

“FOUR SHORT PLAYS FOR YOUNG ACTORS”

Featuring

“THE MAGICAL MONKEYS OF MERGATROID”

“RAPUNZEL”

“RUMPELSTILTSKIN”

And

“THE EMPEROR’S NEW CLOTHES”



Written By Kevin T. Baldwin

“FOUR SHORT PLAYS FOR YOUNG ACTORS”

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

PLAY # 1 – Page 2

“SLEEPING CUTIE AND THE MAGICAL MONKEYS OF MERGATROID”

PLAY # 2 – Page 19

“RAPUNZEL”

PLAY # 3 – Page 29

“RUMPELSTILTSKIN”

PLAY # 4 – Page 37

“EMPEROR’S NEW CLOTHES”

“SLEEPING CUTIE AND THE MAGICAL MONKEYS OF MERGATROID”

**A Comedy in One Act
By Kevin T. Baldwin**

Characters:

Mrs. Kamisky, a Teacher

Her STUDENTS:

Judy

Tammy

Jeremiah

Billy (or Becky)

Jeanine

Felicia

Francine

Michael

Cameron

Beatrice

Margo

Juliet

Jacob

The Martin Triplets

(A teacher, MRS. KAMISKY, steps out and starts speaking to an unruly group of children)

KAMISKY – Class! (Class ignores and is actually noisier. The TEACHER speaks louder) Class! (Screams) Quiet you little buggers! (Regains composure) Ahem. (To the audience) Welcome to the Millborough Elementary School Production of “Sleeping Beauty and the Magical Monkeys of Mergatroid”. We hope you enjoy our show. At Millborough, we try to nurture each child (a little girl, JUDY, stands up and wiggles around because she has to go to the bathroom. She raises her hand to MRS. KAMISKY). It’s very important to support them as they....

JUDY – Mrs. Kamisky, I have to go potty!

KAMISKY – (Shouting) Sit down, Judy! Sit down! Sit down! Sit down! (Back to the audience, composed) To support them as they grow into young adults. (She looks at JUDY again) Sigh. Fine. Make it quick, Judy. (JUDY gets up and exits stage right. Another child, BILLY, or BECKY, as needed, stands up and starts fixing a big ‘wedgie’ in their shorts) This is going to be an exciting evening. Our class has been working extremely hard rehearsing this classic tale. (The ‘wedgie’ becomes much worse)

TAMMY, another child talks to a fellow classmate, JEREMIAH) This is a tale of heroes and villains,

TAMMY – I wanted to do “Madagascar”, but no we gotta do this one.

KAMISKY - Of loyalty and betrayal,

TAMMY – We coulda done “Shrek”? What’s wrong with “Shrek”?

KAMISKY - Of war and peace,

TAMMY – How about “Ice Age”? That woulda been cool!

JEREMIAH – “Ice Age 1”, “2” or “3”?

KAMISKY – (To the children) Enough! (Regaining composure again, to the audience) And of course, it is a story of a sleeping beauty, not THE Sleeping Beauty but rather another sleeping beauty, and the handsome prince who awakens her.

JEREMIAH – Dang, those Disney people will just kill over copyright stuff, huh?

TAMMY – Shh!

KAMISKY - And we trust that you’ll appreciate the amount of time it took to...to... (Sees the CHILD) Billy! (or Becky) Stop that at once! You’re in public. Sit! (BILLY, or BECKY, sits down slowly as JUDY returns and also sits) Sigh. (To HERSELF) Why couldn’t I have been a dynamite inspector like my mother wanted? (To the AUDIENCE) Very well. Our narrator for the story is Gretchen Nesmith. (A young girl, GRETCHEN, stands up and pulls out a large book which she will read the story from) Our players shall include (Each child steps forward when his or her name is called) Jeanine Moody as our Sleeping Beauty

JEANINE – Cutie.

KAMISKY – Cutie. Yes. Sleeping Cutie. Excuse me. In point of fact, her name in the story is Princess Cecelia.

JEANINE – Whatever.

KAMISKY - Next is Felicia Monecia as our Wicked Queen Grayscale. (FELICIA wears all black and carrying a painted facemask)

FELICIA – Hello! Actually, Mrs. Kamisky?

KAMISKY – Yes, dear?

FELICIA - Monecia is my middle name. They got it wrong when I transferred to this school.

KAMISKY – Really? (Looks at her notes) What is your last name, then?

FELICIA – Propecia.

KAMISKY – I see. Felecia Monecia Propecia.

FELICIA – Do you want to know my mother’s maiden name?

KAMISKY – Not really. No. (Begins to announce the next name) Fra-

FELICIA – (Interrupting) Rogaine. (Laughs, smiles at audience)

KAMISKY – Next we ha- (Stops. Does a double take at FELICIA, then continues) Next we have Francine Tanner as the evil sorcerer! (FRANCINE wears an old, ugly potato sack with a large sash that says “Sorcerer” on it)

FRANCINE – (Sarcastic, points to the word “Sorcerer”) As if you couldn’t tell from the sash.

KAMISKY – Shhh! (Whispers sternly) Do the evil laugh.

FRANCINE – (Doing a lame, unenthusiastic evil laugh) Mwa-ha-ha-ha-ha.

KAMISKY – (Whispering) What was that?

FRANCINE – My evil laugh. (Pause) I didn’t say it was good.

KAMISKY – You shouldn’t. Try again. More feeling, Francine. With gusto!

FRANCINE - (Doing an evil laugh) Mwa-ha-Hey! Why can’t I be an evil ‘sorceress’ instead of a ‘sorcerer’?

KAMISKY – We’ve been over this already. The part calls for a boy and we didn’t get enough boys. Now be quiet and hunch over like a good evil sidekick!

FRANCINE – (Hunches over and does the laugh again) Mwa-ha-ha-ha-ha!!

KAMISKY – As Prince Micah we have, well, Michael Prince. (MICHAEL steps forward and trips over his princely sword)

MICHAEL – Ouch. (Gets up, then does a lame “Rocky Balboa” impersonation) Yo, Cecelia!

KAMISKY – And as the love of Cecelia, Prince Derek, we have Cameron Parks. (CAMERON steps forward looking pale and nervous)

CAMERON – Mrs. Kamisky, I don't feel so good. I think I'm gonna hurl. (The STUDENTS all laugh)

MICHAEL – Hey, you ain't kissed her, YET! (The STUDENTS all laugh louder)

CAMERON – Shut up!

JEANINE – (To MRS. KAMISKY) He is NOT kissing me. (To CAMERON) We agreed to shake hands. (To MRS. KAMISKY) Didn't we agree to shake hands? (To CAMERON) I could have sworn we agreed to shake hands. (To MRS. KAMISKY) Mrs. Kamisky?

MICHAEL – Whoever heard of a sleeping princess woken up by a handshake?

TAMMY – Actually, didn't that happen in "Shrek"?

JEREMIAH – "Shrek 1", "2", "3" or "4"?

JEANINE - Mrs. Kamisky? Didn't we agree that Prince Derek would wake me up by shaking hands? (The STUDENTS laugh louder) Make them stop, Mrs. Kamisky!

KAMISKY – (Holds up a red pen to the class) Settle down! Everybody Settle down. I've got my red pen and I'm not afraid to use it! (The STUDENTS all settle down) That's better. Now. rounding out the cast, we have (each CHILD steps forward and bows) Beatrice Carmichael as King Balance, Margo Bernstein as Queen Pixel, Juliet Lima as the Empress of Mergatroid, Jacob Lewis as the King of Clodmargen, and our three magical monkeys, the Martin triplets.

(The MARTIN TRIPLETS enter and simultaneously wave to the cast)

MARTIN TRIPLETS – Hey.

CAST – Hey.

(The MARTIN TRIPLETS exit)

KAMISKY – (To HERSELF) Next time, I won't wait till the last minute to have a program made.

CAMERON – Mrs. Kamisky, I-I think...(CAMERON runs off stage)

KAMISKY - Gretchen! Quick! Start reading! Places everyone! (CAST gets into places. MRS. KAMISKY hides herself behind the stage right curtain. GRETCHEN starts reading the story and the above mentioned children act it out)

GRETCHEN – This is the story of “Sleeping Cutie and the Magical Monkeys of Mergatroid”. There are many worlds that we cannot see and worlds we never knew existed.

JUDY - (Raises her hand) Mrs. Kamisky. I don’t get it!

KAMISKY - (Peering out from behind a curtain) Quiet, Judy!

(Curtain opens. The beautiful and brightly colored KINGDOM OF RAINBOWS is seen, featuring the exterior of a castle surrounded with several rainbows in the sky)

GRETCHEN – (Continuing the story) This is the legendary “Kingdom of Rainbows”, a land where skies were filled with hundreds of beautiful rainbows. Hidden behind each color in every rainbow were many worlds with creatures with amazing powers beyond comprehension.

(The MARTIN TRIPLETS, as MAGICAL MONKEYS OF MERGATROID run across the stage. They have only half their costumes on and are making a lot of noise. MRS. KAMISKY is seen chasing after them)

MRS. KAMISKY – Come back here, you stinking little chimps! Come back here right now! (Shouting back to GRETCHEN) Keep reading, Gretchen! Keep reading!

GRETCHEN – Uhhhh...(Continues to read as KING BALANCE steps to center stage) The Kingdom of Rainbows was ruled by the kind and honest King Balance, (PIXEL enters to stage right) who loved the beautiful Pixel.

KING BALANCE - (Does a loud fake heart thumping sound) She is one hot babe!

