping)* Twenty-Twenty, old pal!

sheep: Baaa-aaaaaaaa

Willy: Are you thinking what I'm thinking?

Wally: *(licks lips)* **BRAIN DITTO!**

Narrator 1: Ah, yes! It was the perfect hide-out.  
It was close. It was clever.  
And ---- eats were included!  
The boys got out their bag of tricks  
and went to work.



Willy: *(giggling)* We'll go on the 'lam'.

Wally: *(giggling)* Pull the 'wool' over their eyes. Fleece the flock!

Willy & Wally: **Oh, yeah, we're bad. We're bad. We're really, really bad.**

Narrator 2: A couple of long-john woolies. Some fluff. More puff. *Plenty* of mascara and --

Willy & Wally: **VOILA!** Willimina and Wallanda!

Narrator 1: Two wolves in sheep's clothing!  
The plan was simple but wickedly devious:  
**lamb smorgasbord!**  
Oh yes, they were bad. Bad.  
Really, really **baaaa-aaaa-aad.**

Narrator 2: **But** ----- sort of adorable.



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*Boys out in meadow, having a bit of **brunch of lawn**. Flock of sheep is on other side of stage.*

**Narrator 1:** The two were in clover all right.

**Narrator 2:** Yes, **joining the flock** was the **perfect** hide-out.

**Narrator 1:** Not to mention all those **tasty tidbits** they planned for the road!

**Narrator 2:** *Unfortunately*, that tidbit, that **morsel**, that just *one lick of lamb* was getting harder for Willy to resist!

**Narrator 1:** That 'Bad Boy' just hated eating his greens.

**Willy:** *(choking)* This tastes like . . . like . . . ugh! **GRASS!**

**Wally:** It *is* grass, you ninny. Just eat it! And --- *smile!* Here comes a breakfast, lunch, and dinner, we can **really** sink our teeth into!

*Enter three sheep. One old and wise. Two young, wide-eyed and innocent.*

**Betty Mutton:** How do you do, ladies.  
I'm Betty Mutton, and these are  
my friends, Trudie Ewe and Meryl Sheep.  
Are you *new* to the flock?



**Willy:** *(in high 'girlie' voice)* Well, yes. I suppose you could call us 'two new ewes'.  
I'm *Willimina*. And this is my --- *sister, Wallanda*.

**Wally:** We're the Peep Sheep!

**Betty:** *(suspicious)* *The Peep Sheep?* You mean, the *Bo Peep Sheep?* The *missing Peep Sheep?*

**Willy:** *(winks at Wally.)* Baaa-aaa-ut of course. I'm sure you've all heard the story.  
*(very dramatic. takes out hanky. wipes 'tears'.)*  
We were lost. So lost. So, **so**, lost! ---- And nobody could find us!

# Bad Boys

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**Wally:** (sniffing) Absolutely, my dears. It was a terrible thing don't-cha-know.  
They left us alone! But ---- (brightens up and gives big smile)  
lookie here ---- now we've come home ----

**Willy:** Wagging our tails behind us!

**Meryl Sheep:** (sighs) Thank goodness you two are safe with *us*.  
Ewes can't be too careful with those big bad wolves  
still on the loose.

**Wally:** (sly glance to Willy) Dear me. Haven't they been caught yet?  
Those boys are **so baa-aaa-aad!**

**Narrator 1:** Suddenly, Willy felt weak in the knees!

**Narrator 2:** Just the thought of being that close to a leg of lamb dinner had him swooning.

*Wally catches him and fans him w/handkerchief.*

**Wally:** You know, girls. I'm scared *sheepish* myself  
standing out here in the meadow.  
... **Perhaps** we should all *jump the fence?*

**Willy:** (coming to. brightens up.) Yes! **Let's all jump!**  
I say, why not *live a little* ----  
while you've got the chance?

**Narrator 1:** The two young ewes were about to take the leap, but tough old Betty Mutton  
held her ground.



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**Betty:** Now, just a minute. . . . I knew the Peep Sheep.

I grazed with the Peep Sheep.

I counted with the Peep Sheep.

And you two ---- don't leap like Peep Sheep!

*(very suspiciously eyes 'the boys')*

There's something **very** peculiar about you two ewes.



Meryl and Trudie begin to **really** look at 'Willimina and Wallanda'.

**Trudie:** *(gasps)* Why, Wallanda ---- What **big** eyes you have!

**Wally:** *(gulps)* Well, why, uh . . . . All the better to see ewe with.

**Meryl:** *(stares)* And Willimina ----- What **big ears** you have!

**Willy:** *(gulps)* Well, why, uh ---- all the better to hear ewes with.



**Betty:** And what's your excuse for those lousy-looking coats?

If you ask me, your wool looks too cheap for Peep Sheep.

There isn't three bags full from either one of you.

. . . What's with you two ewes?

**Willy:** *(nervous)* It's the . . . **humidity?** ---- You know how wool gets in this damp weather. We can't do a **thing** with it!

**Betty:** *(grins.)* **Humidity**, hmmm? Well, then, this is your lucky day, **girls!**  
I can help you with **that**. Follow me.

**Narrator 1:** Betty pointed 'Willamena & Wallenda' to the end of a long line of sheep standing two by two.

**Narrator 2:** Willy and Wally were *delighted* to see all the 'lamb chops' right in front of them and they began planning a menu.



**Willy:** *(counting sheep while licking lips and chuckling)* Indeed we did.

**Barbers:** *BZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZ*

**Willy:** *(whispers)* Excuse me, dear pal, but do you hear what I hear?

**Wally:** *(whispers)* I do. I do, dear chum. Bees, pray tell?

**Barbers:** *BZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZ*

**Willy:** *(shakes head)* No. Not bees.

**Barbers:** *BZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZ*

**Wally:** (*whispers*) Mowers, perhaps?

**Barbers:** BZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZ

**Willy:** No. Not mowers.

**Barbers:** BZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZ

**Wally:** Confound it! What *is* that annoying sound?

Barbers: BZZZZZZZZZZZ **NEXT!**

*Boys are grabbed by two arms --- yanked behind fence.  
Audience hears loud Buzzing. Yells and shouts from boys.  
Thrown out from behind fence are boys clothing, fur, etc.  
They come out from behind fence with only 'undies'.  
(pink or white long johns with patches of fur. Underwear.)*



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**Meryl:** *(giggles)* Why --- you aren't **Willimina!**

**Trudie:** *(laughs and points)* And you aren't --- **Wallanda!**

**Betty:** Of course they're not! They're those two nasty, naughty --- NAKED -- big baaa-aad wolves!



**Willy:** *(shivers)* Wally, old chum, I do believe we have been **exposed!**

**Wally:** *(embarrassed)* **Totally**, dear pal. Oh, me, oh my, **totally!**

**Narrator 1:** And those big bad wolves thought they had trouble with **pigs!**

**Narrator 2:** So -----Willy and Wally headed for the hills!

**Narrator 1:** Of course, there was only **one** thing those bad boys could do after such a *close shave* like that ... *(pause)*

**Narrator 2:** --- Wait.

**Narrator 1:** ... for their hair to grow back!

**Sheep:** Those were two **very BAD** haircuts.

**Willy and Wally:** *(weak grins and shrugs)*

Oh yeah, they were bad. Bad. Really, *really* bad!



# The End!