

# Meme Le Braht

A story about the dangers of being self-centered and spoiled.

The sound of church bells ran before the breeze,  
calling on Bog critters to come worship on their knees.  
The Bog church was so lovely standing there beside the creek,  
its' gentle Elm-wood branches covering those who came to seek,  
God in all His wisdom, more precious than finest gold,  
something overlooked these days, most preferring what was sold.

Among those was dear Meme, a critter most appealing,  
with silken coat and pearly smile, she sent male critters reeling.  
She took the greatest care to see she looked her very best,  
neither hair nor vestments out of place, mere perfection was her  
quest.

She shopped at the finest Bog shops, buying the most expensive  
brands,  
she lived in the finest Bog home, hiring only the finest  
hands.  
Indeed...everything she sought to own was stamped with **T.V.B.**,  
her shirts, her shoes, her hats, her views, so that everyone could  
see,  
she could own 'The **Very Best**' of what the Bog could offer,  
she could easily afford **T.V.B.**'s as she had the largest coffer!

One day while walking her aristocats, who had the finest of  
pedigrees,  
she noticed the poor Buglies, groping round on hands and knees.

*"What are you doing groveling around in all that disgusting dirt?! You're making the neighborhood look rundown, can't you at least put on a clean shirt?!!!"*

*"Well Ma'am, we're looking for seeds that have fallen from trees to take home to our twelve starving tots, we've had a bad year and there's not enough food, there's simply nothing to cook in our pots.*

*We would be obliged if you'd like too help out, then we'll hurry the seeds home for a meal."*

*"What...ruin my nails?!...I just had them done, I need to look good so get real!!!"*

She made a hasty retreat so she'd not have to see those poor weary critters in need, "

*Other folk must tend to their trouble," she sniffed, "They shouldn't expect it from one of my breed!!!"*

*Besides...I'll be late, I've got shopping to do, then there's lunch and later there's tea...*

*There's simply no time, then of course there's the grime...no, no, I've made the right choice for Meme!"*

Meme was like this ever since she was born, her parents doting on every whim,

when she didn't get what it was she wanted, she'd pitch a fit, making life pretty grim.

So...they gave to her and gave in to her, refusing to tell Meme no, they petted, pampered and coddled her, which dealt Meme a most cruel blow.

You see...

It spoiled and caused the poor darling to believe that the whole world would be,

able and willing to pamper and coddle a now grown and audacious Meme.

She ordered the critters to do as she pleased, thinking of course they'd be only too glad, to jump at the chance to do as she bid but instead it just made them all mad.

They'd cringe and they'd scour and get all out of sorts when Meme appeared on the scene, knowing full well that what she expected was to be treated as if she were their queen.

She strutted and ordered and bossed them around not caring how it affected the rest, all she had on her mind was to be ever so kind to herself, after all...she was best.

Well...one day while leading her critters and things back to her regal estate, She found she couldn't squeeze through; all the stuff blocked her view, there was simply no room for the freight.

*"Oh...just pile up the stuff anywhere that you can,"* purred a charming and delighted Meme, she was always so sweet when she'd bought a new treat, till the newness wore off and she'd see, that this new round of stuff was not quite good enough...she'd have to go back and buy more. It had not done the trick, she must run back real quick and perhaps this time buy out the whole store!

*She shrieked... "I'll have five of those and ten of those in every single shade!  
I want them big, I want them small, I want everything that's made!!!"*

*Get me the best and get it quick!! Hurry up! I don't want to wait!!  
Make sure they're the best, I won't take any less, in fact just  
load up the entire crate!!!!!"*

This new round of things included baubles and rings that sparkled  
and glittered with gold,  
but she longed for much more than was brought from the store as  
the stuff couldn't love, it was cold.

Sitting alone and depressed one day, she tried fathoming just  
why she was sad.  
She'd bought everything that there was to be bought, but all the  
stuff just could not keep her glad.

*"Hartlie will know where to buy up some glad...go tell him to come  
tell me where,  
I've got to have glad, I'm so sick of sad, I'll pay any price, I  
don't care!"*

Hartlie dutifully heeded the call, knowing the need in her life,  
He'd give her the truth about being spoiled and how buying too  
much causes strife.

