



days at
Dunrovin

March, 2019

Dunrovin's Donkey DIVAS



Miss Maude

Miss Gertie

The DIVAS Dish - Animal Advice from the Wise Asses

Pulling Their Weight



Dear Ladies,

Since the busy season is almost upon us—and by “us,” I mean Captain Clark and me—we are politely offering a suggestion. Is it too much to ask that you “divas” step up and pull your weight around here? Earn your keep? It’s not hard. Just let yourselves be “trained” and come when you’re called. Beg to interact with humans. You know, horse stuff.

The point is that you two demand an awful lot of attention for not bringing much to the table. It’s “diva this” and “diva that” all year long. You bray like foghorns and eat like it’s your last meal on earth. Those behaviors don’t justify your high ranking at Dunrovin. Yours is not an actual job, and it in no way holds a candle to what Captain Clark and I do to earn our room and board.

We walk kids around and around the arena nearly every day, rain or shine, but we rarely hear “Captain this” or “Captain that.” We could easily get more attention by opening our gates at inopportune times or by being earth-shatteringly loud at mealtimes. Our namesakes were men of great dignity, bravery, and resolve. That is the status to which we aspire, not to be common celebrities with nothing to hang a hat on.

One more thing. Will you please lower your voices? Your brays, although music to the ears of your fans, disturb the zen-like calmness we strive to cultivate.

We mean no disrespect and hope we can continue to be a tightly knit herd.

Your soon-to-be coworkers,

Captain Lewis & Captain Clark “The Captains”



Dear Captains,

You obviously live up to your namesakes and feel most at home exploring the wilderness, where culture and civilization are nonexistent. Your inability to see value in work other than the brute physical exertion needed to pull a cart or carry young riders says far more about you and your limited perspective than it does about us and the enormous effort we put forth in making our many fans happy.

Rather than taking offense, as the less magnanimous would surely do, we DIVAS will focus on the plea so apparent in your letter. Simply put, you want more attention. You don't know how to go about getting it. You see that WE have it. You want our advice on how to get it.

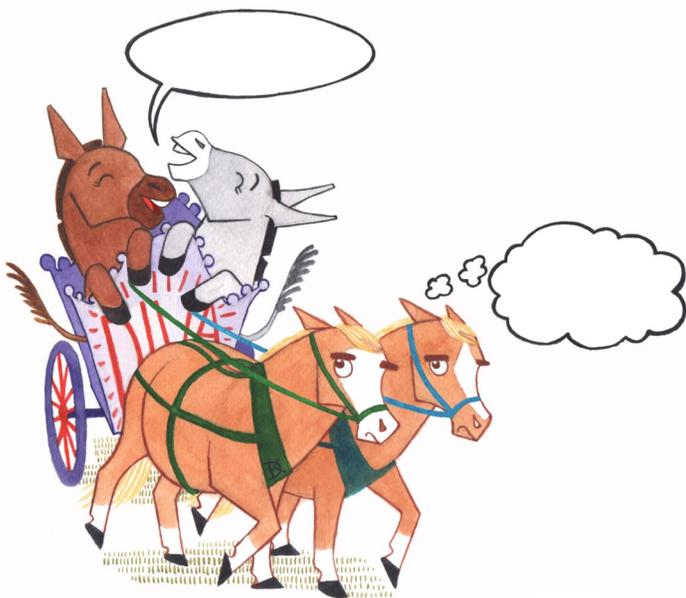
The DIVAS occasionally offer pro-bono branding and marketing services to those wanting to change their situation. We also recognize the need for decorum with respect to your privacy. The Dunrovin barnyard can be a hot bed of gossip (to which we NEVER contribute), so you can be assured we will use great discretion. No one will be the wiser.

You might start by embracing the lovely blue and green colors Dunrovin has attached to your harnesses to mark your individuality. Blue and green are, after all, the colors most associated with "blue-collar" work and "environmentally conscious" endeavors. (Perhaps you should realize not all beings are fit to wear the red and purple of royalty.) You should then work with our farrier to fashion some signature stamps from your hooves. These are a must for anyone corresponding with leagues of admirers. Individually signing letters and publicity photos is something only amateur celebrities do. Set yourselves up as professionals from the beginning.

Once you have demonstrated your commitment to this correspondence course in "the art of becoming a celebrity" by completing the above tasks, do write again for your next assignment. We shall soon have your lives upended by adoring fans. It is then that you will recognize the value of the hard work that we routinely do.

Yours in working comradeship, *Miss Gertie Miss Maude*

Caption Contest



Email caption suggestions and animal letters to DunrovinDivas@gmail.com

Identify suggested captions by month and year of contest: March 2019

Selected entries will be published in future issues.