



The Village Gazette

“In touch with the land and the truth”

October 7

Hen Missing—Local Youth Suspected of Fowl Play

The Village (VOICE)—Has anyone seen Henrietta Hen? Since her disappearance on October 6, rumors have been flying all over the village. The sheriff told us Mr. Biggs reported the theft of one of his prized hens, Henrietta, yesterday. A local youth, 18-year-old Jackie Bean, has been taken into custody for the alleged crime. Jackie Bean has been charged with criminal trespass and theft. The trial will begin as soon as a jury is selected.

Other strange things have been happening around the village. One unnamed police officer reported a

strange stalk growing overnight at the Beans’ place. A neighbor of Mr. Biggs told the blacksmith he has heard tales of golden eggs found up at the Biggs’ place. With talk of magic plants and golden eggs, we may be headed for another Salem!

Sheriff Omelette Swenson, known locally as Omelette the Dane, would not comment on any of the rumors, but said he would be glad when this case was over.

Anyone having information related to this case should contact the sheriff immediately.



Mrs. Bean's Journal

Mrs. Bean has written a journal. It comes from the period just before and after Jackie's arrest. Read carefully, and prepare your character's role from this information. This journal is private and is for Mrs. Bean only!

October 3

My only child, Jackie, gave me this new journal for my birthday. This is my very first journal entry. I hope writing in it will be fun.

Jackie and I live alone on a small farm. Mr. Bean died while serving in the Navy. Times have been hard lately, especially since I needed a new kidney, and our last crop was tiny. We have enough food on the table, but I haven't been able to give Jackie everything I would like him to have. For example, our TV broke during the summer, and we haven't been able to afford a new one.

My kid is smart, that's for sure! Jackie said we should sell Bessie, our milk cow, and use the money for a new TV. We could always buy milk at the store. Bessie is a special cow, and I will be sad to see her go, but I agreed with Jackie's idea.

October 4

Today Jackie went to town with Bessie and came back very excited! I thought there must have been someone in the village willing to pay a lot for that old cow. I asked how much we made, and Jackie showed me five beans. Beans! Can you imagine? Jackie said the beans were magic. I got so mad at Jackie and the man who did this that I spilled the beans right out the window. Who ever heard of magic beans?

October 6

Jackie was late getting out of bed this morning. Jackie wasn't in bed, and the window was wide open. I looked out the window and saw a gigantic beanstalk. I think Jackie must have climbed up it. I am very worried.

It's later now, journal. Jackie came home looking scared early this afternoon. Almost as soon as Jackie arrived, the police came and arrested my poor child! They say my innocent baby stole a hen that lays golden eggs. I had never heard of such a thing. I don't believe them. Jackie's a good kid. The child might get in a little trouble now and then, but would never steal anything. I don't know what happened to that man's hen, but Jackie didn't steal her.

Jackie Bean's Journal

Jackie Bean has written a journal. It comes from the period just before the arrest. Read carefully, and prepare your character's role from this information. This journal is private and is for Jackie Bean only!

**STUDENT
HANDOUT**

6-12



October 4

Dear journal,

I am SO MAD at that giant man. I took our cow Bessie to town this morning, but no one wanted to buy her. I REALLY wanted a new TV, so I was kind of upset. On the way home, this really tall guy started talking to me. He seemed very nice, and told me what a great cow Bessie was. He got real quiet and said he had a special deal for me, since I seemed like such a good kid. He said he'd trade me five magic beans for Bessie. He made them sound SO good that I made the trade. Boy, was I dumb.

After Mom threw the beans away, I was even madder. Because that jerk ripped me off, we'll never have a TV. We might not be able to afford milk, either. I thought mediation would help, but we just couldn't agree. Now I'd like to get back at him.

October 6

You won't believe what I saw! I had to come down really fast to write this stuff down, but I'm going back. Those magic beans grew into a giant beanstalk! I just had to climb up it to see what was at the top. I climbed up into the clouds, and I got this weird feeling in my stomach. Suddenly, I looked out and I was somewhere else! I could see a ranch, and the giant man who took Bessie was working on it. I saw Bessie, too, with a whole herd of other cows. Then I saw the giant man go into a henhouse and come out with GOLD eggs! I climbed back down and ran home so he wouldn't see me.

