

NODA PANTOMIMES
Present

JACK AND THE
BEANSTALK

BY DAVID CRUMP

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NODA LTD
 15 The Metro Centre,
 Peterborough PE2 7UH
 Telephone: 01733 374790
 Fax: 01733 237286
 Email: info@noda.org.uk
www.noda.org.uk

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Synopsis of Scenes:

ACT 1:

Scene 1: Prologue – Cloudland – Front cloth
Scene 2: The Village
Scene 3: On The Way to Market – Front cloth
Scene 4: Dame Trott’s Cottage/Milking Parlour
Scene 5: On The Way to Market – Front cloth
Scene 6: Dame Trott’s Cottage/Milking Parlour
Scene 7: Cloudland – Front cloth
Scene 8: The Village/ transformation

ACT 2:

Scene 1: Cloudland/ Top of the Beanstalk – Front cloth
Scene 2: Inside The Giant’s Castle
Scene 3: Cloudland/ Top of the Beanstalk – Front cloth
Scene 4: The Village/ transformation
Scene 5: The songsheet
Scene 6: Finale: The Squires Hall/ Walkdown

A note on scenes: The script is designed to work on a stage with limited or no flying facilities so there is generally a front of tabs scene between main stage scenes to allow for scene changes. However, if the theatre enables quicker changes then the front of tabs scenes may be incorporated into full stage scenes.

Musical Numbers: Suggestions

ACT 1

1. Happy – Jill and company
2. I'm Not Wearing Underwear Today – Billy
3. Gorgeous – Dame Trott
4. Shy – Fairy
5. Goblin Dance
6. On A Bicycle Made For Two – Billy
7. Brown Cow – Billy, Jack and Dame Trott
8. Someone Like You – Jill
9. There Are Giants In The Sky – Fairy and Woodland Elves
10. Beanstalk Grows – Underscore
11. Ain't No Mountain High Enough – Jack and Company

ACT 2

12. I Got You Babe – Dame Trott and Billy
13. Underscore – Goblin theme
14. Not While I'm Around – Jill and kids
15. Oh What A Beautiful Morning – Hen
16. Gold – Hen
17. Rescue Me - Hen
18. Twinkle Twinkle Little Star – Jill and kids
19. All Of Me – Jack and Jill
20. Don't You Want Me Baby – Hen
21. Giant's theme – underscore
22. Shoop Shoop Song – Hen
23. All Of Me Reprise – Billy
24. Twinkle Twinkle Little Star – Billy and Audience
25. I'm a Believer – Jack, Billy, Jill, Dame and kids
26. Self Preservation Society - underscore
27. You Can't Stop the Beat – Company
28. Community Songsheet – Old MacDonald or Brown Cow – Billy and Dame Trott
29. We Are Giants - Company

Characters:

Jack Trott:	Principal Boy. He is dashing, brave and confident, and of course in love with Jill.
Jill:	Principal Girl. Squires daughter, she is sweet and beautiful but sassy.
Dame Trott:	Jack's widowed mother, She is busty, lusty and surprisingly an absolute glamour puss.
Snivelling:	The Baddie- a goblin and the Giant's servant. He is a creepy, slimeball of a villain..
Squire:	The village Squire and father of Jill. An older comedy part, he's an old duffer but kind at heart.
Silly Billy:	Jack's daft brother, the lead comic and audience participation character.
Blunderbore:	The giant – offstage mic or pre-recorded vocal
Daisy:	Jack's cow, always popular and able to get laughs from a mere turn of the head.
Fairy Moonbeam:	The magical fairy from the clouds

Juvenile dancers, Adult dancers – villagers, goblins, hen, etc.

Note: The Giant is generally an offstage mic or pre-recorded voice. In the Giant's kitchen scene when he finally appears, this is a large giant costume and can be the same actor as the Squire. Alternatively it could be done with Greenscreen or projection.

The hen that lays the golden egg can be played by one of the dancers or be puppets. Two of the dancers/chorus usually also play Daisy the cow. The Hen needs to be played by an energetic chorus member who is a very strong singer.

ACT 1**Scene 1: The Prologue: Above the clouds.**

(Front-cloth scene, it is somewhere above the clouds. There is a flash. Fairy moonbeam enters d.s.r. she is a cloud fairy, dressed in white with a skirt that looks like a cloud, fairy wings and a hat with a lightning bolt.)

