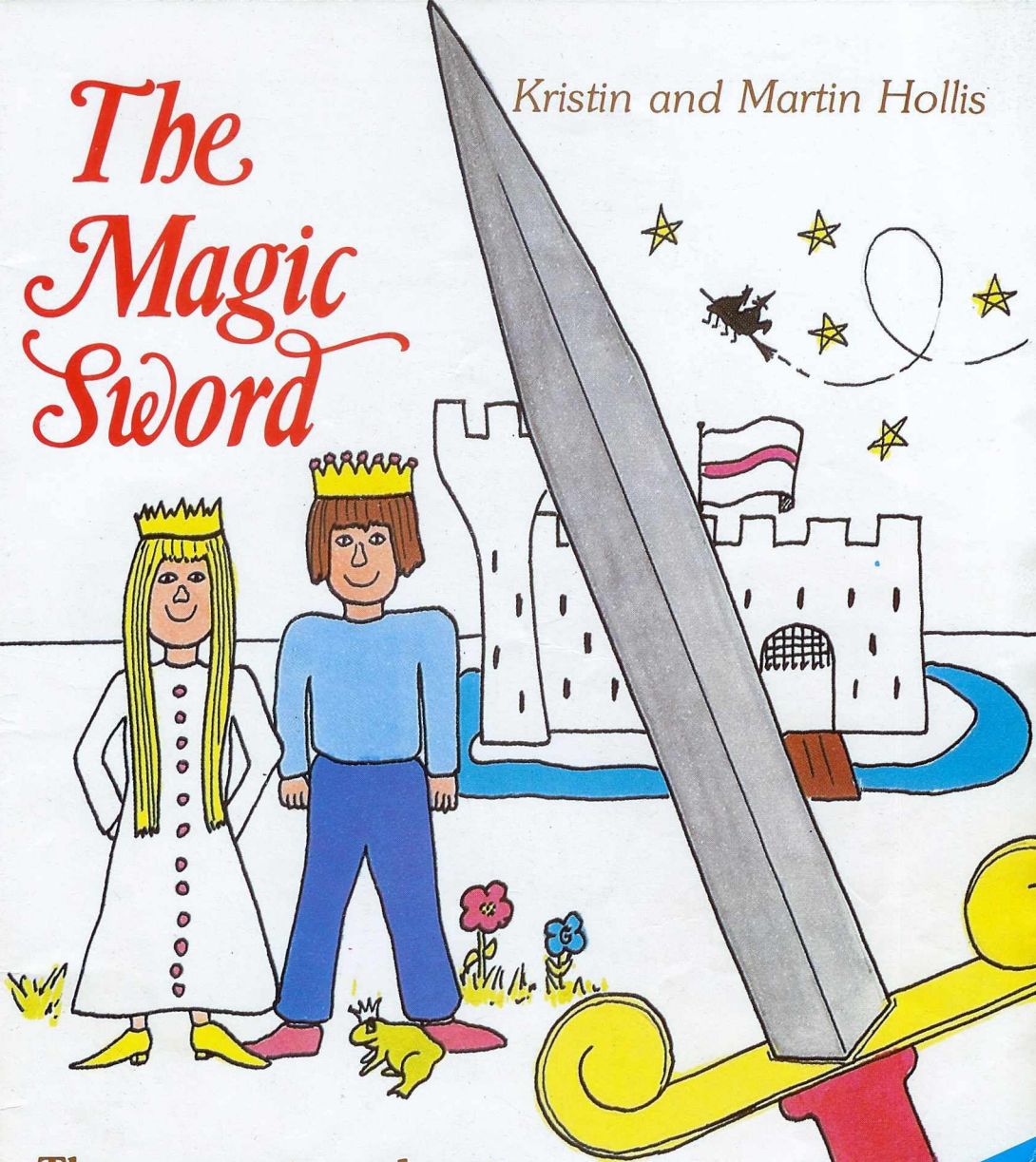


The Magic Sword

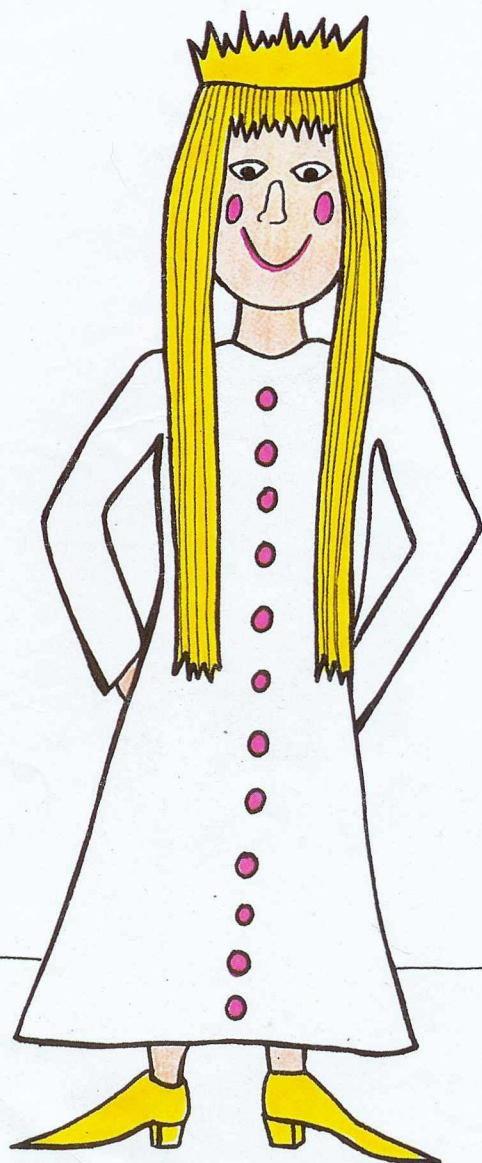
Kristin and Martin Hollis



The computer adventure
of Princess Poppy
and the Frog Prince

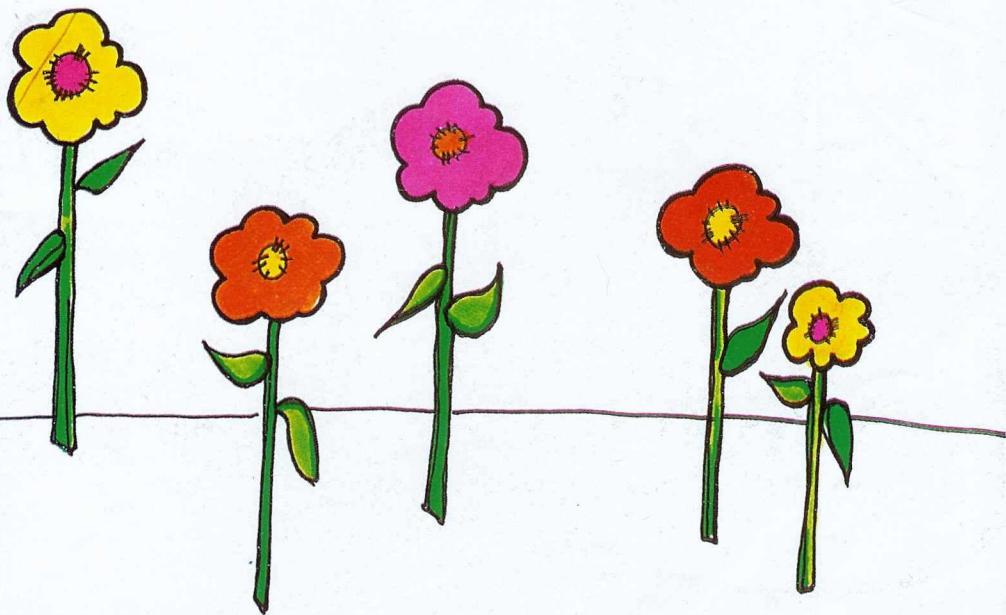
A Database publication

Read the book – then
play the game!



Once upon a time there was
a beautiful princess called
Princess Poppy.

She was a friendly princess and
everyone liked to play with her.

