

# The Princess Bride Collection



of  
Scottish Country Dances

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A collection of dances devised by three friends  
who dance in the  
Portland, Oregon Branch and  
Southwest Washington State Branch  
of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society  
- three friends who can't resist saying  
"Ooh! What if.." to each other.

If you think this book of dances is worth anything, please send a donation in any amount to either of the above-mentioned Branches or to the Scottish Country Dance scholarship fund of your choice.



## Farm Boy – 32S4(4L)

Devised by Holly Gibson, March 2013

Suggested Music: Track 3: 4x32 Strathspeys, on the CD “First Stop!” by Waverley Station (David Knight, Liz Donaldson, Ralph Gordon)

### BARS

- 1-8 All four couples joining hands on the sides set, turn partner halfway to face briefly before casting to the opposite side (half turn and twirl), and all set.
- 9-12 1st and 3rd couples, passing outside second place, dance the first half of a strathspey pousette. They begin on opposite sides, and turn a little over halfway at the end to finish in a line in the middle of the set with the women facing up and the men facing down. Meanwhile, 2nd and 4th couples advance for one bar, set, and retire for one bar.
- 13-16 3rd and 1st couples dance back to back with partner while 2nd and 4th couples face up and down to change places on the sides giving right hands, moving up so that they finish with 4th couple in first place and 2nd couple in third place. 4th and 2nd couples face partners and set.
- 17-20 Staying close in the middle, 3rd and 1st couples set, turn partner with right hand one quarter to opposite sides to face partner and pull back right shoulder to face out and up. Meanwhile, 4th and 2nd couples dance half rights and lefts, crossing between 3rd and 1st couples respectively as they are setting.
- 21-24 1st and 3rd couples cast up and round the person they are facing (3rd man round 2nd woman, 3rd woman round 2nd man, 1st man round 4th woman, and 1st woman round 4th man) and, giving right hands, cross over to own sides in second and fourth places respectively.
- 25-32 All four couples set, turn partners with both hands for two bars to open out, then 2nd with 3rd couple and 4th with 1st couple circle four hands once round to the left.

Repeat with a new top couple.

Danciemaetions (3D Animations) for all the dances in this book can be found here:  
<http://danciemaetion.imaginationprocessing.com/ListCollectionDances.php?collection=12>

or, at a lower resolution (smaller file size), here:  
<http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL33fyMn1JtsYwZ0amjyF12zhup2IPZUnL>



## The Screaming Eels – 32J3(4L)

Devised by Linda Mae Dennis, December, 2012

Tune: Jim McAlister's Jig by Calum MacLean

Suggested Music: The Machine without Horses on the CD a'Dance For Joy Encore!" by Reel of Seven – Jim McAlister's Jig is the third tune

### BARS

- 1-8 1st couple cross over giving right hands, cast off one place, cross over giving right hands and cast up to original places.  
2nd couple step up on bars 3-4, and step down again on bars 7-8.
- 9-16 All dance reels of three on the sides in six bars. 1st couple dance in and down to begin. 2nd couple dance out and down to begin. On the last two bars of the phrase, 2nd and 3rd couples pass once more in the reel to change places on the sides while 1st couple set to partner.
- 17-24 1st and 3rd couples set and rotate.
- 25-32 3rd, 1st, and 2nd couples set and rotate for three couples as follows:  
All take hands on the sides and set. Pulling back right shoulder, all cast clockwise into lines three and three across the set, the men at the top facing down, and the women in third place facing up. All change places with partners giving right hands, and chase round clockwise to own sides.

Repeat having passed a couple.

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## Swashbuckling Dread Pirate Roberts – 32H3(4L)

Devised by Holly Gibson, October 2012

Suggested Music: Fox in the Woods on the CD “The Devil’s Quandary“ by Andy Imbrie and Deby Benton Grosjean

### BARS

- 1-8 1st couple lead down below 3rd couple, turn once round with right hands, and cast up round 3rd couple to face first corners. 2nd couple step up on bars 3-4.
- 9-16 1st couple set to corners and partner. On the last two bars, they turn with left hands halfway round to face first corners again.
- 17-20 1st couple with first corners dance a half diagonal reel of four. 1st couple pass right shoulders at the end and finish facing second corners.
- 21-24 1st couple with second corners dance a half diagonal reel of four with and finish in second place own sides.
- 25-28 All three couples chase clockwise halfway round the set.
- 29-32 1st couple turn 1½ times giving right hands to second place on own sides.

Repeat having passed a couple.

