

Handout 1 Jack's Letter

Hi students,

My name is Jack III and my grandfather was the “Jack I” who traded beans for a cow and ended up with a goose that lays golden eggs. Our family has been living happily ever after for years; however, I recently read on the Internet that the giant is back. Apparently, giants live for a very long time!

For those of you not familiar with the story of my famous family, here goes. My grandfather, Jack I, was supposed to sell the cow to make money to feed his family. He met a guy who convinced him to trade his cow for some “magic” beans. His mom, my great grandmother, was not very happy because she didn't believe in magic beans. She said, “The cost of your decision is that we don't have money to buy food this week.” She threw the beans out of the window and made Grandpa Jack clean his room. The next morning, when Jack I looked out the window, he saw a giant beanstalk. You see, in fairy-tale land, magic happens. After he climbed to the top of the beanstalk, he saw a beautiful giant castle. Then he went inside. Obviously he had never heard the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. Walking into a strange family's house and messing with their stuff is never a good idea.

You know the drill, giant arrived, giant fell asleep, and Grandpa Jack made the decision to take the hen that lays the golden eggs. The giant woke and shouted, “Fee, Fi, Fo, Fum.” Grandpa Jack ran toward the beanstalk and raced down as fast as his little legs would carry him. The giant followed and when Grandpa Jack cut down the beanstalk, the giant crashed to the ground and was never heard of again—at least not by Grandpa

But I recently found out that the giant is still alive! I saw postings on the Internet! Apparently giants live for a very long time.

So I have a problem. I don't want the giant to find my house. I imagine he is not happy with the decision Grandpa Jack made to take the goose. Grandpa took a big risk and now I may have to pay for it.

I heard that you were learning about digital footprints. Someone told me that my online digital footprint might lead the giant right to my house if I'm not careful. I spend a lot of time online. I like to use the Internet and play games with friends. My mom also likes to share photos. Please help us make informed decisions about the things I post online so we don't lead the giant right to my house!

Sincerely,

Jack III