

English

The princess and the pea

Once upon a time there was a prince who wanted to marry a princess; but she would have to be a real princess. He travelled all over the world to find one, but nowhere could he get what he wanted. There were princesses enough, but it was difficult to find out whether they were real ones. There was always something about them that was not as it should be. So he came home again and was sad, for he would have liked very much to have a real princess.

One evening a terrible storm came on; there was thunder and lightning, and the rain poured down in torrents. Suddenly a knocking was heard at the city gate, and the old king went to open it.

It was a princess standing out there in front of the gate. But, good gracious! what a sight the rain and the wind had made her look. The water ran down from her hair and clothes; it ran down into the toes of her shoes and out again at the heels. And yet she said that she was a real princess.

"Well, we'll soon find that out," thought the old queen. But she said nothing, went into the bed-room, took all the bedding off the bedstead, and laid a pea on the bottom; then she took twenty mattresses and laid them on the pea, and then twenty eider-down beds on top of the mattresses.

On this the princess had to lie all night.

In the morning she was asked how she had slept.

"Oh, very badly!" said she. "I have scarcely closed my eyes all night. Heaven only knows what was in the bed, but I was lying on something hard, so that I am black and blue all over my body. It's horrible!"

Now they knew that she was a real princess because she had felt the pea right through the twenty mattresses and the twenty eider-down beds. Nobody but a real princess could be as sensitive as that.

So the prince took her for his wife, for now he knew that he had a real princess; and the pea was put in the museum, where it may still be seen, if no one has stolen it.

There, that is a true story.

Simplified Chinese

公主和豌豆

从前有一个王子想娶一位真正的公主。他走遍世界各地寻找公主，但真假难辨。这些公主身上总有一些不应该的东西。于是他回到家，心里非常难过，因为他很想娶到一位真正的公主。

一天晚上，一场可怕的风暴来了；雷电交加，大雨倾盆而下。忽然，城门传来敲门声，老国王去开门。

站在门前的，是一位公主。风雨交加使她看起来更加美丽。雨水从她的头发和衣服上流下来；流到鞋尖，又流到脚后跟。她说她是一位真正的公主。

“好吧，我们很快就会知道的，”老王后想。但她什么也没说，走进卧室，把床架上的所有被褥都拿了下来，在床底放了一颗豌豆。然后她拿了二十张床垫放在豌豆上，然后在床垫上放了二十条鸭绒被子。

然后，公主躺着了上去。

早上有人问她睡得怎么样。

“哦，非常糟糕！”她说。“我一夜几乎没合眼，天知道床上有什么，我躺在硬物上，浑身青一块紫一块，好可怕！”

现在，他们知道她是一位真正的公主，因为她能从二十张床垫和二十条鸭绒被子上感受到下面放置的豌豆。除了真正的公主之外，没有人能如此敏感。

于是王子娶了她为妻，因为现在他知道他娶到了一位真正的公主。自此，这颗豌豆就一直放在博物馆里，如果不是被人偷走，人仍然可以看到它。

这是一个真实的故事。

Traditional Chinese

公主和豌豆

從前有一個王子想娶一位真正的公主。他走遍世界各地尋找公主，但真假難辨。這些公主身上總有一些不應該的東西。於是他回到家，心裡非常難過，因為他很想娶到一位真正的公主。

一天晚上，一場可怕的風暴來了；雷電交加，大雨傾盆而下。忽然，城門傳來敲門聲，老國王去開門。

站在門前的，是一位公主。風雨交加使她看起來更加美麗。雨水從她的頭髮和衣服上流下來；流到鞋尖，又流到腳後跟。她說她是一位真正的公主。

“好吧，我們很快就會知道的，”老王后想。但她什麼也沒說，走進臥室，把床架上的所有被褥都拿了下來，在床底放了一顆豌豆。然後她拿了二十張床墊放在豌豆上，然後在床墊上放了二十條鴨絨被子。

然後，公主躺著了上去。

早上有人問她睡得怎麼樣。

“哦，非常糟糕！”她說。“我一夜幾乎沒合眼，天知道床上有什麼，我躺在硬物上，渾身青一塊紫一塊，好可怕！”

現在，他們知道她是一位真正的公主，因為她能從二十張床墊和二十條鴨絨被子上感受到下面放置的豌豆。除了真正的公主之外，沒有人能如此敏感。

於是王子娶了她為妻，因為現在他知道他娶到了一位真正的公主。自此，這顆豌豆就一直放在博物館裡，如果不是被人偷走，人仍然可以看到它。

這是一個真實的故事。