



Jack and the Beanstalk

by Peter Long

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List of Characters

Jack Trot.....Principal Boy

Dame Dotty Trot.....Jacks Mother

WallyThe hired Hand

Lord Greenacre.....Local Landowner

Lady Antonia Greenacre.....His Daughter (Principal Girl)

Bridget.....Maid at Greenacre Manor

Giant Blunderbore.....Feared by all

The Giants Servant.....His long suffering Housekeeper

Snivel

And.....The Giant's Henchmen

Cringe

The Good Fairy.....Saviour of all who are good

Clover the Cow

Also Featuring

Sunbeams

Dancers

Chorus

Character Descriptions:

Jack Trot: (Female) Principal Boy. Jack is the only son of the lowly Dame Trot, owner of Trot's farm. He is a carefree sort of guy who is not worried about his family's lack of money. His thoughts are mostly for the Lady Antonia, the daughter of the local Landowner.

Dame Trot: (Male) the pantomime Dame. Poor Dame Trot, struggling to keep her farm going against all the odds, normally optimistic about all things financial she suddenly discovers that her only asset Clover the Cow has been exchanged for a bag of beans.

Wally: (Male) this is the Comic Lead. Wally is the farm hand down on Trot's farm. He tends to be a bit work shy so he is constantly being perused by his boss Dame Trot who always has a job for him. Wally's sweetheart is Bridget, the Maid of Lady Antonia.

Lady Antonia: (Female) Principal Girl. She is the Daughter of Lord Greenacre. She has been the secret sweetheart of Jack since their childhood, but her Father hopes she will marry someone with money and standing and in the end of course she does.... Jack!!

Lord Greenacre: (Male) the Father of Lady Antonia. His land has been overshadowed by the legendary Giant Blunderbore for longer than he cares to remember. His main priority is the welfare of his daughter since his Wife Lady Greenacre mysteriously disappeared when his Daughter was very young. He is amorously pursued by Dame Trot

Bridget: (Female) Maid at Greenacre Manor. A sweet girl who is totally loyal to Lord Greenacre and Lady Antonia. She also has a soft spot for the Trot family... oh and is the love interest of dear old Wally.

Giant Blunderbore: (Male) the evil Giant. Perhaps here it might be better to describe the man who would be best suited to take on this role, he would have a huge booming voice and also have the ability and agility to perform on stilts or elevated boots. A big nasty piece of goods!!.

The Giant's Servant/Lady Greenacre (Female) As the story unfolds we discover that this character is Lady Greenacre, the Mother of Lady Antonia. She was abducted by the Giant many years ago and now works for him. She is treated cruelly by her master the Giant, but Jack, with some help soon sorts this out!!.

Snivel and Cringe: (Male) As their name implies these two characters are not the nicest of people and they like to think that they bring misery to the townsfolk as they carry out the requests of their Master the Giant. In actual fact they are a bit of a joke and most of the people run rings around them. They tend to think that they're in the Giant's confidence but he is simply using them to do his 'dirty work'. Snivel tends to be the dominant of the two with Cringe his gormless side kick.

The Good Fairy: (Female) She is our story teller. A traditional Fairy, who through her rhymes gives Jack the means to destroy the Giant once and for all. A goody through and through.

Clover the Cow: (Male/Female) The typical pantomime Cow in "Jack and the Beanstalk". The Cow has an important role and features in several scenes. It requires two reasonably fit adults working in a 'Skin' to cope with demanding and important role and who can re-act to dialogue and situations.

Synopsis of Scenes

ACT ONE

- Scene 1: "OUTSIDE DAME TROT'S FARMHOUSE"
Scene 2: "IN THE FOREST"
Scene 3: "GREENACRE MANOR "
Scene 4: "OUTSIDE DAME TROT'S FARMHOUSE"

===== INTERVAL =====

ACT TWO

- Scene 1: "TOP OF THE BEANSTALK"
Scene 2: "THE GIANT'S KITCHEN"
Scene 3: "OUTSIDE DAME TROT'S FARMHOUSE"
Scene 4: "THE DUNGEON AT BLUNDERBORE CASTLE"
Scene 5: "OUTSIDE DAME TROT'S FARMHOUSE"
Scene 6: "GREENACRE MANOR"
Scene 7: "THE BALLROOM AT GREENACRE MANOR"

Song Sheet

Walk Down

Grand Finale

OVERTURE.....THEN CURTAIN

ENTER FAIRY ON TABS

FAIRY:

It's pantomime season once again.
So welcome to you, one and all.
To Dame Trot's Farm is where we must go.
As their story to you I recall.

The people of Greenacre are in good spirits
They'll soon dance and laugh with each other...
But someone is watching them having their fun
And that someone isn't big brother!

That someone is big but he's kin to no man
And he's watching with jealousy and greed
Blunderbore the giant is watching them all
And his plans are cruel..... take heed!.

