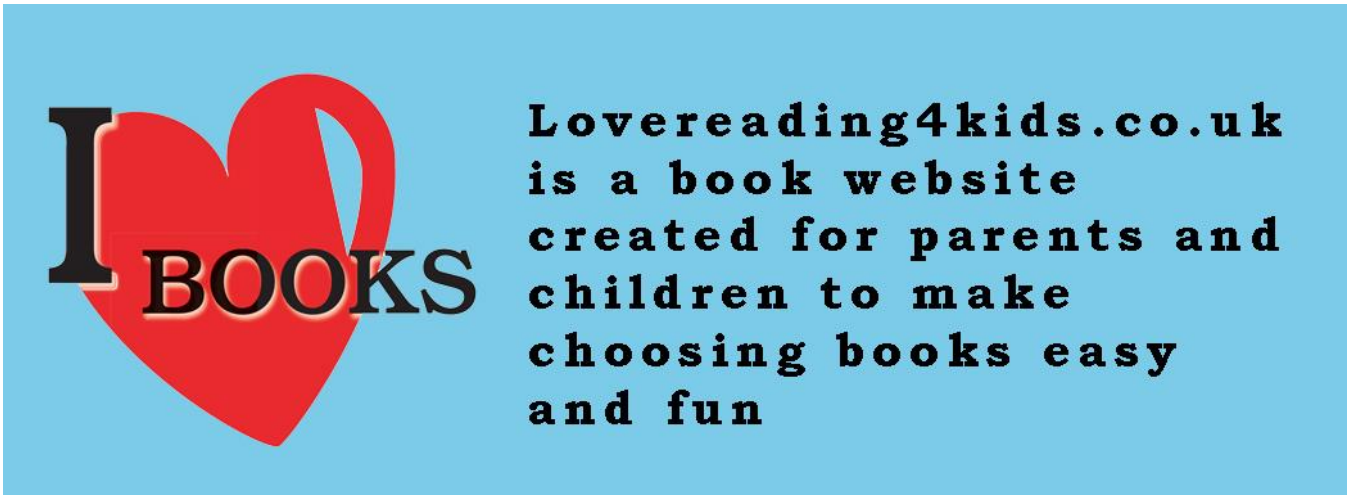


Opening extract from

The Cat and the King

Written & Illustrated by

Nick Sharratt

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For Alison



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The portrait of the cat and the king on page 104 was drawn by Ava Elise Morrice from Kingswells Primary School. Reproduced by permission.

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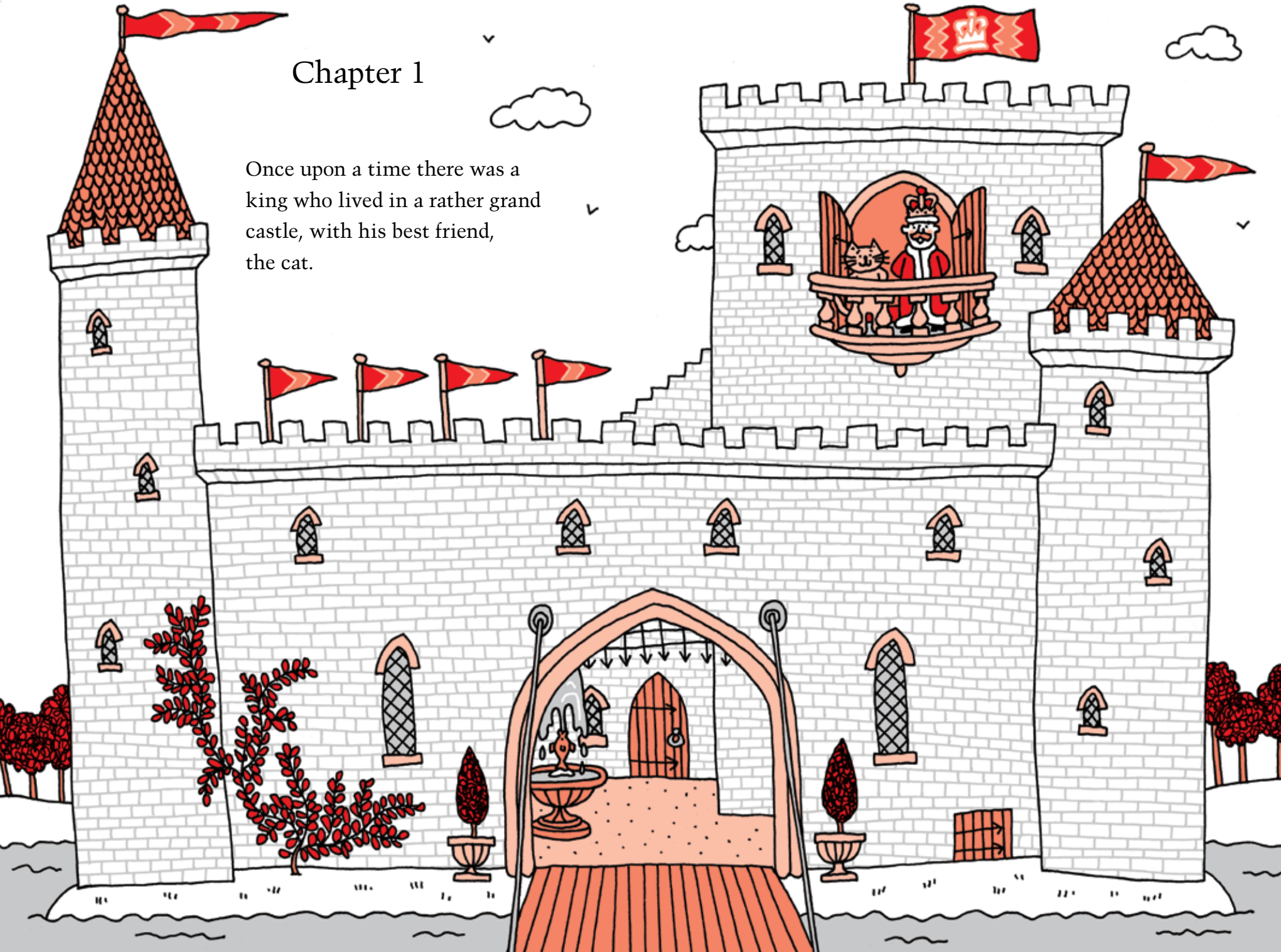
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The CAT and the KING



