Lovereading4kids.co.uk

Helping you choose books for children

0-5 5-7 7-9 9-12 12+

opening extract from

# Princess Charlotte and the Enchanted Rose

written by

## Vivian French

illustrated by

## Sarah Gibb

published by

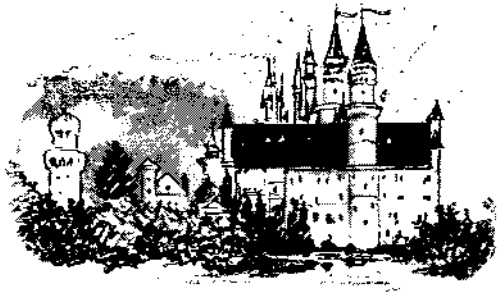
## Orchard Books

All text is copyright of the author and illustrator

please print off and read at your leisure.



# Chapter One



It was my first ever day at Silver Towers!

I was SO excited I could hardly breathe. I'd started packing weeks and weeks before, and I'd read the letter from the headteacher about a million times.

I kept pinching myself as our coach rattled along the road. I'd




Dear Princess Charlotte,

We look forward very much to welcoming you to Silver Towers, where you will continue your education at the Royal Palace Academy for the Preparation of Perfect Princesses. Please note that there will be a Royal Reception at 6.00pm, and dress accordingly.

With all good wishes,

Queen Samantha Joy

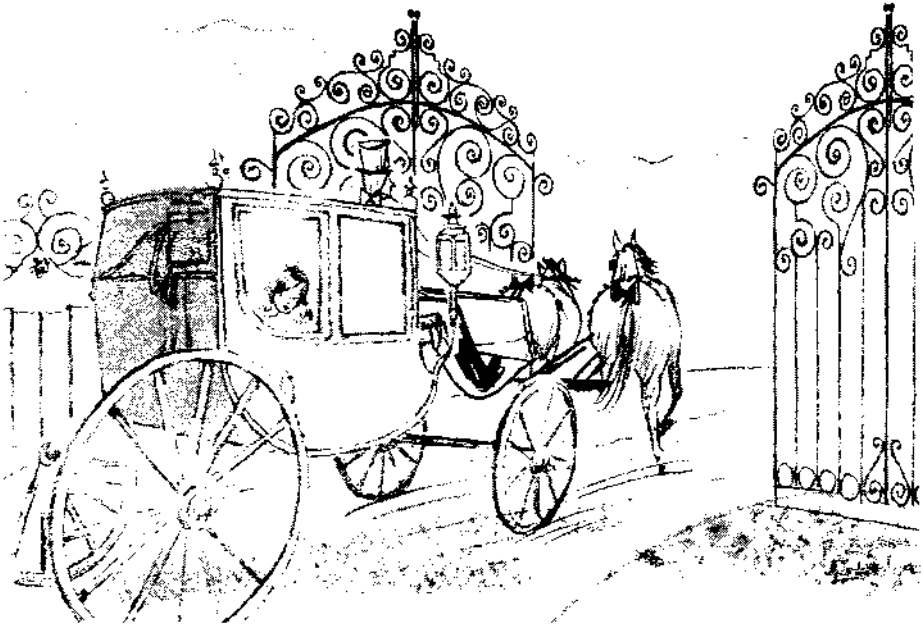
NB A map of Silver Towers is enclosed. Please make your way to the Grand Entrance on arrival.

been dreaming for so long that I was a proper Tiara Club princess at Silver Towers – and now I was nearly there.

