

THE TRUE STORY OF HEY DIDDLE DIDDLE
By Bradley Walton

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AUDITION- 8 flex

In this scene, the true story of Hey Diddle Diddle is told from the point of view of the dog.

ACTOR 6: So there's this Yorkie, and he's watching the Super Bowl on TV.

(The DOG tilts his head upwards as if watching a television.)

ACTOR 6: *(Cont'd.)* And he's really into it, because it's the Super Bowl, you know?

DOG: Woof!

ACTOR 6: But little does the little dog know, there's this fleet of alien cows headed towards the Earth on a giant spaceship. They're going to invade our planet! But first, they're sending a lone cow to scout ahead so they can plan their attack.

(The COW, preferably wearing a space helmet, enters from L. The ACTOR playing the MOON crosses L, is handed a cardboard moon by a STAGE CREW member, and kneels. The cow swoops around the stage as ACTOR 6 narrates. On the part about the moon, the cow jumps from R to L behind the Moon. The cardboard moon is then taken offstage by a member of STAGE CREW, and the actor who played the moon sits back down. Alternatively, the stage manager or a member of the stage crew can play the part of the Moon.)

ACTOR 6: *(Cont'd.)* So the cow passes through our solar system, getting closer and closer to Earth. It flies over the moon, down into Earth's atmosphere, and lands somewhere in the Virginia countryside.

ACTOR 6: *(Cont'd.)* Now, this cow isn't like Earth cows. It's an evil, alien cow that's a total perversion of everything that's good and cow-like on planet Earth.

(The STAGE MANAGER enters from L and hands the COW a milk carton. The cow pretends to drink it and makes chugging noises, then throws the carton down, scaring the stage manager.)

ACTOR 6: *(Cont'd.)* This cow drinks milk instead of water, and if you were to eat it...

(The STAGE MANAGER tries to chew on the COW'S arm, then reacts in disgust.)

ACTOR 6: *(Cont'd.)* ...it would taste like chicken.

STAGE MANAGER: Ew!

(STAGE MANAGER takes the milk carton and exits L.)

ACTOR 6: And where Earth cows are all chill and relaxed, this alien cow is all military-like and trained for combat.

(The COW punches and kicks at the air.)

ACTOR 3: *(Sticking head on from offstage if ACTOR 3 is playing the DISH or SPOON.)* Are you sure this is the little dog's story? It sounds more like another version of the cow's story.

ACTOR 6: We'll get there. Be patient. Anyway, as the cow is checking out planet Earth, it comes across the house where the little dog is watching the Super Bowl. And right outside the house is a cat—grooming itself on the front porch.

(An ACTOR assumes the role of the CAT and sits DL.)

CAT: Meow.

(The CAT grooms itself. The COW creeps up behind the cat, standing UL of it, and reaches for the cat's neck, as if to strangle it.)

COW: Hahaha! Foolish mammalian feline creature! You shall be the first casualty in our war of interplanetary bovine expansion!

(The CAT stands, takes a step UR, and faces the COW.)

CAT: I don't think so, you big, bad bovine bully!

COW: What? A creature of your species should not be able to talk!

CAT: Your body is overflowing with a strange, cosmic radiation unlike anything on planet Earth, and being exposed to it has turned me into an intelligent, talking animal!

COW: Then fear my terrible moo, and beg for mercy!

CAT: I fear nothing except veterinarians and baths! I experience no terror from the likes of you!

COW: Then you shall learn terror!

CAT: Schooling is best experienced indoors. Let us move our battle to the living room!

(The COW and the CAT move to RC, passing behind the DOG, who is still watching television. The cat crouches R of the folding chair, and the cow stands L of the chair.)

COW: Your living room will not save you now!

CAT: Perhaps not the living room itself, but the furniture shall hinder the mobility of your girth!

COW: You think to entrap me in an enclosed space cluttered with furniture, where your small size and greater agility will give you the advantage. Know that I come from a planet larger than your own, and *(flexing muscles)* my upbringing in its higher gravity gives me super-bovine strength!

(The COW grandly places both hands on the chair and then scoots it about 6 inches upstage. The DOG continues to watch

TV, oblivious to what is going on around him. The DISH and SPOON enter from R.)

DISH: Friend spoon! Do you feel an otherworldly radiation emanating from this strange, hostile cow?

SPOON: Indeed, I do, friend dish! I think it is this strange radiation that has brought us to life!

DISH: I fear this horrible bovine, dear spoon!

SPOON: Let us flee together!

(The DISH and SPOON begin to run away, screaming in fear.)

DISH and SPOON: Aaaaaaa!

(The DISH and SPOON exit L. The DOG continues to watch TV, not noticing anything going on around him.)

COW: Your living room is in tatters, cat, and your kitchenware has fled in fear. You are too small to best me in battle. Bow down before me, and perhaps I shall spare your wretched life.

CAT: *(Standing.)* No, foul cow. I shall not. For the time has come to unleash my secret weapon.

(A STAGE CREW member hands the CAT the prop fiddle.)

CAT: *(Cont'd.)* Tremble before my fiddle!

COW: No! Not a *fiddle!* How can this be?

CAT: You never stopped to think when you set out to invade this world that there might be fiddles here, did you? And as everyone knows, the secret weakness of an alien cow is...a fiddle!

COW: How could we have been so foolish?! I must tell the others to call off the attack! Retreat! Retreat!

(The COW exits L. The CAT breathes a sigh of relief and sits down in the chair. The DOG points to the TV screen and laughs.)

DOG: Hahaha! He ran into the referee and dropped the ball!
Hahaha! Hey...wait a minute. When did I learn how to talk?
ACTOR 6: And that's how I think *Hey Diddle Diddle* really happened, from the point of view of the dog.

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