

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

A PANTOMIME BY NICK LAWRENCE

**COPYRIGHT © 2026
NICK LAWRENCE PANTOMIMES**

REVISED JUNE 2025

MYTS

Important Information

This pantomime must not be performed without first obtaining a Performance Licence and proper permission from Nick Lawrence Pantomimes.

You must not reproduce, copy, distribute or share this pantomime script and/or its contents in any way without gaining prior permission.

This script remains the property of Nick Lawrence Pantomimes and is protected by international copyright law.

Full Terms & Conditions are available at www.nicklawrencepantomimes.com

Acknowledgement

If you have purchased a Performance Licence to perform this pantomime script you must acknowledge the author in all of your printed & digital publicity including your production poster & programme.

Acknowledgement examples include (but are not limited to):

- “Pantomime Script Title” by Nick Lawrence
- “Pantomime Script Title” by Nick Lawrence Pantomimes
- A Pantomime by Nick Lawrence
- Written by Nick Lawrence

If posting online, where possible, please include a hyperlink to the Nick Lawrence Pantomimes website: <https://www.nicklawrencepantomimes.com>

If you need assistance or advice on how to correctly acknowledge the author, please contact us via email at: hello@nicklawrencepantomimes.com

See all our hilarious pantomime scripts (and a long list of panto song suggestions!) at www.nicklawrencepantomimes.com

For all enquiries, please email hello@nicklawrencepantomimes.com

Scenes & Songs

Act One.....	6
Prologue	6
Scene One: The Town Square	7
Song: Ensemble, Jack & Simon	7
Song: Dame Trot.....	10
Song: Jack & Princess Jill.....	15
Scene Two: Up in the Clouds	16
Scene Three: Dame Trot's Dairy	18
Song: Dame Trot, Jack, Simon, Rowena & Ensemble.	24
Scene Four: The Market Road	25
Scene Five: Dame Trot's Dairy.....	27
Song: Fairy Haricot and the Bean-Sprites.....	28
Song: Jack, Dame Trot, King Harold, Simon, Rowena and the Ensemble.	31
Act Two.....	32
Scene Six: At the Top of the Beanstalk.....	32
Song: Mrs Blunderbore and Ensemble	32
Scene Seven: Up in the Clouds.....	35
Scene Eight: Blunderbore's Castle.....	38
Song: Princess Jill.....	38
Scene Nine: Up in the Clouds.....	42
Song: Fairy Haricot, Simon, Dame Trot, King Harold, Rowena & Bean-Sprites.....	43
Scene Ten: Blunderbore's Castle	44
Song: Ensemble	44
Scene Eleven: A Special News Report	49
Scene Twelve: Dame Trot's Dairy	51
Song: Full Cast.....	53
Scene Thirteen: Somewhere In Town	54
Song: Songsheet - Simon, Rowena & The Audience	54
Scene Fourteen: Bows.....	55
Song: Full Cast.....	55

List of Characters

Fairy Haricot: The fairy of the beans.

Jack Trot: Titular character and principal boy. Jill's love interest.

Simon Trot: Jack's brother & Dame Trot's Son. Helper at the Dairy.

King Harold: The King of Muddlebrook.

Princess Jill: Jack's love interest & King Harold's daughter.

Rowena Ratzi: King Harold's Royal Reporter.

Mrs Blunderbore: The baddie, Giant Blunderbore's mum.

Dame Trot: The Dame. Jack's mum.

Pat: Dame Trot's cow. Played by two actors in one cow costume.

Giant Blunderbore: An enormous giant. Very bad and incredibly big.

Ensemble: Townsfolk, Bean-sprites & Monsters etc.

Author's Notes

Taking panto from Page to Stage...

Year-round Pantomimes

Panto is most popular during December and the Christmas season; however, more and more productions are taking place at other times of year. If required you are permitted to change seasonal Christmas references to something more seasonably appropriate.

Sorting the Milk Bottles (Scene Three)

When Dame Trot and Simon sort the milk bottles, they are telling a story which uses names instead of key words in the sentences. This works best when done at pace, almost as if it were only Dame Trot talking and Simon interjecting at the same speed as she is telling the tale. It can take a bit of practice to get it just right so keep persevering!

Growing the Beanstalk (Scene Five)

In this scene the beanstalk grows out of the ground. Ideally your beanstalk will be concealed in part of the stage (under a trap door, hidden within a raised area or just behind a small flat/fencing) This should be attached with some 'invisible wire' to a pulley directly above it. When the script notes that the beanstalk grows someone offstage can pull the wire which will raise the beanstalk.

The Top of the Beanstalk (Scene Six)

The beanstalk used in the previous scene can be positioned part way up so it looks like Jack and the others have climbed to the top. If possible, this should utilise a trap door or similar so it looks like they have climbed up. If this isn't possible, have them enter from the wings.

Act One

Prologue

TABS CLOSED

There is a magical sound and FAIRY HARICOT appears. She addresses the AUDIENCE.

FAIRY Hello and welcome everyone to our pantomime,
I'm here to set the scene for you, and will do so in rhyme.
My name is Fairy Haricot, some say I'm a has-been,
But my magic's staying strong, and I am super keen...
To see the baddie beaten, and hear you all go "Boo!"
And hopefully you'll shout and cheer for our heroes too.
So, join us on our journey, and with courage we won't balk,
We'll walk the walk, talk the talk and beanstalk the beanstalk!

She looks at the AUDIENCE to acknowledge her terrible rhyme.

There is a magical sound. FAIRY HARICOT disappears.

BLACKOUT. END OF SCENE

Scene One: The Town Square

TABS OPEN

The **ENSEMBLE** sing to open the show. **JACK & SIMON** are among them.

Song: Ensemble, Jack & Simon

JACK Hello everybody! My name is Jack Trot and I'd like to welcome you all to Muddlebrook on this special day of special significance!

ENS. 1 What's so special about today, Jack?

ENS. 2 And what's the special significance?

JACK I'm glad you asked. Today is a very special day because the King is coming to town and he's bringing a special someone with him!

The **ENSEMBLE** 'Ooh' and 'Ahh' and chatter excitedly.

ENS. 1 That sounds exciting!

ENS. 3 Who is it, Jack?

SIMON I know! It's Rowena Ratzi the Royal Reporter.

JACK **(Introducing SIMON to the AUDIENCE)** This is my brother Simon, he helps our mum with the milk round.

SIMON Rowena goes everywhere with the King to report on the latest breaking news.

ENS. 3 Yesterday the top story was about a shattered window.

ENS. 1 And the day before that there was a special report on damaged pottery.

JACK It's not always literally breaking news! **(Beat)** And Rowena Ratzi isn't who I was thinking of.

ENS. 3 Then who is it?

JACK He's bringing his daughter, Princess Jill. **(He goes dreamy eyed)**

ENS. 3 Oh my goodness! Jack's in love with Princess Jill!

JACK **(Blushing)** I am not!

SIMON & the ENSEMBLE tease Jack. "Yes, you are/you fancy her/etc"

JACK Ok, ok. Maybe I do fancy her a little bit, but you mustn't say anything when she arrives and you certainly can't tell the King! He'll go berserk!

A fanfare sounds. KING HAROLD enters. ROWENA and PRINCESS JILL follow.

KING Hello everybody, it is lovely to see me!

The ENSEMBLE politely applauds.

May I say what an honour it is for you to have me visit you today.

JILL Father, do you have to be quite so full of yourself?

KING Oh yes. It's my royal prerogative. **(To the AUDIENCE/ENSEMBLE)** I am here today with the latest news, presented by Muddlebrook's finest Royal Reporter: Rowena Ratzi.

ROWENA Thank you your Majesty. Today's headlines contain both good news...

Everyone cheers.

And bad news.

Everyone boos.

ROWENA Our top story tonight: We have finally finished paying last year's Giant Tax!

Everyone cheers.

KING And the bad news?

ROWENA The new Giant Tax is now due, and this time its doubled!

Everyone gasps!

KING But we only just managed to pay the last lot of taxes!

An evil chord sounds as MRS BLUNDERBORE enters.

MRS B. Now that sounds very taxing indeed! **(She gives an evil laugh)**

JACK **(To the AUDIENCE)** Oh no, it's the Giant's mum, Mrs Blunderbore!

KING Please Mrs Blunderbore, we can't afford double tax - we're already down to our last pennies.

MRS B. That sounds like a YOU problem to me. If anything, I'd say my son has been incredibly kind and benevolent.

KING But he's doubled our taxes! How is that kind and benevolent?

MRS B. He was going to triple them.

KING (Suddenly agreeable) On second thoughts, double tax is perfect!

MRS B. (To ROWENA) Tell them the other news too...

ROWENA The giant has decreed that we will provide him with food from the farm every day for his lunch!

MRS B. It would have been breakfast too, but he's on a diet!

KING (Through gritted teeth) How wonderful.

ROWENA Mrs Blunderbore, shall I tell them the final bit of news?

MRS B. I almost forgot. Yes, please.

ROWENA The Giant has also said that if you don't pay the new tax and provide his lunch... Then he's going to marry the Princess.

