



PantosScripts Perusal

Jack & the Beanstalk

by Jeremy Doogan

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Jack and the Beanstalk

A Pantomime

Written by Jeremy Doogan

Characters

Dame Bertha Big bottom

Jack

Princess Jill

King Frederick

Private Hoo – Identical twins (or not so much for funnier impact)

Private Watt – Identical twins (or not so much for funnier impact)

Milka (the front end)

Moo the Cow magically transformed.

Pat (the rear end)

Grog (the giant)

Griselda (Grog's sister)

Alexa (the talking harp)

Act One

Scene 1 Prologue Front of curtain.

Griselda, Grog's voice

Scene 2 Village Square

Bertha, Jack, villagers, Privates, Grog's voice, Moo, King

🎵 Opening song Happy village life vibe- Jack, Bertha, ensemble

🎵 Song about money - Bertha

🎵 Positive woman song (one chorus) Bertha

Scene 3 On the way to market.

Jack, Moo, Jill, Privates

🎵 Jack and Jill love song

Scene 4 BigBottom Cottage.

Bertha, Jill, Jack

🎵 Having fun song - Bertha and Jill

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Act Two

Scene 1 Giant's Castle

Grog, Jack, Griselda, Bertha,

♪ Spooky chase music

♪ Giant song – Grog and Griselda

Scene 2 Front of curtain Moo's sing-a-long

Milka and Pat, Grog's voice.

♪ Mooove it unaccompanied

Scene 3 Giant's castle kitchen

Jack, Bertha, Alexa, Jill.

Scene 4 Front of curtain King, Privates then Moo sing-a-long?

King, Privates, Milka and Pat

♪ Mooove it with music song

Scene 5 Cottage / Base beanstalk – Just climbed down

Bertha, Jack and Jill

Scene 6 Cottage / Base beanstalk – Jack wakes up

Everyone (except Alexa)

♪ Celebration song Jill, Grog and ensemble

Scene 7 Curtain Call / Wedding

♪ Kid friendly version of a song about chopping down a tree! – Everyone!

Act I**Scene 1 Prologue Front of curtain.**

Giant's booming voice off stage: 'Fee, Fie, Foe, Fum....'

Griselda appears centre through curtains wearing fluffy ear muffs.

Griselda (to audience): Oh hello there

Griselda (shouting): I said hello there!

Griselda (shouts louder): I SAID..... Hold on...(Takes off ear muffs speaks normal volume) I should be able to hear you now. Hello there, boys and girls. How lovely to have visitors. We don't get many. Well really we don't get any, seeing as how we live in a magic castle in the clouds at the top of a mystic mountain. That and everyone down in the village is scared of my brother Grog.

Giant's voice: 'Fee, Fie, Foe, Fum.'

Griselda: Oh my goodness! He even makes me jump sometimes! That's why I wear the earmuffs. That's Grog. He's a bit loud when he wants something. (*politely*) Excuse me for a moment. (*Shouts coarsely to side*) What d'ya want?'

Giant's voice: 'Any chance of a sausage supper.'

Griselda (to audience): 'He's just had a chicken fried rice from the [*local Chinese*] now he wants me to go to [*local chip shop*] – look they've paid for ads in the program so they get a name drop. Anyway, I'd say Grog was a growing boy. But thank goodness he's stopped- he's a giant.

I mean he actually is a giant. And he's always hungry. But there's no food left. (*takes a tied bag out of her apron pouch*) I did pick some beans in the garden earlier, they're magic beans because this is a magic castle, but Grog doesn't really like them.

Giant's voice: 'Fee, Fie, Foe, Fum!'

Griselda jumps again and drops beans off top stage she looks down as if they've fallen a long distance

Griselda:

Oh my! Oh No! Look out below! Oopsie! Well let's just hope no one down in the village gets hit by those.

Any way I'd better be off, maybe there's some of that delicious *[local ice cream shop]* ice cream left. He likes that.

I'll see you lot later. Bye, bye!

