

Narration:

The story of Pietra and the Wolf takes place in Russia over a hundred years ago in a meadow behind Pietra's grandmothers house. Pietra was staying with her grandmothers, and in her room she had a view of the wide meadow that overlooked a mysterious forest.

(Clip 1)

Early one morning as the first rays of light crept in the window of Pietra's room, Pietra looked out into the fresh snowy meadow. She really wanted to go for a walk in the meadow. She was aware, however, of the numerous warnings from her grandmothers not to go into the meadow. Pietra wasn't afraid of the dangerous animals in the forest so she went anyway. Pietra put on her boots, opened the gate and skipped into the meadow while singing a song.

(Clip 2)

After a while Pietra heard someone else singing a song. It was 2 birds, chirping along while resting on the branch of a tree.

"Hello birds," Pietra said. "Isn't it a beautiful day outside?"

Pietra was very happy to have someone to sing with. Pietra and the birds sang together while approaching the frozen pond in the middle of the meadow.

(Clip 3)

At the pond they met 2 happy yellow ducks. The ducks were waddling across the clear frozen pond, waiting for the spring to come. The birds flew right towards the ducks to check them out. The birds were not very fond of those ducks at all. The birds kept flying and flying around the ducks wondering what they did all day in that pond.

(Clip 4)

The ducks and the birds immediately began to quarrel as they decided which one was better. "What kind of birds are you if you can't fly?" chirped the birds, "what kind of birds are you if you can't swim?" quacked the ducks. They continued to fight not paying attention to anything that was going on around them.

(Clip 5)

Pietra was paying attention however and she heard her cats creeping out into the meadow, ever so quietly. The cats spotted the birds and couldn't wait to have lunch. The cats crept closer and closer to the birds, it was ready to pounce when...

(Clip 6)

"Look out!" cried Pietra to the birds, the birds quickly flew out of the reach of the cats and onto a limb of the tree in Pietra's backyard. The cats figured it wasn't worth climbing the tree because the birds would just fly away as soon as they came close, so they went to sleep at the bottom of the tree.

(Clip 7)

Just then, Pietra's grandmothers spotted her in the meadow. "What are you doing out here in the meadow?" asked Pietra's grandmothers. "I have told you time and time again that it is no place for you to play. There are dangerous animals in the forest just beyond the meadow. Do you want them to eat you?"

Pietra angrily looked down and through her hat on the ground. Her grandmothers dragged her back behind the safety of the wall and locked the gate.

(Clip 8)

Pietra paid no attention to her grandmothers words. Girls like her are not afraid of dangerous animals, and especially not wolves. Pietra sat in her room, but kept her eye out the window on the snowy meadow.

(Clip 9)

No sooner had Pietra gone, that a big grey menacing wolf came out of the forest. The wolf crept closer and closer. He saw the cats and the ducks, who were taking their afternoon nap, unaware of the danger around them. The birds quickly noticed the wolf and chirped alarmingly at the cats and ducks. (pause)

In a twinkling, the cats woke up and quickly climbed up the tree.

(clip 10)

The ducks awoke and quacked so frantically with fear that they jumped away from the pond and started to run for Pietra's backyard. The ducks waddled as fast as they could but the wolf was much faster. The wolf came closer and closer and finally... "gulp!" The wolf swallowed the ducks whole. (pause)

Even though the birds and the cats weren't very fond of the ducks they were very sad that they had been eaten. Off in the distance they imagined the ducks flying around in heaven.

(clip 11)

This is how things stood. Now the cats were on one branch of the tree and the birds were on another branch. However, the birds made sure that they stayed far enough away from those pesky cats.

(pause)

Below the tree, the wolf was stalking the cats and birds with greedy eyes as he stood at the foot of the tree waiting for one of them to make a mistake. The cats made faces at the wolf, taunting him even more. The birds also poked fun at the wolf. This made the wolf even angrier and more frustrated.

(clip 12)

In the meantime, Pietra without the slightest fear stood behind the closed gate watching all that was going on. She grabbed a strong rope and climbed up the back of the highest tree with the rope draped around her shoulders. The wolf didn't even notice her sneak up the back of the tree.

Grabbing hold of the branch, Pietra lightly climbed out onto a strong limb.

(clip 13)

Meanwhile, the wolf angrily swiped back and forth at the bottom of the tree, hoping a bird or cat might fall out.

Pietra said to the birds "Fly down and circle round the wolf's head, only take care that he doesn't catch you" The birds flew straight at the wolf's nose and right as the wolf was about to catch the birds, they flew away. The wolf looked very angry and confused, turning his head in circles.

The birds continued to circle around as Pietra was setting her trap. Pietra tied one end of the rope to the tree limb and the other end into a loop. Pietra lowered the loop very slowly until it was around the wolf's tail.

(clip 14)

Pietra caught the wolf by the tail and pulled with all her might. The wolf struggled and struggled but it only made the rope tighter. The wolf made several last ditch efforts to free himself of the rope, but it only made his situation worse.

(clip 15)

Just then, Pietra saw in the distance some hunters coming out of the forest, and they were carrying their bow and arrows following the wolf's trail. The hunters paraded around the meadow very proud of themselves. They suddenly saw the wolf and were about to take the wolf when Pietra cried "No, Don't!", "We can take him to the zoo for everyone to see." She said. The hunters agreed. The hunters took the wolf by the shoulders and held him captive.

(clip 16)

Pietra led a proud procession through the town on the way to the zoo. Pietra was followed by the hunters, who were carrying the wolf along. Followed behind Pietra, her grandmothers appeared happy for Pietra's capture of the wolf, but upset for fear that something else could have happened. Following the grandmothers, the cats were very proud of their catch as well. The birds flew above everyone very excited that they caught the wolf. And just behind the cats, would you believe it, the ducks were also with them, as they only lost a few boots from the attack of the wolf.

And they all lived happily ever after...THE END

(curtain call)