PIXEL – That’s not the right line.

KING BALANCE – So what? Mrs. Kamisky can’t hear.

KAMISKY – (From offstage) Beatrice!

KING BALANCE – Dang! She’s good. (Clears throat) Ahem, she is the loveliest woman I have ever cleaned.

GRETCHEN – Seen.

KING BALANCE – Seen!

GRETCHEN – The King took Pixel as his beloved wife and queen. (To MRS. KAMISKY as KING BALANCE and PIXEL exit) Is that right? Is it “Whom?” or “Who?”

MRS. KAMISKY – Who?

GRETCHEN – Whom?

MRS. KAMISKY – Who?

GRETCHEN – Whom?

MRS. KAMISKY – Who? (Irritated) Stop that! Continue with the story.

GRETCHEN – (Continues reading as PIXEL re-enters carrying a toy baby boy in her arms. KING BALANCE also enters) Queen Pixel gave birth to two children, the good Prince Micah and then (PIXEL tosses the baby to KING BALANCE who tosses a toy baby girl to PIXEL) ten years later, the cute Princess Cecilia.

KING BALANCE – (Smiles) Nice catch.

PIXEL – (Smiles) Thank you.

GRETCHEN – (Continues) It was said that the reason the rainbows adorning the heavens were filled with the brightest of colors was because the subjects of the kingdom were so happy and the royal family so good, but when Princess Cecelia was born, her soul was so pure and filled with joy the colors were magnified a thousand fold.

KAMISKY – (Peeking out from behind the curtain) Very good, Gretchen!

(GRETCHEN gets a spit ball in the side of her face. She holds her face)

GRETCHEN – Hey! Who did that? Mrs. Kamisky!

(KAMISKY comes out from behind the curtain)

KAMISKY – Next person found shooting spitballs will be (Gets shot in the backside by a spit ball) Ow! What? (Pulls the tiny crumpled up wad of paper off her butt) Wow. That hurt. Must be using card stock. (Looks at the rear of the backstage area) I see you, monkeys! Give me those straws! (Runs off stage as PRINCE MICAH and PRINCESS CECELIA enter) Go on, Gretchen! Keep reading!

GRETCHEN – (Continuing) However, one day while the children were older but still quite young, the beautiful Queen Pixel contracted a mysterious disease for which there were no known cures.

PIXEL – (Arm to her brow) I don't feel so good.

GRETCHEN – And she died.

PIXEL – (Does a long dramatic death scene) Oh woe is me! Oh my. I am dying. The sky is getting dark. The world no longer turns. Everything is going black.

MRS. KAMISKY – (Pokes her head out from behind the curtain with her script in hand, and whispers sternly) Margo, that's not in the script.

PIXEL – (Loud) What?

MRS. KAMISKY – (Shouts) Die already! (To audience) Whoops. Sorry. (Exits and PIXEL dies)

GRETCHEN - King Balance grieved over the loss of his wife for several years,

KING BALANCE – (Jumps for joy) Yahoo! Yes!

MRS. KAMISKY – (Shouts from offstage) Beatrice!

KING BALANCE – Sorry. (Changes composure, but not too convincingly) Boo-hoo. Boo-hoo. I am so sad.

GRETCHEN – (Continuing) But the law of the land demanded the King marry a new queen.

KING BALANCE – What? Aw, gimme a break.

(PRINCE MICAH and PRINCESS CECELIA re-enter. CECELIA is coloring a picture)

GRETCHEN – While the King searched for a new bride, Cecelia was often seen drawing pictures of a handsome Prince. Her brother Micah asked

PRINCE MICAH – Who is that man in your drawings, sister?

GRETCHEN - Princess Cecelia responded saying

CECELIA - I do not know, but every night of late my dreams have been filled with his handsome face. I do believe he is the man I shall someday marry.

GRETCHEN - The Prince teased Cecelia about this, saying

PRINCE MICAH – You are still only but a child! How foolish to be thinking of such things!

GRETCHEN - But she would tell him that

CECELIA - Someday, this man will kiss me and we shall be married. Then you shall see that I was right.

PRINCE MICAH – Yeah, right.

GRETCHEN – (As PRINCE MICAH laughs) The Prince laughed, hugged his sister...(PRINCE MICAH does not hug CECELIA, shakes his head “no”) Hugged his sister...(PRINCE MICAH still does not hug her, shaking his head “no”) Mrs. Kamisky, he’s not hugging her again!

MRS. KAMISKY – Michael!

PRINCE MICAH – Oh, all right. Fine. (Hugs CECELIA but not too close)

GRETCHEN – (Continuing) And walked away. (PRINCE MICAH turns quickly and exits. CECELIA also exits. KING BALANCE and LADY GRAYSCALE enter. LADY GRAYSCALE wears her mask) The King met and unwittingly married an unscrupulous woman, Lady Grayscale, who wore all black and held a mysterious colorful mask to her face, which hid her pale, gray features.

KIDS OFFSTAGE – Boo! Hiss! (SORCERER enters stage right)

GRETCHEN - The King had been overtaken by a spell by the Lady’s evil (SORCERER trips over himself) but sometimes incompetent sorcerer, which led the King to be intrigued by the mystique surrounding this woman. (KING BALANCE does the heart thumping thing again, then ALL THREE exit) Lady Grayscale pretended to love the King, but in actuality, she had an evil plot to rule the kingdom, to remove all the colors from it and the heavens above.

KIDS OFFSTAGE – Boo! Hiss!

GRETCHEN - Queen Grayscale could not rule over the kingdom while the King was alive, so she ordered her sorcerer to cast a spell to make the king fall into a long, deep sleep.

(SORCERER and KING BALANCE re-enter. The KING is carrying a golf club as the SORCERER caddies)

GRETCHEN – (Continues) The king’s biggest passion next to his children was a game he invented called “golf”. He would show this new game to travelers from other lands.

(A SCOTTISH PERSON walks by and says the following with a thick Scottish brogue)

SCOTTISH PERSON – Ay! Dats’s a bonnie game ye are playin’!

KING BALANCE – Thank you. I call it golf! Here. Have a club. (SORCERER hands the SCOTTISH PERSON a club from his bag) I’ve got plenty.

SCOTTISH PERSON – Where’d ye get them?

KING BALANCE – From the land of eBay. I was the winning bidder. Enjoy.

SCOTTISH PERSON – Thank ye! (Exits)

GRETCHEN – As the sorcerer carried the king’s clubs for him, he also carried a flask filled with a sleeping potion. (THE KING grabs the flask and drinks from it) The sorcerer gave the king his sleeping potion.

KING BALANCE – (Burps) Ah. That hit the spot. (Goes up on a box and begins to swing his club)

GRETCHEN – (Continuing) Just as he was driving a golf ball from the top of a cliff, the king fell asleep in mid-swing and fell off the cliff.

(KING BALANCE does a loud snore then falls off the box. SORCERER runs up and looks over the “cliff”)

SORCERER – Oops. (Runs off left as LADY GRAYSCALE, CECELIA & MICAH re-enter)

GRETCHEN - Since the king died unexpectedly, by the laws of the kingdom, it left the throne to be assumed by his children. First the throne would go to his son Prince Micah (LADY GRAYSCALE stares at MICAH) and then, if something should happen to Micah, to Cecilia (LADY GRAYSCALE turns her evil stare to CECELIA). If something were to happen to Cecilia, then Queen Grayscale would rule over the kingdom (LADY GRAYSCALE grins an evil looking grin as CECELIA exits).

JUDY - (Raises her hand) Mrs. Kamisky. I still don’t get it!

KAMISKY - (Peering out from behind a curtain) Judy! Go to the bathroom! (JUDY gets up and exits)

GRETCHEN - So, the Queen convinced 16 year-old Prince Micah to wage war against the Kingdom of Clodmargen, lying and saying that

LADY GRAYSCALE - They were the ones responsible for your father's death as a result of their weapons of mass destruction.

GRETCHEN - Which no one had ever seen. Queen Grayscale suggested

LADY GRAYSCALE – You, as Prince and heir to the throne, should lead the battle yourself.

PRINCE MICAH – Yes! You are right! I must avenge my father! Hey! I get it! It's sort of a George Bush thing going on there, huh?

KAMISKY – Michael!

PRINCE MICAH – Sorry. (Pulls out a fake rubber sword and holds it in the air)

GRETCHEN - The Prince, despondent over the death of his father, vowed his revenge and set off to the Kingdom of Clodmargen.

PRINCE MICAH – I shall return! (Exits)

LADY GRAYSCALE – (Sinister) Take your time, dear boy! Take your time. (SORCERER re-enters)

GRETCHEN - Queen Grayscale, still threatened by 6 year-old Cecelia, instructed her sorcerer to try the sleeping spell again, but not in the kingdom.

LADY GRAYSCALE – Take the Princess to the magical Field of Norem, where she will fall asleep forever but never dream, for any pleasant dreams she has might keep the rainbows filled with color.

SORCERER – Field of Norem? (Realizing) Oh! Hey! I get it! R.E.M. as in like REM sleep, right? You know, that “rapid eye movement” thingy that happens when people dream? (To LADY GRAYSCALE) So, dude, y'know, this No-Rem thing? Like, if you don't dream, then...

LADY GRAYSCALE – (Furious, screams) Get out!

SORCERER – Moving on, then. (Exits as curtain closes for scene change. Next scene is done in front of the curtain)

GRETCHEN – (Continues as CECELIA and the SORCERER re-enter) The sorcerer told the Princess that her brother was out in the Field of Norem and needed her to come see him.

