

**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 skinrole . 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 ~~the~~ 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 ~~the~~ Not Where You Start, ~~the~~ Where You Finish+or similar ~ The Villagers

*Simon enters*

SIMON

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

VILLAGE GIRL

Yes there is . look!

SIMON

Hey, you~~re~~ right! Hiya boys and girls! ò ..

*Girl whispers in Simon's ear*

SIMON

Oh, of course, you don~~t~~ know who I am do you? My name is ò er ò Simon, er ò Simple Simon. The reason they call me Simple Simon is because ò . erm ò I sort of ò forget things ò .. 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~~d~~ shout ~~Hi~~ boys and girls~~s~~ and you can shout back ~~Hi~~ Simon~~q~~ Then I won~~t~~ forget who I am! Will you do that? I~~m~~ sure you~~re~~ 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! ò .

AUDIENCE

Hi Simon!

SIMON

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

*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 ~~W~~ORK

*Villagers laugh and agree*

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

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 ò ò

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 ò . er ò .. er ò ò (*looks puzzled*)

GEORGE  
ò .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 swimming

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

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 ò . But not as much as (*woman shape*) ò ..

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' , 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

until 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 ò .. good day my friends  
 So zees eez where my journey ends?  
 You need my help . eet eez true maybe?  
 So I travelled here 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, 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 . how you say?  
 Green ò erò Bean . oui, zat, ze way

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

FAIRY  
 I ave to say, lqn not so keen  
 Les Francais . a poetic nation  
 But it does lose someseeng in translation  
 Mais oui, everyone knows eet, 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 ò . French wine ò .. tres bon  
 So our grapevine eez ze very best one  
 lqe come to elp our ero, Jack  
 Defend his village . I ave ze knack (*waves wand – SFX*)

GROT  
 Zat leettle squirt (*shakes head*) That little squirt is just a boy  
 To watch him squirm will be a joy!  
 Your fairy magic is namby . pamby  
 Itd 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*) ò ò and so do you!

*Grotvila exits*

FAIRY

A special kind of French majeec  
 Will bring the ending that we seek  
 Mon Dieu . we æve our work cut out  
 We weell succeed . zere eez no doubt ò ..  
 ò I æpe ò .. I think ò .. well zee odds are . æw you say? . stacked up ò ò . 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! ò ò . Whatæ next then?

JACK

We really ought to be getting back to work, Simon ò

SIMON

Yes, I was just about to say that ò NOT!

*Jill enters – Jack sees her*

JACK

Actually, itæ quite nice here ò .

SIMON

(*notices Jill*) Not bad at all

JILL

I beg your pardon?

JACK

He means the ò er ò weather, not bad at all

JILL

Yes ò very nice, I suppose

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*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 ò .. 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 ò .. 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 a queue . . . *queue (obviously sounds the same)*

SIMON  
Not a 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 o . These two couldn't find an elephant in a zoo

JILL

I'd 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 o .. Jill from the Castle on the Hill o

JACK

She only **works** at the castle o

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'd 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  
 Until 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  
 Her heart, eet must be very sad  
 Her hair eez bad . and zut alors!  
 Her 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 hurry  
 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 ò .

LEGGIT

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

*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'd 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 ò .. I was in television, you know . got right to the top of the ladder ò .

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 ò . 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 ò ..

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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! Oh oh . OK, Jack, let's look the other way oh .

*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?

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 ò ò

SONG %T\$ 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 ò 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 ò .

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 ò . but I forgot what it was

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

SIMON

Oh yes! õ .. well õ never mind now! What's going on here?

MAYOR

What about the cream pies?

DAME

These three want cream pies

SIMON

Oh really? Do you have any?

DAME

*(gets pies)* Oh yes! Here they are!

MAYOR

Ooooh, my favourite!

GRABBIT

And mine!

LEGGIT

Me! Me! Give it to me!

DAME

*(to audience)* Shall I? Shall I? *(splats Leggit with pie)* Anyone else?

*Mayor & Grabbit make a hasty exit, followed by Leggit*

DAME

Oh . now I've got these spare pies! *(she has one pie in each hand)*

*Jack enters*

DAME

Hello dear . would you like a cream pie

*Simon jumps up & down with excitement*

JACK

Ye õ *(realises)* er õ no thanks

*Jack & Simon look at each other and wink*

JACK

I've got an idea - why don't we play Simon Says?

SIMON

I'd be Simon! I'd be Simon!

DAME

Well you don't say! You two can hold the pies. Off you go then, Simon!

SIMON

Simon Says . stand on one foot

*All do so*

SIMON  
Simon Says . stand on the other foot

*All do so*

SIMON  
Simon Says . hands in the air

*All do so*

SIMON  
Simon Says . hands out to the sides

*As Dame puts hands to sides – they put a pie on each hand*

SIMON  
*(quickly)* Hands on head!

*Dame splats pies each side of her head*

JACK  
Oh Mum . you lose . he didn't say Simon Says!

DAME  
Oooh you wicked boys! I'd better go and get cleaned up. And you'd better get this place cleaned up too

*Dame exits. Boys get mops from dairy, to clean stage*

JACK  
Simon, can you keep a secret?

SIMON  
Of course I can . Jenny told me a secret yesterday . that she loves Billy from the Bakery

JACK  
But now I know that Jenny loves Billy from the Bakery

SIMON  
How did **you** know? . it's supposed to be a secret!

JACK  
**You** just told me

SIMON  
Did I? Oooops! So what's **your** secret then . you can trust me ð .

JACK  
Yes, I'm sure! ð ð I think I'm in love *(looks all dreamy)*

SIMON  
*(to Jack – overly nice)* Oh, how lovely! *(then to audience - fingers down throat)* Yuk!!

JACK  
Yes, with Jill from the Castle on the Hill

SIMON

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Jill from the Castle on the Hill? She's nice ò ò I've never had a girlfriend (*aah!*)

JACK

Yes you have! What about Mary? . you said she had the face of a Saint!

SIMON

Yes - a Saint Bernard!

JACK

And Martha? . you said her teeth were like stars

SIMON

They came out at night (*to audience*) Yes, it's an old joke . I can't remember any new ones . but I do throw sweets if you laugh (*throws sweets – if they laugh!*)

JACK

Resorting to bribery again, I see

*Dame enters*

DAME

Oh, boys, what are we going to do? If we don't pay the money we owe, we're going to be evicted. (*Blatant over-acting*) Oh woe! Woe! Thrice Woe! Dost thou leave me with no place to lay my weary head? My grief makes one hour ten ò .. Friends, Romans, Countrymen I'm in arrears ò ò

JACK

Mum, please stop!

DAME

Oooh, it's hard work, this dramatic stuff . I'm glad I'm in panto ò I couldn't do Shakespeare!

JACK

So what are we going to do?

DAME

We could try *The Sound of Music* ò (*sings*) The hills are alive ...

JACK

No, I mean what are we going to do about the money situation?

SIMON

Oh dear! We've run out of money, we've run out of food . **and** we're running out of jokes . and it's not even the end of Act One

DAME

I don't know what we're going to do . I couldn't even feed the cat this morning ò .

JACK

What cat? We don't have a cat

DAME

Of course we have a cat! How can we do Dick Whittington without a cat?

JACK

That was last year! This is Jack and the Beanstalk! Now what about the money?

SIMON

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We could do the football pools . I've got a coupon

DAME

Worth a try, I suppose . let me fill it in (*fills in coupon*)

SIMON

Have you finished?

DAME

Yes

SIMON

Have you got your ~~£~~Homesqdown?

DAME

Yes

SIMON

Have you got your ~~£~~Alwaysqdown?

DAME

Yes

SIMON

Have you got your ~~£~~Drawsqdown!

DAME

Oh, you cheeky thing!

JACK

It's no good, Mum, there's only one thing for it . if we want to get some money, then we'd have to sell Buttercup

SIMON

Yes, that's a good idea . I was just about to say that ò .

DAME

Sell Buttercup! I won't hear of it! She's our most treasured possession. Why, I would do anything for her . I'd climb every mountain . I'd ford every stream . I'd (*sings*) follow every rainbow ò .

JACK

Mum! Please stop singing!

DAME

Humph!

JACK

She's a fine cow . she should fetch a good price at the market

SIMON

Even though she can't sing?

DAME

What!!

JACK

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**Buttercup** . I'm talking about **Buttercup**! I love her too, but we don't have much choice

DAME

Oh Buttercup! . she's been in our family since she was an Oxo cube

SIMON

Jack's right, of course . . . (*puzzled*) . . . what were we talking about?

DAME/JACK

SELLING BUTTERCUP!

SIMON

Oh no, you can't do that . . . or can you? . . . Oh I don't know . . .

JACK

Simon!

Cheer up Mother, maybe we'll be able to buy her back again when we've made some money. I'm going to work hard and make my fortune!

DAME

And when will that be?

SIMON

I know! Let me see your hand, Jack

DAME

Ooh, I didn't know you told fortunes, Simon

SIMON

(*looks at Jack's hand & follows lines with his finger*) Ah! . . . Ah! . . . Just as I thought . . .

DAME

What is it? What is it?

SIMON

(*licks finger*) Strawberry Jam!

*Jack & Simon exit, laughing*

*SFX mobile phone*

MAYOR (V.O.)

Dame Trot?

DAME

Speaking

MAYOR (V.O.)

I want my money!