Griselda exits side of curtain

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Act I Scene 2 Village Square

♪♪ **Opening villagers' SONG with Bertha, Jack, Privates, King, Jill and villagers. Happy village life vibe**

- Bertha:** Hiya everybody!
- Jack** (*karate chop*): Hi-Ya!
- Bertha:** We should introduce ourselves.
- Jack:** Hi-ya Mum.
(*karate chops hand towards Bertha who shakes it*)
I'm Jack.
- Bertha** (*shakes Jack's hand*): Hello Jack. I'm your Mum....Wait I don't mean that. We already know who we are. I mean this lot. We should introduce ourselves to them.
- Jack:** Oh right! My name's Jack. Hi-Ya (*karate chop*) boys and girls. *After response* That's not very good. When I say 'Hi-Ya boys and girls' (*karate chop*) you say 'Hi-Ya (*karate chop*) Jack' back.
We'll try again. Hi-Ya (*karate chop*) boys and girls! *After response.* That was much better. Ok your turn now mum.
- Bertha:** Hello boys and girls my name is Bertha, Bertha Bigbottom. What are you laughing at? Bigbottom? It's our family name because we live in the big farm at the bottom of the mountain.
- Jack:** Not just because she's got a big bottom!
- Bertha:** Oh you naughty boy! What a rude thing to say in front of these lovely people. You'll put them right off us.
- Jack:** Well they're stuck here until the interval. Mike's locked the doors.
- Bertha:** We're so glad you've come to see us. We don't get many visitors round here, do we, Jack?
- Jack:** No, we don't. Why don't we get many visitors, mum? I've forgotten.
- Giant's booming voice:** Fee, Fie, Foe, Fum.

(*Bertha and Jack jump in fear and huddle together in fright*)

Bertha: That's why.

Jack: Oh yeah. Now I remember.

Bertha: That's the horrible giant who lives in the castle up in the sky, right above our village.

Jack: He's scarier than mum looks before she does her make-up.

Bertha: I'm just glad the king's soldiers are always on patrol in the village to protect us. Hello there. What's your name?

Pvt Hoo: Hoo.

Bertha: You.

Pvt Watt: Watt.

Jack: What are your names?

Pvt Hoo: No, Watt's his name.

Bertha: That's what we want to know.

Pvt Watt: Sorry Miss. How can we help you today?

Bertha: I only asked for your names

Pvt Hoo: Private Hoo

Pvt Watt: and Private Watt (*The soldiers snap to attention*)

Privates: At your service!

Bertha: So you're the king's privates –

Jack: Private Hoo and Private Watt.

Pvt Hoo: Yes Miss. We're identical twins.

Giant's booming voice: Fee, Fie, Foe Fum.

Bertha: Thank goodness for that, that conversation was getting confusing. Stand easy you two.

Privates move to rear again.

Jack: I'll not let that big meanie ruin my favourite day.

Bertha: Your favourite day? It's not your birthday is it?

Jack: No mum. You know my birthday's in September – exactly nine months after dad's birthday.

Bertha: Oh Jack, don't talk about your dad. You know it makes me sad. Especially when I think about his birthday. (*Reflective pause.*) So if it's not your birthday how come it's your favourite day?

Jack: Well it is Wednesday isn't it?

Bertha: No it's not, today's Saturday.

Jack: Super! I don't have to go to work on Saturday. My favourite day.

Bertha: But you don't go to work any day, you big lazy lump.
Jack: I know that's why every day's my favourite day.
Bertha: Maybe if you weren't so lazy we wouldn't be so poor.

 **Bertha sings song about money or being rich**

During song Moo the cow enters. Moo and Jack dance along.

Jack: Brilliant singing Mum. Maybe you should go into show business. You could be the next Taylor Swift. She makes loads of money.

Bertha: I don't know about you but I'm feeling twenty-two.

Pvt Hoo: Twenty-two?

Pvt Watt: And then some.

Jack: Boys and girls, this is our cow, Moo. Say Hi-Ya! Moo!

Audience say Hi-ya Moo

Jack: You lot sound like a herd of cows.

Bertha: Heard of cows?

