

# Trips to the Moon



Lucian of Samosata

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## Trips to the Moon

By Lucian of Samosata (120-180)

Translated by Thomas Francklin, D.D. (1721-1784)

The endeavour of small Greek historians to add interest to their work by magnifying the exploits of their countrymen, and piling wonder upon wonder, Lucian first condemned in his *Instructions for Writing History*, and then caricatured in his *True History*, wherein is contained the account of a trip to the moon, a piece which must have been enjoyed by Rabelais, which suggested to Cyrano de Bergerac his *Voyages to the Moon and to the Sun*, and insensibly contributed, perhaps, directly or through Bergerac, to the conception of *Gulliver's Travels*. The *Icaro-Menippus Dialogue* describes another trip to the moon, though its satire is more especially directed against the philosophers. (Summary from the Introduction)

Total running time: 03:27:22; read by Ralph Snelson.

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