

Pieter Breughel's The Peasant Wedding

**Poems by Independence, IA School Amanda
Whitaker's Sixth Grade Class
Oct. 10, 2010**

**I worked with this class last October to write persona
poems in response to this Breughel painting. Enjoy
the students' terrific work below.**

--Mary Swander



The Bride

Oh, my gosh, here I am marrying
not-the-guy-of-my-dreams.
I just hope I'm going to like this.
Poor Father. I feel so bad.
How am I ever going to repay him?

This is so fun,
Enjoying the time of my life!
Great food, friends, and family.
But is he liking it?
My new husband?

Let's live today,
always better than the "last."

Courtney

The Dad

My daughter just got married.
Hopefully this marriage we arranged
makes me money.
The groom is very mysterious
and my daughter doesn't seem
so happy about this.
She's been so much trouble
since she became a teen.
But I'm thinking about grandkids.
The thought makes me shiver.
Spending more and more money. . .

Oh, I admit it.
I'm obsessed with money.
This wedding cost a fortune,

but my wife wouldn't have it
any other way.

I bought some cheap
rotten fruit for the pies,
and by tomorrow
everyone's gonna be sick.

I hope my son-in-law
can repay me for this.

Grace

The Groom

This is a joyous celebration of my marriage.
Surrounded by friends and family.
My words are joyous and my mind content.
The woman I married is beautiful
and I hope happy.
As the bagpipes play my favorite tune,
I think of all the nervousness
that I can't help but feel.
What if this marriage is not long-lasting?
What if my looks do not appeal to her?
And what if she didn't like me and never will?
Let's hope the wonderful music
is a good omen for a good life.

Avri

The Mom

Tonight has been amazing.
It's reminding me of my wedding—
the laughing, the tears, the smiles.
I enjoy seeing my new son-in-law
having fun and socializing.
But it's getting kind of hard,
because every time I look
to my left I see my lovely
daughter drenched in sorrow.
It pains me to see her so

depressed on one of the biggest
nights of her life.

I wish she would chin up
and enjoy the night.

I know it's unfair
to pick who she has to marry,
but I hope she realizes
we know best for her,
and he's a very wealthy man.
So she really needs to realize
her future is basically made
and all set for her.

I just hope she
comes to her senses soon. . .

Kelsey

The Dad

Tonight is a good night.
My daughter is getting married.
Man, I hope the food is good.
I paid good money for it.
Everybody is saying that
I look like George Washington.
I wonder if I really do.
I wonder if I could lead
the army like George Washington.
I hope my daughter likes
who she is marrying.

I actually don't care
about the wedding.
I care about the pie.
I love this pie.
I've had like two pies.
It's awesome.

Tyler

The Dog

Give me some food.
I am hungry.
I am tired of sitting here.
Will you take me for a walk?
Let me outside.
I have to go to the bathroom.
Woof, woof. Shhhh.
Fine, I will go outside by myself.

I'm back.
Woof, woof.
I am going to take some food off the table.

So I did and
what are you going to do about it?

Miah

Server

I was excited to be offered
to be a server but it's getting tiring.
Now I'm in really bad shape.
My arms hurt from carrying the pies
and my legs burn.
I have blisters on my hands from the handle.
I can't believe these people can eat this much.
And I feel bad for the bride.
She didn't want to marry the man
her Mom and Dad made her marry.
She's going to be in for a big surprise
when she finds out her new husband is a drunk.

I wish I never accepted to be a server.
I want to go home and take a hot bath
and go to bed and the worse part is
I don't even get to eat any pie!
I'm only getting paid 2¢.
That's only enough for a loaf of bread.
This is the worse wedding ever.
All the men are rude and smell
like beer and cigarettes.
I can't wait to go home.

Sarah

Bagpiper

This is fun.
I am really good at this. . .
I wonder how much I am getting paid.
If I don't get paid a lot
I am going to get this person arrested. . .
Well, I am going to keep on playing.
Or maybe I will go sneak over
And take some pie.
Oh, it really looks good.
I am so hungry I need to stop eyeballing
that good looking pie
or it will make me hungry
and if I get hungry and
don't have any pie I might die. . .(gasp.)