I know how I could get back at that guy. He told me those beans were worth a fortune, and all they really did was grow in a strange way. It's almost like he stole Bessie from me and Mom. If I took one of those chickens that lay gold eggs, it would make up for him lying and ripping me off. We could get a new TV and even a new irrigation system for the farm. He's so rich he'd never even miss it.

Mr. Biggs' Journal

STUDENT
HANDOUT

6-13



Mr. Biggs has written a journal. It comes from the period just before and after Jackie's arrest. Read carefully, and prepare your character's role from this information. This journal is private and is for Mr. Biggs only!

October 6

Today I lost a fortune! I was down in town yesterday, buying some supplies. On the road, I saw a young person crying, and holding on to a cow. She was a very nice, pretty cow of a very rare breed. I talked to the kid, whose name was Jackie, and who was very trusting. I know a chance for a deal when I see one! I offered the kid some beans that are pretty unusual, but not worth nearly as much as the cow. I felt a little bit bad for not offering more, but business is business! Anyway, it cheered Jackie up and I thought the kid would have fun with the magic beanstalk and maybe even make some money from the beans it produces.

I was wrong, though. Mrs. Bean turned out to be very upset when she found out what happened, and insisted that Jackie and I go to mediation that very day. Our mediator was good, but we never managed to find a win-win solution.

This morning I got home and took care of the chickens and this nice new cow. The next thing I know, there's a commotion in the henhouse. I ran over there and saw Jackie running out of the henhouse and to the beanstalk. I chased and yelled at that rotten kid, but Jackie got away. I looked inside the henhouse, and one of my best chickens was missing. She was there just a little while before, so I know Jackie took her! I'm going to call the police.

October 7

The police arrested that young criminal yesterday. They say that they found mud on Jackie's shoes that matches the mud on my ranch, and feathers on Jackie's sweater that match my hens' feathers. When they went in the Bean's house, they saw that Jackie had written about stealing my chickens in a journal. This proves that Jackie did it! The police say I can press charges if I want.

Camilla Hen's Journal

Camilla Hen has written a journal. It comes from the day just after Jackie's arrest. Read carefully, and prepare your character's role from this information. This journal is private and is for Camilla Hen only!

October 7

This has been an exciting week in the henhouse! First, there was a big commotion yesterday, when that kid kidnapped one of us. Since then, the police have been here asking all of us questions about what we saw. The police showed us a picture of the person they arrested, Jackie Bean, and I know Jackie is the same person I saw in the henhouse yesterday.

The name of the kidnapped chicken is Henrietta. I know Jackie took her, because I saw it with my own eyes! The police said that I should try to remember the exact details of what I saw, so I'm writing them here. The three of us, Henrietta, Juanita, and I, were all roosting in the henhouse, laying solid gold eggs, as we always do. All of a sudden, that young thief, Jackie, came rushing in, all out of breath. The little punk looked mean and said something about getting back at Mr. Biggs. I saw Jackie pick up Henrietta. Then I heard Mr. Biggs yelling and coming this way. I turned to look at Mr. Biggs, and when I turned around, the kid and Henrietta were gone! We are a very rare breed of chicken, and once we leave Mr. Biggs' ranch, we can never lay golden eggs again. That means that even if Jackie returns Henrietta, she wouldn't make Mr. Biggs money anymore. We miss Henrietta, and Mr. Biggs will miss the money. That horrible person should be punished!

**STUDENT
HANDOUT**

6-14



Juanita Hen's Journal

Juanita Hen has written a journal. It comes from the day just after Jackie's arrest. Read carefully, and prepare your character's role from this information. This journal is private and is for Juanita Hen only!

October 7

Everyone on the ranch is talking about Henrietta's disappearance. I was there, so I know what happened. I'm going to write what happened yesterday in here so I can remember everything.

Henrietta's problem is that she is just plain featherbrained. She's far too flighty to be a proper chicken. She tries to escape from the henhouse now and then. Yesterday, a scared-looking little kid came into the henhouse. The police showed us a picture of Jackie Bean, the person they arrested, and I'm sure Jackie was the person who was here. It's true that the child picked Henrietta up while in the henhouse, but the poor thing looked more curious than anything. I think I saw Jackie set her down, but I'm not sure. Then I heard Mr. Biggs' voice and turned to look at him. Then Jackie turned chicken and ran off. I think that's when Henrietta saw her chance and flew the coop.