DAME

I can't hear you . . . ooh, I'm sorry . . . I'm losing the signal (*she hangs up*)

*Dame replaces phone in pocket – it rings again. Jack enters, unseen by Dame*

DAME

Hello

JACK  
Hello

DAME  
Is that you Jack?

JACK  
Yes Mother

DAME  
Where are you?

*Jack prods her – she jumps*

JACK  
Right here Mother!

DAME  
Oh Jack, Jack . I nearly had a heart attack õ tack

JACK  
Mother! I've brought Buttercup to say goodbye, before we go off to market  
*Buttercup peeps around the curtain*

JACK  
Come on, Buttercup

*Buttercup very, very sad – aah!! – she hangs her head as she walks to Jack*

DAME  
(*v. emotional*) I can't bear it. I can't watch you taking her away . it breaks my heart (to audience) come on you heartless lot . this is the sad bit?!

*Buttercup looks longingly at audience to 'milk' response – sorry!!*

AUDIENCE  
Aaaah!

DAME  
I haven't been this upset since Derby County (*replace with local team*) were relegated. I have to goõ õ .

*Dame exits. Jack talks to Buttercup*

JACK  
Oh, don't look like that, you'd make me cry. You might get a much better home than we can give you. Come on now, blow your nose

*Jack holds hankie whilst Buttercup blows her nose – SFX – Jack holds up hankie – large hole in centre*

JACK  
There, that's better, isn't it?

*Buttercup nods 'yes' to Jack – which turns to 'no' when Jack isn't looking  
Buttercup whispers in Jack's ear*

JACK

Of course I won't sell you to anyone called McDonald or Wimpy! We'll find someone rich, with a nice warm cow shed, and long sweet grass. You'll be fine ò come along now, we need to go ò .

*Jack & Buttercup move towards wings.  
Blackout*

## Scene 6      On The Way To Market

*Jack & Buttercup walk slowly from one side of the stage to the other – Jack fusses Buttercup, unaware that Fairy has entered. Fairy is wearing a hooded cloak over her costume*

FAIRY

Bonjour mes amis! It is I *(she pulls down her hood a little)* I am . ðw you say? . in disguises . to ðlp Jack

JACK

Come on old girl, we have to hurry now, we need to get to the market

FAIRY

Excusez . moi, young man, did I ðar you say you were going to ze market?

JACK

Yes, we are. I have to sell Buttercup, my cow

FAIRY

Sell your cow? My, seengs must be serious

JACK

Well, yes they are. You see we've no money and no food, so we've got to sell Buttercup

FAIRY

Perhaps I could ðlp

JACK

You? But how could you ðlp .. er..\_help?

FAIRY

I could take your cow in exchange for zees beans

JACK

Beans? I don't think Mother would approve of that

FAIRY

Listen very carefully . I shall say zis only once. Zees are very special beans. If you take zees beans, and use them wisely, all your troubles will be over

JACK

Do you really think so?

FAIRY

Your future lies here, with zees beans. Now take zem

JACK

Well ò .. if you're sure I ought to. *(to audience)* Should I?

*Audience response*

*Buttercup is shaking her head throughout this*

FAIRY

You take ze beans and I do take Buttercup. I do keep her safe for you, then one day she can come to live with you again

*Jack takes beans, Fairy leads Buttercup off stage*

JACK

Oh dear! What have I done? I dare not think what Mother will say. But they are **special beans** . I wonder what is so special about them?

*Jill enters*

JILL

There you are, Jack. I've been looking everywhere for you

JACK

Jill! What are you doing here? I thought you were going back to the Castle on the Hill

JILL

I was going to . but I had to see you again

JACK

Did you really? Great! Perhaps the bean-seller was right

JILL

What bean-seller?

JACK

She was here, just a few moments before you arrived. She said that if I exchanged Buttercup for this bag of beans, then all our troubles would be over

JILL

Oh dear

JACK

What's the matter?

JILL

Well it was going to be difficult enough explaining to my Mother that I had fallen in love with a **poor** boy. Now I have to explain that, not only is he poor . but he has the business sense of Delboy Trotter

JACK

Did you say fallen in **love**?! Oh this is a great day!

JILL

You exchanged Buttercup for a bag of beans . it's not going to be such a great day when your Mother finds out!

JACK

I know . but now I am with you, I don't really care

SONG        ~~Me~~ and My Girl+or similar ~ Jack and Jill

JILL  
Oh Jack, I really ought to be going

JACK  
But you've only just got here

JILL  
I have to explain to my Mother about falling in love with you . and she doesn't even know where I've been

JACK  
Don't say that word . it makes me nervous!

JILL  
What? Love?

JACK  
No, bean!

JILL  
Oh Jack . when will I see you again?

*Music burst – 'When will I see you again'. Jack & Jill look around, bemused*

JACK  
Soon, I hope

JILL  
We could meet again tonight. I'll wait in the lane on the edge of the village. Good luck with your Mother!

*Jill runs off*

## **Scene 7      Inside Trot's Cottage**

*Dame is folding washing*

DAME  
Washing, washing and more washing. And no one here to help me. I'm a widow you know  
(*looks sad*)

AUDIENCE  
Aaah!

DAME  
It's sadder than that!

AUDIENCE  
Aaah!

DAME  
Mind you, my husband was never really much help to me . he thought manual labour was a Spaniard. *ō ō ō ō*  
And I'm poor! (*looks sad*)

AUDIENCE

Aaah!

DAME

I'm poorer than that! I've nothing coming in but the draught under the door! Just wait 'til my boy Aladdin has made his fortune . he'll buy me one of those new automatic washing machines o' ..

*Enter SIMON & Villager, GEORGE*

SIMON

Hi boys and girls!

AUDIENCE

Hi Simon!

DAME

Hello you two, where have you been?

GEORGE

I met Simon in the village, and he said that he needed some help

DAME

He needs help alright . but I fear it may be too late! By the way when you were in the village, you didn't, by any chance, clap eyes on my boy Aladdin, did you?

SIMON/GEORGE

Who?

DAME

You sound like a couple of owls . I should have known you wouldn't have a clue.

*Jack enters*

DAME

Ah, Aladdin . at last! What has that Genie done about my new washing machine?

JACK

Aladdin? Genie? What are you talking about Mother? I'm Jack

DAME

Jack?

JACK

Jack!

DAME

You mean to tell me I'm not Widow Twanky?

JACK

This is Jack and the Beanstalk, remember?

DAME

Oh yes, sorry o' o'

*Simon & George shake their heads in despair, Simon signals to George that they should go.  
They exit*

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DAME

Where have you been, Jack?

JACK

I went to market to sell Buttercup

DAME

Oh yes, I remember. How did you get on?

JACK

Great, just great!

DAME

Great? I knew it, I knew it! How much?

JACK

Much more than I thought possible

DAME

It gets better every minute. We'll be able to buy one of those big houses in Quarndon  
(*replace with local affluent area*)

JACK

I also fell in love with Jill from the Castle on the Hill

DAME

Jill from the Castle on the Hill? But you can't fall in love with **her**

JACK

Of course I can! I already have!

DAME

But she's the daughter of Lady Lotsadosh . she'll be lined up for some Prince or Duke.

JACK

Actually, Jill wants to meet me again tonight

DAME

Oh dear . someone's going to get hurt. I've read enough ~~Mills~~ Mills and Boon to know that it'll all end in tears! By the way . how much did you get for Buttercup?

JACK

Buttercup?

DAME

Yes, Buttercup . you haven't forgotten her already, have you?

JACK

No ò

DAME

So what did you get?

JACK

A bag of ~~special beans~~ special beans

DAME

*(impressed)* Ooooh a bag of special beans ð .. *(realises)* WHAT???! You're surely not trying to say that you sold Buttercup for some **beans** . you're not that stupid ð .. are you?

JACK

I can explain . the bean-seller said that if I took the beans and used them wisely, all our troubles would be over

DAME

Let me see them *(snatches the bag from Jack)* special beans indeed! *(she looks in the bag)* What sort of beans are they? They're not runner beans ð .. or French beans ð .. or broad beans ð .. or German beans ð

JACK

German beans?

DAME

Heinz! *(boom boom!)*

What are we going to do? No food, no money and no Buttercup . how could you be so thoughtless? All my hopes and dreams out of the window . just where these beans are going *(she throws the beans out of window)*

JACK

But I was told to use them wisely!

DAME

You wouldn't know how!

JACK

Oh yes I would!

DAME

Oh no you wouldn't

JACK

Oh yes I would!

*Jack gets the audience to shout with him – Jack exits, popping his head round curtain for a final 'oh yes I would' before he goes*

*Dame starts to tidy up. Simon enters, Dame turns to see him*

DAME

It's about time you came back . I've got some work for you ð .

*Dame continues tidying. Simon turns & tries to creep back out again ...Dame follows right behind him, until he reaches the door....*

DAME

*(loudly)* GOING SOMEWHERE, SIMON?!

*Simon just about jumps out of his skin*

DAME

I'm going to get ready . I want this place clean and tidy by the time I get back ð .

SIMON

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ō but ō

DAME  
No buts!

*Dame exits*

SIMON  
Oh I hate work ō I know! I'd get some help (*goes to door & whistles*)

*George enters, followed by the children*

GEORGE  
Hi Simon . what do you want?

SIMON  
I really **do** need some help now ō . I've got to tidy this place up ō and quick!

