

The Moon-jumping Hoax

Humorous Duo by Samuel Stokes

REPORTER: Good evening, we're coming to you from Blake's Farm with a live interview with Farmer Blake, who has an extraordinary claim. We all know the story "Hey diddle diddle, the cat and the fiddle, the cow jumped over the moon..." Well, Farmer Blake has a different opinion on this matter. Farmer Blake, please tell our viewers at home what you told me earlier.

BLAKE: The moon jumping... it was a hoax all of it! No cow has ever, ever jumped over the moon.

REPORTER: This is an extraordinary claim, and would certainly alter our understanding of bovine space exploration.

BLAKE: You got that right. In fact, my claim is that no cows have gone to space at all!

REPORTER: Incredible, what evidence is there to support such a claim?

BLAKE: Well, what evidence is there that a cow's ever been in space? Have you ever seen a cow in space? Have you ever seen a cow jump more than a few inches?

REPORTER: Well, no, but...

BLAKE: There, you see? No way a cow ever jumped clear over the moon!

REPORTER: But the account of the moon-jumping has been recorded in so many books over the years.

BLAKE: Well, books can be wrong, you know. You believe everything you ever read in books?

REPORTER: Well, no, but...

BLAKE: There, you see? No way, no how, did any cow ever jump over the moon.

REPORTER: But, my parents told me the story so many times when I was a child.

BLAKE: Did your parents actually see this cow supposedly jump over the moon?

REPORTER: Well, no...

BLAKE: Then what makes you think they are in a position to know if a cow ever actually jumped over the moon.

REPORTER: Well, their parents told them.

BLAKE: Oh yeah? Well, who told your parents' parents?

REPORTER: I don't know, probably their parents.

BLAKE: So we've got a bunch of parents telling their kids that something happened, but no actual witnesses and no evidence. Let me ask you this – if a cow once jumped over the moon, why aren't there all kinds of cows jumping over the moon all the time?

REPORTER: Uh, well, I don't know.

BLAKE: You would think if it was such a big deal that a cow jumped over the moon, they'd be doing it all the time. I say the whole story was just made up.

REPORTER: But why would someone make something like this up?

BLAKE: I have no idea, but listen – you've got to admit the whole thing is pretty non-sensical. I mean, have you ever seen a cat playing a fiddle or a dish and a spoon running away? Have you got an answer for that?

REPORTER: That's a good point. I guess I'd never really given much thought to it. Say, I was skeptical at first, but you might be right about this.

BLAKE: When you think it through, it doesn't really add up, does it?

REPORTER: Not really. Well, there you have it folks, I guess the moon-jumping really was a hoax.

BLAKE: While we're on the subject, I don't think any giant egg fell off a wall and was put back together by horses and men. First of all, what could horses possibly do about it? Even the men don't have much chance of putting an egg back together, not even with all the duct tape in the world.

REPORTER: We may have to revisit that topic later. One earth-shattering epiphany is enough for this news report. I'm sure our audience will need some time to reconsider everything they know about the bovine space program. If you go moon-gazing tonight, I wouldn't expect to spot any cows up in orbit. Signing off from Blake's Farm. Good night, everyone.