



WHAT DO YOU EXPECT TO  
SEE IN A FAIRY TALE?

What do you expect to see in a fairy tale?

# BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- © *The Princess Bride* **mimics** a fairy tale by having common archetypes (universal symbols)

- © Beginning/Ending
- © Characters
- © Royalty
- © Magic
- © A Hero
- © Animals
- © Love
- © Conflict/Resolution
- © 3s and 7s

“Inconceivable!”





“As you wish.”

→ Why would he pretend that it was written by someone else?

# THE PRINCESS BRIDE:

S. MORGENSTERN'S CLASSIC TALE OF TRUE LOVE  
AND HIGH ADVENTURE (THE 'GOOD PARTS' VERSION)  
BY WILLIAM GOLDMAN

# AUTHOR'S BIOGRAPHY

## WILLIAM GOLDMAN



William Goldman credit: Terry O'Neill

- ◎ Born August 12, 1931, in Highland Park, IL
- ◎ Novelist, playwright, and screenwriter.
- ◎ Has won two Academy Awards: for writing *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*, and for adapting the screenplay of *All the President's Men*.
- ◎ He has also written or consulted on *The Stepford Wives*, *Misery*, *Chaplin*, *Good Will Hunting*, and many other movies, as well as fiction, non-fiction, and children's books.
- ◎ Currently lives in New York City.

**"This is my favorite book in all the world, though I have never read it."**

# BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- ◎ *The Princess Bride* is considered to be a **classic**.
- ◎ “A work of literature that is widely held to be one of the greatest creations within a given literary tradition.”



**“This is true love - you think this happens every day?”**

# BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- ◎ *The Princess Bride* is a **fantasy**.
- ◎ “A literary work that contains highly unrealistic elements and takes place in a non-existent and unreal world.”

“You rush a  
miracle man, you get  
rotten miracles.”



# LITERARY TECHNIQUES

“Hello. My name is Inigo Montoya. You killed my father. Prepare to die!”



- ◎ **Preface**: a statement made at the beginning of a literary work, often by way of introduction
- ◎ **Author Intrusion**: narrative technique where the narrator interrupts the plot/story to share their opinion as to what is happening in the story
- ◎ **Satire**: A work that uses humor, wit, and/or ridicule to point out the weaknesses in human nature and institutions and thereby provokes change

# NARRATIVE STRUCTURE



- ◎ *The Princess Bride* is a frame narrative.
- ◎ Story-telling structure wherein the main story contains one or more secondary stories. A character from the main story often becomes the narrator of the secondary story.

Examples of frame narratives:

- Canterbury Tales
- Arabian Nights

Main story (outer frame)

Secondary story/stories  
(inner frame)

“Why won't my arms move?”

“You've been mostly-dead all day.”