



# Jack & The Beanstalk

by Andy Nutting

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NODA LTD  
15 The Metro Centre  
Peterborough PE2 7UH  
Telephone: 01733 374790  
Fax: 01733 237286  
Email: [info@noda.org.uk](mailto:info@noda.org.uk)  
[www.noda.org.uk](http://www.noda.org.uk)

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# **Jack and the Beanstalk**

## **Cast**

Jack	the hero of this panto
Simple Simon	Jacks not so clever brother
Dame Widow Winnie	Jack and Simons mother
Daisy the cow	owned by Jacks family
Princess Fiona	Kings daughter and love interest of Jack
Fairy Eleanor	narrator
King Hardup	ruler of the village
Fleshcreep	evil baddie
Giant Rummplebum	giant living in the clouds, servant of Fleshcreep
Buttons	has got lost and looking for his real panto venue
Minion 1	younger roles, henchmen of Fleshcreep
Minion 2	
Minion 3	

## **Scenery**

Farm
Village
Castle
Clouds

## **Songs**

Song 1	Fiona, Jack & Simon	Act 1 scene 1
Song 2	Fleshcreep	Act 1 scene 2
Song 3	Jack, Simon, Buttons	Act 1 scene 3
Song 4	Simon, Winnie, Hardup	Act 1 scene 5
Song 5	Jack & Giant	Act 2 scene 1
Song 6	Winnie	Act 2 scene 2
Song 7	Fiona	Act 2 scene 4
Song 8	Audience	
Song 9	All cast	

## **Act 1**

### **Scene 1**

***Curtains open to reveal the outside of a cottage***

***Fairy godmother enters stage right***

**Fairy -** good evening everyone, welcome to our tale, allow me to introduce myself, my name is Fairy Eleanor.

I will be your guide through the twists and turns of our story.

I'm here to help the good boys and girls, so if you ever need my services, then you need to promise to be on your best behaviour and always do the right thing.

Times are hard here in the village, the whole area is in the grip of an evil farmer called Fleshcreep. He has a secret friend that lives in the clouds, a giant by the name of Rummplebum. it looks like the 2 boys are coming now and they have their good friend, the Princess Fiona with them. Bye for now boys and girls.

***Fairy exits right***

***Fiona, Simon and Jack enter left***

### **Song 1**

**Fiona -** Oh Jack, I do love it here at your house, it's such a simple life.

**Jack -** I guess it is compared to being a princess like you, but the only simple thing in these parts is my brother Simon here

**Simon -** hey! I resemble that remark

**Jack -** See what I mean?.... shut up two watt, your brain isn't designed to deal with words

**Fiona -** Why do you call him two watt?

**Jack -** because you can't get any dimmer, but you're right Princess, it's a good life here, but its hard trying to make a living, the ground is hard and dry since the rain stopped and nothing ever grows here anymore, we haven't had crops for years now. We have no food or money

**Fiona -** its no fun being the Princess either though, the rules are so strict. You're told what to do and when to do it

**Simon -** its all work work work here, and I hate working. And thinking too, I hate thinking as much as working, its not good for you, using your brain.

**Jack -** I would say work smarter not harder, but I'd be wasting my breath with you

**Fiona -** Oh Jack you are funny, that's one reason why I like you so much

**Jack -** *(takes Fiona's hand)* I won't be poor all the time, you mark my words, I'll make my fortune one day, you'll see.

**Buttons enters left**

**Buttons -** good morn to you my fine fellow panto land companions, how does this fair day find your spirits?

**Simon -** *(points to Buttons).....* whats that?

**Jack -** don't be so rude Simon, the correct term is..... who is that?

**Buttons -** Ahh indeed it is, the wonderful weather we are experiencing all but matches your magnificent grasp of our expressive English language

**Jack -** I stand corrected, you were right Simon.....*(points to Buttons).....* whats that?

**Fiona -** please ignore my friends, how may we help you? Who ever you are

**Buttons -** oh please excuse me my rudeness, allow me to introduce myself... I am Buttons, page and butler and dare I say, belonging to one of the more classier upper echelons of panto characters

**Fiona -** *(looks at Jack and Simon)....* Nope I stand corrected, I'm lost as to what it is now as well

**Buttons -** I am looking for my dearest friend and the object of my desires, the beautiful and kindest of hearts, that goes by the name of Cinderella

