

Fairy

(Prologue, Page 5)

FAIRY Good evening, friends, both young and old,
You've come to see our tale unfold,
To start, I'll introduce myself:
I'm Fairy Stardust, here to help...
Ensure that good defeats what's not,
And to introduce the plot.
So let me bring you up to speed,
With the crucial bits you need...

She opens the story book and begins to set out how our story came to be.

Once, when stars aligned just so,
Celestial light, so bright did glow,
A child was born, her locks so fair,
With magic woven through her hair!

KING OTTO & QUEEN AGNES enter behind/via the open book page from Middle Right (MR), cradling baby RAPUNZEL.

Her parents, kind and full of cheer,
Loved the babe and held her dear,
They gave the child the name...

OTTO & AGNES ... Rapunzel!

FAIRY **(Frustrated. Breaking rhyme)** Hey! How am I supposed to rhyme with that?

AGNES Sorry!

KING OTTO & QUEEN AGNES step towards MR exit but don't leave view completely

FAIRY STARDUST composes herself and continues her verse.

FAIRY But yet within the dark of night,
There was a witch, devoid of light,
I speak, of course, of Mother Gothel,
She's here to cause a great ker-foffle!

Chorus Lines with Silly Billy

(Scene 1, Page 8-9)

BILLY Hello everyone and welcome to Quiffendale, our quaint little country where our dreams are as big as a Mohican with a mohawk! My name is Silly Billy. I'm a trainee hairdresser at my mum's beauty salon.

CHO. 1 Oh come off it Billy, you've been in training for years!

BILLY I know, but I'm hoping one day I'll make the cut! Now, who wants a free haircut?

The CHORUS all back away, they're not keen.

CHORUS No thanks/Not again/I'd rather not/etc.

BILLY Oh come on, I can't be that bad!

CHO. 2 Not that bad! Remember when I asked for bangs and you gave me bangers?

BILLY Oh yeah, you were combing German sausages out of your hair for weeks.

CHO. 3 They were the wurst!

CHO. 4 Or what about the time I asked for a short back and sides?

BILLY Yup, I gave you a long front and diagonal!

CHO. 1 Or when you completely shaved my head and called it "the windswept look"

BILLY It was a very strong wind!

CHO. 3 So don't take it personally, it's just we think you're terrible.

BILLY I'm beginning to get the feeling you don't think I'm very good.

CHO. 2 Well...

BILLY Go on, tell the truth, I can take it.

CHO. 4 You're the worst hairdresser I've ever met.

SILLY BILLY breaks down in floods of tears.

CHO. 1 Oh come on Billy, you said you could handle some criticism.

BILLY I thought I could; I just didn't know your feedback would be that cutting!

SILLY BILLY runs offstage (MR) upset.

CHO. 3 I'd rather have literally anyone else cut my hair.

DAME **(Entering from Middle Left (ML) from the Saloon)** Coo-ee, it's me!

CHO. 3 I stand corrected!

DAME Who wants a haircut?

Queen Marjory, King Reginald & Prince

(audition piece for both queens)

(Scene 1, Page 11-12)

REGINALD People of Quiffendale, I am King Reginald, and this is my delightful wife, Queen Marjory.

MARJORY And this is our son; Prince Leonardo.

PRINCE Alright mum, I can introduce myself, and please, just call me Leo.

REGINALD We have travelled across many kingdoms, in search of a wife...

MARJORY (Reprimanding) You've already got a wife!

REGINALD (Explaining) For the prince!

PRINCE But I don't want to get married, why can't I just stay at home?

MARJORY Because a lad like you should be out and about and looking for adventure.

PRINCE I tried that once and ended up in **(Name of 'rough' town)**; never again!

MARJORY (Ignoring him) We have come to Quiffendale to find a suitable match!

Three LADIES in the CHORUS chatter excitedly.

LADY 1 I'll marry the prince.

LADY 2 I will too.

LADY 3 And me!

MARJORY See, we've only just arrived, and you've already got options!

PRINCE They're only offering because I'm a prince. There's got to be someone more quick-witted or intelligent.

