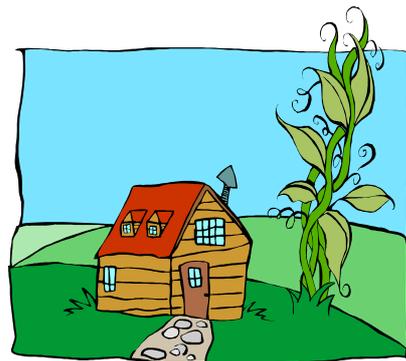


Spotlight Publications

Jack & Jill & The Beanstalk

A pantomime by
Craig Hewlett



Jack & Jill & The Beanstalk

CAST (in order of appearance)

The Fairy Liquid— female

A young bubbly fairy with a penchant for speaking in rhyme. She uses her magic to ensure that the story has a beginning, middle and end. Must be likeable and able to relate to an audience. Has a cameo song snippet so needs confident voice.

Dame Dolly Mixtures— male

A sharp and witty Dame. Lovable and ingenious. The victim of the Squire and although she lives in poverty she keeps up hers and everyone else's spirits. Must be able to play an audience and sing.

Jack Mixtures— female

Principal boy and hero. Known locally for his expertise in laziness, undergoes a change of character through the story 'from zero to hero'. Needs to be a good singer/dancer.

Gemima Joie de Vivre— female

Jill's not so little sister. A Vicky Pollard type. This character could be played as a youth Dame if desired. Desperately in love with Richard. Good character role. Needs to sing and dance.

Richard Mixtures— male

'Clever Richard' is Jack's very intelligent brother and love interest for Gill. Good character part. 'Plum in mouth' speaking style. Slightly supercilious but likeable. Needs to sing and dance.

Jill Joie de Vivre— female

Not named as one but this is the 'Princess' role. Say no more. Bags of character needed for a good sassy part. Needs to sing and dance.

Sticky Bunn— male (could be female)

Servant to the Squire. A likeable rogue who'd like to be nice not nasty. His lines imply he is little and needs to be small in stature for the character to work. May be played by a non-singer.

Sir Nicholas Nicholas, the Squire — male

Villain. A moustache-twirling, 'tie the girl to the train tracks' type. One of nature's rotters. He is out to rule his particular part of the world and has his eye on Jill. May be played by a non-singer.

Daisy the Camel— male or female

Feature part for two chorus members who want a bit more action. The actors would be able to participate in other scenes as chorus. Must be physically fit to perform the necessary business.

Horace the Hornseller— male or female

Small character part for a chorus member. Is involved in a comedy business scene with the Dame, Jack and Daisy.

Robin Ublind and Will Cheatem— male or female

Career criminals, they are a couple of opportunists who blunder through the story. They are essential to the plotline of the 'magic' beans. Good characterisation needed. Both actors need to sing and dance.

Guy Ant— male but may be played by a female

A new resident in the land of the Giant. His name leads him reluctantly into the story and he decides to stick with Jack when the chips are down. Another small part where the actor may be part of the Chorus in Act 1. May be doubled with the Hornseller.

Principal Chorus Members

Named Chorus,

Health and Safety Police.

The Giant's Mini-me and Sir Nicholas's Mini-me.

All have lines. There is also some principal chorus singing.

Chorus

The Villagers of Poverty.

Skeletons in the land of the Giants.

Other

Voice of the Giant and voice of the Hen. May be recorded prior to the show.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT 1

1. 'Nicest Kids in Town': *Hairspray* (revised words) (Chorus)
2. 'Those Canaan (local) Days': *Joseph and His Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*. (Jack, Dame and Chorus)
3. 'Whistle in the Choir': The Fratellis (Jack and Jill)
4. 'Dentist's Song': *Little Shop of Horrors* (revised words) (Sir Nick and Chorus)
5. 'Daisy': Community Song (Dame, Jack, Jill and Chorus)
6. 'Friendship': *Anything Goes* (Will, Robin and Jack)
7. 'Feed Me': *Little Shop of Horrors* (revised words) (Dolly and Chorus)
8. 'Carry You Home': Ward Thomas (Jack, Jill and Chorus)

