The Sam & Jesse Radio Show

Week 11, Episode 4: They Sent My Duck Back

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| 00:00 | Leon | They sent my duck back. |
| 00:01 |  | [music] |
| 00:08 | Narrator | [over music] It’s time now for another day in the life of Sam and Jesse. Gum Springs, Arkansas. |
| 00:23 |  | [music fades out, then repeats] |
| 00:33 |  | [door opens & closes] |
| 00:34 | Sam | Hey, Leon! |
| 00:35 | Leon | Hey, Sam. |
| 00:36 | Sam | Man, you got a long face. You- you. What’s wrong with you? |
| 00:41 | Leon | Yeah. I-I just don’t understand it, Sam. |
| 00:44 | Sam | Understand what, Leon? |
| 00:46 | Leon | Don’t think I’m gonna get my diploma. |
| 00:48 | Sam | Y-you mean your diploma to be a preacher? [overlap] I-I thought you already had that. |
| 00:51 | Leon | [overlap] No. M-my-my taxidermy diploma. |
| 00:53 | Sam | Your what?! |
| 00:54 | Leon | Taxidermy. Uh, taxidermy’s the scientific name for – it means stuffin’ things. |
| 01:00 | Sam | I know what it means! I-I know. But why are you gettin’ a diploma? |
| 01:05 | Leon | No, I don’t think I’m gone get it. See, I been taken that mail order course. Bet you’ve seen it. I-it’s advertised on the back of funny books and Progressive Farmer it’d up there in Chicago. Well, I sent for it. Y-you get ten lessons. See, o-one a week for ten weeks. |
| 01:22 | Sam | Y-ya’ mean you been takin’ tha- You never told us about that. [overlap] |
| 01:25 | Leon | [overlap] Well, I-I didn’t want to tell you because if I didn’t do good wouldn’t nobody know but me, see. But I done real good. |
| 01:22 | Sam | But, now if you done good why won’t they give you your diploma? |
| 01:35 | Leon | I-I-I really done good. I-I done a pigeon. Ya’ know with its claws spread like-like it’s catching fish and-and done a squirrel settin’ on its hind legs kind of wavin’ its paw. Just had one bad problem. |
| 01:48 | Sam | And that’s why they won’t graduate you, huh? |
| 01:50 | Leon | No, I don’t reckon they know ‘bout that. You know my neighbor, De’Wayne Hutchins? Uh, uh- You know he’s now there next to farm road forty-three? |
| 01:58 | Sam | Yeah. W-what about him? |
| 02:00 | Leon | Well, he shot his first deer two months ago, a-and I told him I could mount the head. Well, h-h-he let me. Ten-point buck. Well, I skinned the head, ya’ know just like you’re supposed to. And had the horns and the skull up in my tree for meat to all go away. But somethin’ got it. Horns and all. Bobcat I reckon. |
| 02:20 | Sam | That-that’s-that’s terrible. |
| 02:22 | Leon | Yeah. Uh. I had to just give him what is left. Sure was embarrassing, just giving him that face just limp as a rag. |
| 02:28 |  | [music] |
| 02:38 |  | [music fades out, then repeats] |
| 02:48 | Sam | But, now, Leon, You still ain’t told me why they won’t give you your diploma. |
| 02:53 | Leon | Well, y-ya’ have to send ‘em one thing at the end. Li-like a test. I-I sent ‘em a duck. Done it real good. |
| 03:00 | Sam | Well, now what’s the problem? I don’t understand. [overlap] |
| 03:03 | Leon | [overlap] I reckon they got upset ‘bout size. Uh, I couldn’t ‘ford to buy them real glass eyes they sale. I-I think they was mad ‘cause I didn’t buy the eyes from them. |
| 03:11 | Sam | Well, what difference? What’d you use anyway? |
| 03:14 | Leon | I used two white shirt buttons. Seemed to upset ‘em somethin’ fierce. [overlap] |
| 03:17 | Sam | [overlap] Well, sure. Two black-eyed peas woulda’ looked a lot better. |
| 03:22 | Leon | It’s real embarrassin’ when they send your duck back. |
| 03:25 |  | [music] |