

## The Queen and I

English Sample Translation

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The Queen came to visit for the first time today.

We had tea and spoke to each other very elegantly. About the weather, my cat and her poodle. The Queen held her little finger extended when drinking out of her cup.

Her visit shall be our secret.

Already the second visit of the Queen! As I wasn't feeling so well today, she danced for me: For me alone! That was funny, and because of that I laughed in spite of everything.

Today it was boring! The Queen didn't come. So I drew a picture of her.

„Who's this?“, Mummy asked me. Usually, I tell her everything. But not this time. I told her it was just a queen. From Nowhere-Country.

The Queen brought me a game. It's called Checkers. "Sophie," she said decidedly. "Checkers is a royal game. I will teach you!" We played all afternoon. „You are not bad for a beginner,“ the Queen said.

It's snowing outside, but I am not allowed out. Daddy says that I will have to go back to the hospital. But it's not that bad. The doctors and nurses are nice. There are other children, too. Hopefully the Queen will be able to visit me there, as well.

She was sitting next to my bed when I woke up in the middle of the night.

At first I politely inquired after her poodle. Then we played cat's cradle and other such games. The Queen is crazy about cat's cradle, she told me. That made me happy, because I love cat's cradle, too.

A couple of days have simply vanished. I had a fever and was sleeping a lot. But the Queen was there, all the same. We played Checkers again. My pieces were cats and hers were poodles. I won! The Queen was very proud of me.

I was flying around the room like a ballon just now! That was funny. I waved at the Queen from the ceiling, and she smiled. Then I floated back into bed and we talked. I told her that Mummy and Daddy are worried because of me. And that I am not sure what will happen to them. That it makes me sad.

The Queen sighed. "Sophie", she said then, "it's not your fault. None of this is your fault! I will definitely look after your Mummy and your Daddy. I promise!"

That made me happy.

Today I drove around the hospital in a wheelchair. The Queen did some magic because suddenly everybody looked like her. Children, doctors and nurses: Everybody looked like the Queen! The others didn't know why I was giggling so much. I had to think of an excuse.

When the Queen came to me last night, I whispered my last concern into her ear. "But Sophie," she called and was very surprised, "you are going to be a princess at my court! The whole time I was thinking you knew! When children leave this world, they come and stay with me! This is the way it has always been."

Then I was happy. Because of the other children, too.

Today Mummy and Daddy spent the whole day and night at my bed. They weren't as excited anymore. I whispered to them how much I loved them. Then I fell asleep. But I could still hear them telling me that they loved me terribly, too. That was nice.

The Queen came to me late in the night. She was dressed particularly pretty. "How are you feeling now, Sophie?" she asked. "O, I'm fine!" I said. I was a bit surprised because it was really true. I hadn't been feeling so well in a long time. "That's good," the Queen said and smiled. She stretched out her hand. "Will you come with me, Sophie?" she asked and I nodded. And then I left with her.