Gothel, Drip & Dribble

(Scene 2, Page 14 – Page 16)

GOTHEL pulls out various bottles from her pockets and reads the labels.

GOTHEL Let's see... 'Wrinkle-Be-Gone,' now with extra venom! Oh, that was a good batch. 'Eau de Evil,' with a hint of despair; intoxicating! And my personal favourite... 'Bog-Troll Botox!' Just one sip freezes your face in a look of eternal superiority! **(She points at someone in the AUDIENCE)** Looks like you've got a bottle at home! **(Beat)** But beauty like this doesn't last forever, oh no. To stay this fabulously wicked, I must keep drinking my elixirs. **(She calls offstage)** Drip, Dribble! Get out here at once!

DRIP & DRIBBLE enter (FR). One of them carries a tray/bag full of potion bottles.

DRIP Good evening, your beautiful-ness!

DRIBBLE How can we serve you, your radiance?

GOTHEL Give me my youth potion. I want to look young & fresh and have skin smoother than a saxophone solo!

DRIP Yes ma'am, right away! **(Choosing a potion)** Er... I think's it's this one.

DRIBBLE **(Taking it and putting it back)** No, that one makes the young look older, we want the older to younger one.

DRIP Right. And what if we give her the wrong one, or too much?

DRIBBLE Then she'll either turn into a baby or a granddad!

DRIP Either way, she'll be wearing nappies! **(They laugh)**

GOTHEL **(Impatiently)** Your incompetence is as bad as your incontinence. Now shut it and give me my potion!

DRIP & DRIBBLE both grab a bottle from the tray and offer it to GOTHEL.

DRIP It's this one!

DRIBBLE No, it's this one!

GOTHEL **(Snatching both bottles)** One of these better be correct, or you'll find yourselves swimming in a cauldron of disappointment! **(She reads the labels)** 'Eternal Elegance'... Yes, that's the one! And what's this? 'Liquid Laxative?!' **(She turns on DRIBBLE)** You tried to feed me this?!

She thrusts the bottle back into DRIBBLE'S hands.

DRIBBLE (Sheepishly) Well, technically, it does make things run smoother...

DRIP And it's very cleansing.

GOTHEL Enough! I don't know why I bother with you two, perhaps I should just leave you in this forest!

DRIP (Shudders) Oh please don't, it's really scary in here; there's twisting paths, eerie noises, and an awful stench!

DRIBBLE (Wafting his nose) No, Drip, that's you.

GOTHEL This Forest is all that stands between the pesky people of Quiffendale and the tower I've got Rapunzel locked up in. I wouldn't be surprised if sooner or later some of them try to rescue her.

DRIBBLE (Confidently) They will, ma'am.

GOTHEL How do you know that?

DRIBBLE I read the script!

GOTHEL Don't be such a smarty-pants! (Beat) Thanks to my enchantment no one will ever make it through the forest and find her! (She laughs wickedly)

DRIP Genius!

DRIBBLE Diabolical!

GOTHEL I know. Now, get out of my sight before I turn you both into toads!

DRIP & DRIBBLE exit (FR).

(To the AUDIENCE) Oh don't look so horrified! I could have turned them into influencers! Eugh! (Beat) Now, time for my beauty potion... (She reads the label on the bottle) Take one small sip every 24 hours, for extreme cases; take two.

GOTHEL puts the bottle to her lips and necks the lot. An evil chord sounds.

GOTHEL exits (FL)

BLACKOUT - END OF SCENE

Rapunzel, Sidney, Gothel & Rascal

(Scene 3, Page 18 – Page 19)

GOTHEL Now, where are you with the wedding planning?

SIDNEY I've told you before, I don't want to marry Rapunzel, and I'm pretty sure she doesn't want to marry me either!

RAPUNZEL Agreed. No offence, Sid.

SIDNEY None taken.

They both laugh.

GOTHEL Fine! **(To SIDNEY)** But you're still going to help me keep her here! **(She turns to RAPUNZEL)** And as for you, don't waste your time dreaming of freedom. Some birds are just meant to stay in their cages and sing. **(She laughs)** Goodbye, my little songbird.

An evil chord sounds as GOTHEL exits via the window. SIDNEY notices the potion tray.

