

# The princess who loved books

Share this story about a traditional princess who discovers how to access a wonderful selection of books in today's modern world



Once upon a time, in a castle high on a hill, there lived a little princess who loved books. One day, the little princess said to the king and queen, 'I have looked at these books so many times. I wish I had something new to read.'

They all thought about the problem.

'I know what to do,' said the king,

'We will post a notice on the castle gate asking if anyone has an exciting new book for the princess to read.'

At 9 o'clock, a prince came riding through the castle gate.

'I have a book for the princess,' he said, holding up a shiny, red book with gold letters on the front, 'I bought it on my travels around the world.'

The princess turned the pages but she could not understand the words inside because it was written in another language and there were no pictures to look at.

'This is no use to me,' she said sadly, 'I cannot understand a word.'

At 10 o'clock, a second prince came

riding through the castle gate.

'I have a book for the princess,' he said, holding up a dusty old book, 'I found it in the dungeon of my castle.'

The princess blew off the dust and began to turn the pages, but as she did so they fell out one by one.

'This is no use to me,' she said sadly, 'It is falling apart in my hands.'

At 11 o'clock, a third prince came walking through the castle gate pushing a heavy wheelbarrow.

'I have a book for the princess,' he said, 'I brought it in this wheelbarrow back from the land of giants.'

The princess tried to turn the pages but they were far too heavy to move.

'This is no use to me,' she said sadly, 'I cannot even lift the pages.'

At 12 o'clock, a fourth prince came walking through the castle gate.

'I have books for the princess,' he said, 'but she must come with me to get them.'

The princess held the prince's hand

and off they ran down the hill towards the village.

There on the village green was a shiny red and yellow van. When the princess stepped inside she gasped – the van was lined with books from floor to roof.

'This is the travelling library,' said the prince, 'every week it comes to the village and people borrow books from the shelves. You can borrow three today.'

This was just what the princess wanted! She sat on a cosy cushion surrounded by books of every shape and size. It took her two hours to decide which three books to borrow.

'I have chosen a fairy story, a poetry book and a book about birds,' she told the librarian.

The prince and princess climbed the hill back to the castle, carefully carrying the precious books.

'I will never run out of books to read again,' laughed the princess. And do you know – she never did!

And what is more, the prince and princess became the best of friends.

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