

## Conversations with My Daughter Beatrice's Goat

*Unknown date and time; possibly November of 2006*

**T:** Dad, Can you please publish an article about Beatrice?

**Dad:** Beatrice?

**T:** You know Beatrice?

**Dad:** I know several characters by the name Beatrice; Which Beatrice are you talking about?

**T:** What is the other Beatrice?

**Dad:** Who? You mean who are the other characters named

Beatrice? Someday soon you'll read about one particular Beatrice— she was a character in a poetry book by an Italian poet - Dante.

**T:** Not that Beatrice! I mean Beatrice from Africa.

**Dad:** Of course I know about Beatrice from Uganda.

**T:** Oh, great! Can you publish an article about her?

**Dad:** I wouldn't know what to write though.

**T:** Do you know the story about her goat?

**Dad:** Where did – you - hear her story?

**T:** Mrs. Carman told us. She was very poor and wanted to go to school and her mother did not have money to send her to school. A family in America sent her a goat and she and her mother sold the milk that they got from the goat and her mother gave her the money to go to school.

**Dad:** It is an amazing story. Did you know she, now, lives in the States?

**T:** Serious?

**Dad:** Yes. She lives in Massachusetts and, she goes to college there.

**T:** Can we meet her?

**Dad:** I don't think so. She lives in Massachusetts. Do you know where Massachusetts is?

**T:** In New York?

**Dad:** Massachusetts is a state north of New York.

**T:** Oh! Dad, how did they sell milk?

**Dad:** They sold it to other families who needed milk. They lived in a small village; most everyone knows each other.

That is how it is in small communities. People know each other. Plus, their goat reproduced and they had more goats and more milk.

**T:** How does a goat reproduce?

**Dad:** It gives birth to baby goats and their family becomes larger. So, they had more goats, more milk and more food and more money.

**T:** How does a goat reproduce, dad?

**Dad:** It's a mammal. It gives birth to baby goats. Did you know baby goats are called kids?

**T:** So sweet!

**Dad:** Do you know what they call daddy goats?

**T:** No.

**Dad:** They call them Billy Goats.

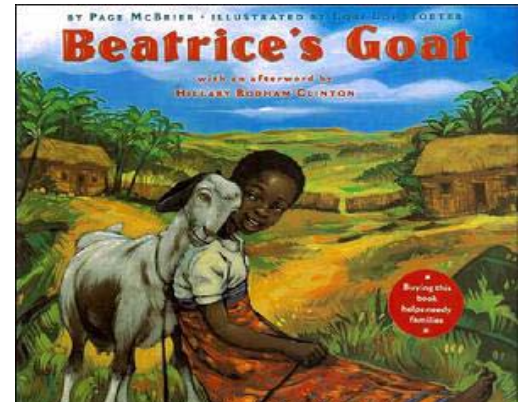
**T:** What do they call mommy goats?

**Dad:** What do you think?

**T:** Lily goats?

**Dad:** Good try. Try another.

**T:** Mommy Goat?



Beatrice's Goat - by Page McBrier, Lori Lohstoeter (Illustrator), Hillary Rodham Clinton (Afterword)



The Noble Architect Foundation

121 B Pleasant Street SW  
Vienna, Virginia 22180  
P: 703.242.4401  
F: 703.242.4403  
Bahram@thenoblearchitect.com

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**Dad:** No; Nannies! They call them Nannies.

**T:** Oh.

**Dad:** What do you think you can learn from Beatrice's story?

**T:** That she was very poor and lived in a house made of mud and something and she wanted to go to school and learn.

**Dad:** That's right. She wanted to learn. If she did not want to learn no amount of milk or money would have made a difference in her life.

**T:** Dad, Who gave her the goat?

**Dad:** Did Mrs. C not tell you?

**T:** I think she did.

**Dad:** A charity organization. It's called "Heifer Organization." It's a charity.

**T:** You said that

**Dad:** I don't know much about this organization but they, sure are, doing a great job in helping people.

**T:** Can we start a charity?

**Dad:** Possibly!

**T:** When? When are you going to start it dad?

**Dad:** I'm going to need your help with that project.

**T:** I love to help!

**Dad:** I know you do!

**T:** Dad, can you publish an article about Beatrice?

**Dad:** I see what I can do.

[Heifer International](#) is known for dispensing livestock to poor families around the world.  
[Buy the book - Image shown here from Barnes & Noble Book sellers](#)

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