

# *infantes in silva*

A drama in four scenes for the Latin Club of Winkfield St Mary's CE Primary School  
by Anthony Hodson

With grateful acknowledgements to Dr Clare Sharp for her many suggestions and corrections

## **DRAMATIS PERSONAE**

narrator

Petrus, lignātor (a woodcutter)

īfantēs (children):

Hansus

Grēta

Iulia, noverca (stepmother)

cunīculus (a rabbit)

lupus (in fact, a she-wolf)

Malista, sāga improba  
(a wicked witch)



## *infantes in silva*

This is a re-telling of the old story of Hansel and Gretel. It could easily have taken place in Roman times, although it is quite unlikely that the characters in the play would have spoken Latin, let alone the Classical Latin used here.

A poor woodcutter lives with his wife and two children, Hansus and Grēta, near a big forest. The wife is the step-mother, and not the mother of the two children. They are very poor.

They have barely enough food to survive, and the stepmother sees the children as just another pair of mouths to feed, when she and the woodcutter themselves are always hungry.

When the children have gone outside to play, she persuades the woodcutter that he should take them into the forest and abandon them. Weakly, he agrees, persuaded that they will be able to eat berries and keep themselves alive.

So next morning he gets up early, and takes the children into the forest.

The third scene opens with the children sitting beneath a tree in a clearing, where they have been left. The woodcutter has told them that he'd be back, but he's been gone for some time, and they are getting worried and a little frightened.

A friendly rabbit comes up, and entertains them. They talk about whether houses or holes are the better places to live. Where would you be safer against the wolf? Hansus says that he's not frightened of wolves.

At this point, the wolf appears. She is hungry, and wants to eat them up. Hansus picks up a stick to defend them, but the wolf seizes it, and Hansus is knocked to the ground.

Grēta knows that she must defend her brother, so she grabs the stick and shouts at the wolf. She is no match for the wolf's strength, but suddenly something quite unexpected happens.

A voice tells the wolf to sit - and she does. It is a witch.

The wolf begs the witch to let her take one of the children, as she needs to feed her cubs. The witch says she wants them for her supper, but the children misunderstand, and think that she is a kind old lady, and that she will take them to her home and give them supper. They are in any case grateful at having been saved. The wolf goes away hungry, and the children go off with the witch, even though the rabbit tries to warn them.

The last scene takes place in the witch's house. The witch puts Hansus in a cage, and tries to get Grēta to help prepare the dinner. First she has to clean the oven. The witch leaves her to it while she goes out into the garden to get herbs.

When she has gone, Grēta thinks about what the witch said, and she suddenly realises that it is they who are going to be the dinner for the witch. So she makes a plan.

When the witch returns, Grēta says that she doesn't understand how to clean the oven. The witch is angry, and tells her that she's stupid. When the witch opens the door of the oven to show her what to do, Grēta pushes the witch in and shuts the door, trapping the witch inside. Then she looks around to find the key of Hansus' cage.

She finds it - and she also finds the witch's treasure beside it. At that point they hear a shout from outside the house. It is the woodcutter looking for them.

The children shout back, and the woodcutter comes in.

He is very sad and ashamed of the dreadful thing that he had done to the children and begs their forgiveness. He tells them that he has sent the stepmother away, and they will live together from now on as a real family.

The witch calls for help from inside the oven. This bothers Grēta, who doesn't like the idea of her dying in there, but the woodcutter tells her that it isn't their business, and off they go.

Something does hear the witch - the wolf. And the wolf has a score to settle with the witch ...

**scaena prīma: in villā lignātōris**  
**Scene 1: in the woodcutter's house**

*The woodcutter sits at a table. His wife, the children's stepmother, is sweeping. The children are playing.*

Narrator

Grēta I bet I can build a bigger house than you can!

Hansus I bet you can't!

*The stepmother now approaches the children, and knocks down the construction with her broom.*

Hansus *Crossly* That was my best house that you knocked down.

Stepmother Impertinent boy! You shouldn't have made it where I was going to sweep.

Grēta *Sees that there is little sympathy from the stepmother.* Never mind, Hansus, it would probably have fallen over before we had finished. Let's do something else.

Hansus Let's race to the forest.