SIDNEY Hang on, what's this?

RAPUNZEL Looks like Gothel's potions.

SIDNEY She's got all sorts in here. **(Picking one up and reading the label)** "Magi-Grow: Grows your hair like never before."

RAPUNZEL (Sarcastically) Give me that, I could do with longer hair.

SIDNEY goes to give her the bottle but, as he does, he accidentally spills it over RASCAL. There is a magical sound and the lights flash. The magical potion has transformed RASCAL into a human-sized rabbit, who jumps out from behind cage (MR)

SIDNEY Oh my goodness!

RAPUNZEL Well, you did say it makes your HARE grow!

They both laugh.

(Indicating the potion tray) What else is in there?

SIDNEY (Picking up another bottle and reading the label) 'Hair-max: Gives your hair extra volume' Here's an idea...

SIDNEY pours the potion over RASCAL. The magical sound plays again and the lights flash.

RASCAL Oh wow, that tingles!

SIDNEY Ahhhh!

RAPUNZEL Ahhhh!

RASCAL Ahh! ...Wait, why am I yelling? *How* am I yelling?

RAPUNZEL He can talk, but how?

SIDNEY **(Showing her the bottle)** ...Extra volume!

RASCAL **(Grinning)** I always knew I had a lot to say!

SIDNEY Alright, don't rabbit on!

RAPUNZEL This is incredible and I bet Gothel won't be pleased!

SIDNEY Never mind her; what's the plan?

RAPUNZEL Sid, you sneak out of the tower and find some help and we'll stay here and see if any other potions might come in handy. With a bit of luck, we'll be out of here and never see Gothel again!

TABS CLOSE - END OF SCENE

Prince, Sidney & Fairy

(Scene 4, Page 20-21)

PRINCE **(Entering FR)** Oh, it's ridiculous! Utterly ridiculous! My parents won't stop talking about marriage! **(Mocking)** "You're a prince, you must find a princess!" "You need to settle down!" **(Beat)** Well what if I don't want to? What if I want to... I don't know... take up woodcarving or open a tea shop?

SIDNEY enters (FL), overhearing the last part.

SIDNEY You too?!

PRINCE What? You want to open a tea shop?

SIDNEY No, I meant the bit about people always telling you what to do! "Sidney, brush your hair!" "Sidney, stand up straight!" "Sidney, stop hiding biscuits in your socks!"

PRINCE Why are you hiding biscuits in your socks?

SIDNEY Emergency snacks.

PRINCE Oh, right.

SIDNEY I know exactly how you feel! My mum basically wants me to marry my sister.

PRINCE What?!

SIDNEY She's not actually my sister; I just think of her like that. Mother kidnapped her when she was a baby.

PRINCE That doesn't sound any better.

SIDNEY Look, the point is I don't want to marry her, and she doesn't want to marry me either.

PRINCE Finally, someone who gets it!

SIDNEY We're like kindred spirits, you and I!

PRINCE Yeah! Two free-thinkers, rebelling against, against, um... Who are we rebelling against?

SIDNEY Our interfering families?

PRINCE Exactly! Although, I don't mind when mum interferes with my dirty laundry!

There is a magical sound as FAIRY STARDUST enters (FR).

FAIRY What a delightful sight! Two lonely hearts, both longing for something more...

SIDNEY Hang on, we're not lonely hearts! We're just... um... dissatisfied hearts.

PRINCE Yeah, disgruntled hearts, at best.

FAIRY Call it what you will, but fate has brought you together for a reason.

SIDNEY You don't mean...?

SIDNEY & the PRINCE look at each other awkwardly.

PRINCE Sidney, I'm flattered, but...

FAIRY **(Laughing)** No, no, no! Not everything has to be about romance! I mean that you two can help each other. Sidney, you seek freedom from your mother, and Leo, you want to find the one person you truly care about. Perhaps your goals align more than you think.

Song: Prince & Sidney: I'LL BE THEREFOR YOU (The Rembrants)

SIDNEY I just want to help Rapunzel!

PRINCE And I want to avoid a lifetime of tedious royal functions and overly starched collars!

FAIRY Then work together! Who knows, Leo, perhaps Rapunzel is the girl of your dreams!