Fairy: Gosh – that got the show off with a bang! Did it wake you all up? I said did it wake you all up? *(Audience shout yes!)* That's better – I knew you were going to be a good audience as soon as I saw the amount of interval drinks orders. Oh I should introduce myself. I am Fairy Moonbeam, I'm a cloud fairy – at least I was. I have been banished from my home in the sky by an evil giant, Blunderbore, who's built himself an enormous castle on these clouds *(indicating the cloud front cloth)* where I used to live. Since he arrived, he's been terrorising the villagers, taking all their money and eating their.. oh I can't say it!

(There is a green flash s.l. - Snivelling enters)

Snivelling: Ha! Then I'll say it for you! He's been gobbling up all their children.

Fairy: You!

Snivelling: Yes me! Silas Snivelling, evil goblin first class.

Fairy: The giant's nasty little henchman - what do you want?

Snivelling: I'm on the look out for more goodies for Giant Blunderbore's – and all these little kiddies look very very tasty *(Looking at the audience)*.

Fairy: Leave them alone you horrible little imp – how can you be so nasty?

Snivelling: I have a black heart, it matches my black hair, my black beard and..

Fairy: Your black teeth.

Snivelling: My black teeth...What! Argh, you can joke all you like fairy. You're no match for Blunderbore, and he'll be staying until he's had his fill of this village!

Fairy: That's what you think Snivelling, my friends are going to help get rid of that Giant once and for all. He'll get what's coming to him.

Snivelling: I warn you Fairy, the only thing this lot are going to give Blunderbore is indigestion. He gets that from eating people that don't agree with him. Ha

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ha ha! Oh boo all you like – just sit back and watch a master baddie at work. Ha ha ha!

(Snivelling exits)

Fairy: Oh dear, boys and girls. We're going to have to do something to put a stop to Blunderbore. Will you help me? I said, will you help me? (*Audience shout yes!*) Great. Remember to shout and laugh as loud as you can, there's nothing more annoying to a panto baddie than kiddies having a great time. And whenever you see that Snivelling goblin, boo as if you're life depended on it, because it just might! Now what we need is a hero, and I think I know just the man. See you later!

Scene 2: The Village

(The scene is a village square, the company enter but look worried and concerned. Jill enters).

Jill: Hello everyone! Gosh why do you all look so glum?

Chorus: *(Ad lib)* The giant's going to eat us, we've got no money! He's taken our children.

Jill: Perhaps, a song will cheer you up – this is a panto after all!

MUSIC 1: Happy – Jill and Company

(Jack enters. Adult chorus dancers exit, kids remain)

Jack: You're a lovely singer.

Jill: That's very nice of you – it's Jack isn't it?

Jack: I didn't think you'd know my name miss, me being a lowly milkman, and you being the Squire's daughter.

Jill: Don't be silly. I've seen you on your rounds. Is it fun being a milkman?

Jack: Not really, but the dairy is the family business.

Jill: Is your father a milkman?

Jack: He was an ice-cream man, but he's passed away.

Jill: Sorry to hear that, was it sudden?

Jack: He went out selling ice creams one morning as usual, and a few hours later we found him dead. He was covered in strawberry sauce and hundreds and thousands, with a flake sticking out of each ear.

Jill: That's terrible!

Jack: We think he topped himself. So now its me, my mom and my brother, running what's left of the dairy.

Jill: Have you a big herd?

Jack: Massive, well quite big, sort of large – actually just the one cow. Like I say, we're pretty poor.

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Jill: I'm really very ordinary, in fact I've been waiting on tables in the cocktail bar at The Royal (*or local pub*) just so I can mix with some commoners.

Jack: I can't drink cocktails, they give me a sharp stabbing pain in my eye.

Jill: Have you tried taking the umbrella out?

Jack: Gosh, you're clever as well as beautiful. And a great singer.

Jill: What a flatterer.

Jack: Do you believe in love at first sight Jill?

Jill: I do now.

(*Squire enters.*)

Squire: Jill! Don't you know its dangerous to be out on your own?

Jill: Father, even with that horrible giant, I can't fail to be happy on such a beautiful sunny day.

Squire: For goodness sake – get back to the hall at once!

Jill: Bye Jack! Until we meet again (*She exits*).

Squire: Not even my daughter's safe while that monster is on the loose. (*Pointing at the kids*) Look, the village is down to its last four children – and they're the scrawniest, scruffiest ones.

Kids: (*Ad lib*) 'Ere – who you calling scruffy? Cheek!

Squire: It's so pathetic, just the four of them.

Jack: Yeh, like One Direction after Zayne left.

Squire: (*Tearful*) I never quite got over that.