The Story you'll see is a traditional one.
A fairy story that you'll probably know.
Concerning a poor old widow and son.
And a handful of beans that they sow.

The beans that I mention will be magical ones.
And give reason for telling this tale.
They lead to all kind of adventures.
That will entertain you I'm sure, without fail

Let's go now to Greenacre village
And see them all having their fun...
Will they ever be free of the tyrant?
And will the war ever be won!?

FAIRY EXITS TABS OPEN FOR:

ACT 1....SCENE 1...."OUTSIDE DAME TROT'S FARMHOUSE":

SET: DAME TROT'S FARMHOUSE IS ON THE ROAD BETWEEN THE VILLAGE AND GREENACRE MANOR... THE FARMHOUSE HAS A PRACTICAL DOOR AND WINDOW.... A COUNTRYSIDE CLOTH TO SUIT. THERE IS A SIGN ON THE FARMHOUSE WITH THE WORDS... "TROT'S FARM... DOTTY TROT PROP" THERE IS A SIGN POST WITH ONE SIGN POINTING STAGE RIGHT "TO GREENACRE MANOR" AND ANOTHER SIGN POINTING TO STAGE LEFT "TO THE VILLAGE" THERE IS A CIRCULAR SEAT AROUND THE SIGN.

♫**MUSICAL ITEM No 1**....LIVELY OPENING ROUTINE FEATURING DAME TROT, SUNBEAMS, DANCERS AND ANY CHORUS.....AFTER ROUTINE STAGE DARKENS FX THUNDER AND LIGHTNING...

GIANT: (OFF) Fee fi fo fum I smell the blood of an Englishman... be he alive or be he dead, I'll grind his bones to make my bread!!

ALL EXIT AS IF FRIGHTENED EXCEPT DAME TROT

DAME: I've been deserted again... it's that giant Blunderbore... he frightens all the people around here, except me!!... oh yes I've got the measure of him... about eight foot six by all accounts... and this business of grinding bones to make his bread... I'll stick with me Kingsmill medium sliced any day! I don't know what Mary Berry and Paul Hollywood would make of it!.. Anyway... how lovely to see you all... I'm Dame Trot by the way, you can call me Dotty... owner of Trot's farm... or what's left of it. I'm glad you came!... it's my birthday today and nobody's remembered... but seeing you lot has right cheered me up... cos I've been a bit down lately! (AUDIENCE AHH)... Come on... I've been further down than that!... (AUDIENCE MORE SYMPATHETIC) that's better... no you see it's a while since I lost me Husband (SNIFFS)... I left him outside Morrison's (OR SIMILAR)... I only went in to get a scratch card and when I got back he'd gone!... I gave the police a full description and they said he didn't sound as if he was worth looking for!... I thought well you've got a point I suppose... but I'm not on my own... I have a son, our Jack, oh and then there's our farmhand Wally (INDICATES TO FARMHOUSE) this is our farmhouse but I've heard they're going to pull it down and build some slums!... that Giant Blunderbore takes all our money... steals our animals ... all we've got left is one_cow... Clover. Talk about poor!... all we exchange at Christmas is glances... if I had to rub two halfpennies together I'd have to borrow one!... Mind you I do have a bit of romance in my life... oh yes Lord Greenacre the local landowner... (CONT'D)

(CONT'D)...he doesn't know about it yet but I'm working on him... (SHE GLANCES OFF)... oh my word here he comes now... (SHE STRIKES A COY POSE... ENTER LORD GREENACRE... HE IS PRE-OCCUPIED BUT SUDDENLY SEES DAME TROT AND TURNS ON HIS HEELS AND EXITS QUICKLY... DAME TROT REALISES HE'S GONE)... Oh he must have a previous Hengagement... I'll tell you what when I'm feeling down will you all cheer me up?... well will you?... when I say I'm feeling a bit down will you all shout "We love you lots Dots!"... let's have a practice (THEY DO)... oh well I suppose I'd better get on with some housework... some birthday this has turned out to be... I'll see you all later.

DAME TROT EXITS INTO FARMHOUSE...ENTER SNIVEL AND CRINGE (SL) CRINGE IS DRAGGING A BATTERED SHOPPING TROLLEY WITH THE WORD "TAXES" ON IT.

SNIVEL: (TO AUDIENCE)... What are you lot staring at?!... we are Snivel and Cringe the Giant's enforcers!... Watch your step or you'll all end up on the Giant's table!

CRINGE: (FALSE BRAVADO)... Yes just watch yourselves or we'll... we'll er... we'll (TO SNIVEL)... what will we do Snivel?

SNIVEL: We'll make life very unpleasant for you... we will wreak havoc and mount unspeakable atrocities on the most vulnerable amongst you in the most unforgiving way so that you are bereft of all hope!

CRINGE: Yes!... we'll... we'll do what he said... so just watch it!... right Mr Snivel who's next on our list owing their taxes?

