

THE PEOPLE
v
JACK BEANSTALK

A mock trial play designed for grades 5 through 9. Written by Judge Thomas Eveland, 56th Circuit Court, Charlotte, Michigan and first performed by Charlotte Middle School students on April 30, 2010, in Judge Eveland's courtroom.

CHARACTERS

NEWS REPORTER

BAILIFF

JUDGE

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY #1

PROSECUTING ATTORNEY #2

DEFENSE LAWYER #1

DEFENSE LAWYER #2

14 JURORS

MISTY STRANGER

GEORGINA GIANT

GEORGE GIANT

MRS. BEANSTALK

JACK

COURT REPORTER

OFFICER WANNABE BEST

NOTE: The characters can be decreased by eliminating jurors, doubling up the court recorder and bailiff. The character of Misty Stranger can be eliminated, as well as one of the defense attorneys and prosecutors. The cast may be increased by adding students to play additional prosecutors, defense attorneys and news reporters.

PROPS

2 BAGS OF GOLD COINS

1 PAIR OF SUNGLASSES

1 BASEBALL HAT WITH SCHOOL LOGO

1 GOLDEN EGG

NEWS REPORTER: SEVERAL WEEKS AGO IN A FAST BREAKING STORY HERE AT WKAR CHARLOTTE, WE TOLD THE STORY OF JACK BEANSTALK. JACK ALLEGEDLY BROKE INTO MR. AND MRS. GIANT'S CASTLE BY CLIMBING UP A GREAT BEANSTALK. A COMPLAINT WAS FILED WITH THE POLICE CLAIMING JACK HAD ILLEGALLY STOLEN THREE ITEMS ON THREE DIFFERENT NIGHTS. THE LAST NIGHT JACK CUT DOWN THE BEANSTALK AND MR. GIANT WAS BADLY INJURED WHEN HE FELL TO THE GROUND. JACK IS ALSO CHARGED WITH ATTEMPTED MURDER. WE ARE IN THE 56TH CIRCUIT COURT AWAITING THE TRIAL TO BEGIN . . . I SEE THE JUDGE IS ABOUT TO ENTER. THIS IS _____, WKAR TV 6 REPORTING LIVE.

BAILIFF: ALL RISE! THE 56TH CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF EATON IS NOW IN SESSION, THE HONORABLE _____ PRESIDING.

(JUDGE ENTERS)

JUDGE: PLEASE BE SEATED. WE ARE HERE TODAY IN THE CASE OF THE PEOPLE VERSUS JACK BEANSTALK, FILE NUMBER 10-100. WOULD COUNSEL PLEASE INTRODUCE THEMSELVES.

PROS. #1: GOOD MORNING. I AM _____, ASSISTANT PROSECUTING ATTORNEY.

PROS. #2: GOOD MORNING. I AM _____, ASSISTANT PROSECUTING ATTORNEY.

DEF. ATTY #1: GOOD MORNING. I AM _____, CO-COUNSEL FOR MY CLIENT, JACK BEANSTALK. PLEASE STAND, JACK.

DEF. ATTY #2: GOOD MORNING. I AM _____, ALSO HERE REPRESENTING JACK.

JUDGE: THE JURY HAS ALREADY BEEN GIVEN INSTRUCTIONS.

JUROR #1: THE JURY IS SELECTED FIRST BEFORE THE TRIAL STARTS.

JUROR #2: TO BE ELIGIBLE TO BE A JUROR YOU MUST BE A UNITED STATES CITIZEN, 18 YEARS OR OLDER, AND A RESIDENT OF THIS COUNTY.

JUROR #3: THE NAMES OF PROSPECTIVE JURORS ARE DRAWN AT RANDOM FROM THE DRIVERS LICENSE ROLLS AT THE MICHIGAN SECRETARY OF STATE.

JUROR #4: YOU CAN NOT SIT ON THE JURY IF YOU HAVE A FELONY ON YOUR RECORD.

JUROR #5: YOU CAN BE EXCUSED FROM SITTING ON THE JURY IF YOU ARE 70 YEARS OR OLDER AND DO NOT WANT TO SERVE.

JUROR #6: ONCE IN COURT THE JURORS ARE QUESTIONED BY THE JUDGE AND BY THE LAWYERS TO DETERMINE IF THEY CAN BE FAIR AND IMPARTIAL.

JUROR #7: THE QUESTIONS THAT MAY BE ASKED JURORS INCLUDE: HAVE ANY OF YOU HEARD ABOUT THIS CASE OR READ ANYTHING ABOUT THIS CASE?

JUROR #8: DO ANY OF YOU KNOW ANY OF PROSECUTORS, DEFENSE LAWYERS, THE DEFENDANT OR ANY OF THE WITNESSES?

JUROR #9: HAS ANYONE EVER STOLEN ANYTHING FROM YOU?

JUROR #10: ARE ANY OF YOU POLICEMEN OR DO YOU HAVE POLICEMEN IN YOUR FAMILIES?

JUROR #11: DO ANY OF YOU NOT LIKE GIANTS? OR BOYS WHO GROW BEANSTALKS?

JUROR #12: HAVE ANY OF YOU EVER GROWN A GIGANTIC BEANSTALK?

JUROR #13: BOTH THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY AND THE DEFENSE LAWYER CAN REMOVE FIVE JURORS FOR ANY REASON AT ALL.

JUROR #14: ONLY 12 JURORS CAN DECIDE THE CASE, BUT SOMETIMES THE JUDGE SEATS 13 OR 14, SO THAT IF SOMEONE GETS SICK THE JURY TRIAL CAN CONTINUE. TWO NAMES WILL BE DRAWN RANDOMLY AT THE END TO REDUCE THE JURY TO 12.

JUDGE: WE WILL NOW BEGIN THE TRIAL WITH THE OPENING STATEMENT OF THE PROSECUTOR.

PROS. #1: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, ON THREE CONSECUTIVE NIGHTS IN APRIL, WHILE MR. AND MRS. GIANT WERE HOME IN THEIR CASTLE, MINDING THEIR OWN BUSINESS, SOMEONE STOLE INTO THE CASTLE AND CARRIED AWAY PERSONAL BELONGINGS. THE FIRST NIGHT IT WAS A PET HEN, THE SECOND NIGHT TWO BAGS OF GOLD, AND THE THIRD NIGHT A HARP. THE EVIDENCE WILL SHOW BEYOND A REASONABLE DOUBT THAT THE THIEF WAS THE DEFENDANT, JACK. ALSO ON THE THIRD NIGHT WHILE THE GIANT WAS TRYING TO RETRIEVE THE HARP, JACK CUT DOWN THE BEANSTALK CAUSING MR. GIANT TO TUMBLE TO THE GROUND. SO WE WILL ASK YOU TO FIND JACK ALSO GUILTY OF COUNT 4, ATTEMPTED MURDER. THANK YOU.

