



Lea's Bag

Text by Maria Tumarkin

Artwork by Inna Tumarkin

One day ten-year old Princess Lea tells her parents, the King and Queen of Ista, that unless she is allowed to leave the Palace immediately, she will be the first royal child to, officially and certifiably, die of boredom. The King and Queen are left with little choice but to give their blessings for her journey. After all, Princess Lea is on a mission to find her one and only soulmate, the future ruler of Ista.

Just before she goes, the King and Queen give their daughter a royal bag. Many will be after this bag, they tell Lea, trying to steal it from under your nose or to tear it apart, but the man you are looking for will do nothing. He will simply know what lies inside it.

On her journeys Princess Lea will find herself in a number of wondrous and unsettling places:

A forest inhabited by a philosopher with giant hands, who covers the ground with endless pieces of torn paper on which he scribbles questions and paradoxes

A theme park with the highest density of clowns and balloons on earth

A children village, where everyone, including birds and dragonflies, always move in groups and straight lines, even when they need a quick dash to the toilet

A bombed-out city, where children make breathtaking cubby-houses out of unexploded shells and ruins
And many, many others...

Everywhere Lea will be on the lookout for one man who will know what is in her bag. To find him, she will need to keep her eyes open with wonder, her mind sharp and tireless with curiosity, her mouth just occasionally shut and her magic bag hanging firmly over her shoulder.

