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Based on the book by William Steig

Once upon a time there was a lovely princess. But she had an enchantment upon her of a fearful sort which could only be broken by love's first kiss. She was locked away in a castle quarded by a terrible fire-breathing dragon. Many brave knights had attempted to free her from this dreadful prison, but non prevailed. She waited in the dragon's keep in the highest room of the tallest tower for her true love and true love's first kiss. (laughs) Like that's ever gonna happen. What a load of -(toilet flush)

Allstar - by Smashmouth begins to play. Shrek goes about his day. While in a nearby town, the villagers get together to go after the ogre.

NIGHT - NEAR SHREK'S HOME

MAN1

Think it's in there?

MAN2

All right. Let's get it!

MAN1

Whoa. Hold on. Do you know what that thing can do to you?

MAN3

Yeah, it'll grind your bones for it's bread.

Shrek sneaks up behind them and laughs.

SHREK

Yes, well, actually, that would be a giant. Now, ogres, oh they're much worse. They'll make a suit from your freshly peeled skin.

MEN

No!

SHREK

They'll shave your liver. Squeeze the jelly from your eyes! Actually, it's quite good on toast.

MAN1

Back! Back, beast! Back! I warn ya!
 (waves the torch at
 Shrek.)

Shrek calmly licks his fingers and extinguishes the torch. The men shrink back away from him. Shrek roars very loudly and long and his breath extinguishes all the remaining torches until the men are in the dark.

SHREK

This is the part where you run away.

(The men scramble to get away. He laughs.) And stay out! (looks down and picks up a piece of paper. Reads.) "Wanted. Fairy tale creatures."(He sighs and throws the paper over his shoulder.)

## THE NEXT DAY

There is a line of fairy tale creatures. The head of the guard sits at a table paying people for bringing the fairy tale creatures to him. There are cages all around. Some of the people in line are Peter Pan, who is carrying Tinkerbell in a cage, Gipetto who's carrying Pinocchio, and a farmer who is carrying the three little pigs.

GUARD

All right. This one's full. Take it away! Move it along. Come on! Get up!

HEAD GUARD

Next!

GUARD

(taking the witch's broom) Give me that! Your flying days are over. (breaks the broom in half)

HEAD GUARD

That's 20 pieces of silver for the witch. Next!

**GUARD** 

Get up! Come on!

HEAD GUARD

Twenty pieces.

LITTLE BEAR (crying) This cage is too small.

DONKEY

Please, don't turn me in. I'll never be stubborn again. I can change. Please! Give me another chance!

OLD WOMAN

Oh, shut up. (jerks his rope)

DONKEY

Oh!

HEAD GUARD

Next! What have you got?

GIPETTO

This little wooden puppet.

PINOCCHIO

I'm not a puppet. I'm a real boy.
(his nose grows)

HEAD GUARD

Five shillings for the possessed toy. Take it away.

PINOCCHIO

Father, please! Don't let them do this! Help me!

Gipetto takes the money and walks off. The old woman steps up to the table.

HEAD GUARD

Next! What have you got?

OLD WOMAN

Well, I've got a talking donkey.

HEAD GUARD

Right. Well, that's good for ten shillings, if you can prove it.

OLD WOMAN

Oh, go ahead, little fella.

Donkey just looks up at her.

HEAD GUARD

Well?

OLD WOMAN

Oh, oh, he's just...he's just a little nervous. He's really quite a chatterbox. Talk, you boneheaded dolt...

HEAD GUARD

That's it. I've heard enough. Guards!

OLD WOMAN

No, no, he talks! He does. (pretends to be Donkey) I can talk. I love to talk. I'm the talkingest damn thing you ever saw.

HEAD GUARD

Get her out of my sight.

OLD WOMAN

No, no! I swear! Oh! He can talk!

The guards grab the old woman and she struggles with them. One of her legs flies out and kicks Tinkerbell out of Peter Pan's hands, and her cage drops on Donkey's head. He gets sprinkled with fairy dust and he's able to fly.

DONKEY

Hey! I can fly!

PETER PAN

He can fly!

LITTLE PIGS

He can fly!

HEAD GUARD

He can talk!

DONKEY

Ha, ha! That's right, fool! Now I'm a flying, talking donkey. You might have seen a housefly, maybe even a superfly but I bet you ain't never seen a donkey fly. Ha, ha! (the pixie dust begins to wear off) Uhoh. (he begins to sink to the ground.)