CECELIA – Where is he? I don't see him anywhere.

GRETCHEN - Once out in the field, the sorcerer cast his evil spell upon her. This time, though, he did not use a liquid in a flask.

SORCERER – (Pulls out a roll of candy) Breath mint?

CECELIA – What are you implying?

SORCERER – Nothing, nothing. Just thought you might be hungry, is all.

CECELIA – Oh, well, then. Thank you. (Takes the breath mint and eats it. Falls instantly asleep)

GRETCHEN - And the Princess fell fast asleep. (Curtain re-opens to show a much changed Kingdom of Rainbows) All the rainbows of all the lands turned gray, colors taken away by the discontentment in the land. (A large set of a rainbow is moved in front of the set of the Kingdom of Rainbows) The tiny world of Mergatroid existed hidden within one of the rainbows surrounding the kingdom, and the skies were now dark and foreboding. (The EMPRESS OF MERGATROID enters) The Empress of Mergatroid knew from ancient legends that this day would come, and that in order to return the mystical heavens to Mergatroid, the sleeping princess must be awakened by her true beloved's kiss in order to return the colors to the rainbows and the heavens to Mergatroid.

EMPRESS – Magical Monkeys of Mergatroid! Come to me at once! (The MAGICAL MONKEYS enter and trip over one another)

MONKEY – Mrs. Kamisky! I can't see in this monkey mask!

OTHER MONKEYS – Me, either (ad libbing).

MRS. KAMISKY – (Enters briefly) I swear I will start throwing bananas at the next one who complains about the masks. Got it? (Exits)

MONKEYS – Got it. (THEY ALL stand back up)

GRETCHEN - The Empress of Mergatroid sent down her Magical Monkeys to care for the Princess in her slumber so she would not die. They also were instructed by the Empress to make sure

EMPRESS – Make sure the one that the Princesses is destined to love awakens her with a kiss.

MONKEYS – Ewww! Gross!

EMPRESS – (Threatening) Go with it or I'll call Mrs. Kamisky.

MONKEY # 1 – Great idea, chief!

MONKEY # 2 – A real winner!

MONKEY # 3 – I'm with you all the way!

EMPRESS – That's better.

MONKEY # 1 - But how will we find him?

GRETCHEN - The Empress said

EMPRESSSS – Do not worry. He will find her. (Curtain closes as CECELIA, now made up to look older, runs out in front and stands in the middle of the stage)

GRETCHEN – What are you doing?

CECELIA – What do you mean?

GRETCHEN – You're supposed to be asleep for the last ten years.

CECELIA – Oh, dang! Sorry. I forgot. (Drops down onto the floor and pretends to snore loudly as the MONKEYS re-enter)

GRETCHEN - Ten years passed and the monkeys managed to keep the princess alive during her sleep. She grew into a tremendous beauty.

MONKEYS – Eww! Blech! Barf me out. Gross! (ad libbing)

CECELIA – Watch it, fur balls! (All exit as curtain re-opens on the gray Kingdom of Rainbows. SEVERAL KIDS are seen looking depressed. LADY GRAYSCALE is seen gloating over her victory)

GRETCHEN – (Continues) During this time, everyone in the Kingdom of Rainbows became unhappy because they were still at war with the Kingdom of Clodmargen, and Prince Micah never returned. The Queen removed any signs of color from the kingdom to keep her subjects more submissive to her rule. She lied and promised that

LADY GRAYSCALE - The colors will return upon the destruction of Clodmargen.

GRETCHEN – (As KING OF CLODMARGEN enters) Lady Grayscale had actually been in love with the King of Clodmargen (LADY GRAYSCALE does the heart thumping thing) who rejected her advances.

KING OF CLODMARGEN – Eww! Blech! Barf me out. Gross! (Exits)

GRETCHEN - Thus, she never forgave him and swore his destruction and of all Clodmargens everywhere.

LADY GRAYSCALE – I shall make them all pay! (Exits as curtain closes and CECELIA and the MONKEYS come back out onto the stage)

GRETCHEN – (As PRINCE DEREK enters) Prince Micah was now the sworn enemy of Prince Derek of Clodmargen, who, after being sent into a fierce battle by his father, wandered into the Field of Norem.

PRINCE DEREK – Wander, wander, wander. Gee. I “wonder”, wink-wink, where I am?

(THE MONKEYS jump out of the Prince’s sight)

GRETCHEN - The Monkeys saw Prince Derek and guided him to the sleeping Princess.

MONKEY # 1 – Yo! Dude! Over here!

(PRINCE DEREK looks all around the stage)

MONKEY # 2 – No. Not that way. Over here!

MONKEY # 3 – Hey! Get a load of the sleeping princess! Don’t see that every day!

(PRINCE DEREK sees the sleeping cutie and does the heart thumping thing)

GRETCHEN - Prince Derek was so taken by the Princess’ beauty that he felt compelled to kiss her.

(PRINCE DEREK rushes up to the side of the sleeping princess and kneels, bending ever so close to her face)

CECELIA – Do it, and you’re dead!

(PRINCE DEREK shakes her hand rigorously then kisses a finger and touches the finger to her forehead. CECELIA awakens and stands up)

GRETCHEN - Princess Cecelia was awakened by his kiss to which the Monkeys squealed with delight

MONKEYS – Squeal! Squeal! Squeal! Yippee! Yahoo! (etc.)

GRETCHEN - Revealing themselves to the startled couple.

PRINCE DEREK – Are they with you?

CECELIA – I thought they were with you. Hey! Wait a minute! Who are you and why were you kissing me just now? You masher! (Starts hitting PRINCE DEREK and steps on his foot)

GRETCHEN - Princess Cecelia was startled that a strange man was kissing her, so she stepped on the Prince’s foot and began to fight with him.

PRINCE DEREK – You know, you don’t have to like it so much.

CECELIA – Sorry. Just playing the part.

PRINCE DEREK – Yeah. Over the top, if you ask me. (THE MONKEYS get in between the two)

GRETCHEN - The Monkeys stepped in and stopped the couple and explained to the Princess that she had been asleep for ten years.

CECELIA – Ten years?

PRINCE DEREK – Well, that explains the hairy legs. (Laughs)

CECELIA – Stick to the script, dude. (Steps on his foot)

GRETCHEN - The Monkeys told the Prince and Princess of the wicked Queen’s plans and of what her evil sorcerer’s potion did. The Prince and Princess were also told by the Monkeys that

MONKEY # 1 - Only upon the defeat of the wicked Queen would joy come back to the kingdom,

MONKEY # 2 - Colors to the rainbows, and

ALL MONKEYS – And the heavens to Mergatroid! (The curtain re-opens to show the gray Kingdom of Rainbows)

GRETCHEN - The Princess returned to the Kingdom of Rainbows with Prince Derek where she saw all the people were unhappy, and none remembered her.

CECELIA – I’m sorry, but do you know who I am?

VILLAGER – Nope, sorry.

CECELIA – Bummer.

GRETCHEN - All the people appeared to be gray and colorless. Cecelia begged Derek to find her brother and to make peace with him.

CECELIA – Please! You must go. We will need his help to defeat the wicked queen!

PRINCE DEREK – Very well. I shall return. (Exits then comes back) Which way is Clodmargen again? (CECELIA points off left) Very good. (Exits again as the SORCERER grabs CECELIA and the curtain closes. QUEEN GRAYSCALE enters)

GRETCHEN – So, Prince Derek set forth on his mission. The Queen heard of the Princess’s return and ordered the sorcerer to kill her. The sorcerer kidnapped Cecelia and brought her to the castle dungeon.

(SORCERER re-enters with a bound up CECELIA)

LADY GRAYSCALE – So! You have returned! I knew I shouldn’t have trusted you, you incompetent sorcerer. That’s the last time I trust any sorcerer who has a Facebook page.

CECELIA – You’ll never get away with this, you old hag!

LADY GRAYSCALE – Old hag, am I? No. I don’t think so. (Pulls out a drink) I believe it is you who will be the old hag, just as soon as you take this potion.

GRETCHEN - The Queen fed the princess her potion, and it turned CECELIA into an old, colorless hag. (CECELIA exits, as MRS. KAMISKY enters in a princess outfit)

MRS. KAMISKY – Oh, my goodness. What has happened to me! I am so ugly! So ugly! (ALL KIDS on stage and off laugh) Don’t enjoy this too much. Mid term grades are next week. (Dead silence on stage as the curtain re-opens and everyone exits. A great battle scene takes place between PRINCE MICAH and the KING OF CLODMARGEN as the MAGICAL MONKEYS enter with PRINCE DEREK)

GRETCHEN - The Magical Monkeys discovered Prince Micah in battle with Derek's father, the King of Clodmargen.

KING OF CLODMARGEN – Have at thee, you young whippersnapper!

PRINCE MICAH – (Now made to look older) For the honor of my father, I will be avenged!

PRINCE DEREK – (To the MONKEYS) Oh, no. We're too late. Nothing can stop them, now.

GRETCHEN – But Prince Derek was wrong. The monkeys helped Prince Derek to end the war by turning all the weapons into loaves of bread.

(PRINCE DEREK and the KING OF CLODMARGEN change their swords on stage into loaves of bread)

PRINCE MICAH – What the?

KING OF CLODMARGEN – Huh? Where'd this come from? (Takes a bite) Mighty tasty bread. (Offers MICAH a bite) Would you care for some of mine?