SNIVEL: (CHECKS HIS LEDGER) Would you believe it ... it's Dame Trot.. let's see if she answers the door today...

SNIVEL KNOCKS ON THE DOOR... DAME TROT ANSWERS IT...

DAME: (SEES WHO IT IS) Er... not today thank you...

SNIVEL: (PUTS HIS FOOT IN THE DOOR).. Ah... the early bird catches the worm as they say!

DAME: More like two little worms catches the old bird!... look I've told you two before we have no money... you've cleaned us out all we have left is our pet cow Clover... and I'm going to ask my son Jack to sell it at the market... and before

you get any ideas about the proceeds it is to pay the rent on the farm owed to Lord Greenacre... so be on your way, the pair of you!. (SHE GOES IN AND CLOSES DOOR)

CRINGE: (TO SNIVEL) Your not giving up so easy are you Snivel?

SNIVEL: On the contrary my friend... Dame Trot's son Jack is to sell the cow... I think that the Giant would be very happy if we took the beast for his larder.

CRINGE: But Jack would never sell us the beast!

SNIVEL: Don't worry... I have a plan... the beast will be ours, just you see! (THEY ATTEMPT A 'HIGH FIVE' AND MISS... THIS IS A RUNNING GAG THROUGHOUT THE SHOW THEY MAKE NUMEROUS ATTEMPTS TO 'HIGH FIVE' BUT THEY DON'T CONNECT UNTIL THE WALK-DOWN AT THE END OF THE SHOW)... come on let us go and prepare... (ANOTHER MISSED 'HIGH FIVE' THEY EXIT SL)

DAME TROT EMERGES AGAIN FROM THE FARMHOUSE TO SE IF THEY'VE GONE... SHE HAS A FULL BIN LINER WITH HER ...ENTER JACK (SR)

JACK: Hello Mother... what's the matter with Lord Greenacre?... I passed him down the lane and he seemed to be in a hurry... what did you say to him?

DAME: Lord Greenacre?... I didn't say anything... I didn't get chance... (CHANGING SUBJECT)... anyway Jack what are you up to?

JACK: Oh not much really... I'm waiting for Lady Antonia... she said that she'd meet me here...

DAME: I wish you'd stop dreaming about Lady Antonia... you know Lord Greenacre doesn't approve of you and his daughter together!

JACK: Lady Antonia and I have been sweethearts since we were children...besides if it wasn't for her we would have been evicted from our farm ages ago she manages to persuade her father to let us stay...

DAME: Ooh yes I never thought of that... (THINKING)... you want to keep in with that Lady Antonia... you could do a lot worse! anyway I can't stand about gossiping with you... there's money to be made!

JACK: Money to be made? how are you going to manage that?

DAME: Well... you know all them plastic carrier bags that I've collected over the years?

JACK: Oh yes... the pantry was full of them... what about them?

DAME: I'm going to sell them outside Morrison's... (OR SIMILAR)... for 4 pence each... the proceeds will keep us going for a day or two! I'll see you in a bit... Oh and by the way if you see Wally tell him to get our cow Clover cleaned up a bit.

JACK: Cleaned up? what for?

DAME: Because we are going to sell her!

JACK: What!?... Sell our pet cow Clover... surely not? It will break Wally's heart..

DAME: You leave Wally to me... he will insist on calling himself our herdsman... I ask you... herdsman!... and we've only got one cow!... Look, its market day tomorrow so you are going to take Clover and get the best price that you can for her.... I need to consolidate our assets... and Clover at the moment is our assets!!

DAME TROT EXITS (S/L REAR)

JACK: Poor Mother... all she has ever worked for is gone!... all because of that horrible Giant Blunderbore... I swear one of these days I'll get to confront that tyrant!

ENTER DANCERS (S/R) AS VILLAGE GIRLS...UNKNOWN TO JACK LADY ANTONIA IS AMONGST THEM... THE GIRLS SEE THAT JACK IS DOWNCAST...

GIRL 1: What's the matter Jack... aren't you pleased to see us?

JACK: (STARTLED).. Oh.. hello girls sorry I didn't see you there... Of course I'm pleased to see you... I must say you're all looking very pretty this morning!

GIRL 2: Why, Jack ... I do believe that you are flirting with us....

JACK: Now now girls... as pretty as you all are you know that my heart belongs to my lovely Lady Antonia!.

LADY ANTONIA STEPS FROM BEHIND THE GIRLS

ANTONIA: I'm pleased to hear that Jack Trot...

JACK: (SURPRISED) Antonia!... (THEY EMBRACE).. I hope that you wasn't checking up on me?

ANTONIA: Course not... the girls said that they were coming down to the village so I thought I'd come with them... besides I've heard that the Giant's henchmen Snivel and Cringe have been seen in the village and I don't want to be alone when they're about!.

JACK: No indeed... but seeing you has raised my spirits no end... I haven't got money but in other respects I'm a very rich man....

