



# Jack AND THE Beanstalk

## **A Pantomime**

by Tom Stevenson

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# Characters

**Jack - An Idle boy, few life ambitions, very lazy.**

**Princes forget-me-not – A beautiful maiden**

**Dame Trott - Jack's Mum**

**Buttercup - a Cow**

**American Brad - A Jester**

**Fairy Sprout - A Helpful Fairy**

**Poison Ivy - A Witch**

**The King**

**The Giant, Tiny Jim (Voice only)**

**The Giants Housekeeper**

**The Giants Cook**

**The Giants Cleaner**

# Act 1

## Prologue

*In front of Tabs, dark music is playing and the stage is lit with green, and littered with thorns. **Poison Ivy** - the baddy, enters stage left, stands centre stage and slowly takes in the audience. Expect, and encourage 'boos'*

**Ivy:** Well, you wretched lot are pathetic. I am the all powerful and deadly Poison Ivy, I'm the most evil person around here, I make plants die, I make children cry, I make cars crash and I give men a nasty rash! When I walk on this stage, I expect to be treated with the hatred I have earned! *Evil Laugh*

I'd like to say welcome to Nottingham, but it isn't true, not when I heard your pathetic boo.

As you might expect I'm a witch of Mighty power, You'll all bow down to me, whimper and cower, I'll be in charge for the next hour, making you leave with a stomach so sour, as I laugh at you all from my ivory tower.

*Laughs, **Fairy Sprout** enters*

**Fairy:** Stop right there you evil Witch, I'll make sure this show goes without a hitch, she's trying to take over the king who's mighty rich, Boys and girls, she really is a horrible, bad person.

**Ivy:** How dare you interrupt me. 'Fairy Sprout', do they call you sprout because you smell like an old ladies fart? Or maybe it's because you're so small and insignificant and children don't like you.

**Fairy:** That's not true is it boys and girls?

*Gesture for a cheer*

**Fairy:** Oh, forgive my manners, I am Fairy Sprout, I'm the guardian of this village. This horrible witch thinks she's so powerful, but she's so vain, make sure whenever you see her you give her a massive boo, shall we try it together now? three, two, one

*Boo*

That was good, but I don't think she could hear you, let's try again, even louder. Three, two one.

*Boo*

**Ivy:** How dare you. I hate [*Performance City*], I'd rather live in [*Local Rival*]

*Fairy gesture for boo's*

**Ivy:** You'll all pay for that. But I've just taken on a new client, a gruesome, enormous Giant, who is so compliant and reliant. He's asleep in the clouds trying to refresh, from his last job of eating human flesh, of young boys and girls so plump and fresh.

**Fairy:** We're not scared of you

**Ivy:** You should be, because my giant will grind your bones to make his bread

**Fairy:** Oh no he won't.

**Ivy:** Oh yes he will

**Fairy:** *Gesture for audience to join* Oh no he won't

*Repeat*

**Ivy:** You wait and see, by the end of the night you'll all bow down to me, with my royal decree, you'll be calling me Queen Ivy

*Ivy Exits laughing*

**Fairy:** Have you ever met a more horrible woman? It's clear she got a Rhyming dictionary for her birthday. Though I'm not sure who bought it her, she's got no friends. That's probably why she is so horrible. Boys and girls let us get on with the show. It's a tale as old as time, and it happened not too far from here. Let me take you to the *[Performance City]* Market, a special and magical place.

*Gestures magic and Fairy exits stage right, curtains open.*

# Act 1

## Scene 1

*A small village with market stalls, including 'A Close Shave', 'Hallal is it meat your looking for', 'Bread Pitta' and 'Trott's cottage and Dairy'. The stage is full of chorus members buying and selling produce.*

**Song 1** - *A merry song, sung by chorus members. The song is lead by **American Brad***

**Brad:** Hello Boys and Girls! I'm American Brad! I work here at Trott's Dairy, I'm usually quite shy, so when I come on stage will you all make me feel welcome by saying "Hello American Brad", shall we give it a try?

