(028) Jack and the Beanstalk

Here is a very famous English 'fairy tale'. Jack lived with his mother. They were very poor. Their last possession was their cow. Jack took it to the market to sell it. On the road, he met a strange old man. He offered Jack a bag of beans for the cow. He swore to Jack that they were magic beans.

Jack trusted him. He gave him the cow and took the beans. Back home, his mother was furious. She said the beans were useless. She threw them outside the house.

In the morning, a massive beanstalk stood outside. It rose up through the clouds. Jack was very brave and climbed the beanstalk.

At the top was a huge castle. It was the home of a giant. Jack crept inside. The giant was busy eating enormous bowls of food. In the corner was a goose. It was laying golden eggs. Jack saw an opportunity to become rich.

He crept over and grabbed the goose. However, the giant could smell humans. He roared at Jack and chased him. Jack ran very fast with the goose under his arm.

He reached the beanstalk. He slid all the way down it very speedily. He put down the goose and grabbed an axe. He chopped the beanstalk down. Now the giant could not follow him. Jack and his mother lived well from the goose's golden eggs.

Jack was no longer poor but he stole the goose. The giant in the sky did not harm anyone. Perhaps he needed the eggs to pay for his big appetite. Is this really a happy ending?