

JACK
&
THE BEANSTALK
by
Bradford
&
Webster

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JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

Cast

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| JACK | Principal Boy. Traditionally played, usually played by a female. The young hero. Falls in love with Jill. |
| JILL | Principal Girl. A sweet and attractive girl. Daughter of Lady Lotsadosh. Falls in love with Jack |
| DAME TILLY TROT | A traditional panto Dame. A poor widow, trying to earn a living selling milk from her dairy. Has two sons, Jack and Simon. |
| SIMPLE SIMON | Jack's brother. A bit lazy and not very bright, but good fun and needs to have a good rapport with the audience. |
| GROTVILER | The 'Baddie' – the Giant's evil sidekick. Needs to be able to work the audience and encourage the boos and hisses. |
| FAIRY HARRICOT VERT | The good fairy but not a typical 'Fairy Godmother'. A French accent, if possible, and a touch of comedy. |
| GRABBIT & LEGGIT | The 'Comedy Duo'. Dim-witted tax collectors. Both are bungling idiots, but Leggit is the particularly dim one. Good comedy talent required. |
| LADY LOTSADOSH | Very posh 'Lady of the Manor'. Larger-than-life character Mother of Jill. |
| GIANT BLUNDERBORE | The evil giant. Deep, booming voice. Probably better if one person is inside the costume and another is speaking the lines with a microphone, adding echo/effects (or record the lines). |
| BUTTERCUP | The 'skin' role – it takes two. Not visible – but front end, especially, needs to be able to put across the various emotions. Both need to cope with the walking & movement. |
| MAYOR | Very 'matter of fact'. Self-important. |
| MAISIE | Maid to Lady Lotsadosh |
| GEORGE | (smaller role) A friend of Simple Simon |
| JENNY | (smaller role) Villager |

OTHER SMALL ROLES (played by chorus members):-

HARRY POTTER
HARP
EMINEM
MACDONALD'S SERVER
BILL & BEN (optional)

CHORUS & DANCERS

VILLAGERS / FAIRIES / SKELETONS

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Scenes and Staging

ACT I

- Scene 1 The Village Of Greendale** Full stage scene. "Old Village" backcloth.
- Scene 2 The Outskirts Of The Village** Front of tabs or front cloth scene.
- Scene 3 A Woodland Glade** A full or half-stage scene. A painted cloth, if possible (if set up at half-stage, it can be used again for Scene 12). Or, more simply, just use some "tree" flats or artificial trees.
- Scene 4 The Outskirts Of The Village** Front of tabs or front cloth scene. As Scene 2.
- Scene 5 The Garden Of Trot's Cottage** A full stage scene. (See Additional Notes)
- Scene 6 On The Way To Market** Front of tabs or front cloth scene (can be the same as Scene 2).
- Scene 7 Inside Trot's Cottage** Full-stage scene. (See Additional Notes)
- Scene 8 The Outskirts Of The Village** Front of tabs or front cloth scene. As Scene 2.
- Scene 9 The Garden Of Trot's Cottage** A full stage scene. As Scene 5. Includes the "Beanstalk Growing" (See Additional Notes)

ACT II

- Scene 10 At The Top Of The Beanstalk** A full stage or half-stage scene. Use a painted "clouds" cloth, or paint clouds onto flats and add low haze or smoke.
This scene is included to provide a musical start to Act II. It can be omitted, if you wish to start Act II with the Fairy's entrance.
- Scene 11 The Garden Of Trot's Cottage** A full stage scene. As Scene 5, but with Beanstalk.
- Scene 12 In The Woods** A front cloth or tabs scene. If you are using a "Woodland" cloth for Scene 3, re-use it here, but only if it's on a half-stage track, as Scene 13 is full stage.
- Scene 13 The Giant's Castle** A full stage scene. A painted cloth, if possible, with "giant" furniture (See Additional Notes).
- Scene 14 The Outskirts Of The Village** Front of tabs or front cloth scene. As Scene 2.
- Scene 15 The Garden Of Trot's Cottage** A full stage scene. As Scene 5, but with Beanstalk.
- Song Sheet** Front of tabs

Finale Wedding Walk-Down and Bows Full stage. Use “Trot’s Garden”. Or if you can accommodate it, a sparkle cloth or shimmer curtain will enhance your finale.

