

# Small Wonders

## The Meeting

***Stern the Owl and Percy the Possum call a meeting to ask Blox to leave.***

**Lesson Link: Love should drive everything we do.** It's easy to dislike strangers or people who inconvenience us, but God wants us to love others as he loves us. Sometimes, the person who seems to be causing us trouble is being used by God to teach us about grace and mercy.

Stern the Owl and Percy the Possum were unhappy. For over a week, Stern was living with Percy in the attic of the shed because Blox the Giant had trampled Stern's home.

"Something must be done about Blox," Percy said.

"Time for a *meeting*," Stern suggested very seriously.

Percy nodded, speaking just as seriously. "Yes. A meeting. With agendas and minuets and old business and new business."

"Or, we should talk about what to do with Blox," Stern said.

"And that," Percy said.

Stern flew off to arrange the meeting with Granna the Rabbit.

Granna sadly agreed that they should meet, but very quietly.

Blox, who could see most things because he was so tall, saw them all going somewhere.

"Where is everyone going?" Blox asked Percy, who happened to be passing by.

"A *members only club*," said Percy.

Blox didn't know what that was, so he sat in the park alone.

Percy saw a white bird sitting on Granna's picket fence and shooed it away. "Members only," he said to the bird.



Granna served tea and cake. Stern led the meeting because he had called it.

"I will take the *minuets*," Percy said, then licked the tip of a pencil he was holding over a piece of paper. "*Minuets*, as you know, are a very important record of who said what and why and what was concluded."

"*Minutes*," Granna corrected him.

"Maybe in some parts of the country," Percy said. Here is what he wrote:

### *Meeting to Discuss What to Do with Blox*

*Leader: Stern the Owl*

*Minuets by Persnickety the Possum, Esq.*

*Participants invited to list their complaints.*

*Stern (went first because he is leader): Blox asks too many questions. Examples: What is this? Where did that come from? Why do you do that? How did that get there? What is four plus seven?*

*Overbite (Beaver): Blox went for a swim in the stream; flooded all of the banks. Washed away part of the dam.*

*Pinnetti (Puppet): Blox stepped on vegetable garden. Ruined radishes.*

*Pencil-Neck (Brockio – Brochio-): Blox knocked down four of his favorite trees.*

*Brambles (Porcupine): Blox kicked log she lives in; spilled hot chocolate.*

*Kevin (Duck): Most of his friends flying south earlier than usual.*

*Tell-Tale (Rodent): Objects; feels sorry for him.*

*Trifles (Kitten): Excited to have a real giant so close. Distracted by a spider on the wall.*

*Stout (Pig): In favor of Blox because footprints give him mud puddles to jump into.*

*Motion made by Stern as follows: Blox to be told to leave.*

*Granna took the floor because it was hers. Note on use of bullying by Granna the Rabbit: she twitched her whiskers in that way she does when she is disappointed in us.*

*Granna reminded meeting that Blox doesn't know where he came from or how to get back.*

*Granna: "When Blox first came, I told him that everything here fits. There's a reason for everything."*

*Brambles pointed out that Blox doesn't fit because he is a giant and we are not.*

*Granna posed trick question: "Why is Blox here? He's here because the Toymaker wants him here."*

*Note: Silence from participants*

*Granna: "Why does the Toymaker want him here? Maybe he's here to teach us something. Maybe the something he's here to teach us is how to show love to someone we have a hard time loving." Conclusive statement from Granna: "Everything we do is supposed to show love the way the Toymaker shows love to us."*

*Vote taken to ask Blox to leave Kind Garden.*

*Eyes: 7*

*Neighs: 7*

*Note: Liszt the Lion was present but asleep.*

*Tie Vote broken by Stern the Owl: voted for "Eyes."*

*Note: Granna's whiskers twitched a lot!*

The meeting ended and the Toys left. Only after did Stern and Percy realize they hadn't voted on *who* would tell Blox to leave.

They were arguing about it when they came to the park. Blox was still sitting there. He said, "Hello, Stern the Owl. I have a present for you."

"For me?" Stern asked, surprised. "What is it?"

Blox reached behind his massive back and brought out Stern the Owl's home. He sat it in front of Stern.

Stern's beak fell open. Blox had bent the cage back into shape, fixed the wires on the cage, repaired the wall so that it looked better than before, and put all of Stern's things in place again.

"I'm sorry I wrecked it when I was lost," Blox said.

Stern the Owl was speechless. He stammered a quick "thank you" to Blox and whispered to Percy, "Call everyone back!" then flew back to Granna's cottage.

### *EMERGENCY Meeting*

*Leader: Stern the Owl*

*Minuets by Persnickety the Possum, Esq.*

*Stern the Owl changed his vote to "Neigh"*

*Motion defeated to make Blox leave the Kind Garden.*

Granna's whiskers didn't twitch anymore.

### **Questions:**

1. **Why did the Toys vote for Blox to leave the Garden?** (He had broken a lot of things. He was different, and they didn't like that.)
2. **Why did Stern the Owl change his mind?** (Blox found and fixed his house. Stern realized Blox wanted to fix what he had broken.)