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## The Cliffs of Insanity – 32J3(4L)

Devised by Linda Mae Dennis, November 2012

Suggested Music: Kathleen McAdam's Scroll on the CD "Dance For Joy!" by Reel of Seven

### BARS

- 1-8 Figure of Eight Reels of Three: 1st and 3rd couples cast into reels of three on the sides while 2nd couple cross up to dance a figure of eight through first and second places. 3rd couple finish the reel facing out.
- 9-10 2nd couple cross down into third place on opposite sides while 3rd couple casts up to second place.
- 11-12 All three couples cross over giving right hands, 1st and 3rd couples to opposite sides, 2nd couple to third place own sides.
- 13-16 All dance half a Figure of Eight Reel of Three, the couple in second place (3rd couple opposite) crossing up as before. The order is 2, 3, 1, with 1st couple on opposite sides.
- 17-24 3rd and 1st couples dance the Swirl: they turn with right hands halfway into allemande hold, 1st couple facing up and 3rd couple facing down, pass left shoulders to change places, and dance left hands across to finish on the sides (1st couple on opposite sides).
- 25-28 1st man and his corners, joining hands on the sides, set and advance while 1st woman and her corners wait for 2 bars and then join hands and set. 1st couple turn quickly with both hands to change places between bars 28 and 29.
- 29-32 All three women retire for 2 bars and set while all three men advance and retire.

Repeat having passed a couple.

### Story Notes:

Bars 1-16: General insanity.

Bars 17-24 The swirling water below.

Bars 25-32 The epic sword fight at the top – a variation on the 'fencing figure from the dance John McAlpin devised by Hugh Foss.

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## A Dizzying Intellect ~ 32J3(4L)

Devised by Holly Gibson, December 2012

Tune: Myra's Jig by I. Lowthian

Suggested Music: Jennifer's Jig from the CD "Live!" by John Taylor and Andy Imbrie - Myra's Jig is the second tune

### BARS

- 1-2 1st couple set advancing to pass each other with right shoulder.
- 3-6 1st couple turn 2nd couple 1½ times, 1st woman and 2nd man with left hands and 1st man and 2nd woman with right hands.
- 7-8 1st couple set advancing to pass right shoulder again, and face out.
- 9-12 2nd and 3rd couples set and link – they are split by 1st couple, so do not take hands – while 1st couple casts off below third place to dance up the middle and finish back to back in crown triangle position, 1st woman facing up, and 1st man facing down.
- 13-16 1st woman, joining hands with 3rd couple at the top, and 1st man, joining hands with 2nd couple in third place, dance 4 bars of double triangles to finish with 1st woman facing down and 1st man facing up.
- 17-24 All dance reels of three across the dance, 1st man pass right shoulders with 3rd woman and 1st woman pass right shoulders with 2nd man (first corners in second corners' places) to begin. 1st couple pass right shoulder at the end of the reel, to opposite side.
- 25-28 All dance half reels of three on the sides, 1st man pass right shoulders with 2nd woman and 1st woman pass right shoulders with 3rd man (second corners in first corners' places) to begin.
- 29-32 1st couple set to partner and cross over to own sides giving right hands.

Repeat having passed a couple.

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## Secrets of the Fire Swamp – 32J3(4L)

Devised by Linda Mae Dennis, December 2012

Tune: Speed Hump by Marian Anderson

Suggested Music: The Abbott of Unreason from the CD “Dance For Joy Encore!” by Reel of Seven – Speed Hump is the third tune

### BARS

- 1-4 1st and 2nd couples advance on the right foot with skip change of step and set on the left foot using pas de basque, then retire on the right foot with skip change and set left using pas de basque. Meanwhile, 3rd couple cross over giving right hands and dance up behind opposite sides.
- 5-8 2nd couple followed by 1st couple lead down the middle for 2 bars and up for 2 bars and stay in the middle facing partner with both hands joined. Meanwhile, 3rd couple cross over giving right hands at the top, and dance down own sides, having made a complete circuit of the set.
- 9-16 1st and 2nd couples pousette, except after the half turn on bar 6, they execute another half turn on bar 7 and retire to opposite sides on bar 8.
- 17-20 2nd couple dance a half figure of eight down round 1st couple to finish in first place on own sides.
- 21-24 1st couple dance a half figure of eight down round 3rd couple to finish in second place on own sides.
- 25-32 All dance mirror reels of three on own sides, 1st couple dancing in and up to begin.

Repeat having passed a couple.

