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Maud Humphrey's

Book of

FAIRY  
TALES



Maud Humphrey



# JACK AND THE BEANSTALK



Marie Humphrey

Jack meets the Fairy





HERE was once a widow with an only son named Jack. He was a lazy

fellow, and would not work, but spent his mother's money so fast that she grew poorer and poorer. At last she had nothing left but a white cow; and Jack, being

sorry for his ways, took it off to sell it. He met a butcher who offered him some bright, colored beans

for the cow, and the silly boy gave the cow to the butcher and was happy over his bargain. But his mother was very angry, and took the beans and threw them all into a hole in the garden, and Jack went supperless to bed. The next

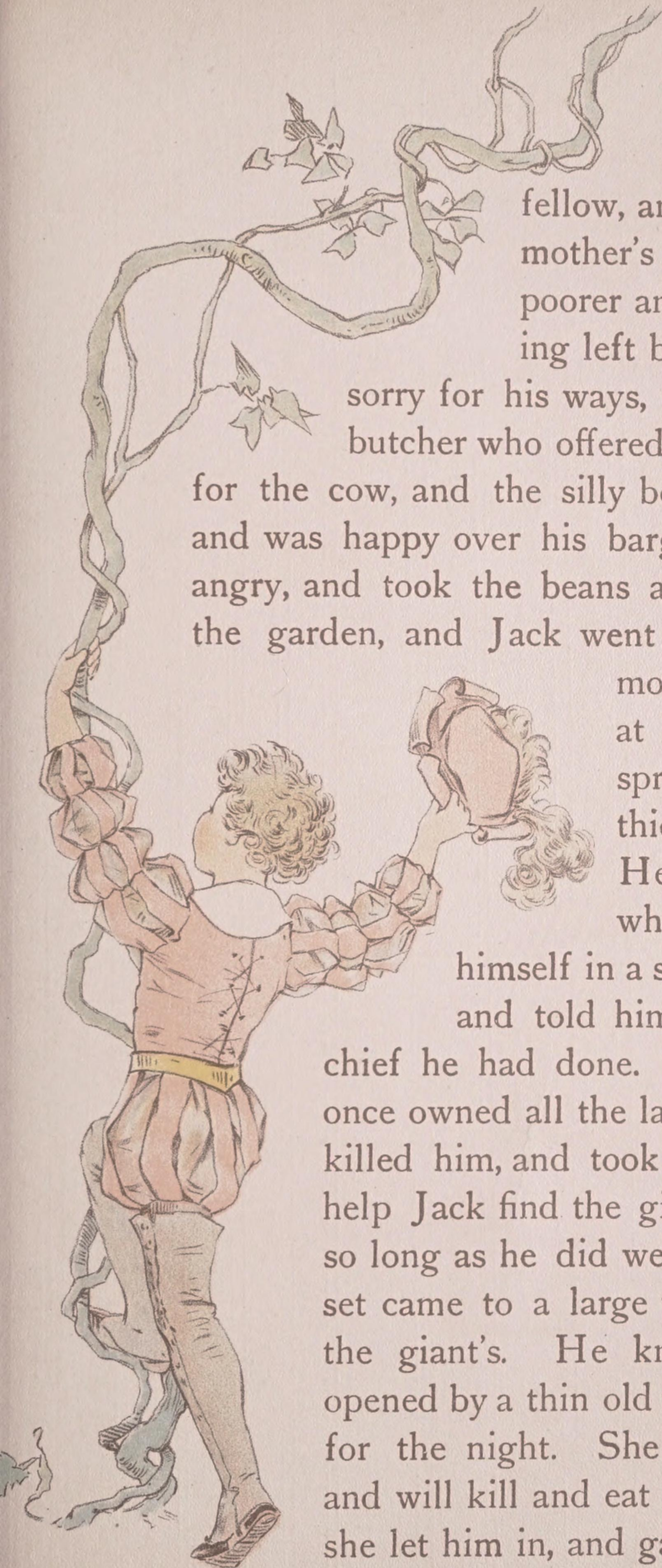
morning early Jack went out to look at the beans, and found they had sprouted in the night and had a thick stalk that went up to the sky.

He at once climbed the stalk, and when he got to the top he found

himself in a strange country. A fairy met him, and told him how he might undo the mis-

chief he had done. She told Jack that his father once owned all the land in this country; but a giant killed him, and took all his possessions. She would help Jack find the giant, and guard him from danger so long as he did well. Jack started off, and at sunset came to a large white house which he knew was the giant's. He knocked at the door, which was opened by a thin old woman of whom he asked shelter for the night. She said, "My husband is a giant, and will kill and eat you." But Jack begged so hard she let him in, and gave him something to eat.

Soon the giant came in, and Jack slipped into the





oven just in time. After the giant had eaten his supper, he called for his hen that laid him a golden egg, whenever he said "Lay."

After a time he grew tired of this play, and fell asleep, and as soon as Jack heard him snoring he seized the hen, and slid down the beanstalk. His mother was overjoyed to see him; and the hen laid golden eggs for them, which they sold, and grew very rich.

After a time Jack climbed the beanstalk again, and made his way to the white house, where he begged for food and shelter. The old woman shook her head. But Jack begged so hard that she let him in, and hid him in the copper boiler. Soon the giant came in and, having eaten his supper, called for his money bags. He counted over his gold and silver, then tied up the bags and went to sleep. As soon as Jack heard him snore he jumped out of the boiler, seized the bags, and made off for home as fast as he could.

For a long time Jack stayed at home; but at last he had such a strong desire to visit fairy-land again, that he got up early one morning and climbed the beanstalk, hoping to get back before his mother missed him. The old woman did not recognize him, but when he asked for food she shook her head. But Jack begged so hard that she let him in, and when she heard the giant coming she hid him under a barrel. As soon as the giant entered the house he roared out, "I smell meat!" and would not be satisfied until he had made a thorough search. When he had finished he cried out, "Bring me my harp!" and when it was brought to him he shouted "Play!" and it played the most exquisite music, which soon put the giant to sleep.

As soon as the giant began to snore Jack crawled out, seized the harp and started on a run. The harp on being touched screamed out; the giant woke and gave chase, but when he reached the top of the beanstalk Jack was at the bottom, and in a moment he took an axe and chopped down the beanstalk. The giant fell headlong and was killed; and Jack never went up the beanstalk again.



# JACK THE GIANT KILLER.



Maud Humphrey



## JACK, THE GIANT KILLER.



JACK was a small boy, but he was not afraid of giants. He killed the great giant Cormoran, and cut off his head. Afterwards he slew the great Welsh giant, whom everybody feared. The King's son became very fond of Jack, and told him that the Princess he wished to marry was in the hands of an enchanter, and there was no one to set her free. Jack said, "I will do it;" so he went to a castle where lived a three-headed giant, and obtained from him an old coat, an old hat and an old pair of shoes.

The coat made Jack invisible, and putting it on he went to the house of the enchanter, Gala Gantua, over whose door hung a great horn, with the words on it :

"Whoever can this trumpet blow,  
Shall cause the giant's overthrow."

Jack blew a blast that made the walls shake, and all the animals fell down dead. All were Princes and Princesses who had been changed into animals by the enchanter, who never let them escape. The Prince, who came with Jack, found that the Princess whom he loved had been changed into a gazelle. They were soon married, and went to live in the Prince's own palace. Jack married a high-born lady and they lived happily together in the enchanter's castle.