

## **Looper**

# **"Dave The Moon Man"**

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Drunk and lying outside on the lawn  
Dave, the moon man

He'd look up at the blurred stars  
As the dew on the grass  
Soaked through the back of his jacket  
And the back of his trousers  
And then he'd look towards the moon

All that distance from the surface  
He was pinned down on  
To the surface glowing in the darkness  
With nothing but space all the way in between

Nothing to hold onto and yet somehow  
Someone had managed to get there  
Someone had managed to do that  
A truly impossible thing

So he'd get up out of the grass  
Light hearted again  
It made everything else possible  
Anything you could think of  
Anything you were stuck with

It could be done because that had been done  
Someone had got up and gone to the moon  
And nothing else was more impossible than that  
Dave, the moon man

But sober and playing around on the Internet  
He started to find bits and pieces  
Dave, the moon man

Things about the Van-Allen Belt  
And about Kodak film and dual light sources  
And he talked to people who knew about similar stuff  
And he read bits in magazines and books

First time I met him was at a party  
He was surrounded by a group of people  
And he was giving short lectures

About all the stuff he had learned

Going 'round the party one group at a time  
With all the energy of someone newly born to a religion  
You had to wait your turn  
If you wanted him to tell you about it  
So I waited my turn

The first thing was the Van Allen Belt  
He said, an outer layer of the atmosphere  
That all the shuttle flights stay inside  
That protects the earth from radiation

He read somewhere that if the astronauts  
Had really gone beyond that  
And gone all the way to the moon  
The radiation would have killed them soon afterwards

Then there were the photographs  
Of astronauts walking on the moon  
He said you could tell from the shadows  
That the light sources were all wrong  
Which suggested studio lighting

And there was something about  
The photograph of the footprint too  
[Incomprehensible] could leave such  
A deep impression on the surface of the moon

Then the thrust of the rocket when it was landing  
Should have forced two big mounds  
Up on either side of the rocket  
But there are none in the pictures

There was a whole load of stuff  
A whole load of stuff more than that  
And so he was coming to believe it was a hoax  
And that no one had ever been to the moon

I thought he had a mission  
Dave, the moon man  
To prove to everyone that no one  
Had ever landed on the moon

But that wasn't it at all, he was telling everyone  
All this stuff he'd learned 'cause he hoped that  
Someone could prove to him it was wrong

And it wasn't just a hoax  
Because dreaming was so much harder otherwise  
And it was so much harder to find the belief

To get things done

Lying out on the lawn at night  
Drunk, with the dew soaking  
Through the back of your jacket  
And all that distance between here and there

And he really wanted to believe  
That people had traveled to the moon  
In that crazy rocket  
That looked as if it was made  
Out of tin foil and cardboard

He really wanted to believe  
That they'd managed to get it there  
Just by strapping enough fuel on

Even though today  
You probably wouldn't trust it  
To get you down the shops

Dave, the moon man  
Dave, the moon man

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