# THE PRINCESS WHO HAD NO NAME

By BRIAN D. TAYLOR

CAST OF CHARACTERS
(In Order of Speaking)

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For preview only
TINY BEAR ................................smallest, but scariest of the three bears
FAIRY GODMOTHER ...................wise fairy of the forest
CINDERELLA .............................teen who wants to party all night long
RAPUNZEL ................................her tall tower makes it difficult for her to hear those down below
PRINCE HERCULES ...................Snow White’s strong prince
QUEEN OF THE NORTH ..............daughter of a deceitful miller
HERALD .................................servant of the Northern Kingdom
STEWARD .................................another
NURSE .....................................another
QUEEN OF THE SOUTH ..............worried mother
KING OF THE SOUTH .................worried father
GOOD FAIRY 1 .........................bestows the gift of beauty
GOOD FAIRY 2 .........................bestows the gift of grace
GOOD FAIRY 3 .........................bestows the gift of safety
EVIL FAIRY .............................bestows a curse
PRINCE ADONIS .....................Rapunzel’s handsome prince
PRINCE SWAVAY .....................Cinderella’s charming prince; from the Eastern Kingdom

SETTING
Time: Happily ever after, over the course of one very long day.
Place: The Misty Forest and the Outer Kingdoms

SCENE SYNOPSIS
Scene One: The Misty Forest, early morning.
Scene Two: The Misty Forest, later that morning.
Scene Three: The Misty Forest, moments later.
Scene Four: The Dining Room of the Seven Dwarves and the Three Bears, early afternoon.
Scene Five: The Misty Forest, still early afternoon, played in front of the curtain.
Scene Six: The Bears’ bedroom, mid-afternoon.
Scene Seven: Central Tower in the Misty Forest, moments later.
Scene Eight: The Bears’ bedroom, still mid-afternoon.
Scene Nine: The Northern Castle, early evening.
Scene Ten: Central Tower in the Misty Forest, early evening.
Scene Eleven: Southern Castle, the next morning.

SET DESCRIPTION
The primary setting is the Misty Forest, a dark, mysterious and dangerous place. Tall trees reach into the sky. Large rocks are scattered about and small shrubs grow here and there. Additional foliage could hang from above forming the canopy of the trees. All of this can be done with individual cutouts or one large backdrop.

Additional settings may be done minimally. A long table with benches and settings for ten is all that is necessary for the dining room of the dwarves and bears in Scene Four. Scenes Six and Eight represent the bears’ bedroom and only requires three small beds. A backdrop forming the walls of their rustic forest home is optional.

Central Tower in Scenes Seven and Ten can be as simple as a tall window flat or cutout with a ladder behind and should be arranged at the edge of the stage.

The two castles may be done with a separate backdrop or wagon rolled in for each, or the same can be used for both. The Northern Castle requires only a spinning wheel and a stool. The Southern Castle needs two beds.
THE PRINCESS WHO HAD NO NAME

Scene One

LIGHTS UP: The Misty Forest. PRINCESS sleeps on the ground DOWN LEFT. She wears a ragged dress and clings to a small quilt square. (NOTE: PRINCESS always carries this quilt square with her and is never without it.) HANSEL and GRETEL ENTER RIGHT. HANSEL is walking backwards, dropping bread crumbs on the ground. They slowly cross LEFT as they talk.

GRETEL: Let me do some.

HANSEL: No, you watch for Father. I’m the man, so I make the trail.

GRETEL: The man. Whatever. I can do it just as well as you can.

HANSEL: No, you can’t! You have to drop them in places where no one can find them.

GRETEL: Then how are we supposed to find them, genius?

HANSEL: You’ll see.

GRETEL: No, I won’t see. We won’t see them.

HANSEL: You’d leave them out in the open, and the birds would find them and eat them up.

GRETEL: The birds wouldn’t bother with this bread, Hansel. It’s the bread Stepmother gave us, and it’s hard as a rock. At least, if I spread the crumbs, we would be able to see them and find our way home.

HANSEL: Nuh-uh! ’Cause they’d be gone!

GRETEL: Ya-huh! ’Cause they wouldn’t be hidden from sight!

HANSEL: Nuh-uh!

GRETEL: Ya-huh!

HANSEL: Nuh-uh!