He hits the ground with a thud.

HEAD GUARD

Seize him! (Donkey takes of running.) After him!

GUARDS

He's getting away! Get him! This way! Turn!

Donkey keeps running and he eventually runs into Shrek. Literally. Shrek turns around to see who bumped into him. Donkey looks scared for a moment then he spots the guards coming up the path. He quickly hides behind Shrek.

HEAD GUARD

You there. Ogre!

SHREK

Aye?

HEAD GUARD

By the order of Lord Farquaad I am authorized to place you both under arrest and transport you to a designated resettlement facility.

SHREK

Oh, really? You and what army?

He looks behind the guard and the guard turns to look as well and we see that the other men have run off. The guard tucks tail and runs off. Shrek laughs and goes back about his business and begins walking back to his cottage.

DONKEY

Can I say something to you? Listen, you was really, really, really somethin' back here. Incredible!

SHREK

Are you talkin' to...(he turns around and Donkey is gone) me? (he turns back around and Donkey is right in front of him.) Whoa!

DONKEY

Yes. I was talkin' to you. Can I tell you that you that you was great back here? Those guards! They thought they was all of that. Then you showed up, and bam! They was trippin' over themselves like babes in the woods. That really made me feel good to see that.

SHREK

Oh, that's great. Really.

DONKEY

Man, it's good to be free.

SHREK

Now, why don't you go celebrate your freedom with your own friends? Hmm?

DONKEY

But, uh, I don't have any friends. And I'm not goin' out there by myself. Hey, wait a minute! I got a great idea! I'll stick with you. You're mean, green, fightin' machine. Together we'll scare the spit out of anybody that crosses us.

Shrek turns and regards Donkey for a moment before roaring very loudly.

DONKEY (CONT'D)

Oh, wow! That was really scary. If you don't mind me sayin', if that don't work, your breath certainly will get the job done, 'cause you definitely need some Tic Tacs or something, 'cause you breath stinks! You almost burned the hair outta my nose, just like the time...(Shrek covers his mouth but Donkey continues to talk, so Shrek removes his hand.) ...then I ate some rotten berries. I had strong gases leaking out of my butt that day.

SHREK

Why are you following me?

DONKEY

I'll tell you why. (singing) 'Cause I'm all alone, There's no one here beside me, My problems have all gone, There's no one to deride me, But you gotta have faith...

SHREK

Stop singing! It's no wonder you don't have any friends.

DONKEY

Wow. Only a true friend would be that cruelly honest.

Listen, little donkey. Take a look at me. What am I?

DONKEY

(looks all the way up at Shrek) Uh ... really tall?

SHREK

No! I'm an ogre! You know. "Grab your torch and pitchforks." Doesn't that bother you?

DONKEY

Nope.

SHREK

Really?

DONKEY

Really, really.

SHREK

Oh.

DONKEY

Man, I like you. What's you name?

SHREK

Uh, Shrek.

DONKEY

Shrek? Well, you know what I like about

you, Shrek? You got that kind of I-don't-care-what-nobody-thinks-of-me thing. I like that. I respect that, Shrek. You all right. (They come over a hill and you can see Shrek's cottage.) Whoa! Look at that. Who'd want to live in place like that?

SHREK

That would be my home.

DONKEY

Oh! And it is lovely! Just beautiful. You know you are quite a decorator. It's amazing what you've done with such a modest budget. I like that boulder. That is a nice boulder. I guess you don't entertain much, do you?

I like my privacy.

DONKEY

You know, I do too. That's another thing we have in common. Like I hate it when you got somebody in your face. You've trying to give them a hint, and they won't leave. There's that awkward silence. (awkward silence) Can I stay with you?

SHREK

Uh, what?

DONKEY

Can I stay with you, please?

SHREK

(sarcastically) Of course!

DONKEY

Really?

SHREK

No.

DONKEY

Please! I don't wanna go back there! You don't know what it's like to be considered a freak. (pause while he looks at Shrek) Well, maybe you do. But that's why we gotta stick together. You gotta let me stay! Please! Please!

SHREK

Okay! Okay! But one night only.

DONKEY

Ah! Thank you! (he runs inside the cottage)

SHREK

What are you...? (Donkey hops up onto a chair.) No! No!