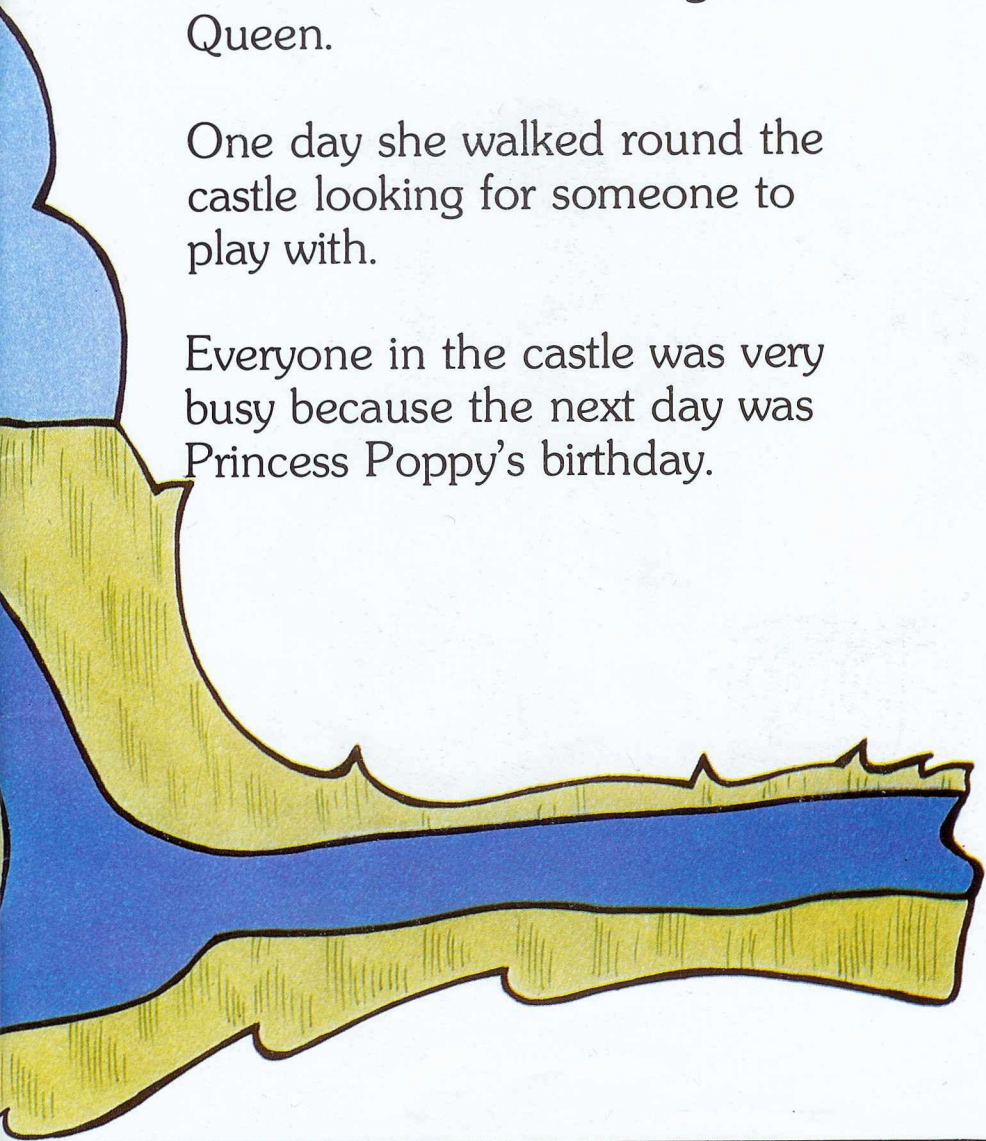




Princess Poppy lived in a big white castle with the King and Queen.

One day she walked round the castle looking for someone to play with.

Everyone in the castle was very busy because the next day was Princess Poppy's birthday.





Princess Poppy walked into the hall. She found a minstrel playing his lute.

“Come and play with me, please”, said Princess Poppy.

“Not today”, he said. “I am making a new song for your birthday. You must not hear it today. Go and find someone else to play with”.

Princess Poppy walked away feeling sad.





She went to the kitchens. The cook was running here, there, and everywhere making a huge cake.

