



# Jack and the Beanstalk

by Bradford and Webster

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PantoScripts Sample

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 15 The Metro Centre  
 Peterborough PE2 7UH  
 Telephone: 01733 374790  
 Email: [info@noda.org.uk](mailto:info@noda.org.uk)  
[www.noda.org.uk](http://www.noda.org.uk)

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## JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

### Cast

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

### **OTHER SMALL ROLES (played by chorus members):-**

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

### **CHORUS & DANCERS**

VILLAGERS / FAIRIES / SKELETONS

## **Scenes and Staging**

### **ACT I**

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

### **ACT II**

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

**Finale Wedding Walk-Down and Bows**

Full stage. Use "Trot's Garden". Or if you can accommodate it, a sparkle cloth or shimmer curtain will enhance your finale.

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

*Villagers on stage to start*

SONG            "It's Not Where You Start, It's Where You Finish" or similar ~ The Villagers

*Simon enters*

SIMON

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

VILLAGE GIRL

Yes there is – look!

SIMON

Hey, you're right! Hiya boys and girls! .....

*Girl whispers in Simon's ear*

SIMON

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

AUDIENCE

Yes!

SIMON

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

AUDIENCE

Hi Simon!

SIMON

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

*Jack enters*

JACK

Hello folks, what's going on?

SIMON

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

JACK

Hello everyone!

AUDIENCE  
Hello Jack!

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

AUDIENCE  
Hi Simon!

*Simon throws sweets*

JACK  
**That's** bribery!

SIMON  
**That's** initiative!

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

*Villagers laugh and agree*

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

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

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

*Villagers laugh and agree*

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

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

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

SIMON  
I was just about to say that!

VILLAGERS  
oh yes / good idea etc

JACK  
Oh, I love swimmin'

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

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JACK

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

SIMON

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

JACK

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

*All exit*

## **Scene 2      The Outskirts Of The Village**

*lights dim / sfx - thunder / lightening*

GIANT (*Voice-over*)

FEE FIE FOE FUM

I WANT MORE MONEY – SO BRING ME SOME!

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

I'LL GRIND YOUR BONES TO MAKE MY BREAD!

*Grotviler enters from Stage Left*

GROTVILER

His Master's voice speaks loud and clear

The villagers should quake with fear

I work for Giant Blunderbore

And soon this land will be no more

I'll work and toil for every hour

'till all the world is in our power

And as this simpering village cowers

All goods and riches will be ours

And you – you ugly, snivelling bunch

The Giant will eat you for his lunch

Oh yes he will!

AUDIENCE

Oh no he won't!

GROT

Oh yes he will!

AUDIENCE

Oh no he won't

GROT

Fee – Fie – Foe – Fum

Our wicked work will soon be done!

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

FAIRY

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

GROT  
 Just like you?

FAIRY  
 Who eez zeesh creep?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

FAIRY  
 Because it is a pantomime

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

*Grotvila exits*

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

*Fairy continues speaking as she exits*

### **Scene 3      A Woodland Glade**

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

SIMON  
 That was good! ..... What’s next then?

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

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

*Jill enters – Jack sees her*

JACK  
 Actually, it’s quite nice here ....

SIMON  
 (*notices Jill*) Not bad at all

JILL  
 I beg your pardon?

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

JILL  
 Yes ... very nice, I suppose



*Simon and Jack point in different directions*

JILL

Which way?

*Simon and Jack point in the opposite different directions*

JILL

You don't really know, do you?

SIMON

Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes ..... no

DAME

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

SIMON

Look out, here comes Dame Trot

*Dame enters*

DAME

Buttons! Buttons! Where are you?

JACK

Who's Buttons?

DAME

Buttons?

JACK

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

DAME

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

JACK/SIMON

**This** is Jack and the Beanstalk!

DAME

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

JACK

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

DAME

I know what I mean – ask **Mr** Brown!

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

SIMON

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

AUDIENCE

Hi Simon!

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

DAME

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

AUDIENCE

Open the box!

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

DAME

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

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

DAME

What ARE you doing?

SIMON

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

DAME

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

SIMON

Not 'queue'? ..... 'queue'?

*All in queue look at each other – confused*

DAME

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

SIMON

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

DAME

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

JACK

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

*Jack and Simon point in different directions*

GEORGE

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Don't start all that again!

JILL

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

DAME

Tillie Trot (*they shake hands*)

JILL

That's an unusual name

DAME

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

JILL

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

DAME

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

JACK/SIMON

Who?

DAME

Her ..... Jill from the Castle on the Hill ...

JACK

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

DAME

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

JACK

(*downhearted*) Oh.

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

DAME

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

JACK

Will you?

DAME

Will you what?

JACK

Need some help

DAME

I thought you'd never offer! Come on

*Dame & Simon exit – Jack pauses to look at Jill*

DAME

NOW!

*Jack exits*

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

GROTVILER

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

AUDIENCE

Oh no, we won't!

GROT

Oh yes, you will!

AUDIENCE

Oh no, we won't!

GROT

Oh shut up, you snivelling bunch of toads!

*Fairy enters*

FAIRY

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

GROT

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

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

*Villagers quickly collect belongings and rush to exit*

FAIRY

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

*Fairy exits*

GROT

Ha Ha Ha Ha etc

*Grotviler exits*

## Scene 4      The Outskirts Of The Village

*Rabbit and Leggit enter*

GRABBIT

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

LEGGIT

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

GRABBIT

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

LEGGIT

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

*Rabbit hits Leggit's hand*

LEGGIT

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

GRABBIT

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

LEGGIT

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

GRABBIT

Of course!

