

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

A PANTOMIME

by

DANIEL O'BRIEN

with

Music and Lyrics by

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LIST OF CHARACTERS

| | | |
|-------------------|---|----------------------|
| JACK TROTT | - | A Lad |
| DAME TRISHA TROTT | - | His Mother |
| JILL | - | His Best Friend |
| BRIGADIER BOMBAST | - | A Retired Soldier |
| PERDITA | - | His Daughter |
| GOGMAGOG | - | A Giant |
| FLESHCREEP | - | The Giant's Henchman |
| FAIRY LIQUID | - | A Fairy |
| DAISY | - | A Cow |
| SUMMER | - | A Villager |
| VILLAGER | | |
| LACKEYS | | |
| SKELETONS | | |

Suggested Doubling:

BRIGADIER and VOICE OF GIANT

MALE CHORUS and BODY OF GIANT and DAISY

FEMALE CHORUS and DAISY

U/S Responsibilities:

MALE CHORUS:

JACK

DAME

FLESHCREEP

BRIGADIER BOMBAST

FEMALE CHORUS

JILL

PERDITA

FAIRY

The action takes place in rural England sometime during the reign of King Arthur. The cast is four male, three female and a chorus of two plus a juvenile chorus of four.

Prologue

Before the Title Cloth

FAIRY LIQUID enters

FAIRY LIQUID

Once upon a time, or maybe twice
A giant lived who was not very nice,
He raved, he ranted, he screamed and roared
And gobbled up humans because he was bored.
He placed them in a gilded cage
Ready to cook them with stuffing and sage.
Above the clouds where there's not much air
That's where you'd find the Giant's lair
And every day you could hear him shout
Those words that no Giant can live without:

The stage goes dark and everything reverberates to the sound of GOGMAGOG's voice

GOGMAGOG

Fi! Fie! Foe! Fum!
I smell the blood of an Englishman.
Be he live, or be he dead,
I'll grind his bones to make my bread!

Light returns and with it comes the entrance of FLESHCREEP to suitable 'baddie' music.

FLESHCREEP

All right, all right! Fairy Sugar, Fairy Spice, Fairy Raindrops on Roses and Fairy Whiskers on Kittens. You're such a little treasure.

FAIRY LIQUID

Oh Frederick! I knew you still cared. A treasure eh?

FLESHCREEP

Yes! What a pity you're not buried! Ha! Ha! Ha! Fairy Poo, Fairy Pah! Fairy Dog Bite, Fairy Bee Sting. Can't hang about. When you've gotta go capture people and place them in a very secret location for a Giant to reach down, grab `em and scoff `em, you've gotta go capture people and place them in a very secret location for a Giant to reach down, grab `em

and scoff `em. That's the way to get on in the world and be rich, rich, rich!

He attempts to leave but FAIRY LIQUID blocks his way

Oh just get out of the way Fairy Footsteps. I'm on errand of much importance for my master.

FAIRY LIQUID I was just telling them about him.

FLESHCREEP Him?

FAIRY LIQUID Him.

FLESHCREEP Who him?

FAIRY LIQUID Your horrible master him.

FLESHCREEP toadies

FLESHCREEP Oh him him. Oh Master Gogmagog! The all-powerful, all-masterful, super-sized, super-charged, super-duper, super um...

FAIRY LIQUID Supermarket?

FLESHCREEP Shut up!

FAIRY LIQUID Superstar?

FLESHCREEP Shut up, shut up!

FAIRY LIQUID Superman?

The band strike up with the Superman theme.

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FLESHCREEP Shut up! Shut up! Shut Up! Just get out of my way or I'll place you in a very secret location for Gogmagog to reach

down, grab you and put you in a gilded cage, and let him grind your bones for his bread. Ha! Ha! Ha!

The audience should boo. He turns to look at them.

Oh! That sort of audience eh? Year after year after year. It's always the same. You just have to join in or you don't feel you've had your money's worth, is that it?

They should respond in the affirmative

OK. OK. Let's get it over with shall we? Right. Ha! Ha! Ha! I'm so clever aren't I?

They should respond in the negative

Oh yes I am. *[Oh no you're not]*

Oh yes I am! *[Oh no you're not]*

Oh yes I am!! *[Oh no you're not]*

Very funny, very amusing. Not! A little rhyme before I go.

He singles out a member of the audience to insult

Roses are red violets are blue, God made me handsome, he forgot about you. See you later losers! Auf wiedersehen. A bientôt

There is a drumroll and he has disappeared.

FAIRY LIQUID

Oh dear, Fleshcreep's going to be troublesome again. He used to be such a charmer and then the awful Gogmagog stole him from me to be his wicked helper. And I don't have enough magic of my own any more to try and stop him. Ever since the wicked giant came on the scene my powers have got weaker and weaker. Oh I'm so sorry. I haven't introduced myself have I? *[No]* Well my name's Fairy Liquid. Delighted to meet you. And I wonder, do you think you can

help me? [*Yes*]. Oh Froth and Bubbles, that's super! Now we've just got to stop Frederick, I mean Fleshcreep, doing what the Giant wants him to do. He's very easily confused and distracted you know. If you just shout out 'Supermarket, Superstar and Superman' each time he says 'Super um..' like I just did, it will confuse and distract him so much he might forget to snatch people and take them to the Giant for his tea. Let's give it a go. I'll be him. Ready? 'Master, Oh Master Gogmagog! The all-powerful, all-masterful, super-sized, super-charged, super-duper, super um...'

