

**NODA PANTOMIMES PRESENT**

***JACK & THE BEANSTALK***

BY

Ron Hall

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# **JACK AND THE BEANSTALK**



by

**RON HALL**



# J A C K   A N D   T H E   B E A N S T A L K

A Pantomime in Two Acts by Ron Hall

## Characters in order of appearance:-

Widow Bumble, mother of Jack and Archibald and village gossip, Dame

Archie, the village idiot

Jack, brave and handsome but broke, Principal Boy

Squire Ramsbottom, newly arrived in the village

Nellie, his daughter, plain and a bit of a twit

Sally, his other daughter, pretty and charming,  
Principal Girl

Buttercup, Jack's cow, Skin Part

The Wizard of Oz, evil magician, Act I, Scene 3 only

Train Guard, Child     )

Train Passenger, Child )     Act I, Scene 4 only

Train Driver, Singer    )

Blue Fairy, a glamorous goodie

Leader of the Rainbow People, male or female, Act II  
only

Ogre, tallest member of the Society with built-up shoes  
and false head, Act II only

Chorus of Villagers, Rainbow People and Guests at Wedding

Senior Dancers as Village Maidens, Maypole Dancers,  
Fairies and Guests at Wedding or Pages

Junior Dancers as Pixies, Sleepytime Express Passengers  
and Village Children

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Estimated length of show:- 2 hours 25 minutes. This allows for a short overture and 15 minute interval

Number of characters in pantomime:- Female:- Four

Male:- Five

Either:- Two

Children:- Two

Skin Part (Cow):- One

These figures assume that the part of Jack is played by a girl and Widow Bumble by a man.

Scene changing:- Alternate scenes have a small number of characters and can be played in front of running tabs or curtains allowing time to change the main sets manually.

Where facilities are limited the show can be played with as little as five sets:-

1. The Village Green (also used for finale)
2. The Fair
3. Inside Widow Bumble's Cottage
4. Rainbow Land
5. The Ogre's Kitchen

Use of Music:- It should be noted that songs are only suggested and do not form part of the script. Arrangements should be made with the Performing Rights Society for performance.

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1970

Revised 1987



J A C K      A N D      T H E      B E A N S T A L KAct IScene 1 - The Village Green

(This is a typical olde world village scene with thatched cottages and perhaps the manor house on a hill in the distance. There could be a pump or a stream to give more character to the scene. The Chorus are on stage dressed as villagers, the ladies in full skirts below the knee, with blouses and aprons, the men in shirts, waistcoats and breeches)

Opening Chorus (Chorus and Senior Dancers)

Suggested numbers:- Another Opening, Another Show  
(Kiss Me Kate)

In the Country (Cliff Richard  
Number)

Out of Town

Hello Hello (Tune:- Hello Hello  
Who's your Lady Friend? -  
Words below)

Hello hello, welcome ev'ryone,  
Panto time is with us once again.  
Off we go, in our little show.  
It's a story that I'm sure you'll know.  
Hello hello, won't you join the fun,  
Listen to the jokes and sing in rhyme.  
It isn't a play where you will need your hankie.  
No no no, it's panto time.

Hello hello, welcome ev'ryone,  
Wait to see that beanstalk really grow.  
Although Jack lives within a shack,  
He will soon be leader of the pack.  
Hello hello, don't forget to boo,  
At the Ogre and his acts of crime.  
It isn't an operatic sort of eve'ning.  
No no no, it's panto time.

(The Senior Dancers enter dressed as Village Maidens, perform routine. The Chorus then repeat second verse whilst the dance continues. At the end of the number the Dancers exit but the Chorus remain on stage.  
Widow Bumble enters. She is wearing typical country peasant dress with apron and mob cap)

Widow:- Hello everybody, let me introduce myself, I'm Widow Bumble. My first name's Gertrude and as you look such a nice audience tonight you can call me Gert and miss the 'rude' bit out. So each time I come on and say 'Hello everybody' I want you to yell out 'Hello Gert'. Shall we try it? Now - - - one, two, three, hello everybody.

Audience:- Hello Gert.

Widow:- What's the matter? Are there only a couple of you out there? Let's try again - - - one, two, three, hello everybody.

Audience:- Hello Gert.

Widow:- I think you've all got laryngitis. Let's just try it one more time. One, two, three, hello everybody.

Audience:- Hello Gert.

Widow:- That's better. Now each time I come on yell that.  
Don't forget.