ACT 2

9. 'The Timewarp': *Rocky Horror Show* (revised words) – (Principals and Chorus)
10. 'Count On Me': Bruno Mars (Gemima and Richard)
11. 'Whistle a Happy Tune': *The King and I* (fractured song) (Jack, Gemima and Richard) (comedy business number)
12. 'Thriller': Michael Jackson (recorded version) (Skeletons)
13. 'True, True Friend': *My Little Pony* (Dame, Jill, Richard, Gemima and Chorus)
14. 'Love Story': Taylor Swift (Jill)
15. 'Brand New Day/Awesome/ Marry You': Mash Up (Principals and Chorus)
16. 'Colour My World': *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* Walkdown/Finale (Cast)

ACT 1

Scene 1

Outside the Dame's cottage, in the village of Poverty near (Place of performance). The Dame's cottage is set to the rear of stage left. There is a ground row of a rural background with a dirt track leading away. In the distance is the town of (Locality). The drum beat kicks in as the cast bounce onto the stage smiling and happy as can be

Song 1

Lead Chorus (*spoken*) - Hey there, boys and girls, mums and dads,
Get ready to clap and cheer and boo and hiss.
'Cause it's the Jack and the Beanstalk pantomime
Brought to you by the (*Group performing*).

Oh, everytime we come here to the village hall,
(Bop-bee-ba, ba-ba-ba-ba, bee-ba),
Us crazy bunch of kids start bouncing round the floor, yeah,
(Bop-bee-ba, ba-ba-ba-ba, bee-ba).

We throw off our coats and leave the world behind,
And then we shake it, shake it, shake it like we're losin' our mind.
You'll never see us frown,
'Cause we're the nicest kids in town,
Oo -oo-oo-oo-oo-oo oo-oo-oo

When we hear the music we drop everything, yeah,
(Na na-nah, na-na-na-na-na-na-nah!).

Who needs to read and write when you can dance and sing?
(Na na-nah, na-na-na-na-na-na-nah!)

Forget about your algebra and calculus,
You can always do your homework on the mornin' bus.
You'll never wear us down
'Cause we're the nicest kids in town

Instrumental/ dance break – one verse

So if you like the music you can clap along,
(Clappy-happy ooh happy-clappy).
Put those hands together after every song,
(Clappy-happy ooh happy-clappy).

Oh, who cares about sleep when you can snooze in school?
We'll never get to Uni but we sure look cool.
Who needs a cap and a gown
When you're the nicest kids in town?

Yeah, we're the nicest, nicest,
Oh, we're the nicest, nicest.
We're the sugar and spicest,
The nicest kids in, (*drum riff*) kids in town, ooh!

At the end of the song the cast bounces about happily

Chorus Yaaaay! That was great!

SFX *There is a thunder flash and the Fairy enters with a downstage right. The lights change to blue and the*

cast freezes. She waves at the smoke and coughs. She is spotlighted in pink hue

Fairy Cough! Cough! Oh dear! Sorry about that everyone. I'm breaking in a new wand. Wasn't that a lovely tune, boys and girls? Full of fun and frolics. These poor villagers amaze me. They have so little to smile about but they still dance and sing. Oh, yes ... of course you don't know what's happening here in the village of Poverty, near (*Place of performance*). Well, not that I'm one to gossip but you have bought a ticket so pin your ears back and I'll fill you in. Erhmm...

The Squire of (*Local*)'s a terrible man.

With a heart made of stone and an evil plan.

He owns all the houses and all of the flats,

He always wears black clothes and very tall hats.

He's mean and he's wicked to all that he meets,

He even throws pensioners out on the streets.

Sir Nicholas Nicholas is the name he was given,

And to full villain status he now has risen.

Will you help us defeat him? Put an end to his reign?

Great, I'll be back later to see you again.

Anyone out there fancy something more jolly?

Well lock up your husbands 'cause here comes Dame Dolly!

The Fairy exits and Dolly enters from inside her cottage with a basket of washing. As she does so the cast begin to move again. She's singing 'I Feel Pretty' very badly

Dame 'I feel pretty, oh so pretty, I feel pretty and witty and gay.' (*She sees the audience*) and for your information; that's 'gay' as in light-hearted and carefree. Mind you, I don't know why I'm so happy with all my worries but I'll tell you about those later. Hello there. (*Audience*) Please yourselves, I'll talk to myself then. I said 'Hello there'. (*Audience*) I expect you're all a bit shy 'cos we haven't been introduced, have we? Well my name's Dolly. Dolly Mixtures but you can call me Sweetie. I'll tell you what, let's give your tongues and tonsils a test - not the way you're thinking, you naughty boy! I'll go back inside my cottage, come back out and I'll shout out 'Hello, everybody' and you shout back 'Hello, Sweetie'. Will you do that for me? You will? Right let's try it shall we? (*She exits into the cottage and rushes back out*) Hello, everybody! (*Audience*) Well that wasn't bad, I suppose but I think we can turn the volume up a bit more. Let's try it again. (*She exits into the cottage and rushes back out*) Hello, everybody! (*Audience*) Oh yes. That's much better. Definitely the loudest audience this week so I want you all to turn left in your seat and pat each other on the back saying, 'Well done, we're the best audience this week.' (*Audience*) Oh dear! Did you see that man on the end? He was patting nobody. That's very sad. Hold on a minute. (*She runs down to the man*) Here you are you, can pat me. Another satisfied customer. (*She returns to the stage*) Now where was I? Oh yes I was about to hang out me washing ...

