**Audio FINAL Script: *Rapunzel***

**Written by Nicole A. Harris**

**Script adapted from https://germanstories.vcu.edu/grimm/rapunzel\_e.html**

**Time/Action/Dialogue**

**0-32**

*(Light African music that gets lower at 32 as garden sounds come in)*

NARRATOR:In the land of Diaspora, descendants from that great, rich continent of Africa settled there in the middle of the Earth. Their ancestors were forced to places far and wide so they spoke the languages of their motherlands, so they spoke the languages of their motherlands and their captors. Sought out for their labor, knowledge, and great resources, they influenced the entire world. Their captors benefited from their labor by having lush, bountiful gardens yet denied fruits of labor to these very people who tended and cultivated the gardens that fed them.

**:33-1:25**

*(Suspenseful music at :52, fades at 1:15)*

NARRATOR: There lived a man named Jerome and a woman named Peta-Gaye who longed desperately for a child. From their window, they could see the most blended garden that had the most beautiful flowers and herbs and yams and greens. It was, however, surrounded by a high wall and no one dared go into it because it belonged to a witch named Colonizalea who had the greatest power. Her family had captured the most people from that Great Continent. Many an uprising had successfully been fought against her oppressive rule, but she always returned with greater terror than the previous reigns. Finally, God granted their wish to have a child, but Peta-Gaye had a dangerous strange craving for the rampion - *Rapunzel* in the garden.

**1:25-1:26**

JEROME: “Baby, what’s wrong witcha?”

**1:27-1:35**

PETA-GAYE: *(In Jamaican Patois)* **“**Oh honey,” she replied**,** "if I can't eat some of the rampion inna di Garden, mi know seh mi a go dead.”

**1:36-1:41**

*(Adventurous music plays)*

NARRATOR: Her husband who loved her so was worried about her and bravely decided to risk it all.

**1:41-1:52**

*(Adventurous music continues)*

JEROME: “Before I left my wife die, I need to bring her some of the rampion myself and let it cost what it will. After all, we have a right to the land our ancestors helped build and the gardens we cultivated.

**1:53-2:03**

*(Sound of running through the woods)*

NARRATOR: In the watches of the night, he climbed over that high wall of the witch’s garden and took some of the rampion - *Rapunzel* to his wife.

**2:04-2:06**

JEROME: “Here baby, here is your rampion. I hope it makes you feel better.”

**2:07-2:12**

NARRATOR: She made a salad of it and quickly devoured it but needed it three times more!

**2:13-2:19**

JEROME: “If I'm going to have any rest I must go into that garden again for my wife, for my child.”

**2:19-2:20**

*(Cricket sounds and suspenseful music)*

NARRATOR: This time he was terribly afraid and as soon as he could clutch any of the rampion, he saw the witch, Colonizalea, gazing over him.

**2:21-2:41**

COLONIZALEA: “How can you dare?!” Descend into my garden like the thief you people are! Steal my rampion, oooh ooh *(laughs maliciously)* you shall suffer for it!”

**2:41-3:13**

JEROME: “I'm pleading with you ma'am! Let mercy take the place of justice! I only made up in my mind to do it out of the necessity. My wife saw your rampion from the window and felt such a longing forward that she would have died if she had not got something to eat. Her parents tilled this garden for years and barely got anything out of it but a few bushels before they died and I ain't…I ain't never stole nothing…from my whole life of living I swear! I just need to make it back home to my family. Have mercy!”

**3:14-3:38**

COLONIZALEA: “He he he, well if the case be as you say, I will allow you to take away with you now as much rampion as you will. Only I make one condition. You must give me the child which your wife will bring into the world. It shall be well treated, and I will care for it like a mother.”

**3:38-3:43**

NARRATOR: The witch had a sinister plan to ensure that his lineage remained in captivity.

**3:43-3:46**

JEROME: “You're asking for my unborn child?!”

**3:47-3:50**

NARRATOR: In his trepidation, he made a choice between survival and legacy.

**3:51-3:57**

*(Somber music plays)*

PETA-GAYE: *(Gasp)(In Jamaican Patois) “*Mi baby! Di wicked witch tek weh mi baby!”

**3:58-4:04**

*(Somber music continues)*

JEROME: “Oh my God, what have I done?! What…what…what have I done?!” What…*(Whimpers)*

**4:05-4:12**

NARRATOR: Their life was never the same, separated from the only child they had long prayed for. Their family was broken.

**4:13-4:30**

*(Door creaks shut, suspenseful music begins)*

NARRATOR: Rapunzel grew into the most beautiful child under the sun, but when she was 12 years old, the witch shut her in a tower which lay in a forest and had neither stairs nor door. When the witch wanted to go in, she placed herself beneath the window and cried,

**4:30-4:33**

*(Suspenseful music fades)*

COLONIZALEA: “Rapunzel, Rapunzel, let down your dreadlocks!”

**4:34-4:47**

*(Climbing sound)*

NARRATOR: Rapunzel had magnificent hair, thick as wool, 75 feet long and whenever Colonizalea would call, she would quickly unlock her tresses and they would fall and the witch would climb up by it.

**4:47-5:55**

*(Sound of yelling and soft African music begins)*

*(5:48 – overlay of witch calling Rapunzel)*

NARRATOR: It was six years later when the people of Diaspora defeated Colonizalea’s army in a rebellion and established their own sovereign government. The king of Diaspora had a son named Jean. The tower was Colonizalea's last stronghold, and she knew she was losing power. The king’s son, Prince Jean was riding through the forest when he heard the most soulful music that he's ever heard. Rapunzel in her loneliness passed her time by letting her sweet voice resound in resilience, rebellion, and resistance. In dreams and visions, her ancestors would let her know of a language that even her parents had not known and unbeknownst to Colonizalea, she could speak at fluently. Jean wanted to climb up to her and looked for the door at the tower, but none was to be found. One day, he saw the witch and how she called out to Rapunzel to climb up by the window and he knew it was his chance! The next day as it began to grow dark, Jean went to the tower and cried,

**5:56-6:00**

PRINCE JEAN: “Rapunzel, Rapunzel, let down your dreadlocks!”

**6:01-6:12**

*(Soft African music fades)*

NARRATOR: Not able to distinguish between the voices because the tower was so high, immediately Rapunzel let down her hair and the king’s son climbed up. At first Rapunzel was terribly frightened.

**6:13-6:19**

RAPUNZEL: *(Screams)* “Who are you?! Have you come to harm me? I will call Colonizalea if you have!”

**6:20-6:54**

*(Soft African music fades)*

NARRATOR: To assuage her fears, the Prince began to talk to her like a friend and told her that his heart had been so stirred by her songs that it would let him have no rest, thus he was compelled to see her. All of a sudden, she felt a strange safety with the Prince, safer than she ever felt imprisoned in the witch’s tower, but captivity was all she’d known. Once the Prince saw that she was comforted, he asked her name. Before she could utter her given name, a faint memory of her parents crying out for her invaded her thoughts.

**6:54-6:57**

*(Lowered dialogue to represent past)*

PETA-GAYE: “Oh Thandiwe!”

**6:58-7:00**

*(Soft African music continues)*

NARRATOR: Reclaiming a name she never knew she had, she said,

**7:01-7:06**

RAPUNZEL, now THANDIWE: “Rapun-, um, Than, Thandi, Thandiwe.”

**7:06-7:16**

NARRATOR: “Rapun- excuse me…Thandiwe suddenly lost all fear and felt deeply connected to the Prince. She thought,

**7:16-7:28**

RAPUNZEL now THANDIWE: “Surely, he could love me more. For sure he would love me more than the hag! *(In isiNdebele* - *Impela naluphi uthando angaginika lona luzobe lungcono kunalokhu engikukho manje*")

**7:29-7:42**

PRINCE JEAN: *(In Kreyol - Sa a se opòtinite m)* My father is prepping me to be the next king of diaspora, and I need a queen. Will you go away with me? I want to marry you sweet Thandiwe!

**7:42-7:54**

RAPUNZEL now THANDIWE: “I want to go away with you, but I do not know how to get down. Every time you come, bring a length of silk and I weave a ladder with it, so you can take me on your horse.

**7:54-7:57**

*(Dramatic, cinematic music starts)*

NARRATOR: The witch had caught them and she had no choice but to let down her hair

**7:57-8:03**

RAPUNZEL now THANDIWE: My name is Thandiwe! Not Rapunzel! Don't call me Rapunzel!

**8:03-8:12**

COLONIZALEA: Huh! You wicked child! What do I hear you say, Rapunzel? I thought I had separated you from all the world and yet you deceive me!

**8:12:-8:23**

NARRATOR: She cut off her locks and set them ablaze. Using her magic, she sent Thandiwe to a faraway desert. The Prince and the witch entered into a fierce battle.

**8:12:-8:42**

*(Dramatic, cinematic music fade and rises, sound of sword drawn from sheath)*

COLONIZALEA THE WITCH: “Aha, you would fetch your dearest, but the beautiful bird sits no longer singing in the nest! Rapunzel is lost to you, and you will never see her again. Your so-called kingdom has defeated much of my army, and I have banished your love!”

**8:43:-8:56**

*(Sound of sword from sheath, shriek hear, and sounds of wrestling)*

*(Faint dramatic, cinematic music)*

PRINCE JEAN: “Her name is not Rapunzel!”

**8:59:-9:01**

NARRATOR: The Prince escaped with his life, the witch did not. Standing on top of her he said,

**9:01:-9:03**

PRINCE JEAN: “Once mercy took the place of justice, today justice takes the place of mercy!”

**9:03:-9:16**

*(Dramatic, cinematic music continues)*

NARRATOR: Injured from the battle, the Prince was determined to find his future queen for two years. He wandered in the nearby desserts until he finally found her by the sound of her voice.

**9:16:-9:18**

PRINCE JEAN: *(In Kreyol - "Bondye, Thandiwe!")*

**9:19:-9:22**

NARRATOR: They fell into each other’s arms and cried.

**9:23:-9:33**

*(Dramatic, cinematic music fades)*

RAPUNZEL NOW THANDIWE: *(In IsiNdebele - )* Oh my God, is this even real?! *(In IsiNdebele - )*

**9:34:-10:00**

*(Celebratory, joyous African music plays getting gradually louder)*

NARRATOR: He led her back to the Kingdom of Diaspora where they were joyfully received. Not long after, they had twins which they named Jerome and Peta-Gaye from a vision Thandiwe saw in her dreams. They lived for a long time afterwards, happy and contented, and Diaspora grew in power and prosperity with a people who had flourished like never before in the world's history.