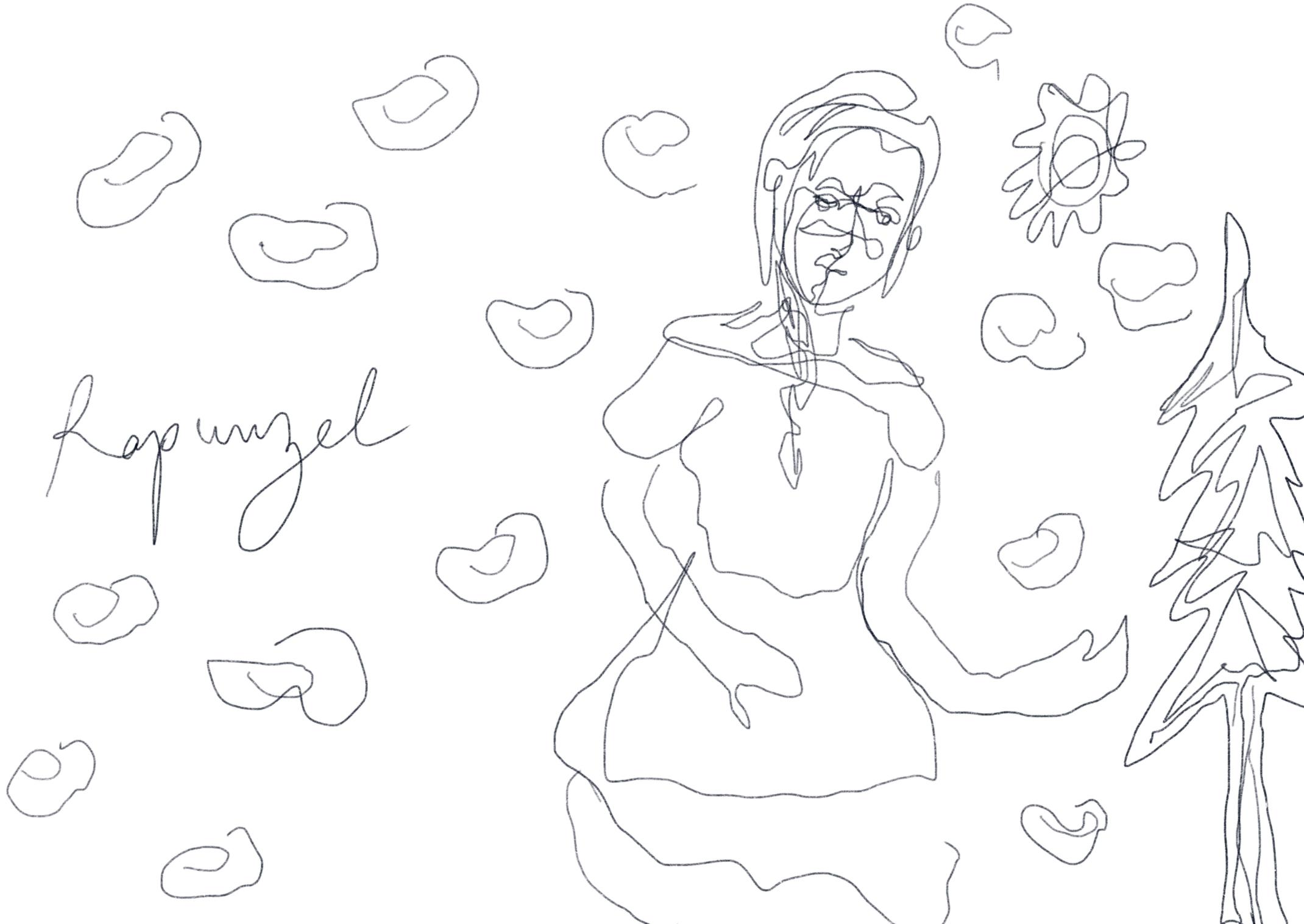
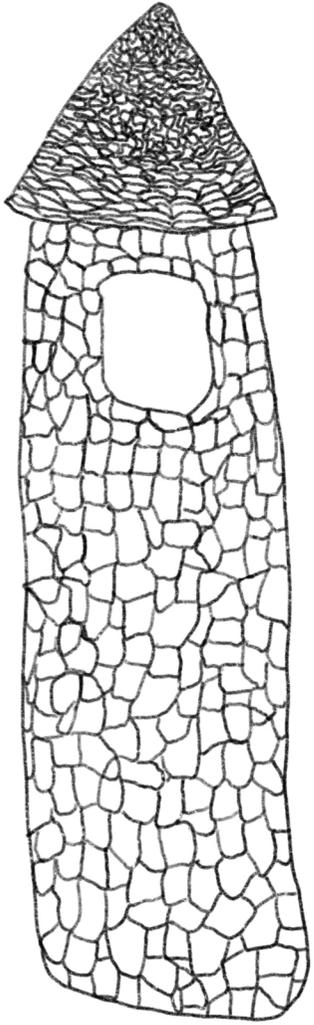


