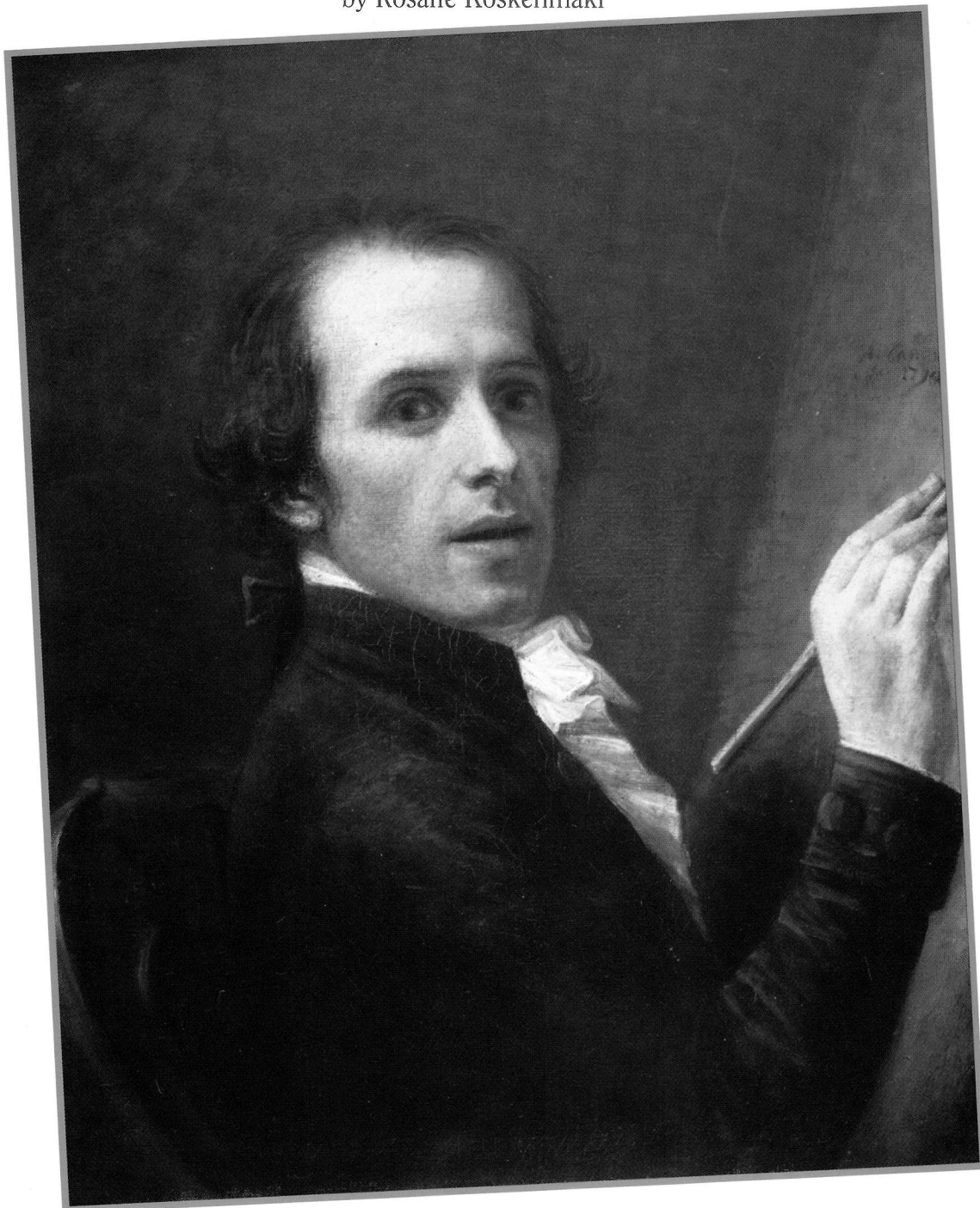


The Boy Who Made a Butter Lion

by Rosalie Koskenmaki



1 Antonio Canova lived in Italy more than two hundred years ago. He lived with his grandfather. Most of the time Antonio's grandfather helped to build houses. But sometimes he worked as a cook in the homes of rich people.

2 One day a rich man was having a big dinner party. Antonio's grandfather helped cook the dinner. Antonio went with him. He liked to watch.

3 The servants showed Antonio a beautiful marble statue. They planned to put it in the middle of the dinner table. It would look very pretty there.

4 Then something terrible happened. A servant bumped into the statue. It fell and broke.

5 "Now what shall we do?" asked the servants.

