

Rump: The True Story of Rumpelstiltskin

By: Liesl Shurtliff

1. Who is Anna?
Rump's mother.
2. What happened to Rump's mother?
She was very ill when Rump was born and she died right afterward.
3. How did Rump get his name?
His mother whispered his full name in his ear, but was only able to tell the first half to Gran before she died.
4. What is special about names in this kingdom?
The people believe your name is full of power and meaning, and it is your destiny.
5. What was Rump's unpleasant nickname?
Butt
6. Who are the two boys who bully Rump?
Frederick and Bruno are brothers, and they are the Miller's sons.
7. Who is Rump's friend?
Red
8. What is Rump doing on his birthday and how is he?
He is searching for gold inside of The Mountain. He is 12.
9. What happens to the gold that the people find inside The Mountain?
The royal tax collectors take it to the King.
10. What is the king's name?
King Bartholomew Archibald Reginald Fife
11. What is Rump's nickname for the king?
King Barf
12. What do the pixies do?
They find gold. They are mean and will bite you in order to steal it.
13. What does Rump like to do when he's feeling down?
He makes up rhymes.
14. Why don't animals have names? So what does Rump call the goat and the donkey?
Names are special and saved for people. The goat he calls Milk, because that's what she gives him. The donkey he calls Nothing, because that's what he's good for.
15. What does Rump find in the woodpile?
A spinning wheel

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16. Who did the spinning wheel belong to?
Rump's mother
17. How does Rump convince Gran to let him have the spinning wheel?
He asks if he can have it for his birthday. He never talked about his birthday.
18. How long has it been since Rump has grown any taller?
Four years
19. How does Gran react when Rump says he wants to learn how to use the spinning wheel?
She gets very upset and yells at him.
20. How does Gran say Rump's mother felt about spinning?
Gran says she hated it and only did it because she had to.
21. What happens when Rump tries to use the spinning wheel the first time?
His fingers get caught in the wheel and he falls off.
22. Who comes to Rump the first time he tries spinning?
Pixies come out of the cracks of the fireplace to gather around the wheel and also to fly around Rump. One tickles him on the nose. One lands on his finger and digs her feet into a cut.
23. Why does Rump think his fingers got caught in the spinning wheel?
He thinks it was telling him NOT to spin.
24. What does Rump think of the Pixies' reaction to him spinning?
He thinks they WANT him to spin.
25. What do gnomes do in the Kingdom?
They spread news and deliver messages since most people can't read.
26. What or who is corrupt in the village?
The miller, Oswald, is greedy and does not trade fairly for food.
27. Where does Rump go when he wants to be alone?
The Woods
28. Why does Red think that Rump stole some gold?
Pixies attack him. She says pixies don't bug you unless you're near gold, and they don't bite you unless you have gold.
29. How did Red get the pixies to stop attacking Rump?
She threw dirt on them. Pixies hate to be dirty.
30. What does it mean when the village bell rings?
It means a baby has been born.

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31. What is Rump's grandmother's name?
Elsbith
32. Why doesn't Rump ever tell anyone that it's not his whole name?
People think half a name is dangerous and can make a person addled in the brain (crazy).
33. What does Red's granny tell Rump about finding his whole name?
She said when he finds his destiny, he'll find his name, but not until after he causes a heap of trouble.
34. What do Red's and Rump's grandmothers call each other?
Crabby old wretch
35. Who is Kessler?
Kessler is a peddler from The Kingdom who uses magic to turn a lump of fuzz into a mouse.
36. What does Red warn Rump about magic?
She says all magic has consequences, even small uses of magic.
37. What does Rump realize when the pixies wake him up in the middle of the night?
That maybe pixies can detect gold inside of him like the detect gold inside of The Mountain.
38. Rump doesn't have any wool to spin, so what does he try instead? What happens?
Straw - It turns into gold.
39. Who peeks through the window when Rump figures out how to spin gold?
Frederick and Bruno, the millers' sons
40. What happens when Red leads Rump into The Woods?
A path appears in front of them where there was none before.
41. Where does Red take Rump when they go into The Woods?
To a tree with a beehive. She gets a honeycomb for them to eat.
42. What does Rump show Red when they go into The Woods?
He shows her the bobbin from his mother's spinning wheel.
43. What does Red tell Rump about his mother?
Rump's mother was a spinner from Yonder.
44. What does Rump think about the bobbin? What does Red think about the bobbin?
He thinks the bobbin is magic. She thinks Rump is magic, not the bobbin.
45. The miller tells Rump that gold means what?
Food

