

# <u>Rapunzel</u> <u>A Locked Up, Lockdown Panto!</u>

#### **Synopsis**

Kidnapped as a child by an evil witch and locked in a tower deep in the forest, Rapunzel has lead a fairly secluded life up until now. But things start to look up when handsome Prince Rupert appears at her window, to attempt a daring rescue. As with all Panto rescue missions, it doesn't go quite to plan. With a little help from Fairy Nuff, Prince Rupert and Rapunzel must defeat the cunning witch, Gothel Hemlock, to find their happy ever after.

#### **Characters**

Rapunzel The heroine. Feisty and determined.Prince Rupert The hero. Handsome and suave.Fairy Nuff A magical helper.Gothel Hemlock An evil witch (could be played as a dame)

#### <u>NB</u>

This Panto runs approximately 12-15 minutes without songs. If you prefer to include songs, it runs approximately 15-20 minutes (if the musical numbers are kept to around one minute).

Suggested song verses are noted at the end of the script to keep the musical numbers short. If required, backing tracks for songs can be found on YouTube.

Sound effects (SFX) have been kept to a minimal and different effects can be found on YouTube and other online sources. If you are feeling creative you can make sound effects with things from around your house or on your mobile device.

Props required:

2 x daggers. One for Prince Rupert and one for Rapunzel.

2 x wands. One for Fairy Nuff and one for Gothel (could be a garden stick)

1 x plait or something that would pass for long hair (use your imagination for this)

Costumes are optional but fun. Raid your wardrobe or dressing up box!

## **Rapunzel**

In Rapunzels tower.

SFX Magical bells.

**Fairy** Our tale is of Rapunzel, a maiden sweet and fair. With a feisty disposition and golden flowing hair. Locked up in a tower, secluded and alone. Cut off from all society, without a mobile phone.

**Song 1** (Optional) For Rapunzel

**Rapunzel** I'm so bored. Stuck up here in this tower day after day, week after week, month after...

Prince Excuse me.

Rapunzel Who are you?

Prince I am handsome Prince Rupert, of Happy Ever After.

Rapunzel Prince Rupert you say?

**Prince** That's right. I'm here to recuse you from this tower and free you from the evil witch who imprisoned you.

**Rapunzel** That's very kind, but who says I need your help? I am an independent woman! **Prince** Surely you don't want to spend the rest of your life locked up at the top of a tower in the middle of a haunted forest. I can offer you a life of luxury, riches beyond your wildest dreams and a holiday home in Barbados.

**Rapunzel** That sounds like a pretty decent offer, and I have to admit...you are rather handsome!

Prince Then come with me and we will escape together.

**Rapunzel** It will never work. The evil witch knows everything. Her crystal ball will have already alerted her of your rescue attempt. She's probably winging her way here as we speak. Any minute now she'll fly through that window on her broomstick, it's the only way into the tower. You have to leave, before it's too late. Come to think of it, how did you get up here?

**Prince** Your fairy godmother told me where to find you. She also advised that I bring a ladder...which came in very handy!

Rapunzel I didn't know I had a fairy godmother. Where is she?

## SFX Magical bells.

Fairy Let me introduce myself, my name is Fairy Nuff.
And this job has been assigned to me because it's pretty tough.
My last case, Cinderella, was delighted with her fate.
She married her Prince Charming after just a single date.
Rapunzel Impressive! It sounds like you know your stuff.
Fairy Not blowing my own trumpet, but I'm sure you'll come to see, Why all the damsels in distress, tend to ask for me.

Now, what's the situation here? We haven't got much time!

And quite apart from that, I am running out of rhyme.

**Rapunzel** I don't wish to sound ungrateful...but I don't think this extremely handsome Prince that you sent, stands much of a chance against the wicked witch.

Prince What makes you say that? I'm not just a pretty face, y'know!

**Rapunzel** The witch is an extremely powerful sorceress! Many men have been before you; she turned every one of them into a toad. Those poor little amphibians live in the forest, hiding in the nooks and crannies to avoid her evil glare.