Giant: (*Off stage mic*) Fe Fi Fo Fum, I want some kiddies in my tum, Snivelling! Get me some Children!

All: Argh! It's the Giant!

Jack: Don't worry kids, he's miles away up in the clouds (*as the children scream and exit*). Wait! Come back! Too late.

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Squire: I don't know what we're going to do. That terrible goblin Snivelling has been stealing from us for months now – everyone's broke.

Jack: We've got enough money to last us a lifetime Squire. As long as we all die next Tuesday.

Squire: Then it's time we did something about it. I've come to a decision.

Jack: Don't over exert yourself.

Squire: (*Proclaims as if addressing a crowd*) Any man who will rid us of the beast, shall have my daughter's hand in marriage.

Jack: What about the rest of her?

Squire: (*Still proclaiming loudly*) Spread the word far and wide – I seek a hero for this deadly quest.

Jack: Er, you know there's just me here right?

Squire: Then go and tell everyone else!

(*Squire exits*)

Jack: Not likely – I'm keeping that to myself. But how on earth could I take on a giant? How would I get up there for a start?

(*Snivelling enters*)

Snivelling: Ah Jack Trott, just the man – I was on my way to your dairy. Your mother hasn't paid the giant's taxes this week. You owe me five gold pieces.

Jack: But that's all that we have!

Snivelling: Oh dear. Then I'm afraid that Blunderbore might feel inclined to accidentally on purpose tread on that little hovel of a dairy of yours. Ideally while you, your idiot brother, and that old battleaxe of a mother are still in it. You've got one more day to find the money!

(*Snivelling exits.*)

Jack: We're down to our last five gold pieces – that's only one more weeks rent!

(*Billy enters, he is carrying a glo-stick*)

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- Billy: Eh up brov! What's happening?
- Jack: A terrifying giant has been eating all the villagers' children and his evil goblin henchman is on the lose. He's demanding money with menaces from everyone, including us, which will leave our entire family destitute. I've met the love of my life and taken on the challenge of killing the gigantic monster in order to have her hand in marriage. What about you?
- Billy: Just been down the shops.
- Jack: Wow.
- Billy: I had to buy one of these lighty up glowy stick thingys.
- Jack: Why?
- Billy: Because the front of house lady said it was important to the plot.
- Jack: Typical! You're messing about with toys, while I worry about paying Snivelling.
- Billy: It was a bargain though, do you know it only cost me...
- Jack: I can't believe we've only got...
- Billy/Jack: *(Together)* Five gold pieces.
- Jack: What?
- Billy: *(Fast cross talk)* Who?
- Jack: Billy!
- Bill: Come again?
- Jack: *(Grabbing Billy by the lapels)* You spent our last five gold pieces on that?
- Billy: Everybody's doing it – look! *(Looks to the audience)*.
- Jack: Then they're as daft as you are! *(Letting him go)* I wouldn't want to be in your shoes when mom finds out.
- Billy: I don't want to be in my shoes they are really uncomfortable.
- Jack: That's because you've got them on the wrong feet.

- Billy: These are the only feet I've got.
- Jack: Good grief - I'm off to see if I can find the writer of this rubbish and give him a piece of my mind (*exits*).
- Billy: Can you spare any? (*To audience*) Good job you lot were here. Are you having a lovely time? I'm Billy, Jack's much more handsome brother. People say I'm daft, Silly Billy that's me. Trouble is, people don't take me seriously. Most people just laugh at me, 'cause when I grow up I want to be a comedian, I'm gonna do it too – they won't be laughing then will they? It's really nice to see you 'cause I'm a bit lonely to be honest. (*Audience Ah!*) I'm lonelier than that! (*Audience Ah louder*) - that's better. I know perhaps you'll be my friends? You will? Great. When I come on, will you lot shout - hello Billy? (*Audience - yes!*) Great – let's try it. (*He runs off then straight back on*) Hello folks! (*Audience shout – Hello Billy!*) Oh dear, that wasn't very good. Come on let's blow the roof off the place (*Runs off and back on again*) Hello folks! (*Audience – Hello Billy!*) That's better. And don't forget to wave your glo-sticks, if you haven't got a glo-stick wave you hands. Let's have a go – come on wave. That's it lovely, I can see we're going to have some fun today. Here, what do you think of my outfit? Its colourful isn't it? I like bright colours, I bought a pair of Bermuda shorts the other day, when I took them off my pants had disappeared!