DEF. ATTY. #1: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, JACK IS A SWEET YOUNG MAN, NOT A THIEF OR A MURDERER. THE GIANT IS A VICIOUS, PEOPLE-EATING OGRE WHO HAS PLUNDERED THE VILLAGERS FOR YEARS. ANY ITEMS TAKEN FROM THE CASTLE DID NOT BELONG TO THE GIANT. JACK NEVER TRIED TO KILL THE GIANT,

ALTHOUGH WE THINK THAT AT THE END OF THIS TRIAL YOU
WILL AGREE THAT THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN A GOOD IDEA.
THANK YOU.

JUDGE: CALL YOUR FIRST WITNESS, PLEASE.

PROS. #2: PEOPLE CALL MISTY STRANGER.

(WITNESS TAKES THE STAND)

BAILIFF: RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND. DO YOU SWEAR TO TELL THE
TRUTH, THE WHOLE TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH?

MISTY: I DO.

PROS. #2: STATE YOUR NAME.

MISTY: MISTY STRANGER.

PROS. #2: WHAT IS YOUR PROFESSION?

MISTY: I WORK IN THE WORLD OF THE SUPERNATURAL.

PROS. #2: DO YOU KNOW THE DEFENDANT, JACK?

MISTY: OUR PATHS CROSSED BUT ONCE. HE WAS ON HIS WAY TO THE
MARKET TO SELL HIS MOTHER'S COW.

PROS. #2: DID YOU PURCHASE THE COW?

MISTY: SHE WAS A SCRAWNY COW WHO NO LONGER GAVE MILK. BUT
I DID PURCHASE HER.

PROS. #2: AND HOW MUCH DID YOU PAY FOR THE COW?

MISTY: FIVE BEANS.

PROS. #2: JUST FIVE BEANS?

MISTY: YES, BUT THEY WERE NOT ORDINARY BEANS, THEY WERE MAGICAL BEANS.

PROS. #2: AND WHAT WAS SO MAGICAL ABOUT THESE BEANS?

MISTY: THEY COULD GROW INTO SOMETHING SPECIAL.

PROS. #2: LIKE A GIGANTIC BEANSTALK?

MISTY: YES . . . IF YOU BELIEVE . . .

PROS. #2: AND IF ONE DOES BELIEVE AND PLANTS THE BEANS, COULD A STALK BE GROWN – MAGICALLY, IF YOU WILL – SO LARGE THAT IT WOULD EXTEND ALL THE WAY UP TO WHERE MR. GIANT’S CASTLE IS?

DEF. ATTY. #2: OBJECTION. CALLS FOR SPECULATION.

JUDGE: OVERRULED. YOU MAY ANSWER.

MISTY: YES . . . IF YOU BELIEVE.

PROS. #2: NO FURTHER QUESTIONS.

DEF. ATTY. #2: DID YOU TELL JACK THAT THOSE BEANS WOULD GROW INTO A GIGANTIC BEANSTALK?

MISTY: NO. I ONLY TOLD HIM THEY WERE MAGICAL . . . AND THEY WERE ONLY MAGICAL IF YOU BELIEVE.

DEF. ATTY. #2: THANK YOU.

JUDGE: YOU MAY STEP DOWN. NEXT WITNESS PLEASE.

PROS. #1: PEOPLE CALL MRS. GIANT.

BAILIFF: DO YOU SWEAR TO TELL THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH?

MRS. GIANT: OF COURSE I DO.

PROS. #1: STATE YOUR NAME.

MRS. GIANT: YOU ALL KNOW ME. GEORGINA . . . GEORGINA GIANT.

PROS. #1: ARE YOU THE WIFE OF GEORGE GIANT?

MRS. GIANT: FOR 25 YEARS.

PROS. #1: WHERE DO YOU LIVE?

MRS. GIANT: I LIVE IN A QUIET, SECLUDED CASTLE UP IN THE SKY. IT IS NOW A GATED CASTLE, AFTER OUR MOAT WENT DRY. RIFT RAFT ARE CERTAINLY NOT WELCOME IN OUR CASTLE.

PROS. #1: WHO LIVES WITH YOU?

MRS. GIANT: JUST MY HUSBAND AND I. WE USED TO HAVE A PET ... (*STARTS TO SOB*) ... A PET HEN, BUT ... (*BREAKS DOWN*).

PROS. #1: THERE, THERE. I AM VERY SORRY ABOUT YOUR HEN (*HANDS WITNESS A KLEENEX*).

MRS. GIANT: (*BLOWS NOSE NOISILY*) SHE WAS SUCH A SWEET HEN . . . NOT TO MENTION A GRAND PROVIDER. SHE USED TO LAY THE MOST BEAUTIFUL GOLDEN EGGS – ONCE A DAY FOR YEARS!

PROS. #1: DID ANYONE ELSE LIVE IN THE HOUSE?

MRS. GIANT: YES . . . MY HUSBAND HAD A GOLDEN HARP . . . SHE WAS, WELL . . . SORT-OF HUMAN . . . NOT PARTICULARLY PRETTY IN MY OPINION, BUT HE SEEMED TO THINK SO. HER MUSIC, HOWEVER, WAS NOT BAD.

PROS. #1: CAN YOU TELL THE JURY WHAT HAPPENED ON APRIL 3.

MRS. GIANT: WELL THAT YOUNG MAN (*POINTS AT JACK*) SUDDENLY APPEARED OUT OF NOWHERE AT OUR CASTLE.

PROS. #1: DID YOU INVITE HIM TO YOUR CASTLE?

MRS. GIANT: OF COURSE NOT. WE NEVER HAVE VISITORS SINCE THE ONLY ACCESS TO THE CASTLE IS OUR SECRET PASSAGE AND OCCASIONALLY BY CLIMBING DURING THE BEANSTALK GROWING SEASON.

PROS. #1: DID YOU TALK TO JACK?

MRS. GIANT: YES. THE POOR LAD WAS HUNGRY AND HE ASKED FOR SOME MILK. I INVITED HIM IN AND GAVE HIM SOME MILK AND PORRIDGE AND BREAD.

PROS. #1: WAS YOUR HUSBAND HOME?

MRS. GIANT: WELL JACK HAD JUST FINISHED HIS PORRIDGE AND MY HUSBAND MUST HAVE SMELLED HIM AND HE STARTED TO COME INTO THE KITCHEN. I SUGGESTED TO THE LAD THAT HE MIGHT WANT TO HIDE BECAUSE MR. GIANT IS NOT TERRIBLY FOND OF ENGLISHMEN. AND SO HE HID IN THE PANTRY.

PROS. #1: WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

MRS. GIANT: MY HUSBAND RECITED THIS CUTE LITTLE POEM HE DOES:

“FEE-FI-FO-FUM, I SMELL THE BLOOD OF AN
ENGLISHMAN”

AND I TOLD HIM NO, HE WAS WRONG, THERE WERE NO ENGLISHMEN AROUND.

PROS. #1: DID THAT SATISFY HIM?

MRS. GIANT: IT SEEMED TO, HE CALLED FOR OUR PET HEN WHO HOPPED UP NEXT TO HIM AT THE TABLE AND IMMEDIATELY LAID A GOLDEN EGG.