PRINCESS: (Awakens in a fright. Screams.) Ah! (Quickly gets to her feet.) Who are you? Where did you come from?

GRETEL: (Steps toward PRINCESS.) Sorry.

PRINCESS: No, no, no! Please don’t come any closer. Stay back.

GRETEL: Okay. (Takes a giant step back. Beat. PRINCESS appears very distraught.) We didn’t mean to scare you. We’re just on our way through the forest with our father. (PRINCESS looks around, worried.) Don’t worry. He’s up ahead. I’m Gretel and this is my brother.

HANSEL: I’m Hansel, the smart one. (GRETEL makes a face at him.) What are you doing sleeping out here in the forest all alone?

PRINCESS: I was just… resting. I don’t know these woods.

HANSEL: Everyone knows these woods! This the the Misty Forest.
PRINCESS: I don’t recognize… I guess I’m lost. I just…
GRETEL: You’re lost? Oh, my. Have you travelled long?
PRINCESS: No. Just one night.
GRETEL: Oh, well, you can’t be that far from home.
PRINCESS: Perhaps. I… don’t really know where home is.
HANSEL: (Laughs.) You don’t know where your home is? You must be really lost!
GRETEL: Hansel, that isn’t nice. (To PRINCESS.) What’s your name?
(PRINCESS does not respond.) Are you a fairy?
PRINCESS: I don’t know.
HANSEL: No. There are no fairies in these woods. That’s just an old wives’ tale.
GRETEL: Are you a witch?
HANSEL: Nah! No witches here in these woods, either.
GRETEL: Are you a queen?
PRINCESS: I’m sorry. I really don’t know.
HANSEL: She’s not a queen!
GRETEL: How do you know that?
HANSEL: One, she’s wearing rags. No one in the royal family would wear rags anywhere, not even the forest. Especially not a queen! And two, she’s lost in the middle of the Misty Forest. Everyone knows the queens live in the castles of the Outer Kingdoms. Duh!
GRETEL: (To PRINCESS.) But you do have a name, don’t you?
PRINCESS: (Extremely confused and upset.) I can’t… I can’t remember.
HANSEL: (Laughs.) She doesn’t know her name or where she’s from! Did you fall and hit your head or something?
GRETEL: Hansel! (Sees that PRINCESS is upset.) He’s very sorry. Aren’t you, Hansel? (HANSEL ignores her, kicking rocks. To PRINCESS.) Well, he is. (To HANSEL.) Someone should lock you up for a while to teach you a lesson about being rude.
HANSEL: Whatever. (Triumphant.) No one can put me in a cage. I’m too fast and too clever! (Runs around and takes unintentionally comical fighting stances.)
GRETEL: Ignore him— (HANSEL does a karate chop.) —if you can. I’m sorry about your problem. You really don’t have a name, or you just don’t remember it?
PRINCESS: I don’t know. It’s all so fuzzy.
GRETEL: Hmm. I suppose if you’re lost, you could always look for clues to find your way home. Maybe you’ve left something along
the way and can retrace your steps. That’s what we’re doing. We’re dropping bread crumbs so we can find our way home.

**PRINCESS:** You have bread?

**GRETEL:** Only a little. And it’s as stale as stones.

**HANSEL:** Don’t tell her we have food! She’ll want some.

**PRINCESS:** May I?

**HANSEL:** See. Told you so!

**GRETEL:** And she can have some. Give her some.

**HANSEL:** No!

**PRINCESS:** Oh, please. I’m so hungry. I feel like I haven’t eaten in ages.

**HANSEL:** You look like you haven’t eaten in ages!

**GRETEL:** Hansel! You give her some bread this very minute!

**HANSEL:** Okay, okay. Geez! You sound like our stepmother.

**GRETEL:** Don’t you dare say that! *(Gives him a firm punch on the arm.)*

**HANSEL:** Ow! All right already! Here. It’s all yours. *(Hands her the small piece of bread.)*

**PRINCESS:** Thank you so much. *(Eats the bread ravenously. HANSEL rubs his arm and pouts.)*

**FATHER’S VOICE:** *(Calls from OFF LEFT.)* Hansel! Gretel! Come along! We’re almost to the clearing! *(PRINCESS is startled to hear his voice.)*