PRINCE MICAH – (Raises his loaf of bread over his head) I shall avenge...avenge...no. Perhaps this miracle is to show us that the time has come to put away our swords and make peace. (Takes a bite of bread and chews) Man, this bread is really stale. (Curtain closes as we return to the castle as LADY GRAYSCALE is still gloating over turning CECELIA into a hag)

GRETCHEN – Instead of fighting, the two sides shared the bread and made peace. The King and the two Princes returned to the Kingdom of Rainbows. They confronted the evil Queen whom the King remembered and the entire plot was revealed.

KING OF CLODMARGEN – Lady Grayscale! So! It is you, after all these years. Come with me. We are going to have a long talk. (Escorts her out)

LADY GRAYSCALE – (Overly dramatic exit) It was all your fault. You spurned my love, so I decided to get you back, to hurt you as you hurt me!

KING OF CLODMARGEN – What an over the top performance. Man, you really chew up the scenery, you know that? (ALL are out. DEREK returns with MRS. KAMISKY)

GRETCHEN - Derek rushed to the dungeon, where he discovered Princess Cecelia turned into an old hag.

CECELIA – Derek. No. Don't look at me. I am ugly! You should leave and forget about me.

PRINCE DEREK – Okay. (Starts to walk off stage but is brought back by several cast members) All right, all right.

GRETCHEN - But the Prince told her that

PRINCE DEREK – (Very insincere) Oh, my dearest Cecelia, at first I may have noticed your (long pause as he looks at MRS. KAMISKY) outer beauty, ugh, but soon I realized it was your (another long pause) inner beauty, ugh, that made me love you even more.

GRETCHEN – Prince Derek (long pause as everyone has an awkward moment on stage) shook hands with Cecelia and the spell was broken. (The two exit, and amid offstage cheering, the curtain reopens to show the beautiful and bright Kingdom of Colors once more) Colors were returned to the rainbows in the skies and to the kingdom below. (PRINCE MICAH re-enters with LADY GRAYSCALE and her SORCERER in tow) The sorcerer and Queen were banished by Prince Micah from the kingdom to the Field of Norem. (The young and beautiful PRINCESS CECELIA and PRINCE DEREK return with the MONKEYS close behind them) Prince Derek and the Princess married, and the Monkeys left saying

MONKEYS - Only love gives a rainbow its colors!

ALL CAST – The end! Hooray! (MRS. KAMISKY comes out looking exhausted and starts tearing up the script as LIGHTS DIM)

Blackout

The End

“RAPUNZEL”

Characters:

Narrator

Woman

Man

Witch

Rapunzel

Prince

Note: Based on “Rapunzel” a German fairy tale originally published by the Brothers Grimm in 1812.

(A silly retelling of the classic child’s fairytale as performed by young actors. There is a large castle background filling up the backstage area. A NARRATOR comes out to center stage and performs behind a podium and reads from a book)

NARRATOR - Once upon a time there was a man and a woman.

(Two young actors playing A MAN and WOMAN enter stage right)

MAN AND WOMAN - (Simultaneously, to the audience) That’s us!

NARRATOR - The couple wished in vain for a child.

WOMAN - Aww, that’s so sad.

NARRATOR - The couple had a little window at the back of their house from which a splendid garden could be seen. (The MAN and WOMAN cross stage left)

MAN - (Pretending to look out a window) Hey! He (She) is right. Take a look at that!

NARRATOR - This garden was full of the most beautiful flowers, vegetables and herbs.

WOMAN - Vegetables? Yick!

MAN - Flowers? Ptooeey! (To the WOMAN) What’s an herb?

NARRATOR - (To the actors) Can it, you two! (Continuing the narration) This garden was surrounded by a high wall, and no one dared to go into it because it belonged to a wicked witch named Dame Gothel. (Nothing happens, then after a long pause, shouts) Named Dame Gothel!

(A young actress playing the WITCH DAME GOTHEL appears stage right)

WITCH DAME GOTHEL - (Evil laugh to the audience) Ah hahahahahaha! I am the Witch Dame Gothel! (Runs off backstage stage left)

NARRATOR - (After a beat, sarcastic) Thanks for clearing *that* up. We would have been so confused if you hadn't pointed that out to us. (WITCH DAME GOTHEL pokes her head back out from backstage and sticks her tongue out at the NARRATOR) One day the woman saw a plant called raponzo, which is used to make salads. She asked her husband to go get some raponzo for dinner.

WOMAN - My darling, I have a strong desire of a salad made from that plant.

MAN - You're kidding, right?

WOMAN - If I don't have some now, I know I will surely die.

MAN - Yeah? Tell me the downside of this.

WOMAN - (Batting her eyes at him) Darling, would you please get me some raponzo?

MAN - Oh, all right. Very well, my dear, since you are my darling wife, if you want it... you shall have it.

WOMAN - Yippee! (Skips off right as the husband pretends to climb a high wall)

NARRATOR - At midnight, the husband climbed the wall into the garden of the Witch Dame Gothel and started taking some raponzo for his wife.

MAN - (Scooping up from the ground) Raponzo, raponzo, this is for my darling wife. (Crosses stage right as WOMAN also returns with a small bowl stage right)

NARRATOR - The man took home the raponzo and gave it to his wife. Later on that night, his wife made a salad out of it and ate it.

WOMAN - Do I gotta?

NARRATOR - Yes! It's in the script!

WOMAN - Yick! (Takes a bite)

NARRATOR - The salad tasted so good to her, that the next day she ate three times as much as before.

WOMAN - (In horror) What?

NARRATOR - Go on.

WOMAN - Yick! (Takes several bites, nearly throwing up afterward) Did my mom write this stupid story? (Burps) Scuze me.

NARRATOR - So her husband knew that he must once more go into the garden.

MAN - What? Oh, all right. (Crosses stage left and begins pantomime climbing again)

NARRATOR - So again, at midnight, the husband climbed the wall into the garden of the Witch Dame Gothel and started taking some more raponzo.

MAN - (Scooping up from the ground) Raponzo, raponzo, this is for my darling wife.

NARRATOR - When he had the raponzo in his hands, he saw the terrible witch standing before him.

WITCH DAME GOTHEL - (Evil laugh) Hahahahahaha! I am the Witch Dame Gothel!

MAN - (To the audience) Dang, she be ugly!

WITCH DAME GOTHEL - How dare you trespass into my garden to steal my raponzo like a common thief! You will suffer for it!

MAN - How?

WITCH DAME GOTHEL - I'll make you watch reruns of "Big Brother" for this.

NARRATOR - The man dropped to his knees to beg for forgiveness.

MAN - Oh, please! I beg for forgiveness!

NARRATOR - See? Toldja.

WITCH DAME GOTHEL - Okay, then. Maybe I'll just kill you!

MAN - No, please don't! My wife saw your raponzo from the window, and she wanted it so badly, that she would have nagged me to death if I didn't get her some raponzo to make a salad so could eat it.

WITCH DAME GOTHEL - If you're telling me the truth, I will let you take with you as much raponzo as you want!

MAN - (To audience) Cool!

WITCH DAME GOTHEL - Only I make one condition.

MAN - (To audience) Not so cool.

WITCH DAME GOTHEL - What did you say?

MAN - (In fear, to the WITCH DAME GOTHEL) I said you can have anything! Anything! What is it that you wish, oh ugly (WITCH DAME GOTHEL looks at MAN) but really, really powerful one?

WITCH DAME GOTHEL - You must give me the first child your wife brings into the world.

MAN - What?

WITCH DAME GOTHEL - Yes. But fear not! It shall be well treated, and I will care for it like a mother.

(The MAN wells up in fear)

NARRATOR - The man in his terror consented to everything.

MAN - (Calmly says) I can live with that. (To audience) Hey! Adoption's a good thing, people. (Amid a chorus of backstage "boos") Ah, lighten up! (MAN crosses back to stage right where WOMAN meets him with a baby in her arms)

NARRATOR - So the man returned home safe with the raponzo to give to his wife. But later when the baby was born, the Witch Dame Gothel appeared and took it away with her.

WITCH DAME GOTHEL - Ha, ha, ha,ha!

WOMAN - That's not very nice!

NARRATOR - The Witch Dame Gothel gave the child the name Rapunzel.

(A young actress playing RAPUNZEL enters from stage right and stands in front of a small fake castle tower that has a small window cut out on it, but large enough for two heads to be seen from it. She has long beautiful tresses)

RAPUNZEL - Well, at least she didn't name me "Herb".

NARRATOR - Rapunzel grew into the most beautiful child under the sun.

RAPUNZEL - Aww, thanks.

NARRATOR - She played in the woods and took very good care of her long beautiful hair.

RAPUNZEL - (Combing her hair) I just love combing my long beautiful hair.

NARRATOR - See? Toldja. When she was twelve years old, the Witch Dame Gothel shut her into a tower in the middle of a forest.

(The WITCH DAME GOTHEL appears, takes RAPUNZEL and pushes her inside the tower. RAPUNZEL sticks her head out of the hole in the tower)

RAPUNZEL - What? Hey! But why?

NARRATOR - It's in the book, lady! I didn't write it, you know!

RAPUNZEL - Well this just stinks!

NARRATOR - The tower had neither stairs, nor door, nor computer, nor Playstation 3, nor wireless, nor cable TV, but near the top was a little window. When the witch wanted to go in, she placed herself beneath it.

(WITCH DAME GOTHEL comes to the front of the stage carrying a sack of laundry. She calls "up" to RAPUNZEL)

WITCH DAME GOTHEL - Yo! Yo! Rapunzel, Rapunzel, Let down your hair to me. I got your laundry, here!

