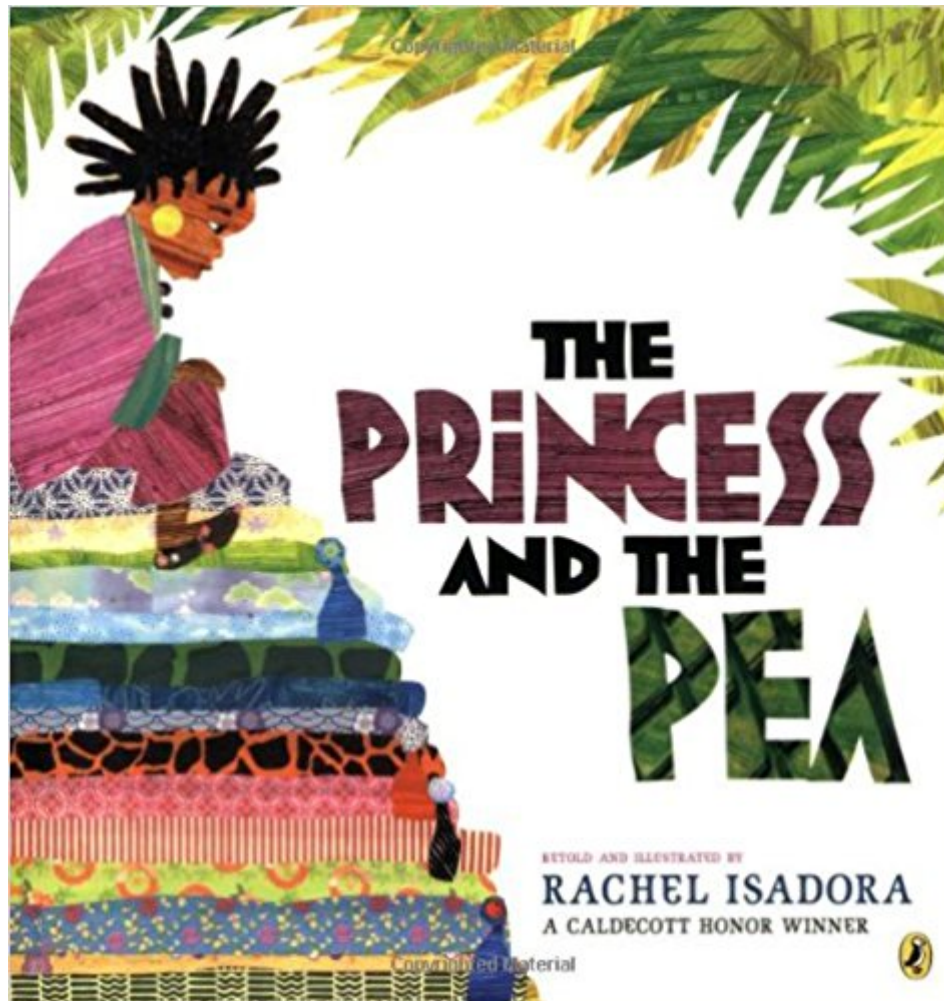




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# The Princess And The Pea



## Synopsis

When a prince sets out to find a princess to marry, he soon discovers this is not a simple task. There is no shortage of so-called princesses, but how can he tell whether or not they are what they claim to be? Then one night a great storm rages, there comes a knock on the palace gate, and the prince's life is never the same . . .

## Book Information

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books; Reprint edition (May 14, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0142413933

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Product Dimensions: 10 x 0.2 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 83 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #16,494 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in [African Children's Books](#) > [Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths](#) > [African](#) #78 in [African Children's Books](#) > [Deals in Books](#) #318 in [African Children's Books](#) > [Classics](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

PreSchool-Grade 2  
Isadora drops her simplified and humorless retelling of Andersen's tale into an African setting without adding meaningful cultural context to this story of a prince who travels the continent looking for a wife. Africa is treated as one culture except for three spreads that show individual princesses. These spreads are wordless except for a phrase: "Iska Waran," "Selam," or "Jambo, Habari." No translation is provided in the body of the book, so readers only learn on the last page that the words mean "hello" in three different languages. Awkward phrasing like "What a sight the rain and the wind had made her look" slows the pace of the story. Isadora uses oil paints on palette paper and decorative print paper to interpret the story visually and infuses her art with exuberant color and stylized figures. The prince and his entourage appear as shadowy figures that contrast dramatically with the deep reds and oranges of a setting sun. The three princesses are vividly portrayed: one is covered in body tattoos and looks menacing, another has light skin and an elegantly long neck covered in multicolored jewelry, and a third is dark and heavy. Faces exhibit

paint strokes and look flat with minimal expression. One effective spread shows the "real" princess perched on top of "twenty feather beds on top of the mattresses" as she complains to the king and queen that she is "black and blue all over." An additional purchase. --Kirsten Cutler, Sonoma County Library, CA Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Andersen's classic, silly fairy tale gets an East African setting in this simple picture-book retelling with brightly colored oil-paint and cut-paper collage illustrations by Caldecott Honor winner Isadora. Many women would like to marry the prince, and he travels all over the world in search of a wife, but how will he find a real princess? When a bedraggled young girl arrives one night in a fearful storm and claims she is a princess, the royal family gives her a bed with one small pea under mounds of mattresses and featherbeds. When she gets up the next morning, bruised and sleepless, they know she is the real thing. The storm scene is confusing: which figure is the visitor? Otherwise, the European story works beautifully in the lush new setting with an all-black cast and clear, detailed layers everywhere, including necklaces, head cloths, fabrics, and kente cloth. Collage is the perfect medium to show the piled-up mattresses and feather beds, each one a different texture and pattern. Hazel Rochman Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Here is a classic with a great new twist -- the setting is Africa. Wonderful art work -- a Caldecott Honor Award Winner for illustration. The story is simple, perfect for first or second graders. It's true to the original Hans Christian Andersen version, with 20 mattresses and 20 featherbeds -- so for a follow-up art project, you can see who can count to 40! Children can paint papers and then cut strips for the mattresses and featherbeds. Strips of Washi tape can also be used or mixed with painted strips. Fun, fun, fun, combining literature and art.

I'm so glad that I'm able to share this story with my daughter! My daughter is mixed, and I just love finding books with wonderful stories that also touch on our African ancestry. A great twist on a classic story and the illustrations are stunning. I highly recommend!

I bought this as a book a gift. What a nice story.

not enough black princesses for little girls i got this for my niece and i absolutely love it...great for

little girls to be able to identify with the characters in the story...and its awesome that the setting is in Africa

The illustrations are beautiful and my goddaughter loves to make up her own stories to the pictures. I'd definitely purchase this book again.

Nice illustrations but the writing isn't the best.

My God daughter LOVES this book!! The pictures are beautiful, vibrant! The story is fun. Will definitely be buying more from this author/illustrator.

Love it

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