

THE ANT AND THE GRASSHOPPER

This one is a little different.... Two Different Versions.... Two Different Morals



OLD VERSION

The **ant** works hard in the withering heat all summer long, building his house and laying up supplies for the winter.

The **grasshopper** thinks the **ant** is a fool and laughs and dances and plays the summer away.

Come winter, the **ant** is warm and well fed.

The **grasshopper** has no food or shelter, so he dies out in the cold.

MORAL OF THE STORY: Be responsible for yourself!

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### MODERN VERSION

The **ant** works hard in the withering heat and the rain all summer long, building his house and laying up supplies for the winter.

The **grasshopper** thinks the **ant** is a fool and laughs and dances and plays the summer away.

Come winter, the shivering **grasshopper** calls a press conference and demands to know why the **ant** should be allowed to be warm and well fed while he is cold and starving.

**Channels 7, 9 and 10, the ABC and SBS** show up to provide pictures of the shivering **grasshopper** next to a video of the **ant** in his comfortable home with a table filled with food.

**Australia is stunned by the sharp contrast.**

How can this be, that in a country of such wealth, this poor **grasshopper** is allowed to suffer so?

**Kermit the Frog** appears on **Oprah** with the **grasshopper** and everybody cries when they sing, 'It's Not Easy Being Green.'

**Acorn** stages a demonstration in front of the **ant's** house where the news stations film the

group singing, '**We shall overcome.**' **Cardinal George Pell** then has the group kneel down to pray to God for the **grasshopper's** sake.

**Prime Minister Rudd** condemns the **ant** and blames **John Howard, Robert Menzies, Capt James Cook, and the Pope** for the **grasshopper's** plight.

**Bob Brown** exclaims in an interview on Today Tonight that the **ant** has gotten rich off the back of the **grasshopper**, and calls for an immediate tax hike on the **ant** to make him pay his fair share.

Finally, Labor in conjunction with the Greens draft the **Economic Equity & Anti-Grasshopper Act** retroactive to the beginning of the summer.

The **ant** is fined for failing to hire a proportionate number of **green bugs** and, having nothing left to pay his retroactive taxes, his home is confiscated by the **Government** and given to the **grasshopper**.

The story ends as we see the **grasshopper** and his free-loading friends finishing up the last bits of the **ant's** food while the government house he is in, which, as you recall, just happens to be the **ant's** old house, crumbles around them because the **grasshopper** doesn't maintain it.

The **ant** has disappeared in the snow, never to be seen again.

The **grasshopper** is found dead in a drug related incident, and the house, now abandoned, is taken over by a gang of **spiders** who terrorize the ramshackle, once prosperous and once peaceful, neighbourhood.

**MORAL OF THE STORY: Be careful how you vote in 2011.**