

CLASSICS
Illustrated
JUNIOR

No. 542

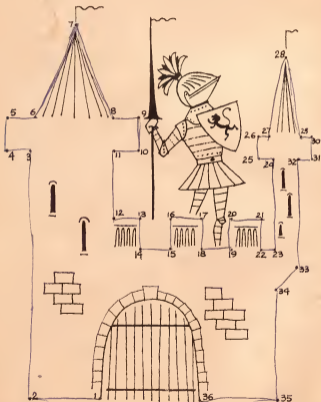
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The Donkey's Tale

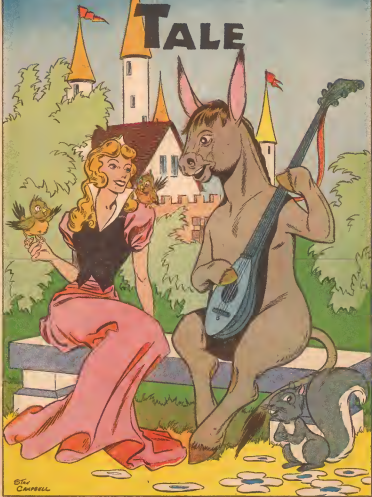


WHAT IS IT?

Solve this puzzle by placing the point of your pencil or crayon on dot number 1 and drawing a line to dot number 2. Then you draw another line to dot number 3 and so on, until you have connected all the dots. After you have done this, you may use your crayons to color this surprise picture.



THE DONKEY'S TALE



ONCE THERE LIVED A KING AND A QUEEN WHO RULED OVER A BEAUTIFUL, PEACEFUL LAND



THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN PERFECTLY HAPPY EXCEPT FOR ONE THING.



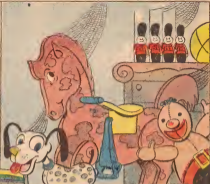
IF ONLY WE HAD A CHILD!

IT WOULD BE SO NICE TO HAVE A PRETTY LITTLE GIRL WITH CURLY HAIR

OR A HANDSOME LAD WHO LOOKS LIKE ME.



BUT AFTER ALL THESE YEARS,
OUR NURSERY IS STILL EMPTY.



YES, IT IS I THINK WE HAVE
WAITED LONG ENOUGH TO HAVE
A BABY. NOW WE MUST GO TO
SEE THE WIZARD WHO LIVES IN
THE DEEP FOREST.



THE WIZARD WHO LIVES
IN THE DEEP FOREST? BUT
WHAT CAN HE DO TO HELP?



HE HAS MAGIC SPELLS FOR EVERYTHING. HE MUST HAVE
A MAGIC SPELL THAT WILL HELP US HAVE A CHILD.



SO THE KING AND QUEEN RODE THROUGH THE DEEP FOREST TO THE WIZARD'S CAVE.

IS THERE A MAGIC SPELL THAT WILL HELP US HAVE A CHILD?

YES, I THINK I HAVE ONE SOMEWHERE ABOUT, IF I CAN ONLY FIND IT.



THE WIZARD SEARCHED FOR THE SPELL.

LET'S SEE. HERE . . . NO, THAT'S TO GET RID OF FRECKLES.



FINALLY . . .

HERE IT IS! THIS IS THE SPELL THAT WILL HELP YOU.



THE KING WAS RICH, BUT HE WAS VERY STINGY, TOO.

WILL IT COST US A LOT?

WELL, TWO TIMES TWO IS NINE, AND CARRY THE 13, AND THEN ADD A PINT.

OH, AND I MUSTN'T FORGET THE TAX



IT WILL COME TO 33 BAGS
OF GOLD COINS. WITH THE
TAX, OF COURSE.

THIRTY-THREE
BAGS? WILL IT
REALLY WORK?



ALL MY SPELLS
ARE GUARANTEED!
A BABY WILL BE
BORN TO YOU
BEFORE THE
VIOLETS BLOOM
AGAIN.

HOW WONDERFUL!
WE WILL SEND
YOU THE GOLD
AT ONCE!



BUT AS THEY RODE HOME . . .

THAT'S A LOT OF
GOLD! I WONDER...