It's silly to think Jackie took Henrietta. How could that little kid climb down the beanstalk carrying that big bird? Jackie may have been poking a nose where it didn't belong, but the child didn't steal anything.

**STUDENT
HANDOUT**

6-15



Juror Cards

STUDENT
HANDOUT

6-16



Juror 1

You are Chris Abbott. You are a 50-year-old dairy farmer who lives down the road from Jackie and Mrs. Bean. You are fairly rich and respected in your community. You and your spouse don't have any children. You don't know Jackie, but you knew Mr. Bean before he died. You didn't think much of him. He always seemed to be day-dreaming. You offered him a job once because you felt sorry for his family. You have served on many juries over the years.

Juror 2

You are Pat Bennett. You are a 22-year-old single school teacher. You are new to the village and don't know many people yet, but you have heard two of the other teachers talking about their students. One of the teachers was very surprised to hear that Jackie was arrested. You overheard her say, "I had Jackie in my class two years ago. Jackie was a very kind and intelligent young person. I wish all my students were like that. Jackie was always trying to help Mrs. Bean and got very high marks in my class." You have never served on a jury.

Juror 3

You are Eggmemnon Carter. You are a 40-year-old single shopkeeper in the village. You know Jackie and Mrs. Bean and you are sorry to see Jackie in trouble. Jackie comes into your shop to buy food. Sometimes Jackie asks you to wait for the money. Jackie seems like an honest kid to you. Mrs. Bean always pays the bill. Sometimes she sews for you in exchange for the food. She is a pretty lady and you have often asked her out, but she always says she has to go home to take care of Jackie. You don't have any children. You were on a jury once.

Juror 4

You are Emilio Cruz. You are the 70-year-old local minister. You don't know Jackie or Mrs. Bean, but you do know that they are very poor because they have always received food baskets at Thanksgiving and Christmas from members of your church. You know that Jackie and Mrs. Bean have never come to church in the three years you have lived in the village with your wife. Your eight children are all grown and have moved to other parts of the country. You have served on many juries in town and you think that you have always been a fair juror.

**Juror 5**

You are Sam Ford. You are a 38-year-old local carpenter. You are married and have two children. One of them is a boy around Jackie's age. You know they are in the same class at school and that the children used to play together. You once thought you saw Jackie hanging around with some of the town kids who were always in trouble with the sheriff. You have told your spouse and warned your son about hanging around with such trouble-makers. You have never been on a jury before.

Juror 6

You are Frankie Hall. You are a 30-year-old local baker. You won a lawsuit against a person who ran over you with his milk wagon. The court awarded you a lot of money. You decided to move to this village and buy a business. You have never been married but you are looking for a spouse now that you have your own business. You don't know Jackie, but you were told by the former owner of the bakery that he once had Jackie arrested because he thought Jackie stole a loaf of bread from the bakery. The sheriff went to Jackie's house, but he couldn't find any witnesses or evidence of Jackie's "crime." When the sheriff saw how upset Jackie's mother was, he didn't have the heart to arrest Jackie. You have never served on a jury.

Juror 7

You are 65-year-old J.P. Morgan. You are the wealthiest person in the village. You have a large farm and employ many workers. Your wife and two sons help you run the farm. You are the person who takes the food baskets to Jackie's house for the holidays. You have never met Jackie, who doesn't seem to be home very often. You know Jackie's mother is always thankful when she receives the baskets. You have served on many juries and feel it is your civic duty.

Juror 8

You are 53-year-old Kit Nelson. You own the village tavern. You are married and have one son who is the hangman for all the local towns and villages. You knew Jackie's father very well. You didn't like him very much because you thought he cheated at cards. You have often said that the apple doesn't fall far from the tree and think that Jackie is probably a lot like Mr. Bean was. You have always tried to avoid jury duty, but this time the sheriff said you had to serve.