**Simon -** who's kinder Ella? I've heard of a kinder egg, but not an Ella

**Buttons -** Cinderella, you silly boy... the most wonderful panto character in all of panto land

**Jack -** no mate, not in this panto, Princess Fiona is the most wonderful character in this one

**Fiona -** oh my, thank you Jack, that was so kind of you to say

**Simon -** don't get too soppy, he had to say that, its in the script..... as for you Buttocks....

**Buttons -** it's Buttons actually

**Simon -** Where did you leave this umbrella of yours?

**Buttons -** CINDER!!..... her name is Cinderella you buffoon..... and she's here in this glorious theatre royal

**Jack -** ooooooh I see whats happened here, you got the wrong panto mate, this ain't no theatre royal, this is our panto, you're miles away

**Buttons -** oh my, what is a fellow to do? How could I have mis navigated my way to such extremes?

**Winnie enters right**

**Winnie -** oh here you are, I've been looking everywhere for you two, and oooh look at all these people here. Hello everyone, I'm Widow Winnie and this is my home. You're all welcome to pop round for a cuppa anytime but we're poor so you'll have to bring your own coffee..... and sugar if you aren't sweet enough..... and some milk would be a good idea..... and actually whilst I think about it, some water too.

I know what would be fun, when I come on, I'll shout hello everyone, and you can shout back hello Winnie..... shall we try? Hellooooo everyone..... oh that was so close to being right wasn't it? Perhaps we should try again but this time actually try... hellooooo everyone..... you see boys and girls, practice makes perfect, well done.

Whats that?

**Jack -** that's Buttons, he wants the theatre royal

**Simon -** he's looking for some cinder blocks

**Buttons -** ELLA you moron, Cinderella..... how many more times do I have to duplicate the moniker of my dearest friend before it registers into that head of yours?

**Winnie -** here you, don't you go talking to my boy like that, be off with you, you hoity toity type aren't welcome in this village of ours

**Buttons -** how do explain (*topical name*) then?

**Fiona -** he has got a point there..... I think its best if you seek this Cinderella of yours elsewhere Mr Buttons

**Buttons -** I think that may be the wisest decision, good day to you all

**Buttons exits left**

**Winnie -** goodbye and good riddance.... Honestly boys, what have I told you about talking to strangers? He could have been one of those door to door salesmen, and we already have enough doors. Hello Princess Fiona, how lovely to see you, has Jack been dreaming about making his fortune again?

**Simon -** How do you make a fortune? I'm making a scare crow at the moment to protect the crops

**Jack -** what crops? We haven't been able to grow anything for ages

**Fiona -** Nobody has, it never rains for long enough, my dad the king, has been trying to find out why but so far hasn't managed to. It only ever rains on old Fleshcreeps land, and he won't let anyone have any of his water

**Simon -** come to think of it there any aren't crows either

**Winnie -** that's because we ate them all when the crops failed. And talking of failing, we need to sell the cow

**Simon -** Why? What has (*topical name*) done to you? I like her

**Winnie** - no silly, I mean that cow of ours, Daisy, she hasn't given us any milk since we got her. Its time to take her to Tuesday morning market and sell her, we need the money

**Simon** - what??!! Please no, I like that old cow too

**Winnie** - we have no choice, you and Jack can take her to the market and get what you can for her. Because of that Fleshcreep keeping all the water to himself, we have no option, we need the money

**Jack** - I hate that evil Fleshcreep, he's a bad un, no mistake

**Winnie** - oh Jack, everyone hates Mr Fleshcreep, he's a bad man for sure

**Fiona** - he certainly makes my flesh creep and skin crawl. He told daddy that he would only share his water if he was promised my hand in marriage

**Jack** - over my dead body! I'll fight him if I have to

**Fleshcreep and minions enters right**

**Fleshcreep** - did I hear my name spoken in vane?

**Fiona** - its ol' Fleshcreep..... I'll have to be getting home, sorry Jack

**Jack** - that's ok Princess, I'll come with you and make sure you get home safely

**Simon** - yeah me too ..... where is safely, is it near *(topical name)*?

**Fiona, Jack and Simon exit left**

**Fleshcreep** - was it something I said?

**Minion 1** - good riddance to them all

**Minion 2** - yeah, they're just jealous because we have the best farm

**Minion 3** - and all the water too, that's why they can't wash

**Minion 1** - and that's why they smell

**Minion 2** - and always moaning about everything

**Minion 3** - not like us are they Fleshcreep?

**Fleshcreep** - no they are most certainly not. But I have friends in errrr, shall we say, high places hahahahaha

**Winnie** - you have friends? Don't make me laugh, even *(topical name)* wouldn't be your friend, and look how desperate he is!.... you'd sell your own mother for a pound