Hello Boys and Girls

*Pause, look around*

Are you there? I said, Hello Boys and Girls.

*Pause, Jump back as though knocked off his feet*

Wow, you're there now. *Pause.* Hello.

**Dame:** *Off Stage.* BRAD!

**Brad:** Oh Boys and girls, that's my boss, Dame Trott. She told me to keep the racket down, she's been up all night trying to make herself presentable for the Royal Visit. Still no luck. I really am clumsy boys and girls, Dame Trotts dog died the other day *Gesture for Aww's* It's Sadder than that *Gesture for Aww's* Her dog died the other day, so to cheer her up, I went out and got her an Identical one. She was livid, she said "What am I supposed to do with two dead dogs?". I'm very important in this village aren't I, Derrick?

**Villager 1:** It's Darren.

**Brad:** Is it? Well, I'm very important aren't I Darren

**Villager 1:** Oh, you're very special alright.

**Brad:** I've even got my own title, haven't I

**Villager 2:** Oh yes, The Village Idiot.

**Villager 1:** But you've not always been the village idiot have you Brad?

**Brad:** No there was someone before me

**Villager 3:** I remember him, He was even stupider than you. He was the stupidest man alive.

**Villager 2:** What ever happened to him, Brad?

**Brad:** He got a new job. He's now the President of America. I've got the worst of luck, I once opened up a chocolate bar and inside the wrapper it said "You're A Loser", I wouldn't have minded but there wasn't even a competition.

**Villager 1:** I think you're just missing something Brad

**Villager 2:** Like enough brain activity to power a light bulb.

**Brad:** Back to the plot

**Villager 3:** But Brad, you lost the plot a long time ago.

**Brad:** I'm lucky enough to live here with Dame Trott, her son Jack, and his favourite cow, Buttercup. I'm an orphan, my mum left before I was born. Luckily Dame Trott took me under her wing - she was wearing a big bird costume at the time. She's such a lovely woman, she is so wonderful, kind and caring, she has taught me everything I know about social etiquette.

*Dame Trott bursts onto stage in a very manly manner and voice, wafting her hands around.*

**Dame:** Phwarr - I'd leave that for half an hour if I were you Jack. Oi, Brad, get back in the shop I'm going for my brea— *Notices the audience and immediately becomes feminine in body and voice* Brad, it seems we have guests. What I was saying earlier - the toilet, I obviously mean my new eau de toilette, it's called 'The Trotts'. *Pulls out deodorant and sprays the whole stage goes off stage.*

**Brad:** Boys and girls, That is Dame Trott, When she comes back on make sure you say "Alright Madame Trot"

*Dame re-enters, Brad gestures for greating*

**Dame:** Oh hello boys and girls, hello everyone.

**Villager 3:** Why have you got your rollers in?

**Dame:** I'm preparing myself for the royal visit today - don't I look out of this world?

**Villager 2:** Like nothing I've ever witnessed on earth.

**Villager 1:** Don't you think your face mask is a little lumpy?

**Dame:** I'm not wearing a face mask, my complexion is flawless - people say It's just like Cleopatra

**Brad:** Yes, I can imagine that's what skin looks like when it's been dead for 2000 years.

**Dame:** What you call old, I call antique. From what I hear the king is a big collector of Antiques, and today's the day that he falls in love with me. Maybe that way he'll stop charging me rent on my little cottage, the walls are so thin, if I peel an onion, the people next door start crying. Then again it does have running water - when it rains. We make do best we can selling the milk down the market, Brad helps out, but the other day someone gave him a penny for his thoughts and he gave them change. I've also got my son Jack, but he's so lazy he sticks his nose out the window and lets the wind blow it.

**Villager 3:** Here comes Jack now.

*Jack enters stage right*

**Dame:** It's about time you got here - How can you be so late for work, when you work from home?

**Jack:** Sorry, I've been involved in a Marathon

**Brad:** You've done a Marathon?

**Jack:** Yes, all 8 seasons of Friends back to back on Netflix!

**Brad:** I was thinking about running a Marathon. But it's a lot of work closing the roads, getting enough water for everyone, finding runners.

