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# JANE AND THE DRAGON

“Tests and Jests”  
By: Ross Hastings

PRODUCTION #1

REVISED DIRECTOR'S AS RECORDED  
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"TESTS AND JESTS"

WIDESHOT OF CASTLE AND TOWN. EXTERIOR DAY. 1.

PUSH IN ON THE CASTLE.

1 JANE (O.S.)  
<EXCLAIMING WITH PHYSICAL EFFORT>

MIX TO:

KNIGHT'S YARD. EXT. DAY 1.

JANE is practicing with a wooden practice sword, <STRIKING> her practice dummy and avoiding its counter movements. Tied to the dummy's rear is a coloured silk ribbon.

2 JANE  
<EXCLAMATIONS OF EFFORT> cont...

JANE is a picture of concentration. She tries to grab the ribbon, misses and has to parry a counter blow.

JESTER and SMITHY are watching from the side of the yard. SMITHY is building the base level of a scaffolding tower.

JESTER is energetically miming Jane's actions like a fan at a boxing match (he's playing a mean sword air-guitar!)

3 JESTER  
<EXCLAMATIONS OF EFFORT>

Back on JANE as she makes a low spin and lunge for the ribbon, only to slip on her bottom in the dirt and then have to duck another blow from the dummy. She is very frustrated.

4 JANE  
(Spin) (Lunge) Maggots! \*

4A JANE  
(Spin) Lunge \*

JESTER has paused, his air-guitar sword frozen in exaggerated mid-action, waiting for her to continue. He beams encouragement.

JANE picks herself up and again <STRIKES> the dummy. Again she makes a low spin and lunge for the ribbon, only to slip over once more and have to parry the dummy's counter blow with her sword. She whacks her sword in to the ground with frustration.

5 JANE  
Too slow... Too (*SHE THUMPS THE  
GROUND AGAIN*) slow!

6 JESTER  
(ALoud TO JANE) Had him worried,  
Jane! (QUIETLY TO SMITHY) Not easy  
being a knight is it, Smithy.

7 SMITHY  
Nope.

A <HORSE WHINNYS> and SMITHY turns to see a knight, IVON,  
enter slowly on horseback.

JANE, now standing, salutes Ivon with a nod and slight bow.

8 JANE  
Sir Ivon.

IVON, returns the nod.

9 IVON  
<GRUNT OF ACKNOWLEDGEMNT>

JESTER hurries over to JANE who begins doing sword moves,  
warming down.

JESTER motions to the dummy.

10 JESTER  
This dummy here...

JESTER turns and addresses the dummy.

11 JESTER (cont'd)  
And yes, you know who I am talking  
about - this dummy fights dirty!

JESTER stands like the dummy is posed. He starts imitating  
the sloppy arm actions of the dummy.

12 JESTER (cont'd)  
Practice with me instead.

13 JANE  
(smiling)  
(Laughs) Fool!

14 JESTER  
Correct!

\*

JANE walks off. JESTER wobbles after her, still in dummy mode, his body bobbing and arms flaying.

15 JESTER (cont'd)  
Every fool knows that laughter  
cures nerves.

16 JANE  
Nerves?

17 JESTER  
Tomorrow's test. A test of skill  
and honour and bravery - a knight's  
test...

JESTER is now walking backwards, before and to the side of JANE, talking away...

18 JESTER (CONT)  
For the first girl ever in the  
history of ever - and that is  
officially a long time - to be a  
knight... Ner-er-vous!

JANE is walking toward the entrance to Rake's Garden but JESTER hasn't noticed. JANE speeds up to overtake JESTER.

19 JANE  
(MIMICKING JESTER'S NER-ER-VOUS) No-  
I'm-not!

JANE sweeps through the entrance in the wall...

CUT TO:

**RAKE'S GARDEN. EXTERIOR. DAY 1.**

Just behind JANE, JESTER <CRASH> walks straight in to the exterior wall. We hear JESTER <FALL TO THE GROUND>.

20 JESTER (O.S.)  
Ow! Jester down.

JANE stops and <STIFLES A LAUGH>.

CUT TO:

**THE KNIGHT'S YARD. EXTERIOR. DAY 1.**

JESTER is sitting up holding his head as:

JANE pops her head back through the archway.

21 JANE  
Are you alright?

JESTER flops back on his back, feigning injury.

22 JESTER  
No, no! I need attention!  
Attention!

\*  
\*

JANE grins.

23 JANE  
Smithy repairs the dummy!

CUT TO:

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

24 JANE  
<snorts with laughter>

JANE walks toward the kitchen. She hears...

25 RAKE (O.S.)  
<HAPPY WHISTLING>

JANE turns to see RAKE's head bobbing and bending low over two 'old knight helmet' pots.

26 JANE  
Morning, Rake.

RAKE looks up. He is pleased as ever to see her and enthusiastically beckons her over.

27 RAKE  
Jane! Here, over here! Look at  
this! What do you think?

JANE approaches. The helmet pots are growing mushrooms.

