

## **DON'T MAKE AN ASS OF YOURSELF**

*Adapted from one of Aesop's Fable by P. Ribes, .sj.*

### **The Ass, the Lapdog and Their Master**

A Man had an Ass, and a small Maltese Lapdog of a great beauty. While the Ass was left in a stable and had only oats and hay to eat. The Lapdog that knew many tricks was a great favorite of his master. His master often fondled him and seldom went out to dine without bringing for him some tidbits to eat.

The Ass, on the contrary, had much work to do in grinding the corn-mill and in carrying wood from the forest and burdens from the farm. He often cried over his fate and felt jealous of the Lapdog. He always wanted to be treated like the Lapdog.

At last one day, he broke his cords and halter, left his stable and galloped into his master's house, kicking up his heels without measure, and frisking as well as he could.

He next, tried to jump about his master as he had seen the Lapdog do, but he broke the table and smashed all the dishes. He then attempted to lick his master and jumped upon his back.

The servants, seeing the commotion and perceiving the danger of their master, quickly came to help him. With kicks, clubs and sticks they drove out the Ass to his stable

The Ass, as he returned to his stall beaten nearly to death, lamented: **I should have been contented being an Ass and not try to be a little Lapdog!"**

### **FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

**Don't try to be someone else!  
Be yourself, if an ass, an ass  
Be contented by being what you are  
Jealousy kills  
Jealousy is the child of self-rejection.  
Satisfaction is the child of self-acceptance.  
Love yourself, it's all you have.**