“Please, I want to help you”, said the princess to the cook.

“Not today” he replied. “You do not want to see your cake do you? It must be a surprise. Run along and play outside”.

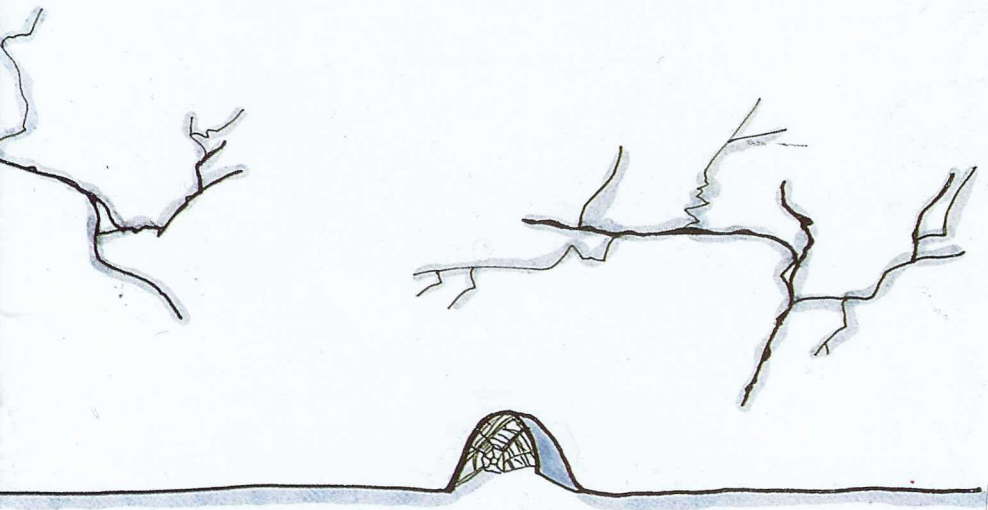