I live in that lovely old cottage over there. Do you know it's got hot and cold running water. The only trouble is it's running down the walls. It's very old though. Half way up one wall there's a plaque saying 'Queen Elizabeth the First slept here'. It seems a funny place to sleep - half way up a wall. We had a man round to see about central heating and he said the only way to make the place warm would be to set fire to it.

I live with my two sons, Jack and Archibald. Jack's a good lad and a real help to me but Archibald is an absolute twit. Do you know he's so thick he thinks blackmail is another name for Lenny Henry. And we're so poor. There's so little food in the house that even the mice are packing their bags and leaving.

I call this my teenage dress because it's nineteen years old today. Mind you I do have a dress for every day of the week - this is it. I've only got one pair of flat shoes and they were high heels when I bought them. Oh to go back to the days before my marriage. In those days I was a sweet young maiden untouched by human hands. All my boyfriends wore gloves.

(Archibald enters singing the latest TV jingle. He is dressed as the typical village idiot with smock and string round the knees of his trousers)

Archie:- Hello mother.

Widow:- Here he is, Archibald, the Wurzel Gummidge of - - -  
(local place name)

Archie:- I'd have you know I've been called the nightingale of - - - (local road)

Widow:- Yes - Florence Nightingale.

Archie:- My voice has to be heard to be believed.

Widow:- I can't argue with that.

Archie:- I see you've been gossiping again. You spend more time chattering than Vera Duckworth (or other soap character).

Widow:- I'd have you know I've been taking in washing all day.

Archie:- Not from other people's clothes lines again?

Widow:- Well you'd be the first to complain if you didn't have long johns to wear on these chilly mornings. Anyway what are you doing here Archibald? I thought you'd got yourself a permanent job at last.

Archie:- Well I went to the building site like you said but I got the sack for causing two accidents in the first half hour.

Widow:- Not the sack again! What happened to cause two accidents? Wasn't one enough?

Archie:- I was carrying this long plank of wood and as I went round corner the end of it caught a bloke across the back and

knocked him down the old well. That was accident number one.

Widow:- What happened next?

Archie:- We let down a rope and told him to grab it with his right hand, but he said it was broken, so we told him to grab it with his left hand, but he said that was broken as well. So I told him to grab it with his teeth and he did. But when we'd pulled him nearly to the top I asked him if he was alright and he answered me - accident number two.

Widow:- Oh Archibald, you are an idiot! I never know what you're going to do next.

Archie:- I did get a job making ear-rings for Indians.

Widow:- Ear-rings for Indians?

Archie:- Yes it was an Indian ear-ring (engineering) works, but now I've got another job at the hospital working with beans.

Widow:- What kind of beans do you work with at the hospital?

Archie:- Human beans (beings). It's only a daft little joke but you can't help laughing.

Widow:- That's what your father said the day you were born.

Archie:- How can you be so stupid for such a long time?

Archie:- I get up early.

Widow:- Oh well, they say every village has one. Anyway I can't stop talking here all day. I've got to go and iron my smalls.

Archie:- Don't you mean your bigs? There's nothing very small about you.

Widow:- Don't be rude Archibald. I'd have you know I've got an hour-glass figure.

Archie:- Yes, but it's a pity all the sand ran to the bottom.

Widow:- That's enough! Just for that I'll take all the dumplings out of your stew and give them to Jack.

Archie:- That's not fair. Why should Jack get everything and me nothing?

Widow:- Because Jack works hard and you don't. Now to attend to my bigs, I mean my smalls.

(Widow Bumble exits determinedly)

Archie:- Oh I'm fed up, nothing ever seems to go right. If only we had some money to buy all the things we need. Never mind, I'll call on my little friends to cheer me up. Hey little people, where are you?

(The first of the Junior Dancers enters)

1st Child:- Here we are Archibald. We'll cheer you up

(The rest of the Junior Dancers enter. They are dressed as pixies, elves, etc)

Song and Dance (Archibald with Junior Dancers)

Suggested numbers:- Raindrops keep falling on my head  
Top of the world  
Put on a happy face

(The Junior Dancers exit at the end of the number. As they go they wave to Archie)

Archie:- Oh well, I feel a bit better for that I suppose. I'll go down to the Job Centre. Who knows they may be looking for the odd brain surgeon.

(Jack's introduction music is heard)

Ooh, that sounds like my brother Jack coming home from work.

(Jack enters in true principal boy fashion. The chorus cheer as he enters)

Jack:- Hello everybody. What a wonderful day!

Chorus:- Hello Jack.

