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阅读空间 · 英汉双语主题阅读

# Hoaxes, Fibs and Fakes

初中二年级适用

## 骗局、谎言、伪科学

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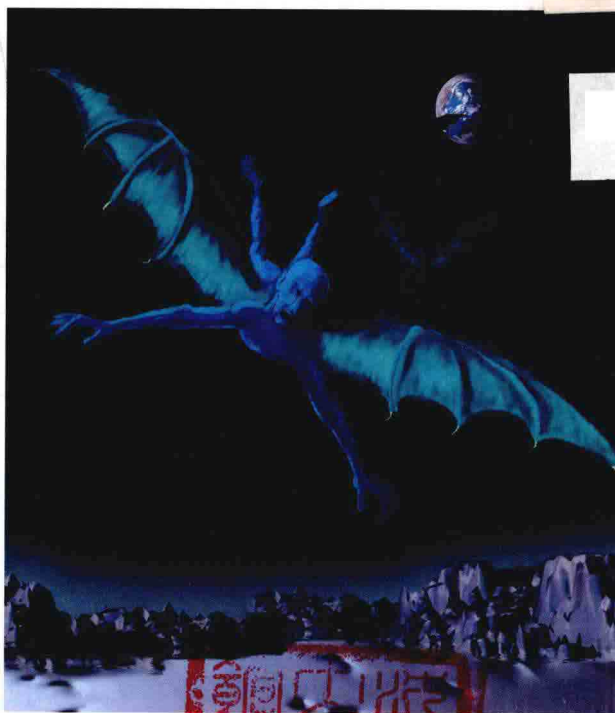
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# Hoaxes, Fibs and Fakes

## 骗局、谎言、伪科学

丽莎·汤普森  
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著  
编译



世间万物，无奇不有。身高超过3米、体重约1356公斤的巨人，长在树上的意大利面，专为左撇子们设计的汉堡，火星入侵地球，月球上神奇的蓝色独角兽，尼斯湖怪……这些都是真的吗？你若想探个究竟，弄个明白，那就快来阅读此书，体验从书本中探秘寻源的刺激与乐趣吧！

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# 前言

由于近年来在中考和高考的英语科目中,阅读部分都出现了一定比例的科普文章,广大师生在英语课外阅读的训练中越来越重视此类阅读材料。根据这一需求,中国电力出版社世纪东方外语部从美国著名的杂志社和教育出版公司引进出版了这套非小说类英语分级读物——阅读空间·英汉双语主题阅读。这套读物共58本,其中初中版18本,高中版40本。

本套丛书是“阅读空间·英汉双语主题阅读”的初中版,共18种,分为3个级别,每级6种。丛书原版荣获美国2003年非小说类图书“杰出成果奖”。这套趣味科普英语分级读物融知识性、趣味性、启发性为一体,循序渐进地引导学生在愉快的阅读、思考、练习的过程中逐步提高英语阅读能力和思维能力。其特点是以动物、植物、运动、探险、发明等专题百科知识为线索,兼具知识性和趣味性,让学生在探索知识的过程中掌握英语,在学习英语的同时开阔视野,提高学习英语的积极性。

与同类图书相比,本套丛书的特点是**文章篇幅短小精悍、行文轻松幽默**。由于对非英语国家的学习者,科普文章在单词上有一定的难度,所以丛书严格地控制了每本书的篇幅长度,约为1500-2000个单词,以尽量避免读者在阅读过程中产生挫折感。丛书采用**国际流行开本、彩色印刷、图文并茂,而且题材广泛,话题新奇有趣**,从爱迪生和达芬奇的伟大发明、古往今来人类对密码的应用,到神秘的百慕大三角、物种灭绝、灾难逃生、极限运动,等等。火星人的真的曾经登陆地球吗?谁在月亮上发现了蓝色独角兽?复活节岛上的巨型石像是从哪里来的?对所有这些疑问,读者都可以在书中找到答案。书中不仅配有大量真实的**照片**,还穿插了许多幽默的**卡通图画**,让读者在学习语言、掌握知识的过程中,感受绝对的**轻松和愉悦**!