Grēta Yes, let's! Perhaps we will see a rabbit.

Narrator

noverca Yes, go now, dears. Good luck!

*The children go out.*

narrator

noverca Peter, The children are very bad – they eat everything. They are like locusts. Soon we will have no food at all.

lignātor Oh dear. Perhaps I can catch a rabbit tomorrow.

noverca Peter, you couldn't even catch a mouse. It is I who has to go and find food in the garden, but the naughty rabbits eat the vegetables up while you just look on. You are useless.

*The woodcutter sits at a table. His wife, the children's stepmother, is sweeping. The children are playing.*

*Once upon a time, a woodcutter and his children, with their stepmother, lived near a forest. They were very poor.*

pigneror mē domum posse aedificāre maiōrem quam tē posse!

pigneror tē nōn posse!

*The stepmother now approaches the children, and knocks down the construction with her broom*

illa domus mea optima erat antequam tū illam dēiēcistī.

improbe! nimis audāculus es. oportet tē nōn domum aedificāre ubi verrō.

*Sees that there is little sympathy from the stepmother.* mitte, ō Hanse, fortasse dēcīderit ante perficiendum. rem alteram agāmus.

cursū certēmus ad silvam.

consentiō. fortasse cunīculum vidēbimus.

*Hansus and Grēta decide to race to the forest.*

īte nunc, cārissimī. fēlīcēs este!

*The children go out.*

*The stepmother complains of the children's appetite when they all have so little food, and she thinks the woodcutter is useless at getting food.*

ō Petre, īfantēs pessimī sunt. omnia vorant; similēs locustīs sunt. mox nullum cibum habēbimus.

ēheu! fortasse cunīculum crās capiam.

tū, Petre, tū mūrem capere nōn potes. necesse est mihi cibum in hortō quaerere, sed cunīculī improbī legūmina vorant dum tū modo spectāre possīs. inūtilis es.

lignātor	What should we do?	quid faciendum est?
noverca	It would be better if the children were not here.	melius sit sī infantēs hīc nōn sint.
lignātor	What do you mean, Julia – if the children were not here?	quid dīcis, Iulia: "sī infantēs hīc nōn sint"?
Narrator		<i>The stepmother persuades the woodcutter that, for any of them to survive, the children must be taken into the forest and left there to fend for themselves. They can have a big stick to keep away the wolf.</i>
noverca	You must take them out into the wood and leave them there.	neesse est ut tū eōs in silvam dūcās et ibi relinquās.
lignātor	I couldn't do this!	nōn possum illud agere.
noverca	It is necessary, Peter. They will find berries and herbs in the wood. They will have enough to eat. Don't worry. We cannot feed both ourselves and the children. If we ourselves starve to death, they will die too.	Petre, neesse est. bācās et herbās in silvā invenient. satis alentur. nōlī tē vexāre. nōs et ipsōs et infantēs alere nōn possumus. sī nōs ipsī moriāmur, etiam infantēs moriantur.
lignātor	But the wolf might eat them up.	sed fortasse lupus eōs vorābit?
noverca	Give them a big stick.	eīs magnum fustem dōnā .
lignātor	Oh dear. I'll do it.	ēheu. faciam.
Narrator		<i>The woodcutter reluctantly agrees. The deed will be done tomorrow morning.</i>
noverca	You must do it first thing tomorrow. And don't get all soft-hearted and bring them back.	neesse est tibi crās māne rem agere. et nōlī misericors fierī, nec eōs reducere.
	<i>The woodcutter sighs. Exeunt</i>	<i>The woodcutter sighs. Exeunt</i>

**scaena secunda: postridiē māne in villā lignātōris**  
**Scene 2: Early the following morning in the woodcutter's house**

*It is still night-time, and the children are asleep. The woodcutter enters with a lamp.*

*It is still night-time, and the children are asleep. The woodcutter enters with a lamp.*

Narrator

*Next morning, when it is still dark, the woodcutter wakes the children so that he can take them into the forest.*

lignātor Hansus! Grēta! Get up. We'll be going soon.

Hanse, Grēta! surgite! mox abībimus.