Jack: Of course I've heard of cows. Everyone's heard of cows.

Bertha: Jack named her himself, didn't you?

Jack: No Mum. I just asked her. Like this- Moo, what's your name?

Moo: Moo.

Jack: See? - and she knows what type of cow she is too. Moo what breed are you?

Moo shivers

Jack: There you go. She's a Fresian!

Bertha: I think that cow is smarter than you are.

Jack: She really is smart Mum. I've been teaching her to do sums.

Bertha: Instead of doing your chores?

Jack: Watch this Mum. Moo, what is two plus one?

Moo stamps her front foot two times then back foot once

Jack: Well, done, Moo. Clever girl. Take a bow.

Moo bows.

Pvt Hoo: That's pretty impressive.

Pvt Watt: Did she get it right?

Bertha: I don't believe it. Do another one.

Jack: Okay Moo what is three plus three?

Moo stamps her front foot four times then stops. After a moment back foot stamps twice. Everyone applauds and Moo bows again.

(Bertha speaking to the back end of cow)

Bertha: Good job back there you can tell who the brains of the operation is.

Jack: You have a go, Mum.

Bertha stamps her feet.

Jack: No I mean ask Moo a sum.

Bertha: All right then clever hooves. What's five divided by two?

Moo tilts head to one side. Then shakes head, then turns round. Both back legs jump up twice then just one once.

Bertha: Two and a half! That is a clever Moo!

Giant's booming voice: Fee, Fie, Foe, Fum.

Bertha and Jack jump in fear and huddle together in fright Moo and villagers run off stage.

Pvt Hoo: He sounds angry.

Pvt Watt: We should go and guard the king.

Privates run off exit

Bertha: What about guarding us! Oh no! Where did Moo go?

Jack: She's even more afraid of the giant than we are.

Bertha: He wants to make her into a cow pie.

Jack: We have to get her back before the giant catches her.

Bertha: What are we going to do?

Jack: Boys and girls, can you all help us get her back? She'll come if we call her name.

Bertha: Let's all go "moo" and see if she'll come back to us. Ready?
One-two-three –Moooooo.

Jack: No. We need to be louder than that. Come on boys and girls –
Mooo!

Moo enters rear stage

Jack: Ah, there you are, Moo!

Bertha: Thank goodness you've come back. Oh, we missed you so much. All right Jack now you can bring her to the market to sell her.

Jack: What! We can't sell Moo, Mum.

Bertha: Oh yes we can.

Jack: Oh no we can't. Can we boys and girls?

Bertha: Oh yes we can.

Jack and audience: Oh no we can't.

Bertha: Oh yes we can.

Jack and audience: Oh no we can't.

Bertha: Oh yes we can. I'm sorry Jack but we have to - we need the money.

Jack: But she's my best friend.

Bertha: Well you'll just have to look for a new best friend then, won't you? Now chop, chop. Off you go.

She pushes Jack. Jack and Moo exit stage left

Bertha: I want to get to know our new friends a little better. Hello there boys and girls. And look, some of you have brought your daddies. Or maybe your uncles? Are there any kind, good looking, un-attached uncles out there? A girl can get so lonely. Let's see, is everyone here from Moiraville?

Looks out over audience / goes down into audience. Some suggested lines that your own dame might choose from, alter as suits them.

Bertha: *(To first gentleman)* Hello, there what's your name? Well *insert name* could you do me a favour? I'm on the hunt for a good looking man. You haven't seen one have you?

Moves on to second man

Bertha: Well hello there you're much more like it that's a lovely jacket you're wearing. What's it made of? Is it marriage material? Maybe not.

Moves on

I'm getting a lovely clean smell from over this side - are you in from *[local posh area]* sir? Very nice - but a bit too posh for me.

Fine looking fella this side though. Knows a hard day's work I'd say. Different sort of smell right enough. Have you come in from *[country area]*? Well I hope you found room for the tractor round the back. You're much more my type - maybe you can buy me a wee cup of tea at the interval.