Jack (*offstage*) Mother?

Dame Oooh, that's our Jack.

Jack enters. He is a very pretty young man

Jack What's for tea, Mum? I'm starving.

Dame What's for tea? I knew it. You only ever put in an appearance when you're hungry. I suppose you've spent the day sleeping as usual.

Jack I have not! If you must know I've been very busy all day 'thinking'.

Dame Oh yes? And what did you think about?

Jack Well there were these sheep jumping over fences and ...

Dame I thought so. You've been asleep. Why you have to lie to your poor old mother when I have enough troubles already I really don't know.

Jack Troubles? What troubles?

Dame Bills, Jack. Bills (*She flaps a handful of papers at him*) The trouble is these are big enough to be Williams.

Jack Why doesn't William pay them then?

Dame What? (*To audience*) Oh bless him ... The wheel is turning but the hamster is definitely dead, if you know what I mean?

Jack Eh?.

Dame Have you ever wondered why I keep patching your jacket? Why it is that I don't simply buy you a new one?

Jack 'Cause the village shop's closed down?

The Chorus react in angry agreement

Dame Nope. Good guess though. Try again

Jack Cause we live in the village of Poverty, near (*Place of performance*), and there's only one bus a week?

The Chorus react again

Dame No. Although, that is true, of course.

Jack Why do you keep patching me jacket then?

Dame It's because we've no money, Jack, that's why. We're skint, flat broke, washed up, and on the very bones of our ...

Jack Mother!

Dame Bottoms. I was going to say bottoms. We're poor, Jack!

Jack I didn't realise we were poor?

Dame Well I'm afraid we are. Things are so bad if I saw a church mouse go past the house I'd mug him.

Jack POOR!

Dame Yes, and I must say I feel better now I've admitted it! 'A problem shared is a problem halved', they say, and they're right. Oh it feels good to get things off your chest and I should know, (*she fluffs up her chests*) you should see me after the show.

Jack Why?

Dame You know, when I take off me things..

Jack No! I mean why are we poor?

Dame I told you it's the bills. (*Assuming a Hunchback of Notre Dame pose*) 'The bills. The bills. They made me deaf, you know.'

Jack What?

Dame It's my Quasimodo impression. The Hunchback of Notre Dame?

Jack As opposed to Dollymodo the hunch-front of (*Place of performance*).

Dame Very witty, I've trained you well. Anyway I don't know why we're poor, Jack. It's the government, probably. All those taxes of theirs.

Jack It's hard to get one of those in (*Place of performance*) too.

The Chorus reacts angrily again

Dame What? Oh give me strength! Taxes! Taxes! You buffoons. Not (*she whistles*) Oy! Taxi!

Chorus and Jack Oh....

Dame Look Jack, we've got to think of something fast. That horrible Squire will be along for his rent money soon and when he finds out that we haven't got it, he'll throw us out on the street and then I'll die of exposure and then they'll take me to the mortuary and strip me of my dignity ... ooh the shame of it all, my mother will be turning in her gravy.

Jack The mortician's in for a quite a shock as well.

Dame Oh Jack! What are we going to do? I can't take any more, really I can't. Boo hoo!

She sobs loudly and blows her nose in Jack's costume

Jack Please don't cry, Mum! This is a pantomime we're in, you know. I'm sure we'll end up living happy ever after.

Dame Not only stupid but trusting.

Song 2

Dame Do you remember the good years in (*Place of performance*)?

The summers were endlessly gold,
The roads were a patchwork of tarmac.
The winters were never too cold
We'd stroll down the (*Local Pub*) together,
And know that the real ales were fine.
Now our larder's cold and bare,
Just spiders and dead mice are there,

And all we've left to do is whinge and whine.

All Those (*Place of performance*) days, we used to know,
Where have they gone? Where did they go?
That's lush! We used to say
In those (*Place of performance*) days.