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BACK IN THE CASTLE, THE KING STARTED TO FILL THE BAGS WITH GOLD.

WHY SHOULD I PUT IN ALL GOLD? THESE GILDED LEAD PIECES LOOK JUST LIKE GOLD.



I WILL SLIP IN A FEW OF THEM. THE WIZARD WILL NEVER NOTICE THE DIFFERENCE.



SO THE KING PUT A HANDFUL OF LEAD COINS IN THE BOTTOM OF EACH BAG.

LOOK AT ALL THE GOLD I AM SAVING!



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BUT WHEN THE GOLD WAS DELIVERED TO THE WIZARD, HE SNIFFED EACH BAG.

LEAD! I CAN SMELL LEAD IN EVERY ONE! THEY HAVE CHEATED ME! I SHALL PUNISH THEM FOR THIS.



HE CAST A MAGIC SPELL FOR A CHILD TO BE BORN TO THE KING AND QUEEN.

THEY SHALL HAVE THEIR CHILD. BUT IT WILL BE SHAPED LIKE A DONKEY!



AND IT WILL LOOK LIKE A DONKEY ALL ITS LIFE, UNLESS SOMEONE CAN FORGET ITS SHAPE AND LOVE IT AS A HUMAN BEING IS LOVED.



THE FOLLOWING SPRING, A CHILD WAS BORN.
BUT THERE WAS NO JOY IN THE CASTLE.

OH, HOW DREADFUL! HIS
EARS! AND THAT FUR!

AND THAT TAIL,
WITH A TASSEL
ON THE END!



IT IS ALL THE WIZARD'S
FAULT! HE MUST BE
PUNISHED!

NO, HE KNEW
I TRIED TO
CHEAT HIM.
THIS IS HOW
HE HAS
PUNISHED US.

BUT WHAT
SHALL WE
DO WITH
THIS... THIS
DONKEY?

WHATEVER HIS SHAPE,
HE IS STILL OUR CHILD.
IT IS OUR DUTY TO
BRING HIM UP AS A
PRINCE.



AND SO THE LITTLE DONKEY WAS TREATED JUST LIKE A CHILD.



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HE GREW UP TO BE CHARMING

WHAT GOOD MANNERS HE HAS--FOR A DONKEY!



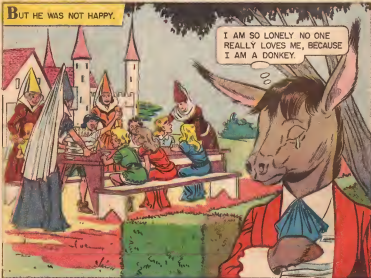
AND VERY INTELLIGENT.

FOR A DONKEY, HE'S REALLY QUITE SMART.



BUT HE WAS NOT HAPPY.

I AM SO LONELY NO ONE REALLY LOVES ME, BECAUSE I AM A DONKEY.



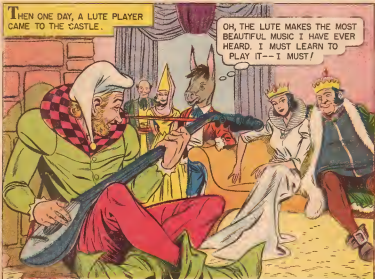
AS THE DONKEY PRINCE GREW OLDER,
HE FOUND THAT MUSIC COMFORTED HIS
SAD HEART. HE LEARNED TO PLAY THE
PICCOLO .



AND THE FRENCH HORN.



THEN ONE DAY, A LUTE PLAYER
CAME TO THE CASTLE.



THE DONKEY BEGGED THE LUTE PLAYER TO GIVE HIM LESSONS.

BUT HOW CAN I TEACH YOU TO PLAY THE LUTE? YOUR HOOFBS WILL TANGLE IN THE STRINGS.

OH, PLEASE, PLEASE TRY!



THE LUTE PLAYER AGREED. AT FIRST, THE DONKEY COULD NOT HANDLE THE STRINGS AT ALL.



BUT SOON HE WAS SO GOOD THAT . . .

THERE IS NOTHING MORE I CAN TEACH YOU. YOU PLAY BETTER THAN I DO!



