

Chapter 1

What terror there is in the Seven Kingdoms! A giant has arrived. A giant bigger than any giant that has ever been before.

A super-giant. A mega-giant.

An absolutely staggeringly giant giant for which there is only one suitable word –

MOUNTAINOUS.

So say the people of the Plain Green Plains at the south of the Seven Kingdoms and *they* should know because it is *their* houses which are shaken to pieces every time he does a little jog, or a little jig, or a little wriggle; or whatever it is that he is doing up there.

For no one can see whether he is red-faced and running, or smiling and dancing, or yawning and stretching. No one has even seen his head – it is too high. All that anyone has ever seen of him is his huge (super-huge), trampling (mega-trampling) boots.

“I don’t believe one word of it,” Princess Florizella said to her particular friend, Prince Bennett. They were sitting behind her parents’ thrones listening to the messenger from the Plain Green Plains gasping for breath and shaking with fright as he told the king and the queen of the Seven Kingdoms that Something Must Be Done! (“Like what?” Florizella muttered to Bennett.) At Once! (“By whom?” Bennett whispered back.) To save the people of the Plain Green Plains from being squashed as flat as well-trodden chewing gum by this ex-tra-ord-in-ar-il-y big giant.

The king looked very worried. “When was the last time we had a giant?” he asked the court herald.

She consulted the scroll. “Ages ago, Your Majesty,” she said. “In your father’s father’s father’s father’s time. The young king (your father’s father’s father’s father) went out and challenged the giant to single combat and slew him after three days of bloody battle, in which he was nearly killed three times over!”

“Well, we don’t want any of that I’m sure,” the king said hastily. “Why don’t we just ask him to move on?”

There was a muffled giggle from Bennett, still hidden by the big gold throne. “Not into my kingdom you don’t!” he said to Florizella. “We don’t want a giant any more than you do!”