28 JANE  
Oh, mushrooms. Very nice.

\*

29 RAKE  
Not just, no! Dragon mushrooms. And  
guess which?

JANE regards the two pots, one is growing much bigger mushrooms. JANE points to the bigger mushrooms.

30 RAKE (CONT)  
Wrong! I grew the little ones in  
dragon dung. The big ones in other  
dung.

31 JANE  
What other dung?

RAKE goes to answer, but JANE puts up her hand - she has  
decided that she really doesn't want to know

32 JANE (cont'd)  
No! Actually I do not want to know!

JANE shakes her head and walks through in to the kitchen.

CUT TO:

**PEPPER'S KITCHEN. INTERIOR. DAY 1.**

The kitchen looks very cluttered. PEPPER is standing working  
the butter churn with her back turned to JANE. She is very  
busy and without turning calls out...

33 PEPPER  
Hello Jane.

34 JANE  
How did you know it was me, Pepper?

PEPPER turns to put some utensils away. She is obviously  
multitasking like crazy. JANE takes over at the churn.

35 PEPPER  
I would know your laugh anywhere. \*

36 JANE  
<snorts with embarrassed laughter>

PEPPER puts a plate of biscuits down. The PRINCE strides in  
and goes straight for the plate. JANE bows slightly.

37 JANE  
Your Highness...

The PRINCE grabs as many biscuits as he can, does a...

38 PRINCE.  
<PIG SNORT IMPRESSION OF JANE>

And walks on out. JANE frowns as she looks after the PRINCE.

39 JANE  
(under her breath)  
Thank you, Your Rudeness.

39A PEPPER  
(Sigh)

\*  
\*

PEPPER <SIGHS> and picks up the empty plate. She is upset but covers. JANE realizes that the kitchen is looking very messy.

40 JANE  
Pepper. The kitchen... everything  
is so, well (untidy)...

41 PEPPER  
Just a bit busy. Busy busy busy...

PEPPER manages a smile and gets back to her baking.

42 JANE  
Is Prince Cuthbert always coming  
in and helping himself?

PEPPER pours JANE a goblet of apple juice.

43 PEPPER  
Here, apple juice.

44 JANE  
Pepper...?

PEPPER insists JANE drinks.

45 PEPPER  
Your mouth is dry. Drink.

JANE takes a <LONG DRINK>. PEPPER <QUICKLY DRINKS> too.

46 PEPPER  
When I get nervous my mouth goes  
dry too.

47 JANE  
Pepper. The Prince...

48 PEPPER  
Breathing exercises can get rid of  
nerves. Breathe in and hold...  
(breath)

\*  
\*

PEPPER <BREATHES IN>... and then <BREATHES OUT>.

49 PEPPER (CONT)  
And breathe out.

PEPPER gestures for JANE to join in.

50 PEPPER (CONT)  
Breathe in and hold... (breath) \*

PEPPER <BREATHES IN>. JANE is still concerned.

51 JANE  
Is he making extra work for you?

JANE starts clearing away the drink goblets for PEPPER.

52 JANE (CONT)  
You already have to feed the entire  
castle. He may be royalty, but it's  
very rude of him to help himself  
like that. \*

52A PEPPER  
(Blue in face - gasping for air) \*

PEPPER is still holding her breath, but JANE hasn't noticed.  
She turns to see PEPPER going blue in the face.

53 JANE  
BREATHE OUT!

54 PEPPER  
<BREATHES OUT> Sorry!

55 JANE  
Are you alright?

56 PEPPER  
Fine, thank you.

PEPPER sighs and looks round at all the work she has to do.

57 PEPPER  
<SIGH> I suppose his Little  
Majesty has been making things  
a bit difficult.

PEPPER gets back to working. JANE starts to leave.

58 JANE  
I shall have a word with him.

59 PEPPER  
Oh no, Jane. Please!



But JANE has made up her mind and already left.

60 PEPPER  
(quietly, nervously)  
I can manage.

60A SMITHY  
(Talking to horses) Easy now. Easy  
girl. There you go.

\*  
\*  
\*

CUT TO:

**STABLES. INTERIOR. DAY 1.**

SMITHY is grooming Ivon's horse, calming it with <WHISPERS>. IVON is sprawled out on straw nearby snoring loudly.

The PRINCE arrives, wiping crumbs from his mouth. He begins to feed the horse a biscuit.

61 SMITHY  
Your Highness, we must take care  
what we feed to... (the horses)

62 PRINCE  
I care to feed him a biscuit,  
stable boy.

THE PRINCE tries to feed the horse again, but the horse lifts his head away. JANE arrives.

63 JANE  
Ah, your Highness. I see you have  
some of Pepper's delicious  
biscuits.

THE PRINCE just <CHEWS> on the biscuit and looks at JANE.

64 JANE (CONT'D)  
Making food for the whole castle  
must be hard work.

SMITHY doesn't like where this is heading and throws JANE a warning look. But JANE presses on regardless.