Hansus Where are we going? It is still the middle of the night. Look, there's the moon. I am tired.

quō vādimus? adhūc in mediō noctis est! ecce - lūna! fessus sum.

lignātor	But ... It'll soon be first-light. And now how beautiful the forest is. Soon we will see the rabbits and hear the birds singing.	sed ... mox p̄ma lux erit. et nunc quam pulchra est silva! mox cunīculōs spectābimus et avēs cantantēs audiēmus.
Hansus	But where is my food? I'm hungry!	sed ubi est cibus meus? ēsuriō!!
lignātor	I have a little bread, and we will find berries in the woods.	panem parvum habeō, et bācās in silvā inveniēmus.
Narrator		<i>Hansus complains that it is night-time; he is tired and hungry. The woodcutter has some bread; and reassures Hansus. But Grēta notices that something isn't quite right.</i>
Grēta	Father, you have been crying. Are you well?	pater, lacrimāvistī. sānusne es?
lignātor	Thanks, I'm fine. Now let's go. And you must put warm clothes on, as we may be out for some time.	tibi grātiās agō. vērō sānus sum. nunc contendite. vestimenta calefacienta induite, quod fortasse diū abierimus.
	<i>Children scrabble around in the dark.</i>	<i>Children scrabble around in the dark.</i>
Hansus	Oh dear. I can't find my hat	ēheu. petasum āmīsī.
	<i>Grēta finds it for him</i>	<i>Grēta finds it for him</i>
lignātor	Surely you're ready now? Hansus, take this stick. Off we go.	nōnne iam parātī estis? Hanse, hunc fustem cape. nunc abeāmus.
	<i>exeunt.</i>	<i>exeunt</i>

### scaena tertia: in silvā Scene 3: In the forest

*The children are resting underneath a tree.*

*The children are resting underneath a tree.*

Narrator		<i>In the forest, the children are getting bored, hungry, and a little scared, and are wondering what has happened to their father.</i>
Hansus	First we walk and walk and walk; and now we wait and wait and wait for Father. When will he come back?	p̄imum ambulāmus et ambulāmus et ambulāmus. nunc patrem exspectāmus et exspectāmus et exspectāmus. quandō reveniet?
Grēta	“Don't be worried, children! I'll soon be back with lovely food.” Father said that very clearly.	“nōlīte vōs vexāre, īfantēs! mox cum cibō optimō reveniam.” hoc pater clārē dīxit.
Hansus	I'm hungry.	ēsuriō.
Grēta	Me too. O Hansus, I'm frightened. Perhaps something awful has happened. Perhaps Father's ill – he wasn't well when we set off from home.	et ego. ō Hanse, etiam timeō . fortasse rēs dīra accidit? fortasse pater aeger est? nōn sānus erat cum domō exhibāmus.
	<i>A rabbit enters.</i>	<i>A rabbit enters.</i>

