

Bethan Woolvin
Rapunzel



Visual Story

WELCOME to this visual guide that introduces the characters and story of *Rapunzel* by Bethan Woollvin, adapted by Wrongsemble. It is for anyone who wants to know the story before coming and may be useful, in particular, to audience members on the autistic spectrum, or those with sensory or communication disorders or learning disabilities.

ABOUT RAPUNZEL

Golden-haired Rapunzel is trapped in her lofty tower by a wicked witch, who lops off the locks of her beautiful hair and sells them for a tidy profit. It's time for Rapunzel to take charge of her own destiny and figure out a way to escape.

This bold and funny adaptation of the much-loved storybook by the creator of the New York Times Best Illustrated Book *Little Red* and *I Can Catch a Monster*, Bethan Woollvin and published by Two Hoots, is brought to the stage by award-winning family theatre company Wrongsemble (*Three Little Vikings*, *The Not So Big Bad Wolf*) in a brand new theatrical adventure brimming full of music, magic and madcap schemes - and not a prince in sight!

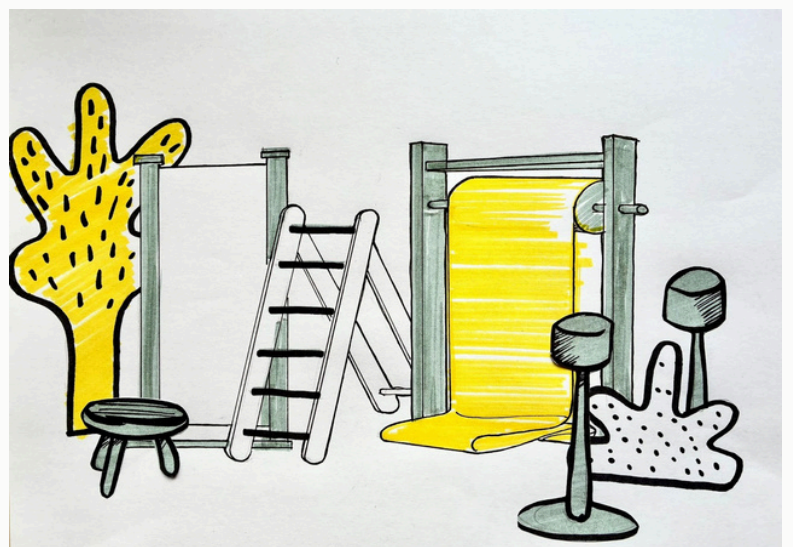
ABOUT THE DESIGN

Rapunzel is based on Bethan Woollvin's picture book and uses the same colour palette throughout - grey, yellow, black and white.

Shapes, set pieces and costumes are inspired by her illustrations. The two actors wear different hats when they play different characters.

The set features a pair of yellow saloon doors, a giant scroll which reveals different parts of the story, and a wooden ladder. All around the stage are different trees that make interesting shadows.

We also have some woodland creatures that pop up in our tale - can you spot them hiding in the trees as you watch the show?



MEET THE CHARACTERS

Meet the characters in **Rapunzel**, and learn more about the heroes (and villains of our story). The costume design images show you how our two actors play lots of different characters by changing their hats or parts of their costume.



Rapunzel

Rapunzel is a brave young girl trapped in a tower.

She is very curious, and has big sense of adventure.

She loves to read, and play.

She wears a white dress and has long golden hair.



Witch

The Witch is a big bold personality, who is not great at being kind.

She feels very sorry for herself

She threatens Rapunzel with curses if she ever leaves the tower she has trapped her in.

She wears a black dress and and a tall pointy black hat.



Jailbird Witches

The jailbird witches are two mean, disgusting characters locked in a jail cell who tell the tale of Rapunzel.

They wear tall striped pointy hats, wide rimmed glasses and chalkboards round their necks.

MEET THE CHARACTERS (continued)



Sheriff (the horse)

Sheriff is a friendly horse who lives in the forest. She befriends Rapunzel and helps her come up with a plan to escape the tower. She wears a riding hat with a silver sheriff's badge and a has a long white ponytail.



Prince Phopp

Prince Phopp is a silly prince who is a bit clueless and useless. He has a posh voice and wears a golden cowboy hat with a crown on.



Rapunzel (the bandit)

At the end of our tale Rapunzel becomes a witch-hunting bandit. She wears a black cloak over her white dress and a black eye-mask.

Steve (the pigeon)

Steve is a Rapunzel's friend. Steve is a pigeon.



VISUAL STORY



Scene 1:

The show begins in a jail cell.

Two witches are locked behind bars. They are dramatic, mischievous and not very happy about it.

They tell us they were captured by a girl with long golden hair.

Her name?

Rapunzel.

And when they say her name, they shiver:

"Oh no...not she!"



Scene 2:

Rapunzel lives alone in a tall tower with no doors and no stairs.

Every day at noon, a witch shouts, "Let down your hair!"

Rapunzel lowers her long golden hair so the witch can climb up.

The witch cuts it and sells it for gold.

Rapunzel may be trapped but she is clever, curious and full of imagination, and she refuses to give up.



Scene 3:

The witch warns Rapunzel:

"If you ever leave this tower, I will curse you!"

She threatens to turn her into a frog...or worse.

The witch believes she controls Rapunzel.

But Rapunzel is starting to think differently.

An idea is forming.



Scene 4:

Rapunzel realises something important:

If the witch can climb up her hair...

She can climb down it.

She makes a ladder from her hair and bravely climbs out the window for the very first time.

She lands with a bump.

But she has made it to the outside world.

And everything changes...



Scene 5:

Meanwhile on the other side of the forest we meet a hapless hopeless Prince: Prince Phopp. He wanders aimlessly in search of a little adventure.

A chance to prove himself a hero.

He doesn't stick around long though, he's worried the audience will all fall in love with him.



Scene 6:

The forest is bright and beautiful.

Rapunzel runs, spins and soaks up the sunshine.

She meets Sheriff the horse and a group of friendly animals.

They welcome her.

They dance at a joyful woodland hoedown.

For the first time, Rapunzel feels free.

But she must return to the tower before the witch notices she has gone.



Scene 6:

From that day on, Rapunzel secretly climbs down her hair to visit her new friends whenever the witch is gone. She always makes it back in time. The witch suspects nothing. Rapunzel grows braver every day. And she starts to make a plan to escape for good.



Scene 7:

Rapunzel shares her secret with the audience. When the witch climbs up her hair today, she will take the scissors and escape. No scissors. No hair cutting. No more control. The clock strikes twelve. It is time.



Scene 8:

The witch climbs up as usual. But she finds a leaf in Rapunzel's hair. She realises Rapunzel has been outside. She reaches for her scissors. They are gone. Rapunzel has them.



Scene 9:

With courage and a smile, Rapunzel cuts her own hair: "Snip, snip. Swish, swish. Bye bye." The witch falls from the tower. Rapunzel is free.



Scene 10:

Rapunzel looks around the tower one last time. It no longer feels like home. She finds her own way down. Sheriff is waiting. "I'm free!" she calls. The prince appears again briefly, but he is not needed. Rapunzel rescued herself.



Scene 11:

Rapunzel chooses her own future. She rides through the forest with Sheriff, helping protect others. The witches in jail are very nervous now. "Oh no... not she!" Rapunzel wrote her own happy ending. Brave. Bold. Free. The End.

THE END