PRINCE **(Scoffs)** I doubt it. But father did say I should try an adventure...

SIDNEY And I'd certainly like it if mother would stop nagging me for five minutes!

FAIRY Then it's settled! Sidney, go back to the tower and get ready for rescue, and Leo, you go to town and organise a party.

Prince, Silly Billy, Bob & Dame

(Scene 6, Page 28-29)

PRINCE LEO, SILLY BILLY and BOB enter (FR). PRINCE LEO looking downcast and studying the map.

PRINCE This map is useless, we'll never find the tower.

BILLY Yes, it's more complicated than a flat-pack castle from Ye Olde IKEA!

They all gather around the map.

PRINCE **(Pointing)** I think we're here... or maybe here... or possibly here.

BOB Speaking of being here, where's Dame Betty? I wonder what she's up to...

DAME **(Entering FR)** I'm up to no good!

The AUDIENCE respond "Betty Behave!"

BILLY **(Pointing offstage in one direction)** Why don't we go that way?

PRINCE The map says that's a crocodile-infested swamp.

BILLY **(Pointing the other way)** Ok, how about that way?

PRINCE It says that's a swamp-infested crocodile?

BOB What's that?

PRINCE No idea, but let's not find out the hard way.

DAME BETTY snatches the map from PRINCE LEO.

DAME Give it to me... **(She looks at the back by mistake)** Oh dear, it's a feature-less forest isn't it.

PRINCE **(Helping her turn the map over)** You're looking at the back!

DAME Much better. Aha, it's this way, follow me.

DAME BETTY marches in FL direction, the others follow.

DAME **(Suddenly stopping)** No, I've got it the wrong way round. **(She turns the map 180 degrees)** It's this way. **(She walks in the opposite direction to FR)**

PRINCE Are you sure?

DAME Fairly. Sort of. Slightly... **(Admitting it)** No.

BOB I'll try over here. **(He exits FL)**

BILLY Hang on Bob, wait for me. **(He follows BOB offstage FL)**

PRINCE Do you think we should follow them?

DAME No, let's just wait, they'll be back in a minute.

PRINCE But what if they get lost and we never see them again?

DAME Then we'll have to divide up their things between us.

PRINCE That seems a bit over the top.

DAME You're right, I'll take everything!

PRINCE I'm going after them. **(Exits FL)**

DAME Oh please don't leave me on my own. This forest is full of ghosts and I don't want to be grabbed by the ghoulies!

BOB enters from (FR) the other side of the stage.

BOB Dame Betty!

DAME **(Turning around, surprised)** How did you get there? **(Pointing the way BOB exited)** You went that way!

BOB No idea.

BILLY **(Entering from FL)** Um, guys...

DAME **(Seeing SILLY BILLY. Surprised)** This is a very strange forest!

BILLY You're telling me; there's a wardrobe just over there. Do you think I should look inside?

DAME No, it's Narnia-business!

Rapunzel, Rascal, Sidney, Gothel, Drip and Dribble

(Scene 7, Page 32-33)

RAPUNZEL paces the room. RASCAL is nibbling a carrot. The Potion Tray is at one side.

RAPUNZEL Oh, Rascal, do you think today might be the day I finally leave this tower?

RASCAL I wouldn't count your carrots... I mean, chickens, just yet.

RAPUNZEL It's just day after day pacing the same boring room, combing my same boring hair, talking to the same...

Beat. RASCAL looks at RAPUNZEL expectantly.

Incredibly handsome rabbit.

SIDNEY (Entering via arch ML) Rapunzel!

R & R (Excited) Sidney!

SIDNEY Good news! Help is on the way; they'll be here any minute!

RAPUNZEL (Excited, but doubtful) Really? You're not just saying that?

SIDNEY I swear on my mother's... **(Beat)** ...well, let's just say I swear!

Suddenly GOTHEL'S voice calls out.

GOTHEL (Off) Rapunzel, Rapunzel, let down your hair!

RAPUNZEL and SIDNEY freeze.

RAPUNZEL It's Gothel!

SIDNEY Quick Rascal, hide. She doesn't know you're a big bunny now!