**Fleshcreep** - A pound?? actually smarty pants, I managed to get two bails of hay for her, but that's none of your business.  
Just wallow in my superior being, I have everything..... well almost everything, but soon as I've convinced King Hardup that he should bequeath the Princess Fiona to becoming my wife, then I will have it all, especially when I've banished him and taken his throne too.....  
hahahahahahaha

**Minions** - hahahahahaha

**Fleshcreep** - come on my faithful minions, lets get plotting.

**Fleshcreep and the minions exit stage right**

**Winnie** - oooh that man makes my blood boil. But don't worry boys and girls, we'll think of a way to stop his evil plans and rid this village of him forever. Well I hope we can anyway. Bye bye everyone

**Winnie exits left**

**Curtains close**

## **Scene 2**

**Fleshcreep enters front right**

**Fleshcreep** - right let me make sure my friend in the sky still knows what he has to do  
(**holds a megaphone**) Rummplebum, calling Rummplebum, can you hear me?

**Giant** - (**from behind stage**) fee fi fo fum, who dares to disturb giant Rummplebum?

**Fleshcreep** - who the hell do you think it is? Its me Fleshcreep, your master

**Giant** - oh you can't be too sure, only this morning I've had 2 calls offering me PPI insurance, you just don't know who is calling you or indeed what they want. Did you know I've had calls from double glazing salesmen, wifi companies and.....

**Fleshcreep** - will you stop waffling!!..... its no wonder I banished you to living up there and not let you come down.

**Giant** - but but you promised me that you would let me down if I did what you said. I've stopped the rain pouring on everyones land except yours for you, and you said I could come to earth if I did that, you promised

**Fleshcreep** - yes yes I know, and I will. Your task is almost complete, soon as King Hardup offers Princess Fiona's hand to me in marriage, then I will release you. A few more dry months and he'll give in, mark my words.

**Giant** - months?!! Months?!!..... I want to come down now, not in months

**Fleshcreep** - then the sooner you complete your task the quicker it'll be, so stop your whining, you're boring me now, maybe I should call you Rummple bore. Now get back to work, I have scheming to do.

## **Song 2**

**Fleshcreep exits front right**

**Curtains open to show a village**

**Jack and Simon enter stage left**

**Jack** - come on Daisy, we have to get to Tuesday morning market before it closes

**Daisy enters left**

**Daisy** - (**with attitude**) don't have a cow man, whats all the rush anyway?

**Simon** - moo moo moo, is that all you can say?

**Daisy** - that's 3 more words than you know, thicko

**Jack** - of course that's all she can say, shes a cow. What do expect her to say?

**Daisy -** yeah mastermind, what do you expect me to say? If I spoke to you, you'd be terrified

**Simon -** I don't know, but surely shes learnt a bit more than just mooooooo. Shes old, you would have thought that she would at least have learnt to say my name

**Daisy -** what like moron, idiot, fool, simpleton..... which do you prefer?

**Jack -** Simon, she can't even do what shes supposed to do

**Daisy -** yeah Simon

**Jack -** she doesn't give us any milk

**Daisy -** yeah Simon, but to be fair, its hard to go when people are watching

**Jack -** she's eaten all the grass that we had

**Daisy -** yeah Simon, a girls got to eat

**Jack -** and that's why we have to sell her

**Daisy -** yeah Simon..... wait, what???.... what you mean sell her?

**Simon -** I suppose beef is all shes good for

**Daisy -** beef? See you really are stupid

**Jack -** of course, we have to sell her so she can be used for meat

**Daisy -** what do you mean of course? Don't agree with him, he's the stupid one remember

**Simon -** I'm gonna miss the old cow, look at how scared she is, its like she can sense what we're saying

**Daisy -** scared!! Of course I'm scared, I'm about to be chopped up into steaks, what you expect me to do, sing and dance?  
Jack please give me another chance, I promise I'll give you milk, just one more chance. All I need is some water, you can't deny me that, please I beg you

**Jack -** but don't worry Simon, I have a plan to get Daisy back. She's not going to be on anyones dinner table.

**Daisy -** oooh a plan, that's sneaky, hit me with it big boy

**Simon -** ooooooh I see..... whats a plan?

**Jack -** all we do is sell her as a champion milker, then when she doesn't give any, we'll offer to buy her back for hmmmmm lets see..... half the price that we got for her

**Daisy -** yes yes yeeeeees, I like that plan

**Simon** - oh I see, then we can sell her for meat

**Daisy** - shut it you, or you'll be cow feed, I may have hooves, but I can still throw a good left hook, leave the planning to Jack

**King Hardup and Fiona enter right**

**Hardup** - oh hello there boys, I'm glad I saw you both, I wanted to thank you for walking Fiona home

**Simon** - ooooh so you're the one that lives in safely

**Jack** - you're welcome King Hardup, I'll always make sure Fiona is safe, especially from that meanie, fleshcreep

**Fiona** - don't mention that name around me, he's a creep alright

**Hardup** - now now my dearest, that's not how royalty talk. But I must admit, he is a pretty nasty man. But unfortunately he seems to have us all in his mercy. The only option we have is to give in to his demands and give my blessing for him to marry you Fiona.