BUT WHEN THE DONKEY PLAYED A SWEET, LOVING SONG FOR HIS MOTHER AND FATHER...

YES, YES, THAT IS A CLEVER TRICK YOU HAVE LEARNED.

BUT DO GO AWAY. WE ARE BUSY NOW.



AND SO THE DONKEY PRINCE WAS STILL LONELY AND SAD.

I HAVE LEARNED ALL THE THINGS A HUMAN PRINCE IS TAUGHT, AND I FEEL LIKE A PRINCE, INSIDE.



BUT EVEN WHEN I ACT JUST LIKE A HUMAN PRINCE, MY PARENTS SEE ONLY THESE AWFUL EARS, AND THIS TERRIBLE TAIL WITH A TASSEL ON THE END.



NO ONE HERE CARES ABOUT ME. THEY ONLY THINK HOW DREADFUL IT IS FOR A PRINCE TO BE A DONKEY. I AM TIRED OF BEING THE-PRINCE-WHO-IS-A-DONKEY!



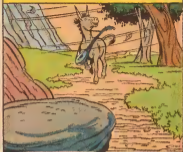
I WILL LEAVE MY HOME AND GO WHERE NO ONE KNOWS ME. I DO NOT WANT THESE FOOLISH PRINCE'S CLOTHES, EITHER. I WILL TAKE ONLY MY LUTE.



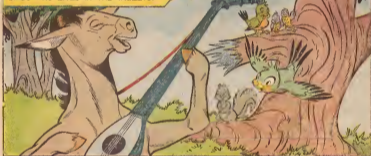
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SO, WITH ONLY HIS LUTE FOR A COMPANION, THE DONKEY PRINCE TRAVELED ACROSS THE COUNTRYSIDE.



HE LEARNED NEW SONGS FROM THE WIND IN THE MOUNTAINS

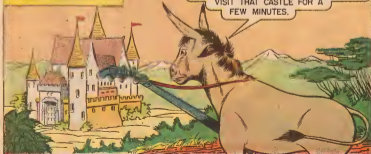


... AND HE TAUGHT THEM TO THE YOUNG BIRDS WHO LIVED IN THE VALLEYS.



BUT AFTER MANY WEEKS OF WANDERING

I AM LONELY FOR THE SIGHT AND THE SOUND OF HUMAN BEINGS. PERHAPS I CAN VISIT THAT CASTLE FOR A FEW MINUTES.



THE CASTLE WAS THE HOME OF A GREAT KING. WHEN THE DONKEY KNOCKED AT THE GATE . . .

GOOD DAY TO YOU! I SHOULD LIKE TO VISIT FOR A LITTLE WHILE.

WHAT A JOKE THIS IS! YOU WISH TO CALL ON THE KING?



THE DONKEY PRINCE, WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING MORE, BEGAN TO PLAY A LONESOME, DISAPPOINTED SONG ON HIS LUTE.

MY GOODNESS! HOW WELL YOU PLAY! I'D BETTER TELL THE KING ABOUT THIS.



THE KING HAD JUST SAT DOWN TO LUNCH.

EXCUSE ME, SIRE, BUT THERE IS A DONKEY AT THE CASTLE GATE WHO IS PLAYING THE LUTE LIKE AN ANGEL.

A WHAT?

PLAYING THE WHAT?



WELL, BRING HIM IN, SO THAT HE CAN PLAY FOR US.

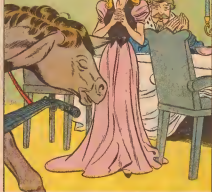


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THE DONKEY PRINCE WAS BROUGHT INTO THE DINING HALL. HE PLAYED A SONG ABOUT SMOOTH ROADS WINDING OVER GREEN HILLS, AND EVERYONE STOPPED EATING UNTIL THE SONG WAS ENDED.



HOW BEAUTIFULLY YOU PLAY! I HAVE NEVER HEARD ANYTHING FINER.



WON'T YOU STAY HERE WITH US FOR AWHILE? MY DAUGHTER LOVES MUSIC, AND IT WOULD GIVE HER PLEASURE TO HEAR MORE OF YOURS.

