

#### 4. The Donkey and the Shadow

One very hot day, a tired man rented a donkey to cross the desert.

His face was red. "I'm melting!" he said.

After walking for hours, he got off the donkey and sat in its shadow.

"Ahh... nice and cool," he smiled.

Suddenly, the donkey's owner walked over.

"Hey! Get out of the shadow!" he shouted.

"What? I rented the donkey!" the man said.

"Yes," said the owner. "But you didn't rent the shadow. That costs extra."

"Extra?! You want me to pay for the shade, too?"

"Yes! That's the *Deluxe Desert Package*—donkey and shadow!"

"You've got to be kidding!"

"No! Shade is special!"

Then they started yelling:

"It's my shadow!"

"No, it's mine!"

"You're greedy!"

"You're cheap!"

While they argued, the donkey slowly walked away... chewing desert grass like popcorn.

Five minutes later...

"Wait—where's the donkey?!"

"Where's the shadow?!"

They looked around. Just sand.

"No donkey. No shadow," the man said.

"Nothing at all," the owner sighed.