65 JANE (cont'd)  
When you take food from the  
kitchen, it must make it much more  
difficult for...

66 PRINCE  
Pig pimples! I will do what I want!

The PRINCE storms off. JANE and SMITHY look at each other.

67 SMITHY  
Pig pimples?

68 JANE  
That is a new one.

The HORSES <SPOOK>. SMITHY looks up. Ivon stops snoring.  
JANE knows what it is.

69 JANE (cont'd)  
Oh dear.

DRAGON  
Easy does it. Oohh..ow.. (Laughs)  
Ow!

\*  
\*  
\*

JANE heads off quickly.

CUT TO:

**KNIGHT'S YARD. EXTERIOR. DAY 1.**

JANE crosses the yard, looks up and ducks as: a shadow passes over her with a <WINGED SWOOSH> and something lands with a <THUD FOLLOWED BY SMALLER THUDS AND A CLATTERING.>

70 JANE  
(grinning)  
Oh, what style, what grace...

\*

REVEAL DRAGON getting to his feet, looking embarrassed.

71 DRAGON  
Must remember. Tail up, claws down.

DRAGON is surrounded by scattered poles (for building the tower with) and knocked over barrels.

72 JANE  
Oh, Dragon! Look at this mess!

\*

DRAGON is oblivious to the mess.

73 DRAGON  
Must allow for my tail wind.

SMITHY emerges to see what has happened.

74 SMITHY  
(hands going to his hips)  
Oh. \*

JANE starts tipping up a barrel the right way.

75 JANE  
Sorry Smithy! I shall... we shall  
tidy this mess up. Right, Dragon? \*

DRAGON is picking his teeth with one of the poles.

76 DRAGON  
What mess?

JANE moves like lightning and presses a bit on DRAGON'S side - his weak spot. DRAGON drops - floppy and helpless.

77 DRAGON  
Ah, oh...I will! (Laughs) I WILL! \*

SMITHY rights a barrel himself - he is not bothered.

78 SMITHY  
It will be fine. \*

JANE lets go of DRAGON. DRAGON stretches and smirks as he crouches for JANE to hop on. But just as JANE is about to, the PRINCESS comes running out.

79 PRINCESS  
Jane! Jane! Let's play! You can be  
the damsel in distress and I'll be  
the knight come to save you!

JANE is now up on DRAGON, ready to fly off.

80 JANE  
Sorry, I would love to play,  
Princess, but...

81 PRINCESS  
You can wear my pretty jewellery  
and everything.

82 JANE  
Oo, wonderful, but duty calls.

DRAGON takes off in to the air.

83 PRINCESS  
But you will look so pretty! JA-  
AANE!

ON DRAGON and JANE still climbing.

84 DRAGON  
(mimicking)  
JA-AANE!

84A IVON  
(Big yawn)

\*  
\*

Back down in the yard:

IVON emerges from the stables blinking at the light, yawning and stretching.

The PRINCESS spots him.

85 PRINCESS  
Ivon, let's play.

\*

Ivon freezes in his tracks. Then tries very hard to smile as the Princess races towards him.

MIX TO:

**SKY MID-AIR. EXTERIOR. DAY 1.**

JANE and DRAGON are flying through the air.

86 DRAGON  
So. Practice went badly this morning? Did it?

\*

87 JANE  
I have to grab this rotten ribbon off the back of the dummy.

\*

88 DRAGON  
Yeah, and?

\*

89 JANE  
Dummy won.

90 DRAGON  
Ha! Oooo...

DRAGON starts squirming a bit. JANE holds on more tightly.

91 JANE  
Dragon!

92 DRAGON  
Dah, sorry. Bad itch! Hoooo!

\*

DRAGON squirms again.

93 DRAGON (CONT'D)  
Behind my wing, Jane. Quick...

JANE tries to reach behind for it - but it is too far away.

94 JANE  
(Struggling sounds) Out of reach.  
Sorry.

\*

95 DRAGON  
Right! No good - have to land.

DRAGON starts to descend...

96 DRAGON  
Tail up, claws down. Tail up  
..claws doooooooooown!

\*

MIX TO:

**CLIFFTOP. EXTERIOR. DAY 1.**

They land on a cliff top. It's another bad landing. JANE hops off and DRAGON begins to scratch himself with his rear leg, like a dog.

97 DRAGON  
LINE DELETED

\*

DRAGON stops scratching and shakes his rump.

98 DRAGON (cont'd)  
Jane! Oh this.. spot...oooo.. out  
of...reach.

\*

But JANE has sat down, and is too distracted to hear.

99 DRAGON (cont'd)  
Hooooo...

DRAGON rubs his rump on the ground - finally gets the spot.

100 DRAGON (cont'd)  
Ahhhh! Ah! Oh yes. Oh yes. Ooooo  
Ooooo goood. Good. Ahhh.

\*

\*

DRAGON turns to look at JANE staring off in to the distance.