**Juror 9**

You are Nel Pierce. You are the 53-year-old wife of Jackie's teacher. You have 20-year-old twin daughters who are maids at Mr. Morgan's house. They help support you, since you were the victim of a crime and can no longer work. A robber shot you on your way to work. At the trial, the accused robber was found not guilty. You never met Jackie. Your husband thinks Jackie is very smart and cunning. Your husband has been angry with Jackie lately because "all that kid talks about is buying a new T.V." The teacher wishes Jackie would not be such a dreamer. You have only served as a juror once.

Juror 10

You are 26-year-old Taylor Smith. You are married and have three children, ages 2, 4, and 6. You are the local police officer. You know all the kids in town. The sheriff told you about the incident in which the baker wanted to have Jackie arrested for stealing a loaf of bread. You have never had any trouble from Jackie. You have never served on a jury.

Juror 11

You are Liz O'Brien. You are a 22-year-old traveling salesperson. You are single and stay with your parents when you are not on the road. You don't get home too often and you don't know Jackie or Mrs. Bean. You do eat your dinner at the local tavern and you have heard the villagers talking about the arrest. The villagers seem to be evenly divided about how they feel about Jackie. You were on one jury before. You voted to give the accused murderer the death penalty.

Juror 12

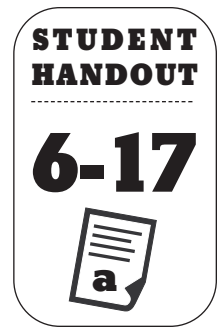
You are Silvia Gonzalez. You are the 60-year-old village seamstress. You know Jackie's mother sometimes sews for people in the village. She charges less than you do for her work. You have never been married. You are very superstitious and are quite concerned about the tale of the beanstalk. You are sure something evil is going to happen with all this talk of giants and hens that lay golden eggs. You have never been on a jury but are eager to hear this case.

The Criminal Trial: *The State v. Bean*



- The Clerk says, “Hear ye, hear ye! All rise for the Honorable _____.”
- The Judge says, “Today we will hear the case of *The State v. Bean*. Mr. Bean has been charged with theft and trespassing. Will the prosecution state what it intends to prove?”
- The Prosecutor describes the crime and tells what the state intends to prove.
- The Defense Attorney tells what the evidence will show from the defendant’s point of view.
- The Judge says, “Is the prosecution ready to call its witnesses?”
- The Prosecutor calls state’s witnesses and presents evidence against the defendant. The Prosecutor may call:
 - Mr. Biggs
 - Camilla Hen
- The Defense Attorney may then ask questions to cast doubt on the statements given.
- The Judge says, “Is the defense ready to call its witnesses?”
- The Defense Attorney calls witnesses to discredit the State’s case. The Defense Attorney may call
 - Jackie Bean
 - Mrs. Bean
 - Juanita Hen
- The Prosecutor may then ask questions to cast doubt on the statements given.
- The Judge says, “If there are no further witnesses, does the prosecution have anything to add?”
- The Prosecutor tells what the State feels it has proved.
- The Judge says, “Does the defense have anything to add?”
- The Defense Attorney tells the story from his or her client’s point of view.

- **The Judge** reads the following **Instructions to the Jury**:



“Ladies and Gentlemen of the Jury: Now that you have heard all of the evidence and arguments presented by the attorneys, it is my job to tell you about the law. First of all, Jackie Bean is innocent until proven guilty. The defendant does not have to prove innocence. You must look upon Jackie Bean as an innocent person unless, after you discuss the testimony and evidence, all of you decide that the defendant is guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. This means you have no doubt in your mind that Jackie Bean is guilty.

“If you have doubt and there is reason for that doubt, you must find Jackie Bean not guilty. The decision must be unanimous for a verdict of guilty.

“Jackie Bean is charged with theft—that is taking something that belongs to another—and the crime of trespassing—that is being on another’s property without permission. Take each charge separately. Review the evidence and vote on each of the charges after you have deliberated. Begin by electing a foreman, and then keep an open mind as you listen to your fellow jurors.”

- **The Jury** meets to decide the case. Everyone says whether she/he thinks the charges have been proved beyond a reasonable doubt.
- **The Foreman of the Jury** announces the verdict by saying, “We find Jackie Bean to be (“guilty” or “not guilty”) of the charge of criminal trespass and (“guilty” or “not guilty”) of the charge of theft.”
- **The Judge** will determine the sentence, if the defendant is found guilty. (**The Judge** may wish to confer with others about a fair sentence.)