MRS B. Either that or we won't open the interval bar!

SIMON The audience certainly isn't going to like that.

MRS B. (To the AUDIENCE) I wouldn't worry about it too much, I'm pretty sure he'll go for the Princess.

KING But he can't marry Princess Jill, I just won't allow it.

MRS B. (Dismissively) You don't get a say in the matter.

JILL Exactly, it's the 21st century. I'll choose who I'll marry, myself!

MRS B. You don't get a say either.

JILL What?

MRS B. You can say no if you want to, but the last person to say no to my boy ended up in a stew, and I don't mean emotionally. Now get out of my sight!

Everyone apart from MRS BLUNDERBORE exits. The AUDIENCE boo.

(Laughing) Oh go on, give me all your boos! Let me drink it in! (Beat) Just looking at you all makes me feel ill. I haven't been poorly since I got food poisoning from a rat casserole, although now I say it out loud, I think I know why. Oh, I do enjoy being bad, so wonderfully, excellently, deliciously bad!

An evil chord plays as MRS BLUNDERBORE exits. DAME TROT enters, approaches the front and addresses the AUDIENCE.

DAME Hello everybody! It's lovely to see you! My name is Dame Trot. I live here on Trot Farm with my sons Jack and Simon and my pet cow Pat. My

husband died many years ago, so now I have to look after the farm, all by myself, all alone...

The AUDIENCE Aww.

(Encouraging more) I'm more alone than that.

The AUDIENCE Aww.

I'm even more alone than that.

The AUDIENCE Aww.

(Telling them off) Alright, alright, I'm not that alone! **(Beat)** It's been me and my boys ever since my husband passed away. He was allergic to salad you see. We first found out when he got a rash after eating a lettuce, turns out that was just the tip of the iceberg! After that we always checked what he was eating, although it was really only his salad that needed a-dressing. My husband was a wonderful man, always said he loved me from my head To-ma-toes! **(Explaining to someone in the AUDIENCE)** To-ma-toes, get it, tomatoes! Ah, don't worry, you'll ketchup! **(Beat)** I know it's slightly tangential, but I once had a job where I was paid in salad. It was alright work but it could've been a higher celery! **(Beat)** It's time for the milk round but I've got no milk; our cow has gone missing, again! Pat is always wandering off, but she'll come back if you know how to get her attention. She's a very special cow and there's one thing she loves more than anything: music. Or should I say moo-sic! She's got very varied taste too. She loves Abba - "Thank You For The Moo-sic." Or Blondie - "One Way Or An Udder." And she adores Les Misérables' "Cattle On A Cloud!" And there's that old nursery rhyme classic, "How Much Is That Cow In The Window, The One With The Wagyu-y Tail!" **(Beat)** She's terrific our Pat. I reckon if I do a bit of a sing-song she'll come bounding straight over!

Song: Dame Trot

The song ends and PAT enters. DAME TROT strokes her head.

Here she is; this is our cow, Pat. **(To PAT)** Did you hear me singing?

PAT nods.

What a good girl, and a very clever cow!

PAT moos and does a curtsy to one side and then the other.

Ok, ok. Don't milk it!

JACK **(Entering)** Hey mum.

DAME Hello Jack. I was just telling the audience how much Pat loves music.

JACK Her dancing is amazing, she's got Moo-ves like Jagger!

There is a fanfare. KING HAROLD enters.

DAME Your majesty, I wasn't expecting you to visit today.

KING Neither was I, but since the Giant Tax has gone up, you need to pay the rent, it's in arrears.

JACK The rent's in her ears?

KING No, it's in arrears.

DAME Sounds the same to me.

KING Will you listen properly!

DAME I can't if there's something stuck in my ears!

KING Dame Trot, if you don't pay the rent, I'll have to sell the farm.

DAME But you can't!

KING I might have to. The Giant has doubled our taxes, so if you don't pay me, I can't pay him & if that happens, he'll kidnap Jill & force her to marry him.

JACK **(A bit too enthusiastically)** Which we obviously don't want to happen.

KING Exactly. **(Beat)** Hang on a minute. I know why I don't want the Giant to marry my daughter but I don't know why you're so interested; you're not friends with her are you?

JACK **(Lying)** Me? Of course not!

DAME Your majesty, while you're here, would you like to see how to milk a cow?

KING That sounds like a jolly good idea. I've never seen it done before.

JACK grabs a milking stool from offstage for DAME TROT

DAME It's a tricky business milking a cow, but once you know how... **(Taking the stool)** First you need a good sturdy stool. You'll notice that a milking stool has only got three legs.

KING **(Trying to be funny)** What happened to the udder one?

KING HAROLD laughs heartily. DAME TROT and JACK chuckle politely.

DAME **(Humouring him)** Very funny your majesty. You put the stool down just behind your cow and...

PAT'S back half sits on the stool and the front half sits on top. She crosses her front legs one over the other.

That's very naughty Pat. Up you get.

DAME TROT helps PAT up.

I sit on the stool...

DAME TROT sits down on the stool. The back half of PAT sits on DAME TROT'S lap and the front half sits on top again.

KING And the cow sits on you?

DAME No, no, no!

DAME TROT pushes PAT off her lap. She stands up.

Sorry your majesty, she's usually so well behaved.

KING Don't worry, it's very funny. In fact, I'd say it's udderly hilarious!

Once again KING HAROLD laughs. DAME TROT and JACK roll their eyes.

DAME **(Sarcastically)** I can barely keep my sides from shaking!

KING From milk-shaking!

KING HAROLD laughs again. DAME TROT and JACK do not.

DAME Let's try again. And Pat, please behave in front of the King!

DAME TROT repositions the stool behind PAT who kicks it away. DAME TROT attempt to sit down but the stool has moved. She falls on the ground.

(Getting up) Pat! Why are you being so naughty?

KING Perhaps you've upset her and she's got beef!

Again, KING HAROLD laughs heartily at his own joke. DAME TROT & JACK do not. KING HAROLD clocks that they didn't laugh.

Oh, come on. That joke was really a-moo-sing!

Still there is no response from DAME TROT and JACK.

Fine, I'll let you off for not laughing, but only because there's so much at steak! Get it... at steak! **(Beat)** Oh never mind! **(He exits)**

DAME What are we going do? We can't pay extra rent; we're struggling as it is!

JACK Don't worry mum; something will turn up. It always does.

JILL **(Entering)** Good morning, Dame Trot.

DAME Hello dear. I'm afraid we haven't got any milk; Pat's being a bit of a cow! Oh dear, I think I'm going to get upset. Ever since your father passed away, I can't keep it together. **(She sniffles)** Oh, I'm a mess.

JILL We could try to help you?

JILL There must be something we can do to cheer you up.

DAME Well there is something, but I'm not sure you'll be up for it.

JILL Of course we are.

DAME Ok, but don't say I didn't warn you... I want to feel wanted again, I want to feel needed and desired...

JACK Maybe that is a bit much.

JILL Don't be silly Jack. She's a wonderful, smart, delightful, funny, incredible, marvellous, glorious woman.

JACK That's a lot of adjectives.

JILL I know, I've got this massive, humungous, gigantic, thesaurus at home.

DAME I was given the world's worst thesaurus for Christmas; not only was it terrible, it was terrible!

JILL What can we say to make you feel better?

DAME Well, ever since my husband died, I've felt really self-conscious. I'd do anything to feel a bit foxy again.

JILL Come on Dame Trot, you're a fox!

JACK **(Slightly embarrassed)** Jill!

JILL What?! I know she's your mum, but she's allowed to feel good about herself. **(To DAME TROT)** The next time you're feeling down, just let us know and we'll tell you how foxy you are.

DAME Ok, I'll say something like... "I've got the feels." And you say...

JILL **(Suddenly having an idea)** We'll say "You're a fox, Trot!"

DAME That sounds marvellous!

JACK But what if we're not here to help, who's going to help out then?

JILL How about our audience? **(She turns and speaks to the AUDIENCE)** Will you help us cheer up Dame Trot?

The AUDIENCE responds.

JACK I'm not sure they're up for it.

JILL I said... Will you help us cheer up Dame Trot?

The AUDIENCE responds again.

JILL Excellent. Next time Dame Trot says "I've got the feels." Everyone shout "You're a fox, Trot!" as loud as you can. Shall we have a practice?

DAME **(Composing herself)** Alright then... I've got the feels.

The AUDIENCE (with JACK & JILL) responds "You're a fox, Trot!"

JACK Ok, but I think you can do louder. Let's do it again.

DAME I've got the feels.

The AUDIENCE responds "You're a fox, Trot!"

JILL We're getting there, but I think you've got more. Come on, one more go.

DAME I've got the feels.

The AUDIENCE respond "You're a fox, Trot!"

JILL Wow-wee! That was amazing!

JACK How do you feel mum?

DAME Fantastic! I feel like I could woo whoever I set my eyes on next!

PAT nudges DAME TROT.

I said "woo" not "moo!"

They all laugh.