She reminds them if necessary

AUDIENCE Supermarket?

FAIRY LIQUID 'Shut up!'

AUDIENCE Superstar?

FAIRY LIQUID 'Shut up, shut up!'

AUDIENCE Super Man?

FAIRY LIQUID 'Shut up, shut up, shut up!!'

[If they need to, they practise until it is fluent

Pretty good. Shall we give it another go till you're perfect?]

Wow! Oh Froth and Bubbles, that was super! Don't forget it now. Now then, where was I? Oh yes:

Once upon a time, or maybe twice ...

And the music starts and she exits

.

Scene 1

The Village Square

*An idyllic rural world which is under threat from the terrible
Giant Gogmagog*

No 1 Practically Perfect Panto Village

ALL Hello, good day, we welcome you, be our guests, sit back enjoy
A happy song to start the show, charm offensive we do deploy
It's a Practically Perfect Panto Village in King Arthur's Utopia
We're just everyday folks, sort of run of the mill'ish' and
We're pleased to welcome you here

SOLO The village is poor, but you won't hear us complain
Look for beauty in the things you can afford

SOLO The occasional gripe
But the world is alright

ALL A staycation is the trend that's our reward
We live in a
Practically Perfect Panto village just to set the record straight
'Tis true this practically perfect panto village has a giant as a village mate
Don't be alarmed – relax
Stay nice and calm – chillax

SOLO He lives high above in his giant's lair
The directions to which we are unaware
With his fee fi fo fum blah blah

ALL It's the age old giant repertoire

SOLOS Now don't be afraid you won't come to harm
If you hear his cry just stay nice and calm
When he's hungry he's the most perverse

ALL That's when village life is at it's worst
Other than that
It's a Practically Perfect Panto Village in King Arthur's Utopia
We're just everyday folks, sort of run of mill'ish' and
We're pleased to welcome you here
Village living in fear
Good luck.
Good cheer

At the end of the number BRIGADIER BOMBAST tries to take charge. His daughter PERDITA and his four LACKEYS stand with him. JACK, JILL, SUMMER and VILLAGER stand apart.

BRIGADIER Right then. All personnel to hovels return! Chip, chip, Chop, Chop. Eyes peeled!

There is always a repetition of his last order.

LACKEY #1 Eyes Peeled!

LACKEY #2 Eyes Peeled!

LACKEY #3 Eyes Peeled!

LACKEY #4 Eyes Peeled!

PERDITA Oh Father what are we going to do?

BRIGADIER Never give in, Perdita dearest. Giant may be huge...

PERDITA He's more than ten feet high.

BRIGADIER Giant may always be hungry ...

PERDITA He has two breakfasts, three lunches and five teas every day.

BRIGADIER Giant may be cruel ...

PERDITA He uses the bones of his victims as toothpicks.

BRIGADIER But Giant cannot be invincible.

PERDITA But how can he be conquered when no-one knows how to get to his lair above the clouds.

BRIGADIER Giant got up there in the first place. Seek him out.

LACKEY #1 Seek him out!

LACKEY #2 Seek him out!

LACKEY #3 Seek him out!

LACKEY #4 Seek him out!

BRIGADIER Must be way to follow him. Village personnel listen!

LACKEY #1 Listen!

LACKEY #2 Listen!

LACKEY #3 Listen!

LACKEY #4 Listen!

BRIGADIER I, Brigadier Bombast, will grant anything within power to first man, woman or small personnel to find way to Giant's lair and bish, bash, bosh `im. Until moment comes, return to houses, secure livestock and bolt doors. Come! Away!

LACKEY #1 Away!

LACKEY #2 Away!

LACKEY #3 Away!

LACKEY #4 Away!

BRIGADIER Street is a dangerous place. Perdita, my angel, come. By the left, quick march, two, three, four, five, six, ...

He and LACKEYS leave. PERDITA delays her exit, her eyes on JACK.

JACK Good day Perdita.

JILL *[aside]* Oh here we go! Love's young dream!

PERDITA Good day Jack.

JILL *[mimicking]* Good day Jack!

Beat

JACK How are you this morning?

PERDITA Well, I thank you.

JILL *[mimicking]* Well I thank you!

Beat

BRIGADIER *[off]* Perdita!

PERDITA I'd better be going.

JILL *[aside]* Good idea.

JACK Yes.

And with that she's gone. FLESHCREEP enters singing Ella Fitzgerald

FLESHCREEP ... and winter continues cold, as if to say Spring
will be a little slow to start

JILL But it's summer Fleshcreep. Isn't it Jack?

FLESHCREEP What?

JACK Oh yes! High Summer.

SUMMER Hi!

FLESHCREEP What? Who are you?

SUMMER Summer.

JILL Hi Summer!