**HANSEL:** *(Calls to OFF LEFT.)* Coming, Father! *(To GRETEL.)* Come on. Father’s waiting. *(Runs OFF LEFT.)*

**GRETEL:** I’m sorry you’re lost. I wish I could help you—I really do—but I have to go. Try looking for some clues. Something will come to you. *(EXITS LEFT.)*

**PRINCESS:** *( Watches her go, then looks around at the forest, confused and scared. She crosses to the place where she was sleeping and picks up the quilt square and examines it closely. The design on the quilt is a ring with a star along the edge.)* Oh, my. Where do I even begin to go? *(Looks around, then crosses RIGHT, where she finds one of Hansel’s bread crumbs, picks it up and eats it. She moves RIGHT and finds another crumb and eats it. She EXITS RIGHT, looking for more crumbs. LIGHTS FADE to BLACK.)*

End of Scene One

Scene Two

LIGHTS UP: Another part of the Misty Forest. RUMPELSTILTSKIN dances by a small campfire. A small stack of firewood is off to the side.
RUMPELSTILTSKIN: (Chants.) Tra-digee-dee and a li-li-do
Pimpersnap, loldrops, ying-yang-yo,
Lillywumpus, tigersplash and ho-hum-ho!
Rumpelstiltskin, Rumpelstiltskin flicks his nose. (Does so.)
Rumpelstiltskin, Rumpelstiltskin taps his toes. (Does so.)
Rumpelstiltskin, Rumpelstiltskin no one knows. (PRINCESS ENTERS UP RIGHT of him and listens while remaining unseen as he continues.)
Foo-la-loo and a rum-a-tum-too,
Gungafinga, loop-de-la, sim-sam-soo,
Hammerknee, treebows and fie-fum-foo!
Rumpelstiltskin, Rumpelstiltskin no one knew.
Rumpelstiltskin, Rumpelstiltskin gets his due.
Rumpelstiltskin, Rumpelstiltskin fooled you, too. (Laughs a strange laugh.) Oh, boy! Oh, boy! Oh, boy! That was very good, sir. Very, very good, sir. (PRINCESS applauds. RUMPELSTILTSKIN spins around.)
Who goes there?!
PRINCESS: Sorry. (Curtsies with perfect poise.) I was just walking by. I didn’t mean to interrupt your party.
RUMPELSTILTSKIN: What party? There’s no party. There’s no one else here. He’s all by himself, he are.
PRINCESS: Who is?
RUMPELSTILTSKIN: He are.
PRINCESS: (Confused. Looks around.) Who is?
RUMPELSTILTSKIN: We is.
PRINCESS: Okay. Yes, we do seem to be alone. Well. Wow! That was a delightful song.
RUMPELSTILTSKIN: He knows it was. He writ it himself.
PRINCESS: Who did?
RUMPELSTILTSKIN: We did, of course! Is there something wrong with your head?
PRINCESS: (Thinking maybe that is the problem.) Something wrong with my head?
RUMPELSTILTSKIN: That’s what he said, didn’t he? Who are you?
PRINCESS: Oh. Well... I can’t recall my name. So, yes, there must be something wrong.
RUMPELSTILTSKIN: (Turns to talk to his imaginary self.) Told you so! Something’s not right in her head.
PRINCESS: Who are you talking to?
RUMPELSTILTSKIN: That’s just between us. (To himself.) So, she don’t know her own name, eh? How did she forget her name?
1 PRINCESS: I really don’t know. I’m afraid I can’t remember anything before just a day ago.

RUMPELSTILTSKIN: Nonsense!

PRINCESS: It’s true, sir. I woke up yesterday in a small room in a tower, somewhere in this forest. There was a strange man standing over me. He ran off, and I was scared and confused and all alone. I couldn’t remember how I got there or even who I was.

RUMPELSTILTSKIN: So she have no memory of anyone or anything?

PRINCESS: (Agrieved.) I’ve tried to focus and find a memory of something, anything, but it’s useless. Everything prior to yesterday afternoon when I awoke and ran into these woods is gone, as if it never happened.

RUMPELSTILTSKIN: That’s very, very odd, sir. Don’t you think? Yes, an odd little girl, she is. Let us look at you. (Walks all around her and inspects her eyes, hair, etc. Takes one of her arms and raises it up to shoulder height and lets it go, watching it drop to her side again.) Hmmm… interesting. (Does a bit more inspection.) Amnesia it is. Yes, she must have the amnesia of the brain. But why? (To PRINCESS.) So you say a strange man was standing over you?