PROS. #1: COULD JACK SEE THAT?

DEF. ATTY. #1: OBJECTION! HOW WOULD SHE KNOW?

JUDGE: SUSTAINED.

PROS. #1: WHAT DID YOU DO THEN?

MRS. GIANT: I FED MY HUSBAND HIS DINNER – THREE LAMBS FROM THE VILLAGE, WITH MY SPECIALTY SAUCE, PATÉ OF POLECAT. HE ATE DINNER AND FELL ASLEEP WITH THE HEN BESIDE HIM. I LEFT TO GO WATCH MY SOAPS ON T.V. – I DO LOVE MY SOAPS.

PROS. #1: WHAT HAPPENED WHEN YOU RETURNED?

MRS. GIANT: I WAS GOING TO GO TO BED BUT LOOKED IN ON MY HUSAND AND I NOTICED THAT THE PANTRY DOOR WAS OPENED, THE YOUNG LAD WAS GONE AND SO WAS MY . . . DEAR HEN.

PROS. #1: AND THE GOLDEN EGG SHE HAD LAID?

MRS. GIANT: GONE TOO.

PROS. #1: *(HAS COURT REPORTER MARK THE EXHIBIT)* I SHOW YOU WHAT HAS BEEN MARKED AS EXHIBIT 1. DO YOU RECOGNIZE IT?

MRS. GIANT: THAT’S MY HEN’S EGG.

PROS. #1: DID YOU EVER SEE YOUR HEN AGAIN?

MRS. GIANT: NO, BUT I DID SEE THAT THIEF AGAIN. IT WAS THE NEXT DAY. ONLY THIS TIME HE WAS IN DISGUISE, WEARING A CHARLOTTE ORIOLE BASEBALL CAP AND WRAP-AROUND SUNGLASSES.

PROS. #1: WHERE WAS THAT?

MRS. GIANT: HE HAD THE GALL TO SHOW UP AT THE CASTLE CLAIMING TO BE SELLING BOY SCOUT COOKIES OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

PROS. #1: DID YOU RECOGNIZE HIM AS JACK?

MRS. GIANT: NOT AT THE TIME. WHEN I WENT TO LOOK FOR MY PURSE TO PAY HIM FOR THE COOKIES HE DISAPPEARED.

PROS. #1: DID YOU SEE HIM AGAIN?

MRS. GIANT: NO.

PROS. #1: *(HAS EXHIBITS MARKED BY COURT REPORTER) (SHOWS WITNESS GLASSES AND HAT)* ARE THESE THE ITEMS YOU SAW ON THE HEAD OF THE COOKIE SELLER?

MRS. GIANT: *(INSPECTS ITEMS)* LOOKS LIKE 'EM.

PROS. #1: WERE ANY ITEMS TAKEN FROM YOUR CASTLE THAT DAY OR THE NEXT?

MRS. GIANT: WELL, MY HUSBAND TOLD ME . . .

DEF. ATTY. #1: OBJECTION! HEARSAY!

JUDGE: SUSTAINED.

PROS. #1: THAT'S ALL THE QUESTIONS, YOUR HONOR.

DEF. ATTY. #1: MRS. GIANT, WHERE DID YOU GET THIS HEN WHO LAID THE GOLDEN EGGS?

MRS. GIANT: I DON'T KNOW. MY HUSBAND BROUGHT HER HOME ONE DAY AFTER BEING IN THE VILLAGE. I WASN'T VERY HAPPY AT FIRST WITH HIM BRINGING HOME A COMMON BARNYARD ANIMAL, BUT THEN SHE . . . SHE . . .

DEF. ATTY#1: STARTED LAYING GOLDEN EGGS?

MRS. GIANT: *(HESITATES)* YES.

DEF. ATTY. #1: TELL ME, WHAT IS YOUR HUSBAND LIKE?

MRS. GIANT: WHAT IS HE LIKE? WELL, LIKE ALL HUSBANDS, LOUD, LAZY, HUNGRY.

DEF. ATTY. #1: JACK HERE IS AN ENGLISHMAN. HOW DOES YOUR HUSBAND FEEL ABOUT ENGLISHMEN?

MRS. GIANT: WELL, I ADMIT THAT GEORGE HAS SOME ISSUES AND ON OCCASION HE HAS BEEN KNOWN TO EAT ONE OR TWO . . . BUT THEY GIVE HIM INDIGESTION AND THAT'S WHY I HID JACK THE FIRST TIME.

DEF. ATTY. #1: THAT'S ALL.

JUDGE: YOU MAY STEP DOWN. NEXT WITNESS PLEASE.

PROS. #1: PEOPLE CALL MR. GIANT. *(MRS. GIANT STEPS DOWN AND MR. GIANT STEPS UP)*

BAILIFF: DO YOU SWEAR TO TELL THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH?
(GIANT GRUNTS)

PROS. #2: STATE YOUR NAME, PLEASE.

GIANT: GEORGE E. GIANT.

PROS. #2: THE PREVIOUS WITNESS WAS YOUR WIFE?

GIANT: *(ROLLS HIS EYES)* IF YOU SAY SO.

PROS. #2: YOU HAVE HAD A LOT OF PROBLEMS LATELY WITH THEFTS AT YOUR CASTLE, HAVEN'T YOU?

DEF. ATTY #2: OBJECTION! LEADING QUESTION.

JUDGE: SUSTAINED. YOU CAN ONLY ASK LEADING QUESTIONS ON CROSS-EXAMINATION.

PROS. #2: TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED ON APRIL 3?

GIANT: WELL, I WAS IN THE VILLAGE DOING A LITTLE PLUNDERING AND WHEN I ARRIVED BACK AT THE CASTLE I SWORE I SMELLED THE BLOOD OF AN ENGLISHMAN.

PROS. #2: DID YOU SEE ANYONE?

GIANT: NO, THE WIFE SAYS, "YOU ARE MISTAKEN, THERE AIN'T NO ENGLISHMAN HERE, PERHAPS YOU ARE SMELLING THE PORRIDGE COOKING." SO I SITS DOWN AND ENJOYS A BIG DINNER.

PROS. #2: WHERE WAS YOUR HEN AT THAT TIME?

GIANT: I HAD THE WIFE BRING THE HEN IN SO I COULD COAX HER INTO DOING HER MAGIC . . . AND SHE DID! PRESTO . . . ONE GOLDEN EGG!

PROS. #2: THIS EGG WAS FOUND AT JACK'S HOUSE. DO YOU RECOGNIZE IT? (*SHOWS HIM EXHIBIT #1*).

GIANT: AYE, THAT'S HER EGG.

PROS. #2: AFTER THE HEN LAID HER EGG, WHAT DID YOU DO?

GIANT: I WAS PLUM TUCKERED FROM MY WORK IN THE VILLAGE AND SO I FELL FAST ASLEEP.

PROS. #2: HOW LONG DID YOU SLEEP?