Narrator		<b><i>A friendly rabbit comes in, and is curious about the children. Are they dreaming?</i></b>
cunīculus	<i>Keeps some distance from the children.</i> Who are you? And you?	<i>Keeps some distance from the children.</i> quis es tū? et tū?
Grēta	We are children. I am Grēta, and this is my brother Hansus. Who are you?	īnfantēs sumus. ego Grēta sum , et hic Hansus est; frāter meus est. sed quis es tū?
cunīculus	I am Saliculus. I am a rabbit and I have lots of brothers and sisters. <i>(Nervously)</i> I am a friend - you will be my friends, won't you?	ego Saliculus sum. cunīculus sum et plūrimōs frātrēs et sorōrēs habeō. <i>(Nervously)</i> amīcus sum. nōnne vōs etiam amīcī mihi eritis?
Hansus	Yes, we are friends. We are very hungry, but we really are your friends.	īta vērō; amīcī erimus. valdē ēsurimus, sed vērō nōs amīcī tibi sumus.
cunīculus	<i>(Laughs nervously)</i> Good – I wouldn't want you to eat me up. <i>(Picks nuts and berries and comes a bit closer)</i> Look! Here are some very big berries and lovely nuts	<i>(Laughs nervously)</i> bene. nōlo vōs mē dēvorāre. <i>(Picks nuts and berries and comes a bit closer)</i> ecce! bācās maximās et nucēs optimās vōbīs invēnī.
Grēta	<i>(Takes them)</i> Thank you very much.	<i>(Takes them)</i> grātiās tibi agimus.
cunīculus	And now, while you are eating, I shall show you what bunnies can do. <i>Does a bunny-dance.</i>	et nunc, cum vesciminī, saltātiōnem cunīculōrum vōbīs monstrābō. <i>Does a bunny-dance. Children clap at the end.</i>
Narrator		<b><i>It's a nice little dance, but Hansus has more pressing things on his mind. "We've been left in the forest," he says, " and we don't know what to do. Please help us."</i></b>
Hansus	Saliculus, that is very good, but we are a bit worried. Please help us. We are alone in the forest. Our father has gone away and left us.	Salīcule, ballātiō optima erat, sed valdē sollicitātī sumus. placetne tibi nōs adiuvāre? sōlī in silvā sumus. pater noster abest et nōs dēseruit.
cunīculus	That is terrible. But how can I help? Where do you live?	rēs dīra est. sed quōmodo poterō vōbīs adiuvāre? ubi habitātis?
Hansus	Near the wood, in a house.	prope silvam, in domō.
cunīculus	A house? what's that??	in domō? domō?? quid est domō?
Grēta	It is put on top of the ground, and has walls. We go in and out.	dom <u>us</u> est. suprā terram posita est. mūrōs habet. intrāmus et eximus.
cunīculus	Do the mice go in and come out? I don't like mice	mūrēsne intrant et exeunt? mūrēs nōn amō.
Hansus	You're sil[ly!] <i>(Grēta stops his rudeness by putting her hand to Hansus' mouth)</i> I said "walls" not "mice"!	fat[uus es ] <i>(Grēta stops his rudeness by putting her hand to Hansus' mouth)</i> dīxī "mūrōs" nec "mūrēs"
Narrator		<b><i>Where do the children live? They live in a house. "What's that," says the rabbit. "And is it any good against wolves? It can't be as good as a rabbit-hole."</i></b>
cunīculus	It is silly not to live in a hole. It isn't safe. The wolf will eat you.	rīdiculum est nōn habitāre in cavernā. nōn salvum est. lupus vōs vorābit.

Hansus	But the house has a door.	sed domus portam habet.
cunīculus	A door? what's that??	portam? quid est portam?
Hansus	<i>(Sighs at rabbit's grammar.)</i> Because of the door, the wolf ... [can't enter] <i>The wolf enters. The rabbit exits, but reappears looking on, worried.</i>	<i>(Sighs at rabbit's grammar.)</i> ēheu. portā est. lupus propter portam (ēheu) ... domum nostram [intrāre nōn potest.] <i>The wolf enters. The rabbit exits quickly, but reappears looking on, worried.</i>
Narrator		<b><i>All this hasn't helped very much, and the conversation is rudely interrupted by the arrival of the wolf!</i></b>
lupus	Grrh. I want to eat you both up! <i>Hansus gets up quickly holding his stick.</i>	grrrh. volō vōs dēvorāre . <i>Hansus gets up quickly holding his stick.</i>
Hansus	No way! You don't frighten me. Go away, you horrible wolf. Grēta, go behind me. <i>The wolf grabs the stick and Hansus falls down. Grēta runs to the wolf, and catches hold of the stick.</i>	mitte. tū mē nōn perterrēs. abī, lupe horrībilis. Grēta, ī pōnē mē! <i>The wolf grabs the stick and Hansus falls down. Grēta runs to the wolf, and catches hold of the stick.</i>
Grēta	Go away, go away you cruel wolf! Don't eat my brother! Stop! <i>The wolf shakes the stick. Then he lets go of it, and tries to take hold of Grēta. Hansus gets up slowly.</i> <i>Suddenly a wicked witch enters, and calls loudly to the wolf.</i>	abī, abī, lupe crūdēlis! nōlī frātre meum dēvorāre! dēsiste! <i>The wolf shakes the stick. Then he lets go of it, and tries to take hold of Grēta. Hansus gets up slowly.</i> <i>Suddenly a wicked witch enters, and calls loudly to the wolf.</i>
sāga	Sit, bad wolf! <i>The wolf looks very angry, but sits down.</i>	sedē, lupe improbe! <i>The wolf looks very angry, but sits down.</i>
Narrator		<b><i>An old lady - really a witch - enters, and tells the wolf to stop. She then tells him to go away. The wolf is not pleased. It is a she-wolf, and she has her young ones to feed. Could she not have just the tasty girl-child for their dinner?</i></b>
sāga	Wolf, go away!	lupe, abī !
lupus	But I'm very hungry. And how sweet the children are! Surely you will give me the very small but very sweet (girl-)child? Besides, my babies must be fed!	sed valdē ēsurio. et quam dulcēs sunt īfantēs. nōnne hanc īfantem minimam at dulcissimam mihi donābis? praetereā lupulī meī alendī sunt.
Narrator		<b><i>The witch says that the children are for <u>her</u> supper. The wolf has to obey and go away.</i></b>

