

*Apologies to Yip Harburg who wrote the Old Devil Moon lyrics for the musical Finian's Rainbow in 1947*

But this supermoon is also an ultra rare moon. It's a blue moon, nothing to do with the colour blue, but a second full moon in a month and it only occurs once in every two to three years or to be precise, seven times in each cycle of 19 years.

"Blue" is a corruption of the old English word "belewe", to betray. Medieval people, whose months of the year were determined by the moon, 12 full moons in a year, felt betrayed by a 13th moon, the "belewe" moon, in a year.

*Chris Behan*