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JANE AND THE DRAGON

"A Pig of a Problem"

By: Ross Hastings

PRODUCTION #12

DIRECTOR'S AS RECORDED
(revisions marked *) **March 17, 2005**

A PIG OF A PROBLEM

EXT. THE YARD. DAY 1.

Just outside the forge, DRAGON is enthusiastically telling PIG a story. PIG is standing under the forge eaves.

1 DRAGON 1
It was a huge stampede, maybe a
thousand beasts strong.

DRAGON plants all feet in the ground and tenses, staring determinedly ahead.

2 DRAGON (cont'd) 2
Cows to the left of me, bulls to
the right - there I was stuck in
the middle with <MOOOOO!>

3 PIG 3
<DELIGHTED SQUEAL>

JANE comes to her window to watch. She smiles.

4 DRAGON 4
Yet I bravely - and handsomely -
stood my ground!

ANGLE JANE rolling her eyes.

ANGLE THE PRINCE coming in to the yard. His eyes light up at the prospect of playing with two animals. He is holding a bread roll in one hand. He runs forward to join in.

5 PRINCE 5
Hey! I want to...

DRAGON takes one look at the PRINCE and...

6 DRAGON 6
But not today!

DRAGON goes. PIG turns to get back to work in the forge.

The PRINCE arrives, left with no one to play with.

7 PRINCE 7
<SMALL> Join in...

ANGLE JANE looking sympathetically at the PRINCE.

THE PRINCE regains his confidence.

*

8 PRINCE (cont'd) 8
<CALLING> PIG! Here piggy.

He runs in to the forge...

INT. SMITHY'S FORGE. DAY 1.

With one hand behind his back, the PRINCE walks in to the forge and sees PIG working pushing the pig wheel around. The PRINCE approaches PIG.

9 PRINCE 9
Good pig, working in your wheel.
But first I have a treat for you,
look.

The PRINCE reveals the bread roll. PIG stops pushing the wheel and starts <SNIFFING>.

10 PIG 10
<GRUNT>

11 PRINCE (cont'd) 11
Smell good?

EXT. JANE'S TURRET. DAY 1.

JANE is still at her window as DRAGON <LANDS> on his perch.

12 JANE 12
<GRINNING> You could have played
with the Prince a little - he loves
animals.

13 DRAGON 13
Er, excuse me! Since when did I
become an animal?

JANE points to the outer side of DRAGON's wall.

14 JANE 14
That is your dung pile?

15 DRAGON 15
Er, I... might have done that. But
I do NOT do children's
entertainment.

16 PRINCE (o.s.) 16
<SCREAM cont.>

17 PIG (o.s.) 17
<ALARMED SQUEALS cont.>

JANE dashes from her room.

EXT. THE YARD. DAY 1.

JANE sprints across the yard toward the forge. As she does, PIG comes shooting out the other way toward DRAGON who has jumped down in to the yard and is in a state of readiness.

18 PRINCE (o.s.) 18
<SCREAM HEADING IN TO CRYING>

INT. THE FORGE. CONTINUOUS. DAY 1.

JANE rushes in to find the PRINCE holding his hand (the same one he had the food in).

19 PRINCE 19
<CRYING cont.>

JANE rushes up to help him.

20 JANE 20
Your Highness! What is it?

SMITHY arrives in a state of alarm.

21 SMITHY 21
What happened?

22 **LINE DELETED** 22 *

23 PRINCE 23
<CRYING, THEN SOBS cont.>

JANE and SMITHY exchange a look. JANE goes to put her arm around the PRINCE, but he steps back out of her reach - still holding his hand.

24 JANE 24
<GENTLY> May I see your hand?

THE PRINCE shakes his head.

25 JANE (cont'd) 25
Is it very badly hurt?

THE PRINCE just holds his hand closer to him. ANGLE ON SMITHY looking very worried.

26 JANE (cont'd) 26
Perhaps your mother can look at it?
What do you think?

THE PRINCE nods and allows JANE to lead him <STILL SOBBING> out.

EXT. THE YARD. CONTINUOUS. DAY 1.

JANE is leading the <SOBBING> PRINCE out when the KING and QUEEN and IVON turn up.

27 QUEEN 27
Cuthbert, my dear! Whatever is the
matter?

The QUEEN takes over from JANE, putting her arm around the PRINCE to lead him <SOBBING> away.

28 KING 28
Jane, what happened here?

29 JANE 29
I am at a loss, your Majesty. We
found Prince Cuthbert crying by the
forge.

SMITHY appears from the forge. The KING glares at him.

As he is led away, the PRINCE turns over his shoulder.