**Fiona** - you can't be serious? I'll never do it, never. Jacks the one I love. I'll never marry fleshcreep, I'd rather go to (*topical name*) for dinner.

**Hardup** - marriage to fleshcreep is not a happy thought I admit, but its not as bad as their cooking

**Daisy** - think you got issues... try swapping places with me?

**Jack** - don't worry Fiona, I have plans for fleshcreep. He'll marry you over my dead body

**Fleshcreep enters right with minions**

**Fleshcreep** - over your dead body is it boy? That can be arranged

**Minion 1** - yeah we can sort that

**Minion 2** - will be fun too

**Minion 3** - we'll do it gladly

**Fleshcreep** - what you doing here anyway?

**Jack** - we're here to sell our cow, Daisy.

**Fleshcreep** - well maybe I can help

**Daisy** - yeah right, I doubt it, unless you want to chop up the princess here and marry me instead, we're in Devon, that type of thing is legal here

**Fleshcreep** - I'll buy her off you, with the contents of my purse here

**Daisy** - don't you dare sell me Jack, I'll trample you Jack, don't push me

**Jack** - how much is in there?

**Daisy** - I mean it Jack

**Fleshcreep** - oooh more than enough for that old cow

**Minion 1** - fleshcreep is very wealthy

**Minion 2** - yeah very very rich

**Minion 3** - and he has lots of money too

**Fleshcreep** - shush now my loyal minions, our company here know what I have and what I can offer  
What do you say lads, do we have a deal?

**Jack** - not until we see whats in your purse

**Simon** - it's a deal (*shaking fleshcreeps hand*)

**Daisy** - what? What do you mean a deal?

**Jack** - What? What do you mean a deal?

**Daisy** - that's what I said, get your own lines

**Jack** - No simon, its not a deal

**Fleshcreep** - the deal has been signed with a handshake I'm afraid

**Minion 1** - the deal is done

**Minion 2** - the deal is agreed

**Minion 3** - the deal is sealed

**Daisy** - well that's just dandy, thanks a million lads, thought we were a team, the 3 musketeers, the 3 stooges, you me and him, the 3 amigos.... but noooooo, you just cast me aside and let me go

**Jack** - its not a deal, daisy is coming home with us, you can keep your purse

**Daisy** - finally, someone with wise words, listen to Jack everyone

**Fiona** - daddy, do something

**Hardup** - I'm sorry Jack, you know the village laws, a deal is always binding with a handshake. It pains me to say so, but the deal has to stand

**Fleshcreep** - perfect, here you go slack, heres your payment

**Jack** - the name is Jack

**Fleshcreep** - whatever, now minions go get that poor excuse of a cow

**Daisy** - no no no please slack, I mean Jack, take me home

**Minions grab daisy**

**Jack** - I'm sorry Daisy, but I will get you back, I promise. Old fleshy bum won't have you for long

**Fleshcreep** - the names Fleshcreep

**Jack** - whatever

**Fleshcreep** - watch your step my boy, no one threatens old fleshy bum..... damn, I mean fleshcreep and gets away with it. Come lets be gone from here

**Fleshcreep, minions and daisy exit right**

**Simon** - sorry Jack, but it seemed like a good deal and it did save us from going all the way to the morning market

**Jack** - oh nevermind Simon, lets see how much he actually gave us..... WHAT!!! Its beans, 3 measly pathetic beans, what will we tell mother?

**Hardup** - your mother is a fair lady and she will understand.

**Fiona** - can't you help them dad? You must have something you can offer them to take home

**Hardup** - all I have these days are words of encouragement, my coffers are empty

**Simon** - you have a coffin, ohhhhhh that's dark, do you sleep in it? Are you a vampire?

**Hardup** - coffers not coffin, wow they weren't kidding about you being simple were they?

**Jack** - oh I'm not looking forward to going home and telling mother, but I guess we need to. And my plan to get Daisy back isn't going to work now, how I can I offer half of nothing?