Come on Pat, let's get you back to your field. **(Exits with PAT)**

JILL Your mum is amazing. She deserves to feel like a million pounds.

JACK If we had a million pounds, she wouldn't be behind on the rent!

JILL **(Laughing)** You always make me smile. I'm lucky to have you.

JACK Lucky to have me... as a friend?

JILL Well, yes. Although... maybe a bit more than a friend.

JACK **(Hopeful)** More than a friend?

JILL Well, do you remember when we went up that hill?

JACK To fetch the pail of water?

JILL Exactly. You fell and bumped your head.

JACK And you stayed with me all the way to the hospital.

JILL Let's just say... I don't do that for everyone.

JACK That was the day I started falling for you.

JILL I thought you just fell on the path?

JACK I did. But I also fell for you. One fall bruised my head... The other got me right in the heart.

Song: Jack & Princess Jill

BLACKOUT

TABS CLOSE. END OF SCENE

Scene Two: Up in the Clouds**TABS CLOSED**

An evil chord sounds and the lights flash. GIANT BLUNDERBORE'S voice booms around the room.

GIANT (Off) Fee, fie, foe, fum!
I smell the blood of an Englishman.
Be he alive, or be he dead,
I'll grind his bones to make my bread!

GIANT BLUNDERBORE gives an evil laugh.

Look at you all, packed together like a tin of worms! So wriggly and giggly, and squishy and tasty. I've got a good mind to reach down and eat one of you right now!

MRS B. (Entering) Stop teasing the audience, you've only just had your lunch.

GIANT I don't want to tease them, I want to eat them!

MRS B. You shouldn't be eating them either. Besides, you just ate nineteen chickens, twelve loaves of bread, thirty tubs of ice cream, forty-three salmon fillets and a hundred and eighty-four poppadoms!

GIANT That's barely a million calories!

MRS B. It's too much. You need to watch what you eat.

GIANT I am watching what I eat. That man in Row Three looks delicious!

MRS B. That's enough.

GIANT Fine. I'm going to have a lie down. If I'm not hungry, I'm sleepy. And if I'm not sleepy I'm hungry. (He yawns and 'exits')

MRS B. (To the AUDIENCE) So now you've met my son. Isn't he wonderful? He's the biggest giant to ever walk the earth, and whatever he says goes. As for me, I'm a sucker for a baddie so it makes my heart soar. There really is nothing quite like a bit of horrible-ness and mean-ness to really annoy the locals!

The lights flash and there is a magical sound. FAIRY HARICOT appears.

Fairy Haricot! What are you doing here?

FAIRY I've just popped in to say hello,
It's a fairy's choice to come and go.

MRS B. I was here first, get off my patch.

FAIRY The first to root may sprout with pride,
But weeds grow fast... then rot inside.

MRS B. What's that supposed to mean?

FAIRY **(Cheekily)** Never you mind, it's nothing grim...
Just rhyming nonsense said on a whim!

MRS B. I don't have time for your endless prattling. I've got taxes to collect and a Princess to kidnap. I don't need a goodie-two shoes like you getting involved and trying to do good. That's the trouble with flowery fairies like you; you're a one trick peony. Get out of my sight! **(She laughs wickedly)**

An evil chord sounds as MRS BLUNDERBORE exits. FAIRY HARICOT addresses the AUDIENCE.

FAIRY Well that's not kind, what a frightful roar!
She's horrid, that Mrs Blunderbore.
She tried to shake me to my bones,
But I've seen scarier Garden Gnomes!

 Their wicked plans have made me frown,
I give them a Fee fie foe thumbs down!
But I'm not just here to moan and pout,
This fairy's here to sort things out!

 So with seeds of hope and floral charm,
I'll keep Muddlebrook safe from harm.
Now, onward, friends, the Giant won't win,
Let's pop those baddies in the compost bin!

There is a magical sound and FAIRY HARICOT disappears.

BLACKOUT. END OF SCENE

Scene Three: Dame Trot's Dairy

TABS OPEN.

There is a table (or cart) upon which sits 12 milk bottles full of milk. Next to it is an empty milk crate. There is also a little book of customer names.

SIMON **(Entering)** Hello everyone. I hope you're all having a good time. Everyone else is having a good time. Jack's got Princess Jill, Princess Jill has the King, and the King's flirting with my mum who's got Pat the Cow. **(Beat)** And then there's old me, all on my own. Although, I have got you lot, haven't I?

The AUDIENCE responds.

Brilliant. Actually, I've got an idea, shall we play a game?

The AUDIENCE responds.

That wasn't very loud! I said... shall we play a game?

The AUDIENCE responds, louder.

Excellent. It's a very simple game. I give you an instruction and you have to do what I say... but there's a catch. You only do it if I say "Simon Says" first. **(Beat)** What? You've heard of Simon Says before? Great, that means you'll all be really good at it! Ok, here goes... Simon says clap your hands.

The AUDIENCE clap their hands.

Great. That was an easy one. Let's go again. Simon says put your hands in the air.

The AUDIENCE put their hands in the air.

Very good, you're getting the hang of this. Simon says stamp your feet.

The AUDIENCE stamp their feet.

Simon says put your hands down.

The AUDIENCE put their hands down. SIMON looks impressed.

You are really good at this. Clap your hands!

Beat. Chances are someone in the AUDIENCE claps their hands.

Oh no! You're out! Better luck next time! **(OR, if they get it right...)** Well done, you were really paying attention, weren't you! **(Ad lib if required!)**

DAME **(Entering)** There you are Simon! I've been looking for you everywhere. I need your help with the milk round.

SIMON **(Pointing at the milk bottles)** Is that what all these bottles are for?

DAME Exactly.

SIMON And what about the ones on the wall in the garden?

DAME What colour are they?

SIMON Green.

DAME How many are there?

SIMON There were ten, but one green bottle accidentally fell.

DAME I see.

SIMON So now there's nine green bottles standing on the wall.

DAME It was much easier to get the milk round sorted when your father was alive. **(Nostalgically)** I would do anything to go back to the day I met him.

SIMON You never told me about that.

DAME I'm not sure I can talk about your dad right now. I'll get all upset. **(She sniffles)** In fact... I've got the feels.

The AUDIENCE respond "You're a fox, Trot!"

(To the AUDIENCE) Thank you, I feel a bit better.

SIMON Do you think it would help to talk about him?

DAME It always helps to talk, but I haven't got the time - we've got work to do!

SIMON You could tell me about him while we sort the milk out.

DAME Good thinking, here's what we'll do: I'll tell you the story of how we met and you read out the names of the customers from that little book as we go. Every time you call a name, I'll put that person's bottle into the crate.

SIMON Brilliant idea.

SIMON picks up the little name book. DAME TROT stands behind the table.

DAME It all started many years ago when I was out on the town with my friend...

SIMON **(Reading from the book)** PHOEBE.

DAME TROT picks up a bottle and puts it in the crate. Every time SIMON says a name (Written in CAPITALS) she puts another bottle in the Crate.

DAME (To **SIMON**) Very good Simon, just like that. (She continues the story. To the **AUDIENCE**) We'd been out for a couple of drinks and were dressed to impress. I was wearing an...

SIMON OLIVE...

DAME ... green dress and my friend was wearing a...

SIMON MINNIE...

DAME ... skirt. In hindsight we should've worn something warmer because it was early...

SIMON APRIL...

DAME We just leaving the club when I got a phone call. I turned to my friend and said "My phone's ringing, somebody's..."

SIMON COLIN...

DAME ... me." (**Beat**) Turns out it was your dad, not that I knew it yet. He told me I'd left my bag in the cloakroom. At first, I thought he was taking the...

SIMON MICKEY...

DAME ... but I soon realised he wasn't. So, we headed back, and to my...

SIMON JOY...

DAME ... he was right. I was very grateful because it had my keys inside. Although luckily, I kept a spare key at home under the door...

SIMON MATT...

DAME ... Anyway, he offered to walk us home. He'd brought a coat and a jumper and suggested we wear them. He leant me the coat...

SIMON ANDY...

DAME ... gave his jumper to my friend. As we walked, we passed these lads who were disagreeing over something and had started to have a bit of a...

SIMON BARNEY...

DAME ... We didn't want to get involved so hurried past in the...

SIMON HOPE...

DAME ... we wouldn't get noticed and dragged into it. Although I'll admit I did eavesdrop a little and it was pretty obvious which of them was being a....

SIMON RICHARD!

There is a fanfare. KING HAROLD enters followed by ROWENA. They carry a green bottle each. DAME TROT hurriedly puts the rest of the bottles into the crate. SIMON puts the book down.

KING (Offering his green bottle to **DAME TROT**) I found this outside.

DAME (**Frustrated**) Great, so now there's only eight green bottles standing on the wall!

ROWENA (Offering her green bottle to **DAME TROT**) I've got one too!

DAME (**Incredulously**) Seven green bottles!

DAME TROT puts the green bottles on the table. (Or in the milk crate if there's space left!)

KING Rowena, announce the latest news please.

ROWENA (**She steps forwards and starts to report**) In financial news the King has decreed everyone must pay £10 today to start building the new tax fund.