101 DRAGON (cont'd)  
Jane, just so you know, a dragon  
sized itch, is AGONY.

\*

102 JANE  
Mmm? Oh, sorry. I was thinking  
about Pepper.

JANE gets up and comes over to DRAGON.

103 JANE (CONT)  
She has to work twice as hard  
because of the Prince. And she will  
never speak up for herself.

104 DRAGON  
Unlike one human we know.

105 JANE  
There must be something we can do.

106 DRAGON  
I could leave the little runt on a  
mountain top.

\*

107 JANE  
Oh., if only it were that simple.

\*

108 DRAGON  
It is to me. What about a royal  
roasting?

109 JANE  
Dragon. I'm being serious.

DRAGON fixes JANE with an intense stare.

110 JANE (cont'd)  
Roasting and mountain tops are out  
of the question.

111 DRAGON  
You short-lives. No claws..

DRAGON crouches, JANE hops on and they take off. (The  
following dialogue fades slowly as they fly away.)

112 DRAGON (cont'd)  
Drop him down a well?

113 JANE  
No.

114 DRAGON  
Feed him to the horses?

115 JANE  
Ask Smithy first.

MIX THROUGH  
TIME:

**ROYAL GARDEN. EXTERIOR. DAY 1.**

The KING and PRINCE are taking a stroll around the gardens.

116 PRINCE.  
Jane told me I could not go in the  
kitchens, Father.

117 KING  
Did she? I am sure she had a  
reason.

118 PRINCE  
No. She told me off for nothing!  
And in front of the stable-boy

They see JANE and DRAGON fly back in to the castle confines.  
We hear another <TERRIBLE LANDING>.

The PRINCE acts it up, almost turning on the tears.

119 PRINCE (CONT)  
I was only hungry. It was really  
horrible.

120 KING  
Oh Dear. Shall I have a word with  
her?

The PRINCE nods so the KING turns and calls.

121 KING (cont'd)  
JANE! A word if you please.

JANE comes running.

122 JANE  
Yes, Your Majesty?

123 KING  
Did you tell the Prince he could  
not go in to the kitchens?

124 JANE  
Oh. Oh no, your Majesty. Not exactly.

\*

125 PRINCE  
She DID.

126 KING  
Jane, the Prince is a growing boy and as such needs his food.

The PRINCESS runs up waving a wooded sword. She challenges The KING and the PRINCE.

127 PRINCESS  
I will rescue Jane the damsel!

128 PRINCE.  
Go away! Go away! Do not pester us.

\*

129 PRINCESS  
I am a knight of the King's Guard!

She advances on THE PRINCE who hides behind THE KING.

130 PRINCE.  
Father!

131 KING  
Lavinia, darling, please stop now.

The PRINCESS gives a defiant shake of her sword.

132 PRINCESS  
Ha ha! Ha ha! I laugh in the face of danger!

\*

And with that, she turns and runs off.

133 JANE  
<STIFLES A LAUGH>

The KING turns to JANE, trying to remember his thoughts.

134 KING  
So... Prince Cuthbert has a healthy appetite - which is no bad thing.

135 PRINCE  
Exactly.

136 JANE  
Your Majesty, may I speak?



THE KING nods 'yes'.

137 JANE (CONT)  
My concern is for Pepper. She works morning, noon and night. If she could be allowed to do her duties without extra hardship.

138 PRINCE  
So YOU help her.

139 JANE  
I have my own duties as a knight.

140 PRINCE  
Don't be a knight, then.

141 JANE  
Your Majesty, all I ask..

142 PRINCE  
Stop being a knight and work in the kitchen! Problem solved!

The KING watches, pleased and fascinated by his son's display of putting his small Royal finger on the issue.

143 JANE  
Your Highness.. this is not about..

The KING waits, the PRINCE looks very smug. JANE closes her eyes and takes a breath, clearly coming to a big decision.

144 JANE (CONT)  
Very well your Majesty; if I fail my test tomorrow, I will renounce my knighthood and serve in the kitchens.

The PRINCE beams at this.

145 PRINCE  
Yes, kitchen maid. You will!

The KING seems a bit bemused.

146 KING  
Honourable, this may be, Jane, but really...

147 JANE  
But, your majesty, if I should pass my test..

JANE locks eyes with the PRINCE who frowns, doubt creeping in on his moment of triumph.

148 JANE  
..then I would ask that the Prince  
does not go taking food from the  
kitchens, but waits for meal  
service.

\*  
\*

The Prince is startled by this. THE KING looks from the PRINCE to JANE. He is impressed.

149 KING  
Only a knight would make such a  
deal. Well done. (TO THE PRINCE)  
Cuthbert, if Jane passes her test  
you will help Pepper in the  
kitchens for five days.

150 PRINCE  
Not fair!

151 KING  
It will do you no harm to learn how  
the castle works. Is this truly a  
matter of knight's honour, Jane?

152 JANE  
It is, Your Majesty.

153 KING  
Then so be it. Come now, Cuthbert.  
Thank you, Jane.

THE KING and PRINCE stroll off. THE PRINCE blows a  
<RASPBERRY> at JANE as he goes.

