

## **The Donkey and his Owners**

A donkey, belonging to an herb-seller who did not feed him enough, prayed to Zeus for a new master. "Please Zeus," the donkey prayed "give me to a new master that will feed me more." So, Zeus granted the donkey's prayer and gave the donkey to a tile-maker. The donkey was happy the first day because his new owner gave him a lot of food. However, this owner made the donkey work twice as more as his previous owner.

Next, the donkey prayed to Zeus again, asking for a new owner. This time Zeus told the donkey that he would give him a new master, but there would be no more changes after this. The donkey said "as long as the new master feeds me a lot and never makes me work, that would be fine." So, Zeus gave him to a new owner. After three weeks, Zeus visited the donkey and asked him if he was happy. "Yes," the donkey said. "It has been three weeks and all I have done is eat and lay around on the grass."

Zeus smiled and said "I am glad you are happy with the new owner. I was worried you would complain about him." The donkey was confused when he heard this and asked "Why would I be unhappy with him?" Zeus began petting the donkey and said "Have you wondered why he feeds you so much and never makes you work?" The donkey said "No. I figured he just really liked donkeys." Zeus laughed and said, "Yeah. To eat." Realizing the situation now, the donkey got scared and asked Zeus to give him to yet another owner, but Zeus said "You agreed you would stay with this owner no matter what." Within a few days, the donkey was killed and eaten.

## **The Dog and the Wolf**

A sick and thin Wolf was almost dead with hunger when he met a House-dog who was playing in the forest. "Ah, Cousin," said the Dog. "Your life out here in the forest looks like it is nearly killing you. If you came and worked for my master, you would be able to have food every day and you would never starve." "I would love that," said the Wolf. "I will easily arrange that for you," said the Dog; "come with me to my master and you shall share my work."

So the Wolf and the Dog went towards the town together. "We need to get back soon," said the dog. "My master has a rule that we must be inside all night." The wolf looked confused and asked, "You are not allowed to go out at night and howl at the moon?" "Nope," the dog said. "My master makes us sleep in the basement every night."

The wolf was getting worried but he continued walking with the dog because he was so hungry. On the way there the Wolf noticed that the hair on a certain part of the Dog's neck was very much worn away and cut, so he asked why his neck looked to hurt.

"Oh, it is nothing," said the Dog. "That is only the place where the collar is put on at night to keep me chained up; it hurts in the beginning, but you will get used to it. The wolf suddenly stopped and said "Wait, you are chained up all night?" "Yes" the dog said. "But it isn't that bad. My owner gives us food at night."

The wolf decided to turn around and go back to the forest. "Where are you going," asked the dog. "There is food waiting for you." The wolf laughed and said, "I prefer to be hungry and in the woods than fed and locked in a basement."

## **The Ant and the Chrysalis**

An Ant running around in the sunshine in search of food saw a chrysalis that was very near its time of change. The chrysalis moved its tail, and attracted the attention of the Ant, who then realized that it was alive. "Poor, little animal!" laughed the Ant. "What a stupid and pathetic life you must have! While I can run around and go wherever I want and climb the tallest trees, you lie imprisoned here in your shell, stuck here forever."

The chrysalis heard all this, but did not say anything back to the ant. A few days after, when the Ant passed that way again, nothing but the shell remained. Wondering what had become of the animal inside the chrysalis, he felt himself suddenly shaded and fanned by the gorgeous wings of a beautiful Butterfly.

"Look at me," said the Butterfly, "you stupid ant! You laughed at me and bragged about how great you are, but it is I who feels bad for you now. You can run and climb, but I can truly go anywhere." At this point, the Ant was very angry and tried to yell back at the butterfly, but it was too late. All the ant could see was a small beautiful shape flying far away into beautiful blue sky.