

Fables Ain't Nothing But Doggone Lies

Ralph McTell

Uncle Josh's nephew was a student of letters, come home with a
book one night
Said he to his uncle, "This is Aesop's fables and I don't under
stand it right
Will you kindly explain what it means by a fable, does it mean
what I think it might?"
Uncle Josh's eyes looked extremely wise and thoughtfully he rep
lied

Fables are stories often told in ordinary walks of life
Fables are stories that a wife tells a husband and a husband te
lls his wife
Fables are stories we really believe 'til somebody puts us righ
t
In the olden days they called 'em fables but they're nothing' b
ut doggone lies

Fables are stories told by candidates just before election day
Fables are stories told to the wife when her husband's far away
Fables are stories we really believe 'til somebody puts us righ
t
In the olden days they called 'em fables but they nothin' but d
oggone lies

Now they tell us that Adam was the husband of Eve, he was the f
irst with the Lord's consent
Now we can't deny there was no other person to give him an argu
ment
He was made outta mud by a fence that stood there 'til the Lord
come and give him sense
But what puzzles me most and I'd like to know, who in the dicke
ns built that fence?

Fables are stories when a girl of sixteen may tell you that she
never been kissed
Fables are stories when a just-
arrived sailor sees just how bad he's missed
Fables are stories that eyes can tell when eye looks into eye
In the olden days they called 'em fables but they're nothin' bu
t doggone lies