153A PRINCE  
(Raspberry)

\*  
\*

MIX THROUGH TIME  
TO:

**KNIGHT'S YARD. EXTERIOR. LATER. DAY 1.**

JANE looks at the now finished tower. She looks worried.

DRAGON's head comes down in to shot. WIDEN TO REVEAL he is on his usual place on the wall.

154 DRAGON  
I heard that.

155 JANE  
What?

156 DRAGON  
Dragons have very good hearing, you know.

157 JANE  
They do?

DRAGON leans in closer, as if he didn't hear.

158 DRAGON  
What?

159 JANE  
I SAID... (*REALIZING SHE'S BEEN HAD*) Alright, alright...

160 DRAGON  
You did the right thing.

161 JANE  
Do you think so?

162 DRAGON  
I know so. You will pass your test. \*  
Easy as burning down a barn.

163 JANE  
But...

164 DRAGON  
Easy as... (*he blows out a plume of fire*) Oop there goes a barn!

Out on JANE looking not entirely convinced.

MIX TO:

**THE STABLES. INTERIOR. DUSK. DAY 1.**

The PRINCE is pacing the stables angrily. At first we don't see who he's talking to.

165 PRINCE  
Work in THE KITCHENS! Knights do NOT tell a Prince what to do - 'specially a girl knight. It is not fair.

166 IVON (o.s.)  
Life is often unfair, your  
highness.

REVEAL IVON. On all fours, he is being brushed like a pony by  
the Princess.

167 PRINCESS  
Keep still. Good pony.

Ivon nods and keeps still. The PRINCE marches for the door.

168 PRINCE  
Jane will NOT pass tomorrow.

169 PRINCESS  
Jane can do anything. Jane is a  
knight.

170 PRINCE  
Not for much longer.

The PRINCE exits in a huff. Ivon turns to the PRINCESS.

171 IVON  
Princess Lavinia, surely it is  
nearly the royal bedtime.

172 PRINCESS  
Ponies don't talk.

173 IVON  
But...

174 PRINCESS  
First I have to fee Pony his hay  
and carrots.

Out on poor IVON's long suffering face.

MIX TO:

**WIDESHOT CASTLE. DUSK. ESTABLISHER. DAY 1**

PUSH IN TO:

**RAKE'S GARDEN. EXTERIOR. DUSK.**

JANE, JESTER, SMITHY, RAKE are sitting at a table having soup. PEPPER brings a plate of bread.

Propped up on a chair beside them like an extra guest is a sack dummy with straw hair tied like pigtails and a badly painted grin for a face.

175 RAKE  
Mmm. This broth is lovely, Pepper. \*

PEPPER blushes and says nothing.

176 JESTER  
Delicious, what is it?

177 PEPPER  
Mushroom. \*

Jane stops in mid spoonful.

178 JANE  
Big mushrooms, or little mushrooms?

179 RAKE  
Big! \*

JANE smiles weakly and pushes her bowl away from her.

180 PEPPER  
There were pastries as well, until his little majesty helped himself.

181 JANE  
The Prince will not be troubling you for much longer, Pepper.

JESTER and JANE's eyes meet. She looks away.

182 PEPPER  
If I was free of that little pest, that would simply be the best.

183 JESTER  
Hey! I do the rhyming around here!  
(PAUSE) Very good though.

PEPPER leaves for the kitchen. JANE calls after her.

184 JANE  
Have you eaten yet, Pepper?

Pepper calls back.

185 PEPPER (V.O.)  
Yes thank you.

186 RAKE  
She did not. Working all day.

We hear <PLATES CLATTERING>. They all look over to the kitchen in sympathy for PEPPER.

CUT TO:

**INT. THE KITCHEN. DUSK.**

PEPPER has put the plates down and is turning to the main bench where there is a stone butter dish.

187 PEPPER  
(WEARY SIGH) Now, I can make a start on the morning pastry.

She lifts the lid of the butter dish. It's empty.

188 PEPPER (CONT'D)  
My butter! Where has my butter gone!

Out on a shot of the PRINCE hiding in the shadows further down the kitchens.

CUT TO:

**EXT. RAKE'S GARDEN. DUSK.**

Jane's friends are still talking quietly round the table.

189 SMITHY  
Tower is all finished.

Jester pats the head of the grinning sack 'damsel.'

190 JESTER  
And our damsel. She may be relaxed now, but tomorrow she will be in (DAMSEL VOICE) distress!

191 RAKE  
And you, Jane? Are you nervous?

192 JANE  
No, Pepper taught me some breathing  
tricks.

193 RAKE  
(SURPRISED) Like the dragon?  
Breathing fire and stuff?

194 JANE  
Yes Rake, exactly like that.

195 RAKE  
Very handy.

196 JANE  
Breathe in...

196A ALL  
(Breathe)

\*  
\*

JANE gestures for them all to join in. They all <BREATHE IN>  
and hold, looking at each other, before they <BREATHE OUT>  
and start giggling away.