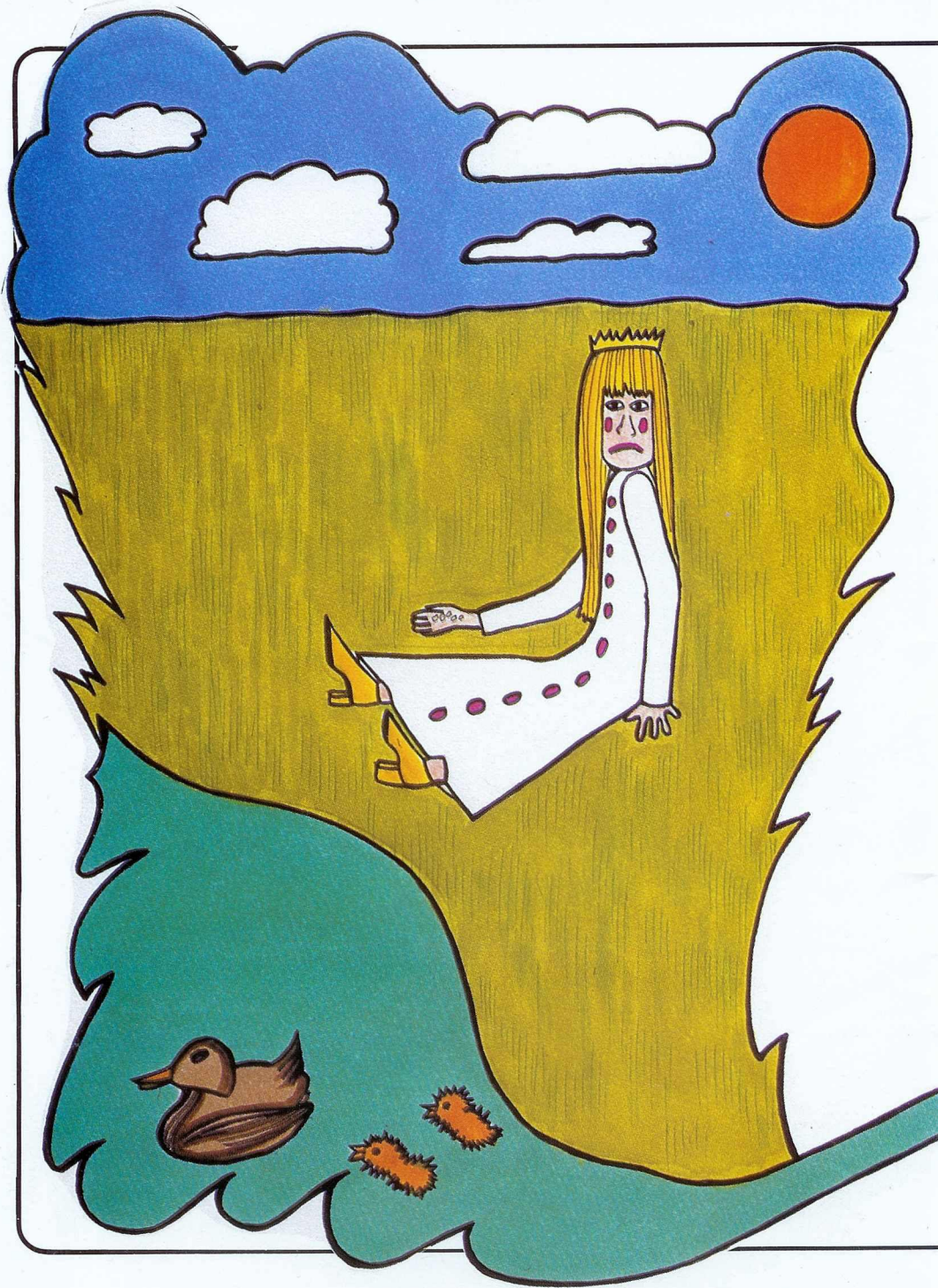


Princess Poppy left the kitchens
and went to the dungeons. The
dungeons were very frightening.

They were dark and cold with
only rats and spiders to play with.

“No friends here”, sighed Princess
Poppy as she ran away.

