Fiction II
03/19/2012

**Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Class: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Instructions: Read each question carefully and select the correct answer.**

 Approximately twenty feet away, the white wool coats of Farmer Vastaire's sheep glowed like lanterns beneath the moonlight. Jonas Vastaire stared towards the large willow tree in the center of his farmland and cocked his head to the side, letting out a low whistle. Slowly, a large cow moseyed out from beneath the branches and made her way toward the barn. Farmer Vastaire followed after her, humming an unrecognizable tune. Lurking beneath the branches of the willow tree, I uncovered my nostrils as Rinaldy came sliding down the tree trunk.
 "What are the odds that a wandering cow would keep us stuck up in this tree?" He paused, "Any sign of a signal yet?"
 "Not yet, but I'm sure Liam wanted to wait until the coast was absolutely clear," I reasoned, sucking in fresh air.
 Rinaldy nodded and we leaned noiselessly against the tree trunk, our eyes darting between the branches. A few minutes passed before Rinaldy gestured toward the ground as a remote control car zipped by us. The whirring of its tires broke the silence, startling us both.
 "That can't be Liam's brilliant signal! That scared me half to death!"
 "No point arguing about it now, Rinaldy. Just remember the plan— grab the first one you see and run for your life. Let's go."
 We emerged from the branches, darting towards the unsuspecting sheep. I watched as Rinaldy lunged at the one closest to him and grabbed it around its middle. "Come on! Run!"
 Before I could begin to protest, Rinaldy sprinted towards the main road, his arm clutching the struggling animal close to his chest. I caught up with him, gasping for breath and trying to get the words out, "Rinaldy— " I began.
 "Why is this thing wearing a bell?" he asked, his face ashen.
 I tried again, but I could not seem to catch my breath. "Rinaldy, that is not— "
 Liam suddenly emerged from behind a large scarecrow, his remote control car tucked under his arm. "Nice job, gentlemen," he spoke in excited whispers, obviously bustling with the thrill of finally coming up with a foolproof plan to acquire a proper mascot for our school. "I can't wait to see the faces of the Potter Middle School Porcupines when we reveal the Cleveland Middle School Sheep!"
 I gestured half-heartedly toward Rinaldy, who had been trying to silence the clanging bell throughout Liam's pep talk. Finally able to catch my breath, I tried to defend my friend. "He just grabbed the smallest one, Liam and— "
 "That's a goat, you nitwit," Liam shouted, his voice echoing through the empty field that surrounded us.
 "Oh," Rinaldy answered, looking confused. "I kind of wondered why he had no wool like the rest of them."
 The goat shook his head, his bell clanging. The three of looked dejectedly at the ground, wondering what to do next.

 **1.** Where is Rinaldy while Farmer Vastaire is searching for the cow?

 **A.** up in the willow tree

 **B.** down on the ground, beneath the branches of the willow tree

 **C.** hiding behind a large scarecrow near the main road

 **D.** at the Cleveland Middle School

 **2.** Which of the following statements is a fact?

 **A.** Farmer Vastaire's favorite animals are sheep.

 **B.** Rinaldy attends Cleveland Middle School.

 **C.** Liam is a bossy friend.

 **D.** The narrator is not a fast runner.

 **3.** Why does the narrator try to catch up to Rinaldy?

 **A.** The narrator realizes that Rinaldy has grabbed the wrong animal.

 **B.** The narrator is concerned that they are being too loud.

 **C.** The narrator understands that Farmer Vastaire will be angry.

 **D.** The narrator is afraid of being left on the field alone.

 **4.** Which sentence would not belong in the first paragraph?

 **A.** Sleeping among the sheep was a small goat with a bell fastened around his neck.

 **B.** Farmer Vastaire thought he heard noises beneath the willow tree.

 **C.** The tune reminded me of something my mother had sung when I was a little girl.

 **D.** Farmer Vastaire had heard that there was a plot to steal one of his animals, so he was on the lookout.