Dame Do you remember those wonderful parties?
The splendour of the (*Local restaurant*) cuisine,
Our extravagant, elegant soirees
The gayest The (*Local dive*) has seen.
It's funny but since we got (*Local supermarket*)
It's gone to the other extreme.
Everything's much dearer now,
For those with money anyhow.
In Poverty we're left to sit and dream.

All Those (*Place of performance*) days, we used to know
Where have they gone? Where did they go?
That's lush! We used to say
In those (*Place of performance*) days.

Dame Well, as amusing as that little interlude was, it hasn't really helped us with our money worries has it?

Richard enters at a run. He is being chased by Gemima. Jill is chasing after Gemima.

Dame Hey up! Here comes your brother!

Gemima Come back my luvver! Oooh! Why d'you always tease me by running away? You know you loves me you're just shy!

Richard I am not shy and I don't love you so please leave me alone!

Gemima He's playing hard to get. Oh Richard! Richie! Little Richie! Dick! Dickie! It don't matter how many times I say your name I never get tired of it!

Richard For the last time! It's not Ritchie, Little Ritchie, Dick, Dickie, Duckie, Lovey, dovey, luvver, Scootchie, poochey, peachey, pusskin or any of those other ridiculous names you call me. It is Richard!

Gemima Oh that's easy for you to say. It doesn't matter how mean you are to me I shall still love you. Treat 'em mean an' keep 'em keen. That's what he's doin' to me, Jill. He's being mean! Boo hoo!

Richard Now steady on there.. er Gemima! I don't think you should cry, you know.

Gemima Ooh Ritchie! You're so gentle and caring and so yummy— scrummy— yummy, I could eat you all up.

Richard Eat me all up?

Gemima Ooh Dick! Wot with you being just a teenager an' all that acne, that makes you a spotted Dick an' I loves my puddin's, Come 'ere!

She grabs him around his arms and body, pinning him

Richard Stop! Unhand me at once! I am not to be pawed at in this way. It's against the law!

Gemima There is no law that can stop the power of love!

Richard Mum! Jack! Don't just stand there. Help me!

Jack Now come on, Gemima, put him down now? Leave him! Leave! Drop! Drop him!

Gemima releases Richard who crumbles into a heap

Gemima Oh Jack! How strong and masterful you are. I'd never really noticed you before but ...

Jill Gemima! That's enough! You're embarrassing our family with your behaviour.

Gemima looks suitably admonished

Jack Thanks, Jill.

Jill How's your crown anyway? Is it alright? You took a real tumble coming down that hill yesterday. Did you get your water in the end Dame Dolly?

Dame Ooh yes! It always tastes nicer from a pail

Jill It was fun up there. We should go again?

Gemima We could all go. You and Jack and me and Rich Tea!

Richard It's Richard! And I am not going anywhere with you!

Gemima Waaah! You see? I've tried everything. All me womanly wiles and he won't go out with me. I only want to go out on a date.

Richard A date? You want to go out on a date with me?

Gemima YES! Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes! You heard him, didn't you? He asked me out.

Richard What? I couldn't...

Gemima ...control your feelings any longer and so begged me for a date...

Richard ... I said nothing ...

Gemima ... would stand in the way of our happiness. Oh Ricky Tikky Tavey. You won't be sorry; it'll be a date you'll always remember.

Dame Or one you'll never forget! I'd give in now if I were you.

Richard Give in? Never! Now look here Gemima ...

Gemima Yes, Dicky?

Richard It's Richard! Richard! And I'd rather be dragged half a mile across broken glass by my nose hair than go out on a date with you.

Gemima Ooh! He's got nose hairs. I just love nose hairs. I've got nose hairs too. Together we can have a pluck?

Richard Have a pluck?

Gemima If you're in luck. (*She adopts a cheerleader style*) He's so brainy, he's so pretty, he's so very, very witty. Go, Dicky! Go, Dicky!. Gooooo Dicky! Give me a 'D', give me an 'I', give me a 'C'...

Richard (*in a very fast cheerleader fashion*) Give me a 'B' 'Y' 'E'—Bye!!

Richard runs offstage

Gemima They do say that the course of love does not run true, but boy! Does he run? An' I loves him, it's true. Dicky! Wait for me!

Gemima runs off after Richard

Dame What I need is a nice cup of tea. Do you want one, Jack?

Jack Yeah, that'll be nice. I'll be in in a minute.

