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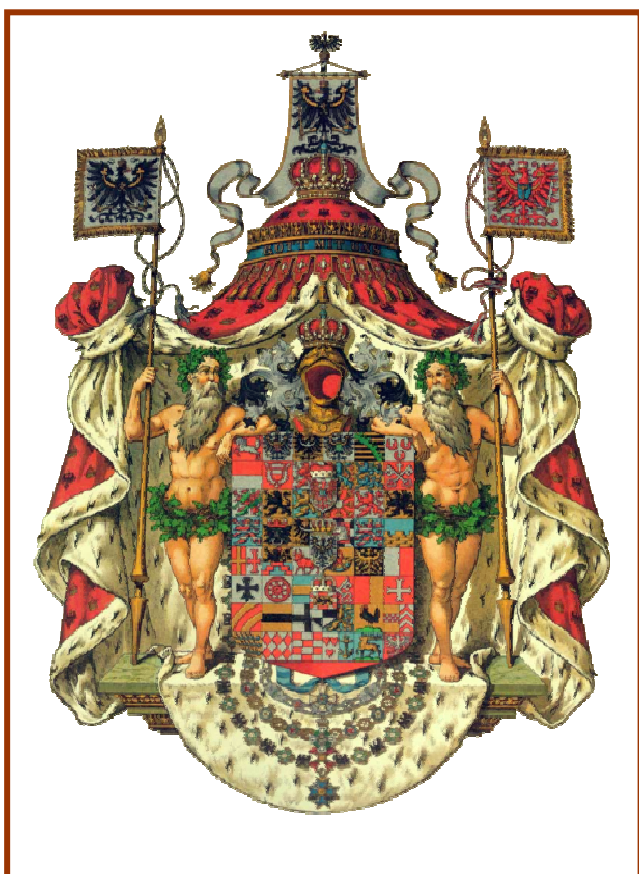
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OUR INSANE FAMILY

BY FREDERICK THE GREAT'S SISTER, PRINCESS WILHELMINE OF PRUSSIA

Translated from German by Queen Victoria's daughter, HRH The Princess Helena;

Edited & updated by HRH Princess Katarina, Lady De Silva



In publishing this translation of these incredibly candid memoirs, it will perhaps not be out of place to give an account of the personages who play so prominent a part in them. Princess Wilhelmine of Prussia, who became the Margravine of Baireuth, was the eldest daughter of King Frederick William I of Prussia, and his wife Sophie Dorothea of Hanover, daughter of George I of England. She was born in Berlin on the 3rd July, 1709, and was three years older than Frederick the Great, the brother to whom she was so ardently devoted, and over whom she had so great an influence. The love for her brother was the one bright spot in a life whose difficulties and troubles have probably seldom been equalled, their lives being blighted by their insane father and malicious mother. Although idolizing Frederick, and foreseeing the greatness he would one day attain, Wilhelmine was nevertheless not blind to his failings. How she suffered with him and through him are most touchingly told in this latest translation of the book.

Frederick earned his noble nickname through the many accomplishments during his reign. Through clever military manoeuvring, he was able to double the population of Prussia to six million people, through lands taken during the War of the Austrian Succession. Now Prussia was not only the largest of the German states, it was a formidable power in Europe, and he has gone down in history as one of the greatest military commanders of all time, on a par with Alexander the Great and Napoleon.

Princess Katarina, Lady de Silva was born in 1959, the eldest daughter of HRH Prince Tomislav of Yugoslavia and HRH Princess Margarita of Baden, sister of HRH The Prince Phillip, Duke of Edinburgh. As such, she is a close member of the Royal Family and occupies the unique position of knowing from her own personal experience what is truly required of a born Princess. She is divorced from the eminent QC and genocide Judge, Sir Desmond de Silva, with whom she has a daughter Victoria, named after her great great grandmother, Queen Victoria. She lives in London and frequently undertakes royal duties in aid of various charities. Like Wilhelmine, she has a surprising and refreshing take on what being a born

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