6 Antonio said, "I'll make a statue for you."

7 The servants thought, *He is just a small boy. What can he do?*

8 But Antonio said, "Bring me a great big tub of hard butter."

9 "Butter!" the servants said. They thought that was a strange thing to ask for. But they brought it to him.

10 "Now," said Antonio, "I need a cool place where I can work."

11 The servants put the butter in a small, cool room not far from the kitchen. Antonio went in and closed the door. Then, with a knife, he began to cut and carve the butter.

12 Antonio stayed in the small room a long time. The servants wondered what was taking him so long.

13 At last he opened the door. When the servants went in, were they surprised! There, on a table, stood a yellow lion. Antonio had carved it out of the butter.

14 The servants put the beautiful lion in the middle of the dinner table. The rich man and his friends liked it.

15 "Who made this wonderful statue?" asked the rich man.

16 The servants told him that Antonio had made it.

17 "But he is just a small boy," said the rich man. "And he makes statues like this? Imagine what he'll make when he grows up!"

18 The rich man sent Antonio to school. Antonio learned to be a sculptor. A sculptor carves statues out of clay, marble, and rock. Antonio Canova became one of the world's great sculptors. But his first statue was the lion made out of butter.



COMPREHENSION

A Choose the best ending for each sentence. Write *a*, *b*, or *c*.

- 1 This story is really about how
a a servant broke a beautiful statue.
b a famous sculptor carved a butter lion.
c a small boy became a sculptor.

- 2 Because the marble statue was broken,
a the servant who bumped into it got into trouble.
b Antonio got a chance to show what he could do.
c Antonio made lots of butter to make a new statue.

- 3 If Antonio had not made a butter lion,
a the rich man wouldn't have sent him to school.

- b** he might have made his grandfather angry.
c there might not have been enough butter for dinner.

- 4 The rich man was surprised because Antonio was too
a young to be a servant.
b thin to eat so much butter.
c young to be so good.

- 5 This story does *not* tell
a why Antonio was at the house.
b where Antonio learned to carve a lion.
c how the rich man felt about the butter statue.

LEARN ABOUT WORDS

B Often you can find out the meaning of a word by seeing how it is used in a story. The other words in the story give you clues.

Find the word in the story that best fits each meaning. (A paragraph number tells you where to look.)

Write the word.

- 1 helpers; household workers (3)
2 stone used in making statues and buildings (3)
3 carved figure (3)
4 open metal or wood pan (8)
5 wished to know (12)

- 6 shaped with a knife (13)
7 remarkable; unusually good (15)
8 picture in your mind (17)

C A word may have more than one meaning. Its meaning will depend on how it is used.

The *fly* buzzed around the room.
The bird will *fly* to its nest.

Look at each word in **bold type**. Note the paragraph number. Look back at the paragraph. Which meaning does the word have there? Write *a* or *b*.



LEARN ABOUT WORDS (continued)

9 look (3)

- a see; observe with the eyes
- b appear; seem

10 hard (8)

- a firm; solid
- b not easy; difficult

THINK ABOUT IT

D Each sentence tells about an important part of the story. Choose the best ending for each sentence. Write *a* or *b*.

- 1 The first important event in this story was
 - a Antonio was born in Italy.
 - b the marble statue was broken.
- 2 Antonio wanted to be by himself
 - a so he could carve the butter.
 - b because he was feeling shy.
- 3 The rich man was amazed by
 - a the amount of butter.
 - b Antonio's skill.
- 4 Antonio carved a statue
 - a because he had nothing to do.
 - b to replace a broken one.
- 5 Antonio was lucky because
 - a the rich man sent him to school.
 - b no one needed any butter.

E sadness = sad + **ness**
thankful = thank + **ful**

The letters *-ness* and *-ful* are called suffixes. A suffix is one or more letters added to the end of a root or base word. Suffixes change the word's meaning. The suffix *-ness* means "state of being." The word *sadness* means "state of being sad." The suffix *-ful* means "full of." The word *thankful* means "full of thanks."

Each word in **bold type** needs a suffix. Choose the correct suffix *-ness* or *-ful*. Write the new word.

- 6 Antonio was a help to the servants. He was **help**_____.
- 7 The servant did not watch where he was going. He was not **watch**_____.
- 8 Antonio wanted his knife to be sharp. Its **sharp**_____ was important in carving butter.
- 9 Antonio showed skill in carving. He was **skill**_____.
- 10 Antonio became great. The world saw his **great**_____.