30 PRINCE 30
<UPSET> Pig bit me!

31 KING 31
WHAT?!

ALL EYES turn toward PIG who is across the yard, snuggled in to DRAGON. DRAGON's tail curls protectively around him.

The KING sternly turns to SMITHY.

32 KING 32
Blacksmith, pen that pig!

*

INT. THE STABLES. DAY 1.

SMITHY is putting PIG in to one of the stalls. He affectionately tickles her ears.

33 PIG 33
<GRUNT>

34 SMITHY 34
I am sorry, Pig.

SMITHY looks at PIG for a <BEAT>.

35 SMITHY (cont'd) 35
Just until the King calms down. I
promise.

SMITHY then closes the stall door on her.

MIX THROUGH TIME:**INT. THE STABLES. LATER. DAY 1.**

DRAGON's body is visible from behind. He is sitting in the stables with his head over one of the stalls. His tail is out in the yard and his butt is all but blocking the door frame *

36 DRAGON 36
All this fuss over a tiny nip. Now,
if you had a set of dragon fangs,
ooooo, serious biting!

INT. ONE STALL. CONTINUOUS. DAY 1.

DRAGON's head is stuck over the stall door. He is keeping PIG's humour up.

37 PIG (o.s.) 37
<GRUNT>

38 DRAGON 38
Next time he comes by, leave the
nipping to me. One bite - gone!

39 PRINCESS (o.s.) 39
Excuse me!

INT. THE STABLES. CONTINUOUS. DAY 1.

DRAGON withdraws his head to see the PRINCESS standing in the stables outside the stall door, staring up at him.

40 PRINCESS 40
Pig has been very naughty.

41 DRAGON 41
Riiiiiggght...

THE PRINCESS waggles her finger at DRAGON.

42 PRINCESS 42
And you are a very naughty Dragon.
You know that biting people is
very, VERY bad.

43 DRAGON 43
Agreed. They taste worse than
terrible.

DRAGON turns to the stall door.

44 DRAGON (cont'd) 44
Is that not right, Pig?

45 PIG (o.s.) 45
<GRUNT>

THE PRINCESS steps up to address the stall door.

46 PRINCESS (cont'd) 46
Pig? Only I am allowed to bite my
brother because I am his sister and
you are not! And I never bite
Cuthbert. Never EVER.

The PRINCESS opens the stall door to reprimand PIG. At that moment the KING and IVON enter on the far side the stables through the open Royal Driveway doors.

47 PRINCESS (cont'd) 47
Pig-bite-Prince-no! No Pig!

PIG now has put her head out through the open stall door and is watching the Princess.

IVON reacts with alarm.

48 IVON 48
PRINCESS!

IVON rushes forward to 'rescue' the PRINCESS.

EXT. THE YARD - CONTINUOUS

Jane and Smithy are crossing the yard. They stare at each other on hearing Ivon's yell and break into a sprint.

INT. THE STABLES - CONTINUOUS. DAY 1.

The Princess steps back surprised as Ivon reaches the stall door. PIG takes one look at IVON and shoots back in to the stall.

49 IVON 49
Get back you beast! Back I say!

IVON <SLAMS> the stall door shut - holding it closed as if PIG might break out. The PRINCESS looks bamboozled. Dragon looks bemused. The KING rushes to crouch down by her.

50 KING 50
Lavinia, my dear, are you alright?

IVON secures the stable door latch.

51 IVON 51
The Princess is safe now, Sire. I
have secured the dangerous beast!

Dragon raises an eyebrow and silently mouths 'beast?'

The PRINCESS just screws her face up at IVON - still leaning his body against the door.

52 PRINCESS 52
Silly Ivon!

The PRINCESS turns to the KING.

53 PRINCESS 53
He is not a very brave knight is he
daddy-king?

JANE and SMITHY arrive sprinting in the doorway, and stop.

54 KING 54
Darling, you must never go near
this animal.

55 PRINCESS 55
But I like Pig.

*

56 KING 56
Never again, now I want you to
promise me - a serious promise.

JANE and SMITHY turn up in the doorway.

57 PRINCESS 57
Yes, Father.

The KING gives the PRINCESS a <KISS> and stands up.

58 KING 58
Good poppet.
(TO IVON) No one is allowed near
this pig until I decide what is to
be done with it!

JANE shoots a glance at SMITHY but SMITHY is impassive -
showing the merest of reactions.

59 PIG (o.s.) 59
<GRUNT?>

INT. THE FORGE. DAY 1.

SMITHY enters and glances at the stationary pig wheel. He
puts a hand close to the open fire and shakes his head.

Jane moves into frame behind him.

60 JANE 60
Fire not hot enough?

61 SMITHY 61
(SHAKES HIS HEAD) No.

Without hesitating JANE climbs into the Pig's wheel.