RAPUNZEL - Yes, let me unfasten my braided tresses so that you can climb up.

(RAPUNZEL drops her tresses and the WITCH DAME GOTHEL pretends to climb up into the tower. The WITCH DAME GOTHEL hands RAPUNZEL her sack of laundry then exits off stage right)

NARRATOR - After a year or two, the king's son was walking in the forest.

(A young actor playing the PRINCE enters stage left)

PRINCE - (To the audience) That's me!

NARRATOR - He was walking along, minding his own business, when he suddenly heard a song, which was so charming that he stood still and listened.

RAPUNZEL - (Singing) La, la, la....Love...Love Will Keep Us Together...

PRINCE - Oh, my. What a lovely song! It's just so lovely. Who is singing so lovely? It's just--

NARRATOR – (Rolling eyes) Lovely, we get it. We get it.

PRINCE - Why it's coming from that tower way over yonder! (Put his hand up to his brow to indicate how "far away" the tower is stage right)

NARRATOR - Yes, the lovely voice was coming from Rapunzel's tower. The king's son wanted to climb up to her, and looked for the door of the tower, but none was to be found.

PRINCE - Bummer. Now what shall I do? There is no way of climbing up. There are no stairs and no doors, nor computer, nor Playstation 3, nor wireless, nor...

NARRATOR - Yeah, yeah, yeah! Anyway, he went back home, but the singing had touched his heart, that every day he went out into the forest and listened to it.

RAPUNZEL - (Singing) la, la, la....Love...Love Will Keep Us Together...

(The WITCH DAME GOTHEL comes to the front of the stage carrying a sack of laundry. She calls "up" to RAPUNZEL)

NARRATOR - One day he was standing behind a tree, when he saw the Witch Dame Gothel coming, and he heard what she said.

WITCH DAME GOTHEL - Yo! Yo! Rapunzel, Rapunzel, Let down your hair to me. I got your groceries, here!

RAPUNZEL - Oh, goodie! Let me unfasten my braided tresses so that you can climb up. (RAPUNZEL once again drops her tresses and again the WITCH DAME GOTHEL pretends to climb up into the tower)

NARRATOR - Once again, Rapunzel let down the braids of her hair, and once again the Witch Dame Gothel climbed up to her.

(The WITCH DAME GOTHEL hands RAPUNZEL her sack of groceries)

WITCH DAME GOTHEL - Miserable store. Go in there for milk, just milk, and every time I wind up spending thirty-eight bucks. What a rip-off! (Exits off stage right)

PRINCE - So that's the way I can climb to the tower! I will do the same.

NARRATOR - The next day when it began to grow dark, he went to the tower.

PRINCE - Yo! Yo! Rapunzel, Rapunzel, Let down your hair to me.

RAPUNZEL - (Offstage) Oh, good. The pizza's here. Let me unfasten my braided tresses so that you can climb up.

(Hair comes down out of the tower, and the PRINCE pretends to climb up RAPUNZEL's hair into the tower and stands next to RAPUNZEL)

NARRATOR - Rapunzel's hair fell down and the king's son climbed up and stood next to Rapunzel.

RAPUNZEL - Oh. Hey, you aren't the pizza delivery dude. Who are you?

(The PRINCE kneels down)

NARRATOR - Upon seeing the beautiful Rapunzel, without hesitation the prince fell to his knees.

PRINCE - Darling, my heart is yours. I have never seen anybody as beautiful as you. (To the audience) I don't get out much, tee-hee. (To RAPUNZEL) Will you marry me? Will you be my wife and live with me in my kingdom?

RAPUNZEL - You got cable?

PRINCE - Yes!

RAPUNZEL - Then yes, I will. You are young and handsome, and I can finally watch (name of show).

PRINCE - Then it is settled. We shall get married right away and live happily ever after! Just let down your hair and let us depart.

RAPUNZEL - What?

PRINCE - Go!

RAPUNZEL – Oh! (Considers, then after a beat) Very well! I shall go away with you, but I do not know we’ll both get down.

PRINCE - What do you mean?

RAPUNZEL - (Smacks the PRINCE lightly on the back of the head) Hello. If I let down my hair for you, then how will I get down?

PRINCE - (Looks down, then at RAPUNZEL, the repeats a couple of times) Oh yeah. You’re right! (Pacing in the small tower area) Hmmmmm...wonder, wonder, wonder...

RAPUNZEL - My darling prince, you must go now. The witch will come soon.

PRINCE - Yes, but do not worry fair Rapunzel, I shall think of something. We shall be together because we belong as one, like birds and bees, bread and water, peanut butter and jelly.

RAPUNZEL - (Motioning him out) Yeah, I got it. I got it. Now scoot.

(RAPUNZEL lowers her hair and the PRINCE pantomimes climbing down to the bottom of the tower. The WITCH DAME GOTHEL enters to the bottom of the tower, awaiting the PRINCE)

NARRATOR - But as the king’s son was going down Rapunzel’s long locks, the Witch Dame Gothel was already there, waiting for him, and said.

WITCH DAME GOTHEL – Ah hahahahahaha!

PRINCE - Dang! She be ugly!

WITCH DAME GOTHEL - You have come to take Rapunzel! Now you will never see her again! Ah hahahahahaha!

(Drops a couple of caps to make a loud “popping” noise and the PRINCE holds his hands to his eyes as if “blinded”. The WITCH DAME GOTHEL climbs up RAPUNZEL’s tresses and into the tower)

NARRATOR - The witch cast a spell, blinding the prince!

PRINCE - Man! This really stinks! (Wanders over in the stage left area of the stage)

NARRATOR - The Prince began wandering around the woods, not able to see a thing. He ate only plants, roots, and berries. Whatever he could trip over, he ate. (The PRINCE trips and falls to the ground, flat on his face) One night, he ate his shoe. Meanwhile, in the tower, the Witch Dame Gothel spoke harshly to Rapunzel.

WITCH DAME GOTHEL - Yo! Rap! You are a wicked child! I thought I separated you from the world, and yet you have deceived me! Just for that I will cut all your beautiful hair! (She pretends to cut RAPUNZEL's hair and throws it away)

RAPUNZEL - (Badly acted out, overly dramatic) Oh, no! Boo-hoo! Sniff!

NARRATOR - (Looking at RAPUNZEL) Wow. That really sucked (stunk). (To audience) Yes, in her anger the Witch Dame Gothel cut Rapunzel's beautiful tresses. (The WITCH DAME GOTHEL leads RAPUNZEL's down stage right where she is joined by two young actors kneeling down to be her "CHILDREN") Then she took her into a desert where she told Rapunzel she would have to live in great grief and misery.

WITCH DAME GOTHEL - That's right. I'm giving you children! Ah hahahahahaha! (Exits)

RAPUNZEL - (Badly acted out, overly dramatic) Oh, no! Boo-hoo! Sniff!

NARRATOR - (Looks again at RAPUNZEL in disbelief) Doesn't get any better, does it? (To the audience) Meanwhile, the prince roamed about in misery for two years.

PRINCE - (With arms outstretch, wandering around the stage area stage left) Two years?

NARRATOR - Two years.

PRINCE - Aw, dude! (Approaches stage right where RAPUNZEL and the CHILDREN are)

NARRATOR - Finally, the prince stumbled into the desert where Rapunzel was with her children. They all lived in poverty.

RAPUNZEL - (Badly acted out, overly dramatic) Oh, no! Boo-hoo! Sniff!

NARRATOR - (To RAPUNZEL) You know what? Just skip it. Just skip it. (To the audience) The Prince heard Rapunzel's bad acting. (RAPUNZEL shoots a nasty look to the NARRATOR)

PRINCE - That voice that I hear! Why, it seems so familiar to me.

NARRATOR - He went towards it, and when he approached, he tripped over the children. Rapunzel said.

(The PRINCE stumbles onto the floor onto his back. RAPUNZEL stands over him)

RAPUNZEL - Oh, look! It is my handsome prince! Darling, I missed you so much! I am so happy to see you that I am crying tears of joy. (Blinks hard twice)

NARRATOR - Two of her tears dropped into the prince's eyes and they grew clear again, and the prince could see with them as before.

PRINCE - I can see again with my eyes, just as before!

NARRATOR - See? Toldja.

(As he speaks the following, the PRINCE escorts RAPUNZEL stage left)

PRINCE - Oh my sweet Rapunzel, we have overcome all the wicked things the Witch Dame Gothel had done to us! Let us be off now to live forever in happiness in my kingdom. But, by the way! (Looks over at the CHILDREN) Where the heck did these kids come from?

NARRATOR - So the Prince took Rapunzel and her children to his kingdom where they were joyfully received (The ENTIRE COMPANY comes out onto the stage) and they lived happily ever after.

ALL: The End (LIGHTS DIM)

Blackout

The End

“RUMPELSTILTSKIN”

Characters:

Narrator

Miller

Mary

King

Rumpelstiltskin

Guard

Villagers

Note: Based on the “Rumpelstiltskin” folk tale from Germany. The original author is unknown. The story was published in a collection of folktales by the Brothers Grimm in 1820.

(A silly retelling of the classic child’s fairytale as performed by young actors. There is a large castle background filling up the backstage area. A NARRATOR comes out to center stage and performs behind a podium and reads from a book. Several young actors playing VILLAGERS are situation along the back of the stage with what looks like straw as the NARRATOR speaks to the audience)

NARRATOR - Once upon a time there was a village which all of its people were celebrating the Fall Harvest.