197 ALL  
<LAUGHTER>

198 RAKE  
(disappointed)  
Not so much as a cinder.

199 JANE  
<SNORTS WITH LAUGHTER>

This sets everyone off again.

200 ALL  
<LAUGHTER>

JANE gets up and leaves her friends laughing. She goes and  
stands in the archway and looks up at the test tower.  
JESTER follows one step behind.

201 JESTER  
So lady knight, what are you  
keeping back from us common folk?

She waits a moment. Then quietly confesses.

202 JANE.  
I made a deal on my test.

203 JESTER  
With who?

204 JANE  
The King.

205 JESTER  
Ah.

206 JANE  
If I pass, the Prince has to help  
Pepper in the kitchen. If I fail -  
I do.

207 JESTER  
You do anyway.

208 JANE  
And...(BEAT) and also, I renounce  
my knight's apprenticeship.

JESTER closes his eyes. He can't believe it.

209 JANE  
I had to do something. Say nothing  
to the others, please.

MIX THROUGH TIME  
TO:

**JANE'S TOWER. EXTERIOR. NIGHT.**

DISSOLVE TO:

**JANE'S ROOM. INTERIOR. NIGHT.**

JANE appears at her window in the moonlight.

210 JANE  
(quietly to herself)  
I am Jane, knight of the King's  
Guard. I have a sword in my belt  
and a Dragon at my side and I...  
and I... <BEAT. Opens her eyes>

\*

Jane looks up to see DRAGON snort out an arc of fire and turn  
cartwheels in the sky around the full moon.

211 JANE  
Dragon...



Then DRAGON positions himself - wings beating away in front of the moon to do a series of stupid poses.

212 JANE  
LINE DELETED

\*

213 DRAGON  
(distant)  
Moo!!!

214 JANE  
He is going to be tired in the morning. <YAWN> So will I...

JANE turns and heads back in to bed. DRAGON <SNORTS> another stream of fire and bleats like a sheep.

215 DRAGON  
BAAA!

CUT TO:

**NEW DAY ESTABLISHER.**

CUT TO:

**KNIGHT'S YARD. EXTERIOR. DAY 2.**

DRAGON is asleep on the battlements. He is twitching - obviously having a dream. He starts mumbling in his sleep.

216 DRAGON  
Mmmm... cows... mmm... mmmmm...

JANE arrives at the scaffold tower.

JESTER and SMITHY are putting out hay all around the base. Jane looks up to see the damsel - the cloth dummy.

There is a ring marked out in the centre of the courtyard.

217 DRAGON (O.S.)  
(louder mumbling)  
MMMM... BURN! Burn, cow...

\*

JANE turns to see DRAGON twitching even more.

218 JANE  
Uh-oh! Dragon dream. DRAGON!!!

DRAGON does an extra large twitch and calls out...

219 DRAGON  
MMMM! FIRE-FIRE-FIRE! Oh!

\*

And on the last 'FIRE' DRAGON falls off the battlements down the outer side of the castle. <CASTLE SHAKES>

220 JANE  
Wrong side of the bed, again!

<TRUMPET CALL>. The KING, PRINCE, IVON and THEODORE approach. IVON and THEODORE have wooden practice swords.

221 KING  
Good day to you, my knight.

222 JANE  
(Bowing)  
Good day, Your Majesty.

THEODORE steps forward to explain the test to the KING.

223 THEODORE  
Your Majesty, today is Jane's 'damsel in distress' test. Jane must rescue the damsel atop the tower...

IVON heads to the tower.

224 THEODORE (CONT)  
But first, she must take this silk colour from me without being knocked down or out of this ring...

THEODORE motions to the ring laid out on the ground.

225 THEODORE (CONT)  
Jane must then pass Sir Ivon to present the colour to the damsel and bring her safely down. It is a traditional test of knighthood.

226 KING  
Jane, your King wishes you luck.

JANE nods to the KING while The PRINCE pokes his tongue out at her. THEODORE takes his place in the middle of the ring. DRAGON regains his place on the battlements and calls out.

227 DRAGON  
Jane! I am here if you need me.

DRAGON eyeballs THEODORE and IVON.

228 JANE  
Thank you, Dragon.

229 THEODORE  
Let us start...

230 DRAGON  
I will be the big dragon shaped  
creature on the battlements!

231 THEODORE  
(clears his throat) If we could...

\*

232 DRAGON  
The good looking green one who  
could roast anyone here with just  
one breath.

233 JANE  
DRAGON!

DRAGON gets the message. The KING signals to JANE.

234 KING  
Perform with honour, Jane.

SMITHY gives JANE her wooden practice sword.

As JANE steps in to the ring and as THEODORE tucks the colour  
in his belt behind his back, the PRINCESS runs in.