MUSIC 2: I'm not wearing underwear today - Billy

(*Dame enters, she is an over the top glamour-puss. She has a basket of sweeties.*)

- Dame: There you are Billy. Daisy is going to need milking – go and bring her in from the paddock.
- Billy: I am busy.
- Dame: Doing what?
- Billy: Nothing.
- Dame: That's what you did yesterday.
- Billy: I haven't finished yet.
- Dame: (*Clipping around the back of the head*) Stupid boy. While you're here talking to yourself, me and our Jack are working our fingers to the bone in that dairy. And what have we got to show for it?
- Billy: Boney fingers?

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- Dame: I ought to take you back to the shop to see if I can get my money back.
- Billy: Anyway I wasn't talking to myself, I was talking to all the boys and girls.
- Dame: The who's and whats? (*Noticing the audience*) Ooh, Hello Everyone! (*Audience responds*) Oh come on you can do better than that, I said Hello everyone! (*Audience responds*) That better. Allow me to introduce myself. My name is Dame Trott... this year! I'm Billy's mom, but it's not my fault he's a bit dim, he was conceived in a power-cut! Now Billy what do you think of my new dress?
- Billy: Lovely mom. Didn't they have it in your size?
- Dame: What a cheek! (*To Audience*) You know boys and girls, I'm a shopaholic, it's the only thing that keeps me going, working with this bloke (*indicating Billy*). I spend all our money on essentials – dresses, handbags, shoes, ferrero roche, gin. It's a cry for help.
- Billy: Is there anyway I can cheer you up mom?
- Dame: You could leave. Go on (*Billy starts to exit looking sad, he encourages the audience to 'ah'*) Get out of it. (*To Audience*) Don't encourage him. Go on Billy, I'm going to sing.
- Billy: I'll go and alert the emergency services. (*exits*)
- Dame: I love him really boys and girls, but he always makes fun of my outfits. I know, I've thought of something (*to audience*) you can help boys and girls. Every time I say 'How do I look?' I want you all to reply 'Faaaaaahulous!' Do you think you can do that for me? (*Audience Responds*) Let's give it a go... (*Audience Ad-lib*) Ooh I say, what a lovely lot.

MUSIC 3: Gorgeous – Dame Trott

(*Billy enters*)

- Billy: Hello boys and girls! (*Audience respond*) Your singing's getting better mom.
- Dame: Yes, I've been having singing lessons.
- Billy: How could you afford that?
- Dame: Last year's audience had a whip round.

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- Billy: Do you think you might be a bit overdressed for Sutton Town Hall mom?
- Dame: Nonsense, this entire audience is full of glamor pusses. You understand don't you love (*Pointing her way along the front row*) Look at this one all dressed up smart – how do you do it? (*Then to a second one, and so on*) Gorgeous – how do you do it? How do you do it? (*A man in casual clothing*) Why didn't you do it?
- Billy: That's not very nice mom.
- Dame: Well look at him, I mean in my day people dressed up to go to the theatre.
- Billy: Everyone did in Victorian times didn't they?
- Dame: 'Ere how old do you think I am?
- Billy: Approaching forty?
- Dame: That's right.
- Billy: From the wrong direction.
- Dame: (*Clips him around the ear*) Anymore of this cheek and you'll get none of my sweeties.
- Billy: Ooh, I bet the boys and girls would like some sweeties.
- Dame: Do you think so? (*To audience*) Would you? (*Audience – yes!*) Well you can't have any. Sweets are expensive.
- Billy: Oh go on Mom, it's good to share.
- Dame: The last thing you shared with anybody was measles. I'd love to but I can't because it's too dangerous.
- Billy: Who makes these silly rules?
- Dame: Eurocrats.
- Billy: I'm a what?
- Dame: Mandarins in Brussels.
- Billy: Sounds like a Heston Blumenthal pudding – oranges in sprout sauce.

Dame: I wouldn't want to be downwind of you after that. Anyway, don't worry we'll be able to do anything we like after Brexit.

Billy: Is it me or does Brexit sound like something you have to have for breakfast when you can't go to the toilet?

Dame: Don't talk to me about that. At my age every waking moment is mind over bladder. (*Chorus dancers enter auditorium as woodland sprites*). Hang about, here come some woodland elves, they'll be able to help us hand some sweets out.

Billy: Why isn't it dangerous when they do it?

Dame: They're from the elf and safety department. Elf and safety – get it. Oh please yourselves.

Billy: (*To audience*) So do you want some sweets kids? (*Audience shout yes*) Are you sure? (*Yes!*)

Dame: Here we are then – have some sweets.