GIANT: I DON'T KNOW. THE NEXT THING I REMEMBER IS THE WIFE WAKING ME UP AND ASKING ME WHERE THE HEN WAS.

PROS. #2: DID YOU FIND THE HEN?

GIANT: (*ANGRY*) NO! THAT THIEF (*POINTS AT JACK*) STOLE IT!

DEF. ATTY. #2: OBJECTION!

JUDGE: *(BANGS GAVEL)* SUSTAINED!

PROS. #2: CALM DOWN MR. GIANT – I KNOW THIS IS DIFFICULT. DID YOU EVER SEE THE HEN AGAIN?

GIANT: NO.

PROS. #2: WHAT HAPPENED THE NEXT DAY?

GIANT: WELL I WAS WORRIED THAT JACK HAD STOLE SOMETHING ELSE. SO I WENT TO MY COUNTING ROOM AND BEGAN COUNTING MY GOLD PIECES.

PROS. #2: DID YOU SMELL ANYTHING THAT DAY?

GIANT: WELL AGAIN I THOUGHT I SMELLED THE BLOOD OF AN ENGLISHMAN. BUT I WASN'T SURE BECAUSE I WAS DRINKING GREAT GOAT-SKINS OF WINE WHILE I WAS COUNTING AND SHORTLY AFTERWARDS I FELL ASLEEP AGAIN.

PROS. #2: AND WHAT DID YOU DISCOVER WHEN YOU AWOKE?

GIANT: TWO OF THE BAGS OF GOLD WERE GONE . . . AND SO WAS THE SMELL OF THE ENGLISHMAN.

PROS. #2: I AM SHOWING YOU EXHIBIT #2. DO YOU RECOGNIZE IT?

GIANT: YES, THAT'S MY GOLD – ALTHOUGH NOT ALL OF IT – SOME OF IT IS MISSING.

PROS. #2: HOW MANY GOLD PIECES HAD YOU COUNTED BEFORE YOU FELL ASLEEP?

GIANT: WELL, I WENT TO LANSING SCHOOLS SO I DON'T COUNT SO GOOD. I'M NOT SURE HOW MUCH I HAD BUT I KNOW THIS IS NOT ALL OF IT.

PROS. #2: TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED THE NEXT DAY.

GIANT: I WAS FEELING PRETTY MISERABLE AS I HAD LOST MY VALUABLE HEN AND MY GOLD AND THE ONLY THING I HAD LEFT WAS MY MAGICAL HARP. SO I WAS LYING IN MY BIG FEATHER BED, A COLD COMPRESS ON MY HEAD, LISTENING TO THE SOOTHING MUSIC OF THE HARP, WHEN ONCE MORE I SMELLED THAT ODIIOUS ODOR – THE BLOOD OF AN ENGLISHMAN!

PROS. #2: WHAT DID YOU DISCOVER?

GIANT: I THREW OFF THE COMPRESS AND LEAPED OUT OF BED YELLING AT THE TOP OF MY VOICE “FEE-FI-FO-FUM, I SMELL THE BLOOD OF AN ENGLISHMAN.” I FLUNG OPEN THE DOOR AND LOOKED DOWN AND SAW . . . NOTHING! AND THEN BEFORE I KNEW IT MY BEDROOM DOOR SLAMMED SHUT AND THE BOLT LOCK SNAPPED INTO PLACE.

PROS. #2: YOU WERE LOCKED OUT OF YOUR OWN BEDROOM?

GIANT: YEP. BY THE TIME I BROKE THE DOOR DOWN AND RE-ENTERED THE BEDROOM MY MAGICAL SINGING HARP WAS GONE AND A WINDOW WAS OPENED.

PROS. #2: DID YOU SEE OR SMELL OR HEAR ANYTHING?

GIANT: I TRIED TO GET OUT THE WINDOW BUT (*PATS HIS TUMMY*) I WAS A BIT TOO LARGE. BY THE TIME I RACED ACROSS THE ROOM AND OUT THE DOOR THEY WERE OUT OF SIGHT. I MUST HAVE ROARED MY DISPLEASURE BECAUSE IN THE DISTANCE I HEARD MY HARP CRY FOR HELP.

PROS. #2: WHAT DID SHE SAY?

GIANT: SHE SAID, “MASTER, SOMEONE IS STEALING ME!”

PROS. #2: WHAT DID YOU DO?

GIANT: I RAN TOWARD HER VOICE AND THEN I SAW HIM (*POINTS AT JACK*) CARRYING MY HARP DOWN THE BEANSTALK.

PROS. #2: DID YOU PURSUE HIM?

GIANT: I TRIED TO, BUT AS I WAS CLIMBING DOWN, SOMEONE CHOPPED DOWN THE BEANSTALK AND I TUMBLED HARD TO THE GROUND ON MY TUSH.

PROS. #2: WERE YOU OKAY?

GIANT: NO! I WASN'T OKAY. I THOUGHT I WAS DEAD. IN A DAZE I WANDERED BACK TO THE CASTLE BY THE LONG ROUTE.

PROS. #2: DID YOU EVER SEE YOUR HARP AGAIN?

GIANT: NO. NOR MY GOLD OR MY HEN.

PROS. #2: THAT'S ALL.

DEF. ATTY. #2: MR. GIANT, WHERE DID YOU GET THE HEN?

GIANT: I GOT HER IN THE VILLAGE – FOR SERVICES RENDERED.

DEF. ATTY. #2: ISN'T IT TRUE YOU STOLE HER?

GIANT: NO! YOUR CLIENT STOLE HER FROM ME!

DEF. ATTY. #2: ISN'T IT ALSO TRUE THAT THE VILLAGERS ARE ALL AFRAID OF YOU BECAUSE OF YOUR CONTINUAL PLUNDERING AND THREATS, AND STEALING OF THEIR PROPERTY AND EVEN EATING THEM?

PROS. #2: OBJECTION! COUNSEL IS BADGERING THE WITNESS.

JUDGE: OVERRULED. YOU MAY ANSWER.

GIANT: I ADMIT I WOULD OCCASIONALLY EAT AN ENGLISHMAN, BUT LIKE MY WIFE SAID THEY GIVE ME HORRIBLE INDIGESTION AND MY CHOLESTROL COUNT IS OUT OF SIGHT.

DEF. ATTY. #2: NOW YOU CANNOT IDENTIFY THE PERSON WHO TOOK YOUR HARP DOWN THE BEANSTALK CAN YOU?

GIANT: IT WAS HIM! *(POINTS AT JACK)*

DEF. ATTY. #2: YOU WERE NEVER CLOSE ENOUGH TO IDENTIFY HIM WERE YOU?

GIANT: NOT BY SIGHT, BUT I COULD SMELL HIS BLOOD.

DEF. ATTY. #2: AND SPEAKING OF BLOOD, THAT "FEE-FI-FO-FUM" LYRIC YOU SANG, THAT WASN'T THE COMPLETE LIMERIC YOU WERE ROARING, WAS IT?