SUMMER Hi!

FLESHCREEP What?

JACK You said it's winter.

FLESHCREEP No I didn't.

ALL Yes you did!

FLESHCREEP Oh no I didn't!

ALL Oh yes you did!!

FLESHCREEP Oh no I didn't!!!

ALL Oh yes you did!!!

FLESHCREEP Oh I see what you're trying to do. Shut up! Shut up! Shut up! You're not going to confuse and distract me today. My master is hungry.

The stage goes dark and everything reverberates to the sound of GOGMAGOG's voice

GOGMAGOG Fi! Fie! Foe! Fum!
I need the flesh of an Englishman.
Be he live, or be he dead,
Bring him to me to make my bread!

Light returns and FLESHCREEP addresses the gathered throng

FLESHCREEP World! Listen to me, me and only me! I am the giant's henchman...

JACK The giant's a Frenchman?

FLESHCREEP Shut up! I, who never fails...

JILL You're from Wales?

FLESHCREEP Shut up!! I, who have an evil streak...

JACK You're an evil Greek?

FLESHCREEP Shut up! Shut up! Shut up! World! Listen to me. I am come from my Master. Oh Master Gogmagog! The all-powerful, all-masterful, super-sized, super-charged, super-duper, super um...

FAIRY LIQUID appears

FAIRY LIQUID Now's your chance -

FLESHCREEP Super um...

She helps the audience with -

FAIRY LIQUID Supermarket?

FLESHCREEP Shut up!

FAIRY LIQUID Superstar?

FLESHCREEP Shut up, shut up!

FAIRY LIQUID Superman?

The band strike up with the Superman theme.

FLESHCREEP Shut up! Shut up! Shut Up! Oh now I can't remember what I was doing.

JACK You were going to put some fertiliser on the Giant's garden.

FLESHCREEP Was I?

ALL Yes!

FLESHCREEP Well I'd better be gone then. But I shall return to seek the Giant's supper. Ha! Ha! Ha!!

The audience should boo.

Boo all you like. I don't care one bit
I'm off to cover his flowers in sh...

ALL Bye Fleshcreep!

He singles out a member of the audience to insult

FLESHCREEP Oh dear! Looks like you fell out of the ugly tree and hit every branch on the way down! Ha! Ha! Ha!

He exits singing a phrase from a suitably wicked song.

FAIRY LIQUID Well done all of you. Well done.

And she leaves

VILLAGER That's OK for now but if things go on at this rate the Giant will have eaten everyone in the village soon.

JACK We must do something.

JILL No-one can defeat the terrible Gogmagog. We just can't reach his lair in the clouds.

JACK Perhaps I could bish, bash, bosh him and then perhaps Perdita might ... and then perhapsand then...

He trails off

JILL Now Jack ...

JACK What?

JILL About Perdita.

JACK What about her?

JILL She's the Brigadier's daughter!

JACK I know that.

JILL And you're a poor, knackered old crone's son.

JACK Do you think I don't know that?

JILL So. Perhaps you should look for love somewhere else.

JACK What do you mean?

JILL Well I ...

JACK What?

JILL I ...

JACK What?

JILL I ...

JACK What?

JILL Oh it doesn't matter.

Beat

VILLAGER But what are we going to do? The Giant's taken all our food
and all of our money.

JACK I know. I know. I know!

No 2 Food For Thought

SUMMER & VILLAGER

Oh woe is us fate has dealt a blow
There's a giant above and we live right below
No money to move, all our credit's gone crunch
I think I hear the giant he's preparing for lunch
Joined by **JACK & JILL**

Our goose is cooked we are in the stew
We're hungry for change, good luck is overdue
We try to smile in our adversity
But let's face it as things stand it's a catastrophe

JACK

Woe is me my love is true

JILL

Jack Perdita refuses to acknowledge you

SUMMER & VILLAGER

Your class is wrong Jack
See the light

JACK

You people give up easily I'll win my fight

ALL

We're in the soup with egg on face
We're hungry for change but need a quicker pace
We sing to cheer us in this time of woe
It's food for thought yet hunger pangs refuse to go

JILL

Fight for love it's the only way
It's a battle he can't win but then I'd seize my day
Tell me how I can aid your quest
By being Jack's BF he'll soon see I'm the best

SUMMER & VILLAGER

We're heading for disaster over love oppressed

JACK

Woe, woe woe is me

PLUS OTHERS

Woe, woe include us three

ALL

The milk's been spilt and the appletart's upset
We'd eat humble pie now our appetite's wet
It's food for thought 'cos there's none to eat
Oh woe is us attempting to remain upbeat
The frying pan's been left and we're into the fire
We'd better end this song before the key gets higher
For supper we sing in this time of woe
A trouble shared is halved let's make some dough....then eat it

JILL Let's go and see if your Mum has some ideas.

JACK My Mum?! You've got to be joking.

JILL Why not?

JACK Well you know Mum.

JILL What's wrong with her?

JACK What's right with her?

JILL What choice have we got? C'mon!

JACK You're right.

JILL As always.

JACK

Let's go then. See you all later. Bye.

And with that they all exit