Whatever After: Bad Hair Day Script

For this Book Talk you will need:

- 5 actors (Abby, Jonah, Rapunzel, Prince the dog, Frau Gothel/Narrator)
- For Abby: orange hoodie, blue jeans, pair of safety scissors
- For Jonah: yellow hoodie, blue jeans, soccer cleats
- For Prince: brown clothing, socks for ears, stuffed stocking for tail, painted black nose
- For Rapunzel: blue dress, medium-length wig looking tattered and messy
- Additional props: chair, small table, handheld mirror, rug, copy of Whatever After: Bad Hair Day

Abby: (standing on the stage with scissors in her hand, pretending to be cutting Rapunzel’s hair; Rapunzel is sitting in a chair in front of Abby; pieces of hair scattered on floor around chair)

Jonah: (standing next to Abby with a look of uncertainty on his face) Uh…Abby? Maybe you should stop… You’ve cut A LOT!

Abby: (stops cutting Rapunzel’s hair, turning towards Jonah and sounding annoyed while gesturing at him with the scissors) Didn’t you realize that YOUR cleats would rip her hair apart?!

Jonah: (sounding matter of fact and pointing towards Prince, who is playing with the hair that’s on the floor) And I think Prince is eating the extra hair.

Rapunzel: (sounding panicky, raising hands to her hair) How much is “a lot”? (hesitating momentarily, then speaking slowly and nervously) Jonah, can you hand me a mirror, please? (Jonah passing mirror to Rapunzel)

Abby: (attempting to get between Jonah and Rapunzel and trying unsuccessfully to grab the mirror before Rapunzel does) But I’m not done yet!

Rapunzel: (grasping what’s left of her hair and shouting in complete shock) WHAT DID YOU DO TO MY HAIR?! (burying her face in her hands and sobbing)
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Abby:  
(insisting loudly) I said I wasn’t done! Please – just let me finish!

Rapunzel:  
(standing up, backing away from chair, speaking slowly and deliberately while pointing at Abby) YOU are NOT allowed to touch my hair – EVER AGAIN! (crumpling into a heap on the chair)

Abby:  
(rolling her eyes then sounding somewhat apologetic as she walks over and puts her arm around Rapunzel’s shoulders, trying to console her) It’s not THAT bad.

Jonah:  
(walking over to where Abby’s standing, tapping her on the shoulder and asking innocently) Uh, Abby… Now that Rapunzel’s hair is short, how is the Prince going to climb up to see her? And how are WE going to climb back down?

Frau Gothel:  
(calling from offstage) Rapunzel, let down your hair!

Rapunzel:  
(standing up suddenly, glancing first in the direction of the voice then back at Abby and Jonah and sounding panicked) Oh no! It’s Frau Gothel! (beginning to pace back and forth nervously)

Abby & Jonah:  
(gasping and exchanging frightened glances, then whispering loudly to each other) It’s the WITCH!

Rapunzel:  
(turning toward Abby and Jonah, speaking urgently in a loud stage whisper) She’s going to be really upset that I cut my hair…AND that I let you up here! What do I say to her? (waiting expectantly for Abby and Jonah to answer; both reply by shrugging their shoulders)

FG:  
(increasingly impatient) Rapunzel? What’s taking so long?

Abby:  
(holding her finger to her lips to signal not to mention her and Jonah, and pleading) Don’t tell her we’re here. Just tell her… (hesitating as she thinks of what Rapunzel should tell Frau Gothel) Tell her… (thinking hard, then holding up her index finger when she comes up with a solution)…that YOU cut your hair!

Rapunzel:  
(shaking her head doubtfully then trying to sound calm as she calls back to Frau Gothel) I… I cut my hair.

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Rapunzel:  (looking back to Abby and Jonah with confusion) I was… (pausing momentarily) hot? (Abby nodding with encouragement and Jonah giving her the thumbs-up signal)

Rapunzel:  (worriedly and apologetically) I’m so sorry, Frau Gothel. (begging) Please forgive me.

FG:  (hesitating briefly) I’ll be back. I’m going to get a ladder. (sounding increasingly enraged) And when I get back I will shrink you to the size of (shouting) a fingernail! (sound of hooves stomping away from offstage; Rapunzel looking panicked, flopping down onto chair and holding her head in her hands)

Abby:  (with a sense of urgency) Wait a minute… (starting to search around the room) Help me look around. There’s GOT to be another way in and out of here. (The three begin moving around, checking everywhere; Prince is preoccupied with the rug)

Rapunzel:  (looking and sounding discouraged) It’s no use. (dropping down into the chair and holding her head in her hands) We can’t get out of here…and I’m going to have a spell cast on me.

Abby:  (looking at Prince who is sniffing and tugging at a rug on the floor, then exclaiming excitedly) Of course – under the rug! (turning suddenly toward Jonah) Jonah – help me out over here! (Jonah and Abby rolling away the rug and staring at the floor in amazement)

Jonah:  (brightening excitedly) I KNEW it! There’s a secret door!

Narrator:  (walking onstage) Will Jonah, Abby, Rapunzel and Prince make it out before the witch returns? And what does Rapunzel’s future hold, now that her beautiful long hair is gone? (holding up copy of Whatever After: Bad Hair Day) Find out in the latest Whatever After adventure – Bad Hair Day – available NOW at your Scholastic Book Fair!