Nick Sharratt

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Chapter 1

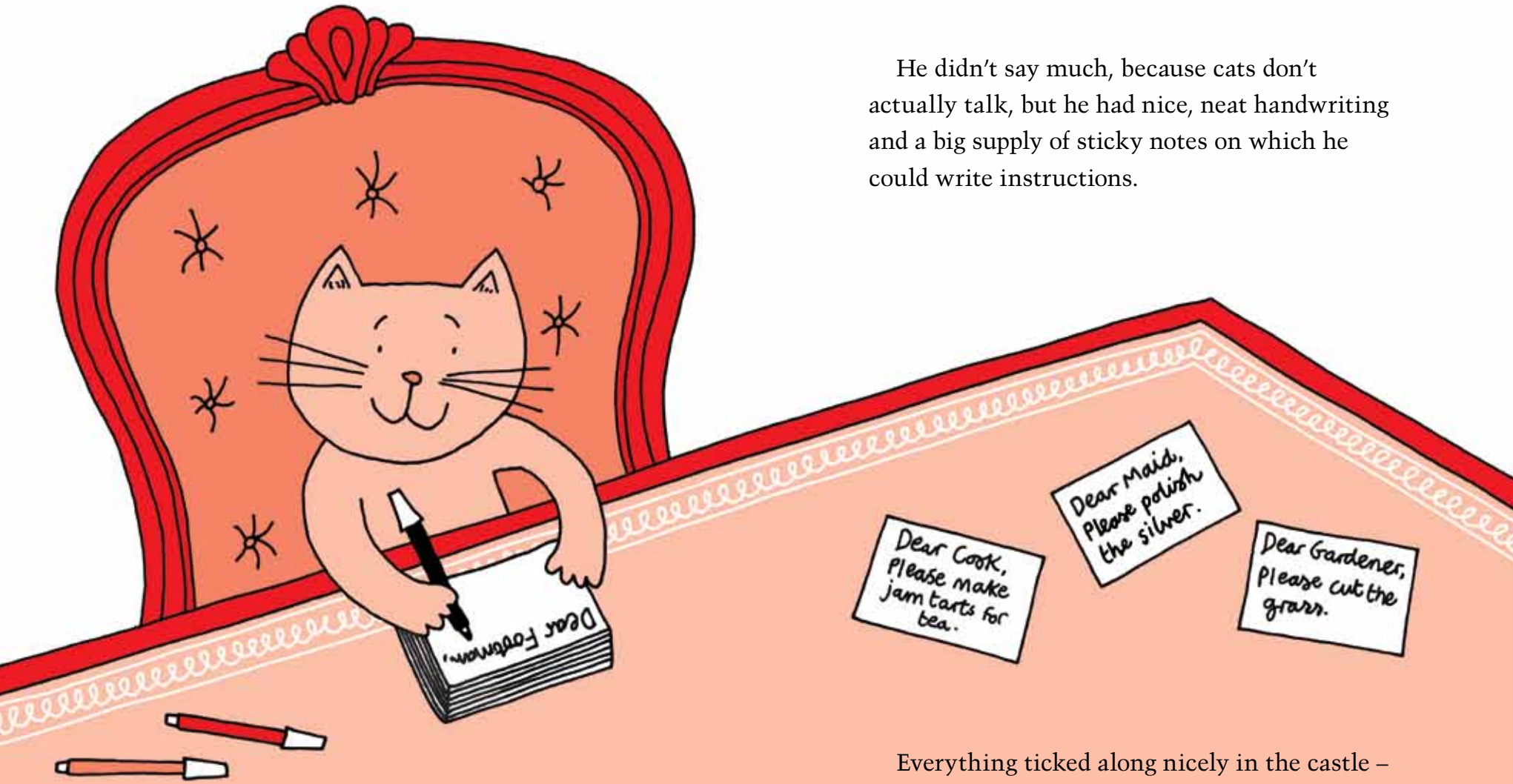
Once upon a time there was a king who lived in a rather grand castle, with his best friend, the cat.

The king was very good at doing all the things that kings do, like walking on red carpets, making speeches, cutting ribbons, and balancing a heavy crown on his head.



He had a dozen servants to do everything else.





The cat was very good at making sure everything ran smoothly in the castle.

He didn't say much, because cats don't actually talk, but he had nice, neat handwriting and a big supply of sticky notes on which he could write instructions.

Everything ticked along nicely in the castle – until an Unfortunate Incident that the cat could not prevent.

Let's just say it involved a fire-breathing dragon.

The Cat and the King



Fortunately no one was hurt, but the king and the cat had to move out of the castle and find somewhere else to live.

They looked at lots of places . . .