ALL: Hooray! Fall Harvest! Hooray!

(The NARRATOR is startled)

NARRATOR - Wow. They scared me. All the villagers offered their King a hearty harvest of straw to feed the King’s animals.

(A young actor steps forth stage right to play the KING. Two other young actors cross to stage left to play the MILLER and his daughter, MARY)

KING - Let’s go, dudes. Bring it on!

(The VILLAGERS “present” their straw to the KING then exit off right)

NARRATOR - Also members of the village, a miller and his daughter, Mary looked at the all the gifts being offered to the King in the town square. They were upset because they had no crop which they could offer the King for his animals.

MILLER - Oh, no. Whatever shall we do dear daughter, Mary?

MARY - I don't know. (After a beat) Get him a gift card?

NARRATOR - Thinking quickly, and none too shrewdly, the Miller told the King,

(The MILLER pushes MARY stage right over to the KING)

MILLER - My daughter can spin all this straw into gold!

MARY - (Shocked) Say what? Are you *out* of your *mind*?

NARRATOR - The King was pleasantly surprised and said

KING - Wonderful!

(The KING claps his hands twice and a young actor playing a GUARD comes to escort MARY stage left into a locked room where a fake loom is set up surrounded by the straw and goods originally carried off by the VILLAGERS)

NARRATOR - And the King promptly locked Mary in a room with all the straw.

MARY - What? Wait! I—

MILLER - (Waving) Bye, dear! Have fun!

NARRATOR - Mary looked around her room.

(MARY looks around her room)

MARY - What a dump.

NARRATOR - Mary was distraught.

MARY - (Hand to her forehead) I am so distraught.

NARRATOR - See? Toldja.

(A diminutive, young actor playing RUMPELSTILTSKIN appears from behind MARY dressed in freakish clothes and carrying a large wooden spoon)

NARRATOR - Suddenly a strange little man appeared!

RUMPELSTILTSKIN - Hi! Howaya!

MARY - Yikes! Don't do that to people, man!

RUMPELSTILTSKIN - Sorry.

NARRATOR - The little man asked Mary

RUMPELSTILTSKIN - Yo, chick! Why you crying?

NARRATOR - Mary told him her plight. The man thought for a moment.

RUMPELSTILTSKIN - Thinkity-think-think!

NARRATOR - Then he said to Mary

RUMPELSTILTSKIN - Okay. So, chick, tell me. What will you give me if I do this task for you?

NARRATOR - Mary thought for a moment.

MARY - Thinkity-think-think. (Comes up with something) My necklace?

RUMPELSTILTSKIN - (After a beat) Hmmmm...Okie dokie.

(MARY and RUMPELSTILTSKIN shake hands and she hands him her necklace)

NARRATOR - The pact was made. The little man kept his word and by waving his magic spoon he transformed Mary's dumpy room.

(VILLAGERS acting as crew come on, switch the straw on stage with large bales of gold straw)

NARRATOR - Mary now sat in a room filled with gold.

MARY - Ya! I can get into this!

(MARY crosses right to the KING and MILLER with a bale of gold in her hands. She lay it at the KING's feet)

NARRATOR - Mary brought the King the bale of gold and lay it at his feet. Both Mary's father and the King were amazed and the kingdom celebrated the amazing miracle.

VILLAGERS, KING and MILLER - Hooray! Mary! Hooray!

NARRATOR - But then the King said

KING - Wonderful job, Mary. (After a beat) Do it again.

(The KING claps his hands twice and the GUARD returns to escort MARY stage left again to the room where the fake loom is set up surrounded by the same straw and goods originally carried off by the VILLAGERS)

MARY - What? Wait! Hey! I—

MILLER - (Waving) Bye, dear! Have fun! Love you!

NARRATOR - Mary was beside herself.

MARY - Well this sucks (stinks).

(RUMPELSTILTSKIN appears from behind MARY again still carrying his large wooden spoon)

NARRATOR - But again the little man appeared and said

RUMPELSTILTSKIN - Yo, chick! What will you give me if I do this task for you?

NARRATOR - Mary thought for a moment.

MARY - Thinkity-think-think. (Comes up with something) The ring on my finger?

RUMPELSTILTSKIN - (After a beat) Hmmmm...Okie dokie.

(MARY and RUMPELSTILTSKIN shake hands and MARY hands RUMPELSTILTSKIN her ring)

NARRATOR - For the second time the miracle occurred.

(VILLAGERS again acting as crew come on, switch the straw on stage with large bales of gold straw)

NARRATOR - Mary once again was sitting in a room surrounded by gold.

MARY - Ya, baby!

(MARY crosses right to the KING and MILLER with a bale of gold in her hands. She lay it at the KING's feet)

NARRATOR - Mary again brought the King the bale of gold and lay it at his feet. Both Mary's father and the King were amazed and the kingdom celebrated the amazing miracle.

VILLAGERS, KING and MILLER - Hooray! Mary! Hooray!

NARRATOR - But then the King said,

KING - (Getting on one knee) Oh, please, Mary. Just one more time turn this straw turn to gold.

MARY - No. I'm tired of being locked away in a room with nothing to show for my work.

KING - Okay, how about this: If you succeed, I'll make you my wife and Queen of the kingdom.

MARY - Hmmm...okie dokie.

KING - Great. (The two shake hands and then the KING claps his hands again and the GUARD returns to escort MARY stage left again)

MARY - Huh? What? Again? Why? Wait, but I--

MILLER - Bye, dear! Love you! (Crying, sniffing) She makes me so proud.

(MARY is again in the room with the fake loom and surrounded by the same straw and goods originally carried off by the VILLAGERS)

NARRATOR - Mary couldn't believe her bad luck.

MARY - You got that right.

(RUMPELSTILTSKIN again appears from behind MARY still carrying his large wooden spoon)

NARRATOR - Mary was in tears because this time when the little man appeared, she had nothing to offer. The man said,

RUMPELSTILTSKIN - Yo, chick! What will you give me if I spin for you yet once more?

MARY - (Crying) I have nothing else to offer.

NARRATOR - The little man again thought for a moment.

RUMPELSTILTSKIN - Thinky-think-think!

NARRATOR - Then he said to Mary

RUMPELSTILTSKIN - Promise that when you become Queen, your first child will belong to me.

NARRATOR - With no other choice, Mary agreed.

MARY - (After a beat) Hmmm...Okie dokie.

(MARY and RUMPELSTILTSKIN shake hands and again the straw gets switched up)

NARRATOR - MARY once again brought the gold to the King and true to his word the couple was wed. There was a glorious wedding celebration.

VILLAGERS, KING and MILLER – Hooray for Mary! Hooray for the King and Queen! (Briefly singing) Hoo-ray for Holly-wood! (MARY is crowned QUEEN)

NARRATOR - (The KING pulls out a fake baby) The King and Queen were happy and a few years later had a child. (The KING tosses MARY the baby and MARY smiles at the child in her arms)

(RUMPELSTILTSKIN again appears from behind MARY still carrying his large wooden spoon)

NARRATOR - In the midst of the kingdom celebrating the birth of the child, the little man appeared and said

RUMPELSTILTSKIN - Yo, chick!

MARY - (Startled) Yikes! Would you stop doing that, please?

RUMPELSTILTSKIN – Give what you promised!

NARRATOR - Mary pleaded with the man.

MARY - Take whatever you want, but please! Not my baby!

NARRATOR - Feeling sorry for her, the man said

RUMPELSTILTSKIN - Well, if you can guess my name in three days I will let you keep your baby.

MARY - Three days?

RUMPELSTILTSKIN - Three days!

MARY - (After a beat) Couldn't we just play cards for him instead?

RUMPELSTILTSKIN - No!

(RUMPELSTILTSKIN crosses in front of the NARRATOR stage left dancing a jig as the KING crosses behind the NARRATOR and spies on RUMPELSTILTSKIN from the rear of the stage)

NARRATOR - The man went off into the forest to dance on his weird wooden spoon with all the other odd, goofy looking and strange little fairies and gnomes.

RUMPELSTILTSKIN - (To the NARRATOR) Hey! Who you callin' a "gnome"?

NARRATOR - However, unbeknownst to the man, the King had followed him. In the forest, the man sang this song.

RUMPELSTILTSKIN - (Either sung or rapped) I've brewed my beer, I've baked my loafs, and now soon the Queen's own child I'll claim. Ha-ha! O lucky me! For no one knows that Rumpelstiltskin is my name!

(The KING crosses back stage right to MARY and the other VILLAGERS)

NARRATOR - Back at the palace Mary and the other Villagers were all discussing various names for the little man. (RUMPELSTILTSKIN again appears from behind MARY still carrying his large wooden spoon) Then into their midst the little man re-appeared and said to Mary

RUMPELSTILTSKIN - Yo, chick! Well? What's my name?

MARY - (Considers) Is your name Will?

RUMPELSTILTSKIN - No! Ha!

MARY - (Considers) Is your name Phil?

RUMPELSTILTSKIN - No! Double-ha!

(The KING whispers into MARY's ear, the MARY smiles at RUMPELSTILTSKIN)

MARY - In that case your name is “Rumpelstiltskin”. (Turns RUMPELSTILTSKIN around and kicks him in the behind towards off stage left) Now beat it, punk!

NARRATOR - Mary kicked the little man out of the kingdom and in his fury, Rumpelstiltskin retreated to the forest on his cooking spoon and stayed away forever!

