

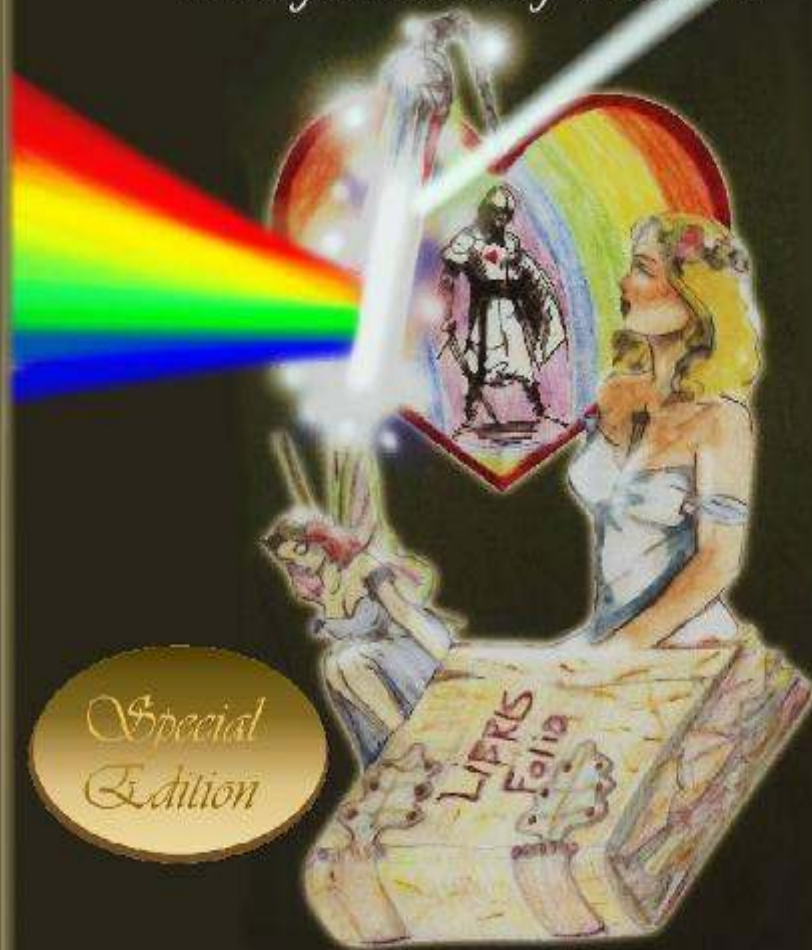
Two hearts remain FOREVER entwined through the separation of time.

The Prism: Book One, Princess Nedia, Transformation of a Dream
SPECIAL EDITION

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The Prism
Book One: Princess Nedia
Transformation of a Dream



Ira Mency

THE PRISM

BOOK ONE: PRINCESS NEDIA
Transformation of a Dream

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SPECIAL EDITION
E-BOOK w/BONUS FEATURES

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Chapter 16

Fairy Knoll

Diane awoke in a field of flowers. Her neck felt warm where the crystal lay against her skin. Her head was throbbing. She was unsure where she was, but the sky was so very blue, and the grass so green and wild flowers were all around her. Her head hurt and she couldn't sit up just yet. Overall it felt about sixty degrees, with a calm wind blowing and rustling thru the trees.

She heard whispering and rustling. She thought she heard the words, "Wake up Princess Nedia, " but she was not for certain. She was groggy. Diane tried to sit up as fast she could, but it was difficult, and no one was there.

"Princess Nedia," a young voice said "Wake up!" Again she looked around, nothing.

A young voice sang.

*Ne-diaaaaa, Nedddd-di-aaaaa,
Princess of the Oak Grove,
Time to rise, time to wake ,
Another day to the take . . .*

It was a childlike voice.

Diane assumed in this world, she was named Nedia. She was a princess. She wondered who exactly was talking. Her eyes were focusing to a small mushroom beside her, and she was seeing the outline of a red haired female creature.





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Blair the fairy

"Up here, silly girl!" cried another childlike voice.

Nedia looked up on top a rock behind her. She gasped. There atop the rock two more tiny people. Maybe they were pixies. Perhaps they were fairies or sprites. She was not sure. Her eyes were trying to adjust but the sun was shining in them.

