**JACK THE LAD**

**JACK**:

Hello everyone! *(Wait for response)* Wow! It is so good to see you all! Some call me Jack the Lad, but you can call me Jack! Can you give a big: “Hello Jack!” *(Wait for response)* Hello to you too! This is our humble village Gossip-Borough! We are known as Gossipers! *(To the cast)* Say hello Gossipers!

VILLAGERS:

*(Joyfully to audience)* Hello!

**JACK**:

*(To audience)* Say hello audience! *(Wait for response)* Wonderful, now that we’ve gotten to know each other, let me tell you more about me and this little village! Where to start? Well…the reason this village is called Gossip-Borough is, if you have a story to tell and want it to be repeated, tell one person in the village and everyone will know about it by mid-morning! There was this particular time when one villager was complaining and saying that no one else in the village could have a party! We were all stuck inside and did as we were told just to keep the peace. Well, turns out he was having a secret party of his own! How rude is that?!

*ENTER PARTY PERSON in a suit (maybe with a blonde wig) with a party blower raving. They notice the audience, look sheepish and worried, then shrugs their shoulders and carries on partying and EXITS.*

**JACK**:

*(Sarcastically)* It’s so good to know we’re all in this together!

*MUSIC CLIP: HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL – WE’RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER  
VILLAGE dances the classic dance.*

But that makes it all better! Well done village folk!

*VILLAGERS flattered and talk amongst themselves.*

So, I’ve told you about the town, I’ve told you about our fellow Gossipers, now I’ll tell you more about me! Well, I have many, many jobs to do around here! I work very hard so I can save up all my money and travel the world to see what’s out there! It’s what I’ve dreamt of my whole life! I help baking, deliver flowers, keep tabs on where books are for the library, but my favourite job is called a Bounty Hunter!

*MUSIC CLIP: DUN, DUN, DUN*

Yes, well, anyway. A Bounty Hunter…

*MUSIC CLIP: DUN, DUN, DUN*

A Bounty Hunter…

*MUSIC CLIP: DUN, DUN, DUN*

Will you stop that! Now, a…Bounty…Hunt…er…is someone who looks for people who are missing or who have done something wrong. Like a police officer but we have the name of a chocolate bar! Now then, remember when I said this village is full of gossipers…

*BARRY, GARRY & LARRY shout off stage.*

BARRY, GARRY & LARRY:

Jackie boy! We have some news!

**JACK**:

And these boys are usually the main ones gossiping! *(To the BOYS)* I’m over here! *(To audience)* Be prepared for some serious slapstick nonsense!

*BARRY, GARRY & LARRY barge on stage, bumping into everyone as they go.  
CLIP: MACHO MAN – VILLAGE PEOPLE*

BARRY:

Hello!

GARRY:

Hello!

LARRY:

What up!

BARRY:

*(Annoyed to LARRY)* Oi, what are you doing? We had a thing going!

**JACK**:

Hi boys! Say hello to my new friends!

BARRY:

Oh hello! My name is Barry!

GARRY:

Oh hello! My name is Garry!

LARRY:

And my name is…!

BARRY:

*(Interrupting)* And his name is Larry!

GARRY:

He doesn’t speak much!

**JACK**:

Mainly because he can’t get a word in edgeways! *(Laughs)* These lads, boys and girls, are my gang! Also known as Jack’s Lads! They work with me too!

RAPUNZEL:

*(Sighs)* Well, Rapunzel. It’s officially past midnight. Happy Birthday to me. Let’s make a wish, right now, in this moment. I wish, I wish I could travel the world! Explore what’s out there! Maybe I could sail on a boat! Or maybe I could fly!

*SONG: BREAKAWAY – KELLY CLARKSON.  
JACK peers round from where he’s hiding and listens to RAPUNZEL singing. He’s entranced and intrigued. After the song, RAPUNZEL moves away from the window. JACK rushes towards the base of the tower.*

**JACK**:

*(To himself)* Wow! Poor thing. Trapped in that tower. I wonder what should I say? I have to get up there! What was it that woman said? Err…*(shouting)* Rapunzel, Rapunzel let down your…what was it again? Do you remember boys and girls? *(Wait for response)* Let down your what…? *(Wait for response)* That’s it! Let down your hair! Rapunzel, Rapunzel, let down your hair!

*RAPUNZEL comes to the window.*

RAPUNZEL:

Who said that?

**JACK**:

Now you’ve done it Jack!

RAPUNZEL:

Hello?

**JACK**:

*(Shows himself)* Hello.

*RAPUNZEL, shocked, hides behind the wall.*

I’m sorry to startle you, I was just intrigued.

RAPUNZEL:

*(Still behind the wall)* How did you find me?

**JACK**:

I’ve been sent on a quest, a mission if you like.

RAPUNZEL:

A mission? And what is this “mission”? Is it my hair?

**JACK**:

What?

RAPUNZEL:

Are you here to cut my hair? To sell it?

**JACK**:

WHAT?!

RAPUNZEL:

Use it?

**JACK**:

Why would I want to use your hair? That’s just weird!

RAPUNZEL:

So, you don’t want to do anything with me or my hair?

**JACK**:

Just to climb it and finish the mission myself.

RAPUNZEL:

Very well. Stand back.

*RAPUNZEL let’s down her hair. JACK is amazed and begins to climb.*

**JACK**:

You should know this is the strangest thing I have ever done.

RAPUNZEL:

Just hurry up! Ouch! Don’t pull so hard!

**JACK**:

Sorry.

*JACK climbs into the turret.*

Hello.

RAPUNZEL:

Hello.

*PAUSE.*

**JACK**:

I…I’m Jack.

RAPUNZEL:

*(They shake hands)* Nice to meet you, Jack. Come in. *(JACK walks into the tower on stage.)* This is so strange.

**JACK**:

What is?

RAPUNZEL:

Other than myself and Mama Gothel, no one else has ever come here. *(Excited)* This is crazy!

**JACK**:

…ok!

RAPUNZEL:

So, what is this mission exactly?

**JACK**:

Well, this was what the clue was.

RAPUNZEL:

The clue?

**JACK**:

Don’t ask. Here it is.

The treasure you seek is not what you think.  
Not of gold, silver, or gems with a wink.  
A heart of gold and a healing power.  
The thing you seek is within a tower.

RAPUNZEL:

Curious.

**JACK**:

I know! Why did he have to say the instructions in riddles and puzzles?

RAPUNZEL:

Who?

**JACK**:

Rumpelstiltskin.