KING If we're going to pay the giant then everyone in town has to contribute.

SIMON Rowena, don't you still owe us £10 for last week's milk?

ROWENA searches her pockets for money. She pulls out a five-pound note.

ROWENA I've only got a fiver, will that do? (**She gives the fiver to DAME TROT**)

DAME It's a good start.

SIMON Mum, you never gave me last week's pocket money. Can I have that?

DAME I suppose so. (**She gives the fiver to SIMON**)

KING Hang on, you owe me money for the giant tax. I'll take that. (**He takes the fiver from SIMON**)

ROWENA While we're at it you didn't pay my full wages last week, I'm still short.

KING You'd better have this then. (**He gives the fiver to ROWENA**)

DAME You've got another fiver! That's the other half of the milk money you owe. (**She takes the fiver from ROWENA**)

SIMON And that's the other half of my pocket money. **(He takes the fiver from DAME TROT)**

KING And I'll take that as the rest of your tax contribution.

SIMON gives the fiver to KING HAROLD. Beat. They all look at each other.

SIMON I guess we're all paid up then.

An evil chord plays. MRS BLUNDERBORE enters.

MRS B. No you're not - you haven't paid the giant tax. I'll be taking that!

MRS BLUNDERBORE takes the fiver from KING HAROLD. She looks at it.

What? Only a fiver! Is that all you've got? My boy isn't going to be very happy at all.

KING We'll find the money somehow, I promise.

MRS B. You'd better, and do it quickly, or the Princess is coming with me!

An evil chord plays as MRS BLUNDERBORE exits. The ENSEMBLE enter. Some of them are carrying green bottles. JACK follows.

ENS. 1 Excuse me Dame Trot, I found this on the wall outside. **(Offering her a green bottle)**

DAME So now there's six green bottles standing on the wall!

ENS. 2 And me. **(Giving DAME TROT a green bottle)**

DAME Five!

ENS. 3 I've got one too. **(Giving DAME TROT a green bottle)**

ENS. 4 And me as well. **(Giving DAME TROT a green bottle)**

DAME Four, three! There'll be none left at this rate! Look, if you're here for your milk you can take it yourself.

As the conversation continues some of the ENSEMBLE gather the milk bottles, crate and table/cart and take them offstage. They return when finished.

SIMON What are we going to do about paying the Giant Tax?

DAME Well, as it happens, I do have a bit of money stashed away just in case.

KING How much have you got?

DAME About a hundred pounds. I keep it hidden...

JACK knows about the money. He joins DAME TROT in describing its location as do some of the ENSEMBLE.

D & JACK In the bedroom...

D, J & KING (Joining in, plus some more **ENSEMBLE**) In the chest of drawers...

D, J, K & SIMON (Joining in, plus some more **ENSEMBLE**) Second draw down...

Everyone else joins in with DAME TROT as they all say together...

ALL Wrapped in a bundle of socks.

DAME TROT is surprised that everyone knows about it.

DAME Oh, so you've seen it?

JACK Yup. We've seen it...

SIMON We've nicked it...

KING And we've spent it. **(Beat)**

DAME **(Angrily)** How dare you!

JACK Mum, you can't shout at the King like that.

KING It's the least I deserve. I'm sorry Dame Trot, if we ever get through this, I promise I'll make it up to you. **(He hangs his head in shame and exits)**

DAME In that case, there's only one thing for it and you're not going to like it.

JACK What?

DAME We're going to have to sell Pat!

Everyone gasps.

SIMON **(Upset)** Please don't sell her.

DAME I'm sorry Simon, we have to.

SIMON What if I say "Simon says don't sell Pat?"

DAME Not even "Simon Says" can get us out of this one. Jack, take her to the market in the morning, hopefully you can get a good price.

JACK Poor Pat; she'll be devastated.

DAME She's a good cow, I'm sure she'll understand.

There is an almighty “Moo” from offstage followed by a loud crash.

SIMON Well, there go the rest of the green bottles!

ENS. 1 Dame Trot, you can't sell Pat, she's a stalwart of the Dairy!

ENS. 2 It just won't be the same without Pat's milk.

DAME **(Upset)** I haven't got any other choice, I'm poorer than the lowest quality thing you can imagine!

ENS. 3 I'm skint too.

ENS. 4 And me.

ENS. 1 And me.

DAME We've not got a note between us. I suppose we'll just have to dream about what it would be like to be rich!

Song: Dame Trot, Jack, Simon, Rowena & Ensemble.

BLACKOUT

TABS CLOSE. END OF SCENE

Scene Four: The Market Road**TABS CLOSED****JACK enters with PAT.**

JACK Come on Pat, we're nearly there. Let's keep mooo-ving.

PAT makes a sad Moo.

Ok, that wasn't very funny. Sorry. I guess you're not in the mooo-d. **(Beat)**
I'm sorry, you're my favourite animal we've ever had at the farm.

PAT moos at JACK. JACK talks to the AUDIENCE.

We used to have a pig, but it was very aloof; always taking us for grunted!
After that we had a goat, although it wasn't the Greatest Of All Time! And
then we had a horse, who was always really gloomy; such a long face!
Pat's been with us for years and she's had four baby calves in the
meantime. We called them Eeny, Meeny, Miny and Moe! I loved them all,
but none of them as much as you, Pat.

PAT moos. JACK hugs her. An evil chord sounds as MRS BLUNDERBORE enters. She is in disguise.

MRS B. **(To the AUDIENCE)** Look what have we here, Jack is leading his cow to market. Well, I say it's his cow, that's not Dame Trot! **(She laughs manically)** It's his actual cow, Pat. **(Beat)** think I'll take her from him and perhaps swindle my way into a bargain while I'm at it.

MRS BLUNDERBORE approaches JACK and PAT. JACK doesn't recognise her.

(To JACK. Nicely) Hello young man. **(To PAT)** And hello to you as well.
(To JACK) That's an awfully fine cow you've got there.

JACK She's my pride and joy.

MRS B. I couldn't help noticing you both look a little glum.

JACK We are, I'm taking her to market. The Giant's put up the taxes and the King's put up the rent, so we can't afford to keep her.

MRS B. What a sad tale. **(Mischievously)** I don't see how it could get any worse...

JACK It will if I can't get a good price at the market.

MRS B. As luck would have it, I'm looking for a cow myself. **(Taking out a bag of gold coins)** How about I give you a bag of gold and we close the deal right now.

JACK Wow, that's an awful lot of gold!

MRS B. Just think of what you could do with that, and you'll have plenty spare too!

JACK I really don't know. **(He turns to the AUDIENCE)** What do you think I should do?

The AUDIENCE responds.

But it's a lot of money. Are you sure I shouldn't do it?

The AUDIENCE responds.

MRS B. Just think how pleased your mum will be when you get home!

JACK Alright, deal!

JACK and MRS BLUNDERBORE shake hands. She passes him the bag of gold.

(To PAT) I'm sorry Pat, but there isn't another way.

JACK hugs PAT as she Moos solemnly.

I'll never forget you. **(Exits)**

After he has gone MRS BLUNDERBORE removes her disguise and turns to the AUDIENCE. She laughs manically.

MRS B. That was too easy! **(She laughs. To PAT)** Just think, Jack used to smother you with love... I'm going to smother you with peppercorn sauce!

An evil chord plays. MRS BLUNDERBORE laughs wickedly.

BLACKOUT. END OF SCENE

Scene Five: Dame Trot's Dairy

TABS OPEN

DAME TROT is working at her Dairy. There is a 'Gardening Patch' at the back of the stage. JACK enters carrying the bag of gold.

JACK I'm home!

DAME Hello dear, did you manage to sell Pat at the market?

JACK I was on the way there and by luck, met a buyer who took her in exchange for this enormous bag of gold.

JACK gives the bag of gold to DAME TROT.

DAME Well done, Jack, you are a good boy! Ooh, imagine! Me... standing here holding a great big glittering bag of... **(She looks inside the bag. Incredulously)** Beans?!

JACK What?

DAME Beans! It's a bag of beans, Jack.

JACK **(Confused)** But it can't be, I swear it was gold when she gave it to me!

DAME She's given you beans and done a runner!

JACK I'm sorry mum.

DAME No Jack, it's too much. **(Strictly)** Go to bed.

JACK **(Protesting)** But it's lunchtime!

DAME It doesn't matter. Go to bed, I just can't face talking to you.

DAME TROT dramatically looks the other way. JACK exits despondently.

KING **(Entering)** Dame Trot, is everything alright?

DAME No your majesty, it isn't. I told my son to sell our cow at the market and he's gone and exchanged her for a useless bag of beans. What am I supposed to do with these? I may as well just throw them away.

DAME TROT throws the bag of beans onto the gardening patch.

I'm at my wits end. I've got no cow, no money and no husband. Oh, I've got the feels!

The AUDIENCE responds. KING HAROLD looks delighted.

