



Eva Grayzel

Motivational Storyteller

Shake It Off

Author unknown. Adapted by Eva Grayzel

A farmer's donkey fell into a well. The animal cried piteously for hours. The farmer was distraught, unable to find a solution. Since the animal was old and the well needed to be covered up anyway, the farmer invited neighbors to help him shovel dirt into the well.

As the dirt fell on his back, the donkey held his head low feeling betrayed. He was loyal and never feared hard work. Swiftly, he raised his head. Defeat wasn't an option.

After dozens of shovel loads, the farmer looked into the well and was astonished. As the dirt hit the donkey's back, he would shake it off and step on the dirt as it piled up. The farmer's neighbors continued to shovel dirt on top of the animal and soon the donkey stepped up over the edge of the well and trotted off, never looking back.

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INTRODUCTION TO THE STORY

There is something magical in a great story; imaginations are exercised, hearts are stirred, and new thinking emerges. This story is designed to be a quick, easy read with a valuable message, providing readers a motivational lift.

- Positively influence your day by treating yourself to an uplifting message.
- Share this story with co-workers. Discuss and bond with your team over core values.
- Read this story to children at bedtime or in a car to promote healthy communication.

GENERATE NEW THINKING AND INITIATE DIALOGUE BY ASKING THESE QUESTIONS:

What's the lesson to be learned?

How do you see yourself in the story?

If you could change anything in the story, what would it be?

How will this narrative change what you do or think?

Who would you share the story with and why?

AFTER READING THE STORY WITH CHILDREN, TRY THESE FUN ACTIVITIES:

Role-play/act out the story. Include simple props (hats, scarves).

Reword the core message of the story in rhyme.

Pick a holiday or a birthday and make a tradition of sharing a story.

Ask an older relative for personal story related to the message. Start a collection of family stories.

Record any personal stories that arise from these family activities.

EVERYONE HAS A STORY TO TELL: WHAT'S YOURS? SHARE AND CREATE CONNECTIONS

Who influenced your life and how?

What is your love story?

What is your greatest fear?

Who would you like to forgive or receive forgiveness from?

What would you do differently with a second chance?

ABOUT EVA GRAYZEL: SPEAKER, SURVIVOR, STORYTELLER

I call myself a Motivational Storyteller because every story I share, whether on a big stage or in a small group, is thoughtfully crafted to educate, entertain and inspire audiences.

This is just one of many stories available to you on EvaGrayzel.com. I would love to hear how you used the story and if it facilitated communication. If you are looking for a story on a particular subject, don't hesitate to ask.

Happy Storytelling!

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