There Was An Old Lady Who Swallowed Shell

There was an old lady who swallowed a shell,

One morning I'm sure she was feeling quite swell.

But it didn't agree with her, so she swallowed a snail,

To make the shell go down, with its slimy trail.



There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Shell!

by Lucille Colandro

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She swallowed the snail to swallow the shell, And if you'll believe me, I'm sure you'll agree That swallowing a snail to swallow a shell Is a silly thing for an old lady to do.

And so it went on, with each swallow more absurd than the last, until finally, the old lady swallowed a horse!

But it didn't agree with her, so she swallowed a cow,

To make the horse go down, with its moo and its bow. She swallowed the cow to swallow the horse,

And if you'll believe me, I'm sure you'll agree

That swallowing a cow to swallow a horse Is a silly thing for an old lady to do.

And so it went on, until the old lady had swallowed a pig, a cat, a dog, a frog, a fish, a snail, and a shell. But it didn't agree with her, so she swallowed a man!

But it didn't agree with her, so she swallowed a horse, To make the man go down, with its neigh and its force. She swallowed the horse to swallow the man,

And if you'll believe me, I'm sure you'll agree That swallowing a horse to swallow a man Is a silly thing for an old lady to do.

And so it went on, until the old lady had swallowed a pig, a cat, a dog, a frog, a fish, a snail, a shell, and a man. But it didn't agree with her, so she swallowed a came!

But it didn't agree with her, so she swallowed a goat,

To make the camel go down, with its bleat and its coat. She swallowed the goat to swallow the camel,

And if you'll believe me, I'm sure you'll agree That swallowing a goat to swallow a camel Is a silly thing for an old lady to do.

And so it went on, until the old lady had swallowed a pig, a cat, a dog, a frog, a fish, a snail, a shell, a man, a camel, and a goat. But it didn't agree with her, so she swallowed an elephant!

But it didn't agree with her, so she swallowed a whale,

To make the elephant go down, with its swish and its tail. She swallowed the whale to swallow the elephant,

And if you'll believe me, I'm sure you'll agree
That swallowing a whale to swallow an elephant
Is a silly thing for an old lady to do.

And so it went on, until the old lady had swallowed a pig, a cat, a dog, a frog, a fish, a snail, a shell, a man, a camel, a goat, an elephant, and a whale. But it didn't agree with her, so she swallowed a hippopotamus!

But it didn't agree with her, so she swallowed a rhinoceros,
To make the hippopotamus go down, with its snort and its toes. She swallowed the rhinoceros to swallow the hippopotamus,
And if you'll believe me, I'm sure you'll agree
That swallowing a rhinoceros to swallow a hippopotamus
Is a silly thing for an old lady to do.

And so it went on, until the old lady had swallowed a pig, a cat, a dog, a frog, a fish, a snail, a shell, a man, a camel, a goat, an elephant, a whale, a hippopotamus, and a rhinoceros. But it didn't agree with her, so she swallowed a giraffe!

But it didn't agree with her, so she swallowed a zebra,

To make the giraffe go down, with its stripes and its zebra. She swallowed
the zebra to swallow the giraffe,

And if you'll believe me, I'm sure you'll agree That swallowing a zebra to swallow a giraffe Is a silly thing for an old lady to do.

And so it went on, until the old lady had swallowed a pig, a cat, a dog, a frog, a fish, a snail, a shell, a man, a camel, a goat, an elephant, a whale, a hippopotamus, a rhinoceros, a giraffe, and a zebra. But it didn't agree with her, so she swallowed a lion!

But it didn't agree with her, so she swallowed a tiger,

To make the lion go down, with its roar and its tiger. She swallowed the tiger to swallow the lion,

And if you'll believe me, I'm sure you'll agree
That swallowing a tiger to swallow a lion
Is a silly thing for an old lady to do.

And so it went on, until the old lady had swallowed a pig, a cat, a dog, a frog, a fish, a snail, a shell, a man, a camel, a goat, an elephant, a whale, a hippopotamus, a rhinoceros, a giraffe, a zebra, a lion, and a tiger. But it didn't agree with her, so she swallowed a bear!

But it didn't agree with her, so she swallowed a moose,

To make the bear go down, with its growl and its moose. She swallowed the moose to swallow the bear,

And if you'll believe me, I'm sure you'll agree That swallowing a moose to swallow a bear Is a silly thing for an old lady to do.

And so it went on, until the old lady had swallowed a pig, a cat, a dog, a frog, a fish, a snail, a shell, a man, a camel, a goat, an elephant, a whale, a hippopotamus, a rhinoceros, a giraffe, a zebra, a lion, a tiger, a bear, and a moose. But it didn't agree with her, so she swallowed a kangaroo!

But it didn't agree with her, so she swallowed a llama,

To make the kangaroo go down, with its hop and its llama. She swallowed the llama to swallow the kangaroo,

And if you'll believe me, I'm sure you'll agree
That swallowing a llama to swallow a kangaroo
Is a silly thing for an old lady to do.

And so it went on, until the old lady had swallowed a pig, a cat, a dog, a frog, a fish, a snail, a shell, a man, a camel, a goat, an elephant, a whale, a hippopotamus, a rhinoceros, a giraffe, a zebra, a lion, a tiger, a bear, a moose, a kangaroo, and a llama. But it didn't agree with her, so she swallowed a hippopotamus!

But it didn't agree with her, so she swallowed a rhinoceros,
To make the hippopotamus go down, with its snort and its toes. She
swallowed the rhinoceros to swallow the hippopotamus,



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