

JACK TROTT

(DAME exits R. JACK and BUTTERCUP enters L soon after)

JACK

Oh, no, that was my mum. I'm meant to be -

(JACK notices the audience)

(To the audience)

Oh, hello, everybody!

(Audience reacts)

I said "hello, everybody!"

(Audience reacts)

Are you all having a fun time?

(Audience reacts)

Why, what have you been doing?

(Laughs)

I don't believe we've met before. My name is Jack Trott. What are all your names?

(Audience reacts)

What was that?

(Audience reacts)

Well, I managed to catch some of them.

(Pointing to a child in the audience)

There's Thomas the Tank Engine

(Pointing to another child in the audience)

Spider-Man and

(To a adult in the audience)

what was your name again?

(The adult reacts)

And your last name?

(The adult reacts)

(Repeats the adult's last name)

That means very clever and good-looking. Remind me of your first name?

(The adult reacts)

Oh, dear, that means not very.

(Laughs)

I'm only joking, we're all friends now.

(To the audience)

Who here has ever been in love?

(Audience reacts)

I did have a girlfriend, we met at the fairground while bungee jumping, and she was on the rebound. But not long after she left me to become an astronaut. She said something about wanting more space. And now I am in love with the most beautiful girl in the whole world, No, not Katie Price, it's Princess Jill. I just hope she isn't like all the other girls I've known coz they all say I'm lazy.

(Realising)

Here, I just had a brilliant idea, and I'm hoping you lot can help me. I doze off whenever the word work...

(JACK becomes tired, but remains awake)

...is mentioned. So, when I do, I'd like everyone to yell out my favourite food, pizza, which should wake me up. Will you do that for me?

(Audience reacts)

Will you?

(Audience reacts)

You will, that's brilliant. Let's have a little practice then, shall we? Okay. So, I just arrived home from attending panto rehearsals and my mother says, "why were you late for work, Jack?"

(JACK falls asleep, the audience reacts and he wakes up)

That was okay, but I'd like everyone up Blackpool Tower to be able to hear you. At school, my teacher says, "where's your homework, Jack?".

(JACK falls asleep, the audience reacts and he wakes up)

DAME TROTT AND JACK TROTT

DAME

(To OFF)

Yahoo! Are you there, Jack!

JACK

Oh no, I'd better get going before she catches me here, as I'm meant to be washing up all the cheese slices and then I've got work.

(JACK falls asleep, the audience reacts, he awakens and moves R as if to exit. DAME enters L and JACK and DAME move C)

DAME

(To JACK)

Jack, there you are. I've got some exciting news

JACK

(To DAME)

I know about the Royal Family visiting Dingly. I'm going to marry the Princess.

DAME

(Laughs)

Princess Jill?

JACK

It's true, no joke. I'm going to gift her my most recent invention and once she shows the King, he won't be able to resist allowing me to wed his daughter.

DAME

(Laughs)

Jack, your inventions are unique and entertaining, yet they are completely useless, which is why no one ever takes them seriously and we are still poor.

JACK

But I've created a number of new gadgets, one of which allows you to see through solid walls and -

DAME

That does, I must say, sound like an excellent idea. What's it called?

JACK

A window.

DAME

(To the audience)

Jack has wasted so much of his life creating wacky sci-fi inventions.

JACK

That's not true. Take it back!

DAME

(To JACK)

Yes, it is, the time machine alone set you back 15 years. What about that fool-proof burglar alarm you were telling me about? You probably still haven't finished it.

JACK

I did, but someone broke in and stole it.

DAME

You'll never going to succeed in your quest to become a successful inventor, Jack.

JACK

But think about it, Mum, we could appear on Dragon's Den, and we'll be famous

DAME

But I don't want to be famous, I want to be

(Realising)

famous? Did you say famous? I've got it, the answer to all our prayers, Dingle Dell's Got Talent. The cash price is £2000.

(To the audience)

I do hope I win, or I won't feel two-ground.

JACK, PRINCESS & GUARD

PRINCESS

(To the GUARDS)

Don't be overzealous, they are only excited to meet Royalty.

JACK

(To PRINCESS)

My name's -

PRINCESS

(To JACK)

Jack

JACK

Yes and I've brought you a –

(Realising)

how do you know my name?

GUARD ONE

(To JACK)

Her Highness is under no obligation to answer any of your questions.

PRINCESS

(To GUARD ONE)

It's quite alright. I don't mind.

JACK

Please tell me.

PRINCESS

(To JACK)

Your viral YouTube videos, of course.

JACK

Really?