(*Dame and Billy throw some sweets to the front row, the chorus dancers run around the audience with baskets handing out sweets*).

Dame: Now this is the last toffee so you'll have to suck it and pass it on (*throws her last sweet*). There we are, that should keep them all quiet for a bit.

(*Dame ends up standing on Billy's right toe*)

Dame: Now, let's get on shall we?

Billy: Right oh.

Dame: That cow needs milking.

Billy: Right oh.

Dame: Go and get her from the paddock.

Billy: Right oh.

Dame: Why do you keep saying right oh?

Billy: 'Cause you're standing on my right toe.

(*She clips him around the back of the head*).

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Dame: Get a wriggle on! (*Exits*)

Billy: (*Does a comedy wriggle as he imitates the Dame*) Ooh get a wriggle on.
(*To audience*) Better go boys and girls, the cow won't milk itself.
Remember to shout hello, cheer and wave everytime you see me – bye!

(*Blackout*)

Scene 3: On the way to market

(Front cloth – a forest path or country lane.)

Fairy: Hello again. It's getting exciting isn't it? Don't worry, good will triumph over evil in the end, this is a panto. You need to really shout up though. I know it's not easy, I'm very shy too. I take after my father, if he hadn't been so shy I'd be four years older.

MUSIC 4: Shy - Fairy

Fairy: Oh boys and girls, where would we be without great music?

(Snivelling enters)

Snivelling: Here.

Fairy: You again! Why don't you go and get a proper job?

Snivelling: I've got a job. I am Blunderbore's servant; his chef, his valet and his footman.

Fairy: Have you got the qualifications to be a footman?

Snivelling: Yes, I've got my own feet.

Fairy: Pooh! I can smell them from here.

Snivelling: How dare you! Wait until Blunderbore hears of your insolence.

Fairy: Pretty soon that giant is going to meet his match. The Squire has promised his daughter's hand to anyone who will rid the land of Blunderbore.

Snivelling! What? He'll pay for that.

Fairy: We'll see. Your master's days are numbered.

(Fairy exits)

Snivelling: What nonsense, no man can fight mighty Blunderbore. Now, where was I – oh yes, I was on the lookout for those last four little children, Blunderbore just scoffs them like they're jelly babies. Mind you, he's got terrible table manners, and he loves onion and garlic. His breath is so bad the dentist will only treat him by telephone. No wonder he's got no friends, miserable old...

(There is a crash of thunder and a lighting flash as the Giant's voice is heard)

Giant: (Offstage mic) Snivelling!

Snivelling: *(He cowers in terror at the sound of the giant's voice)* Oh master, I was just talking about you – how lovely to hear from you, bellowing like that, from all the way up there.

Giant: Silence! You worthless snake!

Snivelling: What do you command oh mighty Blunderbore? Mover of mountains, stamper out of forest fires, farter of hurricane proportions.

Giant: Where's my dinner?

Snivelling: Sorry your hugenesses, it's not easy – there's only a handful of kiddies left and they keep hiding from me. And now the Squire has promised his daughter's hand in marriage to any man who will do you in.

Giant: What!?

Snivelling: It's all very stressfull.

Giant: I shall teach that Squire a lesson. Fetch me his daughter at once – I shall eat her for main course.

Snivelling: And what about the children?

Giant: Them too, I shall want an apperitif.

Snivelling: What's wrong with the teeth you've got?

Giant: Get on with it!

(Thunder crashes and lighting strikes to signify the giant has gone).

Snivelling: I shall have to enlist the help of my goblins and ghouls – they hide in the undergrowth, ready to do my bidding. They're like garden gnomes from the wrong side of the tracks. Watch out for them my pretties – they're all around you! I'm off to capture Jill, and the kiddies – ha ha ha!

(Exits)

MUSIC 5: Goblin Dance

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(Woodland goblin dance. The lights change and goblins run around the audience, to the sound of scary music and ghostly wailing. They end up on the stage do a short dance and slink off into the shadows. Billy enters pulling a rope attached to Daisy who is off stage).

Billy: Hello folks!

(Audience – hello Billy)

Billy: It's getting a bit dark in these woods, I must get home. But I'm having a bit of trouble with Daisy, she hates being milked you see.

(He mimes trying to pull her on stage, he slips and falls)

Billy: I know, will you help me? You will? I said will you help me? *(Audience shout yes!)* Great. Do you know the song 'Daisy Daisy?' You do? Great. Shall we sing it? that normally puts her in a good moo-ood, moo-ood, get it? Oh please yourselves. All right here we go – after three. Three.

