

The eleventh birthday present

Once upon a time, in a little village surrounded by flowering meadows and high mountains, lived a girl called Paula. She was cheerful and imaginative, loved reading adventure books and daydreamed about distant worlds full of magic and wonders. On her eleventh birthday, something extraordinary happened that changed her life for ever.

That morning, the first rays of sunlight woke her as they came through the window. Her family greeted her with hugs and smiles. It seemed like an ordinary birthday, with chocolate cake and presents wrapped in shiny paper. But when Paula opened the front door to collect the newspaper, she found a letter bearing a golden seal and her name written in elegant letters.

Curious, she opened it. The letter explained that she was the lost descendant of an ancient royal family. According to an old prophecy, on her eleventh birthday she would inherit her ancestors' kingdom and riches. Paula could hardly believe it. It sounded like one of her favourite storybooks!

Meanwhile, a carriage drawn by white horses appeared outside her house. Its elegantly dressed driver introduced himself as Mr Llorenç, steward of the royal family's estate. He invited her aboard to take her

to her new palace.

A little nervous but very excited, Paula climbed into the carriage, beginning her new life. They travelled for hours through fairy-tale landscapes until they reached a magnificent palace in an enchanted forest. It was more beautiful than anything she had imagined, with towers reaching towards the sky and gardens full of exotic flowers and talking animals.

At the palace, Paula was crowned the kingdom’s princess. She studied ancient languages, royal etiquette and even magical arts. But what she enjoyed most was helping people. She decided to use her wealth for more than luxury: she wanted to improve her new subjects’ lives. She built schools and hospitals and improved the kingdom’s roads and water supplies.

In time, Paula became a much-loved ruler, known not only for her wealth but also for kindness and fairness. She continued to have adventures, some even more incredible than those in her childhood books.

Princess Paula’s story became a legend told for generations, reminding everyone that true wealth is found not only in treasure but also in the kindness and courage within us.