



# How The Grinch Stole Fairness

*A cautionary tale with apologies to Dr. Suess (Theodore Geisel)*



Every Teacher  
Down in School-ville  
Liked Fairness a lot...  
But the Grinch,

Who lived just North of School-ville, did NOT!

The Grinch hated fairness! The whole fairness issue!  
Now, please don't ask why. No one quite has a clue.  
It could be that her head wasn't screwed on quite right.  
It could be, perhaps, that her shoes were too tight.  
But I think that the most likely reason of all  
May have been that her wallet was two sizes too small.

But, whatever the reason, her wallet or features  
She stood with the members, not trusting the teachers,  
Staring down from her office with a sour, Grinchy gloom  
At the warm lighted windows below in each room.  
Even though she knew every teacher down in School-ville below  
Was busy now, making Common Core curriculum grow.

"They're asking for more money!" she snarled with a sneer.  
"The state's economy is growing! That much is clear."  
Then she growled, with her Grinch fingers nervously drumming,  
"I MUST find a way to keep a salary increase from coming!"

For soon they'd do something she liked least of all!  
Every teacher down in School-ville, the tall and the small,  
Would all come together, with picket signs grating.  
They'd stand hand-in-hand and begin demonstrating!

I MUST stop the salary increase from coming! ...But HOW?"  
Then she got an idea! An awful idea!  
THE GRINCH GOT A WONDERFUL, AWFUL IDEA!

"I know just what to do!" The Grinch laughed in her throat.  
And she made a quick Friendly Claus hat and a coat.  
And she chuckled, and clucked, "What a great Grinchy trend!  
"With this coat and this hat, I'll look just like a friend!"

As the Grinch grabbed the suit and she started to go  
She heard a small sound like her conscience you know.  
She turned around fast, and she saw a new teacher!  
A temporary one who lacked rights - poor creature.

The Grinch had been caught by this hard working school daughter  
Who'd come from her class for a cup of cold water.  
She stared at the Grinch and said, "Friendly Claus, why,  
"Why are you spending our salary increase? WHY?"

But, you know, that old Grinch was so smart and so slick  
She thought up a lie, and she thought it up quick!  
"Why, my sweet little teacher," the fake Friendly Claus lied,

"The mandated costs are very high on my side.  
"So I'm putting it in the general fund, my dear.  
"I'll use it up there, then I'll bargain back here."

And her fib fooled the teacher as she tried not to smirk  
So she got her a drink and sent her to work.  
And when the new teacher was back in class with her cup,  
The Grinch adjusted the budget and spent the raise up!

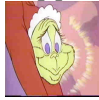
"Pooh-pooh to the teachers!" she was Grinch-ish-ly humming.  
"They're finding out now that no raise is coming!  
They're getting together! I know just what they'll do!  
They'll yell and they'll scream for a minute or two  
Then the teachers down in School-ville will all cry BOO-HOO!"

"That's a noise," grinned the Grinch, "that I simply must hear!"  
So she paused, and the Grinch put a hand to her ear.  
And she did hear a sound rising over the land.  
It started in low, but was becoming quite grand.

But the sound wasn't sad! Why, it sounded delighted!  
Could it be that the teachers were becoming united?  
She stared down at School-ville! The Grinch popped her eyes!  
Then she shook! What she saw was a shocking surprise!

Every teacher down in School-ville, the tall and the small,  
Was supporting their union! Without any presents at all!  
She HADN'T stopped Fairness from coming! IT CAME!  
Somehow or other, it came just the same!

And what happened then...?



Well...in School-ville they say  
That the Grinch's small wallet grew three sizes that day!  
And the minute her wallet didn't feel quite so tight,  
She whizzed with a salary increase through the bright morning light  
And she brought back the money! And left benefits for real!  
And she... SHE HERSELF...! The Grinch, signed the new deal!

*Adapted by B. "Max" Wheatley*  
(What can I say? I'm a sucker for happy endings)