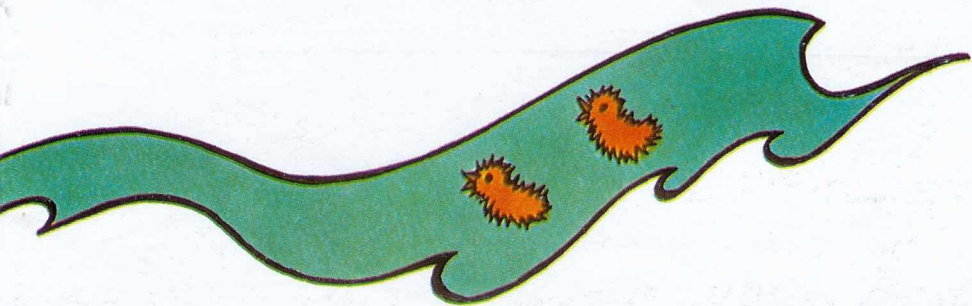


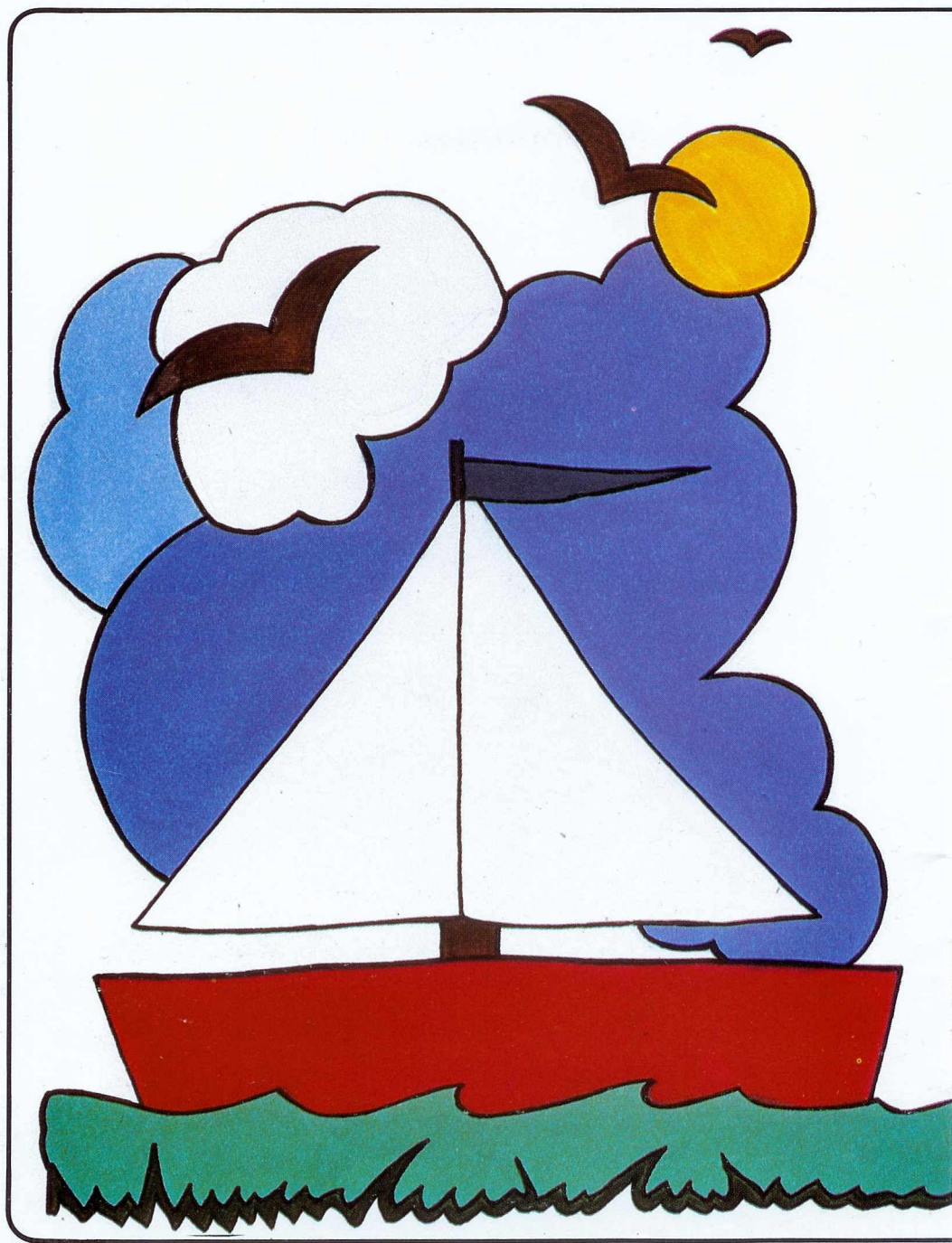


The little princess went outside the castle to find a friend. She walked for a long time. The sun was shining. It was very hot.

She stopped by the river and sat down on the grass. She watched the ducks playing on the river and gave them some bread.

“I wish you could play with me”, she said to the ducks, but they swam away.