ACT I**Scene 1 The Village Of Greendale**

Villagers on stage to start

SONG “It’s Not Where You Start, It’s Where You Finish” or similar ~ The Villagers

Simon enters

SIMON

Hiya boys and girls! (*his smile fades*) ... oh, there’s no one there (*turns to go*)

VILLAGE GIRL

Yes there is – look!

SIMON

Hey, you’re right! Hiya boys and girls!

Girl whispers in Simon’s ear

SIMON

Oh, of course, you don’t know who I am do you? My name is ... er ... Simon, er ... Simple Simon. The reason they call me Simple Simon is because erm... I sort of ... forget things..... Do you know, I sometimes even forget my own name! Here, maybe you can help me? Will you do that? Will you help me?

AUDIENCE

Yes!

SIMON

That’s great! Every time I come on, I’ll shout ‘Hi boys and girls’, and you can shout back ‘Hi Simon’. Then I won’t forget who I am! Will you do that? I’m sure you’ve never done anything like this before – you know, where I shout to you, then you shout back, then I **throw** **sweets** – oooh suddenly you’re interested! OK then, let’s have a practice! Hi boys girls!

AUDIENCE

Hi Simon!

SIMON

Oh, that was smashing! (*he throws some sweets*) Now then, what’s next? (*looks around*) anyone know what’s next?

Jack enters

JACK

Hello folks, what’s going on?

SIMON

Oh, hello Jack. I was just saying hello to my friends here (*indicates audience*) They might say hello to you too, if you’re lucky (*To audience*) This is Jack

JACK

Hello everyone!

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AUDIENCE
Hello Jack!

SIMON
(*showing off*) They shout louder to me! Listen .. (*shows sweets to audience*) Hi boys and girls!

AUDIENCE
Hi Simon!

Simon throws sweets

JACK
That's bribery!

SIMON
That's initiative!

JACK
That's a very long word for you, Simon! Mind you, it's some of the **shorter** ones you're not so keen on, isn't it? – like 'WORK'

Villagers laugh and agree

SIMON
I just like to pace myself You can do **too much**, you know

JACK
There's not much chance of that is there?

VILLAGER
More chance of Derby winning the FA Cup! (*or whatever is relevant to your local area*)

Villagers laugh and agree

JACK
(*Talking to audience*) Simon is **supposed** to work at the dairy with my Mum and me

SIMON
Oh yes, I forgot that's where I was going this morning. Oh Jack, it's too nice a day to work – I've got a great idea! Why don't we er er (*looks puzzled*)

GEORGE
....Why don't we all go down to the pool for a swim?

SIMON
I was just about to say that!

VILLAGERS
oh yes / good idea etc

JACK
Oh, I love swimmin'

SIMON
Oooh, I love women too (*does 'woman' shape with hands*)

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JACK

Not women (*does woman shape*) **Swimmin'** (*does swimming action*)

SIMON

Oh, not women? (*does woman shape*) Swimmin'? (*does swimming action*). Yes I quite like swimmin' (*swimming action*) too But not as much as (*woman shape*)

JACK

Come on, Simon, lets go – before Mum finds out that we're skiving!

All exit

Scene 2 The Outskirts Of The Village

lights dim / sfx - thunder / lightening

GIANT (*Voice-over*)

FEE FIE FOE FUM

I WANT MORE MONEY – SO BRING ME SOME!

AND IF YOU DON'T, YOU'LL ALL BE DEAD

I'LL GRIND YOUR BONES TO MAKE MY BREAD!

Grotviler enters from Stage Left

GROTVILER

His Master's voice speaks loud and clear

The villagers should quake with fear

I work for Giant Blunderbore

And soon this land will be no more

I'll work and toil for every hour

'till all the world is in our power

And as this simpering village cowers

All goods and riches will be ours

And you – you ugly, snivelling bunch

The Giant will eat you for his lunch

Oh yes he will!