Prince I wondered why there were so many toads in the holes.

Rapunzel Do you want to change your mind and make a run for it?

Prince I, handsome Prince Rupert of Happy Ever After, never run from a challenge!

Rapunzel Fair enough...don't say I didn't warn you!

**Fairy** Didn't warn me of what?

Rapunzel I was talking to him.

Fairy But you said ...

**Prince** I laugh in the face of fear!

Rapunzel Fair enough...you will be sorry!

Fairy Sorry for what?

Rapunzel I was talking to him.

Fairy But you said ...

Prince You won't talk me out of it.

Rapunzel Is there nothing that I can say to change your mind?

Prince Nope!

Rapunzel Fair enough...then so be it!

Fairy So be what?

Rapunzel I was talking to him.

Fairy Oh, for heavens sake. Can we just get on with it!

Prince I'm ready for the challenge. Bring it on!

#### SFX Evil intro.

**Gothel** (evil laugh) Did I hear you say that you say that you want to challenge me? I'll turn you into a toad, just like the rest of them.

Prince I...err...

**Gothel** What's wrong my pretty? Cat got your tongue? If you think your fairy friend here can save you, you had better think again. I've out smarted her before.

Rapunzel Do you two know each other?

**Gothel** Don't you recognise me Fairy Nuff?

**Fairy** Gothel Hemlock? Is it you? I can't believe my eyes!

It was many years ago, and there was word of your demise.

I thought that you were dead, but you obviously survived.

And you're looking pretty fit, for a witch of eighty-five.

Prince Eighty-five? You're never eighty-five!

Gothel Oh, yes I am!

Prince Oh no you're not!

Gothel Oh, yes I am. Don't answer me back! You young folk don't know how lucky you are. When I was a girl, there was no such thing as computers or the internet. A zoom meeting was a get together with your mates for an ice-lolly. Rapunzel What did you do for fun? Witch I remember that I spent one summer rolling down the hills in a large tyre...that was a goodyear! Prince But you don't look any older than forty! Gothel (angrily) A-hem! Prince I mean...thirty? Gothel (angrily) A-hem! Prince (tentatively) Twenty-five? Gothel That's more like it! Thank you, young man. I might even re-consider my decision to turn you into a toad. Prince Really? Gothel NO!

The Prince whimpers.

**Song 2** *(optional)* For Gothel

Fairy So what's your secret Gothel? You haven't aged at all!

In fact, you're looking younger now than when you were at school.

Where are all your wrinkles? Your warts and greying hair?

You look more like centrefold from Vogue, or Marie Claire!

Prince It must be plastic surgery!

Gothel How dare you! I've never had any work done!

**Prince** When it comes to plastic surgery, I heard that a lot of people turn their noses up. **Gothel** My cousin had a face-lift. She said that she was disappointed with the results, but she looked pleasantly surprised!

**Prince** Let Rapunzel go and I will give you whatever your heart desires. Clothes, jewels, money...

Gothel Eternal youth?

**Prince** No one can give you eternal youth.

Gothel That's where you're wrong. Rapunzel can?

Prince What?

Rapunzel She's right.

Prince How can you do that?

**Rapunzel** It's a long story. But as we only have ten minutes, I'll give you the condensed version. My father was a simple baker, who fell in love with and married a fairy. After I was born, I became quite poorly. My mother made a magic healing potion with a garden herb called rampion. She sent my father to collect the rampion but the only place he could find it was in the garden of a witch...Gothel! He took the plant to save my life.

Prince And Gothel kidnapped you to get her revenge?

**Gothel** No you stupid boy! That's not why I kidnapped her at all. Fairy magic is very powerful, and I guessed that the healing potion would have some lasting effect on Rapunzel. I was absolutely right! The potion reverses the signs of age, and it took me no time at all to

discover that Rapunzel's golden locks were the key to eternal youth. As I brush her hair, the years fall way!

