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Miss McDivitt

English 10

21 January 2015

The Miller, His Son, and Their Donkey

<p>Characters</p> <p>Setting</p> <p>who- like, condition</p> <p>where image= imagery</p> <p>when feeling= mood</p>	<p>I. miller, old, simple, amiable</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. (son, obedient) 2. donkey, take town, sell 3. folks, critical, opinion, country
<p>Conflict/Problem</p> <p>what- want/need</p> <p>- do</p> <p>- say</p> <p>- think</p>	<p>II. women, well, "why walk?"</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. boy, donkey, "respect old" 2. man on, "both ride" 3. citizen, "yours?" carry 4. tied, carry, pole
<p>Climax/Resolution</p> <p>how? solved</p> <p>why</p> <p>moral</p> <p>message= theme</p> <p>epilogue</p> <p style="color: green; font-size: 2em; margin-left: 100px;">} why</p>	<p>III. cross, bridge</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. noise, strange, spooked 2. kicks, loose, falls, drowns 3. vexed and ashamed 4. ⊗ please everyone, no one

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Pleasing Everyone, Pleases No One

Once upon a time, there was an old miller. One day the miller and his son went to town to sell their donkey. On their way, they met a group of women who were gathered around a well.

"Why are you walking," the women asked, "when you could be riding?" The miller then proceeded to place the boy on the donkey.

They passed a group of old men who hollered, "Hey, you young whippersnapper, have you no respect? Why are you riding when your father, who is older than you, walks?"

Quickly, the young lad dismounted the donkey and hoisted up his father. Continuing their journey, they encountered a group of students.

Feeling bad for the lad, the students suggested, "Why don't you both ride the donkey?"

The father pulled his son up behind him so they could both ride the donkey together. Soon they were almost to the town.

Upon seeing the weary donkey, a group of concerned townspeople declared, "Is that your donkey? One would not know it to look at your treatment of him. You should carry the poor beast instead of him carrying you both."

"As you wish," the old miller said amiably. Miller and his son bound the donkey's legs together, tied the legs to a pole, and carried the pole between them. They then proceeded to enter the town.

While crossing the bridge into town, the citizens snickered and guffawed at the strange sight. The donkey, unfamiliar with such treatment and frightened by the raucous crowd, kicked loose from his bonds, fell off the bridge, and drowned in the raging river.

Feeling ashamed and vexed, the miller and his son wept. On their long journey home, they reflected upon all that had occurred, which made them realize that while trying to please everyone, they had actually pleased no one.