GEORGE ō well ō

SIMON  
I'd pay you (*he shakes a bag of sweets*)

ALL  
OK / alright then

SIMON  
Good job my Granny owns the sweet shop!

SONG / DANCE      %Clean Up The House+(Bear in the Big Blue House)  
or %Whistle While You Work+

*Dame enters*

DAME  
Come on now Simon . take your friends elsewhere, now. I'm trying to cheer myself up . I'm expecting a visitorō . a man

SIMON  
Is that why you've got your bingo dress on?

DAME  
Bingo dress?

SIMON  
Yes . eyes down, look in!

DAME  
Oooh! You cheekyō

*Knock at door*

DAME  
He's here . get gone . quick!

*She chases Simon & others off & tidies herself up*

MAYOR  
Are you in, Honey?

DAME  
Honey? What does he think this is, a beehive? (*trying to be posh*) Come hin

*Mayor enters*

DAME  
(*very disappointed*) Oh it's you

MAYOR  
Who were you expecting?

DAME  
A young man I met in the Post Office this morning

MAYOR  
You should find someone your own age

DAME  
I'd have you know I'm only 29 . you should learn more respect

MAYOR  
And you should learn to add up!

DAME  
He said I had a very pretty chin

MAYOR  
Is that why you got two more?

DAME  
Oooh I've never been so insulted!

MAYOR  
You should get out more! Now, where's my money?

DAME  
I haven't any money . but I've got something else ò ò ò

*Fetches 'Dairy Box'*

DAME  
Yoo hoo! What shall we do?

AUDIENCE  
Open the box!

DAME  
Oh dear, no chocolate this time . just yoghurt and cream ò ò you won't mind if I let the Mayor have it, will you?

AUDIENCE  
No!

*Dame lifts off Mayor's hat, puts pot of 'yoghurt' on Mayor's head, splats it, then replaces his hat. She then squirts cream in his face. Blackout*

## Scene 8      The Outskirts Of The Village

*Grabbit & Leggit enter*

LEGGIT

How much further? My feet are killing me

GRABBIT

*(sniffing & wafting hand)* Pooh! They're killing me, as well! Have you never heard of Odour-Eaters? Come on, we've got to get some money for the Mayor. Have you got any bright ideas?

LEGGIT

I don't know, I'm not much good at this sort of thing

GRABBIT

You can say that again

LEGGIT

I don't know, I'm not much good at this sort of thing

GRABBIT

Oh, don't be so stupid

LEGGIT

Here, who are you calling stupid? I went to Oxford, you know

GRABBIT

Really, what did you study?

LEGGIT

Study? I didn't **study** . it was one of those National Express coach trips

GRABBIT

You don't know anything, do you?

LEGGIT

I do! .. I'm an expert on history

GRABBIT

*(sneering)* Oh yes, of course! Tell me this then, who was the first woman in the world?

LEGGIT

Easy. It was . . . er . . . just a minute . . .

GRABBIT

*(amused)* I'll give you a clue, she had something to do with an apple

LEGGIT

Got it! Granny Smith!

*Grabbit mimes telling off Leggit, as they move upstage.*

*Lights down on Grabbit & Leggit as they continue to argue.*

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*Grot enters & stands downstage.*

GROT

Hello there, peasants . only me!  
 I'd soon upset things . wait and see!  
 So, Jack loves Jill . how very sweet  
 My newest plan's a real treat!  
 The Giant's looking for a wife  
 A pretty girl to share his life  
 Now Jack will be upset, for sure  
 I've chosen JILL for Blunderbore!  
 A pretty wife she'd prove to be  
 The Giant will be pleased with me  
 So YOU keep quiet . you ugly shower!  
 Whilst I lure Jill into my power  
 But can I trust you not to tell?  
 You rotten lot may spoil my spell  
 No failed plans! I must succeed!  
 These dimwits here will do the deed!

*Lights up again on Grabbit & Leggit*

GROT

*(still downstage, facing front)* You two! Come here!

GRABBIT

Hey . who does she think she is, ordering us about?

LEGGIT

*(folds arms)* Humph! Well I'm not going anywhere!

GROT

I said ò COME HERE!

GRABBIT & LEGGIT

OK

*Grabbit & Leggit move forward*

GROT

Look at this watch ò .

GRABBIT

Yes, very nice, but we don't buy from street traders . a genuine Gucci watch that stops working as soon as you're out of sight ò .

GROT

LOOK at this watch

*She snaps her fingers – Grabbit & Leggit immediately look and start to follow it – their heads swinging from side to side*

GROT

You are in my power

G & L

We are in your power

GROT

You will do everything I command

G & L

We will do everything you command

GROT

You will bring Jill from the Castle on the Hill, to the House of Bill, by the Water Mill

G & L

We will .. (*look at each other – bemused*) .. do everything you command

GROT

Good õ õ Good! Things are looking up õ Jill will be mine, Jack will be left looking pathetic . (*to audience*) and you lot can all go home! Oh yes you can!

AUDIENCE

Oh no we can't!

GROT

Oh yes you can!

AUDIENCE

Oh no we can't!

GROT

Oh shut up!

*Grot exits.*

*Jill enters. Grabbit & Leggit are in a hypnotised state*

JILL

This is the place, but where is Jack? (*sees Grabbit & Leggit*) Oh I'm sorry, I didn't realise that there was anyone else here

*Grabbit & Leggit speak in a monotone, trance-like way*

GRABBIT

Quite alright my dear. We are on our way to the Castle on the Hill

JILL

The Castle on the Hill?

LEGGIT

That's right . the Castle on the Hill. Do you know it?

JILL

Why yes, I live there

GRABBIT

Then you must be Jill from the Castle on the Hill

JILL

That's right

GRABBIT

Then you can come along with us

JILL

But I can't. I promised to meet Jack . he'll be here any minute . and I won't go with you. I don't think I like you

LEGGIT

She doesn't like us, Grabbit. Nobody likes us very much ò ..

GRABBIT

Just grab her and get a move on

*Grabbit & Leggit grab Jill & pull her off to wings. She struggles, but cannot escape. George enters & spots Jill disappearing – he runs off towards her*

GEORGE

Jill! Jill!

*Jack enters*

JACK

This is the place where Jill promised to meet me, it's strange she's not here

*George enters, running*

GEORGE

I ran after them ò ò those two tax collectors ò . they had hold of Jill ò ò .. I couldn't find them . I'm sorry

JACK

What are you saying? That she's been kidnapped?

GEORGE

Yes, I think so

JACK

*(to audience)* Has Jill been kidnapped?

AUDIENCE

Yes!

JACK

I must find her!

*Jack exits, looking for Jill. Villagers on stage, gradually, as news spreads about Jill*

VILLAGER

Hello, George . what's going on?

GEORGE

Jill has been kidnapped

VILLAGER

Jill from the Castle on the Hill?

GEORGE

Yes. Jack's gone to look for her

VILLAGER

We have to help Jack

VILLAGER

But daylight is fading . perhaps we should wait until the morning

GEORGE

It may be too late by then

*Jack returns*

JACK

It's no good, I can't tell which way they've gone . the forest is dense and it's getting dark ò ..  
I'll never find her ò ò ò

VILLAGER

Don't worry, Jack she'll be alright

VILLAGER

We'll help you to find her

GEORGE

We won't give up

SONG *Lean on Me* or similar ~ The Villagers

JACK

I have to go . I'll search all night if I have to ò .

GEORGE

And we're coming with you!

OTHERS

Yes!

*All exit to look for Jill*

## **Scene 9      The Garden Of Trot's Cottage**

*(See Additional Notes regarding this scene)*

*Flower Fairy dancers are already in place in flower bed, at start of scene  
Fairy enters*

FAIRY

Like ze French Franc . Jill has disappeared  
But seengs are better zan I feared  
Eez only Euros now in France  
But Jill will have a better chance  
Ze magic beans I gave to Jack  
Will help to bring Jill safely back  
So watch zees very carefully  
And fairy magic, now you'll see

*Fairy waves wand – SFX*

a. FLOWER FAIRY BALLET

b. U.V. SCENE, TO GROW+THE MAGIC BEANSTALK (see Additional Notes)

c. THE FOLLOWING MORNING

*Enter Simon, dressed as the Town Crier*

SIMON

*(ringing bell and crying!)* Oh no! Oh no! Oh no!

JENNY

Simon ò what are you doing?

SIMON

I'm the Town Crier with the latest news *(cries again)*

JENNY

But you should be shouting Oyez, Oyez, Oyez

SIMON

Yes, but this is very **sad** news *(cries again)*

JENNY

So, what is the news?

SIMON

Er ò . I can't remember *(stops crying)*

GEORGE

Jill from the Castle on the Hill has been kidnapped

SIMON

That was it, I was just about to say that *(shouting)* Jill kidnapped! Jill kidnapped!

GEORGE

Everyone knows that . we've been looking for Jill for most of the night ò ò ..and now we seem to have lost Jack as well! What do you think we should do?

SIMON

I know exactly what we should do! ò .ò ò . er ò ò what do **you** think we should do?

GEORGE

We should go and search for both of them

SIMON

I was just about to say that!

JENNY

But we don't know which way they went

SIMON

I was just about to say that as well. We've not got much chance of finding them ò .. we might

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just as well climb that giant rhubarb over there (*does a double take*) Wow!! Where did that come from?