GIANT: THERE MIGHT HAVE BEEN A FEW MORE WORDS.

DEF. ATTY. #2: LIKE:

FEE-FI-FO-FUM
I SMELL THE BLOOD OF AN ENGLISHMAN
BE HE ALIVE OR BE HE DEAD
I'LL HAVE HIS BONES TO GRIND MY BREAD.

GIANT: SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

DEF. ATTY. #2: THAT'S ALL.

(GIANT STEPS DOWN AND SHAKES A BIG FIST AT JACK)

JUDGE: NEXT WITNESS, PLEASE.

PROS. #1: PEOPLE CALL MRS. BEANSTALK. *(MRS. BEANSTALK STEPS UP)*

BAILIFF: DO YOU SWEAR TO TELL THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH?

MRS. B: I DO.

PROS. #1: YOU ARE MRS. BEANSTALK, JACK'S MOTHER?

MRS. B: YES (*GIVES A LITTLE WAVE TO JACK*).

PROS. #1: TELL US WHAT HAPPENED THE FIRST PART OF APRIL. DID YOU HAVE A COW THEN?

MRS. B: YES WE DID. JUST JACK AND I LIVE IN A SMALL COTTAGE IN CHARLOTTE DOWN BY THE RAILROAD TRACKS. WE ARE VERY POOR PEOPLE SINCE JACK'S FATHER MYSTERIOUSLY DISAPPEARED A YEAR AGO. WE LIVED FROM THE MILK BETSY GAVE – BETSY WAS THE NAME OF OUR COW – BUT ON APRIL 1 BETSY STOPPED GIVING MILK SO I TOLD JACK TO TAKE HER TO THE VILLAGE AND SELL HER TO BUY FOOD FOR DINNER.

PROS. #1: DID JACK TAKE BETSY TO TOWN?

MRS. B: HE WAS SUPPOSED TO, BUT WHEN HE CAME BACK HE SAID HE SOLD THE COW FOR FIVE BEANS. FIVE BEANS! I WAS SO UPSET THAT I FLUNG THE BEANS OUT THE WINDOW AND SENT JACK TO BED WITHOUT ANY SUPPER – NOT THAT WE HAD ANY SUPPER ANYWAY.

PROS. #1: WHAT DID YOU SEE THE NEXT DAY?

MRS. B: A GIGANTIC BEANSTALK HAD GROWN OUTSIDE OUR WINDOW.

PROS. #1: WHAT DID JACK DO?

MRS. B: WELL, YOU KNOW HOW BOYS ARE, ALWAYS LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE. BEFORE I COULD PROTEST, UP HE WENT, CLIMBING THAT BEANSTALK ALL THE WAY TO THE SKY.

PROS. #1: WHEN DID YOU SEE HIM AGAIN?

MRS. B: THE NEXT DAY. I WAS WORRIED AND UPSET OF COURSE, WHEN HE DID NOT COME HOME THAT NIGHT. BUT WHEN HE ARRIVED HE BROUGHT WITH HIM THIS WONDERFUL HEN.

PROS. #1: WHY WAS THE HEN SO WONDERFUL?

MRS. B: WELL WE WERE SO HUNGRY WE WERE GOING TO COOK HER UP FOR DINNER. BUT JUST BEFORE POPPING HER INTO THE BOILING POT, SHE LAID AN EGG OF PURE GOLD. AND SHE LAID ONE EVERY DAY AFTER THAT UNTIL WE GAVE HER AWAY.

PROS. #1: DID JACK CLIMB THE BEANSTALK AGAIN?

MRS. B: THAT VERY NIGHT, HE CLIMBED AND CLIMBED UNTIL AGAIN HE WAS OUT OF SIGHT.

PROS. #1: WHEN DID YOU NEXT SEE YOUR WAYWARD SON?

MRS. B: THAT NIGHT WHEN HE BROUGHT THE GOLD.

PROS. #1: THE GOLD?

MRS. B: TWO BAGS OF GOLD.

PROS. #1: IS THIS THE GOLD? (*SHOWS WITNESS THE GOLD*)

MRS. B: IT LOOKS LIKE IT, BUT WE SPENT SOME GOLD PIECES ON FOOD AND ON A NEW WASHER AND DRYER.

PROS. #1: DID JACK GO UP THE BEANSTALK AGAIN?

MRS. B: YES HE MOST CERTAINLY DID. HE SAID HE HAD SOME "UNFINISHED" BUSINESS TO ATTEND. AND LATER THAT DAY WHEN HE ARRIVED HOME HE HAD THIS MAGICAL HARP.

PROS. #1: DID JACK SAY WHERE HE GOT IT?

MRS. B: HE SAID THAT THE GIANT WAS HOLDING HER CAPTIVE AND THAT HE LIBERATED HER.

PROS. #1: DID YOU SEE JACK CUT DOWN THE BEANSTALK?

MRS. B: NO. I WAS INSIDE THE COTTAGE LYING DOWN WITH A SPLITTING HEADACH. BUT I HEARD A LOUD CRASH AND WHEN I LOOKED OUT THERE WAS MR. GIANT, LYING NEXT TO MY PETUNIA GARDEN, COMPLETELY UNCONSCIOUS.

PROS. #1: DID YOU SEE WHAT HAPPENED TO MR. GIANT?

MRS. B: NO. THE LOVELY HARP BEGAN TO SING TO ME AND MY HEADACHE IMMEDIATELY LEFT ME AND I SAT ON MY BED BEING WASHED IN THE BEAUTIFUL MUSIC. LATER WHEN I WENT OUTSIDE TO PICK A BUNCH OF PETUNIAS MR. GIANT WAS GONE.

PROS. #1: NO FURTHER QUESTIONS.

JUDGE: CROSS EXAMINATION?

DEF. ATTY. #1: MRS. BEANSTALK, WHAT KIND OF BOY IS JACK?

PROS. #1: OBJECTION! IRRELEVANT! I MEAN THE WITNESS IS HIS MOTHER!

JUDGE: OVERRULED. YOU MAY ANSWER.

MRS. B: HE IS A VERY HONEST BOY WHO WOULD NEVER STEAL OR TELL A LIE.

DEF. ATTY. #1: WHAT HAPPENED TO THE HEN THAT LAID THE GOLDEN EGGS?

MRS. B: JACK IS SUCH A KINDHEARTED BOY. WE KEPT HER FOR A LITTLE MORE THAN A WEEK, UNTIL WE HAD ABOUT A DOZEN EGGS. JACK TRIED TO FIND THE OWNER BUT IT TURNED OUT THAT SHE WAS AN OLD SORCERER WHO HAD BEEN EATEN BY THE GIANT.

PROS. #1: OBJECTION! BASED ON HEARSAY!

JUDGE: SUSTAINED. JURY IS TO DISREGARD THE LAST PART.

DEF. ATTY. #1: WHAT DID JACK DO WITH THE HEN THEN?

