**EDUCATING MOTHER**

**About the Author**

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**Summary**

The story starts with the narrator being coaxed by her mother into telling a story to entertain the children of the household. The children included the narrator’s twelve-year-old daughter Ambu, her four-year-old son Ramu, her six-year-old niece Janaki and her three-year-old nephew Venku. The narrator starts with the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. The children are critical about the plot and the characters, and led by Ambu, they ask uncomfortable questions for which the narrator does not have answers. Ambu and Janaki analyze the story and come up with better alternatives, and the younger ones start getting interested in their version, and the narrator is forced to change the story. Then she starts narrating the story of Red Riding Hood. But the situation is no different, because the kids again scrutinize the story and find loopholes in the plot and suggest alternatives. The narrator is forced to switch to the story of Cinderella, which was again met with criticism.

The narrator again switches to the story of Jack and the Beanstalk. At the first instance of questioning, she switches to the folktale of Patala Bhairavi. By now exhausted with their unending questions, the narrator gives up and flees with the very first question they raise.