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What the Real Rabbits Think of the Chocolate Ones

Mary Graham Bonner

One spring morning, the bunnies, cottontails and jack rabbits of the woods were almost bursting their sides with laughter.

“You’ll admit,” said old Grandpa Jack Rabbit, “that it’s the best joke you ever heard.”

“Yes, we do,” said the cottontails. The younger bunnies were laughing too hard to answer.



“Here’s how it was,” said Grandpa. “I went through the village very early, because I’d heard the grocer had fresh lettuce and I wanted a few leaves for our lunch. But before I reached the grocer’s, what did I see? A huge cardboard rabbit sitting up in the candy shop window, and all around it, countless rabbits made out of *chocolate*! And chocolate chickens! Chocolate eggs, too, which at least makes a bit more sense. Did you ever hear of anything so foolish?”

And everyone burst out laughing again.

But Grandpa began to grow indignant. “I really think it’s an insult,” he went on. “If they had done us justice, I wouldn’t have minded so much. But they didn’t make us nearly as handsome as we are. Chickens are queer-looking anyway. But a rabbit! There’s something grand about a rabbit.”

He had forgotten the joke entirely and was only thinking of the insult to his family. “Well,” said the others, “it’s still a pretty good joke.” And Grandpa started to laugh again.

Then one of the little bunnies piped up, “Grandpa, you’ve told us all about the chocolate bunnies, but you haven’t said whether you got what you went for.”

“Dear me!” said Grandpa. “The lettuce! Even though I was cross about those chocolate bunnies, I remembered to reach the grocer’s in time. So now we’ll have our Easter lunch.”

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