MRS. B: JACK TOOK HER TO THE VILLAGE TO SHARE HER WITH THE TOWNS PEOPLE. THE VILLAGERS ARE GOOD BUT IMPATIENT PEOPLE AND NOT TOO . . . NOT TOO BRIGHT IF YOU CATCH MY DRIFT. ANYWAY THEY THOUGHT THE FOOL HEN MUST BE FILLED WITH GOLDEN EGGS, SO THE BUTCHER CUT HER OPEN ONLY TO FIND SHE WAS JUST A REGULAR CHICKEN AFTER ALL.

DEF. ATTY. #1: WHAT HAPPENED TO THE MAGICAL HARP?

MRS. B: APPARENTLY THE HARP USED TO BE A BEAUTIFUL YOUNG GIRL WHO WAS IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIR YEARS AGO. BUT THEN SHE FELL INTO THE HANDS OF A SHIRTTAIL RELATIVE OF MISTY, WHO BOTCHED UP A CONJURING TRICK AND TURNED THE POOR GIRL INTO A HARP. THE GIANT WAS SAID TO HAVE STOLEN HER, AND AFTER JACK RESCUED HER HE TOOK HER TO MISTY WHO REVERSED THE CURSE.

DEF. ATTY. #1: WHERE IS SHE NOW?

MRS. B: AFTER EXPERIENCING SOME FREEDOM SHE BEGAN TO REBEL AND IS NOW IN A ROCK BAND IN EATON RAPIDS.

DEF. ATTY. #1: THAT'S ALL. THANK YOU.

(HELPS MRS. BEANSTALK DOWN)

PROS. #2: PEOPLE CALL OFFICER BEST.

(OFFICER BEST TAKES THE STAND)

BAILIFF: DO YOU SWEAR TO TELL THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH?

OFFICER: I DO.

PROS. #2: STATE YOUR NAME AND OCCUPATION.

OFFICER: WANNA B. BEST. I AM A POLICE OFFICER.

PROS. #2: DID YOU EXECUTE A SEARCH WARRANT AT THE HOME OF MRS. BEANSTALK ON APRIL 25, 2010?

OFFICER: I DID. IT WAS SIGNED BY HIS HONOR AND AUTHORIZED ME TO SEARCH THE HOME FOR EVIDENCE OF A THEFT FROM THE GIANT'S CASTLE.

PROS. #2: WHAT DID YOU FIND WHEN YOU SEARCHED JACK'S HOUSE?

OFFICER: I FOUND EXHIBIT 1, A GOLDEN EGG, AND EXHBIT 2, TWO BAGS OF GOLD.

PROS. #2: DID YOU SEND THESE EXHIBITS TO THE STATE POLICE FOR LAB ANALYSIS?

OFFICER: YES I DID. THEY WERE TESTED AND THE REPORT SHOWS BOTH EXHIBITS WERE FOUND TO BE 100% PURE GOLD.

PROS. #2: WERE YOU ABLE TO FIND A HEN OR A HARP?

OFFICER: NO. BUT I WAS ABLE TO SEIZE AN ORIOLE BASEBALL CAP AND SOME DARK GLASSES FROM JACK'S BEDROOM.

PROS. #2: *(SHOWS OFFICER THE HAT AND GLASSES)*

ARE THESE THE ITEMS YOU SEIZED?

OFFICER: YES.

PROS. #2: MOVE TO ADMIT ALL EXHIBITS AND NO MORE QUESTIONS.

DEF. ATTY. #2: NO OBJECTION.

JUDGE: ALL EXHIBITS ARE ADMITTED AND MAY BE VIEWED BY THE JURY. ANY CROSS EXAMINATION?

DEF. ATTY. #2: NO QUESTIONS, YOUR HONOR.

PROS. #2: PEOPLE REST.

REPORTER: WELL, THE PROSECUTION'S CASE HAS NOW COMPLETED. THE QUESTION NOW IS WHETHER JACK WILL TAKE THE STAND AND TESTIFY. UNDER THE 5TH AMENDMENT A CITIZEN HAS A RIGHT NOT TO INCRIMINATE HIMSELF. THE PROSECUTION COULD NOT CALL JACK AS A WITNESS AND HE NEED NOT TESTIFY. IF HE DOES NOT TESTIFY THE JURY WILL BE TOLD THAT THEY CAN NOT USE HIS FAILURE TO TAKE THE STAND AGAINST JACK.

LET'S SEE WHAT THE DEFENSE WILL DO ...

JUDGE: DO YOU WANT TO CALL ANY WITNESSES?

DEF. ATTY. #1: WE CALL JACK BEANSTALK TO THE STAND.

BAILIFF: DO YOU SWEAR TO TELL THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE TRUTH, AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH?

JACK: I DO.

DEF. ATTY. #1: JACK YOU HAVE HEARD YOUR MOTHER TESTIFY HERE, DO YOU AGREE WITH WHAT SHE SAID?

JACK: BASICALLY.

DEF. ATTY. #1: WHAT HAPPENED THE FIRST DAY YOU WENT UP THE BEANSTALK.

JACK: I WAS AMAZED. JUST TO SEE THE BEANSTALK WAS INCREDIBLE—I KNEW THAT THE BEANS WERE MAGICAL BUT I DID NOT KNOW THAT THEY WOULD GROW SUCH A PLANT— AND WHEN IT ENDED AT THE CASTLE OF THE INFAMOUS MR. GIANT I WAS EVEN MORE ASTOUNDED.

DEF. ATTY. #1: DID YOU GO THERE TO STEAL THINGS?

JACK: NOT AT ALL. I WAS JUST CURIOUS EVEN THOUGH I WAS ALSO FRIGHTENED BECAUSE IT IS WELL KNOWN THAT MR. GIANT HATES ENGLISHMEN.

DEF. ATTY. #1: WHAT HAPPENED WHEN YOU WENT INTO THE CASTLE?

JACK: I WAS CAUTIOUSLY LOOKING AROUND WHEN MRS. GIANT SAW ME. SHE ASKED ME WHAT I WAS DOING THERE AND I BECAME SO FRIGHTENED I COULD NOT ANSWER. THEN SHE TURNED VERY KIND AND OFFERED ME SOME PORRIDGE AND MILK. I WAS SO HUNGRY I DEVoured EVERY MORSEL. MRS. GIANT SMILED AND OFFERED ME MORE BUT BEFORE I COULD ANSWER I HEARD A VOICE LOUDER THAN THUNDER SHAKING THE WHOLE CASTLE:

“FEE-FI-FO-FUM
I SMELL THE BLOOD OF AN ENGLISHMAN
BE HE ALIVE OR BE HE DEAD
I’LL HAVE HIS BONES TO GRIND MY BREAD!”

DEF. ATTY. #1: DID THAT SCARE YOU?

