

Audition Sides - Baker, Jack, Baker's Wife

BAKER'S WIFE: (*coming forward, takes a scarf and tries to put it around his neck*) You forgot your scarf—

BAKER: (*taking scarf off*) You have no business being alone in the Wood. Now go home immediately!

BAKER'S WIFE: I wish to help.

BAKER: No! The spell is on my h—

(*JACK enters, leading MILKY-WHITE by a rope on her neck.*

BAKER'S WIFE, seeing JACK at the other side of the stage, puts her hand across BAKER's mouth.)

17 **BAKER'S WIFE:** //

sotto voce A cow as white as milk...

(*BAKER sees JACK and takes BAKER'S WIFE's hand away.*)

BAKER: //

milk...

The musical score consists of two staves. The top staff is for Baker's Wife, starting at measure 17. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note G4. The bottom staff is for Baker, starting at measure 18. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note B4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note G4. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4.

START

BAKER

Hello there, young man.

JACK

(*looks at BAKER, scared*)

Hello, sir.

BAKER

What might you be doing with a cow in the middle of the forest?

JACK

(*nervous*)

I was heading toward market – but I seem to have lost my way.

BAKER'S WIFE

(*coaching BAKER*)

What are you planning to do there—?

BAKER

And what are you planning to do there?

JACK

Sell my cow, sir. No less than five pounds.

BAKER

Five pounds!

BAKER'S WIFE

And if you can't fetch that sum? Then what are you to do?

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JACK

I suppose my mother and I will have no food to eat.

(BAKER has emptied his pocket; he has a few coins and the beans in hand.)

BAKER'S WIFE

(loudly)

Beans – we mustn't give up our beans! Well... if you feel we must.

BAKER

Huh?

BAKER'S WIFE

(to JACK)

Beans will bring you food, son.

JACK

Beans in exchange for my cow?

BAKER'S WIFE

Oh, these are no ordinary beans, son. These beans carry magic.

JACK

Magic? What kind of magic?

BAKER'S WIFE

(to BAKER)

Tell him.

(MYSTERIOUS MAN enters behind a tree.)

BAKER

(nervous)

Magic that defies description.

END

MYSTERIOUS MAN

... You'd be lucky to exchange her for a sack of beans.

(BAKER'S WIFE and BAKER hug, frightened by MYSTERIOUS MAN's voice. MYSTERIOUS MAN exits before anyone sees him.)

JACK

How many beans?

BAKER

Six.