

Princess / Monster

Slavko Pregl

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(NON-PROFESSIONAL SAMPLE TRANSLATION)

On the bench on the other side of the playground, girls were sitting under the birch and stuffed animals were lolling in their laps.

"I am bored," said Chloe.

"From now on I'd rather be a princess."

Ella had straightened puppy's bow and mended its ear.

"A princess?" she asked.

"Yes," nodded Chloe. "This will be excellent."

Penelope had hugged brown teddy bear so hard that his glass eyes were protruding.

Then she added: "There are no princesses."

"Oh, just look around! In picture books there are princesses everywhere. On the television princesses compete all the time. I will also be a princess and I will take care of starving children around the world," explained Chloe.

"Oh really?" answered Barbara. "When?"

Chloe continued: "I decided a moment ago and now I am a princess. And I'll also behave that way. Everyone who visits the princess, makes her wish come true. If she goes on a visit, she takes her servants with her so they bring back her gifts."

"Hm," pondered Sonia. "Where is your crown and silk dress?"

"Where, where?" frowned Chloe. "You can imagine them, right? You've never seen something like this?"

"Then I can also be a princess!" stamped Ella.

"Why should only you be a princess?"

"Because it was my idea first and because in our kindergarten one princess is enough," said Chloe. "That's why!"

Chloe's dad stepped through the door. He came straight from his work.

"Chloe!" he shouted. "Come here! Let's go home!"

Chloe jumped from the bench and left.

“Ha, ha!” smiled Sonia. “Our princess obeys very well!”

“Maybe a prince will come and visit her,” hummed Ella.

In the evening Chloe had collected all the books about princesses and queens by her bed. Then she thumbed through them a little. She wanted to check what she had to do, so she would behave as a real princess. Suddenly she found herself in a stunning hall. On the walls were hanging golden mirrors. Heavy curtains were standing above big painted windows. From the ceiling were hanging breath-taking chandeliers. She was treading on the plush carpet and from all sides there were beauties and shapely men bowing to her. Everywhere around were lots of pleasantly smelling flowers. Under the ceiling there flying parrots with multi-coloured tails.

“May the bride and the groom live long!” was resounding through the hall. Everyone was shouting excitedly. Chloe suddenly saw a giant ugly frog with a crown on its head. “Oh my!” she wanted to scream, but there was only sobbing coming from her mouth. She wanted to run, but her legs were tangled together. She swung her hands wildly, she fell and woke up on the floor right next to her bed.

When next morning Chloe came to breakfast, all her friends were greeting her: “Hi, princess! Have you woken up already? Where are your servants?”

“Oh, stop!” screamed Chloe and started to laugh.

“I was princess only yesterday!”

It was a sunny day.

In a neat line the boys and girls were walking through the city park to the pond. There they saw frogs, which were sunbathing on the leaves of water lilies. Then they sat down on the grass right next to the Water Man.

Teacher took the book from her purse and read to them loudly a story about a monster and princess.