Name	Date

The Bremen Town Band

A donkey, a dog, a cat, and a rooster were on their way to Bremen to join the Bremen Town Band. They journeyed until the sun was completely gone and the sky was totally dark.

"Look," the cat called out to her friends, "I see a light up ahead through the trees, so we must be getting close!"

As they quietly crept through the woods, the light grew brighter and brighter. Soon the animals came to a small cabin in a clearing, but only the donkey was tall enough to see in through the window. "There are two men fast asleep," he whispered. "And I see bread, cheese, and meat on the table."

The four animals put their heads together and tried to think of a way to get inside. Their stomachs were grumbling and they couldn't get their minds off the food on the other side of the window. However, they didn't know that the two men inside were thieves hiding from the police.

"Let's not forget that we're musicians," the donkey said. "So let's earn our food with a performance." The others nodded in agreement. "Dog," said the donkey, "you can climb up on my back. Cat, you hoist yourself on the dog's shoulders. Rooster, you can perch on Cat's head at the very top."

As soon as the animals climbed into position, they began to teeter and wobble. Then, one by one, the animals raised their voices. The donkey brayed, the dog howled, the cat meowed, and the rooster crowed. It was truly a terrible sound.

The two men inside the cabin sprang up from the table. Suddenly, glass shattered as all the animals tumbled into the kitchen and the two terrified robbers ran for the door. They were sure that a monster had crashed in through the window! The two men never returned to the cabin, and the animals never reached Bremen. Instead, they stayed in the house for a long time, and every meal they had was delicious.

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