I’m Not Your Mama!

Grandpa loves to tell a good story now and then to keep the grandkids entertained. Even though he grew up on a farm with way too much work for a little boy, he came away with some great stories. Many of them are about his chores, his brother, school days, and the animals on the farm.

Some of my favorite stories are about his playful adventures with baby animals that were orphaned and needed to be adopted. His friend, Jerry, adopted a baby goat that turned out to be more work than play! Jerry’s family didn’t have a lot, and so he never had his own pony like the other boys did. He always wanted a pet of his own.

One day Jerry’s dad brought home a baby goat that needed a mama. That goofy goat followed Jerry all around the farm like a puppy dog. At first everyone thought he was cute and liked to give him special treats. (Grandpa always likes to tell us that pets are cute when they’re little, but then they grow up!) They even brought him into the house and gave him milk in the kitchen.

When the goat grew up, he wasn’t allowed in the house anymore and he wasn’t happy about that! He tried to poke holes in the screen door with his feet. He wasn’t allowed to have special treats and so he ate anything that wasn’t nailed down, including empty tin cans! Jerry’s mom even had to keep him locked up when she did the laundry, or he would have eaten that, too!
Jerry and his mom had to work hard to keep the goat from getting into too much trouble. Being followed around by a gangly goat wasn’t much fun for Jerry anymore. “I’m not your mama!” he would tell him.

One day, that goat bit off more than he could chew! Jerry’s dad had left the window down in his old Chevy. The goat climbed into the car and managed to eat the front seat before anyone knew he was there!

That was the last funny goat story Jerry ever told Grandpa. His dad wouldn’t let him keep the goat after he tried to eat the car. Grandpa says, “I guess that’s one goat that got everybody else’s goat!”