

The Princess and Puppino

Once upon a time, in a far off land called Kingdom of Lydia, lived a princess named Rose. She was full of joys of spring. An energetic, enthusiastic and inquisitive young child of eight.

Her parents the King and Queen of this calm oasis, with lots of palm trees, beautiful lakes and waterfalls, ensured their realm was full of laughter, music, poetry and fun activities which engaged their subjects and brought them together to create a nurturing, caring and compassionate community, where people felt connected, supported and safe.

The queen was expecting her second child and though it was a difficult pregnancy, everyone was looking forward to the arrival of a baby boy to take over the reigns when the time came. Tragically, the queen haemorrhaged during delivery and both mother and baby died, suddenly and unexpectedly.

The whole of the kingdom felt shocked and saddened at the loss of their dear queen. Activities stopped and a long period of mourning commenced. It was obvious from peoples posture, their long drawn faces and how they carried themselves in their daily activities, that there was collective grieving in their Kingdom. Even the sky, which was normally blue and sunny, turned grey and dark.

The king did not know how to support his daughter or his subjects during this tragic and sad time. He himself felt at a complete loss, unable to do anything he used to enjoy, whilst his beloved wife was alive.

He thought long and hard about what he could do to make things a little better for his daughter. He wondered, should he remarry, so his daughter had a mother. Then all of a sudden, he remembered princess Rose loved puppies. So he went in search, all over the kingdom of Lydia, to find the right puppy for his darling daughter.

He came across many cute puppies, but there was one which seemed very special, which lived with its family in the woods and roamed freely there. He was a beautiful little puppy mostly white, with chocolate fur on the ears and tummy. Very soft and cuddly, like a cushion; the family assured him that this puppy had magical healing powers.

The king took the puppy back to the palace and as soon as the princess saw the puppy, she fell in love with him. She decided to call him Puppino, as it seemed like a fun name.

Puppino was a very active, excitable and happy little puppy. He brought a big smile to all who saw him, as if by magic they were transformed to a happier

place.

People would stop and chat with the young princess and invite her to visit them in their homes and ask if they too could play with Puppino, to which the princess always replied yes, enthusiastically. They were very happily surprised by her response, as they valued highly the young princess's ability to share her beloved Puppino with them. They looked forward to a time when Princess Rose would be their queen.

And so the Kingdom of Lydia became a happy place once again, transformed by the magical healing powers of Puppino.