WHY, THANK YOU. IF YOU WISH IT, I WILL STAY.



SPLENDID! NOW, YOU MUST BE HUNGRY. WON'T YOU SIT--THAT IS, DO YOU SIT...?

YES, SIRE, I DO. AND NEXT TO THE PRINCESS, IF I MAY.



AND SO THE DONKEY PRINCE STAYED ON AT THE CASTLE. EVERYONE LIKED HIM AT ONCE.



HE PLAYED WITH THE BABY BROTHERS OF THE PRINCESS.



HE IS SO KIND, AND SO PATIENT WITH THEM!

HE HELPED THE KING WITH HIS ACCOUNTS.

IF YOU JUST MOVE THIS NUMBER OVER, IT WILL ALL COME OUT RIGHT.

HOW SMART YOU ARE TO BE ABLE TO STRAIGHTEN THAT OUT FOR ME!

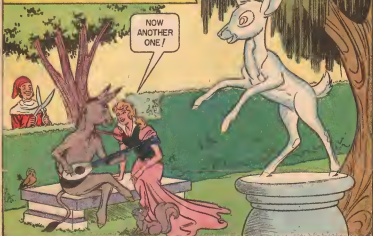


HE WAS IN GREAT DEMAND FOR PARTIES AND BALLS.

ISN'T HE CHARMING AND GAY? AND HE HAS THE MANNERS OF A PRINCE!



BUT, BUSY AS HE WAS, THE DONKEY PRINCE SPENT EVERY MORNING IN THE GARDEN PLAYING SONGS FOR THE PRINCESS.



STILL ANOTHER? VERY WELL, THIS WILL BE ABOUT A ROSE THAT WAS KISSED BY A PRINCESS AND TURNED TO PURE GOLD FOR JOY.

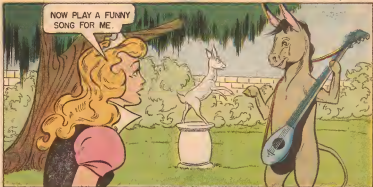


WHEN THE SONG WAS FINISHED . . .

OH, THAT WAS LOVELY! DEAR FRIEND, YOU MUST NEVER, NEVER LEAVE US!



NOW PLAY A FUNNY
SONG FOR ME.



THE DONKEY PRINCE
PLAYED A SILLY LITTLE
SONG ABOUT A TOAD
WHO THOUGHT HE COULD
SING LIKE A LARK.

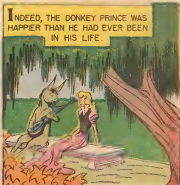


AND NOW A SAD ONE,
PLEASE, OR I SHALL
NEVER STOP LAUGHING.

I CANNOT, MY
PRINCESS. I
HAVE FORGOTTEN
ALL THE SAD
SONGS I KNOW



INDEED, THE DONKEY PRINCE WAS
HAPPIER THAN HE HAD EVER BEEN
IN HIS LIFE.



AND SO THE DAYS PASSED PLEASANTLY. THEN ONE MORNING . . .

THE KING SEEMS WORRIED. IS ANYTHING WRONG?

OH, NO. IT IS JUST THAT THREE PRINCES HAVE ASKED TO MARRY THE PRINCESS.



THE KING IS HAVING TROUBLE DECIDING WHICH ONE THE PRINCESS SHOULD ACCEPT.



MARRY?



MARRY THE PRINCESS?



ALL THAT NIGHT, THE DONKEY PRINCE
DID NOT SLEEP.

I KNEW THAT SHE WAS
BEAUTIFUL AND GENTLE
AND GOOD.



I KNEW THAT I WAS NEVER HAPPIER
THAN WHEN SHE SMILED AT ME. BUT I
DID NOT REALIZE UNTIL TODAY THAT
I LOVE HER.



OF COURSE SHE WILL MARRY! SHE WILL
MARRY A HANDSOME PRINCE WHO IS
STRAIGHT AND TALL AS A
PRINCE SHOULD BE.



BUT I CANNOT STAY TO SEE IT HAPPEN.
I MUST LEAVE AT ONCE. THEY WILL ASK
ME TO PLAY AT THE WEDDING, AND THEN
MY HEART WILL SURELY BREAK IN TWO.



