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Fiction Parody: The Lion and the Mouse

For this paper, the book by Jerry Pinkney, *The Lion and the Mouse* analysis forms an example of parody as a genre. The book is in the genre of children's picture book. A parody is a piece of literary work that satirizes a serious piece of work. In his book, Pinkney retells the fable from Aesop's work in a humorous way, using pictures and sounds made by different animals. The story utilizes stereotypes to satirize the characters. The story's setting is the jungle of Africa, and main characters include the Lion and the mouse.

The lion is believed to be the king of the jungle and kings are assumed to be mighty and independent. The mouse was used to represent the weak. The mouse escapes from being eaten by a hungry owl, only to end up in the claws of a huge lion. The lion caught the mouse, but instead of eating up, he decided to set it free. One day, the lion was trapped by ropes, set up by poachers. All the other animals of the jungle feared to help him, especially those preyed upon by the lion. In the end, the mouse freed by the lion saves him, who nibbled on the ropes until the lion was free. The book concludes with a picture showing the lion, his mate, and cubs walking in the savanna, with the mouse and his family safely seated on the lion's back (Pinkney 40).

In my point of view, the Pinkney simplifies the work of Aesop. By way of drawings, he clearly elaborates the attributes of the main characters in the book. His style makes sure that the

readers of the book get the underlying message being sent by the main characters. I in particular as a reader was able to decipher that no matter how small or big a character is, what important is the need for helping each other in times of need.

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Works Cited

Pinkney, Jerry. *The Lion & the Mouse*. Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, 2009.

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