PRINCESS: Yes.

RUMPELSTILTSKIN: People don’t just forget their own names. (To himself.) Yes, she must have been injured somehow, injuries to the head. Perhaps this strange man was the cause of it, sir. Yes, yes, of course. (To PRINCESS.) Did you know this man?

PRINCESS: No. No. I don’t think so. But I can’t be sure of anything.

RUMPELSTILTSKIN: Did he harm you in any way?

PRINCESS: No. Not at all. He just ran off.

RUMPELSTILTSKIN: Hmm… No foul play. Then, perhaps, she bumped her head by accident, sir.

PRINCESS: Not that I can recall, no.

RUMPELSTILTSKIN: That’s very, very odd, sir.

PRINCESS: I’m sorry, but why do you keep calling me sir?

RUMPELSTILTSKIN: He weren’t calling you sir, sir.

PRINCESS: Who wasn’t?

RUMPELSTILTSKIN: We wasn’t.

PRINCESS: Well, I wish you would stop, whomever you are. The proper form of address is Your Highness.

RUMPELSTILTSKIN: Oh! Your Highness? How very, very interesting, sir.

PRINCESS: (Just as shocked.) Oh my! I wonder what made me say that?

RUMPELSTILTSKIN: I don’t know why, but Your Highness just sounds right, doesn’t it? How else would anyone address me?
RUMPELSTILTSKIN: There are several ways to address a person, but what’s important is the words she just spoke, the words she recalled from a distant memory. She have been called Your Highness before, she have.

PRINCESS: Have I?

RUMPELSTILTSKIN: She’s royalty. A princess, perhaps.

PRINCESS: Can it be?

RUMPELSTILTSKIN: It must be. She has the grace of a princess. Yes, she do, sir. And insists on being addressed as a princess. Yes. Very smart, sir. Listen to him, girl. He are very wise.

PRINCESS: But these rags are not fit for a princess. If I were a princess, why would I be sleeping in these?


PRINCESS: What language is that?

RUMPELSTILTSKIN: (Snaps out of it.) Hmm? No. Nothing. We doesn’t know why she wears rags.

PRINCESS: Who doesn’t know?

RUMPELSTILTSKIN: We doesn’t.

PRINCESS: Who do you keep talking to, and why do you keep saying “she, she, she” when I’m standing right here?!

RUMPELSTILTSKIN: She doesn’t need to get angry with us.

PRINCESS: Look, Mr. Rumpelstiltskin, if you’re playing some kind of game with me, I will just be on my way!

RUMPELSTILTSKIN: What did she call us?

PRINCESS: Rumpelstiltskin.

RUMPELSTILTSKIN: No!

PRINCESS: That’s your name, isn’t it? Rumpelstiltskin?

RUMPELSTILTSKIN: No! Stop saying it, you evil girl!

PRINCESS: I’m not evil. How dare you! I may not have any memory of who I am, but I know that I am not evil! (Fed up.) Rumpelstiltskin! Rumpelstiltskin! Rumpelstiltskin! Rumpelstiltskin!

RUMPELSTILTSKIN: No! (Stomps the ground. SOUND EFFECT: RUMBLING. They sway to and fro as if the ground is shaking.) My name! My precious, precious name! You’ve ruined it! (Crumbles to the ground in agony. RUMBLING STOPS.)

PRINCESS: You don’t have to be so dramatic. What a weird little man you are.

RUMPELSTILTSKIN: Get away! Go away, we says! (PRINCESS runs OFF LEFT. To himself.) Yes. That’s very smart, sir. Scare her off! Out of
our sight! I was thinking of saying the same thing, too!  

(LIGHTS FADE to BLACK.)

End of Scene Two

Scene Three

LIGHTS UP: Another part of the forest. HANSEL and GRETEL race ON LEFT, panting. HANSEL is now visibly chubbier. In fact, he’s extremely fat. He stops, panting, as GRETEL continues to run across the stage.

HANSEL: Stop! Wait! (Tries to catch his breath.) I can’t. I can’t!

GRETEL: (Stops and urges HANSEL to move it.) Come on! The witch isn’t far behind.

HANSEL: I know! It’s just... I just can’t run anymore.