I don't think the bride is very happy
and I don't care.

Bring on the pie .
(Mmmm) good!

Tanner

Drunk Guy

I feel weird and dizzy.
Not feeling good at all.
Hope it is better at the end
than it was in the beginning.
Sleepy and not feeling good at all.
Thinking why did I drink today.
Being mean to everybody.
Not aware of what I'm doing.

Nick

The Guy Next to Drunk Guy

Nobody can see my face.
I'm wearing a red hat.
I'm also wearing a brown coat.
Gosh, this guy keeps bumping me.
I'm getting so annoyed.
I hope he doesn't vomit on me.
That would be gross.
He looks like he just wants to hurt him.
I think that the drunk guy
will drink all the wine
and eat the pies.
Then he'll get wasted.

I think that I will just go to sleep
right now on the bench
right in my glass of wine
and bowl of pie.
This is one good pie and wine.
I hope they serve more before I am full.
I am in the mood for more
wine and some more pies.

Brittany

Drunk Guy

This is some mighty fine wine.
I wonder what type it is.
I might get up and ask but I don't think I'd make it.
I'm shouting to the bartender.
Send me twenty more cases.
I'll pay for all this drinking in the morning
with a huge hangover—head gone pounding.

But the wine's so fine, everything's so jolly.
Not a thing's gonna stop me,
and as I look at this bride—so serious—
And this groom—so happy—
everything seems like it's slipping away.
I'm yelling so loud the guy next to me
Is edging away.
Oops. Here's come the guards.
It's time to go.

Johnathon

Server

I work all day serving pies.
I hear chocolate over here
And banana cream over there.
I never get a break.
My arms are tired from carrying the trays,
and my legs are tired of running
from one side of the room to the other.
I have to go to the bathroom
and I'm starving.
I wish this peasant wedding would be over.

--Regan

I'm a Little Kid Eating Pie

I'm a little kid that is sitting on the floor.
It's not because I can't sit at the table.
It's just I chose not to
and my mother doesn't want me to annoy her.
So I'm here by myself,
no one to talk, play and sit by.
Just me by myself eating pie.
And no one is trying to stop me.
And my mother is not even telling me
to eat with a spoon.

Tabitha

Bag Piper

Whew, doggy.
I'm wondering when I'm going to get paid.
Good thing I'm stuffing pockets.
Good no one saw me.
It is one of the better weddings.
Everybody is doing well.
The tables aren't broken.
The bride is kind of cute.
Crap, I missed a note.
Good, no one noticed.
I know it's going to get worse.
Whoa, doggy!!

P.S. Oh, look at the bride.

Brent

Dog

Tonight is a good night.
There is pie, pie, pie!
I've been waiting for this for a while.
There's a guy.
He just went to hit on this girl.
He left his pie.
I wanted to jump up on the table
But I can't.
Yes, no, yes, no.
Here comes the guy.
I wish I got the pie.
And did I mention the guy
was drunk and had a wife?
Oh, I wish I had pie.

Nick

The Drunk Guy

This is a great wedding.
The bride doesn't look too sure about herself.

The groom looks like he's having loads of fun.
The pie is so delicious I could eat so much of it.
Thinking about delicious, their wine is amazing.
I may have had a wee little bit too much, though.
The girl next to me is gulping down the pie.
While she was in between bites,
She looked at me very oddly like I was weird.
I just had a lot of wine.
I'm enjoying myself. So what?
So that lady looked at me weird again.
So I told her—I swear—too drunk,
"I'm not God."
Then she looked at me very, very oddly.

Clay

The Porter

This smells good.
I need to drink some of the wine.
Hope this is almost done soon.
My arm is getting tired.
I want to go home.
I've been here all day
and I need a nap.
I am hungry for food.
They are having fun
and I am pouring drinks
for everyone else.
It is hot in here.
I have more wine
on the floor
than in the pail.

Grant

Cop in the Back

Oh, dear, this is out of control!
There are so many drunk people!
I'd need 350 pairs of cuffs!
They're so drunk
that they'd try to eat a door.