235 PRINCESS  
Ahhh.

\*

She hits THEODORE with her wooden play sword.

236 PRINCESS (cont'd)  
On guard!

THEODORE tries to avoid her blows and maintain his dignity.  
The PRINCESS tries to grab the colour but can't reach.

237 PRINCESS (cont'd)  
Ohhh!!!

238 EVERYONE  
<SMILING AND LAUGHING>

239 KING  
Darling, Lavinia! Come now.

The PRINCESS turns around and stamps with frustration. She  
pokes her tongue out at everyone.

240 PRINCESS  
<RASPBERRY>

And runs off. The KING looks after her, beaming.

JANE takes her cue to finally step in to the ring where she and THEODORE take fighting stances and start circling.

ON DRAGON looking very intently at what's going on.

JANE makes a couple of darting runs, but it is difficult to get past THEODORE. She parries a couple of his counter blows. THEODORE is old but wily. DRAGON gets enthusiastic...

241 DRAGON  
Slay him, Jane! Slay his rump! Yah,  
yes!

\*  
\*

JANE makes another darting run but THEODORE counters well and she is forced backwards until he almost knocks her out of the ring - she spins away at the last moment.

DRAGON covers his eyes with a claw. JESTER can barely watch.

Finally, JANE manages the spin and lunge move that she was practicing, and swipes the silk colour from THEODORE's back.

242 DRAGON  
<CHEERS>

\*

JESTER grins at SMITHY.

243 JESTER  
Smooth as silk.

THEODORE bows and steps from the ring.

244 THEODORE  
Now. To the tower.

DRAGON is starting to get itchy again, and he has a little discreet <SCRATCH>.

245 DRAGON  
Hooo...oo yes, yes.

\*

JANE looks up at the tower. It looms above her.

246 JESTER  
You can do it, Jane!

JANE goes to the furthest point from IVON, takes a <BIG BREATH IN> and starts scaling the scaffolding...

She negotiates the lower level of the tower... until IVON appears from another part of the tower to block her.

JANE strikes out, hitting a pole near his feet.

JANE scampers up and sideways to find a way around Ivon... As JANE gets higher she begins to <BREATHE HEAVIER.>

IVON manages to get a hand on her foot as she leap/climbs past him, but she breaks free and scampers away on the tower only to slip on a slippery pole and almost falls...

247 EVERYONE  
<SUCK IN BREATH>

248 SMITHY  
Why are they slipping?

The PRINCE can't hide his glee, letting escape a little...

249 PRINCE.  
<GIGGLE>

He stops giggling when JESTER notices a little bit of butter on the ground and shoots him a suspicious look.

249A JESTER  
(Under his breath) Butter?

\*  
\*

JANE makes a dash. IVON leaps on to the pole near her but he slips on a very slippery purchase and starts to slide.

250 IVON  
What!!!!

He slips, and falls to land safely on the pile of hay below.

251 IVON (CONT)  
Wooofffff!

The PRINCE looks furious.

At the top of the tower and <BREATHING HEAVILY>, JANE waves the colour. The KING leads everyone below in...

252 EVERYONE  
<CLAPPING AND CHEERING> Hurrah,  
hurrah! Champion! Champion, Jane!  
Hurrah!

\*  
\*  
\*

DRAGON is trying to concentrate on JANE but he has a really big itch coming on and is contorting himself to reach it.

253 DRAGON  
 (as itching)  
 Hooooo, Hooooo, Jane! Jane! Jane!  
 Jane! Oooooo!

\*  
 \*

DRAGON lolls onto his side and starts scratching his back against the battlements.

CLOSE UP: On the main tower bracing pole rubbing loose from its rope knot.

JANE, with an <EXCLAMATION OF EFFORT>, puts the sack damsel over her shoulder in a fireman's lift. She looks down over the edge of the tower and the ground below seems to spin. She stumbles slightly...

But JANE fixes herself and swings over the edge.

DRAGON, still on his side, starts <SCRATCHING> even harder against the battlements.

CLOSE UP: The bracing pole is really shaking loose now.

SMITHY stares at his tower in disbelief. It's rocking. He made it - and it's rocking. Smithy runs towards it.

JANE starts to climb down when all of a sudden the damsel rips the sacking off her face - it's the PRINCESS.

254 PRINCESS  
 Damsel in distress!

255 JANE  
 PRINCESS???

256 EVERYONE  
 LINE DELETED.

\*

256A KING  
 Oh dear!

\*  
 \*

Meanwhile, DRAGON, in a fit of excruciating itchiness, rocks the wall so much that the bracing pole finally comes loose.

257 DRAGON  
 Hooooo ohhhh! aaaaaa....

\*

The whole tower starts to sway and topple. JANE is about to fall, taking the PRINCESS with her. The Court stare, appalled, unable to react.

258 KING  
 Lavinia! My child!

Beneath the tower SMITHY grabs a main upright and desperately tries to hold the tower steady.

IVON is sitting bewildered on the straw beside him, staring in confusion at the tower swaying above him.