They all had dragonfly type wings, but one appeared to be a boy, two were girls. They were so small, but so beautiful. One female was brown haired, one was red haired, and the boy was a blond. They had an angelic like appearance. Yes, they must be fairies. Princess Nedia thought she remembered them from a modern day story called the *Cottingly Fairies of England*. She thought they were supposed to be fake and made of cardboard. These were definitely real!

As if the fairies were reading her mind, the boy fairy said, "My beautiful Princess, what's wrong, you have a funny look on your face. Don't you recognize us?" He appeared only to be six inches tall.

"I'm sorry...ehhh...I think I hit my head on this rock, I must have rolled off taking my afternoon nap. I'm having some troubling remembering where I am, or who I am for that matter. Can you please help me?"

"Oh yes my Princess, We will get some help right away!" The boy fairy fluttered away with the little red haired fairy that was on the mushroom. The small brunette fairy flew down from the rock and was left to watch over her. She came very close to The Princess's face. Her eyes were adjusting and The Princess could see her up close. Her face looked like that of a human, she was wearing fancy tiny clothing, something around her arm, a jewel of sorts, and had very tiny detailed wings.



Alana: Up close and personal

The small fairy spoke in a very high pitched voice. "I am Alana, and am your best friend. Don't you recognize me?"

Princess Nedia said, "Alana, I'm so sorry. I really think I whacked my head too hard. Please tell me a little about me, and us, and this place, maybe that will jog my memory and snap me out of this nonsense."

"Of course my Princess. That is a good idea. I suppose I'll explain to you that you are Nedia, Princess of this Oak Grove. You are 18 years young. You came from Lothian, which is many moons away from here. You came here on a quest as it was your destiny. You heard it in the trees. You are special because as a young girl you were always hearing the animals, and the trees. You can talk to them. Your home now is in Tribeca Forest, where you rule Oak Grove. Merlin protects the entire Tribeca Forest, and therein is Fawn Grove and Merlin's Cave."

Alana continued, "When you came almost one year ago, you saved our realm from extinction. It just so happened that your timing was impeccable. There was a lost warrior from a colony far away, who had wandered far off trek. He was hungry and tired, but somehow made it deep inside the Dark Forest. At that time, deer ran free here. Then the intruder slaughtered a deer. While us fairies heard the deer scream and went to see the matter, he saw us. He followed us back to our mound, and poured water all over us and our homes. Our wings were wet and we could not fly away. He threw a bag over our mound holes and caught all of us. We lay tied up, until he fell asleep."

"Since you were traveling through the Dark Forest at the same time, trying to find your destiny, the trees sent word to you what was happening. You told the trees to get word to the deer and all animals to hide deep inside Merlin's Realm, and that you would take care of it. You found the sleeping intruder with the gutted deer and bag full of our kind propped up against an old oak tree. While he lay sleeping, you tied a noose around his foot and instructed the trees to move their branches. With this motion, the warrior was heisted up, then dangling from the oak tree, by his ankle. You questioned him as to why he came, and he told you that he was lost and hungry."

"You then set us free but asked where the others were. The intruder told us they had perished and he had eaten them out of Fairy Knoll and that they were quite tasty. You thought perhaps he was lying and vowed to find them. You were so angry at this answer. You instructed the trees to get word to all of the birds of prey to fly to this intruder and eat him from the outside in. The birds did so, pecking and eating him to his death. Merlin was so happy with this performance, because you turned on one of your own to save his Kingdom. Merlin then came to you and called you the Princess of this land, and awarded you one future magic wish. You have not left us since."

"As Merlin knows your stay here is temporary, he has taken extra precaution to add extra protection on the outskirts of the Dark Forest. There is now thorny brush, whose prickly

bristles will kill anyone with an untrue heart. There is a section of poison oak trees, whom upon sensing someone with a cruel heart, will reach down and inject poison into the intruders. Then there is the Nimue's Lake, which the Lady of the Lake has promised to drown any intruder with impure thoughts. The rivers that border our Kingdoms cannot be used as safe passage, as they will drown anyone who crosses. Merlin tried to get them to discriminate, but the waters were rushing and have no time to choose who is ill hearted and who is good hearted. So beware Princess, never cross the rivers near the Viggor Mountains. Essentially, Merlin has made it so, that no one can enter this kingdom who will cause harm here."