I better congratulate
the groom and bride.

Oh, my, someone had
35 bottles of wine!
That wine looks good.
I'd better "inspect" the wine's taste.

Spencer

Julien

Wow! What a beautiful wedding.
There's wonderful music
and the place is so big.
Wait. . .who's the bride?
And does the bride know
who she is getting married to?
I'm getting kind of tired.
I see the pies over there and
oh, my, they look good.
The cup in front of me is empty
and I want more but
I don't want to make the servants
feel like they are doing all the work.
Wow. I can't wait for the pie.
But wow, what a beautiful wedding.

Kayla

The Bartender

We're going to run out of wine the way this is going.
I can't wait to get my wages after the party.
The bride's dad is going to faint when he sees the bill.
Three ales, 2 wines, 5 beers.
My arms are getting tired.
I've been pouring for 5 hours.
Seeing all that ale is making me thirsty.
I'll have one little sip, *glug, glug, glug*. . .
Ahh, that hit the spot.
Whoa! This jug's getting heavy.

Crash! I'm going to get it for that one.
Hey, that kid's way too young to be dinking that much.
He'll regret it in the morning.
5 wines, 6 beers, 7 ales got it.
This sure is one noisy party.
Probably the drunk's over there.
That bride doesn't look too happy.
Hhhhhh! I'm tired.
I might take a nap.

Eric

The Pie Eater

I am so hungry.
I am so hungry
because I am eating away
my feelings because
I don't want to show them.
But my true feelings are
I love this pie.
It is so soft and yummy
for my tummy.
These servants are jerks.
I might throw a pie
in their faces.
I'm going to.
I'm going to.
Never mind.
It will start a food fight
and that would be too messy
and it would get my clothes
all dirty. That would
not be good. Plus,
this is a brand new hat.
It's a Shanteel #5.
It cost about \$2.00
Well, this is fun
so I'm not going to ruin it.
So I'm done.

Sonia

The Dog

Oh, boy! Oh, boy! Oh, boy!
There's food!
Oh, boy! Ooo, someone just dropped some!
Yummy! Yummy! Yum!
Oh, come on, drunk dude!
Drop some already!
Food, food, food!
I'm hungry!
Come on! Drop some food!
Can't any one see me down here begging?
Don't make me jump up there!
1-2-3. Oh, boy!
Someone dropped food!
Yum! Yum! Yum! Yum!
What was that?
Pie! Yum! More food!
Oh, I'll start begging more!
Watch out, people, 'cause the puppy face is coming through.
Oh, boy! Someone dropped food.
Was that pie?
Who cares? It's food.
Yum! Yum! Yum!
Oh! The drunk dude dropped wine or pie.
Yum! Yum! Yum!
Oh, boy, I'm full . . .

Lizzy

The Wine Pourer

I wish this was my wedding.
I have some friends here
but not all friends.
I wish I could be the groom.
I wonder. . .
Are there shifts?
Will I switch with anyone?
If I would be the groom,
I don't think that I would

marry the bride.
I don't think she's that pretty,
but she's fine for the groom,
I guess. When am I going
To quit this job and
go on to the next?
Will these people
Get any drunker?
I wonder what the father paid.

Oh, I almost forgot
more importantly
when and what am I
going to get paid.
I can't wait until
this wedding is over.

Cody

Servant

Ugg,
Why did I agree to do this wedding?
I mean they have eaten so many pies already.
Why do they need more?
I think I'm going to stuff it in their faces.
I'm going to do it. I'm going to do it.
No, I'm not. I'll get fired.
The same guy has eaten like ten pies.
The bride doesn't even look happy.
Why don't they call it off?
I wish they never had the stupid thing.
I'm getting tired of looking
At this guy but he needs to
Pull up his pants.
At least it's not like the last—
The guy didn't wear a belt.
I can't get the guy out of my head.
I have been having nightmares,
And this hat is making me itch so bad.
The only reason I do these things
is to get away from my wife.
I feel sorry for all the guys
who are getting married.

But I give up.
I'm not going to do anymore of these.
That's it. I mean it.

P.S. He's grabbing another pie.

Mathew