**Fiona** - don't give up Jack, you'll think of something, I know you will.

**Hardup** - yes you will Jack, I'm sure of it, you're a very resourceful lad and your mother will be ok

**Jack** - got to face the music sometime I guess

**Simon** - ohhhh I like music, are we having a party?

**Jack and simon exit left**

**Hardup and Fiona exit right**

**Curtains close**

### **Scene 3**

***Fairy enters front right***

**Fairy -** let's recap our story so far. it would seem that poor Jack has been conned by the evil Fleshcreep, 3 little beans for their dear old cow Daisy. But all is not lost, what Jack has that Fleshcreep doesn't, is a fairy godmother. From tiny acorns, a giant oak tree can grow, and so with a little magic from me, from little beans a giant beanstalk can grow. The adventure for Jack isn't over yet, in fact it's only just about to begin. So lets see what happens next as our hero returns home to the farm and tell the Widow Winnie what has happened.

***Buttons enters front right***

**Buttons -** good day fair maiden, I seem to have misplaced one self into the wrong arena and indeed panto, could you by perchance direct me to the correct destination and guide me to the theatre royal?

**Fairy -** hello kind gent, Buttons isn't it?

**Buttons -** it is indeed, you seem to have me already in your mind, I am honoured to make your acquaintance

**Fairy -** I'm the fairy godmother, it's my business to know

**Buttons -** well you're certainly more approachable than the last wrench for which crossed my path, for that I am truly grateful

**Fairy -** as for making your way to the correct theatre, I'm afraid you have a long journey ahead

**Buttons -** as I feared dearest fairy, I do hope poor Cinderella is safe without me to look over her, I must make haste and ensure her happiness, thank you again fair maiden

***Buttons exits front right***

**Fairy -** well he was a charmer wasn't he, just my type. Hopefully we'll see him again later, might go get my hair done and a little make up. Bye for now boys and girls

***Fairy exits front right***

***Curtains open to reveal farm***

***Winnie is busy sweeping***

**Winnie -** ooooh a womans work is never done. Maybe that's why we get paid less than men. They say Sunday is a day of rest... rest of the laundry, rest of the cleaning, rest of the cooking, rest of all the other rubbish jobs that need doing before Monday. But I mustn't grumble, my two boys help a lot, they are great lads, I'm so lucky.

**Jack and Simon enter left**

**Winnie -** ahhhh here you are now, I was just talking about you two, and how proud I am of you both, were your ears burning?

**Simon -** no, why? Is my hair on fire?

**Jack -** hello mother, it bodes well that you feel pride for us..... tell me, would you ever tell us off for something we didn't do?

**Winnie -** nooo of course not silly boy, why do you ask that?

**Jack -** good, because we didn't get a good price for Daisy

**Winnie -** that's good my dears, I knew you wouldn't let ..... wait, what did you say?

**Simon -** we sold Daisy to mr Fleshcreep and he gave us a purse

**Winnie -** a purse? And how much was in it? Five pounds?

**Simon -** no not quite

**Winnie -** 4 pounds then?

**Simon -** not quite

**Winnie -** 3 pounds?

**Simon -** ohhhh you're so close, it has a 3 in it

**Jack -** he swindled us mother, he gave us 3 beans. We didn't know, honestly we didn't..... we're sorry mother, we have let you down

**Winnie -** beans?..... BEANS?..... oh that sneaky, conniving, old ..... I'll bash his head with my rolling pin

**Simon -** King Hardup was right, he said you'd understand

**Winnie -** I'll get that wily, evil, good for nothing Fleshcreep, you mark my words

**Simon -** see Jack, shes as cool as a tomato

**Jack -** the phrase is cool as a cucumber

**Simon -** is it? Even when her face has gone that red?

**Winnie -** give me those useless beans (**puts beans to her ear**) whats that you say?..... oooh really, is that right?

