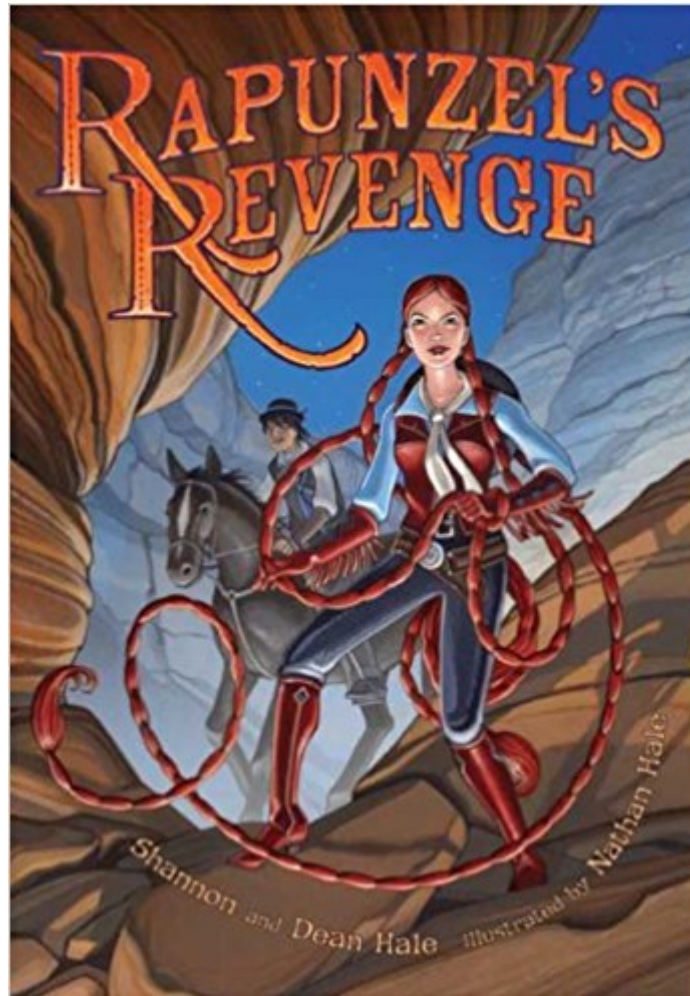




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Rapunzel's Revenge



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Synopsis

Rapunzel escapes her tower-prison all on her own, only to discover a world beyond what she'd ever known before. Determined to rescue her real mother and to seek revenge on her kidnapper would-be mother, Rapunzel and her very long braids team up with Jack (of Beanstalk fame) and together they perform daring deeds and rescues all over the western landscape, eventually winning the justice they so well deserve.

Book Information

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Series: Rapunzel's Revenge

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Age Range: 10 - 14 years

Grade Level: 5 - 8

Customer Reviews

Starred Review. Grade 5 Up "This is the tale as you've never seen it before. After using her hair to free herself from her prison tower, this Rapunzel ignores the pompous prince and teams up with Jack (of Beanstalk fame) in an attempt to free her birth mother and an entire kingdom from the evil witch who once moonlighted as her mother. Dogged by both the witch's henchman and Jack's outlaw past, the heroes travel across the map as they right wrongs, help the oppressed, and generally try to stay alive. Rapunzel is no damsel in distress "she wields her long braids as both rope and weapon" but she happily accepts Jack's teamwork and friendship. While the witch's castle is straight out of a fairy tale, the nearby mining camps and rugged surrounding countryside are a throwback to the Wild West and make sense in the world that the authors and illustrator have

crafted. The dialogue is witty, the story is an enticing departure from the original, and the illustrations are magically fun and expressive. Knowing that there are more graphic novels to come from this writing team brings readers their own happily-ever-after.â “Cara von Wrangel Kinsey, New York Public Library Copyright Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

This graphic novel retelling of the fairy-tale classic, set in a swashbuckling Wild West, puts action first and features some serious girl power in its spunky and strong heroine. Young Rapunzel lives a lonely life, never knowing what lies beyond the high garden walls of her motherâ™s royal villa until one day she climbs the wall to see whatâ™s on the other side. When she finds that the world outside is a dark place oppressed by her motherâ™s greed for power and uncovers the real secret of her own birth, she is imprisoned in a magic tree tower. In her years of captivity, she learns a lot about self-reliance and care for her exceptionally long hair, and eventually she is able to escape, vowing to bring down her motherâ™s cruel empire. Haleâ™s art matches the story well, yielding expressive characters and lending a wonderful sense of place to the fantasy landscape. Rich with humor and excitement, this is an alternate version of a classic that will become a fast favorite of young readers. Grades 5-8. --Tina Coleman --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

This illustrated retelling of the famous fairy tale is a load of fun, particularly because the heroine, Rapunzel--or Punzie, as Jack of Beanstalk fame calls her--is so likable. She's spunky, energetic, forthright, brave, strong, and full of heart. There is definitely a feminist sensibility in how capable our gal is portrayed. In this retelling, the witch has growth magic, and the tower in which our heroine is imprisoned is actually a growing thing--a cross between a tree and a giant bulb. But Punzie will not be cowed. She devises an escape and is determined to free her mother from bleak servitude and punish Mother Gothel for her wicked ways. Punzie ends up partnering with mischievous, gold-loving, wayward, amusing, and somewhat less than perfect Jack and his magic goose, getting into all sorts of trouble while traversing the land damaged by the tyrannical use of power by Mother Gothel (aka the witch). The art, while serving the tale well, slips into the too-simply-drawn at times, but overall is enjoyable. I like that it brings the magic to life well in certain points of the story. Hale, who did a great job retelling the Goose Girl's tale, does a great job again of adding to classic storytelling. Her explanation for the tower and the use she puts the long hair to is a delight. There are moments of genuine laugh out loud humor, too. (The pick of picks had me guffawing!) I bought this for my 10 year old niece, but I enjoyed it and I'm 49. This is a romping fun and charming fairy

tale retold. I recommend it for all lovers of folklore and comic book readers young at heart. And it would make a great gift for a young girl in your family, because it shows a heroine can be loyal and good and moral and caring and also be strong and righteously indignant and muscular and "the boss." :)

I've recently been getting into the genre of the "retold fairy tale"; that is, taking an old fairy tale/tall tale/legend and changing the characters, setting, and/or time period to make it something new and fresh. In this case, the idea of taking classic characters like Rapunzel, Jack and the Beanstalk, etc, and placing them in a Western setting immediately grabbed my attention, and this comic book didn't disappoint. A long time ago, during the time of the old, wild west, a young girl named Rapunzel lives in a pleasant villa, ruled over by her mother, Gothel. But one day, curiosity gets the best of Rapunzel, and she scales the massive wall surrounding the villa, only to discover the outside landscape in ruin, and worse; Gothel isn't her real mother, but a selfish witch who controls a huge chunk of the world, thanks to her magic, plant-based powers. When Rapunzel refuses to go along with Gothel's plans of conquest, the witch imprisons her in a tower (actually a giant tree). Over the years, Rapunzel's hair grows to an enormous length, until finally, she engineers her own escape and vows revenge against Gothel. After meeting up with a snarky, but friendly thief named Jack, the two then set off on an adventure to defeat the witch and save the wild west. And fashioning her long hair into lassos and whips, Rapunzel helps various characters along the way, and makes it her mission to right all of Gothel's wrongs. After loving Disney's take on Rapunzel in the movie, "Tangled", it was hard for me to not make comparisons while reading this. Jack (from Jack and the Beanstalk) is certainly a lot like the lovable thief, Flynn Rider, but while he can be a trickster, he never takes credit for any of "Punzie's" heroism; he's perfectly okay with being the sidekick. And his goose companion/pet (from the Goose that Laid the Golden Egg) is both adorable and hilarious. Gothel's a bit of a one note villain, however (even after it's explained how she came to power), and it's odd how she's so dead set on Rapunzel becoming her "heir to the throne" as it were, when the girl makes it clear she hates her. But the other characters make up for this, such as the appearance of a pack of coyotes (a Big Bad Wolf reference?) and a village of small people (a reference to Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, I take it). But the stand out character is definitely Rapunzel herself. While she starts off her adventure understandably naive about the world (since she was locked in a tower for years), she quickly comes into her own and learns how to survive in the rough landscape; using no guns or any other weapons, save for her hair, her bravery, and her wits. And she makes it clear she'll never stoop as low as stealing, or using any underhanded methods to get what she

wants. She's incredibly kind and selfless, but won't back down from a fight either; always putting others before herself. The art style has an "old timey" feel to it; servicing the steampunk/wild west theme very well. And the change up of setting makes the classic fairy tales not just another carbon repeat of what's come before. The fact that other classic stories are mixed together (all of which were mentioned in the above paragraphs) is a nice touch, and just makes it even more unique. This is definitely one graphic novel to check out, especially if you're tired of the same old fairy tales, or tired of Disney's take on these classic stories, and are wanting something fresh and different. With a unique setting, and likeable heroes, this is one story that deserves a movie adaption. Now I've got to check out the sequel, "Calamity Jack".

My daughter is 10-years-old and requested this book. She read Princess Academy and wanted more from the same author. The book is written like a comic book...and I wasn't sure she would like it, but she absolutely loved it! As soon as she finished reading Rapunzel's Revenge, she started reading Calamity Jack.

This is a terrific graphic novel that will appeal to both boys and girls, but particularly to the kind of active, independent girl that gets impatient with conventional heroines. It is beautifully drawn, with high-quality, high-gloss color pages, and the writing is snappy and inventive. It's the kind of book you'll enjoy as much as your child does. It's appropriate for somewhat older children (I would say a sophisticated 8 year old or older) and teenagers would enjoy it as well.

One of my favorite graphic novels for kids. A twist on the classic Rapunzel story putting her in a wild west setting. Rapunzel is a very strong character and the book has an interesting and adventuresome plot too. It's also written by the famous Shannon Hale (Princess Academy, Ever After High, etc.. Also great books!). I'm happy to see books and graphic novels with lots of girl power in them, I really wish there were more books and graphic novels just like this that empowers young girls. 5 stars! I loved it so much I bought 4 copies!!

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