这套出版物的目标是既要让读者体会到如何运用课堂学到的英语恰如其分地描述丰富多彩的大千世界,又要帮助读者避免在泛读中初次接触新鲜话题时被生僻的或专业的词汇所难倒。因此,我们在改编的过程中为全书配了**中译文**,并根据新课标的大纲词汇表对**超纲词汇**和**大纲词汇**作了**双语注释**,相信读者能够在循序渐进的阅读中迅速提高词汇量,有效地夯实英语语言基础,早日自如地用英语去交流。

为了促进中小学英语阅读教学,我们基于华中师范大学鲁子问教授提出的“英语教育动态真实原则”,设计了国家教育部专项任务项目“中小学英语教育动态真实原则推广性实验”的子课题——“中小学英语真实阅读教学推广实验”。课题组将基于中国电力出版社出版的、中国教育学会外语教学专业委员会推荐的“阅读空间”系列读物,组织各地中小学英语教研员和教师,全面参与课题实验,为探索适合我国中小学的英语阅读教学新途径而积极尝试。

**这是一套将英语、趣味和科普完美结合的优秀读物!**同学们,让我们一起开始这轻松、快乐的阅读之旅吧!

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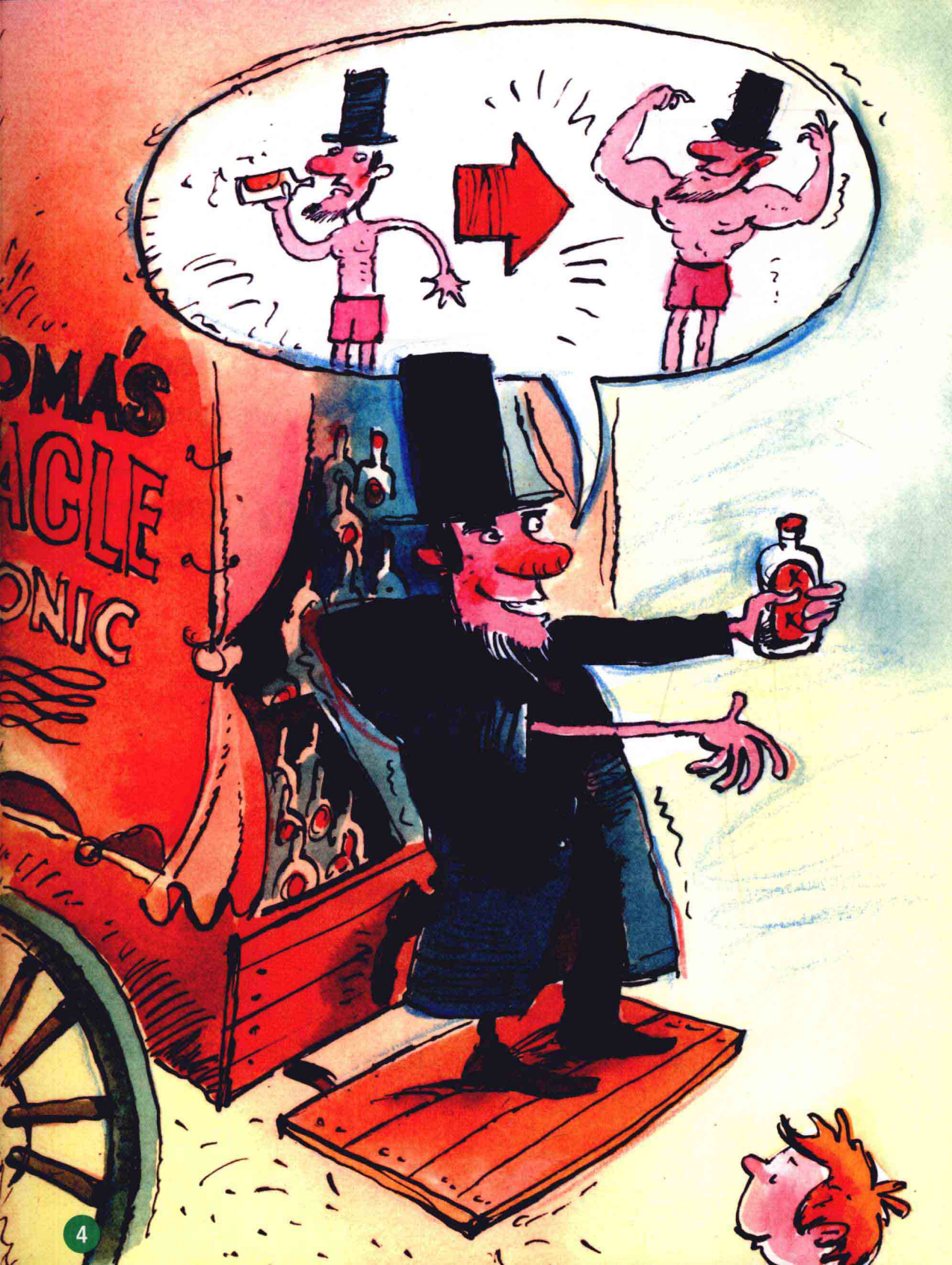
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# Is That for Real?