**Simon -** Mum, what are you doing?

**Winnie -** well this is Jack and the beans talk isn't it?..... see what I did there?.... oh come on, that's the funniest joke you'll hear tonight..... better than these useless beans anyway

**Winnie takes the beans and throws them away**

**Winnie -** we have lost everything now, we literally have nothing left

**Simon -** you still have us mother, and Jack has a plan

**Jack -** had.... I had a plan, but its no use now, mother is right, we have nothing and we are the ones responsible Simon, we're sorry mother

**Winnie -** now now my dears, lets not worry too much right now, its nearly bedtime, come on, I have some soup on the stove, well I've been boiling my knickerbockers anyway and that's all we have right now

**Simon -** and they're huge, so they'll be loads

**Winnie -** oh you cheeky.....

**Winnie, Jack and Simon exit right**

**Lights dim**

**Lights flash with thunder and beanstalk grows**

**Lights come up**

**Jack enters right**

**Jack -** well that was a bad nights sleep, I can't help but worry about what we're going to do

**Simon enters right**

**Simon -** (holding hay) morning Jack

**Jack -** morning Simon, why are you carrying hay?

**Simon -** I always take hay to bed with me

**Jack -** dare I ask why?

**Simon -** in case I have a bad dream silly, its to feed the night mare

**Jack -** I knew I shouldn't have asked..... (**sees beanstalk**) Argggghhhh whats that?

**Simon -** w w w w what is it? Is it the night mare? Here horsey horsey, I have some hay for you

**Jack -** what is that? Where did it come from? How high does it go? How did it grow so quick?

**Simon -** whoa there, so many questions, you know I'm no good at tests, what the first question again?

**Buttons enters left**

**Buttons -** hello there my friends

**Jack -** oh no not you again, we told you already, you have the wrong venue

**Simon -** you won't find kinder garten here

**Buttons -** Cinderella you plank!! How can one person be so stupid? I've had enough of this, I give up... and now look what you've made me do? I've broken the golden rule of panto.... Never break from character, thanks a bunch lads

**Jack -** ohhh you should never break character, we would never do that in our panto, we're far too professional for that

**Simon -** absolutely, intellectual sibling of mine, you have indeed struck the nail on the cranium, positively top notch commentary from you

**Jack -** shut up you tart and get back in character

**Buttons -** oh I give up, I'll never make it to the theatre royal in time now, Cinderellas not all that nice anyway, she's actually a bit of a spoilt brat, and my god she goes on... oh woe is me, I have to wash up, oh poor me, I have to clean.... It's called housework you lazy sod, hardly modern day slavery.... Try working for the (*topical name*), then you'll know what I'm talking about

**Jack -** amen to that, well maybe you can fit into our story, help us defeat old Fleshcreep

**Simon -** is that a good idea? Remember what mum said, he might be one of them door 4 door sales thingys

**Buttons -** its door 2 door you numpty

**Jack -** see, he'll fit right in, he already has you sussed out

**Buttons -** it would be my pleasure Jack, consider me in, feel rest assured that I will do my utmost, I will give....

**Jack -** yeah yeah, don't over act it

**Simon -** yeah you have to under act to make it into our panto

**Buttons -** so whats the plan?

**Jack -** there's only one thing to do.....I'll have to climb the beanstalk, see where it leads....Buttons, you keep an eye on Fleshcreep, and Simon, you tell mum I had to go out, say I'm on an errand, don't tell her I'm climbing the beanstalk, she'll only worry

### **Song 3**

**Simon -** beanstalk? Whats a beanstalk?

**Jack -** I'll be back soon as I can, don't worry brother of mine I'll be back before you know it

**Simon -** seriously.... whats a beanstalk?

**Jack goes to bottom of beanstalk**

**Simon -** ohhhh that's a beanstalk

**Curtains close**

## **Scene 4**

**King Hardup enters stage front**

**Hardup -** oh hello boys and girls, oh woe is me. I have a dilemma, I have come to the conclusion that I have to give in to Fleshcreep and his demands. I have no choice but to offer my dear daughters hand in marriage to him. If I don't, I fear that my people will go hungry and without water to grow anything.  
All I have to do now is convince my Princess Fiona that it's the right thing to do.  
But I know she has her heart set on that lovely lad Jack. He's a great young man, but as things are at the moment, he doesn't have a chance to keep her in the manner which she has been accustomed.  
I was young and keen like him once, I know it seems unlikely, but I used to be a real live wire. When I was young I even applied to be an astronaut, I had an interview with NASA, they asked me what my ambition was, I said the sky's the limit, they said I should aim higher, so I told him that I wanted to explore Uranus..... he had security escort me out.  
But you'll have to excuse me, my loyal servants, I need to go see Princess Fiona and break the news to her.