Bertha returns to stage

Bertha: I guess you're all wondering what happened to my husband, Barry? Well I don't really like to talk about it - it broke my heart.

Gestures for sympathy

Bertha: It's sadder than that.

Audience: Awww

Bertha: Well the farm wasn't doing too well so he had to get a second job. His first job was in the bank --- but he lost interest quickly.

Then he got fired from the calendar factory --- just because he took a week off! On his first day as a lumberjack --- he got the axe!

But he was such a kind soul. He even gave up his seat for an old blind lady -- And that's how he lost his job as a bus driver. Then he had his accident, oh, it's so hard to talk about it. I can still remember his last words to me --- "Bertha, Bertha! Are you still holding that ladder?"

But enough of being sad, I won't let the lack of a man get me down. Hit it Mike!

♪ **Bertha SONG female positivity** *♪* - **CHORUS ONLY**

King and Privates Hoo and Watt enter

King: Silence! Silence!

Bertha: That's a bit rude. But seeing as I don't know any more words anyway I guess I could stop.

Pvt Hoo: Silence for his Majesty the king.

Bertha: OOOooooohhh the king!

Pvt Watt: Shush.

Pvt Hoo *stage whisper:* But if he asks you anything, speak up. He's a bit deaf.

King: Are you the Widow Bigbottom?

Bertha: Yes, your majesty. But you can call me Bertha.

King: Well Martha. My privates tell me that you have a bovine with arithmetic skills.

Bertha: It's Bertha, with a B.

King: Yes, yes I love the sea. I'm actually an admiral, you know? But it's your cow I'm interested in today.

Bertha: Moo?

King: Who?

Pvt Hoo: Yes your majesty?

King: Explain to this woman

Pvt Hoo: We told him about your cow being able to do the sums.

Bertha: How'd you tell him, sign language?

Pvt Watt: He got very excited.

King: We would like to buy the counting cow.

Bertha: We? Who's he talking about now?

Pvt Hoo: It's the royal 'we'.

Bertha: If he needs a royal wee he can wait until the interval like everybody else.

King: Martha, I must have your cow.

Private Watt: Her name's Bertha.

King: Bertha the cow?

Bertha: What did you just call me?

King holds up bag of gold.

Bertha: Is that gold?

King: No it's not cold, madam. Gold is actually warm to the touch.

Bertha: Are you saying that bag's full of gold!

King: Yes Martha. A bag full of gold for your counting cow.

Pvt Hoo: Her name's Bertha.

Bertha: For a bag of gold he can call me whatever he wants.

Pvt Watt: So he can have the cow then?

Bertha: Of course he can. (*Pats her pockets.*) Now where did I put it? Oh my goodness! Jack just went to the market to sell her.

King: In the cellar! Why would you put a cow in the cellar? It would smash all the wine.

Bertha: MARKET!

King: Mark it with what?

Bertha to Pvt Watt: You - Hoo.

Pvt Hoo: Who me?

Bertha: I'm not starting that again. You tell him.

Pvt Hoo: The funny looking woman in the bad dress and too much make-up says she sent her lazy good-for-nothing son to market to sell the cow.

King: The funny looking woman in the bad dress and too much make-up sent her lazy good-for-nothing son to market to sell the cow?

Bertha to audience: How come he got every word of that?

King: What if someone else buys her?

Pvt Watt: Maybe someone famous will buy her.

Pvt. Hoo: Like Gordon Ramsey, or Ronald McDonald.

King: Private Hoo, Private Watt, you must go after Jack!

Bertha: Sounds like the stakes couldn't be higher! Steaks – get it?

King: Privates take this bag of gold and go quickly, get me that counting cow!

Pvt Watt takes the bag of gold. Privates run off. Exit stage right.

Bertha: They've gone the wrong way.

King: Of course cows like to eat hay.

Pvt.s Hoo and Watt enter stage right, run across and exit stage left.

King: Martha, why didn't you say they'd gone the wrong way?

Bertha: Having a conversation with you is not for the faint hearted.

King: Did you just say that you farted?

Bertha: I despair I really do.

King: And now you need to do a poo?