GRETEL: It’s because you ate all that candy she kept feeding you. Look at you!

HANSEL: I know! I know! It’s disgusting. I know! But it was just so good. (Smiles, savoring the memory of how good it was.)

GRETEL: It’s only been a day—one day!—and you look like a slob.

HANSEL: I know! It’s embarrassing.

GRETEL: This is what happens when you eat like a pig!

HANSEL: That must have been some sort of magic candy.

GRETEL: No such thing. It was just candy. Regular candy!

HANSEL: (Savoring.) Oh, no. It was more than just candy and desserts. It was magic! Did you try the mint chocolate cookies? Or the strawberry cream tartlets? How about the fried, sugar-coated butter sticks? Oh my goodness, they were absolutely to die for!

GRETEL: You can say that again. And you think you’re the smart one!

FOREST WITCH: (ENTERS LEFT.) Aha! There you are! Thought you could get away from me, did you? Well, I’ve got you now! Hee, hee, hee!

GRETEL: Stay away from us! (Begins to walk backwards with HANSEL to get away.)

FOREST WITCH: Eh, eh, eh. Not so fast, you rotten little scamps! It’s no use running. I know these woods much better than you.

HANSEL: I would watch out if I were you! You don’t know who you’re messing with! (Does a couple of noticeably slower ninja moves, then stops, panting.) Just a sec.

FOREST WITCH: Hee, hee, hee! Look at you, the little whippersnapper! I see my special treats have done their trick.

HANSEL: No, no. I’m fine. I just need a sec, and then you’re going to get it. You’ll see.

FOREST WITCH: Hee, hee! (GRETEL sniffs, as if she is crying in fear.) Aw. She’s so afraid she’s crying. Aw. You’re so cute I could just eat...
you up! I’m going to have to turn the oven up extra high so you’re
nice and piping hot for my supper! Hee, hee, hee!

**PRINCE REVEILLE:** (Leaps ON LEFT and takes a heroic stance.) Not
so fast, hag!

**FOREST WITCH:** Who are you calling hag, pretty boy?

**PRINCE REVEILLE:** You. You shall not bring harm to this young lad and
lass. Now move along.

**FOREST WITCH:** Says who?

**PRINCE REVEILLE:** Says your future king!

**FOREST WITCH:** Hee, hee, hee! Yeah, right! I didn’t vote for you.

**PRINCE REVEILLE:** (Draws his sword.) Don’t make me use force.

**FOREST WITCH:** All right, I’m going. I’m going. You can put your knife
away. (To HANSEL and GRETEL.) As for you, my pretty little num-
um, looks like we’ll have to postpone our little dinner party for
another day. Hee, hee, hee! (EXITS LEFT.)

**GRETEL:** Oh, thank you, Your Highness! You saved our lives!

**PRINCE REVEILLE:** It was nothing. As your future king, it is my duty to
look out for my subjects.

**HANSEL:** Eh, whatever. We didn’t need you! Just a minute more and I
would have taken care of that old witch myself!

**GRETEL:** (Fawns over the prince.) You’re brave… and handsome!

**PRINCE REVEILLE:** What?

**GRETEL:** Are you married?

**PRINCE REVEILLE:** No.

**GRETEL:** Me neither.

**PRINCE REVEILLE:** That’s good.

**GRETEL:** (Excited.) You really think so?

**PRINCE REVEILLE:** (Clarifies.) I mean, because you seem a bit young.

**GRETEL:** (Bummed.) Oh. Right.

**HANSEL:** Hey, you got anything to eat?

**PRINCE REVEILLE:** I’m sorry, but no. Listen, children, I’m looking for
someone.

**GRETEL:** Oh, I knew it! I knew someone would come for us! I just knew
Father would send someone to rescue us from this dark and scary
forest. (Gushes.) And he’s a cute prince, too!

**PRINCE REVEILLE:** No, no. I’m sorry. It’s not you I’m looking for.

**GRETEL:** (Bummed.) Oh.

**PRINCE REVEILLE:** There’s this girl, you see.

**GRETEL:** Right.
PRINCE REVEILLE: She's disappeared into these woods, and I long to see her again. I don't suppose you've seen her, have you?

GRETEL: We haven't seen anyone. Just the old witch.

HANSEL: No. Yesterday, remember? There was that confused girl sleeping along the way. The one who stole our bread!

