

The Eagle and the Pitcher: A Fable on the Right to Vote

It was a scorching day, and it seemed as if the sun could not be squelched by any cloud, no matter the size. The desolate landscape consisted of a scraggly undersized couple of trees and a vast sea of dry Bermuda grass. A few perched birds were soaring high above the ground, scavenging for any sign of water.

One bird in particular I wish to point out to you. It is Mister Eagle. You can recognize him by his sleek brown coat, beautiful white head, and sharp as well as yellow beak and talons. Along with his handsome features, he also has notable qualities and many virtues. He is just and brave and when others need help, the answer is simple: go to Mister Eagle.

Now, the problem is that Mister Eagle is in trouble himself, for with July comes a usual dry spell, and Mister Eagle and his friends are desperately thirsty.

As Mister Eagle flew around looking for even a droplet of water, he came into view of a small, old gnarled tree. Exhausted, Mister Eagle swooped down and perched on a branch. Happening to glance down he caught a glimpse of a vase-like object. Curious, Mister Eagle flapped to the ground and found, to his surprise, a terra-cotta pitcher with a few tiny designs etched on it. He peered into it, and it seemed too good to be true-- water!

Mister Eagle tried to reach his beak into the slender neck of the vase. He could have died of disappointment, for alas, his beak was too broad to be able to drink any of the water.

Mister Eagle sat on the bare ground under the tree for a long time, trying to think of a solution. But nothing worked. Then, an idea popped into his head! He went to work as quickly as he could, dropping big, grey stones, small, black stones, rough, brown pebbles and smooth orange ones into the water. Slowly but surely the water rose!

Mister Eagle sipped the cool water, leisurely, and said with a contented sigh, "Ah, the effort to pick up every single stone was needed, and no stone was wasted."

This retelling of a beloved fable by Aesop creates a picture of the importance of the right to vote. Mister Eagle, symbolizing America, drops different kinds of pebbles, representing the right for all to vote, into the pitcher. Every pebble is needed to help the water, symbolizing the candidates, to rise and refresh the Eagle. Since we have the right to vote, we can help leaders that we think will keep the Union strong and healthy rise to serve America.