♪ ... MUSICAL ITEM No 2 FEATURING, JACK, ANTONIA AND THE DANCERS AFTER ROUTINE:

ANTONIA: (TO A GIRLS) See you later girls... thanks for your company!... (DANCERS EXIT (S/L) ENTER BRIDGET (S/R) IN A FLUSTER)... Bridget what on earth's the matter!?

BRIDGET: It's your Father Lady Antonia...

ANTONIA: What?... is he all right?

BRIDGET: Oh he's fine... it's just that there's a couple of things... or maybe three things that you should know about... for one thing he's not happy about you being out on your own...

JACK: She's not on her own... she's with me!

BRIDGET: Ah yes... that's the second thing that he's not happy about.

ANTONIA: And the third thing we should know about?

BRIDGET: He... er... he's... (SHE LOOKS OFF NERVOUSLY)... he's here now!!

ENTER LORD GREENACRE (S/R)

ANTONIA: Er hello Father we just coming to see you weren't we Jack?

LORD G: Oh were you now?... and I suppose Bridget here was a little late in warning you of my approach?

BRIDGET: Sorry sir... I was only trying to help...

LORD G: Yes well I'm sure that you have duties to perform back at the Manor... so if you will excuse us...

BRIDGET: What?... oh yes sir... sorry sir! (SHE CURTSIES AND MAKES TO EXIT)

JACK: (AS BRIDGET EXITS) Oh by the way Bridget... when you see Wally will you tell him to clean up Clover... Mother says that I have to sell her...

BRIDGET: Rightio Master Jack ... although I don't know how Wally's going to take it! (SHE EXITS S/R)

LORD G: (TO ANTONIA) Now then young Lady... I thought that I made it perfectly clear that you were not to see Jack Trot anymore... you need to find someone of stature and means... you are the heir to the Greenacre Estate and should not be associating with someone who's family can't even pay the rent for a humble farmhouse... I don't know what your Mother will think when she comes home!

ANTONIA: (SHE USHERS HIM TO SIT ON THE SEAT BY THE SIGNPOST) Oh Father... Mother disappeared when I was seven years old... what makes you think that she will ever come back?

LORD G: Your Mother will come back... and I don't want to hear anything otherwise... now I am rather busy... what is that you wanted to see me about?

JACK: (APPROACHING THEM) It's about my Mother Sir...she has nothing... the Giant Blunderbore has taken everything... could you find her some work to do... just so that she can gain some self-respect...

LORD G: I'm not sure that I can help....

ANTONIA: The poor Lady deserves a chance... there must be something that she can help with on the estate...

LORD G: Well... I... er.. I suppose there's the school... The school Mistress Miss Blenkinsop has gone to visit her sick Aunt... it's the last week of term and the children were promised a field trip... maybe Dame Trot could help out...

JACK: Perfect!... I'm sure that Mother would love to be the School Teacher, even if it's only for one day!

ANTONIA: Oh thank you Father... and please try to accept Jack... he wants to help us all when he finds his fortune

LORD G: (SCEPTICAL) Does he indeed?...

JACK: I intend to confront this so called Giant Blunderbore... and get back all our wealth!

LORD G: Young man... Giant Blunderbore is unreachable... those two wretched people Snivel and Cringe are the only ones that can get to the Giant.

JACK: I promise you sir I will get to the Giant somehow... I just know it.... And thank you for helping my Mother... you won't regret it!...

LORD G: (LOOKING OUT TO AUDIENCE) Why do I get the feeling that I will!!... well you must excuse me I have some business to attend to down in the village...

HE MAKES TO EXIT (SL)

JACK: Oh Mother's down in the village ... you'll probably bump into her!

LORD G: What?... er did I say down in the village?... silly me I meant back at the Manor!

LORD G MAKES TO EXIT IN A HURRY (S/R)

JACK: Shall I tell Mother to come and see you then sir?... about the schoolteacher job...

LORD G: (RESIGNED TO IT).. Oh very well... but tell her it's only a proposal!... (HE EXITS)

BRIDGET ENTERS (S/R)

BRIDGET: Has he gone?...

ANTONIA: Yes Father's gone back to the Manor... Bridget?... have you been eavesdropping??

BRIDGET: Me? Eavesdropping?... as if I would milady!

JACK: Mmmm... we'll believe you... thousands wouldn't!... look don't forget to tell Wally about Clover... we'll see you later....

BRIDGET: I'll go and tell Wally now... I think he's in the top meadow...

JACK AND ANTONIA EXIT (S/R FRONT)...BRIDGET EXITS (S/R REAR) **ENTER WALLY** (S/L) HE GREETES THE AUDIENCE...

