Rapunzel, Narrated

By Edith Weiss

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STORY OF THE PLAY

Prince Charming Smile meets Steve, an itinerant narrator, and after a furious swordfight they become friends. Prince Charming Smile tells Steve that he is the only Prince Charming without a lady fair, and he is on the quest for one. When he meets Rapunzel, “imprisoned” by the wicked witch Imaboil and the New Age witch Esmepus, he falls deeply into shallow love. He decides to rescue her and win her as his wife. But the rather vapid Rapunzel doesn’t want the Prince, so Steve conjures up a sleeping Snow White for him and a happy ending for all the characters. Includes two optional songs. Performance time: about 40 minutes.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

2 m, 4 or 5 w

STEVE: The itinerant narrator, a cheerful and easy-going young man.

PRINCE CHARMING SMILE: Although basically good-hearted, his flaws are that he is vain, thinks everything is about him, and is overly concerned with his honor.

MIASMA: Of the witch's covenant, a traditional nasty witch.

ESMEPUS: A witch with New Age leanings, has grown very fond of Rapunzel.

IMABOIL: A cranky witch, extremely frustrated with Rapunzel.

RAPUNZEL: Bored, passive, whiny - like a nightmare of a teenaged daughter. Has not bothered to cultivate her brain. At all.

SNOW WHITE: Kind, patient. The paragon of fairy tale princesses, only with a lot of common sense.

NOTE: Miasma and Snow White can be double cast.

PROPS

Walking stick
Stick horse
Sign that reads: *Warning: Witches' Woods. A Coven Community*
Sign that reads: *Witches' Meeting Today*
Items to toss out window: blanket, hair products, capes, stuffed animals, pillows.

SUGGESTED SONG LIST

(Music is optional. Copies of original songs (*) available through Eldridge Publishing Company.)

Music: Wagner's "Ride of the Valkyries"
Song: "The Witches' Rendezvous" *
Song: "The Rescue Song" *
Music: Beethoven's 9th, "Ode to Joy"

SFX

Crash
Scary music
Witch's cackling
Sheep bleating

Rapunzel, Narrated

(AT RISE: STEVE enters with a walking stick and addresses the audience.)

STEVE: Hi, folks! I'm Steve. I'm an itinerant narrator. That means I travel around looking for narration jobs. There's not a lot of demand for freelance narration, so I'm really happy for this job today.

(MUSIC: "Ride of the Valkyries." ENTER PRINCE CHARMING SMILE on stick horse.)

STEVE: *(Cont'd.)* It looks like we're going to be interrupted. Narrating can be a challenge sometimes.
SMILE: Halt! *(Gets off stick horse, tosses it aside.)* Sir, did you just challenge me to a duel?
STEVE: What? No. I said narrating can be a challenge—
SMILE: Never let it be said I, Prince Charming Smile, lack the courage to accept a challenge! En garde!
STEVE: Wait!

(SMILE and STEVE begin to duel; Steve very badly with his walking stick.)

STEVE: *(Cont'd.)* No! Wait… Whoa!
SMILE: Strike! Lunge!
STEVE: Somebody could get hurt here!
SMILE: Parry, parry, thrust!
STEVE: No! No parrying, no thrusting! I don't want to fight with you!
SMILE: Are you saying you don't have the courage to fight?
STEVE: Why are we fighting? And what does courage have to do with wanting to fight?
SMILE: Silence! Lunge and parry!
STEVE: Stop lunging! What is parrying?! I don't know anything about sword fighting! I'm just Steve the itinerant narrator!

SMILE: *(Stops dueling.)* A narrator? I'm fighting Steve the narrator? There's no honor in that! I'm so ashamed! Look, my head is also hanging in shame!
STEVE: Okay, it wasn't <u>that</u> shameful, was it?
SMILE: It was an unequal battle: you, a narrator who doesn't know how to sword fight, fighting with me. That makes me a bully, and I'm not a bully!
STEVE: Well, you were just fighting with a man armed only with a stick, and you refused to listen to a word I said. That makes you kind of a bully.
SMILE: You're right. Kill me, sir.
STEVE: What?
SMILE: Kill me! I was fighting you, a lowly narrator! To spare me deepest shame, I insist you kill me.
STEVE: No! I wasn't even fighting! I'm just a narrator; I would never kill anybody. This is ridiculous!
SMILE: Then I shall throw myself upon my sword! *(Throws himself on his sword, which is lying flat on the ground.)* Ow.
STEVE: Whoa. Those belly flops hurt.
SMILE: Hold this. *(Hands the sword, pointing straight out, to STEVE.)*
STEVE: Sure.

(STEVE holds sword. As SMILE runs towards it, Steve lifts it above his head. Smile runs off stage.)

SMILE: *(Battle cry.)* Ahhhhhhhhhhhh-

(SFX: Offstage crash.)

STEVE: Oh, there's gonna be some swelling.
SMILE: *(Entering, disheveled.)* Darn you, man!
STEVE: I'm not going to help you stab yourself! Can we just be friends now?
SMILE: *(Holding out hand to shake.)* Yes. You have stopped me from doing something rash. So, yes, we should be friends. I am Prince Charming Smile, so named for my dazzling smile. *(Smiles in a dazzling manner.)*

End of Freeview

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