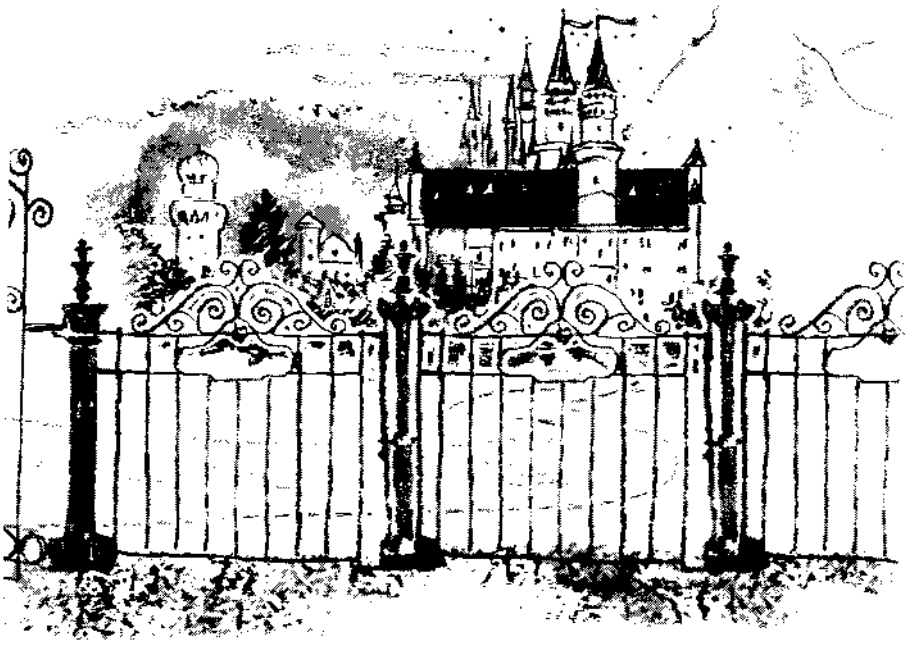
My trunks were on the seat beside me, and I had a GORGEOUS new dress for the Royal Reception. It was pale violet silk, with the sweetest little matching shoes with real pearl buckles, so I really did feel ALMOST pretty when I wore it. (My hair's rather mousy, and my nose is VERY ordinary.)

And I was longing to see Katie, Daisy, Alice, Sophia and Emily. I'd missed them SO much over the

holidays! Of course we'd sent loads of letters by Royal Messenger, but now we were going to be together again! When we finally turned in through the twirly silver gates I bounced from one side of



the coach to the other, trying to see everything at once. The silver towers were so romantic! Even though it was a grey day they were still shining, and the tops reached right up to the clouds.



We drove into a huge courtyard, and the coach stopped.

"Is this the place, Your Royal Highness?" the footman asked.

I fished around in my bag for the map – and it wasn't there. I'd forgotten it, even though Mum and Dad had reminded me about a hundred times before they went off on their Royal Tour. I could see an enormous doorway, though. That HAD to be the Grand Entrance, so I said, "Yes! This is it! Thank you!" The coachman piled my trunks by the step, and there I was – standing outside my new school.



*

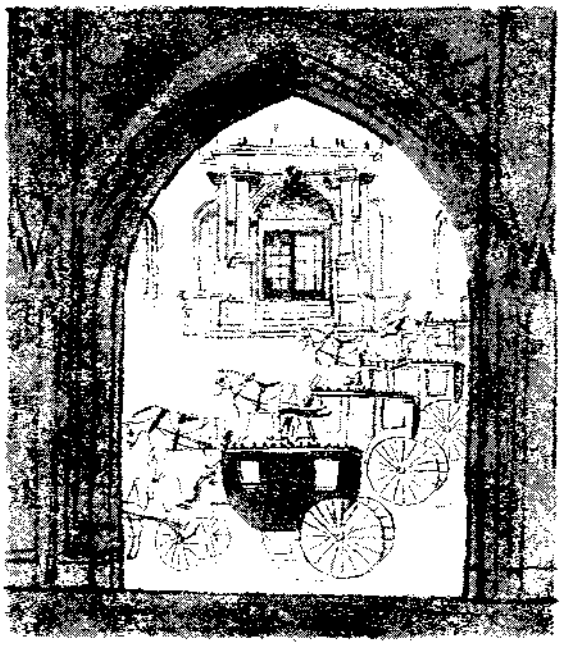
RAT-A-TAT-TAT! I grabbed the knocker, and banged on the door with a flourish...and there wasn't any answer. And I suddenly noticed how quiet it was. Surely there should be other princesses arriving by now?

I began to feel just a teeny bit anxious. Could I be in the wrong place after all? I didn't quite see how I could be, because all the signs saying SILVER TOWERS: MAIN ENTRANCE had pointed to the courtyard where I was standing. I decided to go and check – just to be sure. I could see

another archway in the wall beyond the front door, so I ran to look. It was beginning to rain, but I didn't take any notice.

OOOOPS!

I felt SO stupid. There was another sign pointing through the arch...and in the distance I could see rows of coaches.



They were standing outside a huge silver doorway that was SO amazing I realised I must have got out at the back door. Even though there was nobody to see, I went bright red. If ONLY I'd remembered the map!

I crept a little further through the arch, and something caught my eye – a rose! A real rose! It was lying in a muddy puddle, so I picked it up. And then I saw another, and another, and by the time I'd picked them all up I had a whole bunch. I was just wondering why they'd been thrown away when I heard the

rumble of wheels behind me, and my heart jumped. Could it be my friends? It sounded like a big coach, and Sophia's coach was massive. I swung round to have a look – and I STARED!

