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Opening extract from
**Princess Smartypants and the
Missing Princes**

Written by
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❧ INTRODUCTION ❧

 **P**rincess Smartypants is a very unusual princess.

Most princesses wear pretty dresses, lots of make-up and their main mission is to marry a rich handsome prince and live happily ever after.

But Princess Smartypants is very happily *un*married. She is quite content to be a 'Ms' and governs her wacky kingdom of Totaloonia all on her own with huge success – and without the



unwelcome help of any dumb princes.

She spends her time looking after her outrageous pets and having lots of fun. She wears dungarees and wellington boots (except when she is riding her trusty motorbike 'Norton' in her leathers). She flies about on her Dragonocodiles and Pollycrops and has a very naughty pony called Powderpuff.

Princess Smartypants' best friend is her handyman, Eric the Annihilator. He is a very large giant who keeps the





castle running and generally
takes care of Princess
Smartypants.

Although our princess
is unusual, that does not
mean to say that she is not
continually bothered by
princes asking for her hand
in marriage. After all, she is
very pretty and rich. They
are always turning up at the
castle making a nuisance
of themselves, which is a
horrible mistake on their
part. You see, one kiss from
Princess Smartypants will
instantly turn them into a





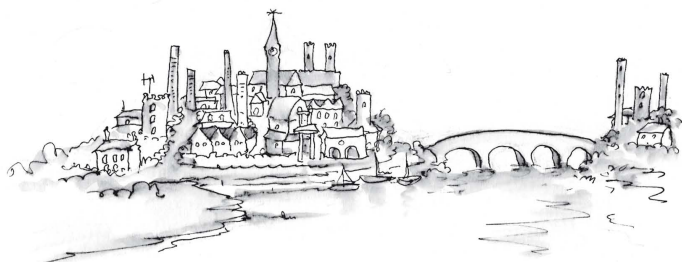
warty toad or slimy frog.

Totaloonia is crawling with princes. They hang out in the castle moat where Eric feeds them on dried flies and locusts. They are actually very happy and well looked after, even though they still dream of finding the right princess to kiss them back into princes again.

Princess Smartypants does understand that most fairytale princesses want to get married. In fact, she has three potential princess friends who are about to get engaged at

this very moment in time.

And that is what this story
is all about. So let us not waste
any more time and get on with
this very unusual fairytale.





CHAPTER 1

THE ROYAL ENGAGEMENT

rincess Smartypants was just polishing the scales on Polly, her Pollyopticus (one of her favourite pets), when the castle doorbell rang.

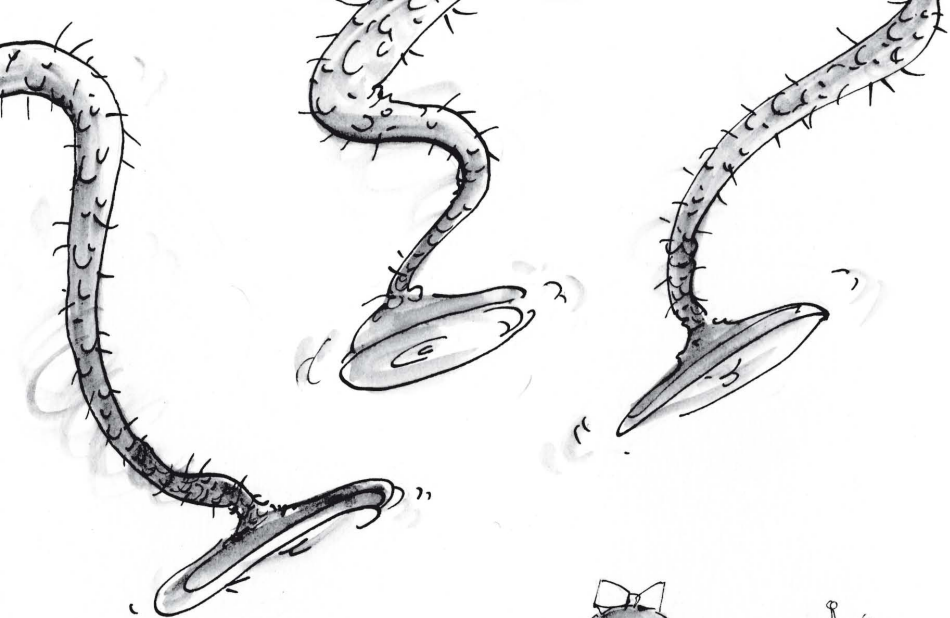
Eric let down the drawbridge and a pretty coach containing three would-be Princesses clattered into the castle courtyard.

Her friends, Snowy (Snow White), Cindy (Cinderella) and Punzie (Rapunzel), alighted from the carriage and made their way to the



stables where Princess Smartypants was at work on Polly. (A Pollyopticus is half parrot, half octopus, with a bit of chicken thrown in.) She removed her heavy-duty rubber gloves and gave her friends a big hug. Polly tried to hug them too but Princess Smartypants explained to him that not all young ladies appreciated this, because they thought he might eat them!

They had come to ask Princess Smartypants a favour. They were about



to be officially engaged to the three princes, Charming, Handsome and Daring, who had rescued them in their own Fairytale stories.

Unfortunately, the princes had very troublesome mothers who all wanted the official engagement party to be held at their own particular palace. The girls had decided to take the matter into their own hands and find an independent venue.

The trouble was, Punzie only had a high tower with no disabled access ...