THE NEXT MORNING, THE DONKEY PRINCE TOLD THE KING THAT HE WAS GOING AWAY.

BUT MY DEAR FELLOW, I CANNOT HEAR OF YOUR LEAVING!

I AM SORRY, SIRE, BUT I FEEL IT IS TIME.



THERE MUST BE SOME WAY I CAN TEMPT YOU TO STAY. WHAT IF I OFFER YOU A CHEST OF JEWELS?

THANK YOU, SIRE, BUT I WOULD HAVE NO USE FOR THEM. AND I TRULY MUST LEAVE

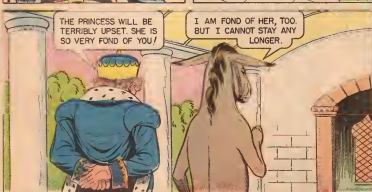
HOW ABOUT A CASTLE OF YOUR OWN?

YOU ARE MOST KIND. EVERYONE HERE HAS BEEN KIND TO ME. BUT I MUST GO.



THE PRINCESS WILL BE TERRIBLY UPSET. SHE IS SO VERY FOND OF YOU!

I AM FOND OF HER, TOO. BUT I CANNOT STAY ANY LONGER.



THEN THE DONKEY PRINCE WENT INTO THE GARDEN TO SEE THE PRINCESS FOR THE LAST TIME.

GOOD MORNING. DO YOU HAVE A NEW SONG FOR ME TODAY?

YES. A NEW SONG



BUT BEFORE HE HAD FINISHED PLAYING IT . . .

NO, NO! STOP! I DO NOT LIKE IT! IT IS THE SADDEST SONG I HAVE EVER HEARD!

IT IS A FAREWELL SONG, DEAR PRINCESS. I AM GOING AWAY.



AWAY? YOU CANNOT GO AWAY!

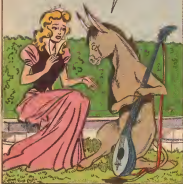


I KNOW YOU LOVE MY MUSIC AND WILL MISS IT. BUT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO REMEMBER IT AFTER I AM GONE.



BUT IT IS NOT
THE SONGS I
WILL MISS.
IT IS YOU!

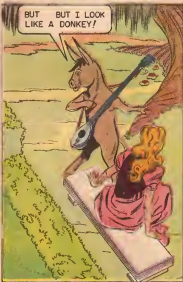
YOU WILL MISS ME?
BUT I HAVE LONG
EARS AND A TAIL, AND
SUCH AN UGLY FACE.



YOU ARE NOT UGLY! YOU
ARE AS BEAUTIFUL AS
THE MUSIC YOU PLAY!



BUT BUT I LOOK
LIKE A DONKEY!



I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU LOOK LIKE!
YOU ARE BEAUTIFUL INSIDE, AND I LOVE
YOU. I WANT YOU TO STAY
WITH ME ALWAYS.



AS THE PRINCESS SPOKE, THE DONKEY PRINCE FELT A TICKLE ON HIS CHEST.



WHY, THERE IS A BUTTON HERE! I NEVER SAW IT BEFORE.

SO THERE IS. DOES IT UNBUTTON?



I WILL TRY IT.



THE BUTTON UNBUTTONED AT A TOUCH, AND THE DONKEY'S SKIN SLIPPED TO THE GROUND.



I CANNOT BELIEVE IT! I LOOK LIKE MYSELF AT LAST!

YOU ARE VERY HANDSOME, INDEED. BUT THIS IS JUST THE WAY I ALWAYS THOUGHT OF YOU, ANYWAY!

NOW I CAN ASK YOU. WILL YOU MARRY ME?

DEAR PRINCE, OF COURSE I WILL!



THE DONKEY PRINCE AND THE PRINCESS HASTENED TO THE KING.

FATHER, TELL THE OTHER PRINCES THAT I WILL HAVE NONE OF THEM. HERE IS THE MAN I WILL MARRY.