DONKEY

This is gonna be fun! We can stay up late, swappin' manly stories, and in the mornin' I'm makin' waffles.

Oh!

DONKEY

Where do, uh, I sleep?

SHREK

(irritated) Outside!

DONKEY

Oh, well, I guess that's cool. I mean, I don't know you, and you don't know me, so I guess outside is best, you know. Here I go. Good night. (Shrek slams the door.) (sigh) I mean, I do like the outdoors. I'm a donkey. I was born outside. I'll just be sitting by myself outside, I guess, you know. By myself, outside. I'm all alone...there's no one here beside me...

SHREK'S COTTAGE - NIGHT

Shrek is getting ready for dinner. He sits himself down and lights a candle made out of earwax. He begins to eat when he hears a noise. He stands up with a huff.

SHREK

(to Donkey) I thought I told you to stay outside.

DONKEY

(from the window) I am outside.

There is another noise and Shrek turns to find the person that made the noise. He sees several shadows moving. He finally turns and spots 3 blind mice on his table.

BLIND MOUSE1

Well, gents, it's a far cry from the farm, but what choice do we have?

BLIND MOUSE2

It's not home, but it'll do just fine.

**GORDO** 

(bouncing on a slug) What a lovely bed.

Got ya. (Grabs a mouse, but it escapes and lands on his shoulder.)

GORDO

I found some cheese. (bites Shrek's ear)

SHREK

Ow!

**GORDO** 

Blah! Awful stuff.

BLIND MOUSE1

Is that you, Gordo?

**GORDO** 

How did you know?

SHREK

Enough! (he grabs the 3 mice) What are you doing in my house? (He gets bumped from behind and he drops the mice.) Hey! (he turns and sees the Seven Dwarves with Snow White on the table.) Oh, no, no, no. Dead broad off the table.

**DWARF** 

Where are we supposed to put her? The bed's taken.

SHREK

Huh?

Shrek marches over to the bedroom and throws back the curtain. The Big Bad Wolf is sitting in the bed. The wolf just looks at him.

BIG BAD WOLF

What?

TIME LAPSE

Shrek now has the Big Bad Wolf by the collar and is dragging him to the front door.

SHREK

SHREK (CONT'D)

(He opens the front door to throw the Wolf out and he sees that all the collected Fairy Tale Creatures are on his land.) Oh, no. No! No!

The 3 bears sit around the fire, the pied piper is playing his pipe and the rats are all running to him, some elves are directing flight traffic so that the fairies and witches can land...etc.

SHREK (CONT'D)

What are you doing in my swamp? (this echoes and everyone falls silent.)

Gasps are heard all around. The 3 good fairies hide inside a tent.

SHREK (CONT'D)

All right, get out of here. All of you, move it! Come on! Let's go! Hapaya! Hapaya! Hey! Quickly. Come on! (more dwarves run inside the house) No, no! No, no. Not there. Not there. (they shut the door on him) Oh! (turns to look at Donkey)

DONKEY

Hey, don't look at me. I didn't
invite them.

PINOCCHIO

Oh, gosh, no one invited us.

SHREK

What?

PINOCCHIO

We were forced to come here.

SHREK

(flabbergasted) By who?

LITTLE PIG

Lord Farquaad. He huffed and he puffed and he...signed an eviction notice.

SHREK

(heavy sigh) All right. Who knows where this Farquaad quy is?

Everyone looks around at each other but no one answers.

DONKEY

Oh, I do. I know where he is.

SHREK

Does anyone else know where to find him? Anyone at all?

DONKEY

Me! Me!

SHREK

Anyone?

DONKEY

Oh! Oh, pick me! Oh, I know! I know! Me, me!

SHREK

(sigh) Okay, fine. Attention, all fairy tale things. Do not get comfortable. Your welcome is officially worn out. In fact, I'm gonna see this guy Farquaad right now and get you all off my land and back where you came from! (Pause. Then the crowd goes wild.) Oh! (to Donkey) You! You're comin' with me.

DONKEY

All right, that's what I like to hear, man. Shrek and Donkey, two stalwart friends, off on a whirlwind big-city adventure. I love it!

DONKEY (CONT'D)

(singing) On the road again. Sing it with me, Shrek. I can't wait to get on the road again.

SHREK

What did I say about singing?

DONKEY

Can I whistle?

SHREK

No.

DONKEY

Can I hum it?

SHREK

All right, hum it.