

## SCENE 1.

### The Village of Merrydale.

**Full set. Pretty village setting. JACK and PRINCESS DEMELZA are discovered with the CHORUS, dancing and singing an up tempo NUMBER. At the end of the number JACK and the PRINCESS are C.**

JACK. Hello everybody! I'm Jack Trot - just a working lad in the dairy business. A simple, insignificant nobody!

CHORUS. **(commiserating)** Aaah -

JACK. But that's enough about me, because today, **(indicating PRINCESS)** on this lovely morning, we are honoured by the presence of royalty!

CHORUS. Hooray!

PRINCESS. Jack!

JACK. Elevated, exalted, taken to a whole new level of glory by -

PRINCESS. Stop it, Jack –

JACK. Her esteemed royal loveliness, Princess Demelza!

**(JACK bows deeply. CHORUS laugh, bowing and curtsying.)**

PRINCESS. Shut up, Jack!

JACK. Dancing with the common folk!

PRINCESS. I'm leaving –

JACK. But we love you dancing with us.

PRINCESS. No - you're just saying that.

CHORUS . We do!

JACK. We really do!

PRINCESS. Well, stop all this royal business –

JACK. We've stopped. It's finished.

PRINCESS. Promise?

JACK. Promise. Not another word.

PRINCESS. Good.

TRUMPET. **(off)** Make way for his Royal Highness –

JACK. I didn't say that!

CHORUS. It's Trumpet, the Royal Herald.

TRUMPET. **(entering, carrying royal staff)** His Royal Wonderfulness, King Bertram the Brave! **(Bows low.)**

**(KING enters.)**

JACK. **(to PRINCESS)** What does the King want with us?

PRINCESS. I don't know.

TRUMPET. Pray silence for His Majesty!

KING. Good people of Merrydale - **(To PRINCESS)** what are you doing here?

PRINCESS. Dancing.

KING. Dancing!

TRUMPET. Silence for His Majesty, King Bertram! **(Brings staff down on KING'S foot.)**

KING. Ow! Trumpet! You hit my foot!

TRUMPET. Did I?

KING. Yes, you did.

TRUMPET. Sorry.

KING. I've got a sore bit now. Budge over; I'll go the other side. **(Goes to other side of TRUMPET.)**

TRUMPET. And I'll put it in the other hand.

KING. Good idea.

PRINCESS. Daddy –

JACK. Daddy?!

## SCENE 8.

### The Giant's Kitchen. Fullset.

**The PRINCESS is discovered in a cage – or imprisoned in some way. Large table with chair for Giant. Short, sad NUMBER. SLIMEBALL enters at the end of the number.**

- SLIME. Hello again, Miss Demelza! Lovely song, lovely sentiment. Shame it's just a lot of old tosh.
- PRINCESS. Go boil your head!
- SLIME I'd sooner grill your toes. But never mind, I just thought you'd like to know that Blunderbore is on his way.
- GIANT. **(off)** Fee Fi Fo Fum!  
I smell the blood of an Englishman...!
- SLIME. Here he is, the blushing groom!
- (SLIMEBALL rushes to open the door UC.**
- Smoke, backlighting etc. The GIANT enters.)**
- GIANT. Be he alive, or be he dead,  
I'll grind his bones  
To make my bread...!  
Slimeball! Where's that cow you got me?
- SLIME. She's just in the larder.
- PRINCESS. Daisy's in the larder?!
- SLIME. We've been fattening her up for you.
- GIANT. Not too fat. I wanna look good for my little wifey to be.
- PRINCESS. I wouldn't marry you if you were the last man in the history of the world!
- GIANT. But I love you, Demelza!
- PRINCESS. You've never even met me before.
- GIANT. I've met you in my dreams.
- PRINCESS. How disgusting!

GIANT. This is the life, eh? Me in the kitchen and you in your little cage.

PRINCESS. I'm not speaking to you.

GIANT. You just did. **(Chuckles.)** I've got the key right here, baby. **(Yawns.)** Busy day, eh? I might just have – **(Yawns again.)** a little nap. **(Falls asleep and snores gently.)**

JACK. **(from wing)** Psst!

PRINCESS. **(nervously)** Who's there?

JACK. **(whispering)** It's me!

PRINCESS. Jack!

JACK. **(entering)** Sssh!

PRINCESS. **(whispering)** I mean, Jack! Thank goodness you're here. You came after me!

JACK. Of course, I did. How do I get you out of there?

PRINCESS. The key's on his belt. **(JACK crosses to GIANT.)** And Jack –

JACK. Yes?

PRINCESS. They've got Daisy.

JACK. Daisy!

PRINCESS. Sssh!

**(The GIANT stirs, grunts a bit and resumes his gentle snoring.)**

JACK. It's OK. He's still asleep. **(Working at key.)** I think I can get it off. Where's Daisy?

PRINCESS. In the larder –

JACK. OK, first we'll get you free and then we'll rescue Daisy. There, it's just coming –

SIMON. **(off, in a deep voice)** Fee fi fo fum!

PRINCESS. What's that?

JACK. I don't know. **(Taking out his sword.)** Another giant? **(Hides, ready to pounce.)**