

**The Beggar's Petition by Thomas Moss**

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The text *The Beggars' Petition* talks of a poor old man who walks around in his tattered clothes and long grey locks. His face is depicted as wrinkled and saddened with his wrinkles being channels for his tears to flow down. He walks into a grand house looking for something to eat, but a servant drove him from the door to some shed. He pleads for humanity and asking to be extended a kind relief, saying heavens brought him the misfortune so why should he regret. He says he had a farm of corns which he woke up to every morning, which he lived with his daughter who was lured away by a villain, now he is cast on the world at his old stage and doomed to roam in poverty.

From the text, the people of Wolverhampton are depicted as cruel and uncaring. First, the residence of the grand house he went to beg would not welcome him. Instead, a servant drove him from the door and took him to some shed. It goes without saying he was not fed as he begged for a little piece of bread. Secondly, his daughter who was to take care of him during his old age abandoned him and ran away with a villain leaving him to fend for himself thus his current state, -'My daughter,-- once the comfort of my age! Lured by a villain from her native home,' the people of Wolverhampton are depicted as a community who do not help their poor and elderly where imagery was used in the text to show the man's old age and poverty, this was done in the lines 2-8 of the text, it was used to create a mental picture of the state of the old man. Despite his old age, we could see that he was still begging for relief.

The text portrays the people of Wolverhampton as selfish and inhuman; this is seen when the poor old man appeals to their humanity and begs for kind relief.

The text also shows a clear divide in the different classes of people in the region. The rich with grand and magnificent housing with servants -'For plenty there a residence has found, And

grandeur a magnificent abode.’ Those leaving in farms and doing different forms of farming like the old man before his daughter abandoned him-‘A little farm is my paternal lot But ah! Oppression forced me from my corn,’ and also the poor and begging as is the state of the old man

The region is seen as a cold region regarding its climate as the author talks about the wind blowing and the piercing cold the old man is feeling-‘Keen blows the wind, and piecing is the cold!’ Personification was employed in expressing how cold the region is by saying piecing is cold.

Generally, the text paints the regions and its people from a negative perspective as they are depicted as mean, uncaring, inhuman and unkind.

I would not recommend the text to someone who doesn’t know the region as they might draw a negative conclusion of the region from one man’s perspective which might or might not be accurate rather than exploring the region and discovering it from their perspective.

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## **Talking Turkey by Benjamin Zephaniah.**

The poem is written in a third person point of view and it talks about how human beings generally feast on turkey on Christmas and being inconsiderate of the turkeys themselves and how they feel about it. It talks about turkeys having a mum and having a right to life. It says instead of eating turkeys we should invite them and share a plate of beans with them and make friends with them for life.

The poem shows the people of wolver Hamptons as festive and fun. This is seen by the fact that they celebrate Christmas with a feast of turkey meat and giving and receiving presents. In another way, they are seen as a community that embraces new traditions as it is said Christmas trees were the symbol of Christmas but it is being slowly taken over by turkeys- 'Who put de turkey in Christmas An what happens to Christmas tree?'

The community is viewed as turkey meat lovers during the Christmas. It is shown that Christmas is celebrated by having a turkey meat meal. The aspect of having turkey for Christmas is viewed as community-based as there are turkey farmers who breeding turkeys for the festive seasons. Humor is used in conveying a message by the turkeys for their dislike of human feasting in turkey meat, Humor has been brought about by depicting the turkeys as talking turkeys and having a right and having a person with feelings. This has helped in conveying the message from the turkeys in the related and jovial way.

From the poem it is perceived that the community of wolver Hamptons uses a slang language as seen in the poem, - 'Let dem eat cake an let dem partake' which is not proper English. They are also seen as people play reggae music and hip-hop as suggested by the author.

It can be deduced that the region has several unions that represent different people and interest.

The turkeys want to form a union Turkey United which seems like a union to fight for their rights.

The poem portrays the region as having a slang language which is far from the stereotype that the region does not have a slang language.

The poem shows the region and its people from a good and positive perspective but nonetheless, I would not recommend someone new to the place to read a make his opinion of the region from the poem as the poem is one man's opinion of the region but does not necessarily reflect the true nature of the region.

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