Bertha thinks...

Bertha: My cousin Alice likes half the moon pee.

King: What? Visit the palace for afternoon tea?

Bertha: Thank you very much your majesty I don't mind if I do!

Bertha takes the king by the arm and leads him off stage left.

Curtain

Act I Scene 3. On the way to market.

Jack enters stage left leading a reluctant Moo.

Jack: Hi-Ya! kids!

Come on Moo. It's as if she knows where she's going boys and girls. I've had to pull her the whole time and we're not even half way to the market yet.

Jack wipes his forehead

Jack: This is hard work. Moo, I think we deserve a wee rest. What do you say we just lie down here for a minute?

Moo *shakes her head:* Moo!

Jack: No! You want to keep going?

Moo *shakes her head:* Moo!

Jack: Oh you don't want to lie down?

Moo *nods her head:* Moo!

Jack: I forgot cows can sleep standing up. Well I'm going to lie down.

Jack lies down. Moo hovers over him.

Jack: Moo, how do you expect me to sleep with your big cow breath, breathing all over me? Shimmy back a bit!

Moo doesn't move, Moo's head gesticulates backwards.

Jack *(to rear end):* I said shimmy back a bit.

Moo's rear moves back and pulls front.

Jack *(settles down again):* Thanks that's better. Maybe I can get to sleep now.

Jack twists and turns, then looks back up at Moo

Jack: Moo, I just can't settle with you looming over me. Would there be any chance you could lie down?

Moo looks out to audience

Jack: I mean how hard can it be? I could push you over if that helped?

Moo shakes head vigorously. Jack sits up to watch Moo

Jack: Maybe try the front end first?

Moo's front legs kneel

Jack: Okay, now the back end.

Rear end leans forward on top of front, bum up in the air.

Jack: No! No! Get up again. *Moo rises.*

Jack: Right let's try the back end first.

Rear end sits

Princess Jill enters stage left and watches. She's wearing a cloak over her princess dress and crown.

Jack: Good job. Now the front. *Front end reverses to sit on rear's knees.* That doesn't look right either. Get back up again.

Jill (laughing): What on earth are you doing with that cow?

Jack: I'm trying to get her to lie down. She's keeping me awake.

Jill: Your cow is keeping you awake?

Jack: Yeah she breathes heavy.

Jill: You're funny.

Jack: You're pretty.

Jill: Oh my!

Jack: I'm sorry! I didn't mean to say that.

Jill: So you don't think I'm pretty?

Jack: Oh no. I mean, oh yes. I do think you're pretty. I just didn't mean to blurt it out like that.

Jill: Not without giving me flowers first? or chocolates? or maybe promises you don't indeed to keep?

Jack: Eh?

Jill: Don't worry about it.

Jack: Do I know you?

Jill: Probably. But I don't think we've met. My name's Jill.

Jack: Like the princess?

Jill: Very much so, and what's your name?

Jack: Hi-ya (*katate chop*) I'm Jack.

Jill (laughing karate chops back): Hi-ya.

Jack (points at Moo): And her name is Moo!

Jill: Your cow is called Moo?

Jack: Hey Moo! What's your name?

Moo: Mooooo!

Jack: See?

Jill: Oh Jack. You are so funny.

Jill kisses Jack on the cheek.

Jack: Oh my!

Jill: Oh my, I'm sorry! I didn't mean to do that.

Jack: You didn't mean to kiss me?

Jill: Oh no. I mean, oh yes.

 **Jack and Jill – Love song**

As they kiss at end of song Privates Hoo and Watt run on, one from each side.

Pvt Watt: Hold it right there!

Pvt Hoo: Freeze!

Jack and Jill freeze in their kiss

Pvt Watt: Stop that!

Jack (*while still kissing*): He told us to freeze.

Pvt Hoo: Who do you think you are? Kissing the princess!

Jack (*breaks away*): The Princess! You never told me you were the princess.

Jill: You never asked.

Pvt Watt: Pardon me, M'lady but why are you out of the castle grounds all on your own?

Jack: She's not on her own, she's with me.