- KING** Oh, Dame Trot! You're more than a dairy queen; you're a full cream delight!
- DAME** What do you mean?
- KING** Well, a woman of your age can often be a little... worse for wear.
- DAME** **(Suspiciously)** Am I now?
- KING** But look at you! I've never seen you wear anything so well.
- DAME** **(Indicating her outfit)** These are just my milking clothes.
- KING** And with clothes like those I'm not surprised you're milking it!
- DAME** What are you trying to say, your Majesty?
- KING** I'm trying to give you a compliment.
- DAME** I'd rather you gave me some money!
- KING** I haven't got any money, but I do have a heart full of love, if you'll take me that is?
- DAME** **(Flirting)** Oh, your majesty, I thought you'd never ask!

DAME TROT embraces KING HAROLD dramatically before grabbing his hand and leading him offstage. There is a magical sound as FAIRY HARICOT enters.

- FAIRY** Just like that, a new love blooms,
But not all joy escapes the gloom.
Jack sold the cow, but he was scammed,
Just as Mrs B had planned.
Her bag of gold was just a bluff,
Now those beans will do their stuff!
Watch me change these wrongs to rights,
With magic help from my Bean-sprites!

The ENSEMBLE enter as BEAN-SPRITES (green fairy-like creatures) FAIRY HARICOT leads them in song.

Song: Fairy Haricot and the Bean-Sprites

As they sing a magnificent BEANSTALK grows out of the Gardening Patch. After the song FAIRY HARICOT & the BEAN-SPRITES exit. Beat. Birdsong plays to signify it is morning. JILL enters and notices the newly grown BEANSTALK.

- JILL** I swear that wasn't here earlier. It must have grown overnight. **(She calls offstage)** Jack, come and look what's grown in the garden!

JACK (Entering. Amazed) Wow! What on earth is that?

JILL It's an enormous beanstalk, I bet it grew from those beans.

An evil chord sounds. GIANT BLUNDERBORE'S voice booms around and MRS BLUNDERBORE enters.

GIANT Fee fi foe fax. My mum has come to collect the tax!

MRS B. Look what we have here, if it isn't Princess Jill and peasant Jack.

JILL I think he's a very pleasant peasant actually.

MRS B. I've come to collect the tax.

JACK But we haven't got the money.

MRS B. Then you leave me no choice. You're coming with me, Princess!

MRS BLUNDERBORE grabs hold of PRINCESS JILL. DAME TROT, KING HAROLD, SIMON, ROWENA & the ENSEMBLE rush onstage.

DAME What's happening? What's going on.

ROWENA steps forward she holds her reporter's microphone.

ROWENA (Delivered like a news report) We interrupt your regular programming with breaking news! Mrs Blunderbore is kidnapping Princess Jill because the town hasn't paid the tax. Blunderbore's exact intentions are currently unclear so we'll bring you more as this story develops.

MRS B. (Incredulously) Intentions not clear?! Let's make no bones about it, I'm taking the princess up to the clouds where she's going to marry my son.

Everyone gasps.

KING Please don't, I couldn't bear to lose my daughter.

MRS B. You're not losing a daughter; you're gaining a son! (She laughs)

A magical sound plays. FAIRY HARICOT appears.

FAIRY Now hold your horses, Mrs Blunderbore,
You won't be taking one step more.
You won't take Jill without a fight,
And not in broad-bean daylight!

MRS B. You can't stop me, you're just an old has been!

KING Fairy Haricot is right. You won't be taking my daughter anywhere.

MRS B. Oh yes I will!

ALL & AUD Oh no you won't!

MRS B. Oh yes I will!

ALL & AUD Oh no you won't!

MRS B. I will, I will, I will!

ALL & AUD You won't, you won't, you won't!

MRS B. Enough. I've got a wedding to organise!

An evil chord plays. MRS BLUNDERBORE gives a maniacal laugh and bundles PRINCESS JILL offstage.

DAME What do we do now?

KING We've got to get her back.

SIMON But how? The giant lives high above the clouds and there's no way up.

JACK Actually, I think there is. **(He inspects the BEANSTALK)**

DAME You don't mean?

KING You can't mean?

JACK **(Confidently)** I certainly do mean! It's enormous and it goes right into the clouds; all we have to do is climb.

DAME But you'll fall; it's much too high.

KING Just how high is it, Rowena?

ROWENA **(Reporting)** Coming in at well over forty thousand feet tall, it's the topic of everyone's conversation. One thing's for sure; it's the stalk of the town!

JACK It's the only way to rescue Jill, we haven't got another choice.

SIMON I'll come with you.

DAME If you're going, then I'm coming as well.

KING And me; she's my daughter! Rowena, you come too, we'll need you to report what happens back down to the townsfolk.

ROWENA **(Still reporting)** Tonight's top story. This incredibly scared reporter has been commanded into joining a terrifying mission to save the princess.

JACK Everyone ready?

KING HAROLD, DAME TROT, SIMON & ROWENA all nod.

Then let's go. With a bit of luck, we'll find Pat and bring her home too.

DAME How's she going to get down, cows can't climb beanstalks!

JACK I'll carry her.

KING You're going to give a cow a piggy-back?

SIMON I think it's called a Pat on the back!

Everyone laughs.

JACK Come on everyone, there's no time to lose!

Song: Jack, Dame Trot, King Harold, Simon, Rowena and the Ensemble.

TABS CLOSE. END OF SCENE. END OF ACT ONE

Act Two

Scene Six: At the Top of the Beanstalk

TABS OPEN

The stage is dimly lit. The **ENSEMBLE** are dressed as **MONSTERS/GHOSTS** etc. The top of the **BEANSTALK** is at the back of the stage.

Song: Mrs Blunderbore and Ensemble

MRS B. Welcome back everyone, did you all have a nice interval? I hope not. I'm certainly having a good time, and when I say a good time, I mean a bad time! **(She laughs)** I can't wait to see my son's face when I tell him Princess Jill is going to be his bride.

The lights flash as **GIANT BLUNDERBORE'S** voice booms out.

GIANT **(Off)** Fee, fie, foe, fum!
I've come to check in on my mum.
Be she happy or be she sad,
One thing's for sure - she's always bad!

MRS B. Oh darling, what a lovely rhyme. You're a poet and I sure as heck know it. **(Beat)** I've got a little surprise for you... I've kidnapped the princess and she's going to marry you!

GIANT Fee, fie, foe, fide! Princess Jill will be my bride!

MRS B. I knew you'd be pleased... Even if she isn't!

GIANT Fee, fie, foe, fork! Someone's climbing the beanstalk!

MRS B. Is there really? I wonder who that could be? **(Beat)** Of course I know who it is. It's that silly boy, Jack. **(She barks at the ENSEMBLE)** All of you, get out of here. **(To the AUDIENCE)** Let's have a bit of fun shall we...

There is an evil chord. **MRS BLUNDERBORE** and the **ENSEMBLE** exit. **JACK'S** head appears at the top of the **BEANSTALK**.

DAME (off) What can you see Jack?

JACK **(Shouting back down)** Not much, just a lot of cloud. No, hang on, there's some sort of castle up here.

JACK enters. **KING HAROLD, ROWENA, DAME TROT & SIMON** follow.

KING Rowena, give us your report.

ROWENA **(Reporting)** I can confirm we have made it to the top of the Beanstalk. What happens next is anyone's guess; will the Giant find us and eat us?

Will he squash our skulls, crush our courage or beat our brains into blancmange?

KING (Interrupting) Ok, ok. That's quite enough.

DAME What do we do now?

JACK We need to make a plan. We've got a very important mission: we're here to rescue the princess.

DAME What about finding Pat?

JACK Ok, we've got two very important missions. We have to rescue the princess and find Pat.

ROWENA And we need to defeat the giant.

JACK (Starting to get annoyed) Three important missions: Rescue the princess, find Pat and defeat the giant.

SIMON (Helpfully) And we need to get back home again.

JACK (More annoyed) Four missions...

KING And we should take back all our tax money while we're here.

JACK (Interrupting before anyone can add any more) Alright, alright! We all know why we're here.

DAME So what do we do now? Any ideas, Simon?

SIMON Simon says... let's go back down the beanstalk!

DAME TROT, ROWENA, SIMON and KING HAROLD rush to the BEANSTALK.

JACK You can't go back down the beanstalk just because Simon says so!

SIMON But those are the rules of the game!

KING Jack's right. Gather your courage and steel your nerves; we are men!

DAME Speak for yourself!

SIMON I don't like it here, I feel like a pair of curtains.

KING Pull yourself together! Let's look over here.

KING HAROLD leads DAME TROT, SIMON & ROWENA offstage. JACK follows behind but a GHOST enters from the other side, comes up to JACK and taps him on the shoulder. JACK yelps and rushes offstage in a different direction to

the others. The GHOST follows JACK. An evil chord sounds and MRS BLUNDERBORE enters.

MRS B. Oh, it's pitiful, isn't it! But they won't make it very far if I get my way. I think I'll send some more ghosts to give them the fright of their lives! **(She laughs to herself)** I love ghosts, they really raise my spirits!

There is an evil chord as MRS BLUNDERBORE exits.