AUDIENCE

Oh no he won't!

GROT

Oh yes he will!

AUDIENCE

Oh no he won't

GROT

Fee – Fie – Foe – Fum

Our wicked work will soon be done!

Fairy enters, Stage Right. She is pulling a wheeled suitcase, on which hangs a string of onions and a Duty Free bag

FAIRY

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Ah, bonjour good day my friends
 So zees eez where my journey ends?
 You need my help – eet eez true maybe?
 So I travelled 'ere on BMI Baby
 Paree to East Midlands – quick and cheap

GROT
 Just like you?

FAIRY
 Who eez zees creep?

GROT
 I am Grotviler, the Queen of Mean
 In evilness, I reign supreme
 The Giant Blunderbore and I
 Just love the taste of **Fairy Pie**

FAIRY
 Fairy Harricot Vert's my name
 And winning is my claim to fame
 I may not be a Briteesh fairy
 But steell I sort out all seengs scary

GROT
 Harricot Vert – what a stupid name
 Translate to English – make it plain!

FAIRY
 "Harricot Vert" eez – 'ow you say?
 Green ...er... Bean – oui, zat's ze way

GROT
 What sort of a name is '**Green Bean**'?

FAIRY
 I 'ave to say, I'm not so keen
 Les Francais – a poetic nation
 But it does lose someseeng in translation
 Mais oui, everyone knows eet's true
 Zat vegetables are good for you

GROT
 So "Fairy Bean", please tell these peasants
 Why you grace us with your presence

FAIRY
 As you know French wine tres bon
 So our grapevine eez ze very best one
 I've come to 'elp our 'ero, Jack
 Defend his village – I 'ave ze knack (*waves wand – SFX*)

GROT
 Zat leetle squirt (*shakes head*) That little squirt is just a boy
 To watch him squirm will be a joy!
 Your fairy magic is namby – pamby
 It'll be like Fluffy versus Bambi

Everything I know, was taught
 In Slytherin, by Valdemort
 Those good old days were just the best
 Before that Harry Potter pest
 And all his goody goody friends
 Decided they should make ammends
 And put an end to all things evil
 The interfering little weasel!
 And why do we have to speak in rhyme?

FAIRY
 Because it is a pantomime

GROT
 Well it gives me a headache (*glares at audience*) and so do you!

Grotvila exits

FAIRY
 A special kind of French majeeec
 Will bring the ending that we seek
 Mon Dieu – we ‘ave our work cut out
 We weell succeed – zere eez no doubt
 ... I ‘ope I think well zee odds are – ‘ow you say? – stacked up but maybe..

Fairy continues speaking as she exits

Scene 3 A Woodland Glade

SONG / DANCE “On A Wonderful Day Like Today” or an up-to-date chart number?

SIMON
 That was good! What’s next then?

JACK
 We really ought to be getting back to work, Simon ...

SIMON
 Yes, I was just about to say that ... NOT!

Jill enters – Jack sees her

JACK
 Actually, it’s quite nice here

SIMON
 (*notices Jill*) Not bad at all

JILL
 I beg your pardon?

JACK
 He means the ... er ... weather, not bad at all

JILL
 Yes ... very nice, I suppose

Simon and Jack point in different directions

JILL
Which way?

Simon and Jack point in the opposite different directions

JILL
You don't really know, do you?

SIMON
Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes no

DAME
(off stage) Yoo Hoo, where are you?

SIMON
Look out, here comes Dame Trot

Dame enters

DAME
Buttons! Buttons! Where are you?

JACK
Who's Buttons?

DAME
Buttons?

JACK
Yes, you were calling for Buttons. I'm Jack

DAME
Oh yes of course, that's Cinderella – this is Mother Goose what have you done with Pricilla, the goose?

JACK/SIMON
This is Jack and the Beanstalk!

