

The Bull Bears All

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One day a bull was walking along a road. He met a donkey.
“Good day, big bull,” said the donkey, “how broad your back!”
“Jump up,” said the bull, and the donkey jumped up on the bull’s broad back.
By and by they met a bear.
“Good day, big bull,” said the bear, “how broad your back!”
“Jump up,” said the bull, and the bear jumped up on the donkey’s back.
By and by they met a goat.
“Good day, big bull,” said the goat, “how broad your back!”
“Jump up,” said the bull, and the goat jumped up on the bear’s back.
By and by they met a fox.
“Good day, big bull,” said the fox, “how broad your back!”
“Jump up,” said the bull, and the fox jumped up on the goat’s back.
By and by they met a cat.
“Good day, big bull,” said the cat, “how broad your back!”
“Jump up,” said the bull, and the cat jumped up on the fox’s back.
By and by they met a rat.
“Good day, big bull,” said the rat, “how broad your back!”
“Jump up,” said the bull, and the rat jumped up on the cat’s back.
By and by they met a wren.
“Good day, big bull,” said the wren, “how broad your back!”
“Jump up,” said the bull, and the wren flew up on the rat’s back.
By and by they met a bee.
“Good day, big bull,” said the bee, “how broad your back!”
“Jump up,” said the bull, and the bee flew up on the wren’s back.
By and by they met a bed bug.
“Good day, big bull,” said the bed bug, “how broad your back!”

"Jump up," said the bull, and the bug jumped up onto the bull's broad back, the donkey's back, the bear's back, the goat's back, the fox's back, the cat's back, the rat's back, the wren's back, and last of all on the bee's fuzzy back.

The bed bug was high above the ground. (The bug was high—so high!) He looked all around. He thought himself very big and tall.

"I'm the King of the Castle, and you're the dirty rascals," sang the bed bug, and he bit the bee to show who's boss.

"Buzz!" said the bee and stung the wren.

"Chirp!" said the wren and pecked the rat.

"Squeak!" said the rat and gnawed the cat.

"Meow!" said the cat and scratched the fox.

"Bark!" said the fox and nipped the goat.

"Maaaa!" said the goat and butted the bear.

"Growl!" said the bear and clawed the donkey.

"Hee-haw!" said the donkey and kicked the bull.

"Well," snorted the bull, "if that's how you thank me, then off you go!" and he bucked and heaved and threw them all off and never did he let them ride on his back again.

