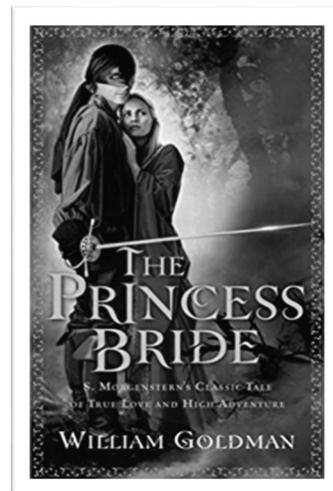


# THE PRINCESS BRIDE

by William Goldman



**NOTE:** Students are NOT expected to read the initial 70-ish pages of the book (nothing prior to **Chapter One—The Bride.**) They may skip all of the pages with Roman numerals AND all regularly numbered pages from 1- 32. Instead, students should read the Introduction Summary in the attached pages, then begin reading **Chapter One—The Bride** on page 33 in the book.

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**During Week 1** our lessons will address the following chapters (~52 pages):

- ONE – THE BRIDE**, pages 33 – 63.
- TWO – THE GROOM**, pages 64 – 70
- THREE – THE COURTSHIP**, pages 71 – 82
- FOUR – THE PREPARATION**, pages 83 – 85

Please be prepared for our lessons by reading the chapters in a timely manner and completing the initial assignment over Chapters 1-4 (included in this packet).

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**During Week 2** our lessons will address the following chapters (~177 pages):

- FIVE – THE ANNOUNCEMENT**, pages 87 – 200
- SIX – THE FESTIVITIES**, pages 201 – 264

Please be prepared for our lessons by reading the chapters in a timely manner.

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**During Week 3** our lessons will address the following chapters (~63 pages):

- SEVEN – THE WEDDING**, pages 265 – 306
- EIGHT – THE HONEYMOON**, pages 307-328 (the end)

Please be prepared for our lessons by reading the chapters in a timely manner.

Students will have a **MAJOR GRADE NOVEL ASSIGNMENT** over the entirety of the novel during Week 3.

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## **NOTE:**

**STUDENTS WHO ARE SLOWER READERS SHOULD GET STARTED ON THE NOVEL IN TIME TO HAVE THE ASSIGNED CHAPTERS COMPLETED BY THE EXPECTED DATES.**

## PURPOSE for Reading Assignment:

This novel will be our flagship vehicle for analyzing...

- The Hero's Journey
- Archetypes
- Characterization
- Satire
- Conflict
- "Frame" novel

This novel will also help solidify a foundation for success on ELA STAAR EOC test.

## EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to...

- Read the assigned chapters in preparation for weekly lessons
- Gain a deeper understanding of literary devices
- Write reflections over reading passages from the novel
- Make text-to-self and text-to-text connections
- Understand new vocabulary in context

## ASSESSMENTS

Assignments to determine students' mastery of objectives will include...

- Participation in novel-based discussions
- Written reflections
- Analysis of textual elements
- Quizzes
- Novel Test

**SOMETHING REALLY IMPORTANT:** 

**Students who will be enrolled in English II-PreAP must sign up for Mrs. Wilkinson's Remind texting app.** (Parents are also encouraged to sign up.) This is how Mrs. Wilkinson will communicate with her students and/or parents regarding assignments, due dates, and other helpful information about the course.

To sign up you need to follow the steps below using your phone.

**TEXT: @knb4cc**

**to: 81010**



**Regarding this novel study, here are some examples of the kinds of chatter I often hear and how I respond to it (just in case you were wondering.)**

**STUDENT: So, what's this book about?**

**ME:** Well, here's what *Goodreads* says: "What's it about? Fencing. Fighting. True Love. Strong Hate. Harsh Revenge. A Few Giants. Lots of Bad Men. Lots of Good Men. Five or Six Beautiful Women. Beasties Monstrous and Gentle. Some Swell Escapes and Captures. Death, Lies, Truth, Miracles, and a Little Romance. In short, it's about everything."

**STUDENT: I know the story already because I've seen the movie, so I don't need to read the book. Ha!**

**ME:** Well, sure, if you've seen the (really terrific and absolutely fantastic) movie then you know quite a bit. But the book offers so much more detail about the characters and conflicts and conquests and, well, everything! And there's just so much more to LOVE about the story that only comes from reading the book. We'll discover the "frame story" and we'll analyze character motivation. We'll follow the "Hero's Journey" and determine what makes a character an "archetype"—and in this book we'll have soooooo many opportunities to do so! 😊😊😊😊  
Oh, yeah... And hardly any of our lessons will pertain to the movie, so you must read the book to do well on the assignments. Sorry, but that's just the way it's gotta be.

**STUDENT: I'm not really fond of reading books, and I doubt I'll like this book any more than I like any other book.**

**ME:** I double-dog dare you *not* to like THIS book! I double-dog dare you *not* to stay up WAY WAY WAY past your bedtime sneak-reading this book deep into the wee hours of the night. (And I double-dog dare you to even miss your smart phone while you're reading this ever-so-awesome book!) I promise you'll love the book and have a lot of fun with the lessons. Just keep yourself current or ahead with the reading, and be prepared for each upcoming class.