Do you believe everything you see?

If you do — **beware**. Hoaxers are everywhere! The word “**hoax**” is thought to come from “**hocus**” in “**hocus pocus**”. This is a phrase used by magicians. Like a magician, a hoaxer tries to make you see things that aren't real.

## 这一切都是真的吗？

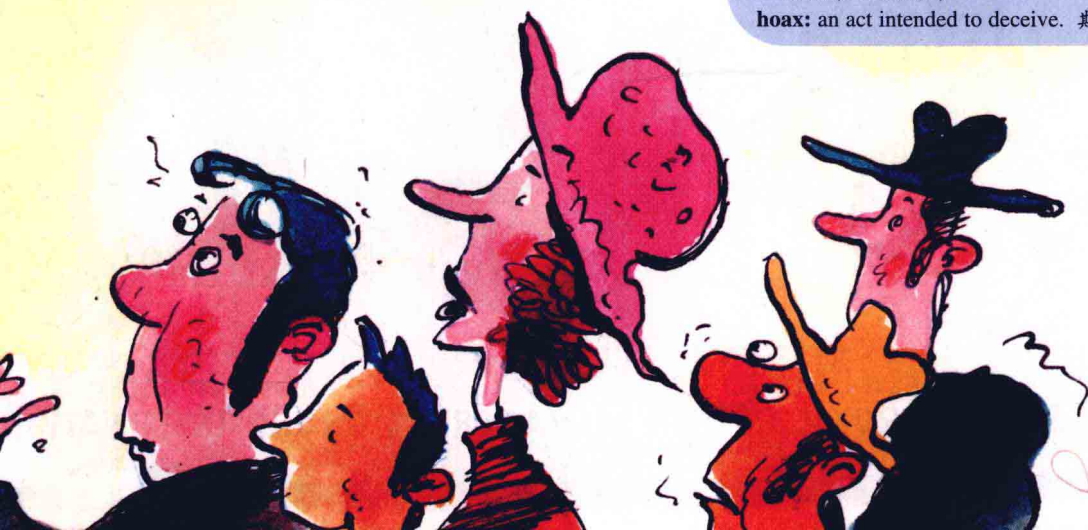
你真的相信眼见为实吗？

如果你真的相信——那可得小心喽！江湖骗子到处都是！据说“骗”这个字就来自魔术师常用的一句咒语“唬卡嘶、咆卡嘶”。像魔术师一样，骗子们就是想尽办法让你相信那些根本不存在的东西。

### Notes

**beware:** be cautious; look out. 小心;  
谨防(上当/危险)

**hoax:** an act intended to deceive. 欺骗

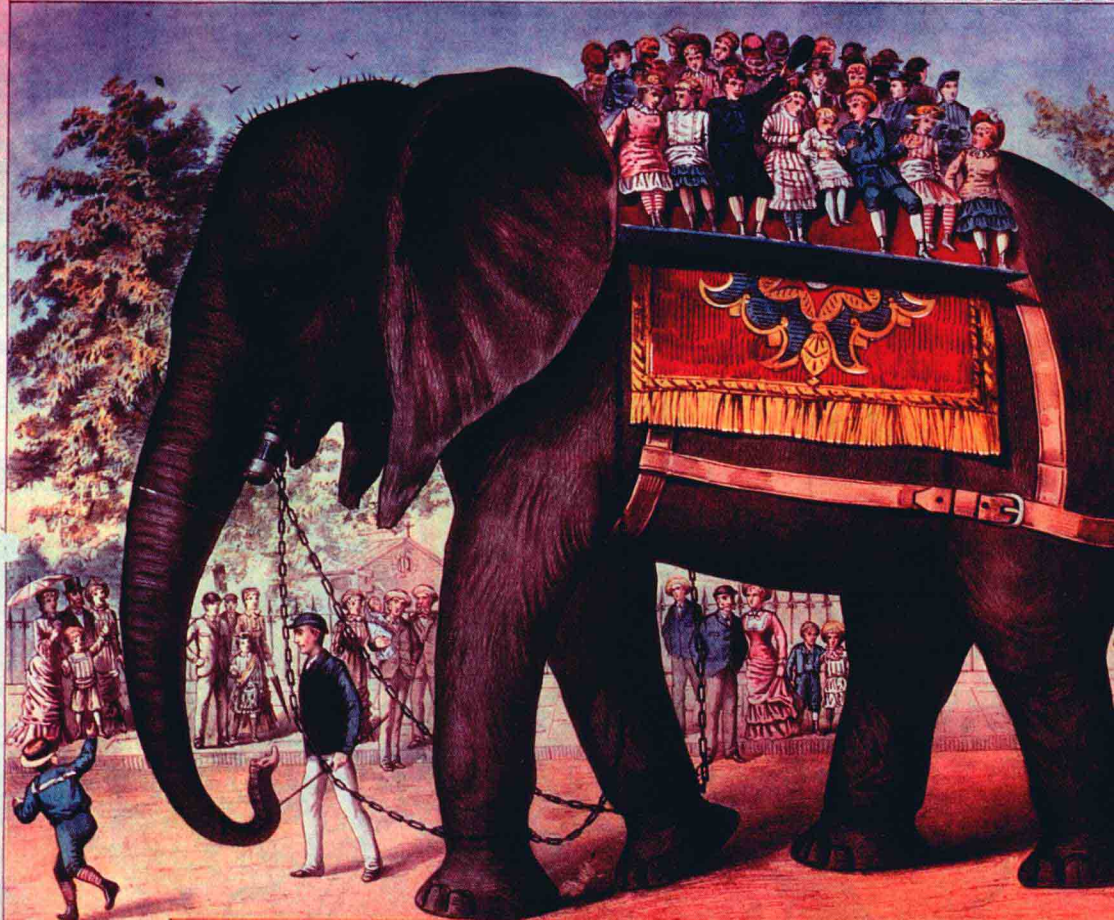




## A Great Hoaxer

Who was one of the greatest hoaxers of them all? P. T. Barnum! Phineas Taylor (P. T.) Barnum travelled around America in the 1800s with his incredible **circus**, full of strange **exhibits**. P. T. Barnum said that his exhibits were some of the **weirdest** things in the world. Some people paid to see his hoaxes because they really believed them. Others didn't believe his hoaxes were true, but they paid to see them anyway.

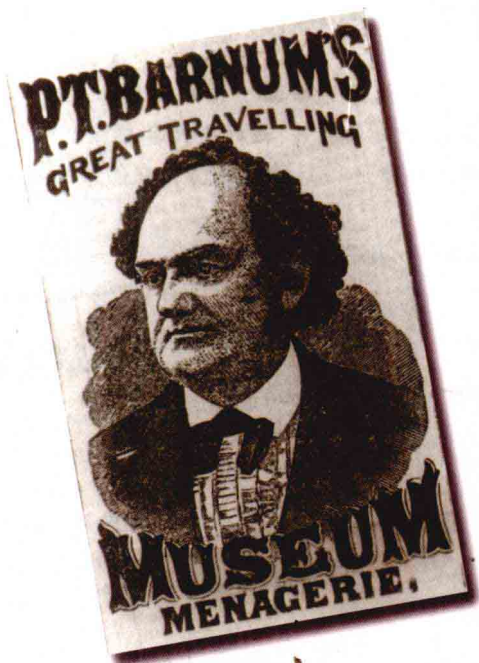
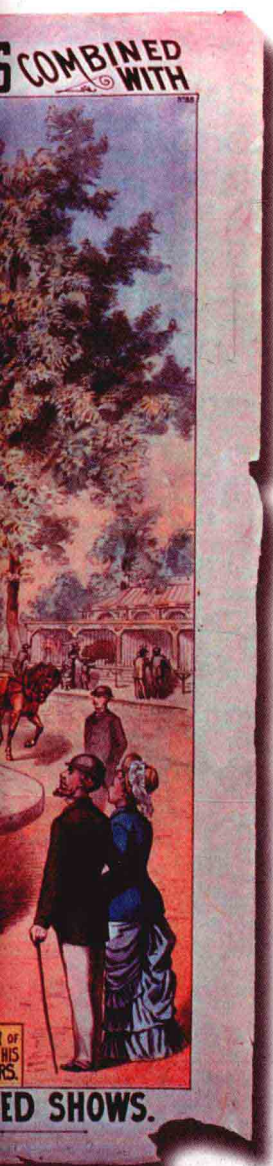
### P.T. BARNUM'S GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH & THE GREAT LONDON



**JUMBO** THE PRIDE OF THE BRITISH HEART. HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN. HER CHILDREN AND GRAND CHILDREN. A OVER ONE MILLION ENGLISH CHILDREN BROAD BACK IN  
**SANGER'S ROYAL BRITISH MENAGERIE & GRAND INTERNATIONAL**  
BARNUM, BAILEY & HUTCHINSON. SOLE OWNERS

## 最“伟大”的江湖骗子

谁是江湖骗子中最“伟大”的那个人呢？是费理亚斯·泰勒·伯纽姆！在19世纪的数十年里，伯纽姆一直带着他的马戏团在全美国巡演。他的马戏团充满了各种令人不可思议的神奇展品。伯纽姆说他的展品中有这世上最离奇的东西。有些人花钱去看他的展品，因为他们相信那都是真的。有些人并不相信那些展品是真的，可他们还是会花钱去看。



P. T. Barnum (1810—1891)  
费理亚斯·泰勒·伯纽姆 (1810—1891)

Q: What happened when the King's men played a joke on Humpty Dumpty?

A: He fell for it.

问：国王的手下取笑“矮胖子”会怎么样呢？

答：他求之不得呢。

### Notes

**circus:** a travelling company that performs entertainments. 马戏团  
**exhibit:** something on display. 展品  
**weird:** strange. 奇怪的



# The Greatest Show on Earth

P. T. Barnum wanted everyone to know about his circus. He called it "The Greatest Show on Earth". His railway car always arrived in a town two weeks before the circus. The outside of the railway car was painted with a picture of P. T. Barnum and some of the exotic animals in his circus.

## 世界上最棒的表演

费理亚斯·泰勒·伯纽姆想让所有的人都知道他的马戏团。他把他的马戏团称做“世界上最棒的表演”。他的小火车总是比他的马戏团早到两个星期。小火车的车身上画着费理亚斯·泰勒·伯纽姆的画像，在他的马戏团里还有一些有异域特色的动物。

### BARNUM'S HOAX NO. 1

**Exhibit name:** The Feejee Mermaid

**The claim:** She was a beautiful young woman with the tail of a fish.

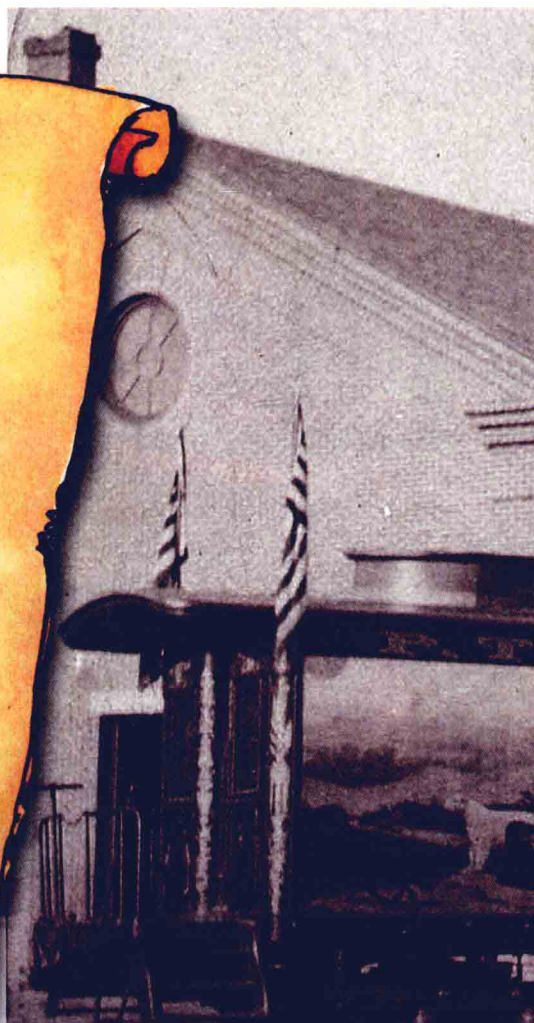
**The hoax:** She was really part of a monkey and part of a fish sewn together.

伯纽姆戏法儿一：

表演名称：斐济美人鱼

承诺：她是个长着鱼尾巴的漂亮女人。

戏法儿：她实际上是半猴半鱼缝在一起的。





Barnum called one of these animals, "the last **mastodon** on earth". The animal was really an elephant called Jumbo.

伯纽姆把其中一种动物叫做“地球上最后一头乳齿象”。其实那是一头名叫“大家伙”的大象。

## BARNUM'S HOAX NO. 2

Exhibit name: Joice Heth

The claim: She was 161 years old — the oldest woman in the world.

The hoax: She was only 80 years old when she died (although she was very wrinkly).

伯纽姆戏法儿二：

表演名称：宙思·海司

承诺：她有161岁——是世界上最老的妇人。

戏法儿：她死的时候只有80岁。（只不过她满脸褶子）



CAUTION: Staying too long in a bath will make you wrinkly, too.

注意：在浴缸里呆久了你也会满脸褶子的。

## HOAX ALERT!

Last seen flying over your place!

骗术提醒！

这可是最后一次看到他们飞过哦！



### Notes

**exotic**: something from outside the country; foreign. 异域的；外国的

**mastodon**: a large mammal that died hundreds of years of ago, similar to the elephant. 乳齿象（史前动物）

**mermaid**: a legendary sea creature having the head and upper body of a woman and the tail of a fish. 美人鱼



# A Giant Hoax

P. T. Barnum was always on the lookout for a good hoax. When he read that a man called George Hull had “discovered” a giant, he offered Hull \$50,000 to buy it. Hull had spent a long time making this **fake** giant and then burying it. He didn’t want to sell it. So Barnum decided to make his own giant. He told the newspapers that Hull’s giant was the fake and his was the real one. A **double** hoax!

