

"Oprah versus Mother Goose"

A Ralphland TV Sketch

By Ralph Castaneda, Jr.

(c) Ralph Castaneda, All Rights Reserved.
Unauthorized copying is prohibited.

Any and all questions/comments/inquiries concerning this script should be made to
ralphjr@ralphland.com

INT. OPRAH'S STUDIO -- DAY

The camera pans over Oprah's boisterous audience as she waves to them and sits down.

OPRAH

Hello, everyone! Recent events have forced me to go back and make sure that all of the authors who have been on my show were honest and truthful about their lives and stories. Someone wasn't so truthful.

The audience hisses.

OPRAH (CONT'D)

Let's take a look at the sad first appearance of a fraud who likes to call herself Mother Goose. Roll that tape.

CUT TO:

INT. OPRAH'S STUDIO -- DAY

We see Oprah's audience going crazy while an elderly woman dressed in a bonnet stands next to Oprah.

OPRAH

Everyone in my audience gets an autographed book from Mother Goose!

The audience works itself into a frenzy.

CUT TO:

INT. OPRAH'S STUDIO -- DAY

The audience hisses.

OPRAH

That woman has a lot of explaining to do, so let's bring her out.

Mother Goose enters to hisses and boos from the audience. Someone throws a pair of Ugg Boots at her.

MOTHER GOOSE

Oh my.

OPRAH

They must be real mad at you if they're willing to throw away those Oprah edition Ugg boots that we handed out before the show. What do you have to say for yourself?

MOTHER GOOSE

I don't understand, my dear. What is all this about?

OPRAH

You know what I mean. Your book- it's full of lies and half truths.

AUDIENCE MEMBER

(shouting)

You ain't even a goose, you lying bitch!

OPRAH

I mean, come on. You can lie to the police, your priest or whoever you want to, but nobody lies to Oprah!

MOTHER GOOSE

I do apologize, but Mother Goose is just a nickname-

The audience hisses.

OPRAH

A Nickname? Alias is more like it. Let's take a look at some of the stories in your so-called book- Hey diddle diddle, the cat and the fiddle-

MOTHER GOOSE

Yes.

OPRAH

Come on, the cat wasn't really playing a fiddle was he?

The audience boos.

MOTHER GOOSE

But it's make believe.

OPRAH

I call it fraud. Now, ladies here's where it gets even worse- The cow jumped over the moon; the little dog laughed to see such a sight and the dish ran away with the spoon.

The audience boos again.

AUDIENCE MEMBER

How dare you!

OPRAH

What do you have to say for yourself?

MOTHER GOOSE

My stories are harmless little rhymes
for children.

OPRAH

Harmless? Lies are never harmless.
When I recommended this book, I stood
by the contents, but now- I feel
like I've been hoodwinked. And nobody
hoodwinks Oprah!

AUDIENCE MEMBER

Monster!

MOTHER GOOSE

But Oprah, everyone. These are silly
little stories for the children.
I've never meant for anyone to take
them seriously.

OPRAH

But what about the little girl who
reads this and gets her hopes set on
seeing a cow jumping over the moon?

MOTHER GOOSE

Well, all she'd have to do is close
her eyes and-

OPRAH

Whatever! Besides, you didn't even
write half of this stuff.

MOTHER GOOSE

I never claimed to. I'm more of a
gatherer of stories.

OPRAH

Plagiarizer is more like it. Have
you ever heard of two guys called
the Brothers Grimm? They wrote many
of the stories in your book.

AUDIENCE MEMBER

She got you!

MOTHER GOOSE

I refuse to participate in this
character assassination. You've
twisted my words and my work. I've
been putting together books for a
hell of a lot longer than this show
has been on. Excuse my language.

Mother Goose storms off the stage.

OPRAH
Don't worry ladies- that's the last
you'll ever hear of that horrible
woman. Next up- we force Sally Fields
to come clean on a decades old con-
Flying Nun indeed!

CUT TO:

INT. OPRAH'S STUDIO -- DAY

"Sally Field" is sitting next to Oprah.

SALLY FIELD
But The Flying Nun was just a TV
show-

A flat panel TV comes flying from the audience.

OPRAH
Oh they're out for blood now.

FADE OUT: