



THE KING AND I

“It’s a girl,” the midwife announced to the king, who was pacing the halls of his castle.

“It’s a girl and the queen is finally resting.” The king stopped and breathed a sigh of relief. The queen had taken almost twenty-five hours to give birth to their baby, a very long time for a lady as frail and regal as his wife. He was happy she was well, but felt a wave of disappointment as he digested the three words uttered by the midwife.