MUSIC 6: A Bicycle Made for Two

Billy: *(Sings)* Daisy, daisy, give me your answer do, I'm half crazy, desperate to go the loo... 'hold on, that's not right. Let's try again. *(Sings)* Daisy, daisy, give me your answer do, I'm half crazy 'cause I still need a p..No that's not it. I tell you what, you sing the right words and I'll just pull. Off you go after three. Three.....*(sings)* Daisy, Daisy, give me your answer do, I'm half crazy oh for the love of you, it won't be a stylish marriage, I can't afford a carriage, but you'll look sweet upon the seat of a bicycle made for two.

(Audience sing Daisy Daisy as Billy pulls the rope. Eventually Daisy enters).

Daisy: *(Offstage mic)* Moo!

Billy: Well done boys and girls. Did you like that Daisy? *(She nods)*. Perhaps it's cheered you up a bit. *(To Audience)* All this business with the Giant has got her in a very bad mo-ood *(Daisy cuddles up to him)*.

(Jack enters)

Jack: There you are. What on earth are you doing?

Billy: I was just wondering if I'd prefer to have a cow or a bicycle.

Jack: You'd look silly riding a cow.

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Billy: I'd look even sillier milking a bicycle.

Jack: Anyway, we've already got Daisy, although she's definitely not herself. Hello Daisy (*patting her*) why the long face?

Billy: She's a cow.

Jack: When she's fed up she doesn't give us any milk - and without milk to sell how can we pay Snivelling's his gold?

(Jill enters)

Jill: Oh Jack, thank goodness you're here.

Billy: I'm here as well you know.

(Jill and Jack are staring at each other as if in a trance. Billy waves his hand in front of their faces, they do not react.)

Billy: Oh blimey, they're lovestruck. Jack? Jack? Stop being unresponsive, I have enough of that from the audience. Come on you two snap out of it.

Jack: *(Coming to his senses)* Oh, yes right Billy, you get along then, I'll catch you up.

Billy: Right *(He starts to lead Daisy off)*.

Jack: *(To Jill)* So what's a nice place like you doing in a girl like this? *(He goes as if to lean on Daisy, but Billy has started to lead her off, so he misses and nearly falls.)*

Jill: Are you all right?

Billy: No he's half left.

Jack: Billy, haven't you heard the expression three's a crowd?

Billy: Yes, I support the Villa.

Jack: Get out of it Billy!

Billy: Bye boys and girls!

Jill: Bye.

Daisy: Moo!

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(Billy and Daisy exit).

Jack: So, what are you doing in the forest?

Jill: Looking for the children. They heard the giant's voice and ran away.

Jack: I know, I was there. He didn't frighten me though.

Jill: You're obviously very brave Jack. Did you see which way the children went? I think they might have come into the woods to hide.

Jack: I'll help you look if you like

Jill: That's very nice of you.

Jack: I'm like that.

(They are both looking around for the children.)

Jack: You know Mom used to take me and Billy for long walks in the woods.

Jill: Did she?

Jack: Yes, but we always found our way home eventually.

Jill: Perhaps the audience will help us find the children?

Jack: After three would you all shout – 'Kids!'. Will you? *(Audience – yes!)*
Great, after three then, one, two, three – Kids! Kids!

(Children all appear looking frightened)

Jill: Oh here you are, thank goodness *(They crowd around her).*

Jack: They're a bit shaken but I think they'll be all right. I'd better be going, mom will never milk Daisy without my help, she's a cantakerous old cow that's for sure.

Jill: And what about Daisy?

Jack: I'll say goodnight. You really must get these children home Jill. Night falls quickly in these parts.

(Jack exits, there is a sudden change in lighting to a much darker scene)

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Jill: Gosh, he wasn't kidding!

Children: (*Ad lib*) We're scared, Jill can we go home, (*etc.*)

Jill: I'm sure there's nothing to worry about.

Child: Did you hear something? (*They look around in alarm*)

(The ghost scene - Routine with goblins in the woods, they sneak on as the audience shout 'Its behind you'. Gradually they are scared one by one and captured, being passed to Snivelling who is hiding s.l. Eventually only Jill is left.)

Jill: Oh no! Where have all the children gone? I must find them.

(More its behind you ad lib. All four goblins jump out in front of Jill – she screams and runs off, Dame enters op.side.)

Dame: Now where is that cow!