WALLY: Hiya boys and girls... (AUDIENCE RESPOND)... Come on speak to Wally ...yes my name's Wally... I'm Dame Trot's farm hand... I'm very good at what I do... you might say I'm outstanding in my field... that's where I've been all morning.. out standing in my field... somebody's pinched our scarecrow you see... I'm looking for Bridget... have you seen her?... she's what? She's looking for me?... (LOOKS OFF STAGE RIGHT).. Oh she's here now... I'll hide and surprise her... he goes into cottage. **ENTER BRIDGET**

BRIDGET: Wally?... I could have sworn I heard his voice...have you seen Wally boys and girls?

WALLY ENTERS FROM COTTAGE AND SNEAKS UP BEHIND HER... SOME BEHIND YOU BIZ HERE... WALLY PUTS HIS HANDS OVER HER EYES

WALLY: Guess who?

BRIDGET: (TEASING)... Er... Ollie Murs... Harry Styles... Brad Pitt... Johnny Depp... (SHE REELS OF A LIST OF NAMES OF "IN VOGUE" MALE CELEBRITIES...)

WALLY: What?...

BRIDGET: Oh Wally ... I'm only teasing.... I knew it was you... (POINTS TO HIS HANDS)... Been mucking out Clover again have you?... Oh and by the way, speaking of Clover, Jack says that you have to clean her up a bit because Dame Trot wants him to sell her tomorrow!

WALLY: Oh good... (THEN REALISES)...What!?!... sell our lovely Clover?... he can't do that...she's my bestest friend in the world...

BRIDGET: (OFFENDED).. Oh thank you very much!

WALLY: No... I didn't mean it like that Bridget...(COYLY)... I mean you're my... well... er... girlfriend... Clover's more of a pet really!... I'll have to hide her!

BRIDGET: Dame Trot insists that Clover is sold so you'd better get her cleaned up... look I have to go to the village shop... I'll be back shortly.. (BRIDGET EXITS S/L)

WALLY :(LOOKS OUT TO AUDIENCE)... Have you seen our cow Clover yet boys and girls?... No?... right, I'll get her out here... but she is a bit shy... I'll tell you what, if she thinks that there's a herd of cows out here she might feel a bit better... can you all Moo for her?... come on let's have a practice after 3 let's have a big Moo... are you ready... 1... 2... 3... (AUDIENCE WILL PROBABLY GIVE A HALF HEARTED MOO).... is that the best moo you can doo?.... look, we'll start off with the boys and girls... all you Calves out there let's have a big Moo after 3... 1...2...3... (BOYS AND GIRLS MOO).... Right now let's have the Dads and Granddads and Uncles... all you Bulls out there... after 3... 1...2...3 (DADS AND GRANDDADS MOO)... Right now we'll have the Mums and Grandmas and Aunties... all you Co..... (REALISES WHAT HE'S ABOUT TO SAY)... Er... all you er.. other er.. cattle out there after 3 1...2...3... (MUMS AND GRANDMAS MOO)... right all together... and remember... no Moos is bad moos... after 3... 1...2...3... (ALL AUDIENCE MOO)... (CLOVER PEEPS ON FROM WINGS)... Come on one more 1...2...3...(ALL AUDIENCE MOO... ENTER CLOVER S/R)... here she is... isn't she lovely?

THE SUNBEAMS ENTER (S/L) AS IF ON THEIR WAY TO SCHOOL

WALLY: Oh... hello you lot... school time again eh?

SUNBEAM: Wally... is it true that Dame Trot wants to sell Clover?

CLOVER GOES AMONGST THE SUNBEAMS AND THEY ALL FUSS OVER HER

WALLY: Well... she says that she has to to get some money to pay the bills.

SUNBEAM: But Clover's the only animal left in the village... she's our pet and we all love her!

WALLY: Don't worry children... I'm going to do my best to keep her, I'm sure everything will turn out fine.

♪ ... MUSICAL ITEM No 3 FEATURING WALLY, CLOVER AND THE SUNBEAMS...
AFTER ROUTINE: ENTER BRIDGET (SL)

BRIDGET: LOOKING OFF OVER HER SHOULDER)... Wally... if you're going to hide Clover you'd better be quick about it because Dame Trot is on her way up the lane!...

WALLY: What!?... Oh no!... (TO SUNBEAMS)... Distract her kids... whilst I hide Clover... Now where shall I hide her?

BRIDGET: I don't know!...

AS DAME TROT ENTERS (S/L) THE SUNBEAMS FUSS AROUND HER WHILST WALLY HIDES CLOVER

WALLY: Oh heck... where can we hide you Clover?... (THINKS)... I know... in the Farmhouse for now!... (HE TAKES HOLD OF CLOVER)... come on old friend... you'll have to go in here for a minute... give me a hand Bridget... (THEY REVERSE CLOVER THROUGH THE COTTAGE DOOR AND CLOSE IT)

DAME: (TO SUNBEAMS) Come on you lot, isn't it time you were in school?... (THE SUNBEAMS RELUCTANTLY EXIT S/L)... Ah there you are Wally, did you get my message?

WALLY: Message?... what message?

