

HANDOUT 3

“The Poor Hungry Wolf” by Adam Zodrow

Adapted from Aesop's A Wolf in Sheep's Clothing

There once was a poor wolf starving in the wilderness. Just beyond the forest where he roamed was a beautiful open field full of green grasses, wildflowers, and more importantly, a herd of sheep. The wolf wanted nothing more than to feast on one of these sheep, not because he had anything against the sheep, but because he was a wolf and wolves needed meat to survive.

It should have been an easy task for the wolf to prey upon the sheep, but this was where the wolf always ran into terrible misfortune. A shepherd and his trusty dog zealously guarded the herd. Any time the wolf would venture out of the forest the shepherd's dog would begin barking and raising quite a stir, alerting the shepherd that the wolf was approaching. And like always, the wolf would find himself dashing back into the forest with his head lowered as to escape the bullets flying overhead. The wolf's life went on this way day in and day out, forcing him to eat small rodents and berries from the forest. This was hardly the meal that a mighty wolf needed to sustain himself.

Finally, when the wolf's hunger pains had grown almost unbearable, he devised a plan. He knew that once every season the shepherd would shear his sheep and use their wool to spin fine sweaters and scarves. The wolf watched from the forest as the shepherd sheared his sheep, and late that night the wolf crept in and stole a bundle of the discarded wool.

The next morning the wolf draped the wool over his own gray fur and strolled quite easily out of the woods among the herd of sheep as they lay basking in the morning sun. He whispered gently in the ear of one plump little sheep and convinced him to come find shade in the forest. There in the shadow of the woods the wolf finally enjoyed the meal for which he had so diligently worked.