Privates come between Jack and Jill

Pvt Hoo: You don't count.

Pvt Watt: Where are your ladies-in-waiting?

Jill: I left them back at the castle – waiting. As long as I get back before my father finds out I'll not be in trouble.

Pvt Hoo: His Highness will be returning to the palace shortly.

Jack: Your dad's the king?

Jill: That's normally how you become a princess, yes.

Pvt. Watt: You really should go home, your highness.

Jack: Can we meet again?

Jill: Nothing can keep our love apart!

Jill blows Jack a kiss which he catches.

Pvts Hoo & Watt: Bleuggggh

Jill runs off exit stage right. Jack grabs Moo's rope.

Jack: Come on Moo. Maybe we can catch up with her.

Pvt Watt: You'd be quicker without that cow.

Pvt Hoo to Watt: What are you doing?

Privates talk to each other away from Jack

Pvt Watt: I'm trying to get him to give us the cow.

Pvt Hoo: The king gave us a bag of gold to buy it.

Pvt Watt: But if he just gives it to us then we can keep the gold for ourselves.

Pvt Hoo: That's a good idea, isn't it boys and girls?

Pvt Watt: What are you booing Hoo for? It's an excellent idea.

Jack: Boo Hoo?

Pvt Hoo: No need to start crying about it.

Pvt Watt: Why don't you just leave the cow with us and you can go and get your princess?

Jack: I can't leave Moo with strangers. I don't know who you are.

Pvt Hoo: Correct. I am Hoo, we met earlier.

Jack: What?

Pvt Watt: And that's me, well done. You've obviously got a great memory for the names.

Jack: But my mum says I have to take Moo to the market to sell her.

Pvt Hoo: We'll buy her.

Pvt Watt: Yes, we'll buy her.

Pvt Hoo: For some *(speaking in a voice of wonder)* magic beans!

Pvt Watt: For some – hold on. What?

Pvt Hoo: I said we'd buy her for some *(voice of wonder)* magic beans.

Pvt Watt: You don't have *(voice of wonder)* magic beans.

Pvt Hoo: Yes I do. Look.

Pvt Hoo pulls bag of beans from his pocket, opens drawstring and dramatically takes out some oversized beans of unusual colours.

Jack: Those are funny looking.

Pvt Hoo: They're *(voice of wonder)* magic beans.

Pvt Watt: Where did you get magic beans from?

Pvt Hoo: They fell out of the sky. Bumped me right on the head.

Jack: What's magic about them?

Pvt Hoo: Well they fell out of the sky.

Pvt Watt: And look at them. Don't they look magic?

Jack: I don't know. Boys and girls what do you think? Do you think they really are magic beans?

Privates encourage

Jack: Should I swap Moo for the magic beans?

Privates: Oh yes you should.

Business with audience

Jack: It would mean I could maybe catch up with the princess.

I think it's a really good idea. Here you go.

Jack grabs bag of beans and gives Moos rope to Pvt Watt.

Jack exits running after princess

Pvt Hoo: Hold on there!

Pvt Watt: He's gone.

Pvt Hoo: But I still have one bean left.

Pvt Hoo displays bean on his palm. Moo eats it.

Pvt Watt: Not any more you don't.

Lights flash and magic sound effect. Moo, jumps all four feet in the air. Smoke from ears if possible, spins round a couple of times knocking both privates over then runs off stage.

Pvt Watt: Those beans must be magic.

Pvt Hoo: I told you they were.

Pvt Watt: You lost the cow!

Pvt Hoo: You were holding the rope!

Pvt Watt: You fed her the bean!

Pvt Hoo: The king will be very angry.

Pvt Watt: He'll make us clean the toilets. And boys and girls cleaning the toilets round here involves a bucket and spade.

Pvt Hoo: Yeughhh. You're right. We'd better catch her. You go that way and I'll go this way.

Pvt Watt: Meet you back at the castle.

Pvt Hoo: Come here Moo! There's a good cow!

Pvt Watt: Mooooooooo!

Privates exit in opposite directions mooing.