JENNY

Well it wasn't here yesterday

SIMON

(*staring up*) I wonder where it goes

JENNY

Right up to the sky by the look of things

SIMON

Wow!

*Jack enters – everyone is pleased to see him back again*

SIMON

(*excited*) Jack! Jack! Something amazing has happened!

JACK

Did Derby County win a match? (*or whatever relevant*)

SIMON

No

JACK

Oh. ð ..Simon, I've some terrible news. Jill's been kidnapped . I've been searching all night for her ð . The only place I haven't looked is behind that giant beanstalk (*realises*) Wow! Where did that come from?

JENNY

We don't know . it just appeared overnight

SIMON

I was just about to say that ð .

*Maisie the maid enters*

MAISIE

Come on now, where is she? Where's Jill?

JACK

I don't know where she is. I wish I did

SIMON

Who are you?

MAISIE

I'm Maisie, I'm a maid at the Castle on the Hill. Lady Lotsadosh . is absolutely frantic with worry about her daughter . she sent me down here to try and find her

JACK

Something terrible has happened, Maisie, Jill has been kidnapped

MAISIE

Kidnapped? But why?

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JACK

We don't know, but don't worry, we'll find her

MAISIE

I do hope so. Lady Lotsadosh is even thinking about coming down here herself . so she must be worried . you know how she feels about mixing with common people

*Music blast - "Common People" – all look around, bemused*

JACK

Come on everyone . we'll split up and search

*Jack sends off groups in different directions – he is the only one left  
Fairy enters – in 'cloak' disguise, as before*

JACK

Oh hello! You're the lady who took Buttercup and gave me the beans

FAIRY

I see you used 'em wisely

JACK

Well o'er not really. Mother threw them out of the window in a temper. The next thing we knew, that giant beanstalk was growing over there

FAIRY

Tell me what's happening in the village, eet eez very quiet

JACK

They've all gone off to look for Jill . she's been kidnapped

FAIRY

But zay won't find 'er

JACK

Why not?

FAIRY

Zay 'ave all gone in the wrong direction

JACK

But they can't ALL have gone in the wrong direction. Some of them must have gone the right way

FAIRY

Which way 'ave zay gone?

JACK

*(pointing)* That way, that way, over there, that way o'er ..

FAIRY

Exactly o'er . All the wrong way

JACK

But what other way is there?

FAIRY  
Zat way (*points up*)

JACK  
You mean up there?

FAIRY  
Why not?

*Music blast 'The Only Way Is Up' – Fairy & Jack look around, bemused*

JACK  
But what will I do when I reach the top?

FAIRY  
It will be very clear what you have to do. Reach the top of ze beanstalk Jack, and you will find ze happiness zat you deserve. You weell also find treasure which ees rightly yours - ze Giant stole it when he killed your Father. Bon Chance, Jack! Good Luck!

*Fairy exits, leaving Jack staring up at the beanstalk*

JACK  
I wonder what it will be like up there . Iqn going to be brave, for Jill's sake o

*Dame enters – Jack unaware*

*Dame sees Jack*

DAME  
Ah, Prince Charming, there you are!

JACK  
Prince Charming? What are you talking about?

DAME  
Oh dear, wrong again o . No o no o don't tell me . it's Dick, isn't it?

JACK  
Iqn Jack. This is a beanstalk. How many clues do you need?

DAME  
Got it! o o .(*spots beanstalk*) Wow! Where did that come from?

JACK  
I was just about to climb it

DAME  
Climb the beanstalk? But you know you can't stand heights . you get dizzy going upstairs to bed!

JACK  
It's alright Mother, the lady who gave me the beans told me to climb the beanstalk, to rescue Jill

DAME  
You mean the crook who conned you into giving away Buttercup. She's caused enough trouble as it is. Why don't you do something useful for a change?

JACK

I have done something useful . I've provided you, and half the village with plenty of food

DAME

Yes - beans! There'll be so much wind, that we can all take up kite-flying!

*Dame exits*

*During the following, the villagers start to return, unsuccessful in their search for Jill*

MAISIE

It's no good, Jack . there's no sign of Jill anywhere. We've searched by the river 'o

JENNY

'o and we've looked all over the village 'o

SIMON

'o and we've looked ..er 'o er 'o

GEORGE

'o 'o .. in the woods

SIMON

I was just about to say that!

JACK

You won't find her, because she isn't here

VILLAGERS

Not here? / Where is she? / Where else could she be? etc.

JACK

She's up there

VILLAGERS

Up where? / Up the beanstalk? / Up there?

JACK

Yes . and I'm going to find her

SONG *'ave Never Seen Anything Like It In My Life+(from Doctor Dolittle)*

*During the song, Jack exits to fetch his climbing gear – then returns.*

*Jack goes to the beanstalk, ready to climb. As he does so, the bottom leaves of the beanstalk part, to reveal "lift doors". A "lift call button" starts to flash. Jack looks at the button, then back to the villagers. The villagers tell him to press the button. Jack presses the button. The lift doors open – lots of smoke .....*

JACK

It's like *'Stars in their Eyes!* 'o 'o well I won't need these now! *(gets rid of climbing gear)*

*Jack steps into the lift.*

*Dramatic music as the doors close and Jack waves and looks upwards.*

*Villagers wave to Jack.*

*Playout with reprise of 'ave Never Seen Anything Like It In My Life+*

**INTERVAL**

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**ACT II**  
**Scene 10      At The Top Of The Beanstalk**

*This scene is included, not only to show that Jack has reached the top of the beanstalk, but also to provide a musical opening to Act II. It can be omitted if you wish to start with the Fairy's Act II introduction.*

*Starts with Jack at the top of the beanstalk, in the clouds, looking down on the world below.*

JACK            It's amazing up here . I can see all the countries in the world ò ò ò but everything looks so small ò .

DANCE / SONG    ~~to~~ A Small World+(Disney) or ~~W~~onderful World+

**10a              Front of Tabs**

*Fairy enters – she is halfway through eating her ice-cream*

FAIRY

Allo, allo, ees moi again

Zat ice-cream queue ees such a pain

I always seem to be ze last . behind ze cheeldren and ze cast!

(shrugs) Cœst la vie!

Excusez-moi! (*she gets rid of ice-cream to wings*)

GIANT (V.O.)

FEE FIE FOE FUM

I NEED HUMANS IN MY TUM!

FAIRY

Zat Blunderbore eez very scary

æ trembles ze knees of zis brave fairy (*shows knees shaking*)

But ze story, now, eet will unfold

And an æppy ending will be told

As Jack continues on eez quest

Eez æad and shoulders above ze rest . ægher een fact!! (*pointing skyward*)

I æve no doubt æe will succeed

Ze beautiful Jill will soon be freed

But whilst Jack finds æs way around

Let us see what eez æppening . **on ze ground** ò ò

*Fairy exits*

## **Scene 11 The Garden Of Trot's Cottage**

*There is an 'Out of Order' sign on the beanstalk lift*

*Dame enters*

DAME

(*calls*) Snow White! Snow White! (*sees beanstalk, then realises*) ò . No, not %Snow White+

(*thinks*) ò . it's ò . a beanstalk ò ò oh, yes, I know ò . (*calls*) Jack! Jack!

(*to audience*) Have you seen our Jack? ò ò ò Where did he go? ò ò ò .. Up where?

ò ò ò up the beanstalk? ò . Oh no he hasn't!

AUDIENCE

Oh yes he has! (*etc*)

DAME

Ooh, there's a sign here (*reads*) æ lift out of order. Please use stemsqõ . strange.

*The following "Bill & Ben" lines are optional. If omitting them, start at "Now, where was I?..."*

*Movement in the flowerbed makes Dame jump back – it is Bill and Ben – either side of the Beanstalk.*

DAME

Ooooh!

BILL

Flobberlob weeeeeeeed!

BEN

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Flobberlobberlob weeeeed!

DAME

No no no o . That's not weed! That's a beanstalk! Come on boys . hop it! You're crushing my crysanthus!

*Bill & Ben exit – talking to each other – not impressed with Dame*

DAME

Young thugs! Look - they've vandalised my violets, flattened my phlox and destroyed my dahlias o o

Now where was I? Oh yes, Jack o No o he wouldn't have gone up there . you're having me on o . I'll see if he went this way

*Dame exits, Stage Left . Simon & Jenny enter, Stage Right*

JENNY

Come on Simon, we've got to find Dame Trot and tell her that Jack has gone up the beanstalk

SIMON

I was just about to say that!

JENNY

I wonder if she came this way *(to audience)* Have you seen Dame Trot? Which way did she go? o ..

SIMON

This way? o o .Come on Jenny, this way

*Jenny & Simon exit Stage Left. Maisie enters, Stage Right*

MAISIE

I've heard that Lady Lotsadosh is down here in the village . and I still haven't found Jill. I'm going to be in **big** trouble. I don't suppose you've seen Simon have you? o . You have? o Which way did he go? o this way? o .

*Maisie exits, Stage Left. Lady Lotsadosh enters, Stage Right*

LADY LOTSADOSH

Dear me! It's terribly tiring, having to walk! One really isn't accustomed to it. Oh my goodness! **People!** *(looks out to audience)* commoners, at that! I don't normally descend to these levels, I'm usually closeted in my Castle clutching a canape.