ALL: The End! (LIGHTS DIM)

Blackout

The End

“THE EMPEROR’S NEW CLOTHES”

Characters:

The Narrator

The Emperor

The Two Weavers

The Guard

The Minister

Marcel

Villager

Villagers

Officers

The Little Child

The Little Child’s Father (or Mother)

Note: Based on “The Emperor’s New Clothes” written by Hans Christian Andersen published in 1837.

(A silly retelling of the classic child’s fairytale as performed by young actors. There is a large castle background filling up the backstage area. A NARRATOR comes out to center stage and performs behind a podium and reads from a book)

NARRATOR - Many years ago in a kingdom far away there lived an Emperor.

(A young actor playing the EMPEROR enters stage right)

EMPEROR - (To the audience) That’s me!

NARRATOR - The Emperor cared so much for fine clothes that he spent all his money on them.

EMPEROR - (Tossing gold coins all around the stage) It’s only money. Hahaha!

NARRATOR - The Emperor had new threads for every hour of the day and spent his time riding through the streets of his realm so that all the villagers could see his beautiful new clothes.

(The EMPEROR prances around the front of the stage)

EMPEROR - Yo, everybody! Look at me! Hey Charlie! Over here! Look at these fine threads, man! Ain't I somethin'? Yeah, baby!

NARRATOR - (To the side) Just where the heck is this kingdom, anyway? Brooklyn?

(Two young actors playing WEAVER # 1 and WEAVER # 2 enter stage left)

NARRATOR - Anyway, one day there came to the realm two scoundrels.

WEAVERS - (To the audience) That's us!

(The WEAVERS set up a storefront with no equipment but a single loom stage left)

NARRATOR - These scoundrels set themselves up in small store pretending to be weavers of fine new clothing. They would announce to all the realm

WEAVERS – Hey! Listen up, people! We weave the finest, most beautiful clothing in the entire world, including Cleveland!

NARRATOR - Cleveland? Wait a second!

WEAVERS - The patterns and colors are amazing! But we must warn you: the cloth cannot be seen by anybody who is stupid or unfit for the Emperor's office.

NARRATOR - (After a beat) Yeah. The Emperor heard the news and spoke of it to one of his faithful Guards.

(A young actor playing a GUARD enters stage right and stands next to the EMPEROR)

EMPEROR - Oh, Happy-Happy! Joy-Joy! I must have some clothes made from this cloth at once.

GUARD - Yes, sire.

EMPEROR - When I wear these clothes, I shall discover who exactly in my empire is not fit for their office.

GUARD - Yes, sire.

EMPEROR - I shall know the wise from the unwise.

GUARD - Yes, sire.

EMPEROR - I must have those weavers brought to me at once.

GUARD - Yes sire. (After a beat) Can I go now, sire?

EMPEROR - Yes. Leave at once and bring me those weavers!

GUARD - Yes, sire. I'll bring you back some chicken.

EMPEROR - No, no, no! The tailors, you dunce!

(The GUARD crosses behind the NARRATOR to the WEAVERS. He escorts the WEAVERS stage right and places them next to the EMPEROR. Then he pulls out some fried chicken and eats some)

NARRATOR - So the weavers were brought back to the Emperor's presence, along with some frozen chicken. As the guard exited with the chicken, the weavers both bowed their heads and spoke to the Emperor.

WEAVERS - (Bowing) Your majesty.

WEAVER # 1 - We live to serve only your wishes.

WEAVER # 2 - What is it that we humble weavers can do for you?

EMPEROR - (Holds out a large bag of gold) I want you to make me the finest clothing in all of Brooklyn, I mean, the land. (Shoots a nasty look to the NARRATOR)

WEAVERS - (Bowing) We can do that.

EMPEROR - However, you must work without delay. Here. Take the money and go.

WEAVER # 1 - (Feigning wanting the money) Oh no your highness, we couldn't accept any money.

WEAVER # 2 - (Just as insincere) We simply couldn't.

WEAVERS - (Taking the money) We just - okay.

NARRATOR - The scoundrels quickly took their payment of gold and immediately went back to their store, and then...they did absolutely nothing.

(The WEAVERS sit at a table or on the floor and play cards)

NARRATOR - They instead set up a card table and played fish, their favorite game.

WEAVER # 1 - Got any fives-ies?

WEAVER # 2 - Ha! Go Fish!

(WEAVER # 2 draws a card from the deck on the table or floor as a GUARD enters stage left. Instantly the WEAVERS go to the loom and look busy)

NARRATOR - Whenever the Emperor sent one of his guards by to check on their progress the weavers made believe that they were working.

(The WEAVERS speak with the GUARD in pantomime)

NARRATOR - They would tell the Guard from the Minister's office that they needed more money for the finest silks and linens. (The GUARD hands them a bag of money and exits) But they would just simply put that money right into their pockets.

WEAVERS - Woo-hoo! (Throw money in the air or toward an offstage area)

(The EMPEROR walks into the stage left area and the WEAVERS return to their pretending to be working)

NARRATOR - Whenever the Emperor was near they would again pretend to be hard at work at the empty looms.

WEAVER # 1 - Can't stop to chat now, your majesty.

WEAVER # 2 - Busy, busy, busy!

EMPEROR - (To the audience) Those two dudes work so hard. I simply cannot wait to see my new clothes! (Crosses back to stage right area)

NARRATOR - Then the Emperor would leave (WEAVERS go back to playing cards) and it would be right back to playing fish.

WEAVER # 2 - Got any two-sies?

WEAVER # 1 - Ha! Go Fish!

(WEAVER # 2 again draws a card from the deck on the table or floor. Then the two pantomime setting up gerbils on spinning wheel and an appropriate squeaking sound effect plays. The WEAVERS then lie down on the floor and go to sleep)

NARRATOR - During the night the weavers would let their pet gerbils run on a spinning wheel which would keep the looms running.

EMPEROR - Wha--? What's that? (Holds a hand up to his ear and listens)

NARRATOR - To the Emperor who was listening in, it made it seem that the weavers were working all night long on his new clothes.

EMPEROR - I can hear the rattling of the looms. (Anxious) Oooh, I must see my wonderful clothes!

(The GUARD returns and stands next to the EMPEROR)

NARRATOR - The Emperor decided he would need to send a representative to find out how the weavers were doing and to report back to him. But he remembered that no one who was stupid or unfit for his office could see the cloth. Then he told his faithful Guard that he had an idea.

EMPEROR - I have an idea.

NARRATOR - See? Toldja.

EMPEROR - I will send my faithful old Minister to the weavers.

GUARD - Yes, sire.

EMPEROR - He is a wise old sort, and no one is more worthy of his office than he.

GUARD - Yes, sire. (After a beat) Can I go finish my chicken now?

EMPEROR - Yes, but first got fetch the Minister! (GUARD exits stage left as the EMPEROR exits stage right)

(The WEAVERS awaken stage left and go back to playing cards)

NARRATOR - And in the meantime...

WEAVER # 1 - Got any Kings?

WEAVER # 2 - Dang!

WEAVER # 1 - Ha-ha-ha!

(WEAVER # 2 hands over a card to WEAVER # 1 as a young actor playing the older MINISTER enters. They immediately return to the loom and pretend to work)

NARRATOR - The good old Minister came to see the two scoundrels who returned to sit and “work” at their empty loom. (The MINISTER squints with his glasses) He stared and stared, and opened his eyes wide.

MINISTER - (Speaking in a Scottish accent) What the heck? I canna’ see a thing.

NARRATOR - Wait. He’s Scottish? First Brooklyn and now Scotland? Where the heck was this place? (Continues) Anyway, the Minister suspected there was nothing there, so he asked the weavers

MINISTER - (Over-emphasizing his “r’s” when speaking) Wherrre is the fabrrric?

WEAVER # 1 - (Motioning the MINISTER closer to the loom) Step a little nearer. Can you not see this beautiful pattern?

WEAVER # 2 - (Pointing to the loom) And just look at those colors – are they not wonderful?

NARRATOR - The scoundrels pointed to their empty looms. The poor old Minister with a really fake sounding Scottish accent put on his spectacles (MINISTER does so but first shoots a scowl at the NARRATOR) and bent over the looms but saw nothing for there was nothing to see! The Minister thought to himself.

MINISTER - (Aside to the audience) Hachee Machee! Could it be possible that I am not fit for my ministerrrial duties? No. It canna be so. No one must know of my disgrrrace. Therrrre forrrre I will never say that I canna’ see the...the...whatever it is that I canna’ see there.

NARRATOR - (With great sarcasm) Wow. It’s just like a commercial for “Brigadoon” isn’t it?

WEAVERS - (Standing before the MINISTER displaying the invisible cloth) Well, sir, what do you think of it?

MINISTER - (To the WEAVERS) Oh, it is simply magnificent! A bonnie job well done. It is beautiful.

WEAVERS - You really think so?

MINISTER - Absolutely. The colorrrrrs are gorrrrgeous and the patterrrn is verrry fine.

WEAVERS - (Bowing) You are such a dumb guy.

MINISTER - Aye...Eh, what?

WEAVERS - (Bowing) You have such a good eye. (The MINISTER and WEAVERS pantomime discussion as the NARRATOR continues)

NARRATOR - They all went on speaking of the cloth. They named the colors, and described the peculiar pattern. The old Minister listened carefully, for he wished to repeat to the Emperor all that was said.

MINISTER - Aye. Well, I...I shall tell the Emperrrror that I highly rrrrecommnd yourrrr work.

WEAVERS - (Bowing) Thank you, you jerk

MINISTER - Aye...Eh, what?