### Story Notes:

Bars 1-8: A bumpy entrance into the Fire Swamp, which is ‘outlined’ by 3rd couple

Bars 9-16: Avoiding the Flame Spurt, which is always preceded by a popping sound

Bars 17-24: Avoiding the Lightning Sand

Bars 25-32: Chasing (or avoiding) ROUS’s (rodents of unusual size – I don’t think they exist)

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## The Impressive Clergyman – 32S3(4L)

Devised by Holly Gibson, December 2012

Tune: The Sweetness of Mary

Suggested Music: Irongray from the CD “On the Morning Tide” by Hanneke Cassel and Dave Weisler

### BARS

- 1-8 1st couple turn giving right hands, cast off one place, cross over giving left hands, and cast to the left to finish with 1st woman between 3rd couple all facing up and 1st man between 2nd couple all facing down in lines of three across the dance.  
2nd couple step up on bars 3-4.
- 9-12 Joining hands in the lines of three across, all set and link for three couples to finish with all on opposite sides.
- 13-16 1st couple cross over giving right hands and cast to the right as 2nd and 3rd couples set and cross over giving right hands.
- 17-24 All dance reels of three across the set, 1st couple pass their second corners with left shoulders to begin, and finish as at the end of bar 8.
- 25-28 Joining hands in the lines of three across, all set and link for three couples.
- 29-32 2nd, 1st, and 3rd couples set and cross over giving right hands.

Repeat having passed a couple.

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## The Wing\* – 4OR3(4L)

\*(as in “Have you the wing?”)

Devised by Holly Gibson, December 2012

Suggested Music: Track 6 – 8x40 Reels from the CD “First Stop!” by Waverley Station (David Knight, Liz Donaldson, and Ralph Gordon)

### BARS

- 1-4 1st and 2nd couples turn partner with right hands  $\frac{3}{4}$  into a line up and down the center of the set with 1st man and 2nd woman back to back in the middle and all set to partners.
- 5-6 1st man and 2nd woman set again, turning right about to change places (as in double triangles) to face partners while 1st woman and 2nd man dance round anti-clockwise to change places.
- 7-8 1st and 2nd couples turn partners with left hands to finish with 2nd couple in first place, and 1st couple facing second corners.
- 9-16 1st couple set to (second) corners and partner and turn partner with right hands to face their partner’s first corner. Set to (third) corner and partner and turn partner with right hands to finish with 1st woman facing up between 2nd couple and 1st man facing down between 3rd couple.
- 17-22 1st couple dance reels of three on opposite sides, passing their first corners with left shoulders to begin.
- 23-24 As 1st couple finishes the reel and is moving toward their own side, they turn their partner with left hands halfway to face their own first corners.
- 25-32 1st couple repeat bars 9-16 beginning with their first corners, continuing with their second corners, and ending on their own side in second place.
- 33-40 All three couples dance “The Wing” (circle six hands round to the left and back).

Repeat having passed a couple.

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## The Six-Figured Man – 48J3(4L)

Devised by John Shaw, March 2013

Tune: John's Request by Lisa Scott (see p.13)

### BARS

- 1-8 1st and 2nd couples dance the Espagnole; 1st couple finish by turning left hands 1½ times to face their first corners.
- 9-16 1st couple dance a diagonal reel of 4 with first corners and finish facing first corners.
- 17-24 1st couple set to first corners, then cast back to their respective third corner places, while the first corners set and dance into the center to face their original positions (see Note). Repeat those 4 bars, with the first corners setting and casting to “the corner behind them”, while 1st couple dance into the center and turn right about, to face their second corners.
- 25-32 1st couple dance a diagonal reel of 4 with second corners and finish facing second corners.
- 32-40 1st couple and second corners repeat bars 17-24, with 1st couple dancing through the center to face out on opposite sides on the last two bars of the phrase.
- 41-48 2nd and 3rd couples, facing up and down the set, set and change places right hands, then set to their partners and cross left hands to own sides, while 1st couple dance out to their right, round their first corners' places, and dance in the ends of the set to face each other; all clap, then turning right about, 1st couple dance out the same ends and cast to their right, back to second place own sides, ready to begin again.

Repeat having passed a couple.

Notes: On bars 47-48, third man crosses left hands to his own side. Continuing that direction, pulling back left shoulder, he will flow smoothly into the espagnole of the next time through the dance. This flow holds for each time through the dance.

The setting-casting figure of bars 17-24 and 32-40 is similar to the central figure of Best Set in the Hall.

### Story Notes:

- Bars 1-8: The fateful first meeting of the Stranger and the Spanish sword maker (the Espagnole)
- Bars 9-40: The son's lifelong search for the stranger who killed his father, known to him only as the “Six Fingered Man”;
- Bars 40-48: The final wild chase through the castle, culminating, at last, in the climactic face-to-face meeting with the Six Fingered Man.