(She crosses to centre, the goblins see her and as one throw up their hands in the air, they scream and run off op. side to Jill, Snivelling also makes his escape.)

Dame: Everyone's a critic. Now boys and girls, how do I look? (*Audience respond*). Wonderful! Have you seen my cow Daisy? Oh good, you see I'd hate to lose her, both ends get on so well. One's got no sense of direction and one's got no sense of smell. You know what though girls, I really shouldn't be running around the woods at my time of life. I mean don't get me wrong, I'm like a classic car, elegant, stylish and there's plenty of juice in the tank. But some mornings I'm hard to turn over. That's why my husband used a choke, I'd often wake up with his hands around my neck. It's true! You know when a girl is in her twenties she's like Africa. She's beautiful and unspoiled. And when a girl is in her forties, she's like America, she's rich and luxurious. And when a girl is in her sixties, she's like Tamworth. Everybody knows where it is but nobody wants to go there! Now then, this isn't helping find that cow is it? Which way did she go? (*Audience respond*) This way? No? This way? Oh that's lovely – I'll get cracking then, they'll be home before me! Bye!

(Exits)

Scene 4: Dame Trott's Cottage

(The scene is a cottage interior. Billy enters)

Billy: Hello folks! Here we are home at last.

(Jack enters)

Jack: Now then Billy, its time for the you know what.

Billy: The I know who?

Jack: The you know what.

Billy: I don't think I do.

Jack: The m. i. l. k. i. n. g. *(Spelling it out)*.

Billy: I've no idea what you just said.

Jack: Are you no good at spelling?

Billy: Yes. I'm no good at spelling.

Jack: I don't want to say it out loud.

Billy: So how am I supposed to hear it? I'm not telepathetic.

Jack: You know that Daisy doesn't like to be, you know – thingymabob.

(Daisy has entered and crept up behind Jack and is listening intently.)

Billy: Just say it man!

Jack: She's a silly old heifer and doesn't like milking!

(Daisy reacts with a double take to the audience. Billy gestures that she's behind Jack.)

Jack: She's behind me isn't she.

Daisy: *(Offstage mic)* Moooo!

(She proceeds to run around the stage with Jack and Billy in pursuit, they crash into one another. Try to grab her, without much success.)

Jack: Just grab her!

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Billy: We need mom – she always does the milking.

(Billy does a mock bull fight routine, eventually Jack hides behind the cape and manages to grab Daisy.)

Jack: Got you! Wait a minute Billy, we can't milk Daisy in here.

Billy: Why not?

Jack: This is mom's kitchen, what about the smell?

Billy: Daisy will get used to it.

(Dame enters.)

Dame: What on earth is going on in here?

Billy: Jack's been swearing mom.

Jack: I have not.

Dame: What did he say?

Billy: He called Daisy a silly old heifer, but I know what he means.

Jack: Sorry mom but I think we'll have to milk Daisy here, she's putting up a struggle.

Dame: I'm used to people putting up a struggle, your father did it all the time. Billy, stop messing about and fetch me the stool – it's about time you learnt to do this yourself.

(Billy fetches the stool)

Billy: Right Jack, now you hold the ugly beast by the nose.

(Jack grabs Dame's nose.)

Dame: Not me you idiot! The cow.

Jack: Oh, sorry mom. *(He grabs Daisy by the rope).*

Dame: Billy, you sit on the stool and get the milk.

Billy: How do I do that?

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- Jack: Just bend your knees and put your bum on it.
- Billy: I don't mean how do I sit on the stool! I mean how do I milk the cow? I've never done it before.
- Dame: You see those pink dangly bits? You squeeze them and the milk comes out.
- Billy: Eurgh! (*Pulls a disgusted face*)
- Dame: This is not a joke.
- Jack: Nor was anything else you've said so far tonight.
- Dame: You need to grab the undercarriage.
- Billy: Pull the udder one.
- Jack: Just sit on the stool!

(Daisy sits on the stool.)

- Dame: Not you! Lord preserve us. They say never work with children and animals, they didn't mention blithering idiots. Fetch the pail.
- Billy: What's a pail?
- Dame: It's like a bucket but less colourful.
- Jack: And I'll get the churn.
- Billy: What churn?
- Dame: About three bob a week – why do you think I'm doing this rubbish?
- Jack: You get the bucket and fill it with milk, then it goes in the churn.

(They grab a bucket and a milk churn, both are set upstage. Dame keeps Daisy still. Billy comes downstage with the bucket, he pulls a large sheet of paper from it.)