sāga	I won't give you anything. These delightful children are for <u>my</u> dinner. Go! At once!! <i>The wolf leaves, angry and growling.</i>	eam tibi nōn dōnābō. hī īfantēs suāvissimī cēnae meae erunt. abī! statim! <i>The wolf leaves, angry and growling. Rabbit hides, but reappears.</i>
Narrator		<i>The children haven't quite understood what the witch said to the wolf, and think that they will go home and be <u>given</u> supper by the kind old lady who saved them. So they are happy to go off with her to her home.</i>
Hansus	<i>Not understanding the words "for my dinner" ...</i> Hurrah., we are saved! Many many thanks, lady, and now, would you really like to take us back to your home for your dinner?	<i>Not understanding the words "for my dinner" ...</i> ēuge. servātī sumus! ō domina augusta, maximās grātiās tibi agimus. et nunc, placetne tibi vērō nōs 'cēnae tuae' domum tuam dūcere?
sāga	Yes, indeed. You will be safe in my house. Come, my dears. I want to hear all about you.	īta vērō. salvī in vīllā meā eritis. venīte, cārissimī. omnia dē vōbīs audīre volō.
Hansus	I am Hansus.	ego Hansus sum.
Grēta	And I'm Grēta, his sister. <i>Rabbit tries to attract their attention.</i>	et ego Grēta soror eius sum. <i>Rabbit tries to attract their attention</i>
Narrator		<i>The rabbit tries to warn them, but in vain.</i>
cuniculus	Beware, she is a witch, and she is very bad. She has eaten many of my friends and relations. Oh dear!	cavēte! illa sāga est, et improbissima. nam ea meī multōs amīcōs et cognātōs vorāvit. ēheu!
Hansus	Nonsense. We will be fine. <i>I</i> will keep us safe.	apage! salvī erimus. ego efficiam ut tūtī sīmus.
cuniculus	Oh yeah?? You weren't so hot with the wolf. <i>exeunt, rabbit last.</i>	vēro, nōn putō. lupus paene tē raptit. <i>exeunt, rabbit last.</i>

**scaena quarta: in villā sāgae**  
**Scene 4: In the witch's house**

*The witch and the children enter the house*

Narrator

sāga

Come in, children; come in. This is my house. You are very welcome.

Hansus

We both thank you very much. Now we are safe.

sāga

True enough. But, to keep you as safe as possible, Hansus, come into my cage.

*She leads Hansus into the cage, shuts its door, and locks it.*

Look, Hansus. Now the wolf will not be able to get you.

Grēta

What about me? I want to stay with my brother.

sāga

No. it is now necessary to prepare the meal, and I want you to help me. Come with me, Grēta. Look, this oven must be cleaned, and the vegetables in the garden picked. Then a splendid meal must be cooked,

Grēta, you clean the oven, I'll find vegetables in the garden.

*The witch goes out.*

Grēta

The oven is very big. What is to be cooked in it? It can't just be vegetables. They'd all burn up.

Hansus

Perhaps the witch wants to cook some animal. But I don't see any animal. *(Sniffs)* Nor do I smell one.

Grēta

Oh dear. Oh dear. What did the witch say to the wolf? They will be to? or was it for dinner?? And why did she lock you in the cage? I wonder...

Narrator

Hansus

But the witch is very kind.

