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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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please print off and read at your leisure.

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.

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This book has been printed on 100% acid-free paper

Graphic design by Louise Millar, London
Colour separation by Grafiscan, Verona
Printed and bound in China by Printplus Ltd

This book was typeset in Meridien and Girls Are Weird
The illustrations were prepared in acrylics with collaged papers

Hardback ISBN 978-1-905236-87-9

British Cataloguing-in-Publication Data:
a catalogue record for this book
is available from the British Library

1 3 5 7 9 8 6 4 2

The Real Princess

A Mathemagical Tale

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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.’

