

Jack and the Beanstalk extract (panto with song: I'd Do Anything)

Jack Who'd want a mum like mine? Anyone want to swap her for theirs? She really thinks she's beautiful you know – but if she has her face lifted one more time she'll have her belly button on her chin. She is right, though – I've got to start earning my keep. But I get so bored doing sweeping and weeding and digging and stuff. I want to make my way in the world and really be someone. Everyone thinks I'm just a dreamer but I'll prove I'm not.

Enter Princess Ida

Ida (*shyly*) Hello

Jack Gosh, are you the Princess? And are you still talking to me after I was so cheeky to your dad? And what are you doing all on your own?

Ida Yes, and yes, and I've come to see **you**. Is that so surprising? You're the most interesting person I've met in months.

Jack You should get out more.

Ida Everyone else always feels obliged to be courteous and polite – it makes a change to hear someone say what they really think.

Jack I can't help being cheeky – my mum gives me so much chance to practise.

Ida It's good that you're not afraid to have fun. Life's not been all that much fun in the palace since the Giant came to live over the valley. Poor father. He's at his wit's end to know what to do for the best – and he can't fight a Giant on his own.

Jack What about all the soldiers?

Ida The Giant ate them with his boiled eggs.

Jack That's terrible!

Ida I know - it's not me that writes this stuff.

Jack It's quite obvious what needs to happen. The king, your father, our landlord, needs to appoint a champion who challenges the giant to single combat (assuming he's not already married), cuts him down to size and solves the valley's problems at one stroke – of his sword.

Ida That's a champion idea, Jack. Have you got anyone in mind? My father would reward him highly.

Jack How high?

Ida As high as the sky.

Jack Go on, that's just a tall story.

Ida It's not at all a tall story – he'd give anything to see the giant defeated.

Jack De-feeted? You mean, with his legs chopped off below the knee.

Ida Well, that would certainly cut him down to size.

Jack And what would **you** give to this champion?

Ida My undying devotion.

Jack Mmm – I've just had a notion. What about if I were to be this here champion? That way I could prove to my Mum that I'm not just an idler. I'd make my way in the world – and I'd be the one to have your underlying demotion.

Ida Undying devotion. Would you really challenge the Giant to win my love? Or are you just pulling my leg?

Jack Since the very moment I saw you, I knew that there wasn't anything in the world I wouldn't do for you.

Song

I'd do anything for you, Ida, anything
For you mean everything to me
I know that I'd go anywhere for your smile, anywhere
For your smile everywhere I'd see

Ida: Would you climb to a cloud?

Jack: Anything!

Ida: Swear your love out loud?

Jack: Anything!

Ida: Be different from the crowd?

Jack: Anything!

Ida: Make me feel right proud?

Jack: By gum I would!

Jack: I'd risk everything

For one kiss, everything

Yes I'd do anything

Ida: Anything?

Jack: Anything for you!

Ida: Would you dress up girly?

Jack: Anything!

Ida: Wear your hair all curly?

Jack: Anything!

Ida: Get out of bed right early?

Jack: Anything!

Ida: Spend a night in Burley?

Jack: Perhaps I might!

Jack: I'd kill the mightiest foe

Even lay a giant low

Yes I'd do anything

Ida: Anything?

Jack: Anything for you!

Ida Oh Jack – you're so brave. Unless you're just full of hot air.

Jack I'll be the hot heir to the throne once I've done battle with the Giant.

Ida Assuming I'll have you. And assuming you survive the ordeal

All

Sing

He will survive, he will survive

Oh as long as he knows how to fight

I know he'll stay alive

He's got all his life to live

He's got all his guts to give

and he'll survive.

He will survive (hey-hey)

Jack So, don't just take my word for it.

Ida My word, you are confident. I must be going – I must tell father all about his new, mighty champion.

Jack Well, don't be too hasty. Can't I have a kiss before you go to seal the bargain?

Ida No you can't. I can't kiss a lowly villager, I'm afraid. But Father will proclaim you a knight of the realm if you slay the Giant – and then you can have kisses all night long forever and a day.

Jack From your dad?

Ida No, from me, silly. Kissy kissy (*blows kisses and exits*)