## 一个大骗局

费理亚斯·泰勒·伯纽姆总是在寻找好的机会。当他得知有个叫乔治·胡尔的人“发现”了一个巨人时，他开价5万美元想买下胡尔的那个巨人。可胡尔花了很长的时间才制成这假巨人，然后又把它埋起来，所以舍不得卖。于是伯纽姆就决定自己做一个。他告诉许多家报纸说胡尔的巨人是假的，他的才是真的。好一个“骗中骗”。

Digging up George Hull's giant, October 1869

1869年10月，挖掘胡尔的巨人现场



Notes

**fake:** something that is made to trick people thinking it is genuine, but it is not. 假冒的

**double:** twice. 双重的; 两倍

# Hull's Giant

胡尔的巨人

Nose length: 15cm

鼻子长度: 15厘米

Arm length: 1.46m

手臂长度: 1.46米

Head, from top to chin: 53 cm

头部, 从头顶至下巴: 53厘米

This must be a chip off the old block.  
这肯定是废旧钟表上的碎块!

WEIGHT

1356 kg

HEIGHT

体重: 1356 公斤 3.16 m

身高: 3.16 米

Second finger: 20cm

食指长度: 20厘米

Shoe size: 28

鞋的尺码: 28

Foot length: 53cm

脚长: 53厘米





# SHOP OF HOAXES

FOUR BOXES OF  
IMAGINATION  
 $\$1.25 \times 4 = \$5.00$

ONE STRAIGHT  
FACE  $\$2.25$

TWO CARTONS  
OF FIBS

$\$5.75 \times 2 = \$11.50$

THREE FAKES

$\$1.99 \times 3 = \$5.97$

TEN CANS OF  
MADE-UP FACTS

$\$54 \times 10 = \$540.00$

DELIVERY  
\$2000

TOTAL  $\$2564.72$

THANK YOU FOR  
SHOPPING AT THE  
SHOP OF HOAXES  
WHERE YOUR  
HOAX WILL COST  
YOU THE MOST.

JOKES

CAN OF  
STRIP  
PAINT



# Fooling Around

Warning. Warning. Hoax zone ahead. Watch out for those tricksters...

If someone asks you to buy a can of striped paint, a bucket of steam, elbow grease or a left-handed hammer, check the date on your **calendar**.

It's probably the 1st of April — April Fool's Day.

## 到处行骗

警告。警告。骗子的地盘儿就在前方。千万要小心那些江湖骗子……

如果有人让你买一罐条状油漆，一桶蒸气、重活，或是左撇子用的扳手，那可要好好看看日历了。

没准儿那天正好是4月1日——愚人节。

### Notes

**elbow grease:** physical work or efforts.

重活；脏活

**calendar:** a list showing the days and months of the year. 日历

# Grow Your Own Spaghetti

On April Fool's Day in 1957, an English TV program showed Swiss farmers picking spaghetti from trees. Hundreds of people called the TV station and asked how to grow spaghetti trees. They were told to "place a **sprig** of spaghetti in a tin of tomato sauce and hope for the best".

Because spaghetti was an exotic food in England at that time, many people didn't know where it came from. They believed that it could grow on trees!

## 种你自己的意大利面

1957年的愚人节，一家英国电视台播放了瑞士的农夫从树上采摘意大利面的节目。成百的人给电视台打电话询问如何种植意大利面树。他们被告知“只要在一罐番茄酱里放上意大利面树枝，然后就祝自己好运吧。”

因为在那时的英国，意大利面还是种异域食品，很多人还不知道它是怎么来的。他们真以为意大利面是长在树上的！



### Notes

**spaghetti:** a type of Italian noodle. 意大利式细面条

**sprig:** a small piece of a plant with its leaves. 树枝，枝叶