The Unpredictable Adventures of Mother Goose

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Mother Goose featured in <u>The Land of Stories: The Enchantress Returns</u> by Chris Colfer

"C'mon Lester, hurry up! My senior citizen friends could walk faster than your flying!" yelled a raspy, encouraging voice. This shout came from a very old and wise woman named Mother Goose. She was a short and stout woman with gray curls and a tall, black pilgrim hat with a big, silver buckle on a red strap. Mother Goose was wearing a large red and white ruffled dress. She wore large, brown boots and bulky aviator goggles covering up her kind, blue eyes.

Lester was a beautiful, oversized gander about the size of a Prius. He was white and had long, fluffy feathers and large, orange feet. He was usually very calm but at the moment, was flying like his life depended on it. Unfortunately, it did. Mother Goose and Lester were currently getting thrown spears and axes at by a Scandinavian group of Vikings who were positive that she was a demon sent by Loki to terrorize their village. Mother Goose's original task was to tell the children of a nearby village the stories of poor woman turning into princesses or handsome men awakening beautiful girls from a dreaded curse. She was telling what we know as "fairy tales".

To convince the children that these stories were true, Mother Goose formed colorful sparks in her hand. This cheered the children up but scared the adults severely. The parents of all the children sent for a group of Vikings to protect them. When the Vikings arrived, they saw mother Goose's powers for themselves and immediately charged at her. Once she saw a herd of sweaty norsemen charging at her, Mother goose whistled for her giant goose, Lester, and tried to escape. Unfortunately, the Vikings were very good at hitting their targets at synchronized times.

Mother Goose grew tired and couldn't hold off the Vikings and one of the spears hit Lester in the leg. He immediately plummeted to the ground and the group of Vikings surrounded them. They quickly tied up Lester and Mother Goose and made sure to put "magic proof" shackles on her hands. They walked Mother Goose and her enormous walking Thanksgiving feast to the town where she had been telling stories. There, she was loaded into the stocks for public humiliation. Soon after her crime was announced, the Vikings let anyone throw rotten vegetables and fruits at her.

After everyone had had their fair share of hitting an old lady's face with tomatoes, the Vikings picked her and Lester up and led them both to a separate tree to start target practice. Because Mother Goose was charged for witchcraft, she was used first. At that moment, she knew she had to do something or else she would have a bullseye painted on her forehead. She looked over to Lester and saw the fear inside his eyes. Mother Goose then started to devise and formulate a plan.

She noticed that her bindings were loose and smiled. Mother Goose was always trying to make a show of what she did, but today she wouldn't have to try. At the last minute, when the Vikings started to draw their arrows in their bows, Mother Goose channeled her fifty year old karate skills and went into action.

First, she pulled as hard as she could on her leg restraints until, one after another, the ropes began to snap. Luckily, at the exact minute when the Vikings let their arrows fly, her last rope snapped and she flipped her whole body making it seem like she was standing on her head. When the Vikings realized that all they had hit with their arrows was tree bark, they rushed over to the tree. Swiftly, Mother Goose slipped out of her bindings and manacles and jumped into the air. She landed hard on the ground but quickly got up after noticing a giant mob

of Vikings charging at her. Mother Goose sprinted over to Lester and untied him. Before flying away, she grabbed two different shields, a heavy one and a light one.

When she and Lester were elevated in the air, Mother Goose used the heavy shield and threw it at the pursuing Vikings. The shield hit a couple of the norsemen in the middle of the mob which created a domino effect. The remaining Vikings tried to hit Mother Goose with their weapons but she defended her and Lester with the remaining shield. Finally, Mother Goose was out of range and she and Lester flew off into the distance unharmed.