



## **The Legend of the Clown Prince**

Once upon a time in a land called Rosaria there lived a boy named Angel who wanted to be a clown. Angel was filled with love and laughter, and everyone knew he would be a wonderful clown someday if only he could find his inspiration.

One year during Rose Festival, Angel had the chance to meet Queen Thelma, the Queen of Rosaria. He was so impressed with the beautiful Queen, he wanted to find a way to serve her. Queen Thelma was the inspiration he had been waiting for. She spoke to him, saying, "Angel, I want you to search the world for the best festivals, the best clowns and the best roses. And when you learn about them, come back to the Rose Festival."

And so Angel traveled the world and visited the great festivals, the most beautiful gardens and the most exciting circuses. He applauded the beautiful floats at the Tournament of Roses and danced to the bands at the Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York City. He went to New Orleans for Mardi Gras and to Nice, France for Carnivale. Then he cheered for Barnum & Bailey's Greatest Show on Earth and did somersaults when he saw the Cirque du Soleil. Finally he drank in the fragrances at the Botanic Gardens in Sydney, Australia and strolled across colorful acres at Castle Howard in Yorkshire, England, in awe of the beautiful roses, the queen of all flowers.

Angel never forgot what Queen Thelma had said before he left Rosaria. "When you return, you'll be able to tell the world where to find the best festival, the best clowns and the best roses."

And finally, many years later, Angel returned to Rosaria, ready to report what he had learned on his journeys. Because after searching the world and enjoying so many wonderful sights and sounds and smells, Angel finally knew the truth. The best festival, the best clowns and the best roses could all be found in his own home, in the land of Rosaria.

When Angel returned, he asked for an audience with the new Queen of Rosaria so he could report what he had learned. And when the beautiful Queen Victoria heard what he had to say, she asked him to kneel before her and bow his head. And she said, "You have done well, Angel, just as Queen Thelma asked. And now in honor of your service to Rosaria, I dub you Sir Angel, the Clown Prince of the Rose Festival."