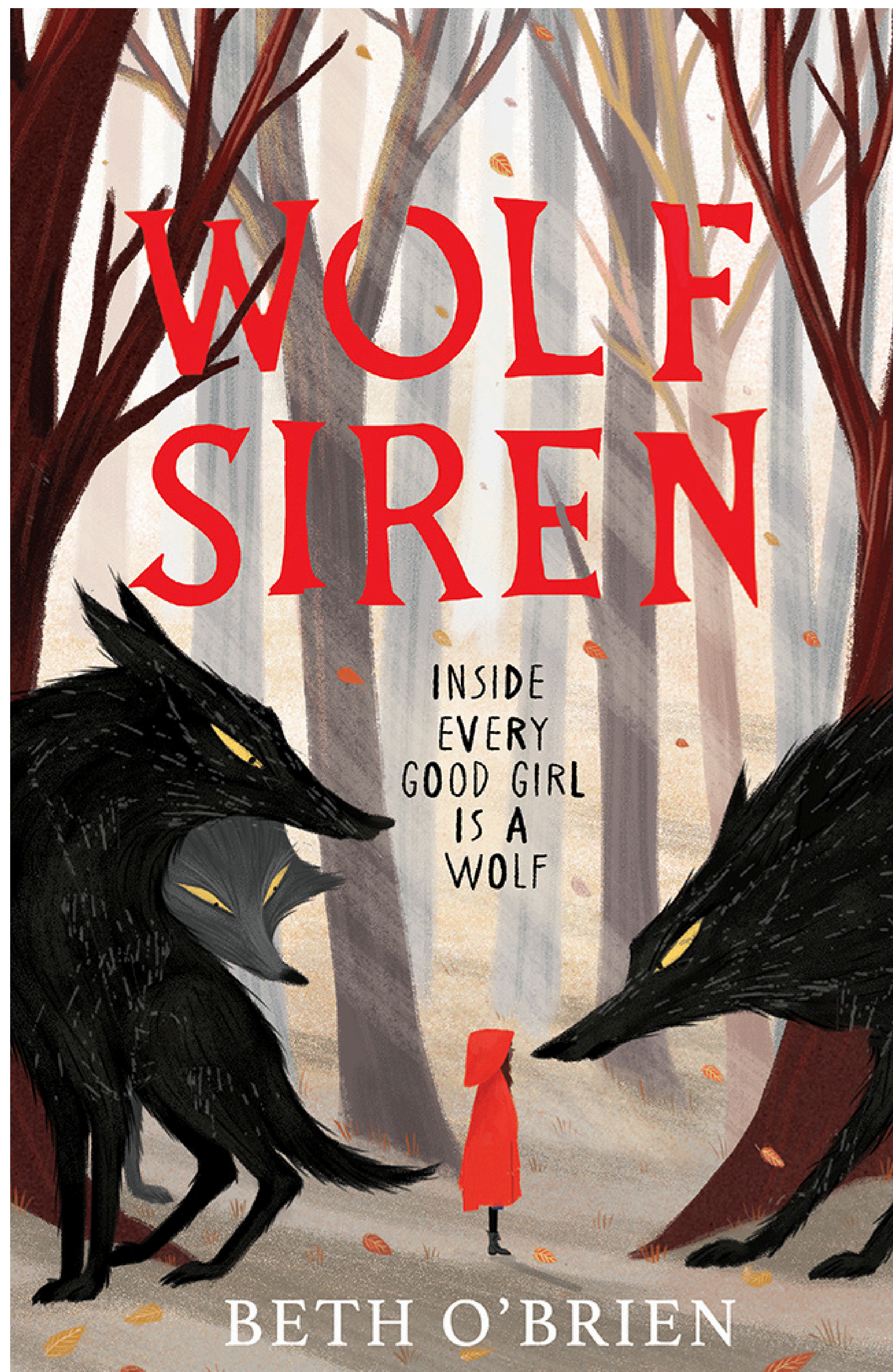


The Carnegies



The Carnegie Longlist 2026 Shadowing Resources



Wolf Siren

Carnegie Medal for Writing

Author: Beth O'Brien

Age range: 10+

Description:

Led by the vividly portrayed Red, the story draws on the different tropes of Red Riding Hood as we know it and masterfully subverts them. Readers are offered a window into her world and lived experience, and are offered insightful comments on the impact of psychological power. There's a boldness to this reimagined tale that is fresh and exciting.

Themes:

- Fairytales
- Empowerment
- Menstruation
- Disability
- Power
- Injustice
- Personal development
- Sexism – gender roles

Shadowing Ideas:

1. Beth is partially sighted and writes about navigating shapes and colours. Read pages 19-34, where Red is finding her way through the forest and try a sensory test. Create an easy obstacle course with beanbags in your reading space. Choose a volunteer to blindfold and ask the rest of the group to help them navigate. The volunteer should travel around the room on foot and describe their experience.
2. Wolf Siren is a reimagining of a popular fairy tale. As a group, discuss the fairy tales you can remember, explore the different retellings in your library and experiment with writing your own. Visit <https://surlalunefairytales.com/> for inspiration.
3. Wolf Siren has been described as “a feminist fairy-tale.” Explore what this means and put together a show and tell of feminist books in your library. Check out Kate Mosse's book *Feminist History for Every Day of the Year* for inspiration- <https://www.panmacmillan.com/authors/kate-mosse/feminist-history-for-every-day-of-the-year/9781529066227>