He found her pitifully piling up things, her once lovely home now  
all cluttered,  
*"It's friendship and love that brings gladness of heart,"* Hartlie  
cautioned then poor Meme sputtered.  
*"Well...I...I'll buy three dozen friends and a whole mound of love,  
then I'll be happy, you'll see!"*  
*"But, these things you can't buy,"* Hartlie heaved a great sigh,  
*"they are given from the heart...they're all free!  
Are you willing to make room for some friend in your life?"*  
*"Of course!"* she cried, *"they're just what I need!"*

*Give me a break, how much room can they take...I'll be doing myself a good deed!  
I'll put some on the roof...stuff some in the attic; the rest will fit in the wood shed,  
If I need to buy more, I'll go back to the store and the rest I'll stuff under my bed!"*

*"Meme LISTEN!"*

*It's a place in your heart and a lot of your time that this love and those friends will require.*

*It's being unselfish and giving to others...which means giving up what you desire!"*

*Oh pulleeze!...*

*It's about who you know and what you can show, so I'll get the best money can buy,*

*I'll get one of each kind, to not get in a bind, then make sure everyone sees...I'm not shy!*

*"About that I'm sure, I'd not call you demure but on this I'm afraid that you're wrong,  
it's not who you are but whose your are and just exactly to whom you belong!"*

*"Hartlie...don't be absurd, you can just rest assured that I answer only to me,*

*I do just as I please, live a life of great ease, I...I'll be happy one day, wait and see."*

*"Meme...*

*that's the problem, you answer to only yourself, when it's God you should be looking too.*

*You sit on His throne wondering why you're alone, contriteness long overdue.*

*It's far greater to give than it is to receive, the Bible kindly explains,  
that's why it's unfair when parents spoil their young making them selfish, runaway trains.  
You've paid a high price for this stuff that you love, it has cost you your family and friends,  
Now the price becomes higher and you must never tire of giving and making amends."*

*"You mean...  
I've got to quit thinking just of myself?! That I now must start thinking of others?  
That I somehow must see...that there's more than just...me?  
That these critters are my...sisters and brothers?"*

*"You've got it!...You've got it!...You've finally got it!!!"* Hartlie jumped up and down with elation,  
*"You've just been set free to serve others and see a truly loving emancipation!"*

Meme wasn't too sure when she opened the door to take out some of her stuff,  
but she'd try it and see, give some stuff away free, even though it might be pretty tough.

She started by visiting the Buglies, at their hovel of a home in the ground.

The children were so overwhelmed by the gifts they stood speechless not making a sound.

At first they were frightened by Meme's new ways, wondering indeed if she'd lost her poor mind,  
they'd never seen her think about anyone else, let alone being ever so kind.

But, the more Meme gave, the more grateful she seemed, til it became a delightful treat,  
to give things with grace and a smile on her face...for her a miraculous feat.

Each day now found Meme making the rounds of the Bog and all those in need,  
making sure that the poor had enough food in store, the lonely she took home to feed.

The top floor of her home, once draped in refinement, was clustered with dear orphaned tots,  
that she and some critters nurtured and fed, then bathed and tucked up in clean cots.

Now one had to wait to get in the estate as Meme had so many friends,  
with stories of love and good deeds that she'd done and the fences that true love mends.

The end

Or could it be...THE BEGINNING!

## THE BEGINNING

Scriptures from the Holy Bible that help us understand that being self-centered and spoiled only leads to sorrow.

**Acts 20:35** The Lord Jesus Himself said, "It is more blessed to give than receive."

**1 Corinthians 13:4** Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It isn't rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.

**John 15:12-13** Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.

**Galatians 6:9** Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

**1 Timothy 6:6-8** But Godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.

**Hebrews 13:16** And do not forget to do good and share with others, for which sacrifices God is pleased.

**Luke 12:15** Then Jesus said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."

**John 3:16** for God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever would believe in Him should not perish but have life everlasting.

The series was written in an effort to help children understand that no problem can overcome us if we are walking close to Jesus, trusting in His love and obeying His commandments.