Of course, I don't need to introduce myself, I'm in ~~Who's Who~~ and I'm often in the Society Pages o oh, and I did that spread for ~~Hello~~ magazine o .before they started taking ~~just~~ anybody I'm Lady Lotsadosh o but don't worry about bowing and curtseying *(looks out to audience)* . oh, you didn't o Anyway, I've come down here in search of Maisie, my maid. It's bad enough losing my daughter, Jill, but I really need Maisie, because I can't find the brandy! Have **you** seen Maisie? Oh, you have! Jolly good show! Which way did she go? o o .. This way? o o . Tally Ho!

*Lady Lotsadosh exits, Stage Left. Grabbit & Leggit enter, Stage Right*

LEGGIT

We'll be for it when we tell the Mayor that we haven't got any money o I SAID o

GRABBIT

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I heard you, I heard you õ don't shout! I've got a headache. We haven't got any money because we had to take that girl, Jill to Jabba the Hutt

LEGGIT

õ . but we did collect *some* tax money yesterday õ ..

GRABBIT

Yes, yes . but we no longer have it õ . Ooh, what are we going to tell the Mayor?

LEGGIT

Can't we tell him that we lost it?

GRABBIT

No . not a good idea

LEGGIT

We gave it to charity?

GRABBIT

He doesn't believe in giving to charity õ .

LEGGIT

We could just tell him the truth?

GRABBIT

Good idea, Leggit! We're sorry Mr Mayor, Sir, but we don't have any money because WE WENT TO ZANZIBAR\$ (*replace with name of local night club*) LAST NIGHT AND SPENT IT ALL ON BACCARDI BREEZERS!!!!!! Oh yes õ . Excellent idea õ ..

LEGGIT

Thank you!

GRABBIT

You dimwit! The Mayor will be absolutely livid!

LEGGIT

Why? Do you think he would have wanted to come too?

GRABBIT

My headache is getting worse by the second õ ..

*Grabbit & Leggit exit*

## **Scene 12 In The Woods**

*There is a bench upstage.*

*Dame, Simon, Maisie & Jenny creep in backwards from different wings – all bump together, jumping with fright*

DAME

Oh it's you, Simon, you did give me a fright

MAISIE

We've been searching for ages . and now I think we've lost

SIMON

I'm lost . but that's nothing unusual!

JENNY

I'm scared õ õ

DAME

Oh look! A bench! I think we should all sit down and have a rest. And we could sing a song . to cheer ourselves up

SIMON

I was just about to say that!

DAME

*(announces)* Brand New and Never Been Seen Before In Any Pantomime!

SIMON

Let's sing ~~±~~ Heads, shoulders, knees and toes *(or other suitable song)*

DAME

OK, after three õ ..

*Sing once through song, and towards the end of the verse, a skeleton comes on, next to Jenny. Jenny sees skeleton, and runs off, scared.*

*Repeat process, with Maisie. Repeat process with Simon.*

*Repeat process, with Dame .... But this time, it's the skeleton who runs off, scared!*

DAME

I wonder where the others have all gone . I'd better go and see if I can find them õ

*Dame exits*

*Opportunity here to include a musical UV lit number, if appropriate to your production:*

U.V. SKELETON DANCE . TAP DANCE TO ~~DEM~~ BONES ..+

*Original scene resumes.*

*Dame & Simon enter*

DAME

I'm glad I found you, but I don't know where Maisie and Jenny are õ

SIMON

Who?

DAME

They'd probably find their way back to the village õ .. oooh, Simon, it's a bit creepy here, isn't it? Do you think there might be ghosties and ghoulies . just waiting to jump out and grab us?

SIMON

I've never been grabbed by the ghosties . but I used to play rugby and õ õ .

*Loud snoring is heard, coming from off stage*

SIMON

What was that?

DAME

It sounded like snoring . we must be near the Houses of Parliament

*Snoring stops*

SIMON

There's something there . what is it?

DAME

You stand there. Take this (*she hands Simon a mallet*) Now when I nod my head . hit it

SIMON

Right

DAME

(*nodding*) Now!

*Simon hits Dame on head with mallet. Mayor enters*

DAME

Not me you fool! Him! (*realises it's the Mayor*) Oh no, it's you

MAYOR

I was just having a little nap. I've been looking for my good for nothing tax collectors . By the way, have you got my money yet?

DAME

We'd just have a little conflag

*Dame & Simon mime a very animated discussion – then when Mayor is not looking they 'panto creep' away in the opposite direction, and exit*

MAYOR

Oh, they've gone again . I'm never going to get any money to give to the Giant . he's invited me for dinner next week . and if I don't take lots of cash then I'm probably going to end up being served as the main course .

*Lady Lotsadosh enters clutching her nose*

MAYOR

Whatever's the matter?

LADY LOTSADOSH

I was sniffing a wild brose over there and I got stung . oooh!

MAYOR

A wild brose?

LADY LOTSADOSH

Yes, yes B.R.O.S.E. - brose

MAYOR

(*realising*) No, no, no, you mean a wild rose . there's no B in rose

LADY LOTSADOSH

There was in the one that I sniffed. Oooh!

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MAYOR

Shall I put some cream on it?

LADY LOTSADOSH

Don't be silly . it's miles away by now

MAYOR

Well I can't stand here listening to your nonsense . I'm owed money! *(exits)*

LADY LOTSADOSH

Impertinent oaff! o o I say . don't you realise who I am? o o .. Peasant!

*Dame enters*

DAME

It's no good, I think I'm going round in circles o .. ooh your majestic mint imperial o it's you! I didn't think you ever ventured out among the lowly ones?

*Dame bows & curtsies to Lady Lotsadosh*

LADY LOTSADOSH

Who are you? You look vaguely familiar somehow

DAME

Yes, I've been known to get familiar . given half a chance!

LADY LOTSADOSH

Who are you?

DAME

Yes, who am I? *(looking towards wings for a prompt)* Who am I?

PROMPT

*(loudly)* Dame Trot, you fool

DAME

I'm Dame Trot, you fool o .. oops! I'm Dame Trot, Ma'am

LADY LOTSADOSH

Why, I remember you. You used to work for me at the castle years ago. You're an old maid

DAME

Well there's no need to get personal!

LADY LOTSADOSH

Anyway, why did you never come to visit us at the castle?

DAME

Well, we never had the time. Me and Mr Trot had only been married a year when we heard the patter of tiny feet

LADY LOTSADOSH

Oh yes, the children?

DAME

No, the mice . they were all over the place!

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*Simon & Maisie enter*

MAISIE

Oh crikey, it's her Ladyship!

LADY LOTSADOSH

Of course it's me! Who did you think it was, Kylie?

*[music blast – 'Can't get you out of my head' – Lady Lotsadosh does the moves]*

Maisie, where have you been, my girl? I've been searching high and low ò .

MAISIE

I'm awfully sorry Lady Lotsadosh, I've been looking for Jill

LADY LOTSADOSH

Oh Jill, of course . but one needs to know something terribly important ò .

MAISIE

Yes Ma'am?

LADY LOTSADOSH

Where **have** you put the brandy?

DAME

Simon, where is Jack?

SIMON

I'm not sure ò .

DAME

This lot (*audience*) told me he'd gone up the beanstalk

SIMON

Oh yes . I was just about to say that!

MAISIE

Yes, he did . he thinks that Jill is there

LADY LOTSADOSH

What a courageous young chap . certainly one way of **going up in the world!** I say! I think I did a joke! Haw haw!

*No-one else is laughing*

*During the following, the other villagers gradually return. Can't find Jill or Jack – it's all a bit chaotic – no-one knows what to do*

LADY LOTSADOSH

Ahem ò . Oh dear, what about my poor Jill? What are we going to do? (*rallying & clapping hands*) It's no good moping! Chins up everyone! . I can see I'm going to have to organise things myself - I don't know how you expect to find Jill, or Jack. You're a shambles! We are going to treat this as a military exercise. As you can see . one has the experience (*points to medal on chest*) This is the King's Cross, pinned on by Victoria, at Waterloo

DAME

(*sniggering*) Which platform?

SIMON

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Dame Trot . where did you get your medals?

DAME

Well my husband won this one at the Frontier. And *(turning)* I won this one at the back here

*All laugh*

SIMON

Order! Order!

LADY LOTSADOSH

Oooh . mine's a Gin and Tonic

DAME

Very funny! *(she pushes Lady Lotsadosh on the shoulder)*

*Lady Lotsadosh is not amused she pushes Dame so hard, that Dame falls over, displaying her underwear*

LADY LOTSADOSH

Right everybody, enough of this nonsense! Line up!

*Complete chaos as everyone tries to get into a line*

DAME

Leave this one to me! CUE!

*They quickly form an orderly queue*

LADY LOTSADOSH

Oh jolly impressive! You're promoted to Sergeant Trot! Now off you go troops! Time to climb the beanstalk! After you! By the left!

*They start to march off*

ALL

Left, left, I had a good job but I left o ..

*They realise and quickly run back*

SIMON

I'm not climbing that beanstalk

ALL

Nor me / No chance etc

GEORGE

Can't someone go up in the lift . like Jack did?

DAME

No. The lift is out of order . there was a sign o ..

LADY LOTSADOSH

Then we'll have to find some other way of getting there

SIMON

I was just about to say that!

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LADY LOTSADOSH

I saw a very nice aeroplane on EBay

DAME

That gives me an idea! (to Lady L) You keep them busy (*indicates the audience*) Come on!

