

ONCE UPON A  
**STEM**  
The Science of Fairy Tales

FUSION 

# Rapunzel



by Robin Twiddy





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**STEM**  
The Science of Fairy Tales

# Rapunzel

By Robin Twiddy  
Illustrated by Amy Li



Minneapolis, Minnesota



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A cartoon illustration of a male professor with a large, bushy yellow wig, round glasses, and a mustache. He is wearing a light blue lab coat over an orange shirt and a pink bow tie. He is standing in a laboratory setting. Behind him are shelves with various glassware: two flasks with red and green liquids on the top shelf, two round-bottom flasks with red and pink liquids on the middle shelf, and a rack of four test tubes with blue liquid on the bottom shelf. To his left is a blackboard with a test tube icon and the text "STEM rocks!". In front of him is a lab bench with a Bunsen burner, a flask with pink liquid on a stand, and a flask with green liquid. A large brown spiral-bound book titled "Rapunzel" is held in front of him. Two red speech bubbles contain text, and a yellow banner at the bottom right says "Once upon a STEM...".

Welcome to my lab. I am Professor Everafter,  
and I really like science, **technology**,  
**engineering**, and math. That's STEM!

Rapunzel

I also love this story. But some  
parts don't make sense. Maybe I  
can make them work using STEM!

Once upon a STEM . . .

... in a faraway kingdom, there lived a married couple. Their little house was next to a large walled garden. Nobody ever went into the garden because it was owned by a mean witch.





The wife saw a plant called rapunzel in the garden.  
“I must eat that plant. If I don’t, I think I might die,”  
she said to her husband. The husband loved his wife,  
so he went into the garden that night.



The husband pulled up one of the plants.  
When he looked up, he froze in fear. In front  
of him stood the witch. She was very angry.

A-ha!



Gulp.





