



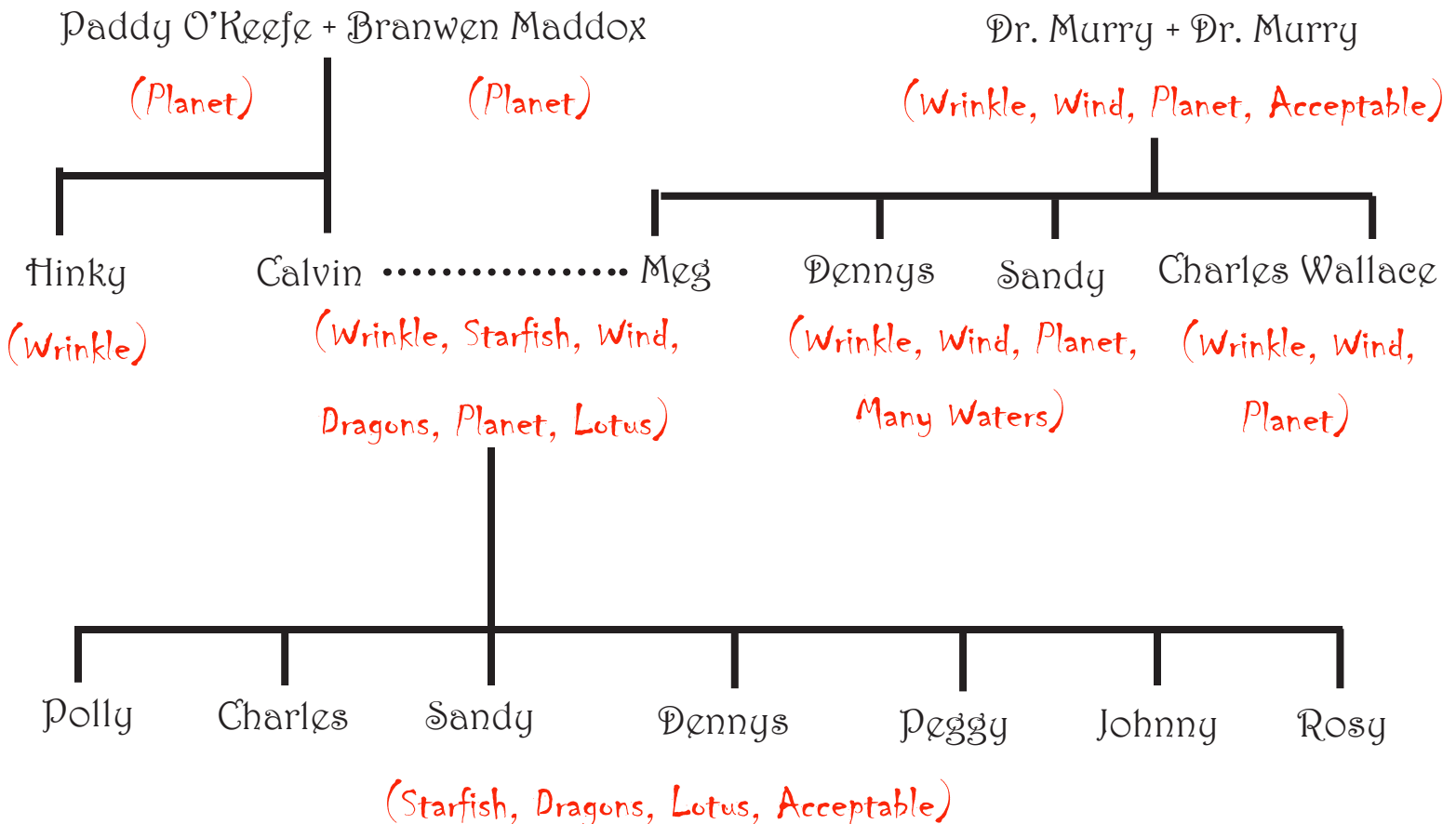
A
Wrinkle
in
Time

Madeleine L'Engle

The L'Engle Family Tree

The Murry-O'Keefes, Kairos*

A Wrinkle in Time, A Wind in the Door, A Swiftly Tilting Planet, Many Waters, A House Like a Lotus, An Acceptable Time



* Kairos is real time, pure numbers with no measurement.
This family is featured in this novel as well as the other books listed.



Contents

ONE ~	Mrs. Whatsit	3
TWO ~	Mrs. Who	21
THREE ~	Mrs. Which	36
FOUR ~	The Black Thing	53
FIVE ~	The Tesseract	71
SIX ~	The Happy Medium	87
SEVEN ~	The Man with the Red Eyes	109
EIGHT ~	The Transparent Column	127
NINE ~	IT	138
TEN ~	Absolute Zero	157
ELEVEN ~	Aunt Beast	169
TWELVE ~	The Foolish and the Weak	185



The Tesseract

Yes,” Mrs. Which said. “Hhee iss beehindd thee ddarrkness, sso thatt eevenn wee cannott see hhimm.”

Meg began to cry, to sob aloud. Through her tears she could see Charles Wallace standing there, very small, very white. Calvin put his arms around her, but she shuddered and broke away, sobbing wildly. Then she was enfolded in the great wings of Mrs. Whatsit and she felt comfort and strength pouring through her. Mrs. Whatsit was not speaking aloud, and yet through the wings Meg understood words.

“My child, do not despair. Do you think we would have brought you here if there were no hope? We are asking you to do a difficult thing, but we are confident that you can do it. Your father needs help, he needs courage, and for his children he may be able to do what he cannot do for himself.”

“Nnow,” Mrs. Which said, “Arre wee rready?”

“Where are we going?” Calvin asked.

Again Meg felt an actual physical tingling of fear as Mrs. Which spoke.

“Okay,” Charles said. “What is the first dimension?”

“Well -- a line: 

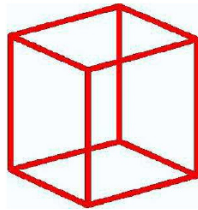
“Okay. And the second dimension?”

“Well, you’d square the line. A flat square would be in the second dimension.”



“And the third?”

“Well, you’d square the second dimension. then the square wouldn’t be flat any more. It would have a bottom, and sides, and a top.”



“And the fourth?”

“Well, I guess if you want to put it into mathematical terms you’d square the square. But you can’t take a pencil and draw it the way you can the first three. I know it’s got something to do with Einstein and time. I guess maybe you could call the fourth dimension ‘Time’.”

“That’s right,” Charles said. “Good girl. Okay, then, for the fifth dimension you’d square the fourth, wouldn’t you?”

“I guess so.”

“Well, the fifth dimension’s a tesseract. You add that to the other four dimensions and you can travel through space without having to go the long way around. In other words, to put it into Euclid, or old-fashioned plane geometry, a straight line is not the shortest distance between two points.”

