

## **A Mourning Tail?**

The morning air was crisp as Josie Wolf roused herself from her slumber and began to forage for breakfast. Her stomach rumbled in fitful bursts like an outboard motor with a stalled choke. The past few days had yielded precious little for her larder. Josie put aside feelings of failure and dejection and pressed on, confident that with persistence her search would soon result in much needed sustenance for herself and her precious little ones. She cooed, "I'll be right back, dears," to her babies as she gazed into the nursery. Thankfully, they were still asleep. The hunger hadn't yet awakened them.

Josie strolled out into the dew moistened pasture and glanced toward the orchards to the south. Then she saw it. A rosy pink patch in the luminous quilt of the early morning light. Lying in indolent abandon next to a shabby pile of hay that resembled a shack, it was evidently unaware of Josie's presence. Grateful for this providence, Josie moved cautiously toward the reclining figure, hoping against hope that it would continue its carelessness -- and thereby allow her babies to fill their empty bellies.

**PROGYMNASMATA ASSIGNMENT FOR OCTOBER 15, 2020**  
**due no later than 10 p.m. please**

Write a slanted narrative that is a retake on a familiar folk or fairy tale. As with my example, it need not be the complete story.

\_\_\_\_\_ My slanted narrative is **between 130 and 160 words** in length.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have underlined at least 3 examples of **vivid diction**.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have used at least 1 **direct quote** with proper punctuation.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have circled at least 2 **adverbs** ending in “ly”.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have used one **simile** and have marked it with brackets [ ].

\_\_\_\_\_ my word count is \_\_\_\_\_

I have **slanted my narrative** by:

\_\_\_\_\_ emphasizing one character’s point of view

\_\_\_\_\_ minimizing the attention given to other characters

\_\_\_\_\_ using words that describe that character with sympathy

\_\_\_\_\_ using words that make other characters seem unworthy of sympathy

Note: \_\_\_\_\_ I did not try to tell the entire narrative, rather, I focused on establishing the slant

\_\_\_\_\_ I read my paper aloud to check for smoothness of style and to find errors I might have missed by silent reading.

PLEASE CHECK OFF THE ITEMS AS YOU FINISH AND ATTACH THIS PAPER TO TURN IN WITH YOUR FINAL DRAFT