**Curtains open to reveal castle**

**Fiona walks on stage left**

**Hardup -** ahhhh there you are my dearest daughter, I really must talk to you

**Fiona -** whats wrong daddy, you look tired and worried

**Hardup -** I am, oh I am.... My people are going thirsty and hungry and I don't know how to help them, not without giving Mr Fleshcreep what he wants. You'll have to marry him

**Fiona -** no father please, there must be a way, anything but that..... he's so ugly that when he was born, the midwife said, oh look isn't he a treasure? His parents said, yes lets grab a shovel and bury it

**Hardup -** I'm so sorry, if there was any other way, I promise I would do it

**Fiona -** oh daddy, I know you would, but the thought of..... (**starts crying**)

**Fiona leaves stage right**

**Hardup -** I better summon for Mr Fleshcreep and let him know that I succumb to his evil demands (**shouts to right of stage**) CALL MR FLESHCREEP TO THE CASTLE, FOR AN AUDIENCE WITH THE KING

**Fleshcreep enters stage right**

**Fleshcreep** - you called for me?

**Hardup** - that was quick

**Fleshcreep** - oh I was just passing.... I knew you'd accept my generous offer sooner or later

**Hardup** - yes well, it's been a difficult decision, but I must think of my kingdom and the people that live within its boundaries, it's a huge responsibility being the king and I have to .....

**Fleshcreep** - yeah yeah, whatever, so get on with it, where is the young maiden that will soon be my wife, to do my bidding and as I want

**Hardup** - you must promise me first that you will treat her like the princess that she is

**Fleshcreep** - its none of your business how I treat her, she'll be mine, all mine, now come on I'm a busy man, lets get the deal done

**Hardup** - Deal? Deal? DEAL!!!! My daughter isn't a bargaining tool, she's my dearest, my own blood.... I think that maybe I should rethink this, oh my (*starts to feel weak*)

**Fleshcreep** - now now, don't get your knickers in a twist, here, take my hand I don't want you to fall

**Hardup grabs his hand**

**Fleshcreep** - there we go old man, see that was easy wasn't it

**Hardup** - what was?

**Fleshcreep** - doing the deal, see, we even shook on it, and as you said before, a handshake was binding

**Hardup** - but but but that wasn't why I grabbed your hand, I was going to fall over

**Fleshcreep** - so you say, now lets be sensible and go get that princess

**Hardup** - never!!! You're not going to trick me like you did poor simple Simon

**Fleshcreep** - oh it doesn't matter anyway, my minions have already gone ahead

**Minions and Daisy enter left with Fiona**

**Minion 1** - we have her Mr Fleshcreep

**Minion 2** - right proper struggle it was too

**Minion 3** - anyone would think she didn't want to marry you

**Fleshcreep** - well done my loyal minions, but why is that cow with you?

**Daisy** - I do have a name you know

**Minion 1** - it keeps following everywhere

**Minion 2** - starting to freak me out

**Minion 3** - just keeps mooing all the time

**Daisy** - I'm hoping you'll lead me back home where I belong

**Fleshcreep** - oh nevermind, she'll be part of the wedding banquet soon enough

**Daisy** - whats with everyone's obsession to eat me? Have you people never heard of vegetarians?

**Minion 1** - oh goody, I like beef

**Daisy** - I'm all tough and sinewy, don't say I didn't warn you

**Minion 2** - hmmmm yeah, big juicy steak

**Daisy** - it'll be more of a mis steak, nothing juicy about me, you ask that bull at the farm down the road, although that was a memorable evening

**Minion 3** - I'll have leg please

**Daisy** - nevermind my leg, you'll get my hoof, right up your.....

**Fleshcreep** - don't worry, they'll be plenty for everyone. Even a skinny pathetic old cow like this will be enough for us to dine on

**Daisy** - you're really pushing it sunshine, don't get me angry, you won't like me when I'm angry, I turn into the incredible sulk

**Fleshcreep** - now come on, lets all get home and start the preparations, don't forget the cow and bring Daisy too

**Fiona** - daddy, help me please

**Hardup** - take your hands off her, she isn't going anywhere

**Fleshcreep** - try and make us old man, she's mine now, and whats more I'll be back for that crown too, soon the whole kingdom will be mine, all mine hahahahaha

**Fleshcreep, minions and Fiona exit right**

**Hardup** - nooo please, let her go..... oh dear, oh dear, oh dear..... I need help..... I know, Jack will help

**Hardup exits left and curtains close**

## **Scene 5**

**Fairy enters stage front right**

**Fairy -** hello again boys and girls. Well we do find ourselves in a bit of a pickle don't we?  
That nasty Fleshcreep has princess Fiona and poor King Hardup must find help, but Jack is on his way to the top of the beanstalk. What will the King do when he finds Jack gone, who will help him now?

**Giant -** Fe Fi Fo Fum, does anyone in the audience have any bubble gum?.....  
Who is that down there making all the noise?