GRETEL: Oh, right. Her. (Glares at HANSEL.)

PRINCE REVEILLE: So you've seen her? (Holds out his hand.) About this tall, blond hair, blue eyes, dressed in rags, yet the very definition of beauty? (NOTE: Change the hair and eye color as needed to match the actress playing PRINCESS.)

GRETEL: Yes, I think that was her. (Flirts.) But it could be me.

PRINCE REVEILLE: No. I don't think so. She was much older than you. Where was she headed?

HANSEL: Who knows? We lost our trail.

GRETEL: Because numbskull here thought it would be best to hide our trail of breadcrumbs.

PRINCE REVEILLE: Did you get her name?

HANSEL: Ha! No. Said she couldn't remember it.

PRINCE REVEILLE: Alas! It seems I shall never find her. Well, if I ever hope to find her, I must be off. Good day! (Bounds OFF RIGHT.)

GRETEL: (Watches him go. Sighs. Deadpan.) Well, now what are we supposed to do?

HANSEL: Maybe we can find another house made of candy! Oh, I'm so hungry!

GRETEL: Come on, moron. Let's go. We'll find our way home somehow. Father's bound to be looking for us. (Sighs.) Ah! One day I'll find my prince and escape this childish life of brotherly torment and mediocrity.

HANSEL: (As they cross to go.) Hey. do you think Father could build us a new house? One that's made of candy?

GRETEL: I think you've had enough candy for one lifetime.

HANSEL: Aw, but it's so good.

FATHER'S VOICE: (Calls from OFF LEFT.) Hansel? Gretel? Are you out there? Can you hear me?

GRETEL: Hansel! It's Father! He did come for us! Come on! (Calls OFF LEFT.) Father! We're over here! (Races OFF LEFT.)

HANSEL: (Struggles to run, only manages a jog.) Yeah. Yeah. Right behind you. Say, Pops, you got any candy? (Painfully EXITS LEFT as the LIGHTS FADE to BLACK.)

End of Scene Three

End of script preview.
PRODUCTION NOTES

PROPERTIES ONSTAGE

Scene One: Misty Forest—tall trees and additional foliage.
Scene Two: Misty Forest. Small campfire, small stack of firewood.
Scene Three: Misty Forest.
Scene Four: Dining Room of the Seven Dwarves and Three Bears—one long table, benches, ten bowls, ten forks, ten spoons, ten knives.
Scene Five: Small campfire, small stack of firewood.
Scene Six: Bedroom of the Three Bears—three small beds or cots.
Scene Seven: Central Tower—tall tower and a long strand of hair.
Scene Eight: Bedroom of the Three Bears.
Scene Nine: Spinning wheel.
Scene Ten: Central Tower.
Scene Eleven: Southern Castle. Two beds, table, crown.

PROPERTIES BROUGHT ON

Scene One:
  Bread (HANSEL)
Scene Four:
  Basket with apple inside (QUEEN OF THE WEST)
Scene Seven:
  Wand (FAIRY GODMOTHER)
Scene Eight:
  Piece of apple (SNOW WHITE)
Scene Nine:
  Small wrapped babydoll (QUEEN OF THE NORTH)
  Baby wrapped in quilt identical to PRINCESS’ S (QUEEN OF THE SOUTH)
  Small bottle with stopper (NURSE)
Scene Ten:
  Cinderella’s slipper (PRINCE REVEILLE)
  Matching slipper (PRINCE SWAVAY)

SOUND EFFECTS

Rumbling, baby cries, magic effect.
COSTUME SUGGESTIONS
Costumes are standard fairy tale style with the following details:

PRINCESS wears rags and a large shiny pendant necklace, which bears the circle and star emblem. She always carries a quilt square with this same emblem.

HANSEL wears a fat suit or lots of extra stuffing in Scene Three.

PRINCIPES wear sheathed swords on their belts.

SNOW WHITE wears a large ring, presumably with the same circle and star emblem.

QUEEN OF THE WEST is disguised as an old woman and wears a hooded cape over a crown on her head.

CINDERELLA wears a ballgown and one slipper. In Scene Ten, she wears the clothes of a maiden and two plain slippers.

RAPUNZEL wears a princess costume and has a wig of long hair over a bald cap.
We hope you’ve enjoyed this script sample.

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