Dame (*eyeing up Jack and Jill, then looks to audience*) Looks to me like he's in already.

Dame Dolly exits inside her cottage. Jack and Jill look at each other shyly

Jill Is your crown really all right? You looked like you broke it?

Jack Yeah, it's fine. Look. See.

Jill You've got a lovely crown.

Jack Thanks. So have you.

Jill Thanks.

Jill D'you think everyone behaves like Gemima when they're in love?

Jack No.

Jill How do you know?

Jack Well I don't do I?

Jill You mean you're in love?

Jack Yep. But I haven't told her yet.

Jill She must be really special. What' she like?

Jack She's the most beautiful girl in the whole of (*Place of performance*). Everyone likes her. She's smart and brave and way out of my league really.

Jill She may not be.

Jack But I'm poor, Jill and I'll never be good enough for her until I've made my fortune.

Jill Well you'd better stop sleeping all-day and go and seek your fortune then hadn't you? Otherwise you'll never be able to tell me that you love me.

Jack I know. I eh?

Song 3

At the end of the song Jack and Jill exit inside the cottage. Enter stage left the Squire's rather short henchman

Sticky Bunn.

Bunn He we are Sir Nicholas, this is the next place on the list ... Sir Nicholas? Guv'nor? Where's he gone? (*To audience*) You haven't seen him, have you? (*Audience*) Sir Nicholas? I've lost him.

Squire I'm here. I'll come on as soon as you've announced me, buffoon!

Bunn Right you are then, Guv'nor. Er hmm ... My lords, ladies and gentlepersons, the villain of this pantomime Sir Nicholas Nicholas!!!

There is a crash of thunder and a flash of lightning and the lights change to a cold green light , and Sir Nicholas Nicholas enters

Audience Booo!

Squire Oh be quiet! You pathetic collection of toenail clippings! Show some respect for your lord and master or it will be the worse for you!

Bunn Now you just calm yourself down, Sir Nicholas. We're out 'rent collecting'. You know how you love taking money from poor country people. You and Phillip Green should go into business together.

Squire That's right; let me tell you how it all began.

Song 4

Squire When I was younger, just a bad little kid,
My mummy noticed funny things I did,
Like charging people for using my trike.
I charged them more when I moved up to a bike,
I'd take their money until they had none,
That's when my mummy said "son", (What did she say?)
She said, my boy I think some day,
You'll find a way

To make your natural nastiness pay,

You'll be a landlord, (you'll be a landlord)
You can evict or they pay to remain, (remain)
Son be a landlord (son, be a landlord)
With double the money for furnished domains (furnished domains - ooh)
Your temperament's wrong for the priesthood
And teaching would suit you still less
Son be a landlord- you'll be a success

(Here he is kids, the bleeder of the poor
Watch him huff, puff and blow down your door,
He is a landlord and he'll never ever be any good,
He's a disease and there ain't any cure
He's so smart, he's not dumb)

Ah shuttup, out my way, here I come,
I am your landlord (won't someone help us?)
And I enjoy the career that I've picked
I am your landlord (he's raising prices)
And I enjoy all the pain I inflict (he really loves it ooh)

When I send in my re-possessers (don't try it)
I'll take everything that you own
'Cause I'm a landlord
And I don't give loans.

Say boo (booo!)
Say boooo (boooooo!)
Say booooooo (boooooo!)
Now hiss!

Squire Yes. HA! HA! HA! I love rent collecting, but do you know what I love best about it, Bunn?

Bunn Throwing the people out of their homes?

Squire Yes! Throwing them out of their homes when they haven't got the rent. Ever since my dear old dad departed this earth and left everything to me I've been raising the rent of the good people of (*Place of performance*). Higher and higher, year after year and now only a handful of these peasants are left. Pretty soon my plan will be complete and another supermarket will be built. HA.HA.HA. (*To audience*) Oh shuttup! You know you'd all love to have an Aldi.

Jack & Jill & The Beanstalk

(Revised version)

Jack's adventures up the beanstalk in the land of Guy Ant. Plus, a host of colourful characters including wicked Squire Sir Nicholas, and devious duo Robin Ublind and Will Cheatem.

Jack's mum Dame Dolly Mixtures can't pay the rent so they sell off the family pet Daisy the camel. Two con men sell Jack some magic beans, and when he plants these, he is transported to the land of the Giant, where he fights the said giant and nicks his golden goose. Meanwhile evil Squire Sir Nicholas has kidnapped Jill, but all ends happily - of course!

Running time: about 2 hours.

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