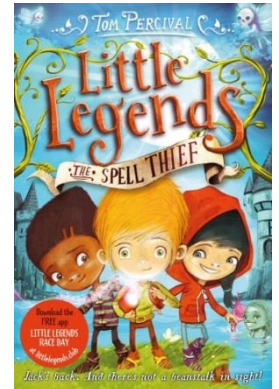


# Little Legends by Tom Percival

## Discussion Notes

### About *Little Legends: The Spell Thief*

Jack (of the beanstalk fame) and his magical talking chicken, Betsy, have always been great at making new friends. But when Jack spots Anansi, the new kid in town, talking to a troll in the Deep Dark Woods, everything changes. Everyone knows that trolls mean trouble, and Jack will do anything to prove to the rest of his friends that Anansi is a troll spy. Even if that means using stolen magic!



### About *Little Legends: The Great Troll Rescue*

What starts as an adventure ends in disaster when Rapunzel, Anansi and Jack and his talking chicken, Betsy, are captured by a wicked witch and locked up in a tower! It's up to Red (the sustainable woodcutter's daughter) to save the day. With the help of the witch's servant, Ella, and her magical fairy god-brother, can Red save her friends and all the other magical creatures the witch has kidnapped - including a fearsome troll?

### Meet the characters of Tale Town

**Jack** – Jack lives in Tale Town and has a pet magic hen, Betsy, who can talk! His father works far away mining Moonstone and Jack misses him terribly in *The Spell Thief*. He's great at running really fast (especially from giants who want to grind his bones into flour). Though his pride can get him into trouble, Jack is a good friend and loves an adventure. Betsy also loves an adventure and saying 'What!'.

**Anansi** – Anansi is new to Tale Town and comes from Far Far Away. His family have been cursed and he's determined to save them by finding out who set the curse. He has the amazing ability to speak to spiders and climb tall building and trees using spiders' webs. He's also runs really fast, even Jack has trouble keeping up! Anansi also likes to tell incredible stories and making jokes.

**Red** – Red lives in Tale Town with her woodsman father, who makes amazing things out of wood, including wooden socks! Red always wears a red hoody and is known

for seeing the good in everyone. Sometimes she sees too much good in everyone and people take advantage of her. She is a good friend is the first person to welcome Anansi to Tale Town. She hates anything fish-flavoured!

**Rapunzel** – Rapunzel’s parents are the King and Queen of Tale Town which she likes to mention this a little too often which can make her seem self-absorbed, but Rapunzel is a good friend. Her long, magical hair can tie itself in knots and be used to get out of (and into) trouble. She especially loves conditioner to keep her hair free of knots and frizz!

### Discussion ideas for Chatterbooks

- The Little Legends characters are all familiar favourites from fairy tales and folk legends. What are your favourite fairy tales? Who would you like the characters of Tale Town to meet next? Pick out your favourite fairy tale books from the library and share with the group.
- The Story Tree in Tale Town grows a new branch every time someone tells a great story. What story from your life would you tell the tree? Is it an adventure? Is it a funny story? (**Activity idea!** Why not make your own Story Tree? Using coloured paper, make a tree with a thick trunk and lots of branches in your library. Cut out leaf shapes using more coloured paper and write or draw a stories on the leaves and stick to the Tale Tree.)
- Anansi can speak to spiders and Jack’s pet hen Betsy can say talk. What animal (or insect!) would you most like to talk to? What would you talk about?
- In *The Spell Thief* Jack gives up happy memories in exchange for spells from Lily, the Sea Witch in training. What are your favourite memories? (**Activity idea!** Photocopy an outline of a bottle for your group and have them write or draw their favourite memory inside.)
- In *The Great Troll Rescue* Red meets Wilf the huntsman who doesn’t want to be an evil huntsman, he wants to be a woodsman and do good deeds. What job would you like when you grow up? What job would you like if you lived in Tale Town?