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opening extract from

The Princess and the Wizard

written by

Julia Donaldson

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For _____ ~ J.D.

For Princess Amelia ~ L.M.



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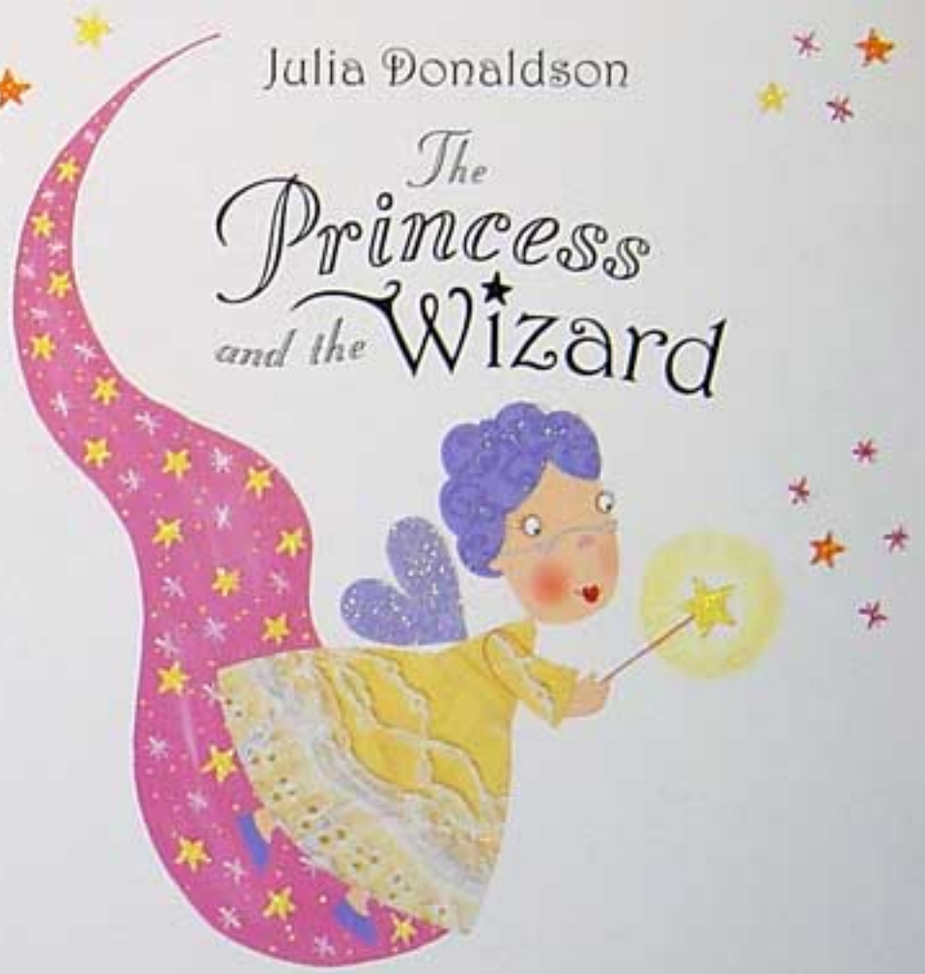
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Julia Donaldson