62 JANE 62
I can give it a go, Smithy.

SMITHY takes a poker and jabs (a little aggressively) at the
open mouth of the furnace.

63 JANE (CONT) 63
Not as fast as pig, though.

64 SMITHY 64
No <BEAT> It makes no sense Jane -
pig would never hurt a fly.

65 JANE 65
Shame the Prince was not a fly
then, eh?

JANE attempt at lightening the situation doesn't work.

66 JANE 66
Sorry.

SMITHY stops working.

67 SMITHY 67
The Prince must have provoked her.
He must have.

JANE nods her agreement as Smithy withdraws the poker from
the fire.

68 SMITHY 68
Still too cold.

Jane breaks into a stride to quicken the wheel.

EXT. CASTLE KEEP ESTABLISHER. DAY 1.

PUSH IN on where the PRINCE's bedroom is...

INT. PRINCE'S BEDROOM. DAY 1.

There is a <KNOCK AT THE DOOR>. The PRINCE is sitting on his
bed, a bandage around his hand.

69 PRINCE 69
(Sniffling) Enter. *

JANE enters.

70 JANE 70
Your Highness, how are you feeling?

71 PRINCE 71
Terrible. Pig may have given me the
plague.

JANE sits down on the bed beside him.

72 JANE 72
That would be rats, not pigs.

She fixes him with a look - caring but knowing that he is
overreacting.

73 JANE (CONT) 73
 Have you any idea why she might
 have nipped you?

74 PRINCE 74
 <EVASIVE> No. I brought Pig a
 present, and she bit me. That will
 teach me to be nice. *

75 JANE 75
 Pig would only bite if... (she was
 goaded)

The PRINCE now covers by getting upset and angry. The KING
 comes to the door to hear him say...

76 PRINCE 76
 Pig just bit me for nothing.
 NOTHING. Pig is crazy, crazy and
 dangerous, and and...

JANE sees the KING and stands up to attention.

77 KING 77
 Jane! The Prince needs to rest!

78 JANE 78
 Oh, your Majesty, I only..

79 KING 79
 Dismissed, Jane.

JANE nod/bows and quickly leaves. The PRINCE looks up at the
 KING.

80 PRINCE 80
 I did not deserve this, Father.

The KING frowns - he agrees with his son.

EXT. JANE'S TURRET. DAY 1.

JANE is at her window speaking with DRAGON.

81 JANE 81
 Smithy being Smithy, he just will
 not show how much pain he is in.

82 DRAGON 82
 <NODDING> Very dragon of him.

83 JANE 83
I have to do something.

84 DRAGON 84
I could bite the Prince. Then
everyone would forget about a silly
little pig nip.

85 JANE 85
Dragon...

DRAGON make little nipping movements with his front fangs.

86 DRAGON 86
Just a little nibble, not a proper
mauling.

87 JANE 87
I will petition the King.

88 DRAGON 88
The official route. I see. Alright,
but I come with you.

89 JANE 89
Great. No biting.

DRAGON grins a big grin and taps a claw against a tooth.

90 DRAGON 90
These are just for show. Really.
And tearing and shredding.

EXT. ROYAL GARDENS. DAY 1.

JANE and DRAGON nervously watch the KING taking a stroll in
the far part of the garden.

91 JANE 91
Leave the talking to me.

92 DRAGON 92
Good plan. I shall do silent and
imposing.

JANE and Dragon approach the KING.

93 JANE 93
Your Majesty. May I have an
audience?

94 KING 94
 Of course, Jane. You wish to
 apologise for upsetting my son?

95 JANE 95
 No your Majesty, I..

The King frowns.

96 KING 96
 No?

97 JANE (CONT) 97
 I mean yes.. I do.. but..

98 DRAGON 98
 Perhaps I could..

99 JANE 99
 DRAGON!

100 DRAGON 100
 ..keep quiet for a moment.

101 JANE (CONT'D) 101
 Your Majesty. Regarding your
 decision toward Smithy's Pig...

102 KING 102
 Ah yes, my decision. The Merchant
 will take the pig.

103 JANE 103
 The Merchant, Your Majesty?

104 KING 104
 Yes, I have sold the pig to the
 Merchant,

DRAGON's mouth is agape.

105 DRAGON 105
 Sold Pig?!

106 KING 106
 Yes indeed. No need for you to
 worry. All taken care of. *

THE KING turns and walk towards the conservatory.

107 DRAGON 107
 Can he do that? *

108 JANE 108
A King can do anything. <SIGH> Poor
Smithy will be devastated.

109 DRAGON 109
Smithy? What about Pig? What will
become of her!?

DRAGON is getting really angry. He looks up at the sky.