BLACKOUT

TABS CLOSE. END OF SCENE

Scene Seven: Up in the Clouds

TABS CLOSED

It is spooky. **KING HAROLD, ROWENA, SIMON & DAME TROT enter.**

KING It's still very spooky, I really hope we don't run into trouble.

ROWENA Me too! Fingers crossed there aren't any ghosties or ghoulies.

SIMON I don't want to be grabbed by the ghosties.

DAME I don't want to be grabbed by the ghoulies! **(Beat)** Jack, are you sure it's ok up here? **(She looks round for JACK but he isn't there)** Hang on a minute, where's Jack?

SIMON He was right behind us, I wonder where he's gone!

DAME **(Becoming upset)** Oh it's no good, he's lost, probably dead and I'll never see him again!

ROWENA **(Reporting)** It is with great sadness I report that Jack Trot has gone missing and is now presumed dead.

DAME I'm not sure I can carry on. **(She becomes flustered)** I've got the feels!

The AUDIENCE, with KING HAROLD, SIMON & ROWENA. "You're a fox, Trot!"

It's no good. I've lost my boy Jack and I'm going to be grabbed by a ghost!
I want to go home!

SIMON Come on mum. We can't leave without Jack.

KING Or Princess Jill.

ROWENA Or Pat.

DAME Oh Pat. Poor Pat. What I wouldn't give for a soft moo and a glass of milk.

SIMON Why don't we ask the audience to tell us if they see a ghost. That way if anything tries to creep up on us, we'll know.

DAME Excellent idea. **(To the AUDIENCE)** Do you think you could help us?

The AUDIENCE responds.

(Encouraging them) I said... Do you think you could help us?

The AUDIENCE responds, louder.

That sounds much better, thank you!

SIMON Simon says shout if you see a ghost. Got it?

A GHOST appears behind them. The AUDIENCE shouts.

That's right, if you shout like that then we're sure to be ok. What? There's a ghost there now? Where is it? It's behind us?

The GHOST exits.

We'd better have a look then.

They all turn to look but the GHOST has gone. They turn to the AUDIENCE.

ALL There's nothing there!

DAME Could we sing a song while we're here?

KING Sounds like a great idea. How about God Save the King?

DAME I was thinking something a bit more upbeat, what about... **(name of song)**

SIMON Sounds great. Let's sing after four... Four!

SIMON, DAME TROT, KING HAROLD & ROWENA all sing a short refrain. As they are singing a GHOST behind them and taps ROWENA on the shoulder. She screams and runs offstage pursued by the GHOST.

DAME **(To the AUDIENCE)** Why are you shouting? What? There's a ghost? Behind us? Let's have a look then...

SIMON, DAME TROT, & KING HAROLD all turn around to see.

ALL There's nothing there!

KING Hang on a minute, where's Rowena?

SIMON **(To the AUDIENCE)** Did you see where she went?

The AUDIENCE responds.

What? She got chased by a ghost?

DAME I don't like the sound of that. Come on, let's keep singing.

SIMON, DAME TROT & KING HAROLD sing again. A GHOST enters behind them and taps KING HAROLD on the shoulder. He screams and runs offstage pursued by the GHOST.

SIMON What is it this time? There's a ghost? We looked already but there was nothing there! Are you sure? Very well, let's have a look then...

SIMON & DAME TROT turn around to look.

ALL There's nothing there!

DAME **(To the AUDIENCE)** Where's the King?

The AUDIENCE responds.

SIMON What? He got chased by a ghost? I really don't like this. Come on mum, let's keep singing.

SIMON & DAME TROT sing again. Once again, the GHOST enters behind them and taps SIMON on the shoulder. He screams and runs offstage pursued by the GHOST.

DAME Is there still a ghost? Hold up, where's Simon?

The AUDIENCE responds.

He was chased by the ghost? This is too much; I'm going to keep singing.

DAME TROT sings again. The GHOST enters and lurks behind her. DAME TROT'S voice falters as she senses the GHOST'S presence.

There's a ghost behind me isn't there? I don't know if I can face it. **(Beat)** I know, you can help me... I've got the feels.

The AUDIENCE respond "You're a fox, Trot!"

DAME TROT turns to face the GHOST confidently. The GHOST takes one look at her, screams and runs offstage. DAME TROT turns to the AUDIENCE.

Thanks everyone. Turns out I'm terrifyingly beautiful!

BLACKOUT

TABS CLOSE. END OF SCENE

Scene Eight: Blunderbore's Castle**TABS OPEN**

The stage is set as Blunderbore's Castle. Everything is super-sized. There is a small HARP at one side. PRINCESS JILL cuts a forlorn figure as she sings.

Song: Princess Jill

The lights flash as GIANT BLUNDERBORE'S voice booms around the room.

- GIANT** Fee, fie, foe fill,
 Hello there Princess Jill,
 Fee, fie, foe, farried,
 It's time for us to get married!
- JILL** You can't just go kidnap people and expect them to marry you; it just isn't done.
- GIANT** I can do what I like. I'm big and bad, and what I say goes.
- JILL** You're a big bully, that's what you are!
- GIANT** Oh, how I've longed for this day to arrive. I have been in love with you ever since I first saw you.
- JILL** When was that?
- GIANT** Yesterday.
- JILL** You've been in love with me since yesterday?!
- GIANT** It seems like an eternity, but soon we'll be married forever!
- JILL** I'll never marry you. You're a big, smelly, horrible, old...

An evil chord sounds as MRS BLUNDERBORE enters. She has PAT on a leash who follows her onstage.

(Seeing PAT) Cow!

PAT looks at JILL and moos.

- MRS B.** My darling boy, I got you a wedding present, I think it'll be lovely as your wedding feast!
- JILL** But that's Dame Trot's cow!
- MRS B.** Not anymore. It's time for tea... and cow is on the menu!
- GIANT** Fee, fi, foe, feet. Did somebody say just eat!

MRS B. I did steal it, so it is a sort of takeaway!

GIANT Mummy, will you fetch my gift for Jill?

MRS B. Of course. **(Exits)**

JILL I don't want your gifts, or your hand in marriage.

MRS BLUNDERBORE enters with HENRIETTA (a hen in a basket). She shows HENRIETTA to PRINCESS JILL ignoring her protests.

MRS B. This is Henrietta. She lays a golden egg every single day.

JILL If you've got a hen who lays golden eggs then why do you need to keep collecting taxes?

MRS B. We don't need to collect the taxes, we're fabulously rich. We just like it when you're poor.

JILL So you're just hoarding all the money up here?

MRS B. That's right, it's called trickle up economics. **(She laughs and puts HENRIETTA down)** Right, wedding time... I'll officiate - I've seen Married at First Sight, so I know what I'm doing. **(To GIANT BLUNDERBORE)** Do you, my darling son, take Princess Jill to be your lawfully wedded wife?

GIANT Fee, fi, foe, foo. To be my wife? Yes, I do!

MRS B. And do you, Princess Jill, take my delightful son, to be your lawfully wedded husband, bearing in mind if you don't, we'll destroy all of Muddlebrook forever?

JILL **(Reluctantly)** Fine. I do.

MRS B. Excellent. In that case I proclaim you...

JACK **(Bursting in)** Stop! I object!

GIANT Fee, fi, foe, food-er. Who is this untimely intruder?

JILL **(Excited to see him)** Jack!

MRS B. **(To GIANT BLUNDERBORE)** I'll deal with this. **(To JACK)** I thought you might show up, but to no avail! **(She calls offstage)** Seize him!

Some of the ENSEMBLE, as SKELETONS/GHOSTS/MONSTERS, enter. They arrest JACK. JACK struggles but can't shake them off.

Stop struggling dear, there's no escape.

JACK Of course there is! I'll never let you do this.

JACK continues to struggle.

MRS B. Very well.

MRS BLUNDERBORE picks up the HARP. As soon as she does it starts to play a soothing tune. JACK's head droops and he immediately falls asleep.

JILL What did you do?

MRS B. I did nothing, he's fallen asleep that's all. This is a magical harp, whenever you pick it up it makes the listener fall asleep and you can make them do anything you want. Watch this... **(She approaches JACK)** Jack, nod your head.

JACK slowly nods his head.

(To the SKELETONS) Let go of him.

The SKELETONS let go of JACK but stand nearby. JACK is still asleep and sways slightly.

(To JACK) Jack, raise your arms.

JACK raises his arms in the air.

(To JACK) Jack, come here.

JACK sleepwalks over to MRS BLUNDERBORE.

See, isn't it amazing!

JILL Why isn't it affecting you and me?

MRS B. It won't affect me because I'm holding it and it isn't affecting you because, for some unknown reason it only works on men. Very strange, but very useful. **(To JACK)** Stamp your feet, boy.

JACK stamps his feet. Then suddenly there are loud stamping sounds.

JILL What was that?

MRS B. Silly me. That was my son, it affects him too! If you don't specify who you're instructing it'll make everyone do it!

JILL Wake him up!

MRS B. I don't think so. I'm having too much fun. Let's do some more. **(To JACK)** Do some jumping, Jack!