Rapunzel



day 1 or 0? No. Day 1, it starts here.

I just finished packing. I'm not talking much.



I feel the fear crawling up my throat and I know I need to hurry.

Soon the impulse to leave, to go confront the outside world will be gobbled up by another one, the oh so strong impulse to hide underneath my covers.

I found the way out a week ago and both impulses, curiosity and fear, have been battling since.

I realized a few moments ago that I have to go.

Staying in this tower would mean I'm not sure.

This life I'm currently living doesn't feel alive. Time is frozen as the same day keeps repeating itself endlessly.

Staying would mean eternity, eternity somehow amounts to death.

No not at all, the opposite of death, the opposite of life: emptiness, nothingness, the abyss?

Anyways, I'm getting a bit lost here, pushing the moment I'll leave further away. I'll go now.

day 1 (later)

I'm sitting on a stone.

The sun shines through the leaves.
I have never seen such a bright green.

The stone is warm, it seems to
have absorbed the sun. My cheeks
are doing the same.

There are so many different
smells, I wouldn't know where
to start. Une odeur terne émane
de mes mains humides et salies
par la terre.

I grabbed a handful of soil, just
to know how it feels.

I kind of regret it now, I've muddled
some on my dress by mistake.

it feels weird being outside

Nothing feels safe



My muscles tense up at every noise



I saw a fish in the
river

it only lasted a few
seconds

it shimmered in the
sunlight

à propos sun, it's
starting to go down

i'll try making a fire



day 2 I slept in the forest on my duvet and looked at the stars.



day 2

I walked for a few hours.

The forest seemed endless but I've reached it's end.

I'm on a path, sitting on a patch of grass.

I can see a town at the end of the Path.



Obviously I will meet other people there

It is what I wanted was it not?

Interacting with another.

Learning about togetherness.

I'm terrified. My head feels woozy.

My feet tremble, they want to turn back and run home.

Or maybe that's me.

No No No

I have to fight this

I'm also curious. The forest scared me but I saw butterflies and flowers and fishes!

Worst case I'll run back later, Acting against my instinct is quite tiring, I'm realizing.

DIALOGUE 1

a square at the border of the town - midday

A boy is sitting on the edge of a fountain playing with a kendama*.

Rapunzel enters the square and approaches the boy.

Rapunzel - Hello !

Boy (looks up) - Hello ?

Rapunzel - I am Rapunzel, nice to meet you. How is it that you are called?

Boy (chuckles) - You mean what's your name? I'm called Paul. Are you lost? I haven't seen you around and I pretty much know everyone around here.

Rapunzel - I'm not lost, I can't be, I don't know where I'm going.

Paul - How come? Are you looking for something ?

Rapunzel - Mmh, I'm looking for anything and nothing. I guess I'm just exploring the world for now.

I have been living in a tower until now, this is my second day outside so I haven't figured it out yet.

Paul - In a tower? Wow that's weird, you're not making fun of me, are you ?

Rapunzel - What do you mean ? Why would I?

