

A Whole Mother Story

Once¹ upon² a³ time^{4, 5} there⁶ was⁷ a⁸ mother⁹

¹ *Once*: An understatement, a lie. Best to start false and work your way around.

² *upon*: Taken abstractly. Not the same as standing upon on a table or traveling upon a road, but much lower, more stationary.

³ *a*: Another misleading substitute for one. Never simply follow the first.

⁴ *time*: Which runs in circles like a clock no matter how the squares on calendars try to contain it.

⁵ *comma*: Breathe. Keep breathing. Good.

⁶ *there*: Seems so far away, but always holds here as well.

⁷ *was*: Everything used to exist. Some things might exist still.

⁸ *a*: No longer just one. Open your mouth wide.

⁹ *mother*: More than *her*. Flying creature, tasty other, ill-defined.