110 DRAGON (cont'd) 110
I... I... <HUGE PLUME OF FIRE>

DRAGON sustains this blow out for a good <COUPLE OF BEATS>.

111 JANE 111
Feel better?

112 DRAGON 112
Yes, as a matter of fact. I do.

INT. THE STABLES. DAY 1.

PUSH IN ON the stable stall where PIG is penned.

113 PIG 113
<SMALL SAD SQUEALS>

INT. THE FORGE. DAY 1.

SMITHY is <HAMMERING> away working at his anvil.

114 PIG (o.s.) 114
<DISTANT SMALL SAD SQUEALS>

SMITHY looks up at the sound of his friend - every squeal a pang to his heart. JANE approaches.

115 JANE 115
Smithy, I tried to talk to the
Prince and I petitioned the King
and... <BEAT>

116 SMITHY 116
<BRIGHTENING> Jane, I knew you
would be able... (to sort it out)

But SMITHY stops when he sees the look on JANE's face.

117 SMITHY (cont'd) 117
Oh.

JANE takes a <BIG INTAKE OF BREATH>. There is nothing for it but to tell SMITHY outright.

118 JANE 118
Smithy, King Caradoc has sold Pig
to the Merchant.

SMITHY stiffens, then quietly nods, turns and walks off toward the stables. JANE watches him go.

119 JANE (cont'd) 119
<QUIETLY> Oh, Smithy...

EXT. RAKE'S GARDEN. DAY 1.

PEPPER, RAKE and JESTER have been looking through the arch at SMITHY and JANE.

120 RAKE 120
Why would the Merchant want Pig
anyway?

121 JESTER 121
Rake, some questions are... *

122 RAKE 122
Not to work in a forge, has he even
got a forge? No. So why would..
<REALIZING> Oh! Oh turnips.

123 JESTER 123
Exactly! If he invites us to dinner
tomorrow - make your excuses!

124 PEPPER 124
Oh, but he puts on a lovely spread.
Does a good leg of ham does our
Merchant.

RAKE looks appalled. JESTER cuts her off.

125 JESTER 125
Pepper!

126 PEPPER 126
What? Ooo...sorry!

PEPPER's hands go to her mouth as she realizes.

127 JESTER 127
Yes. And careful what you say over
supper tonight.

EXT. CASTLE. EVENING ESTABLISHER.

PUSH IN on the castle...

EXT. RAKE'S GARDEN. EVENING. DAY 1.

JANE, SMITHY and RAKE sit at the outside table. Plates are laid out and PEPPER is serving soup. SMITHY looks miserable, his head down. The others try to cheer him up.

128 JESTER 128
 .. and the chicken said: 'you can
 take my feathers, but you will
 never take my dignity.' Have you
 SEEN a naked chicken? *

The routine is met with downcast faces. Jester mimes drawing a line through a list of notes.

129 JESTER 129
 Reminder. No animal jokes.

130 RAKE 130
 We could get you another pig,
 Smithy. Or a goat - what about a
 goat?

SMITHY just looks at the table.

131 JANE 131
 We could find out where Pig will be
 - and you can visit her.

PEPPER and RAKE exchange a 'look'. <BEAT> of silence - everyone knows that this will not be possible.

RAKE decides that a bit of levity is what is needed.

132 RAKE 132
 I know! Who would like to see my
 parsnip shaped like a, um, a...
 <SMALL> pig.

RAKE looks lost. JANE quickly changes the subject.

133 JANE 133
 The soup smells delicious.

SMITHY stands up. Everyone tenses a bit, then:

134 SMITHY 134
(getting more emotional as
he speaks)

Pig is going. Forever. Or she will
be and... and I need her, need her
in my forge. Work and company, I
guess. She has never let me down,
never once. Never too tired, you
know. Always there and never asks
me for anything, and now how can I
help her, how can I? Right when she
needs me!

SMITHY is almost choking with emotion. EVERYONE is stunned
and feels hugely for him.

SMITHY runs off toward the yard. JANE makes to go after him
but JESTER puts a hand on her arm, holding her back.

135 JESTER 135
Let him go.

The two stare after him.

EXT. CASTLE. MORNING ESTABLISHER. DAY 2.

INT. THRONE ROOM. DAY 2.

The PRINCE is sitting on the throne. WIDEN to show that the
PRINCESS is standing before him.

136 PRINCESS 136
Now, you sit there. You are Prince
Cuthbert...

137 PRINCE 137
This is dumb. I know who I am.

The PRINCE goes to get up.

138 PRINCESS 138
SIT!

The PRINCE does as he is told.

139 PRINCESS (cont'd) 139
I want to know why Pig was so
naughty to you.

140 PRINCE 140
 I told you, Nettlebrain! I tried to
 give her some bread and she got all
 excited and...

The PRINCESS is not inviting dissent.

