Little Chicken and Her Friends
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—A Fairy Tale of the Miao Nationality

Edited and illustrated by Zhan Tong
Little Chicken says to Needle, “The other day a cat killed my mother when she took me out to play. I’m going to kill him and get revenge.” “I’m going with you,” says Needle.
Chestnut says, “Let me join you!” “That’s great! Let’s go together,” replies Little Chicken.
“Take me along! Maybe I can help,” says Crab.
“Shall I go too?” asks Wooden Bat.
“Sure! Come on. We’ll all go together,” says Little Chicken, and they set out.
“Open the door!” demands Needle, knocking at the door.
“Who’s that knocking at my door at this hour?” asks Cat. “It’s me, the Needle. I’ve been walking and I’m tired out,” answers Needle. “Let me in so I can rest a while.” “Come in through that crack in the wall then,” says Cat.
Chestnut knocks at the door next.
“Why are you knocking at my door at this time of night?” Cat is angry. “It’s freezing out here. Let me warm myself by your fire!” answers Chestnut.
“Jump onto the stove then!” says Cat.
Crab is next to knock at the door.
Cat tells him to get into the water vat.
Little Chicken is the last to knock. “Uncle Cat, hurry up and open the door!” “Who’s that?” asks Cat. “Little Chicken. I’ve come to call on you.”
“Aha! A tasty meal at my door!” Cat jumps out of bed.
“It’s cold tonight, Little Chicken dear. I’ll light a fire to warm you.” Cat goes over to the stove.
Pop! Suddenly Chestnut jumps up and burns Cat blind.
Cat gropes for the water vat to cool his eyes when Crab nips him with his claws.
“Ouch!” Cat sits down, but Needle is on the stool.
When Cat tries to escape, Wooden Bat hits him hard. Cat is frightened away.
Little Chicken and Her Friends, one of the Chinese Fairy Tales series of six picture books, is adapted from animal stories popular among Chinese people, who often give birds and animals human attributes and dress them in colourful national costumes.

Also included in this series are Silly Young Billy Goat, The Otter and the Toad, Two Foolish Kittens, Little Pigeon Fights a Fire, and The Snail and His House.