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Bike and Duck Joke

Tanner Perkes
tanner.perkes@gmail.com

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Zach Hamp
Hyde Park, Utah
December 2017

Bike and Duck joke
Joke

Informant: Zach Hamp is a 22-year-old student at Utah State University from Hyde Park, Utah. We went to Sky View High School together and attended the same church. He enjoys movies, certain video games, and having fun with friends.

Context: Zach and I were talking in my living room in Hyde Park when I recorded this conversation. My parents were in the other room so there was quite a bit of background conversation, but Zach knows my family, so he was comfortable. We have been friends for at least nine years and so during the whole talk we were laughing and reminiscing about funny high school stories.

Zach said that when his dad had originally told him this joke, Zach was having surgery and had taken some sedatives, which made the joke seem a whole lot funnier than most would think.

Text:

Zach: What does a bike have in common with a duck?

Me: What?

Zach: They both have handle bars, except for the duck.

Texture: As he told me this joke, it was told like it was a really dumb joke that is only funny because it makes no sense. It was more of a statement than an actual joke. We still chuckled after, but it was more of a pity laugh than a sincere laugh. This joke is more intended as a sort of “anti-joke” – a joke that is usually funnier to the teller than the listener because the teller gets to see the confused reaction of the listener trying to understand the ridiculousness of the somewhat anticlimactic punch line.

Tanner Perkes
Utah State University
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Lynne McNeil
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