"Oh, yes, I think I remember that. Thank you so much Alana. Where are the others?" Princess Nedra said.

"They went to fetch you some cold leaves, here comes Aiden and Blair now."

The boy fairy came up with a cold leafy substance that looked like moss and laid it up against her skin. It felt very cool and refreshing. Aiden was so very adorable, that Princess Nedra kept staring at him. She was starting to feel her headache subsiding.

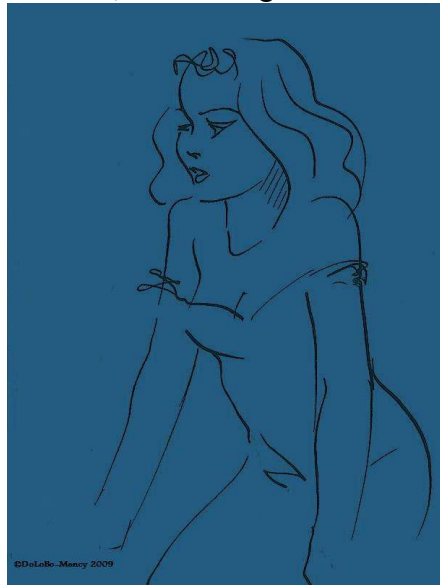
"Thank you Aiden."

Aiden grinned. "Finally my Princess remembers her favorite!"

"I'm her favorite", rang the third voice, the red fairy, named Blair.

"Yeah right Blair, I'm the only male left so that makes *me* her favorite," joked Aiden.

The Princess sat up on the rock now, still talking to the fairies.



Princess listens intently

Princess Nedia replied, "Okay guys, I remember you all but I'm still a bit confused on a few things. Exactly how many of you are left, and did we find the others?"

The fairies looked panic struck with this question. Alana looked to the ground, and Blair covered her eyes. Aiden fluttered from Princess Nedia's left shoulder to her right shoulder and came very close to her eyes. "My Princess, are you certain you do not know?" He asked with a tear forming in his eye.

Princess Nedia said, "I am so sorry Aiden that rock really shook me up. I am hoping it all comes back to me. I am sorry to ask you such a dreadful question."

Aiden said, "I must answer you My Princess. We have concluded that we are all that is left of our kind. You stayed with us for so long as you are trying to help us find the others but there aren't any. We were hoping that some fairies escaped and flew to faraway lands, but without getting word to them to tell them it's safe to return, we can't be sure and perhaps they have perished now as a year has gone by. You have proven so fruitful in helping us with our destiny, when you have your own to fulfill. We love you so. You have spent so many days searching in the Dark Forest just to make sure no fairies are hiding. Because of your bravery we are indebted to you forever."

"Dearest Aiden, I still vow to help you, even if someday I have to leave my Grove. What has become of Merlin now?" asked Princess Nedia.

Aiden replied, "We have not seen him in some time. He has been upset for so very long at the passing of his friend, a human named Arthur, and before that his winged horse. This is his land and it spreads far and wide, for worlds and worlds away. Last I heard he had retreated to the Whispering Woods, somewhere deep inside the Dark Forest. In solace he still mourns Arthur. Merlin raised Arthur, and he was crowned High King way before your time. Merlin watched over him. There was a horrible battle of Camlann, and Arthur was under siege. At this battle, Merlin was not there to help as he had a fight with Nimue...."

Princess Nedia looked puzzled and took out her map. She was trying to find the points as they spoke. Jack's handwriting was scribbled.

"Nimue is the Lady of the Lake. I am not certain if you have ever met her but she was very angry with Merlin and cast a spell on him. Don't ever repeat this, but she claims he was flirting with a maiden from a small island, perhaps having an affair. By the time Nimue finally forgave Merlin and let him go, Arthur had been badly injured and had to be taken by wooden float to the Isle of Avalon. Merlin was still powerless, as the spell from Nimue would take time to wear off, and had weakened his powers. There a supposed Princess Le Fay vowed to heal Arthur, and did heal his wounds as she too was into magic. Unfortunately, her type of magic was evil, and later Arthur came down with a high fever, and infection inside. Merlin was determined to get Arthur back to Nimue,

to see if she could help, it was too late. Arthur died in his arms, and Merlin has not been the same since.”