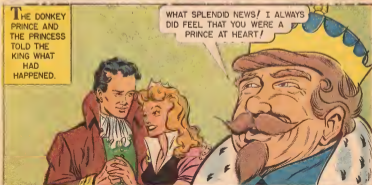
WHAT? A TOTAL STRANGER?

I'M NOT A STRANGER, SIRE. I HAVE BEEN LIVING IN YOUR CASTLE THESE MANY WEEKS.



THE DONKEY PRINCE AND THE PRINCESS TOLD THE KING WHAT HAD HAPPENED.

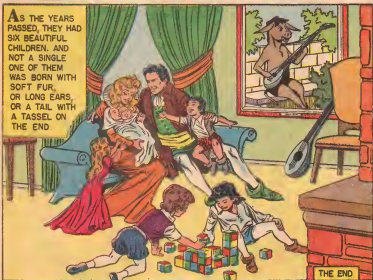
WHAT SPLENDID NEWS! I ALWAYS DID FEEL THAT YOU WERE A PRINCE AT HEART!



AND SO THE DONKEY PRINCE AND THE PRINCESS WERE MARRIED.



AS THE YEARS PASSED, THEY HAD SIX BEAUTIFUL CHILDREN. AND NOT A SINGLE ONE OF THEM WAS BORN WITH SOFT FUR, OR LONG EARS, OR A TAIL WITH A TASSEL ON THE END.



THE END

AESOP'S FABLES

THE OAK AND THE REED

ONCE THERE WAS A STURDY OAK TREE WHO WAS VERY PROUD OF HIS THICK, TALL TRUNK.



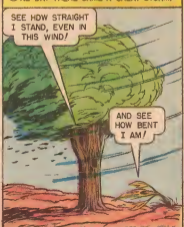
NEAR HIM GREW A SLENDER REED. SHE ADMIRED THE OAK GREATLY.



BUT I—I BEND AND BOW WHEN THERE IS THE FAINTEST BREEZE.



ONE DAY THERE CAME A GREAT STORM.



THE WIND BLEW HARDER.

I AM AS STRONG AS IRON! I WILL NEVER BOW TO IT!

OH, MY! I CAN HARDLY CATCH MY BREATH.

THEN THE WIND BLEW HARDER THAN IT EVER HAD BEFORE AND SUDDENLY. . .

WHEN THE STORM PASSED, THE REED STRAIGHTENED UP

I SEE NOW THAT IT IS SOMETIMES BETTER TO BEND THAN JUST TO STAND STRAIGHT AND TALL

OH, THE POOR OAK! HE IS BROKEN IN TWO, WHILE I AM NOT HURT AT ALL.

OH! MY BACK!

THE END

THE OWL AND THE PUSSY-CAT

By EDWARD LEAR

THE OWL AND THE PUSSY-CAT WENT TO SEA
IN A BEAUTIFUL PEA-GREEN BOAT:
THEY TOOK SOME HONEY, AND PLENTY OF MONEY
WRAPPED UP IN A FIVE-POUND NOTE.
THE OWL LOOKED UP TO THE STARS ABOVE,
AND SANG TO A SMALL GUITAR,
"O LOVELY PUSSY, O PUSSY, MY LOVE,
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL PUSSY YOU ARE,
YOU ARE,
YOU ARE!
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL PUSSY YOU ARE!"



THE ANIMAL WORLD

THE FLYING SQUIRREL

THE FLYING SQUIRREL, WHICH LOOKS LIKE OTHER SQUIRRELS, IS SELDOM SEEN. HE COMES OUT ONLY AT NIGHT.



THE FLYING SQUIRREL CANNOT FLY AS A BIRD FLIES. BUT HE CAN GLIDE AS FAR AS 150 FEET.



WHEN HE WISHES TO FLY, HE SPREADS THE FOLDS OF SKIN WHICH HE HAS ON BOTH SIDES OF HIS BODY. HIS TAIL GOES DOWN, HIS FRONT LEGS GO OUT, AND OFF HE GOES.



LIKE ALL SQUIRRELS, HE IS FOND OF NUTS. HE EATS ACORNS AND HICKORY NUTS, AND THE BLOSSOMS OF THE SUGAR MAPLE TREE.



COLOR THIS PICTURE WITH CRAYONS