Rapunzel That's why she will never allow me to leave.

Gothel And now you know my secret. So I will have to silence you. (evil laugh)

**Prince** What should we do, Fairy Nuff? Fairy Nuff...are you okay? You look as though you've seen a ghost!

Gothel The penny has finally dropped!

**Fairy** I am Rapunzel's mother! I'm the baker's wife!

Our baby girl was taken and it wrecked our happy life.

My husband searched the kingdom but the captor was too smart.

He never found our baby and he died of a broken heart.

Rapunzel My mother is a fairy? Can this be true?

**Gothel** She's right. I was the number one suspect. But everyone was looking for a crusty old woman not, not a fit young lass. I spread the rumours of my own demise and eventually everyone gave up looking. I outsmarted you all...you're no match for me, Fairy.

Prince Wow! That's some history you've got there, Rapunzel.

**Rapunzel** You told me that my parents had left me. That's not true, is it?

Gothel It stopped you from asking so many questions.

**Rapunzel** How dare you lie to me! You are wicked and evil, and you will never touch my hair again!

Gothel Oh, yes I will!

**Rapunzel, Prince & Fairy** Oh, no you won't!

Gothel Oh, yes I will!

**Rapunzel, Prince & Fairy** Oh, no you won't!

Gothel Who's going to stop me?

Prince (producing a dagger) I will save you, Rapunzel!

Gothel Ha...not with that puny penknife you won't!

Gothel produces a wand and waves it toward the direction of the Prince. **SFX** Lightning strike. The Prince disappears from the screen. **SFX** Toad croaking.

**Rapunzel** Prince Rupert! You've turned him into a toad! **Gothel** You can't say I didn't warn him.

## SFX Toad croaking.

**Gothel** This is your final chance Rapunzel. If you agree to stay here forever as my prisoner, then I will spare the fairy a similar fate.

Fairy No Rapunzel, don't agree. I'm itching for a fight,
It's time I put an end to this, and tried to make things right.
I'm your mother and I'm telling you, there's nothing to discuss.
She has to go, this town ain't big enough, for the both of us.
Gothel So, the fairy has decided to come out fighting, eh?
Fairy You bet I am Gothel! Lay down your wand.
If you challenge me now, I'll be forced to respond.

I won't let you take my Rapunzel away, So go ahead Gothel, make my day! **Gothel** You asked for it.

Gothel produces a wand and waves it in the direction of the Fairy. **SFX** Lightning strike. Fairy disappears from the screen. **SFX** Toad croaking.

Rapunzel NO! Gothel (evil laugh) I did warn her, but she didn't listen! Now she's croaked! Rapunzel Mother, speak to me.

SFX Toad croaking.

Rapunzel produces a dagger.

Rapunzel That's the final straw, Gothel. They may not be able to stop you, but I can!

Rapunzel takes hold of her plaited hair.

Gothel No, no, not the hair!

She slices through her plait with the dagger.

Gothel NOOOO!

Gothel writhes and screams. As she disappears from view, her screams fade.

**Rupunzel** Ha...you didn't think I had it in me, did you! That will teach you to pick a fight with me you nasty old hag! Oh, mother, if only I had acted earlier, I could have saved you and Handsome Prince Rupert. Or should I say, not so handsome Prince Rupert? Rupert, we only knew each other for such a short time but I loved you from the moment I set eyes on you. If only there was a way to reverse Gothel's spell and turn you back to your former handsome self.

Fairy Nuff speaks from off screen. Rapunzel is confused, looking around to see where the voice is coming from.

Fairy (singing 'Hello' by Adele) Hello...It's me.
Rapunzel Who said that?
Fairy (singing 'Hello' by Adele) Hello from the other side.
Rapunzal Is this a computer a virus?
Fairy (singing 'Hello' by Adele) I must have called a thousand times.
Rapunzel Ahh...no it isn't. It's a-dell! It's trying to tell me something.
Fairy (from off screen) Don't forget Rapunzel, this is a fairy tale.
And in the end the pretty girl will always get her male.