DAME: About selling Clover!... where is she?

WALLY: She's... er... she must have been kidnapped.. er... Cownapped... I can't find her!...(TO BRIDGET)... Have you seen her Bridget?

BRIDGET: Er no!... I don't know where she's got to..

DAME: You can't find her?... how do lose half a ton of offal?... (TO AUDIENCE) Have you lot seen her?...

WALLY SIGNALS TO AUDIENCE TO SAY NO... OH YES OH NO BIZ HERE
CLOVER GIVES A LOUD MOO

DAME: What was that?

WALLY: (STARTS TO SING) ♪ Mooon River... wider than a mile... ♪

DAME: What on earth's going on?

WHEN DAME TROT ISN'T LOOKING CLOVER APPEARS AT THE COTTAGE WINDOW AND GIVES ANOTHER LOUD MOO!... WALLY AND BRIDGET GO TO THE WINDOW AND TRY TO COVER IT WITH THEIR BODIES...

WALLY & BRIDGET: (SINGING) ♪ Moonlight becomes you it goes with your hair ♪

DAME: Just a minute!... (HE SHOVES THEM ASIDE)... I knew it, trying to hide Clover... and in my front parlour of all places... get her out of there... (THEY OPEN THE DOOR AND LET CLOVER OUT)... fancy putting a cow indoors, what if she'd had an accident in there?... you know what cows do regular like?

WALLY: What do you mean ... Moo?

DAME: No!... I was thinking more of the other end... even me Dyson would struggle picking that up!... I'm surprised at you Bridget!... you're getting as daft as him!

BRIDGET: Sorry Dame Trot... (THEN AS IF REMEMBERING)... Oh by the way a bit of good news... I er... (AS IF IN CONFIDENCE)... I overheard Lord Greenacre saying that he wanted to see you up at the Manor tomorrow... (LOOKS AROUND TO SEE NOBODY IS LISTENING)...It's a proposal!!

DAME: (ELATED)... I knew it... he's finally succumbed to me charms!...maybe my special day will turn out special after all...

JACK AND ANTONIA ENTER (S/L)WISTFULLY CHATTING

BRIDGET: Special day?... anyway don't tell Jack and Lady Antonia that I've told you!

DAME: No way... (SEES JACK AND ANTONIA)... ah there you are Jack... look I want you to take Clover to the market today... before Wally gets any more silly ideas about hiding her.

JACK: Oh Mother... do I have to?

WALLY: Yes does he have to?

DAME: (TO WALLY) You be quiet... Clover's to be sold and that's the end of it... You can take the shortcut Jack... through the forest... you'll be back before you know it.

ANTONIA: I'll come with you Jack...

DAME: Er... I don't think that's a good idea Milady... your Father will worry... you had better get back to the Manor... and you go with her Bridget.

LADY ANTONIA AND BRIDGET EXIT (SR)

DAME: Right I'm going to tidy the cottage after Clover's... er visit.

JACK: Oh by the way Mother... Lord Greenacre wants to see you... when it's convenient... he has a proposal for you..

DAME: Yes I know... er I mean er (FLUSTERED)..yes I know I'll see him in my own convenience....

JACK LOOKS PUZZLED...DAME TROT EXITS INTO THE COTTAGE **FX: LOUD SQUELCHING SOUND**

DAME: (FROM COTTAGE) ... Oh Clover!... what have you done?!... Wally, get in here now...

WALLY: (HANDING CLOVER'S TETHER TO JACK) Don't sell Clover Jack... there must be another way.

JACK: Don't worry Wally... I'll think of something, but I'll have to take her to market... maybe we can buy her back when things improve.

DAME: (FROM COTTAGE)... Wally!!

WALLY: Coming Dame Trot.

WALLY EXITS INTO COTTAGE **FX: ANOTHER LOUD SQUELCHING SOUND**

JACK: (WHIMSICALLY TO HIMSELF) Poor Wally... (TO CLOVER)... Come on old friend we had better get going... it's a long way through the forest...

JACK EXITS STAGE LEFT PRACTICALLY DRAGGING A VERY RELUCTANT CLOVER
ENTER SNIVEL AND CRINGE

SNIVEL: Did you hear that Cringe... Jack is taking the cow through the forest why don't we help ourselves to it... the Giant would love it for his supper...

CRINGE: But didn't we hear that Jack was taking the beast to market... he'll be going through the forest by now...

SNIVEL: Yes but I know of a shortcut... come on we'll meet him in the forest and get the cow!

CRINGE: He'll never sell the cow to us...

SNIVEL: Who said anything about him selling it to us... we'll just take it! ...I have a plan... come on.

SNIVEL AND CRINGE EXIT (SL) TABS CLOSE... ENTER FAIRY ON TABS

FAIRY:
And so my friends the story moves on...
So it's time to make my play,
I will soon help Jack reach the Giant
In a rather round about way...