JACK: OUT OF MY WITS. I WAS ABOUT TO RUN WHEN MRS. GIANT MOTIONED ME TO HIDE IN THE PANTRY. SHE CLOSED THE DOOR BEHIND ME JUST AS THE GIANT ENTERED THE KITCHEN. I HEARD MRS. GIANT TELL HIM THAT HE MUST BE MISTAKEN, THAT THERE WAS NO ENGLISHMAN HERE, ONLY A TRAVELING SALESMAN WHO WAS PROBABLY IRISH AND WHO JUST LEFT. SHE ALSO REMINDED MR. GIANT THAT ENGLISHMEN GAVE HIM INDIGESTION.

DEF. ATTY. #1: WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

JACK: WELL THE GIANT SAT DOWN AND HIS WIFE FIXED HIM THIS GRAND DINNER AND WHILE HE WAS NOISILY GOBBLING HIS

FOOD, SHE BROUGHT ME MORE PORRIDGE IN THE PANTRY AND TOLD ME I COULD STAY THE NIGHT.

DEF. ATTY. #1: DID YOU?

JACK: PART OF IT. I AWOKE AROUND MIDNIGHT TO THE SOUNDS OF SOME FIRST-CLASS SNORING FROM THE KITCHEN. I CREPT OUT AND SAW THE GIANT FAST ASLEEP. AND NEXT TO HIM WAS A WHITE HEN AND NEXT TO HER A GOLDEN EGG.

DEF. ATTY. #1: WHAT DID YOU DO?

JACK: I STARTED THINKING ABOUT HOW MY FOOLISHNESS LOST OUR COW AND HOW WE HAD NOTHING TO EAT AT HOME AND HOW MISERABLY POOR WE WERE AND SO I TOOK THE HEN AND THE EGG AND RAN OUT OF THE CASTLE AND DOWN THE BEANSTALK.

DEF. ATTY. #1: WHAT HAPPENED WHEN YOU GOT HOME?

JACK: MY MOTHER WAS SO HAPPY TO SEE ME AND THE HEN. SHE BUILT A FIRE AND BOILED SOME WATER TO COOK THE CHICKEN WHEN MIRACULOUSLY THE HEN LAID A GOLDEN EGG.

DEF. ATTY. #1: WAS IT THEN YOU KNEW SHE WAS SOMETHING SPECIAL?

JACK: YES. WE COLLECTED SEVERAL MORE EGGS OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS UNTIL WE HAD A DOZEN. AND THEN BECAUSE THE GIANT HAD DONE SO MUCH DAMAGE TO THE VILLAGE I TOOK THE HEN TO THE VILLAGE SO THE PEOPLE COULD BENEFIT FROM HER BOUNTY.

DEF. ATTY. #1: DID THEY APPRECIATE YOUR GENEROUSITY?

JACK: FOR A WHILE BUT THEN THEY BECAME IMPATIENT ONLY GETTING ONE EGG A DAY AND THEY KILLED THE HEN THAT LAID THE GOLDEN EGG.

DEF. ATTY. #1: DID YOU GO TO THE CASTLE THE NEXT NIGHT?

JACK: I WAS THINKING THAT THERE MAY BE MORE TREASURES IN THE CASTLE THAT THE GIANT HAD STOLEN SO I WENT BACK UP THE BEANSTALK.

DEF. ATTY. #1: DID YOU GO IN DISGUISE?

JACK: I WORE AN ORIOLE BALL CAP AND SUNGLASSES.

DEF. ATTY. #1: THESE? (*SHOWS EXHIBITS*)

JACK: THAT'S RIGHT AND WHEN I SAW MRS. GIANT IN THE CASTLE SHE DID NOT RECOGNIZE ME. I TOLD HER I WAS SELLING COOKIES FOR THE BAND BOOSTERS AND WHEN SHE LEFT TO GET SOME MONEY I SLIPPED INTO THE MAIN HALL OF THE CASTLE AND I HEARD THE FAMILIAR ECHOS OF THE GIANT'S SNORING. WHEN I GOT TO HIS COUNTING ROOM THERE WAS THE GIANT ASLEEP AMONG A LITTER OF EMPTY GOATSKINS. AND NEAR HIM WERE TWO BAGS OF GOLD.

DEF. ATTY. #1: (*SHOWS JACK THE EXHIBIT*) ARE THESE THE BAGS OF GOLD?

JACK: YES. BUT THE GIANT IS RIGHT, NOT ALL THE GOLD IS THERE. I TOOK THE GOLD THAT NIGHT AND GAVE SOME TO MY MOTHER. I ALSO RETURNED SOME TO THE VILLAGERS. I EVEN GAVE A COUPLE OF GOLD PIECES TO THE BAND BOOSTERS.

DEF. ATTY. #1: DID YOU RETURN TO THE CASTLE THE NEXT DAY?

JACK: I DID BECAUSE I KNEW THERE WAS MORE GOLD THERE. WHEN I ARRIVED THIS TIME I COULD HEAR MRS. GIANT SOBBING IN THE NEXT ROOM SO I KNEW SHE WAS WATCHING HER SOAPS.

DEF. ATTY. #1: WAS THE GIANT THERE?

JACK: I DID NOT SEE HIM BUT AS I STARTED TO GO INTO HIS COUNTING ROOM, I HEARD THE MOST SOOTHING MUSIC I HAVE EVER HEARD COMING FROM THE GIANT'S BEDROOM. I LOOKED THROUGH THE KEYHOLE AND SAW THE VISAGE OF A BEAUTIFUL GIRL IN THE FORM OF A HARP. SHE WAS SINGING TO THE GIANT WHO WAS RESTING IN THIS GIGANTIC BED.

DEF. ATTY. #1: DID YOU RECOGNIZE THE GIRL OR HER VOICE?

JACK: I WASN'T SURE BUT SHE LOOKED LIKE A GIRL WHO USED TO BE IN THE CHOIR AT SCHOOL AND WHO MYSTERIOUSLY DISAPPEARED ONE NIGHT AFTER PERFORMING AT A WITCHES' COVEN IN MASON. I REMEMBER HEARING THAT ONE OF THE WITCHES –

PROS. #1: OBJECTION! HEARSAY.

JUDGE: SUSTAINED. YOU CAN'T TESTIFY WHAT SOMEONE TOLD YOU.

DEF. ATTY. #1: DID YOU TRY TO RESCUE THIS MAGICAL HARP?

JACK: I WAS LOOKING THROUGH THE KEYHOLE TRYING TO FORMULATE A PLAN WHEN I SAW THE GIANT'S NOSE TWITCH; HE SAT UP IN BED AND ROARED:

"FEE-FI-FO-FUM
I SMELL THE BLOOD OF AN ENGLISHMAN
..."
WELL, YOU KNOW HOW THE REST OF IT GOES.

DEF. ATTY. #1: DID YOU RUN?

JACK: I WAS PLENTY SCARED TO BE SURE, BUT I COULD NOT LEAVE THE POOR GIRL BEHIND. SO I HID BEHIND THE DOOR AND

WHEN THE GIANT THUNDERED THROUGH IT I SLIPPED INSIDE THE BEDROOM, SHUT THE DOOR AND LOCKED IT BEHIND ME.

DEF. ATTY. #1: JACK, DID YOU STEAL THE HARP?