- Billy: What have we got here? (*Reading*) Do a bungee jump, climb a mountain? Marry Jill? What is this?
- Jack: That's my bucket list (*Taking it back. He gets another piece of paper out of the bucket*) Hello, what's this?

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Billy: Oh, that's a letter from my teacher.

Dame: What does it say, give it here (*Reads it, she scowls at Billy*).

Billy: Is it bad?

Dame: The headmaster want's a written excuse for your presence (*She clips him around the ear*).

Jack: Billy – get on the stool.

Billy: I've got a question. Why does a brown cow eat green grass but make white milk?

MUSIC 7: The Brown Cow – Billy, Jack and Dame

Dame: Come on brain of Britain - get on the stool.

(Billy goes to sit on the stool but Daisy kicks it away, repeats. Eventually he manages to sit on the stool. squeezes the udder but nothing happens).

Billy: I think she's dried up.

Dame: I know the feeling.

Jack: It's an udder failure. It's all the stress of the Giant.

Dame: We'll have to try the emergency procedure.

Jack: What's that?

Dame: The Heimlich maneuver. Billy get behind Daisy and try that.

(Billy wanders over to the back of Daisy, who is watching him carefully. Billy seems unsure what to do, but positions himself at Daisy's rear.)

Jack: The Heimlich maneuver?

Dame: Yes, you know, when something's stuck and you have to get behind the person and squeeze – it's the Heimlich manoeuvre.

(Billy goes as if to lick Daisy's rump. He lifts her tail, closes his eyes in a grimace as his tongue approaches.)

Jack: (*Seeing Billy*) Is that it?

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Dame: No, but don't tell him, its fun watching him go through it.

(Just as Billy is about to touch Daisy she gives out an enormous Moo and turns away)

Billy: It's no good I can't do it.

Dame: *(Putting her arm around Billy)* I said Heimlich, not hind lick. Stupid boy
(Clips him around the head).

Jack: Let's get our heads together and decide how we're going to do this.

(They all huddle together. Fairy enters)

Fairy: Don't worry boys and girls – I'll help, with a little magic from me, Daisy will manage to find a pint or two.

(She waves her wand and exits, there is a flash)

Jack: What do we do now?

Dame: I really need two big beefy firemen.

Billy: What's that got to do with milking Daisy?

Dame: Nothing, it just popped into my head.

Billy: Where are we going to get firemen round here?

Dame: Perhaps there's one in the audience? Let's have a look. *(To Audience)*
Now boys and girls, are there any firemen in the audience?

(The next part of the scene is then one of two options – if there is a fireman (or two) in the audience the Dame gets them up as volunteers. If there's only one, the Dame gets up another volunteer. If not then two male dancers come on dressed as firemen. Either way both end up at 'CONTINUE')

(OPTION 1: Audience volunteers.)

Dame: Here we are – look there's one over there – will you help us love? *(He joins her on stage).* Give him a huge round of applause. Now then, what's your name? *(He answers, let's assume it's Keith)* That's a lovely name Keith, have you had it all your life? Where are you from? *(He answers – say Birmingham)* Sorry? *(He repeats - Birmingham)* No I heard you, I'm just sorry. Thanks for getting up Keith, I know its not easy at your age.

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Come on up, that's it. Now Keith, how do I look? (*Keith responds*) You know I think I like you.

Jack: Can we hurry up mom?

Dame: Shut up Jack, this is the most attention I've had from a man since the blitz.

Billy: So Keith, you're a fireman?

Keith: Yes.

Billy: My uncle had two wooden legs, and real feet. Two wooden legs he had. He caught fire – he was burned to the ground.

Dame: What do you think were the chances of having a fireman in the audience? It's as if someone had waved a magic wand and he'd appeared.

(OPTION 2: No audience volunteers)

Dame: No firemen in the audience eh?

Jack: Don't worry there never is.

Dame: Luckily here's two I prepared earlier. (*Two firemen enter*) Oh look, two beefy firemen have materialised out of thin air - as if by magic.

(CONTINUE)

Jack: Could be fairies.

Dame: Ooh I hope not, that would be a terrible waste. That big one (*or Keith*) has just given me a second look.

Billy: He couldn't believe it the first time.

Dame: Do you know my late husband was a fireman. He's not dead, just always late. I don't mean he was a firefighter, no he was a fireman – he used to fit them for British gas.

Billy: He once fitted a fire in Buckingham Palace.

Dame: Oh yes, he was corgi registered.

Jack: Are we going to milk this cow or not?

s wrong apologise

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