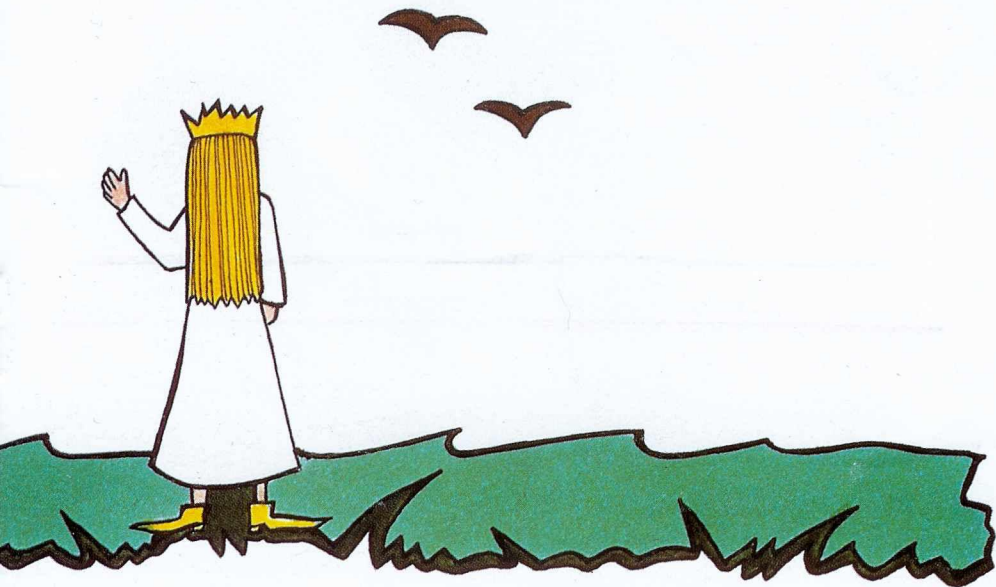


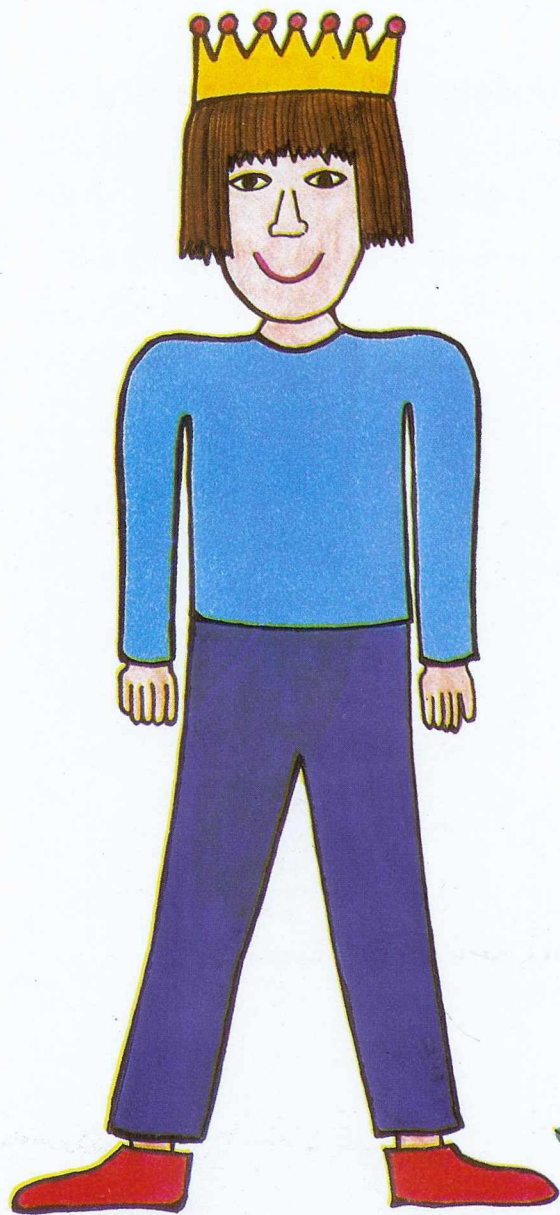


Princess Poppy saw a boat sailing
on the river. It was a red boat
with a white sail and a blue flag.

She stood up and waved. The
boat came nearer and nearer.

She jumped up and down and
waved. The boat stopped beside
her.





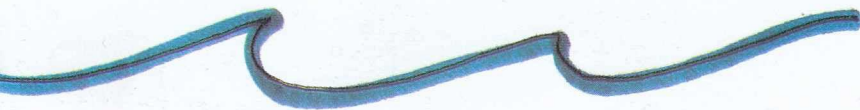
A young boy jumped out of the boat.

