



Notice of Audition  
Rapunzel – the panto



## PANTO AUDITIONS

### DATES

Auditions for Rapunzel take place on Thursday 8 Sept and Monday 12 (8pm) at St Michael's Centre, Elmwood Road.

### Preparation

Decide what part(s) you wish to read for and turn up on the day. Audition scripts will be provided. You can read for as many parts as you want or simply leave it to my impeccable taste.

The auditions will be in the back room. Please be quiet on your way through the main hall as "Animal Farm" will be rehearsing.

## INFORMATION ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

### KEY DATES

- Performances 6 shows from 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> December (mat on Sat)
- Rehearsals Every Monday and Thursday, plus  
Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November from 4pm (to be confirmed)  
Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November from 4pm (to be confirmed)
- First Rehearsal 17 Oct – **compulsory attendance**
- Technical Rehearsal 4 Dec (full day)
- Dress Rehearsal 5 Dec (long evening)

### SYNOPSIS

Our story starts with Rapunzel looking out of her prison tower and longing to escape. The wicked witch Gothel appears and asks Rapunzel to let down her long hair so she can climb up into the tower. Suddenly Juan Forthemoney burst in on this scene, realizing that he has found Rapunzel and can possibly claim the reward for finding and returning her – if he can do it of course. To help the audience get up to speed with the backstory, we are invited to travel to Chiswickia 18 years earlier.

We find Chiswickia preparing for the royal princess naming and the annual Grove on the Green Garden Festival. There's singing a plenty but who's this? It's Gothel telling us how the King stole her prize lettuce and now it is payback time. She introduces us to Waylon the wicked weasel and a guardian of the galaxy and leaves as Hilda (aka Nanny Trollop) and the royal baby arrive. Cue the dame's introduction and song

After which her son, Max, appears and we find out that Hilda does panic a lot and the best way to calm her down is with audience participation. The King and Queen of Chiswickia are heralded onto the stage and announce the new princesses name...Rapunzel (*quelle surprise*). The Garden competition is held and, surprisingly, the King wins again with his Lettuce. Apparently this always happens. Gothel bursts into the celebrations and delivers her ultimatum – you took my most precious Lettuce and now it's payback time....Gothel steals the new princess and disappears. The King announces the reward and we go out singing

And back to the present. We join Juan outside the tower where he is joined by Hilda and a grown up Max, who's become a boy scout extraordinaire. There's a quick discussion concerning how to get into the tower and whether Rapunzel's hair will take the wait. Realising Gothel is still with Rapunzel, they decide to return later.

Inside Rapunzel's tower, we find the princess and an array of her golden tears. Rapunzel is bored, very bored. Gothel is having none of it as Rapunzel is hers and is expected to just love Gothel. Plus, Gothel is after more of those gold tears and needs Rapunzel to cry for her. No way. Gothel pulls out the princesses story book and settles into a sad story which reduces Waylon and Gothel to tears. Fed up – they leave

And lo and behold next up the hair is Juan who explains who the princess really is; she of course has no idea and denies it all. They argue the point and until interrupted by Gothel who is appalled that Rapunzel has been visited

by a man and sets Waylon on Juan. Between Gothel and Waylon, Juan is knocked out cold and they drag him offstage. While away, Hilda appears at the window and on her return, Gothel is incensed at yet more visitors and hacks off Rapunzel's hair. Now everyone is stuck in the castle, except whoever has the umbrella which Gothel grabs and jumps out the window.

Now they're trapped in the tower but Hilda has a cunning plan – use all her undies which she's fortunately got wrapped around her waist and already tied together. And so they unwind them but forget to grab the end which flies out the window. They're doomed! Until Max turns up with a ladder. Yippee. Let's sing a song and get out of here

Juan, Rapunzel, Max and Hilda are on their way back to Chiswickia and already arguing. Rapunzel wants to see the sea and as there's a pub on the way, they head there.

In the pub, everyone is singing a song. The publican John Deere and his wife Janey Deere introduce themselves and there's plenty of banter while our heroes ask if there's a ship available. There is and the captain is....Gothel (nooo) who slaps Rapunzel and Juan into chains. Max and Hilda pass themselves off as Pirates with unlikely sounding names and we head off to the boat and the interval with a jolly sailing song.

Fully refreshed we join our team onboard the City Packet where Rapunzel and Juan, still chained together are still bickering and arguing while they're meant to be scrubbing the decks. Gothel arrives and packs them off to the rowing boat and we're ready for the gun drill on deck. With Max and Hilda on one side and Janey and John on the other. Cue plenty of mayhem with the silly pirate names before the gun drills which all go wrong until Max shouts "Land Ahoy" but there's a problem...white cliffs....of Arabia? Yes – Max has turned the map round and they're back on the coast of Muddlesex where it immediately starts raining

We cross to Rapunzel and Juan in the rowing boat and cue more arguing and mayhem until they sink below the waves

They are washed ashore on the beaches of Muddlesex and initially Juan appears not to have survived, he is only joking and there's more arguing and they head off. Max and Hilda wander into the auditorium, relieved to have survived the shipwreck. Chaos in the audience until they regain the stage only to be interrupted by the arrival of the immigration officers Jobs and Worth. After some negotiations concerning the proper attire to enter Muddlesex, Max and Hilda are allowed in

Juan and Rapunzel walk into Muddlesex where Gothel blocks their way and admits Rapunzel was stolen before going off. There's no time to dwell on that as the King and Queen of Muddlesex enter to observe the Strawberry Cream Tea Joust. Amazingly The K&Q of Muddelsex look exactly like the K&Q of Chiswickia and after a while we get the right Ks and Qs in attendance. (The Chiswickian ones). Juan announces he has found Rapunzel but no-one believes him. There's a quick jousting competition which is a bit of a shambles actually, so it's tea and cake time while Juan tries desperately to prove he has found Rapunzel, but no golden tears means no luck.

Next up for our entertainment is a fight to the death with Waylon War Weasel. Hilda steps up to answer the challenge and soon gets the better of Waylon. The queen is starting to believe this stranger might be Rapunzel and they hug to start the making up process. Gothel bursts in and is having none of it and says if she can't have Rapunzel then no-one will...Juan leaps in and beats Gothel back (Hooray) but while Gothel gets the cream pies from the knights Juan collapses and Rapunzel runs to his side and starts crying for his loss and guess what, the tears revive Juan which can only mean she's the real princess and it's time for reconciliation and rewards all round. Final song and away we go...

There's only Rapunzel and Juan's wedding left to do, pausing for an audience sing-a-long and ending with a rousing Christmas song.

## CHARACTERS

Here's a list of all the characters. The column headed "pages" identifies the number of pages that character speaks on. These numbers indicate the relative size of the part.

Character	M/F	Description	Pages
RAPUNZEL	F	Our fiesty heroine	38
JUAN FORTHEMONEY	F	Principal Boy. A rakish, charming chancer	31
NANNY TROLLOP	M	Dame and Royal Nanny	38
KING OF CHISWICKIA	M	Also plays King of MUDDLESEX	13
QUEEN OF CHISWICKIA	F	Also plays Queen of MUDDLESEX	13
GOTHEL	F	a witch	24
WAYLON	M/F	a weasel. Belongs to Gothel	8
MAX	M	Hilda's son	20
JOHN DEERE	M	Landlord	8
JANEY DEERE	F	Landlady	6
JOBS	M/F	Customs Officer	5
WORTH	M/F	Customs Officer	4

### CHORUS:

Citizens, Jobs, Worth, Knights, Pub visitors, Kings, Queens, John and Janey Deere, Guards, Sailors