141 PRINCESS 141
 SHHH! I want to see it!

142 PRINCE 142
 But...

THE PRINCESS puts her finger to her lips and does a loud...

143 PRINCESS 143
 SSSSHHHHHH!!!

When she is satisfied that there will be no more
 interruptions....

144 PRINCESS (cont'd) 144
 Now. You are Prince Cuthbert... and
 I am Pig!

The PRINCESS gets down on all fours and starts...

145 PRINCESS (cont'd) 145
 <GRUNTING LIKE A PIG>

146 PRINCE 146
 <SIGH>

EXT. THE STABLES. DAY 2.

The MERCHANT is with THE CHAMBERLAIN. He has come to check on
 his purchase.

147 MERCHANT 147
 ..yes, and plenty of fat on it! I
 paid good money for that pig.

148 CHAMBERLAIN 148
 <CORRECTING> Fair money, Magnus.

149 CHAMBERLAIN 149
 <MOTIONING> She is locked in the
 first stall.

149A MERCHANT 149A *
 (Groan) *

The MERCHANT strides in to the stables. THE CHAMBERLAIN waits a <BEAT> - he finds the MERCHANT tiresome.

150 MERCHANT (o.s.) 150
What???

The MERCHANT comes striding out - furious.

151 MERCHANT (cont'd) 151
Where is my pig?!

EXT. ROYAL DRIVEWAY. CONTINUOUS. DAY 2.

The KING is on the steps of the atrium tower. He is none too pleased. The MERCHANT and CHAMBERLAIN are with him. JANE stands down the steps from them all.

152 KING 152
<TO MERCHANT>I know Magnus. A deal is a deal.

153 MERCHANT 153
Indeed it is, your Highness.

The KING turns to JANE.

154 KING 154
Jane.

155 JANE 155
<STEPPING FORWARD> Your Majesty?

156 KING 156
Bring me the pig, Jane. Find our thief and bring me **that** pig. *

157 JANE 157
<BOWING> At once.

JANE runs off and the KING turns to his CHAMBERLAIN.

158 KING 158
(QUIETLY) Tell Sir Theodore I want a full council.

EXT. RAKE'S GARDEN. DAY 2.

JANE is questioning JESTER, SMITHY, and RAKE.

159 JANE 159
 If any of you know anything, I have
 to know - now.

160 RAKE 160
 Not a thing, Jane.

161 JESTER 161
 A complete mystery.

SMITHY has remained silent. JESTER and the others can't help
 but shoot him a look - he is the obvious culprit. JANE turns
 to him.

162 JANE 162
 Smithy, please, if you had anything
 to do with this?

There is a tense <BEAT>, then...

163 SMITHY 163
 You need to ask? When have I ever
 questioned my King?

JANE looks at her friend for a <BEAT>.

164 JANE 164
 Sorry.

JANE leaves. JESTER steps up beside SMITHY and <WHISTLES>.

165 JESTER 165
 Well, Smithy. This is one pig of a
 problem!

SMITHY looks incredulously at him.

166 JESTER 166
 Bad Jester. Bad.

EXT. BATTLEMENTS. DAY 2.

JANE is pacing back and forth, rattling her brains.

167 **LINE DELETED** 167 *

JANE looks over at DRAGON's empty perch.

168 JANE (CONT'D) 168
 <DEEP INTAKE OF BREATH> Who would
 be foolish enough...

She puts her hands on her hips.

169 JANE (cont'd) 169
Big enough, green enough and
reckless enough to steal Pig.

JANE does not look best pleased.

EXT. DRAGON'S CAVE. DAY 2.

DRAGON is standing with pig at the entrance to his cave.
DRAGON is like a boy having his friend to stay in his room
for the first time.

170 DRAGON 170
You will LOVE it here, Pig. Cool in
summer, very cool in winter. But
the central heating!!! (HE BLOWS
FLAME) Mmm Toasty!
And just LOOK at that view...

DRAGON motions out over the kingdom. PIG looks out over the
view, but his eyes settle on the castle and he seems a little
sad.

171 PIG 171
<SAD GRUNT>

DRAGON realizes and:

172 DRAGON 172
Or ignore the view completely and
check out the inside.

He shepherds the Pig inside.

INT. STABLES. DAY 2.

JANE is inspecting the stall where PIG was penned. She sees
there are scratch marks on the open door.

173 JANE 173
Just as I thought.

174 JESTER (o.s.) 174
JANE! JANE!

She turns to see JESTER appear in the doorway.

175 JESTER 175
The King has called a full council.
Smithy is there.

JANE runs out.

INT. THRONE ROOM. DAY 2.

SMITHY is standing before The KING who is on his throne.
THEODORE, THE CHAMBERLAIN and IVON stand at his sides.

