MOM’S FLOCK
Renegade Hens in Highland Park

Mom wasn’t dead, but she didn’t get out of bed. She refused food, ignored conversation, but aside from Alzheimer’s, there was nothing wrong.

Look, Mom. I brought you BABY BIRDS!

Both female. They’re baby chickens. When they grow up they’ll give us eggs!

Are they male or female?

But can she KEEP them?

Nighttime Caregiver, Enid. Rain.

In Warsaw, my chicken and I shared a single potato.

The Boy is trying to get away. The girl is falling asleep, but HE keeps waking her up.

If we have chickens we will not watch so much Dr. Phil.

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Larry, the firstborn, visits.

You're TALKING to BIRDS now?
Yes, but they don't always ANSWER.

The chicks went back in the brooder before we ate. After dinner, Mom was confused.

What happened to those little people that were here?

The POLICE took them away in HANDCUFFS. They'll kill those chicks and put you in jail. It's illegal to have chickens here.

It's not a CRIME, it's a ZONING violation.

Let them TRY to take her babies from your mother. We will FIGHT! HABEUS CHICKLET!

Weekend caregiver, Steven, locally grown.

No complaints, no problems!

After careful analysis, we agreed that BENEFITS outweighed the RISKS, and Mom got to keep her FLOCK.

Six MONTHS LATER

Have these RENEGADES started laying eggs?
No, should be soon now.

Either way, I think they should be allowed to STAY.
They’re all very friendly with each other, the black ones and the white ones, the multicolored ones. And they’re very docile. When one of the other colors comes along they just relax and let them do what they want until they finish.

They keep on touching the ones who are standing still and making them move... and no one knows what the POINT of it is except to be part of something.

As soon as they see action outside of themselves, they want to be part of it. They don’t want to be left out. Do you think that’s a normal relationship?
She gives a few sniffs to see which side of the culprit is most attractive.

This whole thing was constructed in a day, and the NEXT day, it was divided up so the different species could have their own space if they wanted it.

That RAMP was man-made.

These chickens just walk around here like they own the place... they probably Do!

I'm glad they're cooped up and not running all around like a chicken with its head cut off.

I don't want to spend my life in court.

If the chickens get caught, we'll eat them.
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