

Jill, Billy, Squire, Grabbit, Leggit & Chorus

Audition Script

Enter Jill

Jill Hello Everyone

Chorus Hello Jill

Jill Have you seen Billy? (*loud crash and noises heard from offstage*) What was that?

Chorus 1 That's Billy. He said he would bring the Maypole and have it ready for the dance.

Chorus 2 He's too late now, as always, we've nearly finished

Bangs and crashes heard off stage

Jill Oh dear. Doesn't sound as if things are going according to plan.

Chorus 3 He should have had it here ages ago.

Chorus 4 We asked if we could help...

Chorus 5 ...but he said he could manage on his own. (*more crash and bangs heard*)

Jill *Enter Billy carrying maypole under one arm*
Be careful Billy with that. Do you know where it goes?

Billy Yes, over there... (*turns round and narrowly misses the chorus*)

Jill Billy, be careful

Billy (*He turns again the other way, everyone ducks*) What did you say?

Chorus Watch out Billy...

Jill Oh Billy, you are silly...

Squire's bailiffs Grabbit and Leggit enter

Leggit Make way, make way....

Grabbit We have an announcement to make by order of the Squire.

Billy turns just as they enter and knocks them over, everyone laughs

Grabbit (*getting up*) How dare you. Are you trying to make us look stupid?

Billy No, you can do that all by yourselves. (*everyone laughs*)

Leggit Grabbit....go on grab him quick (*they chase him round the stage, mayhem with pole*)

Jill Quick Billy, run before they arrest you

Billy drops Maypole on the feet of the bailiffs and exits

Grabbit (*not happy*) Get rid of that Maypole. (*Chorus move it*)
Now listen you lot. We are the Squire's bailiffs and we are here on official duties.

Chorus Boooooo...

Grabbit Leggit?

Leggit Yes, Grabbit

Grabbit Get out your scroll

Chorus gasp.....

Leggit My what?

Grabbit The scroll ...

Leggit Oh yes ... sorry. (*reading from scroll*) The Squire says...

Squire Squeeze enters unseen by Bailiffs

Squire What does the Squire say?

G & L (*not noticing him*) You'll have to wait and see won't you.

Squire Oh, I will, will I (*slaps both on back of head*)

G & L Your Squireness, we didn't see you standing there

Squire Obviously. I take it you have told them their rent will be doubled and it has to be paid by the end of today. (*evil laugh*)

Chorus What?
Today....
You can't do that...
That's not fair

Jill No problem ... Now listen here Squire Squeeze, you can't raise the rent, we're struggling as it is.

Squire And you can tell your Mother, that if she hasn't paid up by this afternoon you will be out on the street.

Jill But that's not fair.

Squire (*mock sympathy*) Such a shame.....but life's not fair is it? Ha ha ha. That's why I'm rich and you're poor. Ha ha ha

Jill You're only rich because you stole someone else's money

Squire That's a lie.

Jill It's not even your village

Squire It is my village and I can do what I like. (*to chorus*) Now clear off the lot of you (*all leave pursued by Bailiffs, he grabs Jill's arm*) Not you. I want a word with you.

Jill Well I don't want a word with you. You are a nasty, mean old man.

Squire (*all coy*) Oh, you're only saying that because you like me.

Jill No. I don't like you. I hate you. I love Jack

Squire My penniless Nephew? Ha ha ha. How can you love him, Jack doesn't have what I've got (*preening*)

Jill But I do love him, and that's why you sent him away, and whatever it is you've gotI don't want what it.

Squire Just think. If you were to marry me, you would have everything. Money, beautiful clothes, a fabulous house to live in.....ME. I would even let your rotten old Mother stay in her house for six..... four.... two..... one month rent free.

Jill It isn't your village, it belongs to Jack. You cheated him out of it when his father died and you sent him away to London on purpose so he wouldn't know what you are up to.

Squire That's not true. My brother left the village to me, and I sent Jack to London to finish his education. He should be very grateful to me. I didn't have to spend my money on him.

Jill It's not your money, it's Jack's.

Squire Stop changing the subject and tell me where your Mother is. She hasn't paid the rent for over 6 months and I want it paid today. So where is Mother Goose?

Jill (*playing for time*) My brother Billy has taken her to the Village hall jumble sale

Squire Well, he won't get much for that old has been. Ha ha ha

Jill How dare you. My mother is the kindest, sweetest person in the whole village. She is ten times better than you. We may not have any money.....

Squire ...No you don't do you... which will make it all the easier to have you evicted. *(evil laugh)*

Squire *(looks for bailiffs)* Bailiffs, bailiffs, *(to Jill)* They're never here when you need them. Bailiffs.....

Jill I'd better go and warn Mother *(exits)*

Bailiffs enter crashing into Squire

Squire Watch it. You stupid baffoons. Where have you been? Never mind. We need to get rid of the rubbish in this village. *(Grabbit and Leggit try to pick up Squire Squeeze)* Not me. Put me down.....you idiots. Mother Goose hasn't paid her rent for the past 6 months. You need to pin this up on her door *(hands Grabbit a notice)* for when she returns. If she doesn't pay up by the afternoon, you will be back later to throw her out. *(Laughs)*

Grabbit But you could do it, you're standing next to the door

Squire I don't employ you two idiots so I can do the dirty work myself. That's what I pay **you** for *(exits laughing)*

Leggit But he doesn't pay us, he hasn't paid us in months

Grabbit Why do we have to do all his grubby little jobs?

Leggit I hate him, he's horrible to us. *(sticks out tongue)*

Grabbit I know. I don't want to throw out Mother Goose, she's really nice to us.

Leggit Feeds us and everything. Always giving us a goose egg for our tea.

Grabbit Oh what are we going to do?

Leggit He is the Boss I suppose and he does pay our wages.

Grabbit No he doesn't, he hasn't paid us in months. Go on then *(pushes him towards door)*

Leggit No, you do it *(hands him notice and pushes him towards door)*

They do this a couple of times pushing the other to pin up notice

Grabbit This is ridiculous, we'll do it together and then make a run for it before she gets home. *(They pin the notice up on the door together and run off)*