176 KING 176
The Pig was your responsibility.
You were to pen him safely in the
stables were you not?

177 SMITHY 177
<HEAD BOWED> I was, your Majesty.
The fault is mine.

178 IVON 178
Head up lad, look at your King when
he speaks to you.

SMITHY looks up. The KING motions to IVON, there is no need
to intimidate the boy. The KING softens his tone.

179 KING 179
How has it come to this? Over an
animal. <SIGH> Do you have anything
to say for yourself?

180 SMITHY 180
No, My Lord.

JANE enters the throne room at a run and, under the gaze of
the COUNCIL, quickly stops to nod and walk respectfully to
stand near SMITHY.

181 KING 181
Very well. With a heavy heart I
must dismiss you from my service.

SMITHY's head slumps to his chest. JANE is mortified. She
goes to speak...

182 JANE 182
But Your Majesty...

But is hushed by THEODORE who steps forward and raises his
palm to her.

183 THEODORE 183
Blacksmith, tidy the forge and
collect up your things. You will
leave by sundown.

184 JANE 184
Your Majesty, Sir Theodore, please,
I beg to speak for..

185 KING 185
Thank you, Jane, my decision is
final.

JANE can not believe what has just happened.

EXT. THE FORGE. DAY 2.

JANE is with SMITHY who is morosely picking over his tools.

186 JANE 186
Smithy, everything is going to be
alright.

187 SMITHY 187
How, Jane? How is everything going
to be alright?

188 JANE 188
It just will be. I think I know
where Pig is.. (..and I think..)

SMITHY looks up, relief on his face.

189 SMITHY 189
You do? Where is she? Is she all
right? Have you seen her?

190 JANE 190
Well, no.

SMITHY'S hopeful expression evaporates as quickly as it came.

191 JANE (CONT) 191
But I think I know where to find
her!

EXT. DRAGON'S CAVE. DAY 2.

DRAGON and PIG are both facing in toward the cave - their
rumps sticking out in to the sunlight.

192 DRAGON 192
 <LOUDLY> *You are so handsome!*
 <ECHO> *You are so handsome!* *

PIG is instantly scared and backs out of the cave.

193 PIG 193
 <ALARMED SQUEAL!>

DRAGON turns to PIG.

194 DRAGON 194
 Relax. Echoes are fun. They tell
 you what you want to hear...

DRAGON puts a claw around PIG and herds him back to the cave entrance.

195 DRAGON (cont'd) 195
 Come. Squeal away, my friend!

There is a <BEAT> as PIG fails to squeal, so DRAGON gives him a little tap of his claw on PIG's backside.

196 PIG 196
 <LOUD SQUEAL>
 <ECHO> <LOUD SQUEAL>

PIG turns to DRAGON amazed.

197 DRAGON 197
 <NODDING> The call of the wild!

They both turn back in to the cave. As they do, JANE arrives to see both their rumps.

198 DRAGON (cont'd) 198
 <LOUDLY> No one knows we are here!
 <ECHO> *No one knows we are here!*

199 JANE 199
 Yes they do. Yes they do.

200 DRAGON 200
 Jane?

DRAGON and PIG both turn around.

201 JANE (cont'd) 201
 I should have known straight away
 it was you. Come on, we have to get
 her back to the castle right now.

DRAGON puts a protective claw around PIG.

202 DRAGON 202
Says who?

203 JANE 203
Says me, Dragon - and the King.

204 DRAGON 204
And would that be the same king who
just tried to sell Pig? Mmm? Would
it!?

205 JANE 205
Dragon, Smithy has been fired from
the castle staff because of what
you have done.

206 DRAGON 206
Oh... well, then he can come and
visit Pig here. Problem solved. *

207 JANE 207
Dragon, whether we like it or not,
I have to take her back - those are
my orders!

DRAGON leans in protectively toward PIG.

208 DRAGON 208
Oh. Take orders from a King now do
you!?

209 JANE 209
<SHAKING HER HEAD> Dragon!

210 DRAGON 210
There must be something we can do?

211 JANE 211
We can keep trying. But first we
have to do our duty.

DRAGON's shoulders soften - he knows this too.

212 DRAGON 212
<SIGHS> Duty...

DRAGON turns back to PIG.

213 DRAGON (cont'd) 213
Come on Pig. About time you learnt
how to fly...

EXT. MID AIR. DAY 2.

JANE and DRAGON fly. PIG is cradled in DRAGON's claws.

214 DRAGON 214
What do you say to this, Pig?

215 PIG 215
<EXCITED AND TERRIFIED SQUEAL>

216 JANE 216
Everything will work out. I am sure
of it.

217 DRAGON 217
When pigs can fly, Jane.

They swoop to adjust course toward the castle.