Paul - Oh well, people just do sometimes and I've never anyone living in a tower before.

Rapunzel (smiles) - Well, I've never met anyone living outside of a tower.

Paul (smiles) - Point taken. So you don't have any plans ?

Rapunzel - No, I wanted to ask if you knew where and how to get food, it used to just pop up before.

Paul - Food doesn't pop up here, but we can go to Marcel's place. Do you have any money ?

Rapunzel - Money is a currency used to exchanged goods right? I do not have any, you need to work in order to get it right?

Paul - Yeah (laughs) you need to work. I really believe you know, you've clearly never lived within society. Don't worry I can pay for your dinner tonight, Marcel never makes me pay the full price since he started dating my dad.

Rapunzel - Oh thank you very much. I'll find a way to repay you!

Paul - Alright. Let's go it's this way.

Day 2

I'm sitting in a restaurant with Paul.
We're waiting for the food.

The room is lit by yellow lamps and
candles.

I've never encountered so many noises.
The forest seemed loud but I miss it a
bit now.

Cutlery on plates, chairs screeching against
the floor and tons of conversations overlapping.
The yellow lighting and the noise seem
to merge into a cloud slowly overtaking
my brain.

My vision prickles and my limbs feel
heavy.

Un mur invisible semble avoir poussé le
long du contour de mon être, un rideau
translucide et pourtant imperméable incrusté
dans ma peau, ein durchsichtiger und
doch undurchdringbarer Schleier in
meine Haut geschmolzen.



Rapunzel and Paul sit at a table in a restaurant. A man walks close to them.

Paul — Hey Marcel!

Marcel — Hi, are you and your friend enjoying the food?

Rapunzel looks at both men and nods.

Paul — This is Marcel, he's the owner. (He makes a gesture towards Rapunzel.) This is Rapunzel. She just arrived in town.

Marcel — Nice to meet you Rapunzel, what are you doing in our little town? It's rare to have such young newcomers, most people your age move to the big city.

Rapunzel — I...

Paul (cuts her off) — She comes from a tower! She's never seen the outside world!

Marcel (raises an eyebrow) — Oh really? That's quite uncommon, I have never heard about anything like that.

Rapunzel (shrugs) — Well, what is common depends on whom you're talking to, doesn't it?

Marcel (laughs heartily) — I guess that's true. Do have a place to stay Rapunzel?

Rapunzel (shakes her head) — No, not yet, but I have a sleeping bag I can always sleep in the forest again.

Marcel — The forest isn't very cozy nor safe for a young lady is it. Well, the waiter in the restaurant is sick, so we need some extra help. If you want you could work at the restaurant for a few days and sleep in my daughter's room.

Paul — Wow, making a friend and getting both job and place to stay in one day, I'd say you're quite the lucky gal.

Rapunzel — Oh, yes I would love that, thank you very much! Ehm, I just don't know— I have never worked before. What would I have to do?

Marcel — Oh someone's quite privileged huh? Oh well, no worries I'm sure you'll pick up on it. You just have to ask costumers what they'd like to eat, tell me and bring the food when it's ready. Sounds relatively easy doesn't it?

Rapunzel — Yes (smiles) Thank you so much. Should I start now?

Marcel (chuckles) — You can finish your meal in peace just come to me when you're done.

Marcel leaves.

Rapunzel — Thank you Paul, you've really helped me out today.

Paul (grins) — That's what friends are there for! To be honest I'm glad I met you, most of my friends have moved to the neighbouring city to study so I guess I was feeling a bit lonely.

Rapunzel — Lonely? That's when you're alone right? Don't you live with your dad?

Paul — Oh you can feel lonely without being alone. It's a feeling, I'm not sure how to explain it. I guess, it's when you long for some human contact. Like, you want to feel seen and understood and get to know someone else? I'm not sure.

Rapunzel — I think I understand. I'm not sure if I've always or never been lonely then. Maybe both.

Paul lifts his glass.