JACK: I DID NOT STEAL ANYTHING! THE GIRL HAD BEEN CRUELLY TURNED INTO A HARP AND WAS BEING HELD AGAINST HER WILL. SO I GRABBED HER AND ESCAPED THROUGH AN OPEN WINDOW. ONCE OUTSIDE I RACED TO THE BEANSTALK. THE GIANT WAS SOON BEHIND ME AND I COULD SMELL HIS BREATH OF ROAST BEAST AND TURNIPS. SO THEN –

PROS. ATTY. #1: OBJECTION TO THE NARRATIVE ANSWER.

JUDGE: SUSTAINED. PLEASE ASK QUESTIONS.

DEF. ATTY. #1: WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

JACK: I SCAMPERED DOWN THE BEANSTALK AND THE GIANT WAS SO ANGRY HE GOT CAUGHT AT THE TOP IN HIS HASTE. WHEN I GOT HOME I RAN AND GRABBED AN AXE AND CHOPPED THE BEANSTALK DOWN.

DEF. ATTY. #1: WHY DID YOU DO THAT?

JACK: WELL HE WAS THREATENING TO GRIND MY BONES UP AND I WAS VERY FRIGHTENED.

DEF. ATTY. #1: DID THE GIANT FALL?

JACK: YES AND HE LANDED WITH A THUD SO LOUD YOU COULD HEAR IT ALL THE WAY TO VERMONTVILLE.

DEF. ATTY. #1: DID YOU TRY TO MURDER THE GIANT?

JACK: NO. I WAS ONLY PROTECTING MYSELF.

DEF. ATTY. #1: NO OTHER QUESTIONS. THANK YOU.

PROS. ATTY. #1: JACK, WHEN YOU CHOPPED DOWN THE BEANSTALK YOU KNEW THAT THE GIANT WOULD LIKELY BE KILLED, WHICH IS WHAT YOU WANTED?

JACK: NO. I DIDN'T KNOW EXACTLY WHERE HE WAS IN THE BEANSTALK. I DID NOT TRY TO KILL HIM, BUT I MUST ADMIT I WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN TOO SAD IF HE HAD BEEN KILLED.

PROS. ATTY. #1: DO YOU ADMIT THAT YOU REMOVED THE HEN, THE GOLD BAGS AND THE HARP FROM THE CASTLE WITHOUT PERMISSION?

JACK: YES, BUT THEY DID NOT BELONG TO THE GIANT. HE HAD STOLEN THEM.

PROS. ATTY. #1: YOU TESTIFIED THAT THE HARP WAS BEING HELD AGAINST HER WILL?

JACK: THAT'S TRUE.

PROS. ATTY. #1: BUT ISN'T IT TRUE THAT WHILE YOU WERE STEALING HER SHE CRIED OUT TO HER MASTER, THE GIANT, FOR HELP?

JACK: YES, BUT AT THE TIME SHE DID NOT KNOW WHO I WAS OR WHAT I WOULD DO.

PROS. ATTY. #1: ARE YOU TELLING THIS JURY THAT YOU WERE AFRAID OF MR. GIANT BECAUSE HE RECITED A CUTE NURSERY RHYME?

JACK: CUTE NURSERY RHYME?! HE WAS GOING TO USE MY BONES TO GRIND HIS BREAD.

PROS. ATTY. #1: THAT'S ALL MY QUESTIONS.

DEF. ATTY. #1: THE DEFENSE HAS NO OTHER WITNESSES AND WE REST.

JUDGE: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF THE JURY THE EVIDENCE NOW IS COMPLETED. WE WILL NOW HEAR THE CLOSING ARGUMENTS OF THE LAWYERS.

PROS. ATTY. #2: THIS IS A VERY SIMPLE CASE AND WILL BE EASY FOR YOU TO DECIDE JACK IS GUILTY. HE HAS ADMITTED GOING INTO THE CASTLE WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF THE OWNERS AND REMOVING GOODS BELONGING TO MR. AND MRS. GIANT. HE ADMITTED TAKING THE HEN, TWO BAGS OF GOLD AND A HARP. OBVIOUSLY HE WAS NOT GOING TO GIVE THEM BACK. SO YOU CAN INFER THAT HE MEANT TO STEAL THEM. JACK ALSO ADMITTED CHOPPING DOWN THE BEANSTALK WHEN HE KNEW THE GIANT WAS NEAR THE TOP AND HE KNEW THAT BY CHOPPING DOWN THE BEANSTALK THE GIANT MIGHT BE KILLED. HE IS GUILTY OF THREE COUNTS OF STEALING FROM A CASTLE AND COUNT 4, ATTEMPTED MURDER. THANK YOU.

DEF. ATTY. #2: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN YOU ARE A GOOD LOOKING JURY AND ARE MUCH SMARTER THAN THE PROSECUTOR THINKS. THE PROSECUTOR WANTS YOU TO CONVICT JACK EVEN THOUGH WHAT HE TOOK FROM THE CASTLE DID NOT BELONG TO MR. AND MRS. GIANT. THE GOODS WERE ALREADY STOLEN! AND JACK DID NOT ATTEMPT TO MURDER THE GIANT. HE ONLY ATTEMPTED TO SAVE HIS OWN LIFE FROM A CREATURE WHO WANTED TO EAT HIM. JACK ACTED IN SELF-DEFENSE. PLEASE FIND JACK NOT GUILTY ON ALL FOUR COUNTS. THANK YOU.

JUDGE: PEOPLE OF THE JURY HERE ARE YOUR INSTRUCTIONS. IN ORDER TO RETURN A VERDICT YOU ALL MUST AGREE ON IT. YOU ARE INSTRUCTED THAT TO FIND JACK GUILTY YOU MUST FIND BEYOND A REASONABLE DOUBT THAT HE COMMITTED THE CRIMES CHARGED.

IN COUNT 1, JACK IS CHARGED WITH STEALING A HEN FROM A CASTLE.

IN COUNT 2, JACK IS CHARGED WITH STEALING TWO BAGS OF GOLD FROM A CASTLE.

IN COUNT 3, JACK IS CHARGED WITH STEALING A HARP FROM A CASTLE.

IN COUNT 4, JACK IS CHARGED WITH ATTEMPTING MURDER.

HERE IS YOUR VERDICT SHEET. YOU MAY NOW GO WITH THE BAILIFF TO DECIDE YOUR VERDICT.

STATE OF MICHIGAN

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF EATON

PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN
Plaintiff,

-v-

File No. 10-100

JACK BEANSTALK,
Defendant.

_____ /

VERDICT

COUNT 1: STEALING A HEN FROM A CASTLE

Not Guilty

Guilty

COUNT 2: STEALING TWO BAGS OF GOLD FROM A CASTLE

Not Guilty

Guilty

COUNT 3: STEALING A HARP FROM A CASTLE

Not Guilty

Guilty

COUNT 4: ATTEMPTED MURDER

Not Guilty

Guilty

Dated: _____

Foreperson