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46. The first rations day after Rump spins gold, what does the miller give him?
An extra big bag that turns out to be filled with chalk and sawdust.
47. What do Rump and Gran eat when the miller gives them a bag of sawdust?
They kill one of their two hens and eat it.
48. What happens on the second rations day after Rump spins gold?
The miller gives him nothing, and when he gets home, Gran is sick.
49. What happens when Rump takes some of his gold to the miller?
He asks what the miller will give him for the gold, and is unable to ask for what he really wants. Even when the deals are unfair, Rump's jaw is clamped shut. He can't say no and he can't say the deal is unfair.
50. What eventually happens to Gran? How long does Rump stay in his cottage spinning gold after Gran dies?
She rages with fever for 3 days and dies after Rump tells her he can spin gold. He stays there 4 months.
51. What happens when the Mountain pass opens? Why?
The King comes to visit The Mountain. He is looking for whoever makes Rump's gold.
52. What does Red do after the King announces his guards will be searching every home looking for gold?
She slaps Rump and calls him a numskull.
53. How does the King discover that Rump has gold?
Pixies swarm around him, and then he drops a spool of gold that unravels at the guards' feet.
54. What does Rump say when the King tells him to hand over the gold?
Rump asks what the King will give him.
55. How does the miller seem to try to protect Rump?
The miller claims the gold is his, and he claims his daughter spun the gold.
56. What does the King do with Opal and what does he say will happen if Opal can not spin gold?
He takes her to his castle so she can spin gold for him. He promises that the people of The Mountain will be richly rewarded if it is true, and will be punished by death or the dungeon if they are deceiving him.
57. Why does Rump pity Opal as she is taken away by the King?
He knows it is his fault that an innocent is being taken to her doom.
58. Who is The Witch in the Woods?
Red's grandmother
59. What is the job of the people of each realm?
The Mountain – look for gold
The Valley – farm
Yonder – raise sheep and gather wool

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60. From the Witch in the Woods, Rump learns the price/consequence of his magic is what?
His will and his control
61. What is a stiltskin?
A stiltskin is magic at its greatest, grown deep within something else. It is pure magic, stronger than any spell or enchantment or curse. Each person's is different, and once you have it, no one can take it.
62. What does the Witch in the Woods tell Rump he needs to find?
He needs to find his stiltskin.
63. What does The Witch in the Woods give to Rump? What does she tell him about it?
A seed. She tells him small things can grow big.
64. What warning for The Witch in the Woods give to Rump?
"Watch your step."
65. Who does Rump take on his journey to save Opal?
Nothing, the donkey
66. How does Rump sneak into the castle? What happens when Rump finds Opal in the castle?
He hides in a cart of straw. She doesn't believe that he can spin straw into gold, and tells him to spin all the straw in the room.
67. What happens when Rump asks Opal what she will give him for all of the gold?
She asks what he wants, and he is unable to tell her, so he asks her again, "What will you give me?"
68. What does Opal give Rump the first time he spins gold for her?
Her gold necklace.
69. Why does Rump tell Opal to close the window when he is about to spin the gold?
He says every Pixie within a mile of the castle will swarm the room if she leaves it open.
70. What names does Opal call Rump?
She calls him Robert. She seems to think Rump was a silly nickname invented by her brothers to tease Rump.
71. What does Opal give Rump the second time he spins gold for her?
Her opal ring that her mother gave to Opal before she died
72. What does the King promise Opal the third time Rump spins gold?
He promises to make Opal the Queen
73. What happens when Rump forgets to ask for something in return for the gold?
Opal says she won't give him anything, but the skeins of gold are stuck to the floor. Rump says the gold doesn't belong to her unless she gives him something for it.

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74. Opal doesn't have anything left to trade for the third batch of gold, so what does Rump tell her?
She can make a promise to give him something later.
75. What does Opal promise to give Rump for the third batch of gold?
Her firstborn child
76. What happens after Rump finishes spinning the third batch of gold?
He almost gets caught by the guards and falls out of the window onto the ground.
77. Who finds Rump and takes care of him after he falls out of the window?
Martha, one of the King's cooks, and her son, Helmut who is a soldier/guard
78. Why is it easier for Rump to introduce himself as Robert?
He believes his name is such a burden to explain and that people will assume the worst.
79. What does Martha the Cook tell Rump about the crops?
The crops in the valley have suffered from bad weather, and if there's another bad season, they might have a famine. She also said the King should focus on food instead of gold.
80. Who does Rump send a message to after his fall?
Red. Martha the Cook insists he send a message to let her know he is alright. Martha, who likes to talk, sends a very detailed message about his injuries.
81. When Rump leaves the castle, what city does he decide to go to?
Yonder. His mother is from there and he hopes to find some of her family.
82. What happens to Rump in the road to Yonder?
He gets caught in a troll trap when he tries to pick an apple off of a tree.
83. What was special about the apple tree on the way to Yonder?
The apples are poisonous and cause a person to fall asleep forever until they are awakened by True Love's First Kiss.
84. What do the trolls say about Rump when they first catch him?
That he doesn't smell like most humans.
85. What is the trolls' pleasant surprise for Rump?
They don't actually eat humans. They let humans believe it so the humans will stay away from the trolls and won't try to make them into slaves.
86. Why would humans enslave trolls?
Trolls can smell out and find magical objects.
87. What can the trolls smell on Rump?
Magic. They say he reeks of magic.