Paul — Come on, copy me, this is called toasting, it's when you drink to something. In this case, let's drink to togetherness.

Rapunzel (smiles and lifts her glass) — That sounds nice. Togetherness.

Day 2 (Nighttime)

I'm sleeping in a stranger's bed tonight. Marcel's daughter left to study in a neighbouring city leaving her room vacant. Her bed is a bit too small for me but I don't mind, it's more comfortable than the forest. I'm exhausted. I just had a shower, I didn't really like it, I prefer the bath from the tower.

The water felt aggressive as it hit my skin and I didn't really like cleaning myself standing, I struggled to reach my feet.

Okay, my eyelids are closing and my head feels heavy, I'll sleep for now, will write about the other stuff during breakfast.

good night ☆ ☆ Get the
☆ ~~the~~ ^{me} moon

Day 3

I'm having breakfast.

The restaurant will open in an hour.

This notion of time is funny to me.

There is a clock on the wall, there was one in the tower as well but what did time mean except maybe an indication on the trajectory of the sun?

Yesterday I worked a bit. I had to run around and try to remember the costumers orders.

Marcel gave me a notebook after a while because I kept forgetting.

He's nice, I don't really like being given orders but that's part of working I guess...

Also Paul said he'd come by today.

I think I made a friend.

He's nice too doesn't always let me finish my sentences but I guess he knows more than I do.



me right now

Rapunzel sets down a plate on a table.

Rapunzel (smiling) - Here's your meal!

Person (smiles) - Thank you!

Rapunzel - I like your jacket a lot.

Person - Thanks, it's quite special to me I made a long time ago but it remains one of my favorites.

Rapunzel - Oh you made it, that's cool! I get that, I have this one dress I kept reworking every time it'd become too small because I refused to let it go.

Person - Oh you sew as well?

Rapunzel - Yes.. -

Marcel (from the kitchen) - Rapunzel!

Rapunzel - Oh sorry, I'm being called. Enjoy your meal!

Rapunzel leaves.

Rapunzel comes back a plate in her hand and takes a seat on a table close by.

Person - So your name is Rapunzel?

Rapunzel - Yes, so sorry how rude of me, I forgot to introduce myself. How are you... What's your name?

Person - My name is Leila, I work as a seamster in the house right next to the restaurant.

Rapunzel - Oh, Paul told me about you! You made his work outfit didn't you?

Leila - Yes, I'm the only seamster in town so most people come to me. Where did you learn to sew?

Rapunzel - Well, in the tower I grew up in there was a book explaining the basics and materials kept popping up so I learnt how to sew by hand first and a few years ago a sewing machine came along. The clothes that popped up didn't always suit my taste so I learnt how to make my own.

Leila - I'm not quite sure I understood everything but I also started sewing because the clothes given to me didn't quite fit me. So you work here as a waitress?

Rapunzel - Yes but only temporarily, the usual waiter is sick. I arrived in this town a few days ago and Marcel was so kind as to offer me food and a place to stay in exchange of working here but I'll have to find something else or move on in a bit.

Leila - Oh well, I'm looking for someone to help me out if you'd like to check out my atelier? I'd have to assess your skills but the dress you're wearing seems really well done.

Rapunzel - Oh!! Yes, I would love that! Thank you very much!

Leila - Come by one of these days then. (smiles)

Rapunzel - I will! (smiles)

Day 3 (evening)

I'm going to visit Leila's atelier tomorrow. I mentioned it to Marcel and he encouraged me. I was a bit anxious he'd feel abandoned but he said that it was great and that I was always welcome. I mean with the amount of plates I break it might be for the best if I work for Leila instead.

They have a room free in the attic. I didn't really plan what was going to follow my departure but I didn't imagine settling so soon.

I'm happy but I also feel quite tired.

When I closed the door of my temporary room it was a relief.

Everyone is really nice but talking, listening, reacting is quite exhausting. The restaurant is so noisy, I hope Leila's atelier is quieter.

Anyway's as I said I'm tired, Good Night!



the dress
I kept
on
adding
fabric
onto