259 SMITHY  
Sir Ivon. Your arm, lend  
your arm, Sir!

IVON is shocked into action and stands beside SMITHY as the two try desperately to brace the tower.

259A DRAGON  
(Sigh) Oh yes.

\*  
\*

Up on the wall DRAGON <SIGHS> with relief, his itch properly scratched. Then he notices the eerie silence and rolls his head to one side, and sees:

The whole tower giving up very slowly and collapsing sideways.

DRAGON tries to get up, in shock he watches as JANE and the PRINCESS sway desperately.

As the brace pole swings free, JANE reaches out and grabs it, swinging until it is vertical with JANE hanging off it - and the PRINCESS hanging off her neck.

260 PRINCESS  
<SCREAM> JANE!!!

They start to slip down the butter-slippery pole...

261 JANE  
Hold on, Princess...

The PRINCESS grabs on tighter. They slide down to the end... and then drop safely to the ground at the feet of the crowd as the tower completes it's collapse behind them.

JESTER is jumping and thumping the air.

262 JESTER  
LINE DELETED.

\*

JANE gives the PRINCESS a huge hug.

263 PRINCESS  
Can we do it again?

\*

264 JANE  
Not right now, Dragon.

\*

JANE turns and fixes the DRAGON with a glare.

265 DRAGON  
(shrugs)  
Sorry! Dragon skin...

The KING takes the PRINCESS up in his arms.

266 KING  
You will be the end of me.

267 PRINCESS  
I hid in the sack, Daddy. Did I  
surprise you? Did I?

268 KING  
Just a little, my pet.

SMITHY and IVON are standing amid the rubble of poles that  
was the scaffolding tower.

269 SMITHY  
(Disbelief) I built this.

PEPPER turns up with a large freshly baked pie. She stares  
open mouthed at the fallen tower.

270 PEPPER  
Sorry to be late. Sorry.(Slips)

\*

She doesn't see the pat of butter beside the PRINCE. She  
steps right on it...spilling the pie which lands on the  
PRINCE.

271 PEPPER (CONT)  
Oh no! Oh no. Sorry. Sorry.

\*

THE PRINCE screws up his face and is about to have a tantrum.  
But a look from the KING stops him.

271A PRINCE  
(Seething)

\*

\*

272 THE KING  
Come now, Cuthbert. We have a deal  
with Jane do we not?

273 PRINCE  
But father..



274 KING  
Princely does it. Make me proud.

The PRINCE swallows and steps toward the trembling PEPPER.

275 THE PRINCE  
Father says I am to help you in  
the kitchens.

THE KING looks proudly after him.

276 THE KING  
Well said. Yes, indeed.

THE KING takes THE PRINCESS and the PRINCE by their hands and they take their leave of the yard.

PEPPER is still horrified but JANE reassures her.

277 JANE  
It is as the King said.

PEPPER hugs JANE.

278 PEPPER  
Oh Jane! How did you do it?

THEODORE steps up.

279 THEODORE  
Not quite how the test is normally  
taken, but then, you are no  
ordinary apprentice, are you, Jane?

THEODORE nods his respects and heads away. DRAGON drops down from the wall to call out after him.

280 DRAGON  
Because she has a Dragon for a best  
friend.

JANE glares at DRAGON. DRAGON realizes he is on shakey ground.

281 DRAGON  
Heh heh... Isn't that right, Jane?

JANE moves like lightning and presses the same bit on DRAGON'S side she did before. DRAGON drops - floppy and helpless.

282 DRAGON  
Oh! Oh! What? What?!!!

\*

283 JANE  
<giggles> Is this your itchy spot? \*  
Have I got it? Mmmm?

284 DRAGON  
<laughing> Jaaaanne...no! \*

MIX TO:

**SKY MID AIR. EXTERIOR. DAY 2.**

<MUSIC PLAYS> JANE and DRAGON fly through the air. They are enjoying being together, on patrol.

285 DRAGON  
Admit it. Life would be pretty ordinary without me.

286 JANE  
Life would be easier without you.

287 DRAGON  
Admit it!

288 JANE  
Not a chance, green lips!

DRAGON grins, pins his ears back and goes in to a loop the loop.

289 DRAGON  
ADMIT IT!!! <laughing> \*

Jane hangs on screaming in delight all the way.

290 JANE  
NEVER!!! <laughing> \*

290A DRAGON/JANE \*  
Oh no! We're coming \*  
in.<chuckles>/Whoa! Whoa! \*

290B DRAGON/JANE \*  
How 'bout this?/ Oh shut up you \*  
over-sized lizard. \*

290C DRAGON/JANE \*  
Oh lizard am I? How's this then? \*  
<chuckles> Hang on!/<chuckles> \*  
Whoa! Whoa! <Chuckles> \*

FADE OUT WITH JANE AND DRAGON FLYING AWAY FROM SHOT IN TO THE  
SUN HIGH IN THE SKY.

ROLL CREDITS.