



# The Talking Eggs

Retold by Elaine Lindy

Adapted by Susan LaBella

**NARRATOR 1:**

A nasty mother had two daughters named Millison and Blanche. Blanche was kind and happy. Millison was mean.

**NARRATOR 2:**

The woman liked Millison best. (Most people said it was because Millison was exactly like her mother.)

**NARRATOR 3:**

Blanche had to work hard all day. Millison sat around eating candy and dreaming of becoming rich.

**NARRATOR 4:**

One morning, the mother sent Blanche to the well for water. At the well, Blanche met an old crooked woman.

**OLD WOMAN:**

My girl, will you give me a drink? I am so thirsty.

**BLANCHE:**

Yes, of course I will. Here you go.

**OLD WOMAN:**

Thank you, dear. You are a good girl.

**NARRATOR 5:**

The next day, Blanche's mother yelled and screamed at her again. But she screamed louder and longer than usual.

**NARRATOR 1:**

Blanche was so unhappy she ran crying into the woods.

**NARRATOR 2:**

Suddenly, she saw the old woman from the well.

**OLD WOMAN:**

Child, why are you crying?

**BLANCHE:**

My mother is cruel to me. I'm afraid to go home.

**OLD WOMAN:** (scratching a wart on her nose)

Come with me then. I will give you dinner and a place to sleep. *But* you must promise one thing.

**BLANCHE:** Y...y...yess?

**OLD WOMAN:**

You must not laugh at anything you see.

**NARRATOR 3:**

As the woman led her through the woods, Blanche saw prickly bushes open up (like magic) to let them pass.

**NARRATOR 4:**

A bit further on, Blanche saw two axes fighting. She saw two hammers doing a funky dance. But she said nothing.

**NARRATOR 5:**

When they reached the woman's home, Blanche saw it was bright pink and had green feathers on it. Then, Blanche saw something even more strange...

**NARRATOR 1:**

Inside the house, the old woman sat down, took off her head, and put it in her lap. Then she combed and braided her hair. When she was done, the old woman put her head back on!

**OLD WOMAN:**

A...h...h...h... That feels much better.

**NARRATOR 2:**

That *was* strange! But Blanche kept quiet. A few minutes later, the woman gave Blanche a large bone to cook for supper.

**BLANCHE: (to herself):**

How will we get any food from this scrawny thing?

**NARRATOR 3:**

But Blanche put the bone in the pot. Soon, the pot was filled with thick meat stew!

**NARRATOR 4:**

Blanche and the old woman ate supper and went to bed. The next morning, the old woman spoke to Blanche.

**OLD WOMAN:**

You must go home now. You have been a kind girl, so I want to give you a present. Go to the chicken house and gather some eggs. Gather only the eggs that say, "Take me." Stay away from the eggs that say, "Do not take me." When you're on the road, throw the eggs, one by one, behind your back.

**NARRATOR 5:**

In the chicken house, Blanche saw the eggs. Some looked like regular chicken eggs. They called out...

**PLAIN EGGS:**

Take me! Take me!

**NARRATOR 5:**

Other eggs were gold and covered with jewels. Those eggs called out...

**GOLD EGGS:**

Don't take me! Don't take me!

**NARRATOR 1:**

So, Blanche took a few plain eggs and left the gold ones behind. On the road, Blanche threw an egg behind her.

**NARRATOR 2:**

When she turned around, the glitter almost blinded her. A huge pile of diamonds lay in the road! Blanche threw another egg, and out popped a bushel of gold jewelry. From another egg came a carriage and four prancing horses. A 'bizzillion' beautiful dresses popped out of the last egg.

**BLANCHE:** (excitedly to herself)

Wow! All this could make me a real fashion-is-ta!

**NARRATOR 3:**

When Blanche got home with all her loot, her mother and sister pretended to be happy for her. But the next morning, the mother woke up Millison.

**MEAN MOTHER:** (whispering)

Go to the woods and look for the same old woman that Blanche met. You must have finer things than your sister.

**NARRATOR 4:**

Now, Millison was lazy and not pleased to have to get out of bed so early in the morning.

**MILLISON:**

Ma a a a.... Can't you see I'm sleeping?

**NARRATOR 5:**

But soon, muttering and grumbling, Millison went off to the woods. Before long, she met the same old woman, who invited Millison to come to her pink house.

**NARRATOR 1:**

The woman told Millison not to laugh at anything she saw. But when Millison saw the axes fighting, she burst out laughing.

**MILLISON:** (doubled over)

Are you serious?? Hahahaha...heeheehee.

**NARRATOR 2:**

And when the old woman took off her head, Millison shrieked.

**MILLISON:** (holding her stomach)

That is probably the weirdest thing I've ever seen!

**NARRATOR 3:**

The next day the old woman told Millison about the eggs.

**OLD WOMAN:**

Out in the chicken house, I think you'll find exactly what you deserve. Take only the eggs that say, "Take me." The others, you must leave behind. When you are on the road, throw the eggs, one by one, behind your back. You will have a surprise.

**NARRATOR 4:**

The greedy Millison rushed off to the chicken house. As before, the plain eggs called out...

**PLAIN EGGS:**

Take me! Take me!

**NARRATOR 5:**

While the golden eggs called out...

**GOLD EGGS:**

Don't take me! Don't take me!

**NARRATOR 5:**

Millison grabbed as many golden eggs as she could carry and hurried off. On the road, she broke one egg behind her, then another, and another

**NARRATOR 1:**

*But ...* instead of riches, out came snakes, toads, and frogs, and they all went after Millison. Flies and mosquitoes came out of the next egg. They buzzed round the selfish girl's head.

**MILLISON:** (crying and screaming)

H...e...l...p!! Somebody h...e...l...p me! But no one came.

**NARRATOR 2:**

By the time she got home, Millison could not speak. Bites covered her face. A croaking frog was stuck in her hair.

**NARRATOR 3:**

When she saw that, Blanche knew she would be blamed for Millison's troubles and decided to leave. Leaving some jewels and dresses for her sister, she gathered her treasures, hopped into her new carriage, and left for the city.

**NARRATOR 4:**

For the rest of her life, Blanche lived in the city as a grand lady. She was kind to all and had many friends.

**NARRATOR 5:**

Millison? She was stuck living with her nasty mother. And because she never got back her voice, she never again made fun of anyone ...not even her mother.

