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opening extract from

The Real Princess: A Mathemagical Tale

written by

Brenda Williams

published by

Barefoot Books Ltd

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To my husband Mike for all his love and encouragement, and
for my children, Susie and Jonathan, whose childhood so delighted
me it has been my inspiration ever since. With love — B. W.

To my dear friend Aline — S. F.

Barefoot Books
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The Real Princess

A Mathemagical Tale

written by Brenda Williams
illustrated by Sophie Fatus

Barefoot Books
Celebrating Art and Story

Long ago and far away, a king and queen had 3 sons. The eldest son was called Primo and the second son was called Secundo. The third son was called Terzo.

The king and queen had
1 butler, 2 footmen,
3 maids, 4 horses,
5 grooms, 6 dogs,
7 gardeners, 8 chimney sweeps,
9 cooks and
10 soldiers.

Now, the king had a counting house in which he kept 3 bags of gold. Each bag contained 180 gold coins.

'One day my sons will marry',
the king said to himself.
'These bags of gold will give
them a fine start in life.'

Now, it was the custom at that time that the eldest prince should marry first, but only if he could find a bride fit to be the next queen.

'You must find yourself a *real* princess',
said his father every morning as
he tucked into his royal breakfast.
'Only a *real* princess will do.'