Song (Jack and Chorus)

Suggested numbers:- Hey look me over

I got plenty o' nuttin' (Porgy and Bess)  
Cabaret (Cabaret)

(Chorus gradually exit at the end of the number)

Jack:- Well Archie, we may not have much money but life can still be enjoyable.

Archie:- I don't see how.

Jack:- We have the sunshine and the flowers and there are lots of pretty girls in the village.

Archie:- Yes, but if we don't get some money soon there'll be no dinner tonight.

Jack:- We can't complain. We had a square meal yesterday.

Archie:- Maybe, but I'm getting fed up with Oxo cubes.

Jack:- I can see only one way out. We'll have to sell the cow.

Archie:- Sell Buttercup? Oh no, there must be another way.

Jack:- It needn't be as bad as you think. We could always buy her back later when we get some money.

Archie:- (Starting to cry) There must be another way.

Jack:- Don't cry. I promise we'll get her back one day.

Archie:- Oh - - - alright, if there's no alternative. (He gets out enormous hankie and wipes his eyes and then blows his nose to band accompaniment)

Jack:- Buttercup is a fine animal. We wouldn't just get coppers for her, we wouldn't just get silver for her, we'd get - -

Archie:- Yes yes.

Jack:- We'd get - - -

Archie:- Yes yes.

Jack:- Can't you guess?

Archie:- No.

Jack:- What's usually above Silver?

Archie:- The Lone Ranger.

Jack:- No - - - gold.

Archie:- Gold?

Jack:- Yes. Now next week there's to be a fair at - - - (local town or village)

Archie:- A fair?

Jack:- Yes and the Wizard of Oz is going to be there.

Archie:- The Wizard of Oz?

Jack:- Yes, I'm told he gives a very good price for anything you care to take him.

Archie:- Alright, we'll take her, but don't forget your promise to buy her back later.

Jack:- No I won't forget.

(They shake hands. The sound of horses is heard offstage)  
Listen horses. Yes, look a coach is stopping over there.  
I wonder who it can be.

Archie:- I don't know, but they look rather posh.

Jack:- They're coming over here. Now remember to be on your best behaviour.

(Squire Ramsbottom enters with his two daughters Sally and Nellie. They are well dressed apart from Nellie who is overdressed)

Squire:- Excuse me young sirs, but we're looking for the old Manor House. Can you direct us there? It's to be our new home.

Jack:- Yes indeed sir. It's just beyond that hill.(He points)

Nellie:- (Looking at Archie) Ooh, isn't he lovely?

Squire:- Quiet Nellie. Allow me to introduce my daughters. This sirs is Sally.

Sally:- Your servant sirs. (She curtsies)

Jack:- (Aside) What a beautiful girl!

(Jack bows, Archie curtsies)

Squire:- And this sirs is Nellie.

Archie:- Well it's certainly not Samantha Fox, that is for sure.

Squire:- Come on Nellie. Say 'How do you do' nicely.

Nellie:- How do you do nicely. (She curtsies and nearly falls over)

Archie:- We've got a right one here.

Nellie:- (To Archie) Hello gorgeous.

Squire:- And I am Squire Ramsbottom.

Jack:- This is my brother Archie and I am Jack.

Sally:- It's so nice to meet friendly people. I thought it would be lonely here.

Archie:- (To Sally) I'm a friendly person.

Nellie:- (Snuggling up to Archie) I'm so pleased about that.

Archie:- (To Nellie) Do you mind, you've parked your bread van in my restricted area.

Nellie:- I'm sorry, I thought it said 'At any time'.

Squire:- Oh Nellie, behave yourself. I feel I must apologise for her. She's quite a handful.

Archie:- You can say that again.

Nellie:- Please Dad, can't you see I'm searching for something to alleviate my distress.

Archie:- You're lucky. They've just built one round the corner.

Nellie:- I've got a whole lot of loving for the right man.

Archie:- Well I hope you find him one day.

Nellie:- I already have. (She throws her arms around Archie's neck)

Archie:- (Removing Nellie's arms) I've just remembered, er - - the cow needs cutting and the grass needs milking and - - - er - - -

(Archie exits at full speed)

Nellie:- Don't go, come back lover boy.

(Nellie dashes off after Archie)

Squire:- Really, this is terrible. Nellie is so impetuous. I must follow her and try to prevent her from doing something she'll regret later.

(Squire Ramsbottom rushes off after Nellie)

Jack:- (Laughing) Is your sister always like that?

Sally:- Well she is a little hot blooded, but I've never known her quite so enthusiastic before.

Jack:- Anyway I'm glad they've gone. It gives me the chance to be alone with you.