JACK starts to perform jumping jacks. MRS BLUNDERBORE claps with glee.

Jack, give me a high five.

MRS BLUNDERBORE raises her hand. JACK goes to high-five her. Just before he does, she moves her hand and he misses.

Too slow! **(She laughs to herself)**

MRS BLUNDERBORE puts the HARP down. The music stops and JACK comes out of his trance.

JACK What just happened?

MRS B. Nothing dear, just a little sleepwalking. **(To some SKELETONS)** Take him away and lock him up.

The SKELETONS lead JACK offstage. MRS BLUNDERBORE approaches JILL.

And as for you, my pretty little thing, you'd better start behaving, or you'll never see that boy again! **(She laughs)**

An evil chord plays as MRS BLUNDERBORE exits. PRINCESS JILL & PAT are left alone.

JILL Oh Pat, this is awful. I'm so sorry this is happening to you.

PAT moos.

You know what, Pat? If we get home alive... I'm swear I'm going vegan!

PAT gives an almighty moo of approval. JILL laughs.

BLACKOUT. END OF SCENE

Scene Nine: Up in the Clouds

TABS CLOSED

KING HAROLD, SIMON, DAME TROT & ROWENA enter.

KING It doesn't feel like our special mission is going very well.

DAME It's going as well as my latest diet; all promise but no results!

There is a magical sound. FAIRY HARICOT appears.

FAIRY Sounds like you're in a bit of a fix,
But don't despair, I've got some tricks.
With magic and a helping hand,
We'll stop that giant, just as planned!

KING But how? It's impossible!

FAIRY Impossible? Not for me!
We just need beans, you'll soon see!

There is a magical sound. Four BEAN-SPRITES, enter. Each of them has a tin/packet of beans.

Each of my sprites brings a magical bean,
Let's find the one to wipe the slate clean.
(To SPRITE 1) What have you got in your little tin?
Let's hope your beans can help us win!

SPRITE 1 I've got Coffee beans.

SIMON Great idea, we could give him a caffeine hit!

ROWENA We could... but what if he gets overstimulated and goes on a rampage?
He'll destroy everything.

SIMON Good point.

FAIRY **(To SPRITE 2)** Tell me, Bean-sprite number two?
What is it your beans can do?

SPRITE 2 My beans are Cocoa beans.

KING Excellent, I love a bit of choccy.

ROWENA But with that much chocolate, he'll get a sugar rush and trash the town as well.

FAIRY (To **ROWENA**) That's a good point, I think not,
(To **BEAN-SPRITE 3**) Tell us, what beans have you got?

SPRITE 3 I've got Jelly Beans.

DAME Jelly beans, my favourite!

ROWENA But what if he eats too many and he explodes; he'll unleash a tidal wave of jelly that drowns us all.

DAME On second thoughts, we'll leave them too.

FAIRY (To **SPRITE 4**) Worry not, there's one Sprite more,
What beans have you got, number four?

SPRITE 4 Mine are baked beans.

FAIRY Now that's the bean I hoped you'd bring,
They'll help us sort out everything.
If you want the baddies beaten,
You've got to make the giant eat 'em!

DAME But how?

JACK That's easy, he'll eat anything, the hard part is getting past his mum.

SIMON The giant's mum? I don't want to run into either of them!

DAME Come on Simon, we'll figure it out; besides, you've got us to keep you company.

SIMON Yeah, that's what I'm worried about!

FAIRY So don't be scared, you're not alone,
With friends beside you, strength has grown.
With pluck, with luck, and veggie might,
We'll see this through and win the fight!

Song: Fairy Haricot, Simon, Dame Trot, King Harold, Rowena & Bean-Sprites

After the song they all exit.

BLACKOUT. END OF SCENE

Scene Ten: Blunderbore's Castle

TABS OPEN

The ENSEMBLE, as MONSTERS, SKELETONS, GHOSTS and other foul creatures, surround MRS BLUNDERBORE. PRINCESS JILL is at one side. An evil chord sounds.

MRS B. Now listen up! It is of the utmost importance we capture that pesky rescue group. Then my darling boy can have a six-course meal with double appetisers, mains and dessert!

JILL Please don't feed my friends to the giant; you've already got me!

MRS B. Be quiet, or I'll make you into poppadoms; and that's just for starters!

DAME TROT, ROWENA, SIMON & KING HAROLD appear at one side.

DAME Look, it's Jill!

KING Let's rescue her.

ROWENA **(Stopping them)** Careful, don't let Mrs Blunderbore see you, if she does, you'll be toast.

KING Good point. I don't want to be toast, although we are in a bit of a jam!

MRS B. **(To the ENSEMBLE)** How about we give the princess an extra special demonstration of what will happen if she doesn't behave!

The ENSEMBLE chatter excitedly and Surround PRINCESS JILL.

DAME This is our chance, if we can get amongst them, maybe we can sneak her away.

KING Great idea, good luck everyone.

MRS B. Now, I'll be back in a minute, I need to marinate the cow!

MRS BLUNDERBORE laughs maniacally as she exits. The ENSEMBLE sing and dance spookily around PRINCESS JILL.

Song: Ensemble

One by one DAME TROT, SIMON, ROWENA & KING HAROLD join in. At the end of the song our heroes are standing directly next to PRINCESS JILL.

JILL What are you doing here?

KING We've come to rescue you, let's go before they notice us.

They all start to sneak across the stage but they are not quick enough. An evil chord sounds, the lights flash and GIANT BLUNDERBORE'S voice booms.

GIANT Fee, fi, foe fape, my wife is trying to escape! Monsters, seize them!

The ENSEMBLE seize PRINCESS JILL, DAME TROT, SIMON, ROWENA & KING HAROLD.

Where are you going?

JILL **(Unconvincingly)** Nowhere.

GIANT Do you think I'm stupid?

DAME Well now you mention it...

GIANT Who are these intruders?

ROWENA Glant Blunderbore, we heard about your magnificence and wanted to come and congratulate you ourselves.

DAME **(Whispering)** What are you doing?

ROWENA I'm improvising.

JILL **(Joining in)** I thought it would be a good idea to have some of my friends and family speak to you in person.

GIANT Good idea! How nice it is to have a thoughtful and loving wife.

JILL You are the apple of my eye.

DAME **(Aside)** And the vomit in your stomach.

GIANT What did you say?

DAME Um.... Nothing...

GIANT You said something about my stomach. Which reminds me, I'm hungry!

KING **(Suddenly he has an idea)** The beans, Dame Trot, give him the beans!

DAME Your giant-ship... We have brought you a delicious wedding gift!

GIANT It had better be scrumptious!

DAME Of course, it's in my pocket.

DAME TROT tries to reach into her pocket to get the tin of beans but the ENSEMBLE holding her prevent her from doing so.

DAME Will you let go of me. I can't reach my present.

The ENSEMBLE holding her don't budge. The others struggle too.

KING They're holding me really tight too.

ROWENA And me!

SIMON Simon says let us go!

Immediately the ENSEMBLE release PRINCESS JILL, DAME TROT, SIMON, ROWENA & KING HAROLD. Everyone is shocked.

KING What just happened?

ROWENA Simon said 'Simon says' that's what!

DAME TROT gets the tin of baked beans out and offers it to the GIANT.

DAME Our gift, your giant-ness...

GIANT What is that?

DAME It's a tasty tin of beans, a special offering of friendship between us.

GIANT Fee, fi, foe fick. I think that this is a trick! I'm not eating those beans.

KING Jill, he's in love with you, can't you seduce him or something?

JILL **(Shocked)** Father!

DAME Leave it to me. **(She turns to the AUDIENCE)** I've got the feels!

Everyone "You're a fox, Trot!" DAME TROT is suddenly filled with confidence. She tries to woo GIANT BLUNDERBORE.

Hello there, big boy, why don't you eat these beans. If you do, I'll make you a Full English Breakfast with sausage, bacon and stacks of toast.

GIANT Fee, fi, foe, fouse. You can't make me cheat on my spouse.

JILL That's a shame!

ROWENA Wait a minute, why don't you try Simon says? It worked with the guards.
DAME It's got to be worth a try.

SIMON Um, ok... **(To GIANT BLUNDERBORE)** Simon says eat the beans!

GIANT Fee, fi, foe, fay. If Simon Says I must obey. Bring me the beans!

JILL **(Excitedly)** It worked!

DAME TROT passes the beans offstage. We hear the sound of GIANT BLUNDERBORE eating.

KING (Excitedly) He's doing it, he's really doing it, well done Simon.

DAME Jill, where's Jack?

JILL He's locked in the dungeon.

SIMON I'll handle this... **(To two of the ENSEMBLE)** Simon says release Jack and bring him here.

The ENSEMBLE members exit.

DAME Who knew 'Simon says' would be the solution to all our problems?!

JACK enters.

JILL Jack, you're back!

KING Come on, let's get out of here.

GIANT Fee, fie, foe, fray, I won't let you get away!

Suddenly they are interrupted by a fart sound.

JACK What was that?

DAME It wasn't me!

KING Then who was it?