**Dame:** Jack!

**Jack:** Oh I'm sorry mummy, but I was on my way when I saw the most beautiful thing in the world

**Dame:** Flattering me won't get you anywhere!

**Jack:** No mum, it was Princess Forget-Me-Not, she was on her way over with her father, when our eyes met. She's the most beautiful girl I've ever seen!

**Dame:** Her Father? The King? Is on his way now? I'm not dressed, he won't fall in love with me looking like this! I broke so many hearts when I was a young man - I fear loneliness, I can't be the only one.

*Fanfare.*

**Jack:** That must be him now!

*The King Enters along side Princess, and Royal servants*



**Brad:** Isn't he amazing. He's like a long stick of wood with numbers all over him!

**Jack:** What?

**Brad:** Our Ruler! *Falls to his knee's in a bow*

**King:** *Noticing Brad* Most people bow for Royalty, I sit down for royal-tea. Do you get it? Oh! I wish I was here on better grounds. Unfortunately the Witch and Giant have been robbing the kingdom and kidnapping my army. The knights are all gone

**Brad:** So this is why [*Performance City*] a rubbish knight life!

**Jack:** Are you scared of a Giant?

**King:** Absolutely not I am not scared of any Giant. But it is clear that the people of [*Performance City*] are - I must raise a new army to protect the city. But this, of course mean's everyone must pay more taxes. If we don't, I fear the worst.

*King makes cut-throat gesture.*

**Dame:** He means the Giant will kill him and eat him alive!

**Brad:** At least you'll be a Burger King!

**Jack:** He'll eat you like a Greggs Vegan sausage Royal!

**Dame:** The Giant will eat your Royal Plums!

**King:** *Reacting* No!

*At this point Brad and Jack go to one of the stalls and raise the items in capitals.*

**Dame:** DOUGHNUT you worry, my king. That horrible Giant has crossed the LIME this time. He's BERRY evil. I'll make that MANGO away. He'll BEET it. You can trust me, I'll never go BACON my word. You are one in a MELON. OLIVE you from my head TOMATOES. We make a great PEAR. We would be EGG-celent together.

**King:** Erm, not nece-CELERY

**Brad:** I hope the audience are getting this.

**Dame:** Well, they'll need to KETCHUP. LETTUCE crack on.

**King:** Miss Trott, I know you're struggling with money, but I have no other choice. Everyone will have two pay double rent from now on.

**Princess:** But Father!

*King jumps*

**King:** I forgot you were there.

**Princess:** Father, these people have nothing. We can't honestly charge them.

**King:** I'm sorry my daughter - We have exhausted every other alternative. Now, stay out of politics and you get back on that Tinder. If they do not pay up. We'll have to repossess your house.

**Dame/Jack/Brad:** You can't do that!

**King:** Oh yes I can

**D/J/B:** On no you can't!

*Encourage audience participation, the royal servants join in with the 'Oh yes I can's' and the Dame encourages the audience to chant 'Oh no you can't'*

**Princess:** Sir, she does seem to have the majority of public opinion on her side!

**King:** I'd say it's about 52%. It's only just a majority! You have until 8 o'clock tonight! Good day.

*Fanfare plays as the king and the royal servants leave.*

**Dame:** How am I, a single, lonely, beautiful, did I mention single woman going to find that sort of money in such little time?

**Jack:** I heard about a woman in the town who lost her house once - she went into witness protection and started a new life.

**Brad:** Oh really? What does she do now?

**Jack:** It's difficult to say what she does. She sell see shells on the sea shore.

**Dame:** Oh Jack what am I going to do? I'm broke. BROKE!

**Jack:** Mum, if you think money can't buy happiness, you've clearly never had a Happy Meal.

**Brad:** Sure, because there's nothing more disappointing than 3 nuggets, 5 chips and a lump of plastic.

**Dame:** At least it teaches kids to learn with a life of disappointment.

**Jack:** Shall we sing a song to lighten to mood?

**SONG 2**