

## **The Princess, the Troll and the Never Ending Stairs**

Once upon a time, there was a beautiful princess.

She was sweet and gentle, and all the townspeople loved her.

But a mean, old troll caught her and locked her in a high, high tower and the top of the Never-Ending Stairs. The mean troll said he would never, no never, no NEVER let her go until she sneezed.

One day, a handsome prince came riding on his horse. He rode over the hills and he rode down in the valleys until he reached the troll's town.

The prince said "where can I find the beautiful princess?"

The townspeople said, "The mean old troll has locked her at the top of the Never-Ending stairs.

He will never let her go until he hears her sneeze!"

The prince smiled, bent over, and picked a rose.

He began to climb the Never-Ending Stairs. He climbed up higher than the trees!

He climbed up higher than the clouds! He climbed up higher than the stars!

At last, he reached the tower where the weeping Princess was held prisoner.

He handed the rose to her between the bars.

The Princess smiled and sniffed the rose. She sniffed once (sniff) She sniffed twice (sniff-sniff) She sniffed three times (sniff-sniff-sniff) before you knew it, she began to go:

What did she do? She sneezed so loudly that the Towns people at the bottom of the Never-Ending Stairs heard her. You know who else heard? The mean, old troll! The locked door swung open with a creak, and the beautiful princess stepped through. The Prince and the Princess ran down the Never-Ending stairs. They ran down past the stars

They ran down past the clouds. They ran down past the trees

Finally, they reached the bottom. All the townspeople cried "Hooray!" The Prince and Princess jumped on his horse. They rode down in the valleys

They rode over the hills until they reached

his kingdom. They got married, and they lived happily ever after.