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88. Nothing, the Donkey, finally listens to someone. Who?
Bork the troll, who said he always wanted a pet goat. Rump gives him Nothing.
89. How are Martha (cook) and Mard (troll) similar?
They are both very motherly and kind to Rump.
90. When Rump gets to Yonder, what does a man tell him about the Pixies?
He says Rump must be full of luck because Pixies bring good luck.
91. What can the Wool Witches do?
They weave magic so that grass turns into silver and wool turns into silk.
92. What are Rump's aunts' names? Which is Rump's favorite?
Hadel, Ida, Bathilda – His favorite is Ida.
93. What is a rumpel?
It means wrapped or trapped in magic.
94. What happens to Rump's body after a few weeks of living with his aunts?
He finally grows taller. His pants don't fit and he thinks they shrunk.
95. What chore does Hadel ask Rump to help her with? What happens?
Moving the Pixie nests outside for the winter. The Pixies hibernate for the winter. It is best to move the nests when the Pixies are tired but not yet asleep. The Pixies come out of the nest to crawl on Rump. Hadel dumps a bucket of dirt on Rump and makes a trail of wool and leaves to lead the Pixies back to their nest.
96. What does Hadel tell Rump about Pixies?
That there usually aren't that many Pixies but there have been more since he showed up.
97. What advice does Hadel give Rump about finding a stiltskin?
She says it is possible, and that when wool gets tangled in a knot, only the weaver can untangle it. (He has to solve the problem himself.)
98. Who comes looking for Rump in Yonder and what happens?
Bruno and Frederick – They take him back to the castle where Opal has given birth to a baby boy.
99. What does the Miller reveal about Rump's mother after Opal gives Rump her baby?
The Miller knew Rump's mother and knew about her magic power to spin straw into gold. He is the merchant she met in Yonder who convinced her to start spinning gold.
100. What does the Miller offer Rump to spin gold one more time?
His friend, unharmed. The Miller has captured Red.
101. Rump thinks of a way for Opal to keep her baby. What is it?
Opal has to guess Rump's true name.

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102. Where does Rump take Bruno and Frederick on one of his bathroom breaks?
He tells them he has a stash of gold out in the forest. Rump purposely steps in the troll trap and the bullies run away.
103. What lesson does Bork teach Rump based on the poisonous apple tree?
Something born from poison doesn't have to be poisonous too.
104. What does Rump realize about himself?
That the stiltskin he is looking for is within himself.
105. What is Rump's true name?
Rumpelstiltskin
106. What does Rump put inside of the baby's basket on the way back to the castle from the Troll's forest?
A pixie nest.
107. What did the miller do to Red that broke his bargain with Rump?
The bargain was to keep her unharmed, but the miller hit Red causing a welt on her cheek.
108. How does Opal guess Rump's true name?
Her brothers heard him say it at the apple tree and told her.
109. How does the advice "Watch your step" finally help Rump?
He steps on the pixie nests to distract everyone, then he steps on the rotten floorboards so he and Red can escape when they fall into the kitchen.
110. What do the pixies do with the gold in the tower?
They throw it out the window where it gets melded to the ground when people try to take it because it doesn't belong to them. The gold belongs to the pixies now.
111. What was different about Rump's cottage when he returns?
The seed that Red's granny gave him had started to grow into a sapling, and he hopes it will be an apple tree.
112. After he returns, what happens when Rump tries to spin straw on his mother's wheel?
It sputters through the wheel and shines like gold, but it is still straw.
113. Why does Rump name the mountain at the end of the book?
He says everything needs a destiny, not just people. Places can have a destiny, too.
114. What would Red rather do to Rump than kiss him?
Punch him.
115. What was Anna's curse that she passed along to her son?
She had to accept whatever bargain was first offered for her spun gold.