*The witch and the children enter the house.*

*The witch and the children arrive at the witch's house. Hansus is locked in a cage "to keep him safe from the wolf", but Grēta is asked to clean the oven while the witch collects vegetables from the garden.*

venīte, īnfantēs, intrāte! haec villa mea est. expectātissimī estis.

grātiās tibi agimus. nunc salvī sumus.

ita vērō. et nunc ut salvissimus sīs, Hanse, venī in cellam meam.

*She leads Hansus into the cage, shuts its door, and locks it.*

ecce, Hanse. nunc lupus tē capere nōn potest.

et ego? volō cum frātre manēre.

minimē. nunc necesse est parāre cēnam , et tē volō mē adiuvāre. venī Grēta ... ecce! hic furnus purgandus est, et legūmina ex hortō colligenda sunt. tum cēna splendida coquenda est.

Grēta - tū purgā furnum et autem ego legūmina herbāsque in hortō inveniām.

*The witch goes out.*

furnus maximus est. quae in eō coquenda sunt? sī legūmina sōla herbaeque essent, certē omnia crementur.

fortasse sāga vult animal aliquid coquere? sed animal nōn videō *(Sniffs)* nec id olfaciō.

ēheu, ēheu! quid sāga lupō dīxit? "cēnae meae erunt"?? et cūr tē obserāvit in caveā? cogitō ...

*Grēta thinks the oven looks too big just to cook vegetables - perhaps there will be a roast? but there is no animal to be seen. After pondering this, she concludes that it is she and Hansus who are to be cooked in it. She makes a plan.*

sed sāga benignissima est.

Grēta Boys don't understand anything! I think that the witch really isn't very kind. I think that perhaps we ourselves are to be cooked. No, now I *know* that the witch is bad. And didn't you hear what the rabbit said to us?

Hansus What will we do?

Grēta Don't worry. I have an excellent plan.

*The witch comes in again*

Narrator

sāga Surely you have cleaned the oven?

Grēta No, it hasn't been cleaned. I don't know how to clean the oven.

puerī nihil intellegunt. ego crēdō sāgam nōn benignissimam esse. crēdō sāgam velle nōs ipsōs animālia coquenda esse. nunc sciō sāgam pessimam esse. nōnne audīvistī quid cuniculus nōbīs dīxit?

quid faciāmus?

nōlī tē vexāre. ego cōnsilium optimum habeō.

*The witch comes in again*

***The witch is cross, because the oven has not been cleaned. Grēta says she didn't know how to do it. The angry witch shows her.***

nōnne furnus iam purgātus est?

nōn purgātus est. ego nesciō furnum purgāre.



sāga	You are a stupid idle girl! It's easy. Look - I will show you.  <i>The witch bends down to look into the oven. Grēta pushes her into the oven and closes the door.</i>  <i>(in the oven)</i> You wicked girl! Let me out! Help me!	puella stulta es et ignāva. facile est. ecce! demonstrābō.  <i>The witch bends down to look into the oven. Grēta pushes her into the oven and closes the door.</i>  <i>(in the oven)</i> improbissima puella! liberā mē!! adiuvā mē!!
Hansus	Not her! I'm the one that needs to be let out! Where is the key? Grēta, Grēta! Quickly!	minimē, minimē. ego liberandus sum. ubi est clāvis? Grēta, Grēta, celeriter!
Narrator		<i>With the witch shut in the oven, Hansus must be let out before she can escape. Grēta looks for the key to the cage; she finds not only the key but lots of jewels. And help is at hand.</i>
Grēta	<i>Hunts for the key...</i>  Here we are! Here is the key. And look!! Here are jewels. Lots and lots and lots of jewels.  <i>She runs to the cage and lets Hansus out. They hug each other.</i>	<i>Hunts for the key...</i>  ecce! clāvis! et vidē! gemmae!! plūrimae et plūrimae et plūrimae gemmae.  <i>She runs to the cage and lets Hansus out. They hug each other.</i>
lignātor	<i>(From outside the house far off...)</i>  Hansus! Grēta!! Where are you?	<i>(From outside the house far off...)</i>  Hanse! Grēta! ubi estis?
Hansus	What was that?	quid erat?
lignātor	Hansus! Grēta!!	Hanse! Grēta!!
Grēta	It's Father! Hurray!!  <i>She runs to the window and shouts. Hansus follows.</i>	pater est. ēuge!!  <i>She runs to the window and shouts. Hansus follows.</i>
īnfantes	Here we are! <i>(both together)</i> Here we are! Come as fast as you can!	hīc sumus. <i>(both together)</i> hīc sumus. venī quam celerrimē.
sāga	<i>(In the oven)</i> Let me out!  <i>The woodcutter enters.</i>	<i>(In the oven)</i> liberā mē!  <i>The woodcutter enters.</i>
lignātor	Children, children. Thank the Gods I have found you OK. Are you well?	īnfantēs, īnfantēs!! grātiās dīs agō quod vōs tūtōs invēnī. vōsne sānī estis?
Narrator		<i>The woodcutter is delighted to find the children safe and well; they breathlessly tell him what has happened. He begs their forgiveness for having deserted them, and they leave, almost forgetting the jewels.</i>