DAME
Ooh yes, sorry, I get mixed up. *(To audience)* Oh what a bonny looking lot – ever so up-market! Much better than the lot we had in last night. Ooh except for her – there's that Mrs Eiderdown!

JACK
Don't you mean Mrs Ida Brown? An **eiderdown** is a big, voluminous thing that covers the Bed!

DAME
I know what I mean – ask **Mr** Brown!
Well I'd better introduce myself, hadn't I? I'm Dame Tillie Trot, owner of the famous "Trot's Dairy". *(To Simon – re audience)* Do they speak?

SIMON

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Who? Oh them, yes – they're great! Listen! Hi boys and girls!

AUDIENCE

Hi Simon!

Simon throws sweets. Dame fetches big box with 'Dairy Box' written on it

DAME

As you're such a nice bunch – I've got a treat for you – this is my 'Dairy Box' – it was supposed to be my 'Milk Tray', but the delivery chap was a bit strange ... dressed in black and climbing up the drainpipe anyway he fell off and he's landed up in the infirmary. So this is my 'Dairy Box' - it's filled with goodies from the dairy. Yoghurt, cream, milk but mostly chocolate! So whenever I shout 'Yoo hoo! What shall we do?' you can shout 'Open the box!' and I'll see what goodies there are for you. Let's have a go ... I'll pretend to go off, and come back on again (*goes towards wings, then returns to centre*) Yoo hoo! What shall we do?

AUDIENCE

Open the box!

Dame throws chocs from box to audience. Then puts box back into wings

DAME

Now then, where was I? (*thinks, then looks to wings*) Cue!

With Simon at front, villagers form a queue in front of Dame Trot

DAME

What ARE you doing?

SIMON

You said queue (*excited*) What have you got for us? Is it something nice?

DAME

Not 'queue' 'cue' (*obviously sounds the same*)

SIMON

Not 'queue'? 'queue'?

All in queue look at each other – confused

DAME

For your information, when an actor asks for a cue, it means they've lost the line

SIMON

I think **you've** lost the plot – and I thought that **I** was supposed to be the simple one!

DAME

Cheeky monkey! I suppose you two have been up to your usual tricks – philandering again!

JACK

Don't be silly, Mother, I don't even know what it means. We've just met Jill from the Castle on the Hill. She's lost, and we were just telling her the way back

Jack and Simon point in different directions

GEORGE

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Don't start all that again!

JILL

Jack and Simon were trying to be helpful. I'm Jill, pleased to meet you

DAME

Tillie Trot (*they shake hands*)

JILL

That's an unusual name

DAME

That's because I'm an unusual woman, I've got a brown belt in Judo, and a black belt in Karaoke. And if I were you, I'd buy an A to Z These two couldn't find an elephant in a zoo

JILL

I'll ask those people over there, they might know (*goes to villagers*)

DAME

(*stage whisper*) What are you two doing mixing with the likes of her?

JACK/SIMON

Who?

DAME

Her Jill from the Castle on the Hill ...

JACK

She only **works** at the castle ...

DAME

She **lives** at the castle – and happens to be the daughter of Lady Lotsadosh

JACK

(*downhearted*) Oh.

Jack looks across at Jill, she waves at him, coyly

DAME

Anyway, I have work to do, and I'll need some help

JACK

Will you?

DAME

Will you what?

JACK

Need some help

DAME

I thought you'd never offer! Come on

Dame & Simon exit – Jack pauses to look at Jill

DAME

NOW!

Jack exits

Grotviler enters – front of stage left – not seen by villagers

GROTVILER

It's me again, are **you** still here?
I thought I'd made it very clear
But if you want to pay the price
I'll turn you into little mice
My cat will eat you, one by one
'til every one of you is gone!
You'll all be eaten!
Oh yes, you will!

AUDIENCE

Oh no, we won't!

GROT

Oh yes, you will!

AUDIENCE

Oh no, we won't!

GROT

Oh shut up, you snivelling bunch of toads!