Sally:- (Turning away with embarrassment) Sir, you hardly know me.

Jack:- Not as yet perhaps but I hope you will allow me to remedy that situation.

Sally:- But sir I don't know whether my father would approve.

Jack:- Please call me Jack.

Sally:- (Turning back) Very well - - - Jack.

Jack:- That's better. You are the loveliest girl I have ever seen. May I call you Sally?

Sally:- I think I would like that.

Jack:- Sally, do you believe in love at first sight?

Sally:- I didn't - - - until now.

Jack:- Although I only met you five minutes ago I think I'm already falling in love with you.

Sally:- And I think I'm falling in love too Jack.

Jack:- (Sighing) Alas I am only a poor boy and cannot treat you like a lady.

Sally:- You act like a gentleman Jack, so you are treating me like a lady.

Jack:- Perhaps but I cannot afford to buy you all the things your father buys you Sally.

Sally:- I'm not looking for riches. Your love is riches enough for me.

Jack:- You are wonderful and your saying that makes me love you even more.

Duet (Jack and Sally

Suggested numbers:- Wonderful day (Seven Brides)  
 You light up my life  
 I love you because  
 All I ask of you (Phantom of  
 the Opera)

(Jack and Sally exit hand in hand after the song.  
 Tabs can close during the number if more time is  
 required to change the set)

Scene 2 - The Woods (Front cloth or tabs)

(There is a park bench set centre stage. Only the middle  
 third is supported so that seat will tip if someone sits  
 on either end of it. Archie runs on out of breath)

Archie:- Oh I'm so out of breath. I must sit down for a while.

(He sits on centre portion of bench. Nellie rushes  
 on in pursuit)

Nellie:- (Throwing her arms out ready to embrace him) My hero!

Archie:- Oh dear, the Bride of Frankenstein.

Nellie:- (Approaching him) Ah, there you are handsome. Do you  
 mind if I sit next to you?

Archie:- Well I'm not staying here for long. I've got to get  
 home for my dinner.

(She sits next to him)

Nellie:- (Snuggling up) Let's stay here and live on the fruits  
 of love.

Archie:- I don't like fruit very much.

Nellie:- Come on gorgeous, don't be shy.

Archie:- I can smell my mother's stew and dumplings.

(Archie gets up and walks away. The bench tips up and  
 Nellie falls onto the stage. Undismayed Nellie runs  
 after him and forces him back on the centre of the  
 bench)

Nellie:- Don't be a spoilsport. Be nice to Nellie.

(Nellie sits at the other end of the bench this time)  
 You make me want to throw up everything and rush to you.

Archie:- Yes, you make me want to throw up too.

(Widow Bumble enters. She is dressed as a Traffic  
 Wardeness)

Widow:- Hello everybody.

Audience:- Hello Gert.

Widow:- What was that again? I didn't hear you.

Audience:- Hello Gert.

Widow:- That's better. I thought you'd all gone home.

(She notices Archie sitting on the bench)

There you are Archie. I've been looking everywhere for  
 you. Your dinner's been burnt to a cinder.

(Archie stands up again and Nellie falls onto the  
 stage again)

Widow:- You've no consideration for men at all. All morning I've been pinching people round the Market Place to make an honest penny and you've been fooling around wasting your time.

Archie:- But work fascinates me.

Widow:- Yes I know, you can sit and watch other people do it for hours.

(Meanwhile Nellie has cleverly seated herself in the middle of the bench)

Nellie:- Take no notice Archie. Come and sit by me.

(She pats the end of the bench)

Widow:- My feet are killing me after all that walking about. I think I'll sit down for a while.

(Both Archie and Widow Bumble sit down on the bench, one at each end. Widow is not noticed by Nellie)

Nellie:- (Triumphantly) Now it's my turn to leave.

(Nellie gets up expecting the bench to tip. Because the weight of Widow Bumble balances Archie it does not. Nellie looks puzzled)

But as you're both such nice people I've decided to stay.

(Nellie sits down again)

Widow:- You must be Squire Ramsbottom's daughter. You look daft enough.

Nellie:- Thank you.

Widow:- I've had to give him a ticket this morning for parking his hatchback sedan chair on the double yellow lines.

Archie:- I'm fed up of being here. It's time we went home mother.

Widow:- Yes you're right Archibald.

(Archie and Widow Bumble get up at the same time)

Nellie:- (Getting up) No, don't go Archie.

(Nellie grabs Archie and sits him down in the centre of the bench. She sits by him on the end section)

Widow:- Come along Archie or I'll give the remains of your dinner to the cat.