EXT. CASTLE ESTABLISHER.

PUSH IN ON the Castle...

EXT. BATTLEMENTS. DAY 2.

JANE is with DRAGON. Both look miserable.

218 JANE 218
<SIGH> This is... <FRUSTRATED>
Rrrrrr!

219 DRAGON 219
Blow some fire. It helps.

JANE turns and looks down in to the Royal Garden. The PRINCE is playing with a ball - throwing and catching it.

220 JANE 220
The Prince's hand is all better.

221 DRAGON 221
<MUMBLING> That can be changed.

222 JANE 222
King Caradoc did what he thought
right for his family...

JANE looks at the PRINCE playing for a while longer and then stands up - she has had a thought.

223 JANE (cont'd) 223
The King can overrule any decision -
including his own!

224 DRAGON 224
Why would he?

JANE looks back down on The PRINCE.

225 JANE 225
For the truth!

INT. THE FORGE. DAY 2.

JESTER watches as SMITHY sweeps the forge area.

226 JESTER 226
Smithy, you can stop now. We-we
want to make our goodbyes. *

227 SMITHY 227
I will leave this forge as tidy as
when I came into service.

228 JESTER 228
But Pepper has been baking a cake
and I have composed the funniest
song ever. And no animal jokes! Eh?
How about it?

229 SMITHY 229
<AS WORKING> Sorry, Jester.

230 JESTER 230
But...

SMITHY looks directly at JESTER.

231 SMITHY 231
<HEARTFELT> Thank you, anyway.

SMITHY gets back to <SWEEPING>. JESTER unhappily watches.

EXT. THE STABLES. DAY 2.

JANE is with the PRINCE.

232 JANE 232
Your Highness, everything will be
fine with Pig. Come.

The PRINCE instinctively holds his hurt hand.

233 PRINCE 233
Last time I tried to feed her I... *
<DECIDING TO SHUT UP>.

JANE can figure out that he was about to admit guilt.

234 JANE 234
You just have to be gentle, then *
she will be gentle with you.

The PRINCE slowly nods his head. They move inside...

INT. THE STABLES. CONTINUOUS. DAY 2.

JANE <UNLATCHES> the door to reveal PIG standing there.

235 PIG 235
<SMALL GRUNT>

The PRINCE takes a step back. JANE holds out her hand to PIG, turning to the PRINCE.

236 JANE 236
Just be gentle.

PIG <NUZZLES> JANE's hand.

237 JANE (cont'd) 237
See?

JANE pats PIG. The PRINCE, emboldened by PIG's placidness, comes forward and holds out his hand. PIG <NUZZLES> it.

238 PRINCE 238
<GIGGLES>

The PRINCE becomes excited at being back with PIG. He <ROUGHLY PATS> PIG. JANE tenses but PIG is placid.

239 PIG 239
<GRUNT>

240 PRINCE 240
You caused a lot of trouble, Pig.
But welcome back all-the-same.

JANE realizes he doesn't know that PIG has been sold.

241 JANE 241
Your Highness, Pig will not be
staying here in the castle.

242 PRINCE 242
What? Why not? **Yes she will.** *

INT. OUTSIDE THE THRONE ROOM. DAY 2.

The PRINCE strides toward the throne room door. As he does,
The QUEEN, slips out the door and closes it behind her.

243 QUEEN 243
What can I do for you, young man?

244 PRINCE 244
I have to speak with Father.

The QUEEN bars his way and gently turns him around the other
way.

245 QUEEN 245
Oh no. He is busy and must not be
disturbed.

246 PRINCE 246
But I have to!

The PRINCE tries to break free of her, but The QUEEN is too
adept at corralling him.

247 QUEEN 247
I am sorry, Cuthbert, but it is
time for your lessons.

248 PRINCE 248
<PROTESTING> It is important.

249 QUEEN 249
As are your studies.

The QUEEN takes him by the hand and leads him away.

250 PRINCE 250
<STARTING A TANTRUM> No one ever
listens to me!

251 QUEEN 251
Listening and agreeing are two
different things.

INT. THE FORGE. LATE AFTERNOON. DAY 2.

SMITHY is still hard at work in the forge. <METALLIC TAP-TAP-TAPPING>.

EXT. THE YARD. LATE AFTERNOON. DAY 2.

JANE is worriedly pacing in the yard. DRAGON doesn't look too happy either. DRAGON looks over to the forge. <FURTHER AWAY METALLIC TAP-TAP-TAPPING cont.>

252 DRAGON 252
I can not believe we are relying on
a little bog-weevil like the
Prince.

253 JANE 253
He will come through for us.

JANE and DRAGON look at each other - slim chance!