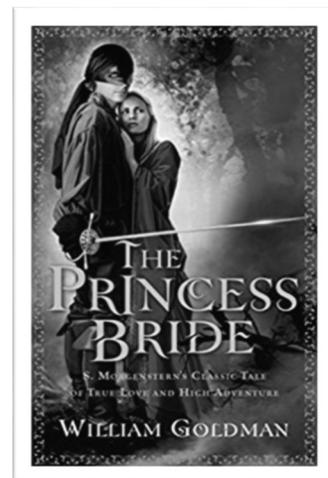
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**ACQUIRING *The Princess Bride* by William Goldman:**

The novel is available at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) for about \$11 (paperback.) You can probably save some \$\$\$ by looking for it at Half Price Books.

**I have found it online as a PDF at no cost by Googling:**  
THE PRINCESS BRIDE PDF. (However, reading from this format will not save your place each time you stop reading. Also, I believe the page numbers may not correspond to the page numbers in the published novel.)

**NOTICE:**  
For families who will have a financial difficulty acquiring the book, a parent should message me through REMIND (see previous page,) and I will assure your child has a copy of the novel to read and use for the summer and throughout the novel study.



# The Princess Bride

by William Goldman

<http://www.sparknotes.com/lit/princessbride/section1.rhtml>

## INTRODUCTION SUMMARY

The text begins with an introduction by the author and narrator, William Goldman, in which he explains that as a child, he annoyed his school teacher, Miss Roginski, simply because he had no interest in reading. Years pass, and he publishes his first book and sends his old teacher a copy. Miss Roginski writes back, adding the postscript, "Not even the immortal S. Morgenstern could feel more parental as I," and suddenly William Goldman flashes back to his original brush with *The Princess Bride*. He was ten years old and in bed with pneumonia. His father sat by him throughout the illness, reading the good parts of *The Princess Bride*, and suddenly young Billy was captivated by the written word, ultimately astonishing his teacher.

Time passes, and William Goldman, now a father, is away in California the week of his son's tenth birthday. Over the phone, he asks his wife, Helen, to buy a copy of *The Princess Bride* for their son. While sitting by the pool of his fancy hotel and waiting for Helen to call with results, he is approached by a slender blonde starlet, Sandy Sterling, who compliments him on one of his earlier books. Midway through the encounter his wife calls back, unable to find the book, and throughout the next dozen or so pages, William completely blows any chance he had with the starlet as he makes call after hysterical call trying to locate a copy of his favorite book. When he returns home, we see his sad family, consisting of his son, an overweight, spoiled, and unintelligent boy, and Helen, a hotshot child psychiatrist, but cold wife. The ultimate moment of pathos hits when we discover that his son did not like, and moreover, did not even really read, the book.

William leaves the house in a fit of sadness and confusion, and walks alone through Central Park. When he returns home that night, he picks up the book and notes that he has never before handled it—that was always his father's role. He pages through it and soon finds that the book is a verbose, at times tediously dull satire of Florinese history, save the action parts his father plucked out to read. In the middle of that night, he calls his editor, puts all of his current projects on hold, and dives into a publishable abridgement of the original S. Morgenstern text, which he then presents to us. He does this not without his own brief and wry meditations on the fact that high adventure and true love, as personified in *The Princess Bride*, no longer exist. Nobody handles revenge like Inigo Montoya and William has never loved Helen the way Westley loved Buttercup. He says, finally, "Here's the 'good parts' version. S. Morgenstern wrote it. And my father read it to me. And now I give it to you. What you do with it will be of more than passing interest to us all." With this in mind, we turn the page to the story that changed its narrator's life.

Students will notice that throughout the novel, the narrator periodically interrupts the story to share his personal thoughts, explanations, or snippets of information regarding the "original story" he has abridged.

**Now... skip all the pages in the novel up to p. 32 and begin reading at  
Chapter One – The Bride on p. 33.**

**This summary has saved you the reading of about 70-ish pages.**

**You can tell me "Thank you" on our first day of school 😊.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ English II-PreAP \_\_\_\_\_, Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**WEEK 1 ASSIGNMENT: The Princess Bride**  
by William Goldman

**CHAPTER ONE—The Bride**

**1.** In Chapter One, we learn about two key characters.

**A)** Name the girl and write a paragraph with all the details you recall about her.

.

**B)** Name the boy and write a paragraph with all the details you recall about him.

.

**2.** What was your **initial** reaction to Westley's response to Buttercup's declaration of love for him? Why is his response ironic?

## **CHAPTER TWO—The Groom**

- 3.** *In Chapter Two we learn about the Groom.  
Name him and write a paragraph with all the details you recall about him.*
- .

## **CHAPTER THREE—The Courtship**

- 4.** *In Chapter Three, we meet the King and Queen of Florin.  
**A)** Name her and write a paragraph with all the details you recall about her.*
- .

- B)** *Name him and write a paragraph with all the details you recall about him.*
- .

## **CHAPTER FOUR—The Preparations**

- 5.** *In Chapter Four we read nothing from the "original story."  
Who is the narrator of Chapter Four, and what does he tell us is the key thought from the "original" Chapter Four?*