Fairy enters

FAIRY

Je ne sais pas – she is so bad
'er 'eart, eet must be very sad
'er 'air eez bad – and zut alors!
'er fashion sense eez very poor!

GROT

Why, Fairy **Green Bean**, you'll soon be gone
You'll be Fairy **Has Been** by the end of Act One!
And now to spoil the villagers' fun
A little storm should make them run!

Grotviler casts a spell – lights dim / SFX / light flashes – to create storm effect

Villagers quickly collect belongings and rush to exit

FAIRY

I left Paree in such an 'urry
I did not bring mon parapluie

Fairy exits

GROT

Ha Ha Ha Ha etc

Grotviler exits

Scene 4 The Outskirts Of The Village

Grabbit and Leggit enter

GRABBIT

I thought the villagers would be here, so that we could collect the taxes they owe, but they must have been tipped off

LEGGIT

(peering over the edge of stage) Ooh – tipped off where?

GRABBIT

No, stupid! – tipped off - warned that we were on our way. We need to find the Villagers

LEGGIT

Why? Is it Hide and Seek? I love Hide and Seek – shall I count? 1, 2, 3, ...

Grabbit hits Leggit's hand

LEGGIT

Ouch! Oooh, that really hurt *(makes a fuss about sore hand)*

GRABBIT

You're such a baby *(looks at L's hand)* There's no damage

LEGGIT

So I'll be able to play the piano, then?

GRABBIT

Of course!

LEGGIT

Oh good – cos I couldn't play it before! Get it? Oh, please yourselves – you obviously don't appreciate talent I was in television, you know – got right to the top of the ladder

GRABBIT

You installed ariels

Leggit looks a bit sheepish

GRABBIT

I think you were at the back of the queue when they gave out the brain cells!

LEGGIT

And **you** were at the back when they gave out the looks!

GRABBIT

Very funny anyway, we need to find the Villagers, so that they can pay us their tax money, then we can give the money to the Mayor, and the Mayor can give the money to Giant Blunderbore

LEGGIT

It's not fair! We shouldn't have to give all of our money to the Giant

GRABBIT

What do you think about skewered meat, roasted over a barbecue and drizzled with tangy Barbecue Sauce

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LEGGIT

Mmmmm, very Jamie Oliver! Sounds yummy!

GRABBIT

THAT is what the Giant will do to US if we don't get him some cash!

LEGGIT

What are we waiting for? Let's find those Villagers!

Grabbit & Leggit run off

Scene 5 The Garden Of Trot's Cottage

Dame enters

DAME

Yoo hoo! What shall we do?

AUDIENCE

Open the box!

Dame throws chocs to audience

Jack enters, he is obviously searching for something

DAME

Hello Jack, what are you doing?

JACK

I'm looking for Buttercup

DAME

How did you manage to **lose** ... a cow? I mean ... it's not like losing 10p down the back of the sofa, is it?

Buttercup enters & stands behind Jack & Dame

DAME

(to audience) You haven't seen Buttercup, have you? She's about this high and about this wide and she has ... *(mimes 'horns' & 'udder')*

Audience will shout – hopefully!

AUDIENCE

She's behind you!

DAME

She's where? Behind us? Oh no she isn't!

AUDIENCE

Oh yes she is!

DAME

Oh no she isn't! OK, Jack, lets have a look

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Dame & Jack circle around to the right – Buttercup follows – but they don't see her

DAME

See, she isn't there

AUDIENCE

Oh yes she is!

DAME

Oh no she isn't! OK, Jack, let's look the other way

Dame & Jack circle around to the left – Buttercup follows – but they don't see her

DAME

Not there! So where is she?

AUDIENCE

Behind you!

Dame and Jack look behind – this time they see Buttercup

DAME

Oh there you are, Buttercup! You are naughty!

Buttercup acts coy

DAME

Come to Mumsie then, come on

Jack goes over to snuggle Mum

DAME

Not you, you big softie – Buttercup!

Buttercup goes to Dame, who tickles her ear

DAME

There now, what's all the fuss?