254 JANE (CONT'D) 254
Ohhh, this is not fair, Dragon! I
thought being a knight could change
everything. What good is all the
training if I fail honest people
like Smithy.

Dragon looks at her and his expression softens.

255 DRAGON 255
No one said it would be easy.

JANE looks up at the sky - shadows are beginning to lengthen.

256 JANE 256
And the day is almost over.

SHE looks over at the keep.

257 JANE 257
Come on, Prince Cuthbert ...

INT. THRONE ROOM. LATE AFTERNOON. DAY 2.

THE KING is standing at a table, deep in thought, working perusing documents.

THE PRINCE <BURSTS> in through the door, shocking THE KING.

258 KING 258
Cuthbert!

ANGLE ON THE PRINCE.

259 PRINCE 259
Father! I must speak with you about
Pig.

260 KING 260
What? Oh I see. Cuthbert, what is
done is done.

261 PRINCE 261
But it was done wrong. Pig has to
stay!

262 KING 262
Young man, I think you need a
lesson in Court protocol.

263 PRINCESS (VO) 263
Cuthbert!

ANGLE THE PRINCESS who has come in through the open door.

264 PRINCESS (CONT) 264
We can show Daddy what happened.

265 KING 265
Darling?

THE PRINCESS gets down on all fours.

266 PRINCESS 266
Now! I am little piggy! <GRUNT
GRUNT!>

267 PRINCE 267
<FRUSTRATED> Not AGAIN!!

EXT. CASTLE. SUNSET ESTABLISHER. DAY 2.

Evening is setting in. PUSH IN ON THE FORGE.

INT. THE FORGE. DUSK. DAY 2.

SMITHY is still working, packing away tools. He looks tired
and wipes his brow.

268 IVON (O.S.) 268
<CALLING> Smithy. Out of the forge,
lad.

SMITHY looks around the forge, sadly taking it in for one last time and <SIGHS>. IVON leans on the workbench - softer than his initial bark.

269 IVON 269
Time to go, lad.

EXT. THE FORGE. DUSK. DAY 2.

ANGLE SMITHY walking out from the forge.

IVON is standing there with PIG.

270 IVON 270
Where are your things?

SMITHY shakes his head.

271 SMITHY 271
Pig was all I brought with me.

IVON is sympathetic.

272 IVON (cont'd) 272
Hmm.

DRAGON, JANE, JESTER, PEPPER and RAKE all turn up to see SMITHY leave.

273 IVON (cont'd) 273
By order of the King...

SMITHY straightens - proud in the face of all this. IVON sees the others and wishes to spare him further pain

274 IVON (cont'd) 274
Well, I am sure you know the rest.
Follow me... we can deliver the pig
as we go.

SMITHY pats PIG, and he and PIG are escorted out of the yard to head through the front gate.

SMITHY looks over to his friends, and they all wave sadly. SMITHY gives a small wave back. JANE mouths the words...

275 JANE 275
(Goodbye.)

It looks like SMITHY is off for good when...

276 PRINCE (o.s.) 276
Wait! Pig!

EVERYONE turns to see the KING and PRINCE striding out toward IVON and SMITHY.

277 KING 277
Hold fast, Sir Ivon.

EVERYONE but JANE and DRAGON looks confused as THE KING and PRINCE walk up to SMITHY.

278 KING 278
The Prince has explained what happened.

279 PRINCE 279
Sorry Smithy, sorry Pig.

THE KING looks approvingly at his son. He turns to SMITHY who looks amazed.

280 KING 280
You may return to your duties blacksmith.

281 PRINCE 281
And Pig.

282 KING 282
The Court can ill afford to lose either man or beast of such stout character. The pig stays. Now...

The KING puts a hand on the PRINCE's shoulder.

283 KING (cont'd) 283
To supper. After which I have a Merchant to make amends with.

EVERYONE respectfully bows their head as The KING leaves with The PRINCE.

284 IVON 284
<GRINNING> And I have a few blades need sharpening.

285 SMITHY 285
Certainly, Sir Ivon.

IVON leaves and SMITHY beams at his friends who are all smiles.

286 SMITHY 286
I could handle some of that
farewell cake now, if you have a
mind. And one of your ballads,
Jester.

287 JESTER 287
A sort of 'coming home never left
and keep the pig' party.

288 SMITHY 288
<LAUGHS> Perfect.

The friends laugh and chatter as they head off.

Dragon steers pig to one side.

*

289 DRAGON 289
Listen to them, pig. Shortlives,
not a care in the world. But then
who has the flakey scales...

(Start to fade.)

..ingrown claws and burning gas,
mmm? We do. Not them. We are the
beasts with all the burdens.

290 PIG 290
<GRUNT>

END.