



## Princess and the Pea

Once upon a time there lived a prince who wanted to marry a princess; but she would have to be a 'real' princess. He traveled far and wide to find

One evening a terrible storm rose along with thunder and lightning, and rain poured down heavily. Suddenly a knock was heard at the castle gate.



The water ran down from her hair and clothes; and she was in a very bad condition and "yet she said that she was a real princess"?! thought the queen.

We'll soon find that out," thought the old queen. But she said nothing. She went into the bed-room, took all the bedding off the bedstead, and

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 hardly closed my eyes all night. God only knows what was in the bed... I was lying on something hard

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,

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