PRINCESS

I especially liked your pizza oven.

(JACK produces a gift-wrapped box from his bag and attempts to give it to PRINCESS but is taken by GUARD ONE. PRINCESS angrily snatches it from GUARD TWO and removes the wrapping paper revealing the pizza oven)

I love it, but I couldn't possibly accept such an expensive gift.

JACK

But it's one of my own inventions.

PRINCESS

Well, if you're sure.

JACK

I insist and I'm not taking it back.

PRINCESS

Okay, but only on one condition.

JACK

(In love)

I'll do anything for you

PRINCESS

You must accept my gift to you.

(PRINCESS blows JACK a kiss but KING catches it and throws it into the audience. PRINCESS blows him another and this time JACK catches it and places it on his cheek)

JACK

(To himself)

She kissed me.

(To PRINCESS)

I'd like you to meet -

KING

(To PRINCESS)

My dear, we don't have time, we must -

PRINCESS

(To KING)

Please, Father?

(KING nods his head with frustration. DAME steps forward)

KING, JACK AND PRINCESS

(PRINCESS, KING and GUARDS enter R)

KING

(To PRINCESS)

No, I won't have it.

(KING, PRINCESS and GUARDS move C)

PRINCESS

(To KING)

Please, Father.

KING

I don't want to hear another word on the matter.

PRINCESS

I know all you see is a poor boy, but he's so funny, brave, and -

KING

Incredibly irritating. No, he is not going to amount to anything. You must avoid him. I'll find you a brave, handsome and -

(Thinking)

PRINCESS

Funny

KING

I promise you my love, that I will find the ideal husband for you.

PRINCESS

Why, though, when I already have? Father, he truly is the perfect example of a gentleman. Although he may not be the brightest bulb in the box, he is still my Prince Charming. Or at least once we're married, he will be.

KING

The likelihood of that ever happening is 99.99 million to one.

PRINCESS

(Excited)

Really? You mean I do have a chance?

(KING is angry and JACK enters R)

JACK

(To princess)

Princess, Jill.

(JACK moves C and he and PRINCESS hold hands. KING is angry)

KING

(To JACK)

I want you to stay away from my daughter, you're a bad influence.

DAME TROTT AND CITIZENS

DAME

(OFF)

Help! Police! Murder! Somebody call Inspector Gadget!

(CITIZENS are concerned. DAME enters L and very upset, she makes a hand gesture to OFF L and the entrance music is promptly stopped. The CITIZENS surround her)

(To the CITIZENS)

I've just had the most terrifying experience. -....

(CITIZENS are concerned)

.....I've been followed - followed by two men.

(CITIZENS are more concerned)

(To the audience, realising)

It doesn't sound that bad when you put it like that, does it?

(CITIZENS laugh)

(To the CITIZENS)

So, what's with all the excitement? I could hear you singing from miles away?

CITIZEN ONE

(To DAME)

Then you haven't head?

DAME

(To CITIZEN ONE)

If you mean the rumour that X is going to be once again known as Twitter and merge with YouTube and Facebook -

CITIZEN TWO

(To DAME)

Really? Do you have any idea of what the new name will be?

DAME

(To CITIZEN TWO)

You....Twit....Face

(CITIZENS laugh)

CITIZEN ONE

Jack is determined to defeat Blunderbore.

DAME

(To CITIZEN ONE)

My son couldn't batter a sausage even if he worked in a fish and chip shop.

(CITIZENS laugh)

CITIZEN ONE

And the Royal family are visiting Dingly Dell.

DAME

(To herself)

The King?

(To CITIZEN ONE)

What time are they expected to arrive?

snoring after 11am

DAME

(To the audience)

That should give me enough time to make myself beautiful and look 20 years younger.

CITIZEN ONE

(To the CITIZENS)

Beautiful and 20 years younger? If the pantomime were Cinderella, she could play one of the ugly sisters.

(CITIZENS laugh and DAME ignores the remark)

HARP

HARP

(To FLESHCREEP)

Hello, Master. Do you want me to sing something to you?

(Realising)

You're not Master Blunderbore. Who are you?

FLESHCREEP

(To HARP)

Send me to Dingly Dell and destroy the beanstalk at once!

HARP

(To FLESHCREEP)

No, it cannot be done.

FLESHCREEP

But if it weren't for me, you would still be in the giant's castle. I demand you do as you are told.

HARP

You don't have a kind heart. I'm not going to use my magic for evil.

JACK

(To HARP)

Harp, send Fleshcreep to Preston and for him to never ever return.