Aiden flew down and looked at the map, “Yes, you see, everything on here, even the Kingdoms surrounding Merlin’s land are technically Merlin’s Lands. However, he put other Kings in charge like Luke, Balcar, and Jonas. They are neighboring territories and still under his technical reign. Merlin got sick of dealing with all the humans and frankly I think he hates them all except for you. He chooses to only officially rule the Dark Forest and inside areas. He leaves Tribecca up to your reign. Merlin usually comes to us in different shapes or forms.”

Princess Nedia said, "What do you mean?"

Aiden looked at Blair. Blair said, "Merlin can change his shapes, sometimes he comes to us as a bird, or lion, or butterfly. He does this because he can. He doesn’t like his manly figure, as it man who he blames for killing his beloved Arthur, and so he wishes not to be bothered by their shape or form. The only time he appears as human is to you."

"I see," said Princess Nedia, "it is as if he lost his son and I suppose getting over lost loves take so long. What became of his relationship with the Lady of the Lake?"

Blair said, "Princess, he lost his son but also a piece of his heart. After Arthur died he did not forgive Nimue for not trusting him, and so their relationship is done now. Often when we go to the lake to visit, the Lady is crying. She misses Merlin but chances are, their love has perished."

Princess Nedia asked, "What form did he come to crown me in?"

All of the fairies laughed. It was Alana who answered. "For that, he was the face in a tree. It nearly scared you to death~!"

Aiden said, “Don’t forget Princess, he told you that he shall come again, if you need your one wish granted or not. He said the way to find him is to call his name three times in the full moon. We suggest for you not to bother him as he is cranky in his old age. We think him to be several thousand years old now."

Princess Nedia said, "Oh, great. I suppose I'll save my wish for a rainy day. In the meantime, what is my destiny, did I tell you? Does it involve someone named Jacques?"

Aiden smiled. "My Princess, this head injury must be getting better, there is a Prince named Jacques but we are unsure who you are supposed to meet. We have seen him dressed in armor on his magnificent horse near the Land of the Stones."



Prince Jacques

Blair said, "I still think to be safe we should get your head checked out my Princess. We must find a doctor in the town."

Princess Nedra asked, "What town?"

Aiden shook his head in disbelief. "Hartenshire! It is the nearest town from here which is just inside the Kingdom of Luke. Travel time of one day and one night, if we walk, but only a few hours by horseback. Just to the North and the East. Shall we go now my Princess?"

Princess Nedra replied, "No, not yet. Let me find something to drink and go home to my to my.... uh...grove and to my animals..... and deer , yes my deer. Let's see how I feel tomorrow. Just so I shall sleep well tonight, and dream wonderful thoughts, can you tell me that of my destiny?"

Alana said, "My Princess, you told us that your destiny was to stay in the land for almost four hundred days and then on the four hundredth day, go to the reflecting pool that is located outside the Land of the Stones. By your calculations on the Richard Oak trunk you still have twelve days to go."

"Yes, yes, I remember, I'm to go to the reflecting pool to await my Prince. I do believe his name is Jacques. Well if I only have twelve days, I think I'd better rest awhile and get rid of this headache!"

The fairies laughed. Princess Nedia's head was finally feeling better but she felt drained, just as the old teacher Mr. Heckman had warned. Aiden fluttered down and grabbed wildflowers and flew up and placed them over her ear.

Princess Nedia was captivated by Aiden, who was so cute. She held out her finger and he sat on it. "Oh Aiden, if you were only human you'd make the perfect boyfriend. I suppose Alana and Blair are very lucky to have you." Aiden blushed, smiled, and ever so gently placed the tiniest fairy kiss on her cheek.

"Follow us Princess! We must get you home" said Blair as she flew ahead.

Two hearts remain FOREVER entwined through the separation of time.

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