

For Hugo - S.D.

For Bruno the cat, who pawed and purred over me while I worked - R.S.

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BOOM! BANG! Royal Meringue!

Sally Doran Rachael Saunders



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Young Princess Hannah grew up in a palace
with her father King Monty and mother Queen Alice.

She always said "thank you" and "pardon" and "please".
She ate all her cabbage and parsnips and peas.
"I'm ever so proud," said the King to his wife.
"She's the finest young lady I've met in my life!"

The Queen quite agreed,
so they planned it together:
their daughter deserved
the best birthday ever!




"Happy birthday my dear, what a day!" said the King. "We've bought you this marvellous, wonderful thing!"
She ripped off the paper and pulled off the bow. "What is it?" she asked. "Why, my dear, don't you know?"

It was big, it was gold, it had buttons and cogs,

it had hundreds of dials and switches and knobs.



"And just look what's piped on the front," said the Queen:

Thank you!

said Hannah.

The King and Queen smiled. (They really had raised the most wonderful child.)