Archie:- Coming.

(Archie gets up and Nellie falls onto the floor for the third time. Widow Bumble and Archie go back and pick her up)

Song (Widow Bumble, Archie and Nellie)

Suggested numbers:- Easy Street (Annie)

It's a fine life (Oliver)

The Traffic Warden Song (Tune:-

My Bonnie lies over the ocean

Words below)

The Traffic Warden Song

Widow:- I'm only an old traffic warden but I make your life  
rather hot,  
So when you are parking be careful or I'll pinch you  
all on the spot.



Widow, Nellie and Archie:- Pinch you, pinch, you, yes I'll pinch  
you all on the spot, the spot.  
Pinch you, pinch you, yes I'll pinch  
you all on the spot.

Widow:- I walk up and down in the High Street.  
I write numbers down with my pen.  
But I cross them out in a jiffy,  
When I'm dealing with handsome men.

Widow, Nellie and Archie:- Dealing, dealing, when I'm dealing  
with handsome men, some men.  
Dealing, dealing, when I'm dealing  
with handsome men.

Widow:- One day a man parked in - - - - (local street)  
But I told him he'd have to go.  
He said there's no yellow line here mate.  
I said 'No' but you're on my toe.

Widow, Nellie and Archie:- You're on, you're on, I said 'No' but  
you're on my toe, my toe.  
You're on, you're on, I said 'No, but  
you're on my toe.

widow:- When I am annoyed by a driver,  
Because he does not give a hoot.  
I give him a thump round the bonnet,  
And then kick him right in the boot.

Widow, Nellie and Archie:- Kick him, kick him, and then kick him  
right in the boot, the boot.  
Kick him, kick him, and then kick him  
right in the boot.

(The chorus is repeated as all three exit and the  
tabs draw back on Scene 3)

### Scene 3 - The Fair

(This is a colourful fairground scene with swings, roundabouts,  
etc painted on the back cloth. Part of the backcloth should be  
sky so that as evening falls at the end of the scene UV lighting  
can pick out 'stars' also painted on the cloth. The wings can  
represent stalls and sideshows. The stage is crowded with chorus  
dressed as villagers, vendors, etc)

### Song (Chorus)

Suggested numbers:- The wonderful Wizard of Oz (The Wizard of Oz)  
On a wonderful day like today (The Roar of  
the Greasepaint)  
Everything's coming up roses (Gypsy)  
Then you can take me to the fair (Camelot)

(At the end of the song Sally and the Senior Dancers  
enter. A chorus man brings on a maypole and positions  
it centre stage. He holds onto it whilst the dance is  
performed)

### Song and Dance (Sally, Chorus and Senior Dancers)

Suggested numbers:- Scarborough Fair  
The Floral Dance  
Come to the fair

(At the end of the number the dancers and chorus gradually  
exit. The Squire enters)

Sally:- What a wonderful day for the fair! I'm so pleased we  
could come.

Squire:- Yes it is a wonderful day, but I'm sure that's not the reason you're so happy.

Sally:- No Daddy, I must confess it; there's another reason for my happiness and it doesn't depend on the weather at all.

Squire:- And I don't need three guesses. You're meeting Jack here aren't you?

Sally:- Yes. Oh Daddy, I'm in love for the first time in my life. I'm so happy.

Squire:- You may be, but I'm not. Jack has no money and is scarcely a fit husband for a lady like you.

Sally:- But I love him so much.

Squire:- That's beside the point. You're a lady and he's just a peasant. He's even having to sell the family cow to make ends meet.

Sally:- But Daddy - - -

Squire:- No 'buts'. I like Jack and if he had some money I'd be willing to let you marry him, but as things are at the moment - definitely not. You have until tonight to say your farewells.

Sally:- Oh no.

Squire:- Oh yes. After tonight you're not to see him again, understand?

Sally:- (Reluctantly) Yes Daddy.

Squire:- Good! We'll soon find a nice rich husband in your own class.  
(Squire Ramsbottom exits. Sally looks dejected)

Sally:- Oh dear, just when things were going so well.  
(She begins to sob. Jack enters)

Jack:- Sally, what's the matter? Who's upset you? I hate to see you looking so sad.

Sally:- Oh Jack, Daddy says we must part because you're so poor.

Jack:- Now stop crying and dry those tears. Here use my hankie.  
(He hands her his handkerchief)

Sally:- (Drying her eyes) But Jack, what are we going to do?

Jack:- Don't worry. Wait till we sell the cow. I'll see the money is put to good use. I'll be rich in no time, just wait and see. All I ask is that you have faith in me.