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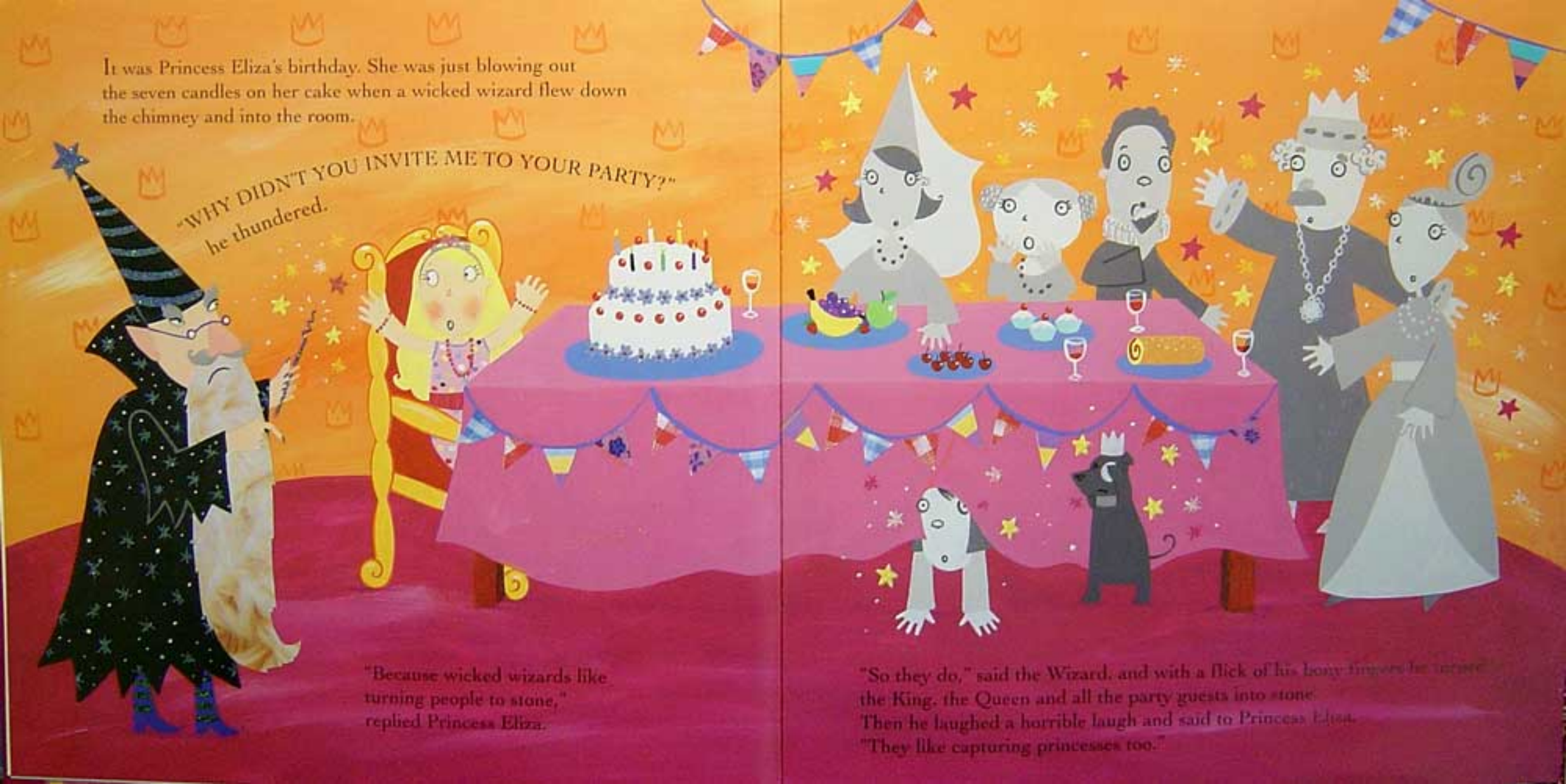


Illustrated by
Lydia Monks

Macmillan Children's Books

It was Princess Eliza's birthday. She was just blowing out the seven candles on her cake when a wicked wizard flew down the chimney and into the room.

"WHY DIDN'T YOU INVITE ME TO YOUR PARTY?" he thundered.



"Because wicked wizards like turning people to stone," replied Princess Eliza.

"So they do," said the Wizard, and with a flick of his bony fingers he turned the King, the Queen and all the party guests into stone. Then he laughed a horrible laugh and said to Princess Eliza, "They like capturing princesses too."

Just then there was a whirring of wings and in through the window flew the Princess's Fairy Godmother. She was late for the party.

When she saw what had happened, she waved her wand and said:

"The Princess may try seven times to escape
By changing her colour and changing her shape."



The Wizard just laughed his horrible laugh and said:

"Changing her colour and changing her shape
Will never help Princess Eliza escape."



Then he snapped his bony fingers again and turned the Fairy Godmother to stone.