RASCAL exits to hide offstage via arch (ML). An evil chord sounds. GOTHEL appears at the window and climbs through.

GOTHEL Honestly, I have conquered kingdoms, brewed potions of unimaginable power, and bent the very forces of nature to my will... and yet I'm still climbing into windows like a second-rate burglar!

She straightens up and eyes RAPUNZEL with suspicion.

(Mock-sweetly) Well, don't you look pleased with yourself? What's going on? You haven't been up to anything... rebellious, have you?

RAPUNZEL (Too quickly) No!

GOTHEL narrows her eyes, stepping closer.

GOTHEL Hmm. No singing? No sighing? No weepy little monologues?
Something smells fishy, and I don't mean Drip & Dribble.

She rounds on SIDNEY, who is trying (and failing) to look innocent.

GOTHEL And you; you look guiltier than a seagull at a chip shop.

Suddenly DRIP & DRIBBLE enter via the arch (ML). They are panicked.

DRIP Mistress Gothel! We have terrible news!

DRIBBLE There's a rescue party heading this way!

GOTHEL (Enraged) A rescue party?! I knew you were up to something!

RAPUNZEL But I've been locked in here the whole time.

GOTHEL (Furious) Silence! I don't know how it started, but I'm stopping it! **(To SIDNEY, DRIP & DRIBBLE)** You lot come with me, now!

GOTHEL grabs RAPUNZEL'S hair, throws it out the window and uses it to climb out.

(To RAPUNZEL) You're not getting out, do you hear me? Not now, not ever!

There is an evil chord as GOTHEL exits. The others make to follow but RAPUNZEL stops them.

RAPUNZEL No. You lot can use the stairs!

**DRIP, DRIBBLE & SIDNEY exit via the arch (ML) into the wings.
RAPUNZEL looks forlorn.**

(Sadly) Maybe I'll never be rescued...

Fairy, King Reginald, King Otto, Prince & Silly Billy

(Scene 9, Page 40-41)

A magical sound is heard as FAIRY STARDUST appears (FR). She talks to the AUDIENCE.

FAIRY Oh dear, oh dear, what a terrible plight!
Rapunzel's been captured and locked up tight!
Gothel has taken her back to her tower,
And time is running out by the hour!

But fear not, my friends, for help is at hand,
I've got an idea and a magical plan,
To rescue Rapunzel, the thing you must do,
Is...

KING REGINALD, KING OTTO, PRINCE LEO & SILLY BILLY enter (FL) confidently.

REGINALD (Dramatically interrupting FAIRY STARDUST) Fairy Stardust, step aside! This is a job for *real* heroes!

OTTO Men of action! Men of valour!

BILLY Oh, I thought you said Men of Velcro! **(He rips something Velcro off his costume)**

PRINCE Rapunzel needs saving, and we shan't waste a moment!

REGINALD Right, first things first! We must strategize! We need an emergency battle meeting!

OTTO Agreed! To war positions!

KING REGINALD, KING OTTO & PRINCE LEO take up dramatic and heroic poses. SILLY BILLY stands still. Beat.

REGINALD (Encouraging him to pose heroically) Billy... your war position.

BILLY But I've never been to war.

OTTO Then use your imagination, if we were going into battle right now, what pose would you strike.

BILLY See you! **(He starts to run offstage (FL))**

REGINALD (Stopping him) Come back here. And don't be Silly, Billy.

BILLY But I *am* Silly Billy!

OTTO Let's take a different approach. What weapons do we have?

REGINALD **(Drawing it)** I have a sword.

PRINCE **(Drawing it)** I have a dagger.

BILLY And I have... **(Producing it triumphantly)** An asparagus!

OTTO That's not a weapon!

BILLY Yes, it is; an asparagus spear!

FAIRY This is all very well, but how are you going to storm Gothel's tower?

REGINALD Simple! We shall build a massive wooden horse and hide inside it.

FAIRY **(Dismissively)** Gothel won't fall for that, it's the oldest trick in the book!

PRINCE Alright, what if we form a human pyramid? I'll climb on top of father, and then you climb on me, and you climb on him!

FAIRY And how tall is the tower?