Poor Dame Trot will be waiting at home.
Expecting to increase her means.
But Jack won't get to the market today.
And all he'll get are some beans!.

But before that happens I must make sure.
That Jack gets hold of these beans.
But I'm an immortal and can't hand them to him.
A change of guise will give me the means.

As I've mentioned before, these are magical beans.
So it won't be such a ridiculous sale.
For a beanstalk will grow way up to the sky.
Where the Giant comes into our tale!.

FAIRY EXITS...

ACT 1... SCENE 2... "IN THE FOREST"

SET: HALF STAGE WITH CLOTH TO SUIT

♪ ... **MUSICAL ITEM No 4** ROUTINE FEATURING SNIVEL, CRINGE AND DANCERS
AFTER ROUTINE DANCERS EXIT

SNIVEL: Right, Cringe my friend... we had better go to the Giant before his lunch time... you know he doesn't like us to disturb his meals!

CRINGE: I hate going to see Blunderbore... he's so scary!

SNIVEL: What!? He doesn't scare me... in fact, let's let him wait!

GIANT: (VOICE OFF) Snivel!... Cringe!!... where are you?!

SNIVEL: Er... on second thoughts... we had better not keep him waiting too long

ENTER FAIRY (SR) WEARING A BLACK CLOAK WITH HOOD DISGUISED AS AN OLD WOMAN.....SHE CARRIES A DRAW STRING BAG CONTAINING BEANS

SNIVEL: (HE SEES HER AND STARTS LEAFING THROUGH A SMALL NOTEBOOK)...
And who have we here Mr Cringe... (TO FAIRY)...Good morning dear lady, you're new around here, we are Snivel and Cringe ... Blunderbore's tax collectors.

FAIRY: I'm sorry good sir... I have no money... I am a very poor Widow...

SNIVEL: Oh are you indeed... and what do you have in that bag of yours?

FAIRY: What? Oh... nothing... nothing at all...

CRINGE: (SNATCHES BAG OF BEANS FROM FAIRY) Nothing?... let's see... (HE LOOKS IN THE BAG)... look here Snivel.... they're...er... beans.

FAIRY: But sir... they are for someone else...

SNIVEL: If you have no money... we take possessions!...(THEY TAKE THE BEANS THEN ATTEMPT ANOTHER HIGH FIVE)... now be on your way old woman... (FAIRY EXITS LOOKING DEJECTED BUT GIVES A KNOWING WINK TO AUDIENCE).... And now my dear Cringe... time for my Master plan...

SNIVEL GOES OFF (SL) AND RETURNS WITH A FREE STANDING SIGN WHICH READS "SANCTUARY FOR RETIRED ANIMALS"... HE PUTS ON A 'YOKEL' SMOCK AND STRAW HAT.

SNIVEL: (TO CRINGE) Right, give me the beans... now make yourself scarce whilst I purloin Dame Trot's beast...

CRINGE: Brilliant Snivel!...

ANOTHER ATTEMPTED HIGH FIVE... CRINGE EXITS (SR)

ENTER JACK WITH CLOVER (SR)

JACK: (LOOKING BACK INTO WINGS... THEN AS IF TO HIMSELF) How strange... when I passed that old lady she said "Don't take Clover to market... leave her with the next person that you encounter" ... how did she know where I was going?... and (TO CLOVER)... how did she know your name?

JACK TURNS AND ENCOUNTERS SNIVEL

SNIVEL: (FAKING YOKEL ACCENT) Good day young sir... and where you be going with that fine beast?

JACK: I'm going to sell her at the market... I don't really want to she's more like a pet but my family need the money... (POINTS OFF SR)... and that old lady said...

SNIVEL: Then leave her here young man... we'll look after her... whilst you...er... get back on your feet so to speak!...

JACK: Oh I don't know about that... (TO AUDIENCE)...What do you think boys and girls?... should I leave Clover with this kind Gentleman?... (AUDIENCE RESPOND) I'm not sure... and yet I seem to think it's the right thing to do... what will I tell Mother?... I can't go home empty handed!

SNIVEL: Oh no sir... you wont be empty handed... (HE OFFERS BEANS)... take these beans with you!

JACK: A bag of beans!... is that all?

SNIVEL: Oh these are no ordinary beans young sir... (HE STIFLES A LAUGH)... these are magic beans!

JACK: (TO HIMSELF) I must follow my instinct and leave Clover here... (TO CLOVER) don't worry old friend... I'll be back for you... I promise!!

HE RELUCTANTLY HANDS CLOVERS TETHER TO SNIVEL AND TAKES THE BEANS... THEN HESITANTLY EXITS (SR)... CRINGE ENTERS (SL)

SNIVEL: Right Cringe we've wasted enough time... let's go to the Giant...

CRINGE: We have to go through the Giant's magic portal... I can never remember the magic rhyme...

