

Overture

Prologue

(Fairy enters right always)

Fairy Welcome my friends to the land of Make Believe,
Where fantasy is queen and magic spells may weave
Stories so wondrous, amazing and bold
Yet known to all mortals, be they young or old.
Follow your heart and not your mind,
And anything is possible you will find.
Believe in me, have faith, it is time
To enter this kingdom of pantomime.
A lad called Jack is our hero today
And we will climb with him each step of the way,
As into the clouds to meet his fate he must go,
Great courage he'll need against a murderous foe

(Blood curdling laugh and thunder clap. Giant's voice heard off stage)

Giant Fee Fie Foe Fum
I smell the blood of an Englishman
Be he alive or be he dead
I'll grind his bones to make my bread!

(Blood curdling laugh and thunder clap)

Fairy The voice of Giant Grimm proclaims his hate
But Giant Grimm will shortly meet his fate
Beneath his yoke the country people bend
Our hero, Jack, this tyranny will end.
This fairy wand shields Jack, come what may
As on adventure's path he wends his way
Some magic beans, a beanstalk and a cow
Make up our tale to be unfolded now

(Opens tabs with wave of wand and exits to right)

for them. I never heard anything so ridiculous in all my life. I thought I could trust you. Get upstairs and stay upstairs, there'll be no supper for you

Jack *(Crosses right and turns)* But Mother

Dame Go on, OUT, before I lose my temper. *(exit Jack)* Eeh, I had such faith in that lad *(sniffing as she takes chair to centre)* and now where are we? We still owe the rent and we haven't even got Jessie. Oh dear, what's to become of us? *(breaks down head in hands and cries herself to sleep. Enter Fairy)*

Fairy Sleep on Dame Trot, 'twill soothe your troubled mind
Ere long you'll leave your worries far behind
You've lost your faith in Jack, or so it seems,
But soon Jack's bravery will realise your dreams

(Blackout)

Scene 6 Outside Dame Trot's Cottage

Fairy As darkness falls and moonlight starts to peep
The people of the village yield to sleep
But Jack's awake, for slumber has no hold
On one who's bought some beans with all his family's gold

(Fairy exits, Jack enters to stand at side of stage)

Jack Oh what a mess I've made of everything. No money. No Jessie. Mother's angry and I haven't seen Sue for hours; I do hope nothing has happened to her. I feel so alone in the world. I don't know what to do or where to turn. If only there was someone to light my way

Fairy *(re-entering)* The Dawn's first glow, the Sun's first ray
Bring forth the light and hope of a new day
And so my friends, the time is finally here;
To change Jack's fortunes round, I will now appear
Jack!

Jack Am I dreaming? Who are you?

Fairy Your Good Fairy Jack. I am here to help you

Jack Help me? But how?

Fairy You are right to fear for Sue's safety. She has been kidnapped and is destined to be held captive in the castle of Giant Grimm

Jack Giant Grimm! That monster!

Fairy Never fear! With your undoubted courage, you will climb to Giant Grimm's kingdom in the clouds, put an end to his wicked rule, free your loved one and claim for yourself all his untold riches

Jack Kingdom in the clouds? Riches? Rescue Sue? How can I climb to this kingdom? And what are these riches?

Fairy You cannot be expected to remember. When you were only a small child, the Giant stole these treasures from your Father. They are rightfully yours

Jack Rightfully mine? Very well Good Fairy, I'll dare to venture on this climb. But how?

Fairy Have you forgotten the beans you exchanged for a bag of gold?

Jack How could I forget? What a fool I was to swap a bag of gold for worthless beans

Fairy Not quite worthless Jack. You believed they were magic when you bought them and with my powers I will make them so. The beans your Mother so hastily threw out of the window shall take root and grow (*Waves wand*) Next to the window you will find your ladder to the clouds in the shape of a magic beanstalk

Jack A magic beanstalk? No way!

Fairy Come along with me and see for yourself

(Offers her hand which Jack takes. They exit. Blackout)

Scene 7 The Garden of Dame Trot's Cottage

(Beanstalk and ballet sequence. At end, enter Jack and Fairy)

Fairy Behold Jack, the magic beanstalk

Jack And I must climb up there?

Fairy The beanstalk will grow until it towers in the sky (*Waves wand*)

Jack It's growing further! The magic beanstalk, my path to the kingdom in the clouds. I shall rescue Sue from the clutches of Giant Grimm and reclaim our family treasures, This is where I start to prove myself!

Fairy Farewell Jack and good luck

Jack Thank you Good Fairy for your aid. You have trusted me and I will not let you down. I will meet with courage whatever lies before me (*looking up*) Beware Giant Grimm, your days are numbered!!

(Jack starts to climb. Blackout)

INTERVAL