

Enjoy Reading English Short Tales

CHANTICLEER AND THE FOX

Read the short story. Then answer each question.



It is the story of a poor widow who lives in a little house in a valley. She has two daughters and only a small income, but she likes to save money. She cares for three pigs, three cows, and her favorite sheep called Molly.



This poor widow has a rooster called Chanticleer in her yard. His comb is redder than the finest coral. His voice is merrier than the merry organ that plays in the church on Sundays.



Also, there are seven hens. The fairest hen is Partelote. She is sophisticated and discreet. Chanticleer loves her with his whole heart as Adam loved Eve. They often sing together in the yard.

This morning Chanticleer is sitting on the perch among his seven wives, and he begins to groan as if he is on a trouble by some bad dream. Partelote sits beside him and cries, "Sweet heart, what troubles you?"

The cock replies, "Madame, do not be anxious; it is only a terrible dream that I am frightened even to remember it. I dreamed that I was walking up and down the yard, when I saw a creature like a dog, and it tried to kill me in the yard".

To be continued ...

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READING ACTIVITIES

Vocabulary

1. Match each word with a sentence.

- a) a bar on which birds sit.
- b) a woman whose husband has died.
- c) the money received for work.
- d) an adult male chicken.
- e) a deep sound made to show pain.

- Widow:
- Income:
- Rooster:
- Perch:
- Groan

Close reading

1. Read the text and choose *true* or *false*.

1. The widow likes to work and have animals. **True / False**
2. Chanticleer spends the day singing and fighting with foxes. **True / False**
3. Partelote is beautiful and lovely. **True / False**
4. The fox is always very hungry. **True / False**
5. Molly is white and hunts hens. **True / False**