

A Bicycle Built for Two

by:- Carolyn Wells

SUBJECT : (English)

CHAPTER NUMBER: 4

CHAPTER NAME : A Bicycle Built for Two

CHANGING YOUR TOMORROW

About the Poet

Carolyn Wells

Carolyn Wells was born on June 18, 1862, in Rahway, New Jersey. A highly prolific writer, she was known for her children's stories, mystery novels, and humorous verse. Her books include ***A Nonsense Anthology*** (Scribner's Sons, 1902) and ***The Book of Humorous Verse*** (George H. Doran, 1920). She died in New York City on March 26, 1942. She was 79 years old.



Theme of the Poem

The poem throws light on the longing of an eel to ride a bicycle. It is determined to ride on a wheel. It tries really hard, however does not get success. In order to ride the bicycle it makes multiple efforts, however, is not able to ride the bicycle properly. It manages to sit on the seat of the bicycle but cannot hit both the pedals of the bicycle as he cannot sit astride.

Later, he tries to jump and hangs itself over the top of the bicycle. Then it faces another issue i.e. it keeps on riding nevertheless it cannot stop now. Another problem is how it would steer the bicycle. Chances are it might flop.

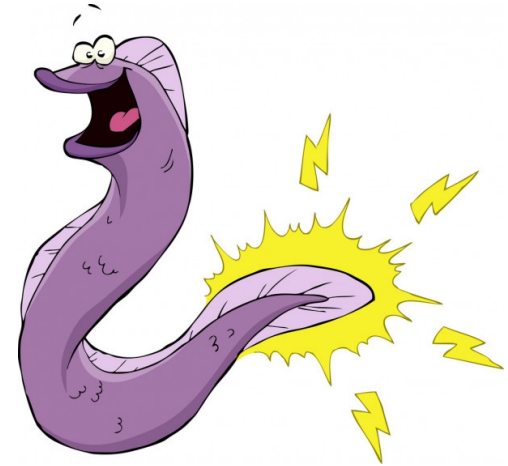
In the meantime, there is another eel who was also the neighbour of the first eel. It observing this humorous affair and suggested a brilliant idea. It proposed that both of them will fasten their waists with a bottle green belt and strap it firmly. Thereafter, they will hop on over the seat and squirm so that they both can paddle using their tails and ride the bicycle.

And there they were, all set to live their dream and ride the bicycle as they longed in the beginning of the poem.



Recitation of the Poem.

There was an ambitious young eel
Who determined to ride on a wheel;
But try as he might,
He couldn't ride right,
In spite of his ardor and zeal.



Summary : The poem describes the yearning of an eel to ride a bicycle. He is resolved to ride on a wheel. Despite its efforts, the eel faces problem to ride the bicycle. To ride the bicycle, it puts forth a few attempts, nonetheless, can't ride the bicycle at all.



If he sat on the saddle to ride
His tail only pedalled one side;
And I'm sure you'll admit
That an eel couldn't sit
On a bicycle saddle astride.



Summary : After several attempts, It figures out how to sit on the seat of the bicycle, yet can't hit both the pedals of the bicycle as it can't sit with one leg on each side of the bicycle.

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