SIMON **(Ominously)** I think I know... **(Beat)** Do you know the baked bean song?

KING No, how does it go?

SIMON **(Reciting)** Beans, beans, the musical fruit, the more you eat, the more you toot!

JILL Oh dear, I think I understand.

KING I don't.

JILL **(Explaining)** The giant just ate a tin of magical baked beans...

KING He did.

SIMON And the song tells us what beans do to you...

KING Does it?

JILL **(Reciting)** The more you eat...

KING **(Finally catching on. Scared)** Oh no!

SIMON Precisely!

JACK He's gonna blow! Run!

Everyone runs offstage in different directions. We hear a loud fart sound.

BLACKOUT

TABS CLOSE. END OF SCENE

Scene Eleven: A Special News Report

TABS CLOSED

ROWENA enters. She holds a microphone and speaks as if presenting a news segment to camera.

ROWENA You join me live for a special news report. Princess Jill has been saved from the hideous clutches of Giant Blunderbore and has returned home without a scratch, but with a wedding ring. This reporter was there when a special rescue party ascended the beanstalk on a mission to save her. With skill, determination and a surprisingly powerful tin of baked beans, they managed to free her from her physical bonds. No word yet on how she will be freed from her matrimonial bonds.

PRINCESS JILL enters.

Princess Jill joins me now. Princess... We've heard that the Archbishop of Muddlebrook is investigating how best to nullify your marriage to the Giant. Can you tell us how he's going to do it?

JILL I'm not sure, but he did say he needs to speak to "the big guy upstairs."

ROWENA Let's hope he's not referring to the Giant!

PRINCESS JILL exits. ROWENA puts her finger to her ear; she's receiving an update.

Breaking News now... I'm just hearing that Giant Blunderbore has started to climb down the Beanstalk. The last time a giant visited Muddlebrook the whole town was flattened into pancakes, needless to say it was crepe.

JACK rushes across the stage. He carries an axe. ROWENA calls after him.

ROWENA Where are you going with that?

JACK To cut down the beanstalk! **(He exits)**

ROWENA **(Reporting)** It's a race against time for Jack Trot to cut down the Beanstalk before the Giant reaches the bottom. Stay with us as we bring you all the action. Jack now steps up to the Beanstalk, he's swinging his axe and... Wow! What a hit! He's hitting it again, and again, cutting lumps out of it! But Giant Blunderbore's seen what's happening and has picked up the pace. Jack is really going for it now, whacking away as hard as he can! And look, the beanstalk is wobbling, just one more hit and... he's done it, Jack has done it!

There is an almighty crash as the BEANSTALK hits the ground.

Jack has chopped the Beanstalk down and Blunderbore is defeated.

We hear the ENSEMBLE cheer from offstage. KING HAROLD enters. he carries HENRIETTA the hen in her basket.

I'm joined now by King Harold. Your majesty... The giant is defeated and Princess Jill has returned home; you must be pleased!

KING I certainly am. And don't forget, we don't have to pay the Giant Tax anymore either!

ROWENA So you'll be lowering the taxes?

KING I'm abolishing them all together. I've got this hen now, she lays a golden egg every day, I've already bought a solid gold paddling pool!

ROWENA And Henrietta, how do you feel about that?

ROWENA holds the microphone to HENRIETTA'S beak. No sound comes out.

She doesn't give a cluck. **(Beat. To the AUDIENCE)** The Giant is defeated, the Princess is safe, and peace has returned to the kingdom. This is Rowena Ratzi the Royal Reporter for Muddlebrook News.

Beat.

KING Bravo Rowena, that was fantastic. You really are the most royal reporter we've ever had. Tell me, what inspired you to go into journalism?

ROWENA It's a long story. **(Beat)** My father was a royal photographer, so I've been around the news all my life.

KING A royal photographer, what's his name?

ROWENA Pappa Ratzi!

BLACKOUT. END OF SCENE

Scene Twelve: Dame Trot's Dairy

TABS OPEN

JACK, PRINCESS JILL, SIMON, ROWENA, KING HAROLD, DAME TROT, FAIRY HARICOT, PAT & the ENSEMBLE are gathered on stage.

ENS. 1 Well done Jack.

ENS. 2 We knew you could do it!

DAME Oh my boy! You saved us all!

KING We're finally free from Blunderbore's tyranny!

An evil chord sounds. MRS BLUNDERBORE enters.

MRS B. I don't think so!

DAME Not you! Blunderbore is no more, there's nothing left for you now!

MRS B. Nothing left for me?! Don't be ridiculous, I'm a baddie, there's always something left for me. I'm here to strike a bargain.

JACK What do you want?

MRS B. I promise to go back to the castle and never bother you again.

KING Sounds good to me.

MRS B. On one condition....

DAME What?

MRS B. I get the cow!

Everyone gasps in shock.

SIMON You can't take Pat, she's our cow!

DAME I just won't allow it.

MRS B. Then prepare for my worst. My very best worst!

JACK I think Pat should decide. She's a clever cow so she can choose.

JACK **(To PAT)** Pat, we've got a proposition for you.

MRS B. Come with me and I'll leave this town alone, never to hear from me again.

KING It would be good to not have her causing chaos and raising taxes every two minutes!

JACK What do you say Pat?

PAT makes a series of moos.

KING What did she say? I don't speak cow.

JACK I do. (**Jack 'translates'**) She says that Mrs Blunderbore makes a fair and reasonable offer.

MRS BLUNDERBORE looks pleased with herself. PAT moos some more.

She agrees it would be best if she left the town alone and never to return.

PAT moos some more.

But after what happened when Mrs Blunderbore cow-napped her, she can't bring herself forgive her. So, with that in mind...

PAT moos loudly.

JACK (**Reprimanding**) Pat, you can't say that, it's a family show!

PAT continues to moo and starts pounding her hooves on the ground.

MRS B. Is that a that a yes or a no?

PAT gives an almighty moo and charges at MRS BLUNDERBORE who yelps, turns around and runs offstage. PAT chases her off. We hear lots of mooing and a large crash. Everyone cheers.

SIMON I guess that's a no?

Everyone laughs. There is a magical sound. FAIRY HARICOT appears.

FAIRY The stalk is chopped, the soil's now clear,
No more giants creeping near.
From tiny beans, great things have grown,
So now it's time to head back home!

JACK Actually, we're not quite done yet. Princess Jill, can I ask you a question.

JILL Not if I ask you first. (**She gets down on one knee**) Jack, will you marry me!

JACK Yes!

JACK and PRINCESS JILL embrace. Everyone cheers.

KING I have a question to ask too. **(To DAME TROT)** Dame Trot, ever since we met you've been kind and wonderful and generous and funny and pleasant and...

Before he can finish DAME TROT gets down on one knee and interrupts.

DAME Harold, will you marry me?

KING Yes!

DAME TROT and KING HAROLD embrace. Everyone cheers.

SIMON Two proposals in one day!

We hear the sound of two different cows mooing from offstage.

JACK It sounds like Pat's found someone special too, now that calls for some moo-sic!

Everyone cheers.

Song: Full Cast

BLACKOUT. TABS CLOSE. END OF SCENE

Scene Thirteen: Somewhere In Town

TABS CLOSED

SIMON & ROWENA enter.

ROWENA What a turn up for the books! I wasn't sure everything would end up alright in the end.

SIMON What a good job it did. Now we're rid of the giant life will be so much better. It makes me want to sing!

ROWENA Why don't we do some singing with our lovely audience?

SIMON What an excellent idea. **(He turns to the AUDIENCE)** Do you fancy having a sing song?

The AUDIENCE responds.

And what about the rest of you?

The AUDIENCE respond, louder.

Excellent. **(To ROWENA)** What shall we sing?

ROWENA As it happens, we've got a song ready...

Some of the ENSEMBLE enter carrying a large card with the lyrics written on.

SIMON Oh I love this song, lets sing it as loud as we possibly can!

Song: Songsheet - Simon, Rowena & The Audience

SIMON & ROWENA lead the AUDIENCE in singing the song a number of times. They can have competitions between left/right, boys/girls, etc. This should take long enough for the next scene to be set. This scene can also be used to do any shout outs/thanks for any VIPs, Birthdays etc in the AUDIENCE.

BLACKOUT. END OF SCENE

Scene Fourteen: Bows

TABS OPEN

Music plays as the cast take their bows. Afterwards they line up across the front of the stage.

JACK The Giant is defeated and the beanstalk's been chopped down,

JILL We're having a great big party, all around the town!

ROWENA It was a great adventure, with lots of juicy news,

DAME And Pat is back at home, showing off her moo-ves!

MRS B. I learned not to be bad, and that good is much more fun,

KING I learned not to be pompous, and be friends with everyone.

FAIRY A little bit of magic helped to save the day,

SIMON And I helped out too, with a game of Simon says.

JILL We thank you all for coming, we hope we gave you cheer,

JACK So all that's left to say is...

ALL See you again next year!

Song: Full Cast

After the song ends the cast join hands and make a final bow.

TABS CLOSE. END OF ACT TWO