Sally:- (Handing back the handkerchief) Yes I will, I promise.

Jack:- Now cheer up. Here come Nellie and Archie with Buttercup the cow.  
(Nellie and Archie enter through audience with Buttercup, the cow, who takes an interest in various members of the audience as she approaches the stage. The Chorus begin to re-enter)

Archie:- Here she is, Buttercup, the original silly old moo.

Nellie:- Where did you get her from Archie?

Archie:- A town in West Yorkshire.

Nellie:- Which town was that?

Archie:- 'Uddersfield.

Nellie:- Ooh you are funny.

Archie:- You mean comical?

Nellie:- No, peculiar.

Archie:- Do you know she's the only cow in existence that gives beer (or non-alcoholic drink if preferred) instead of milk?

Nellie:- Don't be silly! Whoever heard of a cow giving beer?

Archie:- Well to be honest, it's not beer.

Nellie:- I thought not.

Archie:- It's milk stout.

Nellie:- I don't believe it.

Archie:- Oh yes she does.

Nellie:- Oh no she doesn't.

Archie:- Oh yes she does, doesn't she everybody?

Chorus (and hopefully audience):- Yes.

Nellie:- Oh no she doesn't.

Archie (with chorus and audience):- Oh yes she does.

Nellie:- Oh no she doesn't.

Archie (With chorus and audience):- Oh yes she does.

Nellie:- Alright then, prove it to me.

Archie:- I will. Pass me a glass and stool will you please?

(A chorus man hands Archie stool and glass. Archie places stool on stage behind cow. He is about to sit on it when the cow knocks it over with her back legs. Archie falls onto the stage. This is repeated. The third time he manages to sit on the stool and the cow moves away. He 'rides' up to it on the stool and the cow moves away again. Eventually he manages to get his hands on the cow's udder but nothing happens)

Nellie:- You don't seem to be doing very well. Why not keep your hands still and get the cow to jump up and down?

(Finally Archie manages to fill the glass with beer which is fed from washing up liquid container squirted through the udder)

Archie:- There we are and to prove it's beer I'll drink it.

(He drinks it or alternatively offers it to a member of the audience to drink)

Nellie:- It just shows what you can do if you have the milk of human kindness. Can she do anything else?

Archie:- But of course. She's the best dancer between here and - - - (local village). Do you know that the 'Come Dancing' team filmed Buttercup's pasadoble?

Nellie:- You're kidding!

Archie:- I'm not. I'll show you. Come on Buttercup, show us your double reverse running fishtail.

Cow Dance (Buttercup)

Suggested numbers:- Dance of the Hours of Day (Dance of the Hours)

Sylvia Ballet Music  
Teddy Bears' Picnic  
Pink Panther Theme

Sally:- That's wonderful! What a pity she has to be sold.

Jack:- Yes it is, but it won't be for long. We'll buy her back when we're rich.

(A gong is heard)

Chorus:- It's the Wizard of Oz. I wonder what he'll buy today. He really is magic, etc.

(The above lines should be overlapped with a background hubbub from the chorus. There is a flash and a puff of smoke and the Wizard of Oz appears if possible on rostrum at the rear of the stage)

Wizard:- From Arctic waste to sunny shore,  
From highest hill to ocean floor,  
From forest glade to valley broad,  
I gather tokens for my hoard.  
Rich rare spice from Samarkand,  
Slaves from Persia, young and tanned,  
Diamond rings and cloth of gold,  
Everything that's bought and sold.

Good day my friends. How pleased I am to see you all.

(He rubs his hands together avariciously)

Sally:- (To Jack) Oh dear, I think I'm a little frightened.

Wizard:- No need to be afraid my dear, I am here to help you all.

(He gives everyone a sickly smile)

Now what have you got to sell me today?

Jack:- Well sir, we have brought our cow. She's very intelligent, she dances and she's very friendly.

Wizard:- Yes I can see that she is a fine animal and because I'm feeling generous today I will offer you a purse of fifty gold pieces for her. See, here it is.

(He takes out purse of gold and waves it in front of the crowd)

Jack:- Sir, you are indeed generous. We will gladly accept your offer. Goodbye Buttercup, be a good girl and work well for your new master.

(Buttercup rubs her head against Jack's arm)

Don't be so sad. We'll buy you back one day, just wait and see.

(Buttercup nods her head, looks resigned to her fate and is led off by a chorus man or Wizard's assistant)

Wizard:- Here my boy, take the money, it's yours. (He throws purse)

Jack:- Thank you very much. How pleased mother will be when she sees how much money we have been given.

