classic tales
1-2

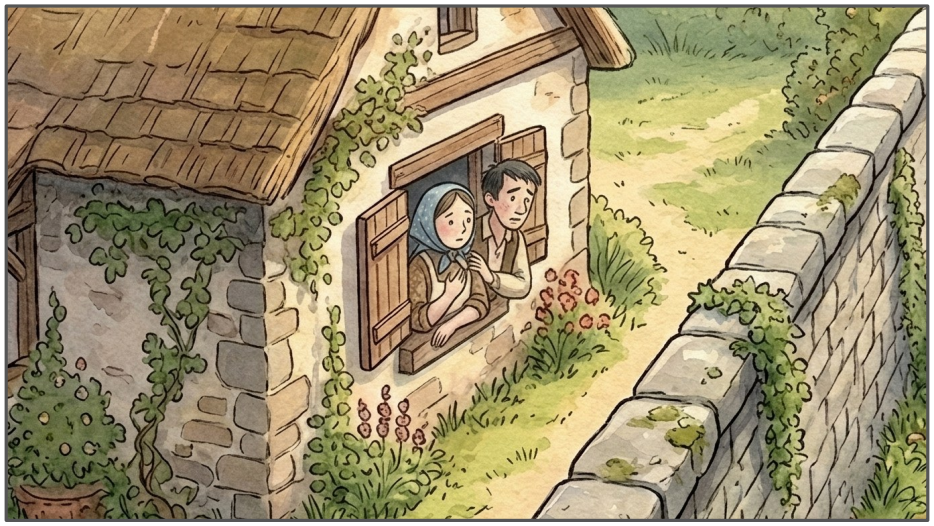
Rapunzel



A Classic Tales Reader • Grades 1-2

Printable Scholar Readers

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Once upon a time, a wife looked out of her window into a witch's garden. She saw a bed of fresh green leaves called rapunzel, and she longed to eat them.



One night, her husband climbed over the wall to pick some. But there stood the witch! “How dare you steal my rapunzel?” she cried.



The man had to promise her his child. When a baby girl was born, the witch named her Rapunzel and took her away. When Rapunzel was twelve, the witch shut her up in a tall tower with no stairs and no door.



Whenever the witch wanted to come in, she stood below and called, “Rapunzel, Rapunzel, let down your hair to me!” Down fell the long golden braid, and up climbed the witch.



Some years later, a king's son came riding through the forest. He heard someone singing so sweetly that he stopped to listen.



He watched the witch, and the next evening he called, “Rapunzel, Rapunzel, let down your hair to me!” Down fell the hair, and up climbed the king's son.



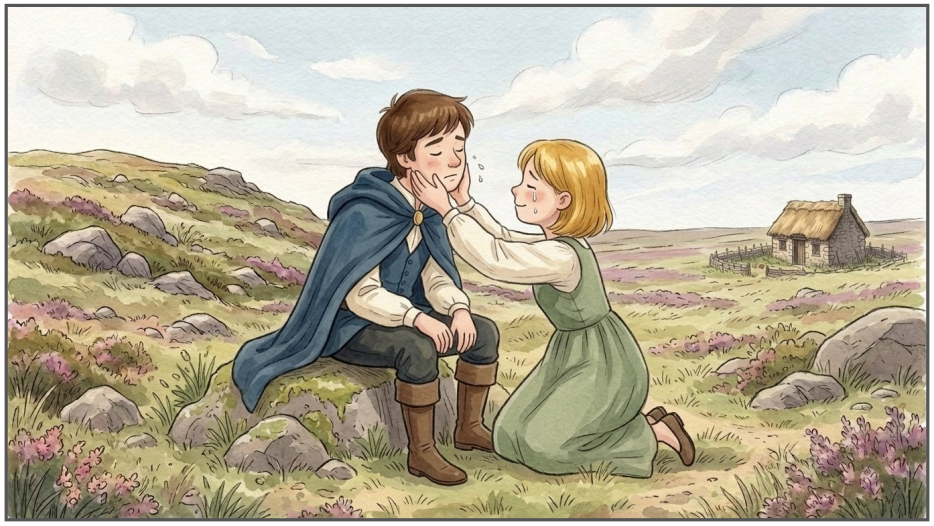
At first Rapunzel was frightened, but soon they were friends. He asked her to marry him, and she said, “Yes, I will!”



When the witch found out, she was furious. Snip, snap! She cut off Rapunzel's braid and sent her far away to a wild and lonely land.



When the prince climbed up, the witch was waiting. In his shock he fell into the thorn bushes, and the thorns scratched his eyes so he could not see.



He wandered for a long time, until he heard a voice he knew. Rapunzel hugged him and wept, and two of her tears fell into his eyes. At once, he could see again! He took her home to his kingdom, and they lived happily ever after.

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Talk About It

1. Why did the man go into the witch's garden?

2. How did the prince find out how to climb the tower?

3. Why was the witch so angry?

Words to Know

tower • witch • braid
prince • thorns • tears

Read me 3 times!

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