



Context of A True Princess

By Marcus Lander (January 2010)

This poem was written by me for my firstborn child, after I had separated from her mother, and she had moved to Jersey. Owing to a great deal of resistance from my ex-wife, maintaining regular contact had been difficult, but after much perseverance the courts eventually saw sense and recognised that it was in my daughter's best interests to continue to have a relationship with her father. Despite living in a separate jurisdiction, and on a separate island, she was to be allowed to visit us in England during the school holidays. I wrote this poem as a means of reassuring my daughter that even though things had not worked out between me and her mother, she was still very much loved by her family here in England. As a parent also, who through no choice of my own was largely absent from much of her day to day existence, I wanted to take the opportunity to impart the values that I felt were important for my daughter to build a good foundation for her life.

I remember she particularly liked to dress up as a princess, so I built upon this metaphor. One day when out walking with us, while wearing one of her princess costumes, she lost one of her gloves, so I wrote the following poem for her, to remind her that she was still a princess and always would be, as long as she chose to be, regardless of her outward accoutrements or external circumstances.