**Fairy -** shush now Rumplebum, I am the fairy Eleanor, here to help all the good boys and girls

**Giant -** oooh, will you help me?

**Fairy -** well that depends, have you been a good boy?

**Giant -** well I've done as I was asked and what I was told to do

**Fairy -** and was that good things?

**Giant -** I errrr, well I, I errr ..... I'm not sure it helped quite everyone

**Fairy -** did he help all the village boys and girls? (*nooooo*)

**Giant -** shut up you horrible lot, or I'll come down there and trample on all of you, squish you all I will

**Fairy -** now that doesn't sound like a good boy thing does it?

**Giant -** well, I was provoked

**Fairy -** come on then, come down and trample on everyone, squish us all

**Giant -** I would if I could, I need some help because I'm..... I'm.....

**Fairy -** you're what?

**Giant -** I don't want to say,..... its embarrassing

**Fairy -** well I can't help you if you don't speak up

**Giant -** I'm stuck up here and I can't get down, but my master will come soon enough and get me down, and when I do, you're all toast

**Fairy -** I'm sorry rumplebum, but I don't help naughty angry people that bully others, so you'll have to stay up there. When you can be a nicer giant, and prove you can help everyone, then we will help you

**Giant -** oh get lost, my time will come, you'll see, that's it, I'm going

**Fairy -** that told him didn't it boys and girls? Grumpy rumpy bum.... OK lets see what happens next in our story

**Fairy exits front right**

**Curtains open to reveal farm**

**Winnie enters right**

**Winnie -** oh hello boys and girls..... Oh you are getting good at that. What a busy day I've had, I can't seem to find my boys will you help me?

**Simon enters left and creeps across stage**

**Winnie -** Tell me if you see either of them won't you?

**(he's behind you)**

What was that?

**(he's behind you)**

Behind me? Oh no he isn't

**(oh yes he is)**

Oh no he isn't

**(oh yes he is)**

Ahhh Simon, there you are, have you seen your brother?

**Simon -** w w w w who?

**Winnie -** jack silly

**Simon -** w w w w why would I have seen him?

**Winnie -** why are you acting weird and why were you skulking behind be?

**Simon -** I'm not a skunk

**Winnie -** skulk, I said skulk, although you do pong a bit, typical teenager I suppose

**Simon -** he's err.... He said errr ..... that he was on an error

**Winnie -** Error? What are you talking about, you silly boy?

**Simon -** not error, it was a eric, no wait, he said he was doing a essay.... No not an essay..... ERRAND, that's it he was climbing the beanstalk to do an errand, phew, got there in the end

**Winnie -** Beanstalk?

**Simon -** what talks?

**Winnie -** you said he was climbing the beanstalk

**Simon -** did i? oh crap, yeah I did didn't I..... he, he, he, oh I can't do this anymore, he saw the huge tall beanstalk and climbed up it and told me to tell you he had gone on an error

**Winnie** - you mean errand

**Simon** - well if you knew already, then why ask me where he was?

**Hardup enters right**

**Hardup** - oh thank goodness you're here, please help me, I need Jack quickly

**Winnie** - **(to Simon)** I'll deal with you later, stupid boy..... King Hardup, whats wrong, how can we help?

**Hardup** - wheres Jack? I need Jacks help, he'll know what to do

**Winnie** - take your time your highness, tell us what has happened

**Hardup** - it's Fiona, that no good Fleshcreep has taken her, he tricked me just like he did poor young Simon there, he's going to force her to marry him

**Simon** - see, I'm not the only silly one

**Both look at Simon**

**Simon** - sorry, I mean yes I am

**Hardup** - so you see I need Jack to think of something, he'll know what to do

**Winnie** - I'm sorry your majesty, but Jack is on an errord.... Errand, I mean errand, he's on an errand

**Hardup** - oh what am I to do?

#### **Song 4**

**Winnie** - don't fret your highness, I'm sure Jack will return soon

**Hardup** - oh I do hope so, the whole fate of the kingdom is at Fleshcreeps mercy

**Winnie** - not forgetting that poor old cow of ours

**Simon** - What?!! He has **(topical name)** too?

**Winnie** - ignore him, I swear he was in the queue for heads and thought they said beds, and he asked for a big soft one

**Hardup** - well without Jacks help, I fear that we are all doomed, the whole of the village will be his

**Winnie** - now now, don't worry yourself, its the local panto, it always works out in the end, come and have a cup of tea and we'll take a break for 20 minutes and see if Jack is back after that.  
See you after the break, bye bye boys and girls.

**Curtains close**