That ugly toad can be transformed into a handsome chap.

Just pucker up, to break the spell, and stop with all this...nonsense.

**Rapunzel** (looking confused) Who said that? What does it mean? Of course! True loves kiss will bring back my Rupert. Pucker up my Prince and get ready for a great big juicy, (**SFX** short guitar intro to 'Kiss' by Prince) Kiss!

Rapunzel dives off screen.

#### SFX Long, loud, sloppy kiss.

Both the Prince and Rapunzel re-appear. The Prince has a big smile on his face and Rapunzel looks pleased with herself.

**Prince** I say Rapunzel! For a girl who's been locked in a tower all her life, that was a truly spectacular (*SFX* short guitar intro to 'Kiss' by Prince) Kiss.

**Rapunzel** Thanks. I've practiced on a lot of toads, but that's the first time it's ever worked. **Fairy** (off screen) I hate to interrupt you, but there's still something amiss.

Come over here and give your mum, a cuddle and a (**SFX** short guitar intro to 'Kiss' by Prince) kiss.

## Rapunzel Coming mother!

Rapunzel disappears of screen.

SFX Small, quick peck.

Rapunzel and Fairy Nuff re-appear on screen.

**Rapunzel** I don't understand. What just happened? How could my kiss save you both? **Fairy** The magic, dear Rapunzel, is not only in your hair.

It's running through your body, it reaches everywhere.

It's built into your genes, all fairies know of this.

It's in your every touch, and it's in your every kiss.

Rapunzel Blimey, that's amazing!

Gothel appears on screen. She is now old and frail.

Gothel Nooo...I'm old! Prince What are we going to do with her? Fairy When Gothel lost her youth, she also lost her power. She's harmless now, we could just leave her stranded in the tower. Let her live her days up here, forgotten and alone, To think about what she's become...an old decrepit crone! Gothel Please, I beg of you. Don't leave me in the tower. Rapunzel I have an idea. Someone needs to look after all those poor toads in the forest. I'll let you choose, Gothel. The tower, or the toads? Gothel I'll take the toads. Anything but the tower! Prince At last, now I can finally finish what I came here to do. Rapunzel, will you marry me? Rapunzel Of course I will Rupert. How could I refuse such a handsome Prince?

**Song 3** (optional) For Prince Rupert

# SFX Applause.

**Fairy** So that's the story of Rapunzel, a maiden sweet and fair. It turns out that the magic wasn't only in her hair. Now she and handsome Rupert, will live Happily Ever After. And we hope our online Panto, brought you lots of fun and laughter!

The End

#### Suggested Songs & Verses

#### Song 1

I have a dream – Abba

I Have a Dream, a song to sing To help me cope, with anything If you see the wonder, of a fairy tale You can take the future, even if you fail I believe in fairies Something good in everything I see I believe in fairies And I know the time is right for me I'll cross the stream, I have a dream I'll cross the stream, I have a dream.

Song 2 Don't 'Cha – Pussycat Dolls

I know you like me (I know you like me) I know you do (I know you do) But in the end I'm afraid that it's gonna be a toad for you! And I know you want me (I know you want me) It's easy to see (it's easy to see) But you know my secret so I know You and I, we can never be

Don't cha wish Rupuzel was hot like me? Don't cha wish your girlfriend was a freak like me? Don't cha? Don't cha? Don't cha wish your Rapunzel was bad like me? Don't cha wish your girlfriend was fun like me? Don't cha? Don't cha?

Song 3 Marry You – Bruno Mars

It's a beautiful night, we're looking for something dumb to do Rapunzel, I really wanna marry you Is it the look in your eyes or is it this dancing juice? Who cares, baby, I think I wanna marry you Don't say no, no, no, no, no Just say yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah And we'll go, go, go, go, go If you're ready, like I'm ready It's a beautiful night, we're looking for something dumb to do Rapunzel, I really wanna marry you.