*Dame & others exit, leaving Lady L on stage*

LADY LOTSADOSH

Oh, don't leave me I don't usually converse with commoners. (to audience) Hello .. er .... people. We could perhaps do the Times Crossword? Or what about a nice game of Bridge? I could sing to you . I used to do Operetta (*sings*) I'm just a bird in a gilded cage ò ò Oh gosh! Something strange approaching South South East

*Dame leads on the 'Green Marrows Flying Formation Team' – complete with planes, helmets & sticky-out scarves – and someone with a name sign (see Additional Notes)*

MUSIC / SONG . aviation theme . with formation flying

*At the end – all 'fly' off to wings*

LADY LOTSADOSH

My heroes! Good luck everyone! Chocs away!

*Loud crash sfx*

LADY LOTSADOSH

Oh dear!

*Dame & Simon stumble back on stage – black & tattered*

LADY LOTSADOSH

Do we have a Plan B?

### **Scene 13     The Giant's Castle**

*Grot. pulls Jill onto stage*

JILL

Let go of me you horrible thing! Let go!

GROT

Temper, temper! Remember, you're a prisoner of the Giant now . and he doesn't like prisoners who cause trouble. He wants a nice quiet little wife!

JILL

I am NOT going to marry the Giant! Just you wait till Jack gets here . you'd **both** be sorry . you and the Giant!

GROT

So you think your brave little Jack is going to defeat **me**? Ha ha ha ha ha! And the Giant? Ha ha ha ha ha! Don't make me laugh!

JILL

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Yes he will! You'd see!

GROT

Pretty  $\bar{o}$   $\bar{o}$  .. but so naïve. Jack doesn't even know where you are  $\bar{o}$  .. so you've got no chance! And if your precious boyfriend does eventually get here . **you** may not be around to see him!

JILL

What do you mean?

GROT

Well if the Giant doesn't like you enough to be his wife . then he might just eat you for breakfast  $\bar{o}$   $\bar{o}$  (*to audience*) And then he'd eat **you lot** for ~~eleven~~ ~~ses~~

*Grot exits*

JILL

Oh I wish that Jack was here

SONG (?) %On My Own+from Les Miserables, or something similar

*Jack enters*

JACK

Jill! At last! I'd almost given up hope of finding you

JILL

Oh Jack . it's really you! I didn't think I'd ever see you again

JACK

You didn't think I'd give up, did you?

JILL

No, of course not, but how did you find me?

JACK

The bean-seller told me where you were

JILL

The bean-seller?

JACK

Yes, you remember, I told you about her. The one I sold Buttercup to

JILL

For a bag of beans

JACK

Well the beans grew into a giant beanstalk . and she told me that I would find you at the top of the beanstalk

JILL

But how did she know?

JACK

I've no idea, but she also told me that the Giant's riches are mine by right, as the Giant killed my Father and stole his money

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JILL

We must escape . and take what is rightly yours ò . But it's not going to be easy, Jack . that old witch is always around ò ò then there's the Giant of course -

GIANT (V.O.)

FEE FIE FOE FUM

I SMELL THE BLOOD OF AN ENGLISHMAN

JILL

That's him! That's the Giant! He knows you're here

GIANT (V.O.)

BE HE ALIVE OR BE HE DEAD

I'LL GRIND HIS BONES TO MAKE MY BREAD

JILL

Oh no! Quickly Jack . hide!

*Jack hides under the giant's table. Grot enters*

GROT

The Giant's on the warpath . he's sniffed a stranger. Have you seen anybody?

JILL

Of course not

GROT

You know what will happen if you're trying to hide anyone?

JILL

I'm not hiding anyone

GROT

Well just be warned! I haven't got time to search at the moment . the Giant wants to count his money . I wish he didn't have to count it every day ò ò ..

*Grot drags bags of money, ready to count*

GIANT

FEE FIE FOE FUM

GROT

Oh dear, he's in a bad mood today

GIANT

FEE FIE FOE FUM

*Giant enters, strolls to table, stands behind it, and begins to count his money*

GIANT

BRING ME MY HEN THAT LAYS THE GOLDEN EGGS

GROT

Yes, Master

*Grot fetches hen*

GIANT  
HEN! LAY!

*Hen lays golden egg*

GIANT  
BRING ME MY MAGIC HARP!

GROT           Yes, Master

*Grot fetches harp, then exits*

GIANT  
HARP! PLAY!

*Harp plays/sings – possibly a corny song, such as The Birdie Song???*

GIANT  
NO! **NICE MUSIC!**

*Harp plays lullaby. Giant sits and goes to sleep. SFX Giant snoring. Jack comes out of hiding*

JACK  
Quickly, Jill . grab the hen and some money and run as fast as you can. I'll get the rest of the money and the harp . we need to find the top of the beanstalk

*Jack and Jill pick up the riches, but as they are escaping, the harp calls out*

HARP  
Master! Master!

*The Giant grunts, but does not wake, but Grot runs in*

GROT  
Master! Master! The humans have escaped!

GIANT  
(stands) BE HE ALIVE OR BE HE DEAD  
I'LL GRIND HIS BONES TO MAKE MY BREAD!  
AFTER THEM!

*Giant & Grot start to chase after Jack & Jill*

#### **Scene 14     The Outskirts Of The Village**

*Lady Lotsadosh leads on – Dame, Simon & villagers behind – all wearing 'keep fit' gear. It is an amusing touch to dress the Dame and Lady Lotsadosh in the same outfit ~ say bright pink and sparkly "shell suits". All are running in formation, and singing – as per American Forces.*

LADY LOTSADOSH  
Keep on running, keep in time!  
OTHERS  
Keep on running, keep in time!

LADY LOTSADOSH

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We are ready for that climb!

OTHERS

We are ready for that climb!

LADY LOTSADOSH

Beanstalks hold no fear for me!

OTHERS

Beanstalks hold no fear for me!

LADY LOTSADOSH

We'll be back in time for tea!

OTHERS

We'll be back in time for tea!

*All into places, ready for star jumps*

LADY LOTSADOSH

One, two, three, four

OTHERS

One, two, three, four

LADY LOTSADOSH

Five, six, seven, eight

OTHERS

Five, six, seven, eight

DAME

It's no good . I give up . and my corsets gave up half a mile back ò

LADY LOTSADOSH

Give up?! **Give up**?! What kind of a woman are you?

DAME

*(knowing look to audience)* A special kind! Can we just have a little rest?

SIMON

Good idea!

*Simon lies down immediately and falls asleep instantly, curled up, sucking thumb*

LADY LOTSADOSH

Actually, one is feeling a little faint ò I usually get my servants to do my exercises for me ò ò . You young recruits can carry on . come along! No slacking!

*Adults sit down to rest*

MODERN DANCE NUMBER (exercise-based style)

DAME

Wears me out just watching this lot! They're much fitter than us . maybe they should go up the beanstalk?

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LADY LOTSADOSH

But they're just children . and this is a dangerous mission . we couldn't possibly send **them** . just to save our own skins ò ò ò . Could we?

DAME

Well it wouldn't be very ethical ò .

LADY LOTSADOSH

It certainly wouldn't ò ò ..

DAME

Not at all ò ò ò .

*They look at each other ...*

DAME / LADY LOTSADOSH

KIDS!!!!!! (*beckoning the youngsters over*)

*Villager runs on*

VILLAGER

Quick! Jill's back! And Jack's on his way down the beanstalk!

DAME

So **we** don't have to climb the beanstalk?

VILLAGER

No!

LADY LOTSADOSH

Oh splendid! Absolutely spiffing! I can't stand heights ò . Well I do like to be just high enough to be able to look down on people ò ..

DAME

What are we waiting for? Come on!

SIMON

(*wakes up*) I was just about to say that!

*All exit, quickly*

## **Scene15      The Garden Of Trot's Cottage**

*Everyone is standing around the bottom of the beanstalk.*

*Jill is already down, Jack is almost down*

JACK

Fetch the axe! Fetch the axe!

DAME

Oh Jack . don't worry about the firewood, you've had a busy day . do it tomorrow

GIANT (V.O.)

FEE FIE FOE FUM

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I WANT THE BLOOD OF THAT ENGLISHMAN  
BE HE ALIVE, OR BE HE DEAD  
I'D GRIND HIS BONES TO MAKE MY BREAD

DAME  
Oooh! It's that nasty Giant

JACK  
Mother! Fetch the axe!

DAME  
I'd fetch the axe (*runs off*) ..... (*runs on again*) õ õ I can't find the axe õ õ . Don't panic!

*Everyone panics!*

ALL  
She can't find the axe / What are we going to do? / Help! / Aaah! Etc.

JACK  
Do something!

SIMON  
We are doing something . we're panicking!

*Everyone continues to panic*

*Fairy enters and looks up at beanstalk – everyone else too busy panicking to notice*

*The beanstalk begins to shake. Villagers cower as they mime that they can see the Giant at the top of the beanstalk.*

FAIRY  
Now shall I call for Builder Bob?  
No, I know ze one to do zees job

*Fairy waves wand – sfx – in comes Eminem (play an Eminem song) complete with chainsaw. "Chainsaw" sound effects as he chops down the beanstalk & exits – Fairy also exits*

*NB The beanstalk-chopping character can be updated as required... any TV character or "Super Hero". Or, if you prefer to stick with tradition, Jack can chop it down himself!*

*Blackout, with light flashes and "giant tree falling" sound effect, as the beanstalk falls and the Giant crashes to the ground.  
Lights up to reveal the Giant's feet sticking out of the roof of Trot's cottage, or just out from the wings. The Villagers cheer.*

LADY LOTSADOSH  
Ooh, it's all tooo much õ õ

*Lady Lotsadosh faints*

JILL  
Mother! Oh Jack what shall I do?