SNIVEL: Then it's a good job I remember... are you ready?... (HE RECITES)

Here we are some simple mortals
Transport us through the magic portals

SOUND AND LIGHT FX HERE AS THE PORTAL OPENS STAGE RIGHT.... SNIVEL AND CRINGE WALK TOWARD THE BLINDING LIGHT WITH CLOVER AS IF THEY ENTER THE PORTALWHICH THEN CLOSES AS TABS CLOSE...

ENTER FAIRY ON TABS

FAIRY:

Jack now has the magic beans
Just the way that I meant...
He'll now be able to get to the Giant
Further problems I'll try to prevent

Clover the cow went with Snivel and Cringe
Jack will get her back soon for sure...
Don't worry the beast will be safe for a while
And Wally will worry no more.

Jack will return home empty handed
Apart from those magical beans
His Mother wont see their potential
But I'll soon show show her the means.

♪ ... MUSICAL ITEM No 5 FEATURING FAIRY AND SUNBEAMS

Let's go back now to Greenacre village
Dame Trot keeps her appointment
She's expecting romance from his Lordship
Is she in for a big disappointment?

Poor Dame Trot's not very happy...
Of that there can be little doubt
It seems all's forgotten her birthday

FAIRY EXITS TABS OPEN FOR:

ACT 1.... SCENE 4.... "GREENACRE MANOR"

SET: LARGE HALL WITH FIREPLACE... FURNITURE... DESK AND CHAIRS... THE HALL IS DIMLY LIT. ENTER DAME TROT (SL)

(THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE DAME TO HER 'LOVE YOU LOTS DOTS' ROUTINE AND CAN BE REPEATED WHEN EVER THE SITUATION ALLOWS)

DAME: I'm feeling a bit down... (INTO WE LOVE YOU LOTS DOTS BIZ)..... Oh good you haven't forgotten... wish me luck with Lord Greenacre..(CALLING) Hello... Hello... anybody at home?... Hello

ENTER LADY ANTONIA REAR RIGHT

ANTONIA: Dame Trot... how lovely to see you!...

DAME: Oh hello Lady Hantonian... I'm here to see your Father actually... it's about.. the er...

ANTONIA: Oh yes... his proposal... he's out in the stables at the moment, he shouldn't be long... (DAME TROT LOOKS SAD)...is everything all right Dame Trot?

DAME: What?... well I am a bit down... you see it's my birthday today Milady and everybody's forgotten... even our Jack!

JACK ENTERS SUDDENLY (SR)

JACK: That's not true Mother!... come in everybody!! (LIGHTS UP... ENTER FULL COMPANY AS ESTATE WORKERS AND VILLAGERS ALSO WALLY AND BRIDGET

ALL: Surprise!!!... Happy Birthday!!!

THE 'COOK' BRINGS ON A LARGE BIRTHDAY CAKE

DAME: Well... you lovely lot!... thank you everybody... thank you so much!

♪ ... MUSICAL ITEM No 6 FULL COMPANY AFTER ROUTINE:

LORD GREENACRE ENTERS STAGE LEFT REAR

LORD G: (TO ALL ASSEMBLED) What on earth is going on here?

ANTONIA: It's Dame Trot's birthday... we were just trying to cheer her up with a little celebration...

LORD G: Oh I see... very nice of you... (HE TAKES LADY ANTONIA TO ONE SIDE)... I thought I made it quite clear that there was to be no celebrations at Greenacre Manor until your Mother returns (HE STARTS TO USHER OUT THE 'GUESTS')

ANTONIA: Sorry Father!

BRIDGET: (GOES TO LADY ANTONIA) Shall we leave your Father and Dame Trot alone Milady... so that he can... you know...

ANTONIA: Oh yes... the proposal about her being the school teacher for the day...

BRIDGET: Yes... (THEN REALISES)... what!?!... school teacher!!??

ANTONIA: Yes... why what did you think it was about?

BRIDGET: Oh... er... nothing... (SHE TRIES TO WARN DAME TROT)... er Dame Trot... have you got a minute.

DAME: Not now Bridget... (TO JACK)... How did you get on at the market Jack?

JACK: Oh I'll tell you when we get home...

WALLY: And what about Clover?... is she all right

JACK: She's ...er... fine Wally... don't worry... now let's all leave Mother and Lord Greenacre with their er... meeting.

BRIDGET: (FLUSTERED) I just want a quick word with Dame Trot...

WALLY: (DRAGGING HER AWAY) Come on Bridget... leave them alone...

THEY ALL EXIT... LORD GREENACRE IS SITTING AT HIS DESK... DAME TROT APPROACHES HIM HE LOOKS UP...

LORD G: Ah yes... Dame Trot, no doubt you know why I asked you here?... please sit down.

DAME TROT SITS ON OPPOSITE SIDE OF DESK.

DAME: (COYLY)... Oh yes... I know why I'm here alright!

LORD G: What?... Oh yes quite... well the first thing that I need to know is are you academic?