Wizard:- Goodbye young sir. May the contents of the purse bring you the future you deserve, ha ha ha.

(There is another gong sound, flash and puff of smoke as the Wizard of Oz exits leaving his evil laughter echoing around the stage)

Jack:- Well Sally, that's a good beginning - fifty gold pieces. Think of all the things we can buy with that.

Archie:- (Sobbing into large hankie) Poor Buttercup! I hope that Wizard treats her well.

Nellie:- Cheer up Archie, you still have me.

(Archie takes one look at Nellie and then cries even more than he was doing before)

Come on Archie, let's go for a ride on the roundabout. I'll pay.

Archie:- That's good because I've only got a penny left and I might want that to - - - get weighed.

(Nellie, Archie and Chorus exit. Night begins to fall. Stage darkens. UV lighting reveals stars on backcloth. One star near the centre is bigger than the rest. This is the Wishing Star)

Sally:- I do hope everything works out for the best because I couldn't bear it if we had to part forever.

Jack:- Don't worry Sally. Night is falling and there is the Wishing Star shining brightly.

Sally:- The Wishing Star?

Jack:- Yes, you must know the old rhyme:-

When lovers true can see the star,  
No matter who or where they are,  
If they wish when earth is still,  
The star will then their dreams fulfil.

Sally:- Do you think that the star would grant our wish?

Jack:- If we wish long enough and hard enough I'm sure it will.

Sally:- What shall we wish for Jack?

Jack:- Let's wish for health, wealth and happiness for us all.

Sally:- Oh yes please star, grant us these things.

Duet (Jack and Sally)

Suggested numbers:- When you wish upon a star (Pinocchio)  
Blue star

The second star to the right (Peter Pan)

(At the end of the number the tabs draw on Jack and Sally)

#### Scene 4 - Sleepytime Express (Tabs)

(A child enters dressed as a train guard carrying a green flag)

Guard:- Here comes the eight o'clock train to Slumberland calling at Blanket Row, Dreamtown and the Land of Nod.

(A second child enters wearing a nightgown or pyjamas and carrying a small suitcase)

Child:- Am I too late? I don't want to miss it.

Guard:- No, you're not too late. It's coming down the track now. Can you see it? (Guard points offstage)

Child:- Oh yes, it's just coming round the bend.

Guard:- That's right. Do you know this train starts its journey in Babyland at teatime and then visits Toddlerville at half past six?

Child:- Does it really?

Guard:- Yes and it goes all the way to Morningtown and back before breakfast.

Child:- How exciting!

Guard:- Have you got all you need?

Child:- Yes, I think so.

(Child opens case and checks)

Toothbrush and toothpaste, soap and towel, teddy bear, bottle of milk and my ticket.

Guard:- Good! Here comes the train now. Stand back, mind the doors please.

(A train hooter is heard. Guard waves flag as 'cut-out' engine and carriages enter. The driver is the main singer of the song below whilst the passengers are the Junior Dancers dressed in nightgowns, pyjamas, etc. The passengers join in with the chorus of the song and leave the train for a short dance)

Song and Dance (Engine Driver and Junior Dancers)

Suggested numbers:- Morningtown Ride  
The Runaway Train  
Chatanooga Choo Choo

(At the end of the sequence the Junior Dancers re-enter the carriages, the Guard waves his flag and the train and contents exit. The Guard exits at the opposite side of the stage as the tabs draw back on Scene 5)

#### Scene 5 - Inside Widow Bumble's Cottage

(This is a typical olde worlde cottage interior. There is a window in the cloth or flat forming the back wall and through this window can be seen the Village Green cloth. Out of sight is the young beanstalk which is a piece of rope with 'leaves' fastened to it. This rope is tied to a piece of thin string which goes up into the flies allowing the beanstalk to 'grow' and be seen by the audience through the window. Widow Bumble is on stage preparing to go to bed. During the following dialogue she should be gradually taking off her clothes, which should consist of endless numbers of petticoats, long stockings, lurid bras, hot water bottles tied around her middle, Union Jacks, etc)

Widow:- Hello everybody.

Audience:-Hello Gert.

Widow:- I said 'Hello everybody'.

Audience:-Hello Gert.

Widow:- That's better. What do you think of the show so far?

Audience:- (Hopefully) Rubbish.

