

TEN WORD TALES No. 1
Mr Wombat's Wonder Shop
by The Story Spinner

CHAPTER 3



One Friday, Mr Wombat, wearing his blue waistcoat, got a bit of a surprise. On the doorstep of The Wonder Shop, waiting gloomily, was a very small princess.

“Your Highness,” he said, bowing, because princesses are always called “Highness”, even if they are not very high at all. “Can I help you?”

“Someone I know has been telling me that princesses often have something wonderful about them,” said the princess, with a slight wobble in her voice.

“So do ordinary people,” said Mr Wombat, thinking of his friends.

“And they told me that without a wonder I am hardly a princess at all.”

Mr Wombat was curious about this “someone” who had been saying such difficult things to the little princess.

“So I need a wonder,” said the princess. “And I have heard that your shop is just the place.”

Mr Wombat thought of his recent successes with cakes and hats. Here was a princess shopping for a wonder and trusting he would help her. He was determined he would.

“What wonderful thing would you like?”

“I was thinking,” said the princess, “of great beauty, or a palace made of ice, or the moon in a glass, but I have decided ...” She paused. “On a dragon.”