

(To be happy....)

Shake it off and take a step up...

One day a farmer's donkey fell down into a well. The animal cried piteously for hours as the farmer tried to figure out what to do.

Finally, he decided the animal was old and the well needed to be covered up anyway, it just wasn't worth it to retrieve the donkey.

He invited all his neighbors to come over and help him. They all grabbed a shovel and began to shovel dirt into the well.

At first, the donkey realized what was happening and cried horribly. Then, to everyone's amazement, he quieted down. A few shovels later, the farmer finally looked down in the well and was astonished at what he saw.

With every shovel of dirt that hit his back, the donkey was doing something amazing. He would shake it off and take a step up. As the farmer's neighbors continued to shovel dirt on top of the animal, he would shake it off and take a step up. Pretty soon, everyone was amazed as the donkey stepped up over the edge of the well and trotted off.

Life is going to shovel dirt on you, all kinds of dirt. The trick to getting out from under the dirt (or out of the well) is to shake it off and take a step up. Each of our troubles is like a stepping stone. We can get out of the deepest wells just by not stopping and never giving up!

Come on! Shake it off and take a step up!

Remember these five simple rules to be happy:

- 1) free your heart of hatred
- 2) free your mind from worries
- 3) live simply
- 4) give more
- 5) expect less