SIMON  
Give her a shake  
*MacDonald's worker brings in a milkshake*

JACK  
No, not that kind of shake

*Boy/girl turns to go*

LADY LOTSADOSH  
(*suddenly rallies*) Just one moment . what flavour is it?

BOY  
Strawberry, Ma'am

LADY LOTSADOSH  
Ooh, my favourite . shame to waste it (*she grabs the shake & seems to recover quickly*)

DAME  
Oh Jack, Jack, I'm so glad you're back Jack o' ..

SIMON  
Don't start all that again, Mrs T.

DAME  
o' but what about my house?

JACK  
Don't worry about that, Mother . we're rich, now . we'll build a new house o' .

*Mayor enters*

MAYOR  
So here you are . hiding away in the o' er o' . Village. I demand my money, now! I can't wait a moment longer! The Giant will eat all of us if I don't get him some money today!

JACK  
(*gives him money bag*) Here! Now we don't owe you a penny. And the Giant won't be eating anyone o' . He seems to have lost his appetite!

*Jack indicates the Giant to the Mayor*

MAYOR  
Blimey! How did that happen? Wonderful! o' o' . Marvellous! o' o' o' to celebrate this happy occasion . I announce that all taxes are abolished!

ALL  
Hooray!!

*Fairy enters with Buttercup*

SIMON  
Look! There's Buttercup!

DAME  
Oh, my beautiful Buttercup! o' .. But who are you?

FAIRY  
To Jack, I made a promise true  
Zat she would be returned to you

JACK

Oh, it's you! The bean seller . I didn't recognise you o o o although the voice was familiar.  
Thank you so much . I did as you said, and you were right. I've killed the Giant, I've found  
the treasure which belonged to my father, and I've met the girl of my dreams!

LADY LOTSADOSH

Jolly good show! Where is the young filly, then?

JACK

It's Jill . your daughter. I love her and I want to marry her

JILL

Oh Jack o ..

LADY LOTSADOSH

But you're o a o . a o ..**common person**

JILL

Mother . don't be such a snob! I **love** Jack

LADY LOTSADOSH

Well I suppose he is a very **rich** common person now . and he's rather a hero, too. Yes, I  
think you may have my blessing

JILL

Oh Mother! Thankyou!

LADY LOTSADOSH

I'm not sure about your prospective Mother-in-law, though o ..

JACK

Jill, will you marry me?

JILL

I will

*Everyone very happy*

SONG %Celebration+or similar upbeat, celebratory or love song

*Grotviler enters Stage Left*

GROT

Not so fast with your good cheer  
Blunderbore's dead . but **I'm** still here!

FAIRY

Oh no . teez er . ze party pooper  
Ze one zat looks like Alice Cooper!

*Music blast – "School's Out"*

DAME

Who put those D.J.'s in charge of sound?

*Musicblast – “Who let the dogs out?”*

GROT

If you want a happy ending here  
You'd have to try again NEXT YEAR!  
This love and goodness makes me sick  
(*looks at aud*) Now ò . mice or toads . what shall I pick?

FAIRY

Zees will be ðappy in ze end  
I need some ðelp . Ið call a friend

*Fairy waves wand – sfx – Harry Potter appears*

GROT

Oh no! Not him! Aaaaaaaaah!

*Harry backs Grot back towards the wall, he raises his wand – short blackout – pyro flash.  
Grot has disappeared, leaving just her hat. Harry lifts the hat – a mouse scurries out from  
beneath, and into the wings. Harry bows, then exits. All cheer*

FAIRY

Ah ò . Everyone eez ðappy now  
Jack and Jillò .. Dame Trotò . ze cow  
I ðave to say I am delighted  
So come to ze wedding . youqe all invited!

SIMON

I was just about ò ..

ALL

ò to say that!

## **Song Sheet**

*Simon enters*

SIMON

Hi boys and girls!

AUDIENCE

Hi Simon!

SIMON

Now then ò . Who fancies a bit of a sing-song? ò . Oh, no-one ò .. I said . who fancies a bit  
of a sing-song?! Oh, you do? Good! Off we go, then!

*Music starts, Simon starts to conduct – audience don't know what they are supposed to be  
singing. Villager enters and speaks to Simon*

SIMON

Sorry ò . I forgot a couple of things! ò . The song titleò . And the words ò

*Two young villagers bring on the song board*

SIMON

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OK . lets try again . all together . 1, 2, 3, 4 ò ò ò

*All start to sing – Grabbit & Leggit enter*

GRABBIT & LEGGIT

Stop! Stop!

GRABBIT

There's a new tax on singing! Come on . pay up!

*Go down into audience waving hat*

GRABBIT & LEGGIT

You were singing ò .. and you were ò . And you ò .

GRABBIT

Come on . pay your taxes! Who else was singing?

LEGGIT

You're OK . you weren't singing . you don't have to pay

GRABBIT

And that chap there . you can keep your money ò . Pay for some singing lessons!

*Back on stage – to Simon*

GRABBIT

Were you singing?

SIMON

No. But you can't do this . you can't tax singing . that's ridiculous!

LEGGIT

But we have to get some money somehow . or the Giant will eat us all

SIMON

Didn't you know?

G & L

Know what?

SIMON

The Giant's dead. He's not going to eat **anyone** . **ever**. Where have you two been?

LEGGIT

In the bar ò .

GRABBIT

*(quickly nudges Leggit)* Looking for the Mayor ò . Have you seen him?

SIMON

YES! He's abolished ALL taxes, and he's gone to get ready for the big wedding ò ò  
Look you two . we have to do this song . it's a compulsory pantomime thing . can you clear  
off now, so we can get on with it?

LEGGIT

Can we help? Can we, can we, pleeeeeease?

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SIMON

OK . if you must. But first of all I have to say hello to a few people ò ò  
*Simon reads the list of "hellos" and "birthdays"*

*A sing-song competition follows, perhaps with some children on stage to help?*

### **Finale Wedding Walkdown & Bows**

FAIRY

And so . just what I was intending  
 A story wis an ~~h~~appy ending  
 Just one more seeng you ~~h~~ave to ~~h~~ear  
 A Very Merry Christmas . and an ~~h~~appy New Year!

FINALE SONG %Reach For The Stars+or similar upbeat, well-known, modern song

FINAL COMPANY BOW

## **Additional Notes**

### **Music Content**

Your choice of music is important; choose songs that are suited to your company and your audience. In general, it is best that songs are well-known and kept fairly short. Up-tempo songs work well, but you will usually need to include at least one slower ballad, or love song. It is likely that most of your audience will be familiar with chart music, rather than musicals. Whatever you choose, remember that the performance of any copyright music (including those suggestions made in this script) is subject to permission and payment of royalties. The Performing Rights Society licenses most popular songs and also collects royalties.

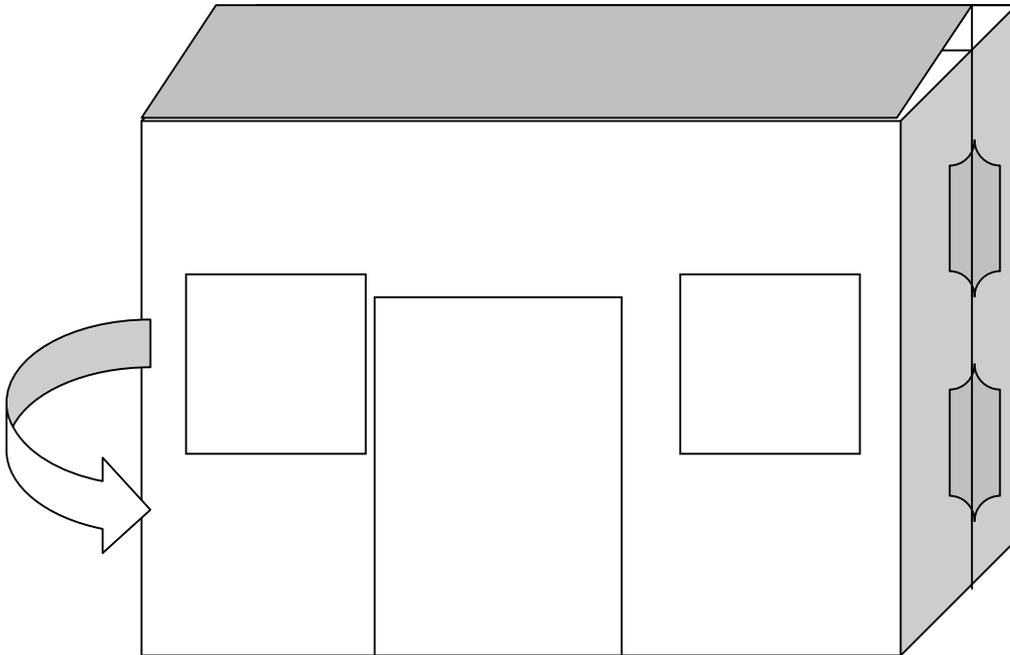
Where this script suggests %Music blast+, it is literally just one line of the recorded song. It is a very quick comedy itemq which works quite well, as it is repeated throughout the script.

