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AMERICAN
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dictionary

of the
English
Language



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be·troth  (bĭ-trōth , -trōth)

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tr.v. **be·trothed**, **be·troth·ing**, **be·troths**

To promise to give in marriage: *was betrothed to a member of the royal family.*

[Middle English *bitrouthen* : *bi-*, *be-* + *trouth*, *troth* (from Old English *trēowth*; see **deru-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#)).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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