Widow:- Yes, but it's good quality rubbish, isn't it?  
 Bedtime again! The days just seem to fly by don't they?  
 You no sooner get up and it's time to hit the hay again.  
 You will excuse me getting undressed in front of the  
 fire won't you. It's so cold in my bedroom. Do you do the  
 same Missus, do you? It's lovely isn't it?

(The band starts to play 'The Stripper')

(Going over to the Musical Director) You wouldn't be  
 trying to take the mickey out of me by any chance,  
 would you?

(The Musical Director shakes his head)

I'm pleased about that because I may have been forced  
 to come down there and give you a knuckle sandwich.  
 Do you like my hair? It's the latest thing. It's like  
 a little girl's at the front and a little boy's behind.

Have you met my grandfather? Haven't you? Do you  
 know he's ninety two. He is and he wanted to marry a  
 girl of nineteen. So he went to the doctor for his  
 advice. The doctor said that such a marriage could be  
 fatal. My grandfather said 'Well if she dies, she dies'.

Jack's a nice boy isn't he? And such a good singer.  
 Still we're all good singers in our family. We have to  
 be; there's no lock on the bathroom door.

I took Archie to a music teacher when he was little  
 and said 'Do you think he'll ever make a tenor?' The  
 music teacher said 'He'll be lucky if he ever makes  
 50p'.

I hope they get a good price for Buttercup. There's  
 so much I want to buy; that new record by - - - (latest  
 pop group) and some of that new perfumr 'Passion in  
 - - - (local street name). Oh yes I must have some new  
 clothes as well, something clinging to show off my  
 fantastic figure. (She poses seductively) I'll be the  
 talk of the 'Over Sixties' Club.

(A knock is heard offstage)

Just a moment I must make myself look respectable.

(She slips on outrageous nightgown and nightcap and  
 adopts sexy pose)

Enter.

(Jack enters)

Oh it's you! I thought it was that good looking - -  
 (local character or member of society).

Jack:- Hello mother. Good news.

Widow:- Don't say - - - (well known politician)'s emigrated.

Jack:- No, better than that. The Wizard of Oz gave me fifty  
 gold pieces for Buttercup.

Widow:- Fifty gold pieces? More than my wildest dreams! It's  
 almost enough to buy a gallon of petrol (or shop at  
 Marks and Spencers).

Jack:- We can repair the house and buy some land and livestock.

Widow:- We can even afford to buy a - - - (latest registration  
 letter) registered Sedan chair.

Jack:- (Laughing) Yes, you'll be the talk of the town.

Widow:- Let's see the money. I've never seen so many pieces of gold in one place before.

Jack:- There you are.

(Jack throws the purse to Widow Bumble)

Widow:- How exciting!

(She opens the purse and tips out beans)

Beans! What's the meaning of this? Has the Heinz man been playing a joke on you?

Jack:- (Going over to examine them) Beans? What do you mean beans?  
There's fifty gold pieces in that purse.

Widow:- You idiot! You've been tricked! There's nothing here but beans.

(The evil laughter of the Wizard of Oz is heard echoing round the stage)

Jack:- No, that can't be true, Buttercup sold for a handful of beans.

Widow:- This is what I think of your beans, useless things.

(Widow Bumble throws the purse of beans out of the window)

Jack:- All my dreams dashed to pieces! Oh Sally, will I never see you again?

Widow:- Now let's go to bed, there's nothing more to be done. It's been a bad day for all of us. Let's hope tomorrow will be better.

Jack:- Oh yes! Wishing Star please don't fail us. Please find some way of making Sally mine.

(Jack and Widow Bumble exit dejectedly. Tinkling music is heard as stage takes on a blue shade. The Blue Fairy enters carrying wand)

Fairy:- Fear not Jack. I am the Blue Fairy and come to the aid of all those who wish on the Wishing Star. I will do all in my power to help you become rich and happy.

(She waves her wand)

Come members of my fairy court. Let's see what a little magic can do.

(The Senior Dancers enter dressed as fairies)

Ballet (Senior Dancers)

Suggested Music:- Waltz of the Flowers (The Nutcracker)  
Scherzo (A Midsummer Night's Dream)  
Intermezzo (The Jewels of the Madonna)

(During the second half of the ballet the beanstalk can be seen growing slowly past the window in UV lighting. The tabs draw at the end of the number)

Scene 6 - A Street in the Village (Front cloth or tabs)

(Archie enters. He has an arrow through his hat. He is followed by Nellie looking rather dejected)

Nellie:- I'm sorry Archie but it was your idea for me to have a go on the Archery stall.

Archie:- My hat! My new hat! 10p and two Kellogg Corn Flake packet  
tops it cost me.