PRINCE **(Disappointed)** Taller than four people in a human pyramid!

OTTO Aha, I know! I shall issue a royal decree that all towers must be reduced to bungalow height!

BILLY Genius!

FAIRY And how long will that take?

OTTO Well, there'll be paperwork, and probably a hearing... You know what planning laws are like!

REGINALD What if we build a Trojan Pidgeon instead? No one's tried that before.

FAIRY For good reason; it's completely bird-brained!

PRINCE We could try launching ourselves from a catapult straight into the tower!

REGINALD Or jump from an aeroplane?

OTTO Or fire ourselves as human cannonballs?

FAIRY No, no and no. You'll be hurt, badly hurt and very badly hurt!

PRINCE Right. We may need a rethink.

REGINALD And perhaps a bit of help...

Gothel, Dame & Sidney

(Scene 10, Page 44-45)

GOTHEL Who'd have thought it would be Drip and Dribble that delivered the goods. At last, she's back where she belongs, my dear, precious, magical-haired...

DRIP & DRIBBLE enter. They manhandle a cloaked figure onto stage and make a show of capturing Rapunzel.

GOTHEL Well get on with it, let's see her, unveil the girl.

DRIP & DRIBBLE unveil DAME BETTY.

GOTHEL (Furiously) WHAT? (Beat) What is SHE doing here?

DRIP & DRIBBLE go very sheepish

DAME (To the AUDIENCE) I'm up to no good!

The AUDIENCE respond "Betty Behave!"

GOTHEL (TO DRIP & DRIBBLE) Oh, you incompetent fools! For a moment I thought you'd finally done something useful, but no, you've brought me the wrong girl! Now get out of here

DRIP & DRIBBLE exit (ML) via the arch

DAME Hey, who are you calling a girl! (Beat) I'm a woman!

GOTHEL I cannot believe this. Do you know how vital it is that I get Rapunzel back? My beauty depends on her!

DAME Ahh, well, you can tell she's been missing. How long has it been? Days? Hours? Minutes?

GOTHEL (Admonishing) Less of that, thank you!

DAME (Surprised) It's been seconds? My, my, you have let yourself go!

GOTHEL Silence! Until Rapunzel is returned to me, you will take her place. Although looking at your hair, I'm not sure I want it in my potions.

DAME I wouldn't if I were you, it's full of highly flammable product. One lock of this and the whole place will go boom!

SIDNEY Mother, I know you don't care about what's right, but I do. I won't be a part of this anymore; take that...

SIDNEY grabs the Hairspray can, aims it at GOTHEL and 'fires' it at her. Nothing happens. GOTHEL laughs.

GOTHEL Oh you idiot boy, surely you didn't think I'd fall for that again. Now, if you don't mind, I've got a princess to kidnap!

An evil chord sounds as GOTHEL exits (ML) via arch laughing maniacally.

DAME **(Sarcastically)** Well, someone needs to work on their anger management.

SIDNEY Sorry about her.

DAME I've handled worse at the salon, dear. One time a customer stole my shampoos, but I wasn't worried, it's just their conditioning!

SIDNEY But Gothel is dangerous. She'll stop at nothing to get what she wants and we're stuck in here unable to do anything.

DAME Don't think like that, we can do lots of things! For starters, have you considered a perm?

SIDNEY That's not what I mean!

DAME Oh Sidney, you're looking at this all wrong. We may be stuck, but the others aren't! Besides, Rapunzel's not some helpless damsel, and I know Prince Leo and the gang won't give up that easily.

SIDNEY You really think so?

DAME Of course! I mean, let's be honest, they might not be the sharpest scissors in the salon, but they've got heart!

SIDNEY And determination.

DAME And no sense of self-preservation whatsoever, which in this case is a real plus!

SIDNEY So we just wait?

DAME Not just wait, Sidney; we prepare! We need a plan, an escape route, and most importantly...

She dramatically pulls a compact mirror from her pocket, checks her reflection, and gasps.

DAME A touch-up! If I'm getting rescued, I want to look ravishing, I'm hoping to see David **(Name of man from the AUDIENCE)** after the show! Now mark my words, they'll be up here before you know it.