|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Ugly | The main character, who is shunned for his odd appearance. |
| Ida | Ugly's mother, the only one supportive of him. |
| Maureen | Ida's best friend who is also friends with Henrietta. A little conceited |
| Cat | Trying to eat Ugly, sly and cunning (a villain) |
| Drake | Ugly's father, who detests Ugly |
| The Turkey | The school's headmaster, afraid of Christmas (Thanksgiving in American version) |
| Ducklings | Ugly's siblings (Billy, Beaky, Downy and Fluff. Some versions include additional ducklings.) |
| Grace | The most distinguished duck on the lake, or so she says because of the red band on her leg |
| Henrietta | A neighbour, Ida's other best friend who is also friends with Maureen. |
| Bullfrog | Laid-back, self-confident frog |
| Froglets | The bullfrog's children |
| Queenie\* | Domesticated cat |
| Lowbutt\* | Domesticated chicken |
| Greylag | Dot's husband, goose of a glittering military career |
| Dot | Female goose, Greylag's wife |
| Barnacles, Pinkfoot, Snowy | Members of the Goose Squadron |
| Father Swan | Father to Penny |
| Mother Swan | Mother to Penny |
| Penny | A beautiful female swan who Ugly falls in love with after saving her from a fishing line that was strangling her |
| Boy | (Voice only) |
| Girl | (Voice only) |
| Duckyard Animals | Various poultry, such as quail, pheasants, ducks, chickens, etc. |
| Farmer | (Voice only) |
| Fish |  |
| Jack Daw/Maggie Pie/ Jay Bird\*\* | An 'in your face' reporter from *Britain's Most Feathered* |
| Old Woman | Owner of Queenie and Lowbutt (Voice only) |

\*The character can be male or female. Should the role be played by a female, the character will be renamed Maggie Pie. The US version is called Jay Bird rather than Jack Daw, and the TV show is renamed "America's Most Feathered".

Plot

It is Spring, and Drake thinks about life on the farm. ("A Poultry Tale"). As he attempts to sneak away, Ida scolds him for neglecting their eggs that are about to hatch. Drake believes one huge egg is a turkey's egg, but Ida is doubtful. Ida expresses "The Joy of Motherhood" and is joined by her friend Maureen, when all of the "normal" eggs hatch. Drake takes the ducklings to learn to swim, leaving Ida to wait for the fifth egg to hatch ("Different" pre-reprise). It finally hatches to reveal Ugly. Ida is initially shocked but is overjoyed that the new arrival is not a turkey. As she teaches him to swim, she notices his amazing talent ("Hold Your Head Up High"). When Drake and the ducklings return, they are aghast at Ugly's appearance. He is transformed.