WEAVERS - (Bowing) Thank you, good sir.

MINISTER - Uhhh...Aye.

WEAVER # 1 - We still need much more silk.

WEAVER # 2 - Yes, and much more gold thread to use in our work.

MINISTER - Aye, of courrrse. (Claps his hands and the GUARD enters with two bags of gold) Will two bags be enough, ye think?

WEAVERS - (Coy) I suppose. (The GUARD hands the money to the WEAVERS and exits with the MINISTER)

NARRATOR - But all the money the Minister with the bad accent gave them the weavers put into their pockets. (The MINISTER pops his head back in long enough to stick his tongue out at the NARRATOR, then exits) Not a single strand of silk was ever put on the loom.

(A young actor playing MARCEL enters stage left wearing a beret. MARCEL approaches the WEAVERS and looks at the empty loom)

NARRATOR - The Emperor, not impressed with his Minister's report, then sent his most faithful friend, Marcel, to see the cloth and to report back on just how soon the clothes would be ready. But Marcel fared no better than the Minister.

MARCEL - What ze heck?

NARRATOR - (Looks at MARCEL for a moment, then continues) Yyyes. Marcel stood over the empty looms, examining them. He looked and looked and looked, but he, just like the Minister, saw no cloth either. But then the scoundrels said.

WEAVER # 1 - Is this not the most elegant fabric you've ever seen?

WEAVER # 2 - The colors are simply gorgeous!

MARCEL - (Aside to the audience, speaks with a heavy, almost cartoonishly bad French accent) Oh my good-nezz. Am I too stoop-ed to zee ze fabreec of which they speak?

NARRATOR - Oh, come on! You've got to be kidding me. Really? Really? Scottish and now French? Where was this realm built? Disney's World Showcase?

MARCEL - (To the NARRATOR, in a heavy Brooklyn accent) Hey! I'm woikin' here!

NARRATOR - Fine.

MARCEL - (Back into his bad French accent continues his aside) Zat means I am unfit for my off-eece as friend to ze Emperor. I must not let my unworthiness be found out.

NARRATOR - (Unimpressed) Wow. It's like watching a bomb with a really long burning fuse in a Hitchcock film. You know the explosion is coming but you just can't look away. (Continuing from the book) So Marcel told the scoundrels

MARCEL - Yes! I mean, Oui! Absolutely! Your fabreec is most daring; and ze colour is zblended.

NARRATOR - Splendid.

MARCEL - Zat is what I said, zblended. (NARRATOR shakes his head in disgust) I shall tell ze Emperor what superior pro-gress you are making. (MARCEL exits)

NARRATOR - Thank God (goodness) he's gone. (MARCEL pops his head back in long enough to stick his tongue out at the NARRATOR, then exits. Several young actors playing VILLAGERS come to stage right of the NARRATOR as the EMPEROR crosses to stage left where the WEAVERS are) The weavers continued to play fish while their gerbils kept their looms spinning rapidly day after day without running any thread or producing any fabric. Soon all the realm was talking about the wonderful cloth that the two weavers were making.

VILLAGER - I hear the Emperor is finally going to go see the beautiful cloth while it is still upon the looms.

(MINISTER and MARCEL and any extra young actors to play the NOBLES enter stage left and join the EMPEROR)

NARRATOR - With a number of his nobles the Emperor went to visit the two scoundrels. Among the nobles were Inspector Clouseau and Scotty from "Star Trek", I mean Marcel and the Minister. (Shoots a smile to the two actors) Each thought that other nobles might see something upon the empty looms, so in fear they began to cry out.

MINISTER - Look, your Majesty. Donna' y'see the beauteeful design?

MARCEL - Oui, and ze color, is it not simply gor-geous?

EMPEROR - What do you mean? I see nothing at all! Uh-oh. Wait a minute. Hold the royal phone here. (MINISTER hands the EMPEROR a phone. The EMPEROR throws it away) Get rid of that. (Steps toward the audience for an aside. ALL OTHERS freeze on stage) Does this mean I am unfit to be Emperor? Am I a dodo brain? Has my cheese finally slipped off my cracker? (Becoming frightened) If that were known, I could be de-throned or worse, lose my subscription to People Magazine (or some other publication).

(The EMPEROR returns to the group)

NARRATOR - So the Emperor said

EMPEROR - It is the most fantastic thing I have ever seen! Such workmanship. Such care.

NARRATOR - The Emperor smiled and nodded his head, and stared at the empty looms. Marcel and the Minister looked as well. They all stood there looking and looking, but nobody actually saw a thing. Yet they all cheered.

EMPEROR, MARCEL, MINISTER - It is beautiful!

(The WEAVERS take the “fabric” off the loom and display for the EMPEROR and his NOBLES. WEAVER # 1 stands behind the EMPEROR as WEAVER # 2 stands in front)

NARRATOR - The scoundrels presented the Emperor with a new “suit” made of the fine material they had woven. They asked the Emperor to wear his new clothes in a great procession.

EMPEROR - That’s a wonderful idea!

NARRATOR - The Emperor gave each of the scoundrels a large bag of gold as a tip for their fine work

WEAVERS - (Taking the money) Thank you, your majesty!

NARRATOR - The scoundrels then lifted their arms as if holding the suit for the Emperor to put on.

WEAVERS - Here you go, your highness.

EMPEROR - What? Oh, yes. (Taking off his crown and cape, leaving just a base costume or long underwear exposed) I’m so excited.

WEAVER # 1 - This is the coat! Here is the cape!

EMPEROR - (Pantomimes putting them on) Thank you.

WEAVER # 2 - Here are the trousers! The cloth is as light as a spider’s web.

EMPEROR - (Pantomimes putting them on) Thank you.

WEAVER # 1 - This is very important, sire.

WEAVER # 2 - Yes, very important.

EMPEROR - What?

WEAVER # 1 - You must walk about in your new clothes as freely as if you had nothing on.

EMPEROR - (Apprehensive) I do?

WEAVER # 2 - Oh yes. That is the beauty of it.

(The EMPEROR comes out and displays his new “clothes” The MINISTER, MARCEL and NOBLES all stare in shock and horror, covering their eyes as the EMPEROR walks away from them, but as he turns back toward them they smile and compliment the “clothing”)

MARCEL - You look marvelous, sire!

NARRATOR - The Minister nodded his head in agreement, but still all the time they really saw nothing, for there was nothing to see. The Emperor was totally oblivious to the fact that he had nothing on.

EMPEROR - I *do* look pretty slick, now don't I? (ALL avert their stare, but politely)

(The GUARD enters stage left)

GUARD - (Seeing the EMPEROR naked) Whoa. (Politely averts his stare, as well) Ummmm...your officers, sire, are waiting outside with the canopy to carry over your Majesty during the procession.

EMPEROR - (Proudly declares) I am ready.

(Two OFFICERS enter and lean over, look at each other then slowly pantomime picking up the emperor's “train”)

NARRATOR - Two officers in charge of carrying the train of the Emperor's new clothes stooped down to the floor, pretended to pick up the train; and then held their hands high in the air and moved forward. They, too, dared not let it be known that they saw nothing. The Emperor marched along with all his officers marching behind him.

(VILLAGERS gather stage right. The loom is cleared off stage. The EMPEROR, OFFICERS, GUARD, MINISTER, MARCEL march in a procession around the stage a couple of times as the WEAVERS collect up their huge bags of money and linger toward the back of the stage)

VILLAGERS - (Ad libbing while politely averting their eyes) How handsome the Emperor's clothes are! What a perfect fit! What marvelous colors!

NARRATOR - No one would dare say they could see nothing, for fear of being discovered too unfit for the Emperor's realm. No clothes of the Emperor had ever been so admired.

(EMPEROR passes by a LITTLE CHILD then stops to wave at the crowd)

NARRATOR - But as the Emperor stopped in one section of the realm to wave at his subjects he went past a little child who saw the truth with his (her) own eyes.

LITTLE CHILD - But he's buck nekkid! He has nothing on!

NARRATOR - The Villagers all gasped.

VILLAGERS - (Looking straight at the EMPEROR now) Gasp!

NARRATOR - See? Toldja! The child's father (mother) tried to keep the child quiet.

LITTLE CHILD'S FATHER (MOTHER): Hush! Hush!

LITTLE CHILD - But it's true. The Emperor has no clothes on! He's buck nekkid!

(VILLAGERS begin to whisper, pointing)

NARRATOR - The villagers all began to whisper to one another, repeating what the child had said.

VILLAGERS - (Ad libbing) It's true. The Emperor has nothing on! Did you hear the child? The child said that the Emperor has no clothes! It's true! He has nothing on!"

EMPEROR - (Becoming scared) What? (Leans over, puts knees together and covers himself with hands in front of himself)

NARRATOR - Yes, the Emperor had heard the child and what the villagers all knew to be true, and he stood for a moment noticing a sudden draft.

EMPEROR - (Waves his hands in front and behind himself) Uh-oh. Oh, no. Dang! (Shivers, then becomes angry)

NARRATOR - The Emperor shivered, for he knew that it was true. He was buck nekkid.

(The EMPEROR sees the WEAVERS at the back with their money bags and starts chasing them, with the OFFICERS right behind as if they were still carrying the train)

EMPEROR - Come back here, you, you scoundrels!

NARRATOR - See? Toldja! So the emperor ran off after the scoundrels, leaving behind his officers who were still carrying the invisible train.

ALL: The End (LIGHTS DIM)

Blackout

The End