

# *There was an old Woman*

*~ with apologies to e. e. cummings and Mother Goose ~*

*Reg Down*  
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There was an old woman  
Who lived in a shoe  
She had so many children  
She didn't know what to do.

There was Maggie,  
And Millie,  
And Molli,  
And May,  
And Mumu –  
Who couldn't get out of bed,  
Sleepy head!

These ragged rascals  
Ran circles round Mama  
Until she was dizzy,  
In a tizzy,  
And all worn out.

So Maggie grew wheat,  
And Millie took wheat to miller,  
And Molli took flour to baker,  
And May took bread home,

And Mumu  
Brought bread to Mummy,  
Who thought it smelled yummy,  
Put it in her tummy,  
And felt much better.

Then the old woman  
Was happy and gay,  
And Maggie and Millie  
And Mollie and May,  
– and Mumu –  
The very next day,  
Ran her ragged and silly again –  
Because children are simply  
Made that way!