LEGGIT

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

GRABBIT

You installed ariels

*Leggit looks a bit sheepish*

GRABBIT

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

LEGGIT

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

GRABBIT

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

LEGGIT

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

GRABBIT

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

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LEGGIT

Mmmmm, very Jamie Oliver! Sounds yummy!

GRABBIT

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

LEGGIT

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

*Grabbit & Leggit run off*

## **Scene 5      The Garden Of Trot's Cottage**

*Dame enters*

DAME

Yoo hoo! What shall we do?

AUDIENCE

Open the box!

*Dame throws chocs to audience*

*Jack enters, he is obviously searching for something*

DAME

Hello Jack, what are you doing?

JACK

I'm looking for Buttercup

DAME

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

*Buttercup enters & stands behind Jack & Dame*

DAME

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

*Audience will shout – hopefully!*

AUDIENCE

She's behind you!

DAME

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

AUDIENCE

Oh yes she is!

DAME

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

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

DAME

See, she isn't there

AUDIENCE

Oh yes she is!

DAME

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

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

DAME

Not there! So where is she?

AUDIENCE

Behind you!

*Dame and Jack look behind – this time they see Buttercup*

DAME

Oh there you are, Buttercup! You are naughty!

*Buttercup acts coy*

DAME

Come to Mumsie then, come on

*Jack goes over to snuggle Mum*

DAME

Not you, you big softie – Buttercup!

*Buttercup goes to Dame, who tickles her ear*

DAME

There now, what's all the fuss?

*Buttercup whispers in Dame's ear*

DAME

She says that your hands are too cold, Jack

JACK

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

DAME

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

*Buttercup looks very sad – aaah!*

DAME

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

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

DAME

Jack, hold her steady!

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

DAME

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

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

DAME

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

JACK

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

DAME

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

JACK

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

DAME

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

*Hokey Cokey music & dance – Jack fetches a plate and holds it under Buttercup. Buttercup (or the person inside) squirts "cream" onto the plate. Repeat the dance and cream-squirting twice – she needs three pies.. The cream pies are stored upstage.*

*Jack takes Buttercup off stage. Dame heads upstage.*

*Grabbit & Leggit enter with the Mayor*

GRABBIT

Make way for His Worship the Mayor!

MAYOR

Dame Trot! Your presence!

DAME

*(forward)* Ooh presents! Where are they then?

MAYOR

Where are what?

DAME  
My presents

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

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

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

MAYOR  
Now, Madam! What about my money?  
DAME  
I haven't any money, Sir

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

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

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

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

MAYOR  
NOT **taxis**

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

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

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

*Simon enters*

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

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

SIMON

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

MAYOR

What about the cream pies?

DAME

These three want cream pies

SIMON

Oh really? Do you have any?

DAME

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

MAYOR

Ooooh, my favourite!

GRABBIT

And mine!

LEGGIT

Me! Me! Give it to me!

DAME

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

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

DAME

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

*Jack enters*

DAME

Hello dear – would you like a cream pie

*Simon jumps up & down with excitement*

JACK

Ye ... *(realises)* er ... no thanks

*Jack & Simon look at each other and wink*

JACK

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

SIMON

I'll be Simon! I'll be Simon!

DAME

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

SIMON

Simon Says – stand on one foot

*All do so*

SIMON  
Simon Says – stand on the other foot

*All do so*

SIMON  
Simon Says – hands in the air

*All do so*

SIMON  
Simon Says – hands out to the sides

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

SIMON  
(*quickly*) Hands on head!

*Dame splats pies each side of her head*

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

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

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

JACK  
Simon, can you keep a secret?

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

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

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

JACK  
**You** just told me

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

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

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

JACK  
Yes, with Jill from the Castle on the Hill

SIMON

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

JACK

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

SIMON

Yes - a Saint Bernard!

JACK

And Martha? – you said her teeth were like stars

SIMON

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

JACK

Resorting to bribery again, I see

*Dame enters*

DAME

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

JACK

Mum, please stop!

DAME

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

JACK

So what are we going to do?

DAME

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

JACK

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

SIMON

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

DAME

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

JACK

What cat? We don't have a cat

DAME

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

JACK

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

SIMON

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

DAME

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

SIMON

Have you finished?

DAME

Yes

SIMON

Have you got your 'Homes' down?

DAME

Yes

SIMON

Have you got your 'Aways' down?

DAME

Yes

SIMON

Have you got your 'Draws' down!

DAME

Oh, you cheeky thing!

JACK

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

SIMON

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

DAME

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

JACK

Mum! Please stop singing!

DAME

Humph!

JACK

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

SIMON

Even though she can't sing?

DAME

What!!

JACK



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

DAME

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

SIMON

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

DAME/JACK

SELLING BUTTERCUP!

SIMON

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

JACK

Simon!

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

DAME

And when will that be?

SIMON

I know! Let me see your hand, Jack

DAME

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

SIMON

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

DAME

What is it? What is it?

SIMON

(*licks finger*) Strawberry Jam!

*Jack & Simon exit, laughing*

*SFX mobile phone*

MAYOR (V.O.)

Dame Trot?

DAME

Speaking

MAYOR (V.O.)

I want my money!

DAME

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

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

DAME

Hello