## A King in Patagonia – 32R3(4L)

Devised by Holly Gibson, December 2012

Tune: Countess Cassilli

Suggested Music: Rising Phoenix from the CD “The Devil’s Quandary” by Andy Imbrie and Deby Benton Grosjean

### BARS

- 1-8 1st couple cast off one place, turn  $1\frac{1}{4}$  with right hands to dance out the ends, 1st woman between 3rd couple and 1st man between 2nd couple and cast to the right to join left hands with partner’s second corner and right hands with partner.  
2nd couple step up on bars 1-2.
- 9-12 2nd woman, 1st woman, 1st man, and 3rd man balance in line. 1st couple release right hands and turn corner a little over halfway with left hands. 1st woman is between 2nd couple and 1st man is between 3rd couple.
- 13-16 1st couple passing their first corners with right shoulders, dance a half reel of three across the dance, curving in through the ends to join left hands with second corners, now on the opposite side, and right hands with partner.
- 17-20 2nd woman, 1st man, 1st woman, and 3rd man balance in line. 1st couple release right hands and turn corner halfway to second place on own sides, 1st woman facing up and 1st man facing down.
- 21-24 1st woman pass 2nd man and 1st man pass 3rd woman with right shoulders to dance a half reel of three on own sides. At the end of the half reel, 1st couple pass right shoulder to face out in second place opposite sides.
- 25-32 1st couple cast to the right to dance round first corners’ places, pass right shoulder as they dance through the center, cast to the right to dance round second corners’ places, and pass right shoulders to finish in second place on own sides.  
Meanwhile, 3rd and 2nd couples set and cross over giving right hands, set facing up and down, and change places on the sides, also with right hands, to finish with 2nd couple in first place and 3rd couple in third place.

Repeat having passed a couple.

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## Four White Horses – 32J4(4L)

Devised by Holly Gibson, September 2012

Tune: The Raincloud by M. Thomson

Suggested Music: Track 4, 4x32 Jigs on the CD “Gang on the Same Gate by Green Ginger

### BARS

- 1-4 1st with 2nd couple and 3rd with 4th couple set and dance right hands across half way.
- 5-8 2nd couple dance a half figure of eight down round 1st couple, and at the same time, 4th couple dance a half figure of eight down round 3rd couple to own sides.
- 9-16 2nd and 1st couples dance a ladies’ chain while 4th and 3rd couples dance a men’s chain.
- 17-24 1st and 3rd couples petronella turn to face up and down and set to partner, and repeat to finish on own sides in second and fourth places respectively.
- 25-28 1st couple, in second place, and 3rd couple, in fourth place, dance half rights and lefts. Meanwhile, 2nd and 4th couples set to partners and cross over giving right hands.
- 29-32 All four couples set to partner and cross over to own sides giving right hands to finish in the order 2, 3, 4, 1.

Repeat with a new top couple.

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## Aas Yooou Wiiiisshhh – 32S3(4L)

Devised by Linda Mae Dennis, December, 2012

Tune: Fiona Miller's Strathspey by David Knight

Suitable recording: Track 9 on the CD "First Stop!" by Waverley Station (David Knight, Liz Donaldson, Ralph Gordon)

### BARS

- 1-4 1st couple cross over giving right hands, and cast off one place.  
2nd couple step up on bars 3-4.
- 5-8 1st couple turn with both hands to finish in second place on opposite sides.
- 9-12 All three couples turn halfway with right hands to face partner in the middle, and cast to opposite sides (half turn and twirl).
- 13-16 All three couples set, and turn halfway with right hands to finish with 1st couple, on opposite sides, in second place in the middle in promenade hold facing down, 2nd couple in the middle in first place and 3rd couple in third place in the middle in promenade hold facing up.
- 17-24 All dance a circulating allemande. On the last two bars, 3rd couple, at the top turn  $\frac{3}{4}$  with left hands, and 2nd couple at the bottom turn  $1\frac{1}{4}$  also with left hands to form a line up and down the middle of the set. 2nd and 3rd couples are left shoulder to left shoulder with partners, with 3rd woman and 2nd man facing the women's side and 3rd man and 2nd woman facing the men's side. 1st couple retire as usual to second place on opposite sides.
- 25-32 All dance the Targe as follows:  
25-26, 3rd and 2nd women turn  $\frac{3}{4}$  in the middle with right hands as their partners and 1st couple dance anti-clockwise  $\frac{1}{4}$  the way round the outside.  
27-28, 3rd and 2nd couples turn partners once round with left hands while 1st couple, facing up and down toward each other set.  
29-30, 3rd and 2nd women turn  $\frac{3}{4}$  in the middle with right hands as their partners and 1st couple continue  $\frac{1}{4}$  the way round the outside anti-clockwise.  
31-32, 2nd couple turn  $\frac{1}{4}$  with left hands to finish in first place on own sides, 1st couple set to partner, and 3rd couple turn  $\frac{3}{4}$  with left hands to third place own sides.

Repeat having passed a couple.

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# John's Request

Lisa Scott

**A** D G A D Bm Em A

D G A G D/F# Em A

**B** A D D/F# G D/F# Em A

A D G A 1. G A 2. D A

**C** G D/F# G D/A A

G D/F# G A 1. G A 2. D

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