Buttercup whispers in Dame's ear

DAME

She says that your hands are too cold, Jack

JACK

That's all very well, but our customers didn't get their milk this morning – before we know it, they'll all be buying it in plastic cartons from Asda, and **we'll** go out of business

DAME

That's true. Buttercup, you are naughty, you know that we depend on you to keep a roof over our heads

Buttercup looks very sad – aaah!

DAME

Never mind! Tell you what – I've got nice warm hands. Jack get the pail, I'll fetch the stool

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Jack puts the pail under Buttercup – she kicks it out of the way. Dame enters with stool, Buttercup is pacing around in circles

DAME

Jack, hold her steady!

Jack holds Daisy still. Dame sits on the stool, leans forward to start milking – but Buttercup kicks the pail away again. Dame stands to fetch the pail. Buttercup sits on the stool. With some effort, Jack & Dame get Buttercup up off the stool, but then Buttercup puts her foot in the pail. She walks around with her foot in the pail. Jack eventually pulls off the pail & puts it under Buttercup. Dame pumps Buttercup's tail & a prop bottle of milk drops down into the pail (the person in the back of the skin will do this)

DAME

Who's a clever girl, then? I knew you could do it

They make a fuss of her. Buttercup whispers to Dame – Dame lots of oohing & nodding

DAME

She says that she's even cleverer than that – when she does the 'Hokey Cokey' and shakes it all about' – she can make real dairy cream

JACK

Yum! – cream pies, chocolate éclairs and yummy cakes!

DAME

I don't know whether I should eat them – I have to watch my figure, you know. I have the figure of an 18 year old

JACK

Well you should give it back – you're getting it all wrinkled!

DAME

Cheeky monkey! Anyway, Buttercup, I've had an idea – cream pies are no good for my cholesterol – but they might make good ammunition for when those Tax Collectors come calling. *(to audience)* Would you like to see Buttercup making some cream pies? Shall we have a go, boys and girls? Well, shall we? OK, here we go!

Hokey Cokey music & dance – Jack fetches a plate and holds it under Buttercup. Buttercup (or the person inside) squirts "cream" onto the plate. Repeat the dance and cream-squirting twice – she needs three pies..The cream pies are stored upstage. Jack takes Buttercup off stage. Dame heads upstage. Grabbit & Leggit enter with the Mayor

GRABBIT

Make way for His Worship the Mayor!

MAYOR

Dame Trot! Your presence!

DAME

(forward) Ooh presents! Where are they then?

MAYOR

Where are what?

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DAME
My presents

MAYOR
Dame Trot – you owe me more money than anyone else in the village. What do you have to say for yourself?

DAME
(*sings*) I got bills they're multiplying – and I'm losing control

SONG "IT'S THE MONEY I WANT" (parody of 'You're The One That I Want' from "Grease")
~ Dame, Grabbit & Leggit

MAYOR
Now, Madam! What about my money?

DAME
I haven't any money, Sir

MAYOR
That's a **poor** excuse – get it? POOR excuse (*laughs at own joke – no one else is amused*)

DAME
(*shoves the Mayor*) And you're a POOR EXCUSE for a man!

MAYOR
Madam! I demand respect! I am the Mayor! Taxes! Taxes! I must have taxes!

DAME
(*takes mobile phone from apron pocket*) Hello ... Derby Cabs? (*replace with name of local taxi firm*) Two taxis to Trot's Dairy, please. Quick as you can!

MAYOR
NOT **taxis**

DAME
What about the bus, then? Very impressive - the Mayor using public transport!

MAYOR
Now look here, you old hay bag! You owe me tax and you owe me a year's rent on the dairy and if you don't pay up, I'll have you evicted

DAME
Big Brother Dairy – this is Davina. The person nominated for eviction this week is Dame Tillie Trot!
Look, Mr Mayor, Sir – I haven't any money at the moment, but would you like to try one of my extra special cream pies? (*Winks at audience*)

Simon enters

SIMON
Hello Mrs T. I went to do something but I forgot what it was

DAME
It was **work** – you were **supposed** to be doing some work

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