Hansus	O Father ... Yes, we are safe and well. But a wolf tried to eat us and I beat him <i>(Grēta looks at him - this wasn't quite true)</i> almost ...	ō pater, vērō nōs salvī et s̄anī sumus. sed lupus nōs dēvorāre temptāvit et eum vīcī ... <i>(Grēta looks at him - this wasn't quite true)</i> paene ...
Grēta	... then a wicked witch wanted to cook us for dinner ...	... tum sāga improba nōs coquere et vorāre volēbat ...
Hansus	... so Grēta pushed her into the oven ...	... itaque Grēta eam in furnum pepulit ...
sāga	<i>(In the oven)</i> Help me! Let me out!	<i>(In the oven)</i> adiuvā mē! liberā mē!
Grēta	... and then we found lots of lovely jewels!	... et deinde plurimās gemmās pulchrās invēnimus.
lignātor	Children, listen to me. I sent your stepmother away. She was a bad person, and never liked you. She has gone away for ever. I am terribly sorry to have left you in the forest. It was mad of me. Please forgive me. <i>(Bursts into tears)</i> Please forgive me.  <i>Children consider the situation. Then they all hug each other.</i>  Now we are all together. I am very happy. <i>After a pause</i> Let's go home.	īfantēs, audīte mē! novercam repudiāvī. maligna erat, et nunquam vōs amābat. in aeternam abiit. mē paenitet vōs dēseruisse. insānus eram. veniam dāte. <i>(Bursts into tears)</i> mihi veniam dāte.  <i>Children consider the situation. Then they all hug each other.</i>  nunc ūnā sumus. beātissimus sum. <i>After a pause</i> domum redeāmus.
Grēta	But what will become of the witch? I'd not like her to die in the oven.	sed quid dē sāgā? mālō eam nōn in furnō morī.
lignātor	That's not our concern. Someone will hear her and let her out. Come, children, come.  <i>They go out, and only remember the jewels at the last moment.</i>	nōbis nōn interest. aliquis eam audiet et eam liberābit. venīte, īfantēs, venīte!  <i>They go out, and only remember the jewels at the last moment.</i>
Grēta	The jewels! <i>(Grēta rushes back to get them.)</i> We're rich!	gemmārum obliviscēbāmur! <i>(Grēta rushes back to get them.)</i> dīvitēs sumus!
Narrator	<b><i>The father and his children went home and lived happily ever after. The witch was not so lucky. The wolf heard her shouting in the oven ...</i></b>  <i>The wolf enters and frees the witch. She flees out of the house with the wolf following.</i>  <b><i>but the wolf was still very hungry, and ate her up.</i></b>  <i>There are sounds of a fight, then silence. At length the wolf cries "Yukk!"</i>  <b><i>She didn't taste nice at all. As for the stepmother, she was never seen again – perhaps the wolf was still hungry ... perhaps she tasted better?</i></b>	<b><i>The father and his children went home and lived happily ever after. The witch was not so lucky. The wolf heard her shouting in the oven ...</i></b>  <i>The wolf enters and frees the witch. She flees out of the house with the wolf following.</i>  <b><i>but the wolf was still very hungry, and ate her up.</i></b>  <i>There are sounds of a fight, then silence. At length the wolf cries "Yukk!"</i>  <b><i>She didn't taste nice at all. As for the stepmother, she was never seen again – perhaps the wolf was still hungry ... perhaps she tasted better?</i></b>

**FINIS**