FLESHCREEP

(To JACK)

No, I've learned my lesson, please don't send me there.

GENIE, KING AND PRINCESS

KING

(To PRINCESS)

We're trapped and there doesn't seem to be any way out.

PRINCESS

(To herself, shouting)

I'm a celebrity! Get me out of here!

(KING notices the magic lamp, moves UC and grabs hold of it)

KING

(To himself, wondering)

I wonder.

PRINCESS

(To KING)

Father?

KING

(To the audience)

According to the legend, there is a magic lamp in a cavern full of treasure. Surely it can't be that simple.

(Thinking)

If only I could remember how to summon the Genie.

(Audience reacts)

What was that?

(Audience reacts)

PRINCESS

(To the audience)

Rub the lamp?

(Audience reacts)

KING

Are you sure?

(Audience reacts)

How many times?

KING

(To GENIE)

Abananzar? I've never heard of him. No, I'm the King and

(Pointing to PRINCESS)

this beautiful young lady is my daughter, Princess Jill.

GENIE

(To PRINCESS)

It's a pleasure to meet you both, your Royal Highness.

PRINCESS

(To GENIE)

You too.

GENIE

(To EVERYONE)

I can't remember the last time I met royalty, must be more than a century ago.

KING

We're trapped inside and was hoping you could help us.

GENIE

How about I grant you three wishes that you can use to escape and take all of the treasure home with you?

PRINCESS

Take the treasure home with us? I wish I had thought of that.

(GENIE claps his/her hands)

GENIE

(To PRINCESS)

That's one wish. Two remaining.

KING

That's not fair.

PRINCESS

(To herself)

I do wish I hadn't said that.

(GENIE CLAPS his/her hands. PRINCESS and KING are not pleased)

GENIE

That's your second wish. There is only one left, so, what is it going to be?

KING

(To GENIE)

We must locate the Trott family. Take us to where they are, right now!

GENIE

Is that your third wish?

CITIZENS AND FLESHCREEP

CITIZEN ONE

(To the CITIZENS)

I know, I can't believe it myself.

CITIZEN TWO

(To CITIZEN ONE, laughing)

And Jack Trott is going to kill Blunderbore?

CITIZEN ONE

(To CITIZEN TWO)

That's what I've heard, although it might just be a rumour.

(CITIZENS back away scared, except CITIZEN ONE who is defiant as they hear FLESHCREEP's entrance music. FLESHCREEP enters L)

FLESHCREEP

(To the audience)

Give me a chance, I haven't done anything yet.

CITIZEN ONE

(To FLESHCREEP)

Fleshcreep, when will you ever learn that you are not welcome in Dingly Dell?

(FLESHCREEP moves C and CITIZEN ONE assures the other CITIZENS to remain calm and they do not retreat)

FLESHCREEP

(To the CITIZENS)

Did I hear correctly? Is Jack plotting to kill the giant?

(To himself, whispering)

That's given me an idea. Once Blunderbore is out of the way, I'll be able to steal my Master's magic harp, not even Spider-Man or Captain America will be able to stop me.

(Evil laugh)

CITIZEN TWO

(To FLESHCREEP)

Return everything you've ever stolen.

CITIZEN ONE

We can all live in peace once Blunderbore is defeated.

CITIZEN TWO

And besides in a pantomime when have you ever heard of the baddie not being outwitted?

FLESHCREEP

(To CITIZEN TWO)

In this version of Jack and the Beanstalk, I win.

FLESHCREEP

PRINCESS

(To FLESHCREEP)

And thank you, Doctor Proctor. If it wasn't for you we would not have made it out of their alive.

FLESHCREEP

(To PRINCESS)

Actually, you have the evil Fleshcreep to thank.

DAME/JACK

(To FLESHCREEP)

We do?

FRESHCREEP

(To EVERYONE)

If you're a fan of the Masked Singer, you're in for a real treat.

AUDIENCE MEMBER

Take it off! Take it off! Take it off!

(EVERYONE, except FRESHCREEP are confused. FRESHCREEP removes his disguise. DAME, JACK, PRINCESS and KING are shocked and angry)

JACK

(To FLESHCREEP)

I trusted you.

DAME

(To FLESHCREEP)

We all did.

FLESHCREEP

(To HARP)

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FLESHCREEP

(To JACK)

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JACK

(To FLESHCREEP)

Do you promise to not bother us ever again?

DAME

(To FLESHCREEP)

Or anyone else?

FLESHCREEP

(To EVERYONE)

Yes, from now on, I shall be good, I promise. Please forgive me.