The best type of music to use for the %Beanstalk Growing+is a classical piece. Choose something that starts gently, for the %Fairy Ballet+, and then grows to a finale crescendo as the beanstalk grows, take care that it is not too long, 3 to 4 minutes in total is plenty. A classical piece will add more atmosphere to the scene.

### **Staging**

#### **1. Trot's Cottage**

If you have room on stage, and someone to build it, Trot's cottage works well if it is built like a book:-



The exterior view is provided by the closed building. The door is practical, and adds to the reality of the building.

To provide an interior view of Trot's cottage, the building opens out fully, as shown by the arrow, so that it is twice the width. The practical door can be used for both interior and exterior views.

Add strong castor wheels (with brakes) to the cottage, to make it easier to move.

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Don't worry if you can't make Trot's cottage like this, just a suggestion of the exterior and interior of the cottage can be portrayed using simple book flats, or a back cloth (if it can be accommodated). Other than these suggestions, use props (a white picket fence, to indicate the edge of Trot's garden, or a table and chairs will indicate that it is an interior scene).

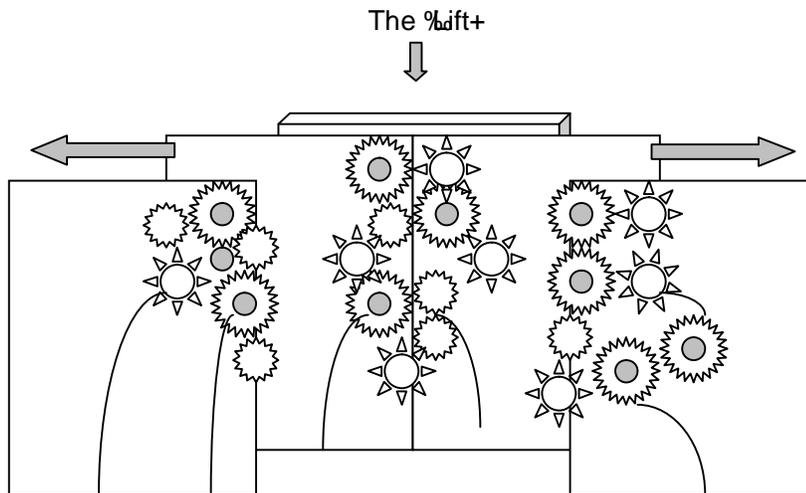
## 2. Trot's Garden

### The Flower Border

The garden needs to incorporate the hidden beanstalk and lift, so there needs to be a bright and colourful, large flower border upstage. You can use painted flats, then add artificial shrubs and flowers, to give more depth.

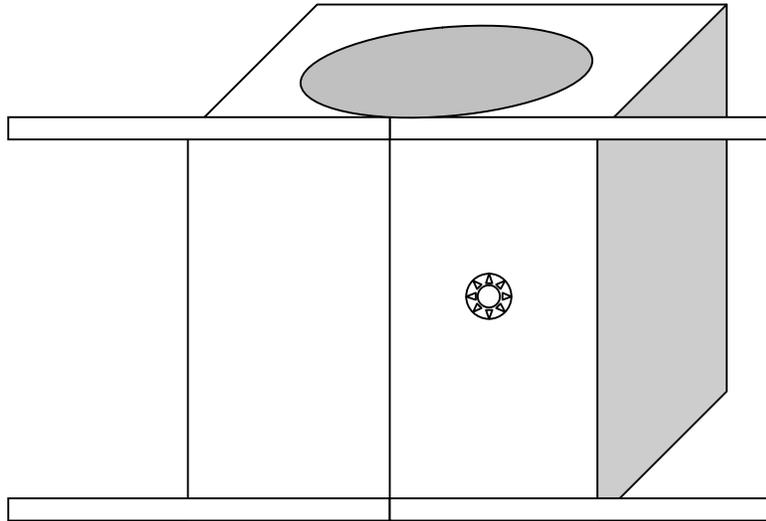
If you are including the Ultra Violet Beanstalk scene, then you can also paint all of the flowers in the flower border with UV reactive paint.

When, in the script, it describes the foliage opening up to reveal the lift, it is done simply by having two flats each side of the hidden lift. As shown in the diagram, the upstage central pair of flats are moved out to reveal the lift. This task can be carried out by two of the stage crew.



### The lift

This is basically a large box, with sliding doors at the front. The doors slide open using runners, mounted top and bottom of the box. To make the doors appear to open automatically, attach cord to the outer edge of each door (top and bottom). This can then be pulled by the same stage crew members who are hidden behind the flower border. There is a large hole in the roof of the lift, through which the beanstalk grows. The hole is hidden from view by a border of foliage on the front of the roof.



### The Beanstalk

The beanstalk is stored inside the lift, and is pulled out through the hole, when required. The beanstalk is made from green fabric, sewn into a large cylinder-shape. To keep its shape, use children's plastic hula hoops, attached to the inside of the beanstalk, at regular intervals of approximately 50cm. Large leaves and flowers (made or purchased) can then be attached to the beanstalk.

Paint the beanstalk with undercoat, followed by UV reactive paint. You will probably have to do this in stages, to allow each section to dry.

UV reactive paint is quite expensive, but this is a very effective way in which to grow the beanstalk, especially if you do paint all of the other flowers as well.

### Growing the Beanstalk

The Fairy starts the process, with her magic. If you are using a Flower Fairy Ballet, have the dancers wear different coloured tutus, each representing a different flower, with floral headdresses to match. The Flower Fairies hide behind the front flats of the flower border, prior to the start of the scene.

After the Fairy's spell, the music begins and the Flower Fairies appear from the flower border. They perform their ballet, which ends with them collecting glitter or foil confetti, which they sprinkle at the bottom of the beanstalk.

As they exit, the lights fade to blackout and black curtains or cloth is brought in behind the beanstalk / lift. The UV lights are then lit.

As the audience are admiring the brightly-glowing flower beds, a cord, with a clip attached to the end, is lowered from the rig (this does not need to be complicated, just a couple of pulleys or some eyelets). Someone in black can then attach the clip to an eyelet at the top of the beanstalk .. and off we go!

Don't rush the growing, make it dramatic, having the beanstalk reaching the rig at the crescendo finale of the music!

Then, UV lights off, black curtains open, stage lights on .. Hey Presto!

NB When using UV reactive paint, make sure that there are no gaps in the paintwork (or any paint where it shouldn't be!). Use a sufficient number of UV lighting tubes. Ensure that all other light sources are switched off (including the musicians' lights). And a UV scene must have a black background!

### The Skeleton Dance

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This is in Act II, but as it's another UV item, we'll discuss it here. The costume is just a black all-in-one, with a skeleton painted on the front. Look around the shops at Halloween and you might find one ready made, at a reasonable price. To finish the costume, add skeleton masks and gloves. You will probably have to make the foot covers. The foot cover is made by painting the skeleton foot onto a piece of black fabric, then attaching two pieces of wide, black elastic, one which goes under the instep/sole of the tap shoe, the other, around the ankle.

Even if you buy the costume ready-made, you will still have to paint it if you want the magical UV effect. A coat of white undercoat, followed by two coats of white UV reactive paint – being extra careful not to get it on the black. Paint every bit of the skeleton, including the mask.

The dancer will need to wear black socks, and a black hood.

The choreographer needs to set the dance with the dancers always facing front. Arms need to be used in a way that will best show-off the skeleton bones (do an early rehearsal, in costume, to check that movements will be effective).

### 3. The Giant's Castle

Use of a painted Giant's Kitchen cloth will help to illustrate the dimension of the room, however, if this can not be accommodated, then make a few Giant props. The downside with Giant props is that they take up far too much room!

A table is useful, and can be made to fold for storage. Use children's curtain fabric as a table cloth. something with a large pattern.

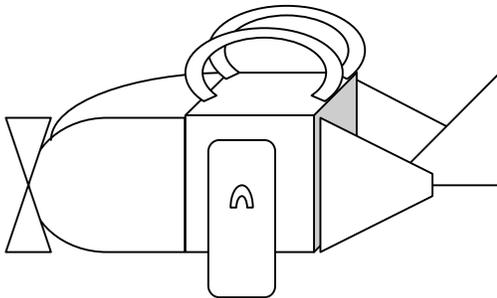
If you make a chair for the Giant, it obviously has to be strongly-made, and very large (it depends upon your stage size and storage area!).

The harp is less difficult to store and use, as it is narrow. Cut it from plywood, and use parcel-string (not the plastic type) for the strings, then spray it all with gold paint.

The magic hen is best made with paper mache over a wire frame. It can then be painted, and feathers glued on. Incorporate a sliding door into the bottom of the hen. Grotviler can then slide the door, whilst she is holding the hen, and a (pre-stored) golden egg can be laid.

### 4. The Green Marrows

Again, this depends very much upon stage size! The aeroplane is built around a box-shape, which is worn by the pilot. This is hung over the shoulders of the pilot.



This simplified diagram shows the basic design. The handles on the wings allow the pilot to lower the wings down, to get on and off stage (otherwise, it would be very wide!).

This is a comedy routine, so add old fashioned helmets and goggles, along with scarves, wired up to stick out horizontally. However, it is a very quick change, so nothing too complicated!

It works better, if someone is holding a banner, on which is written 'The Green Marrows ~ Formation Flying Team'.