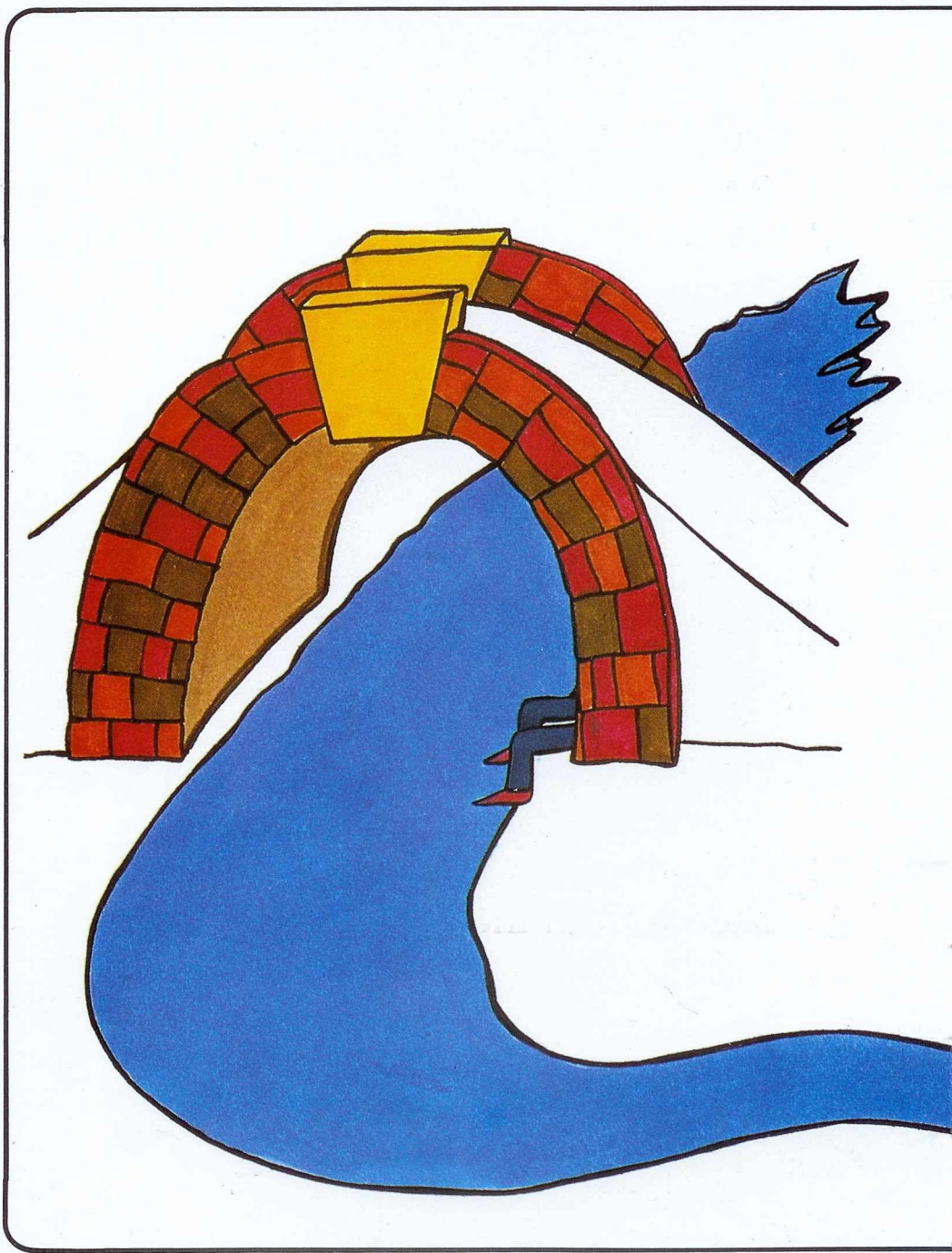
“What are you doing here?” asked Princess Poppy. “I am looking for someone to play with. Who are you?”

The boy looked at her.

He said: “My name is Prince Fred the Magnificent. May I play with you?”

“Yes please”, said Princess Poppy. “Shall we play hide and seek?”



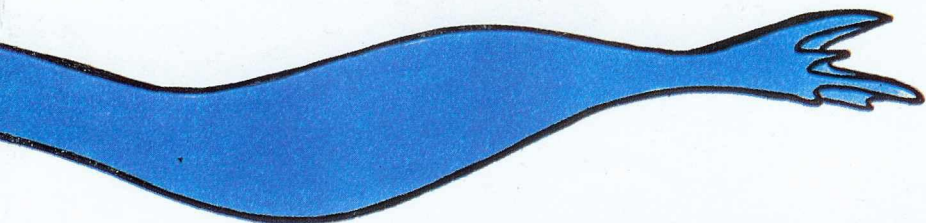


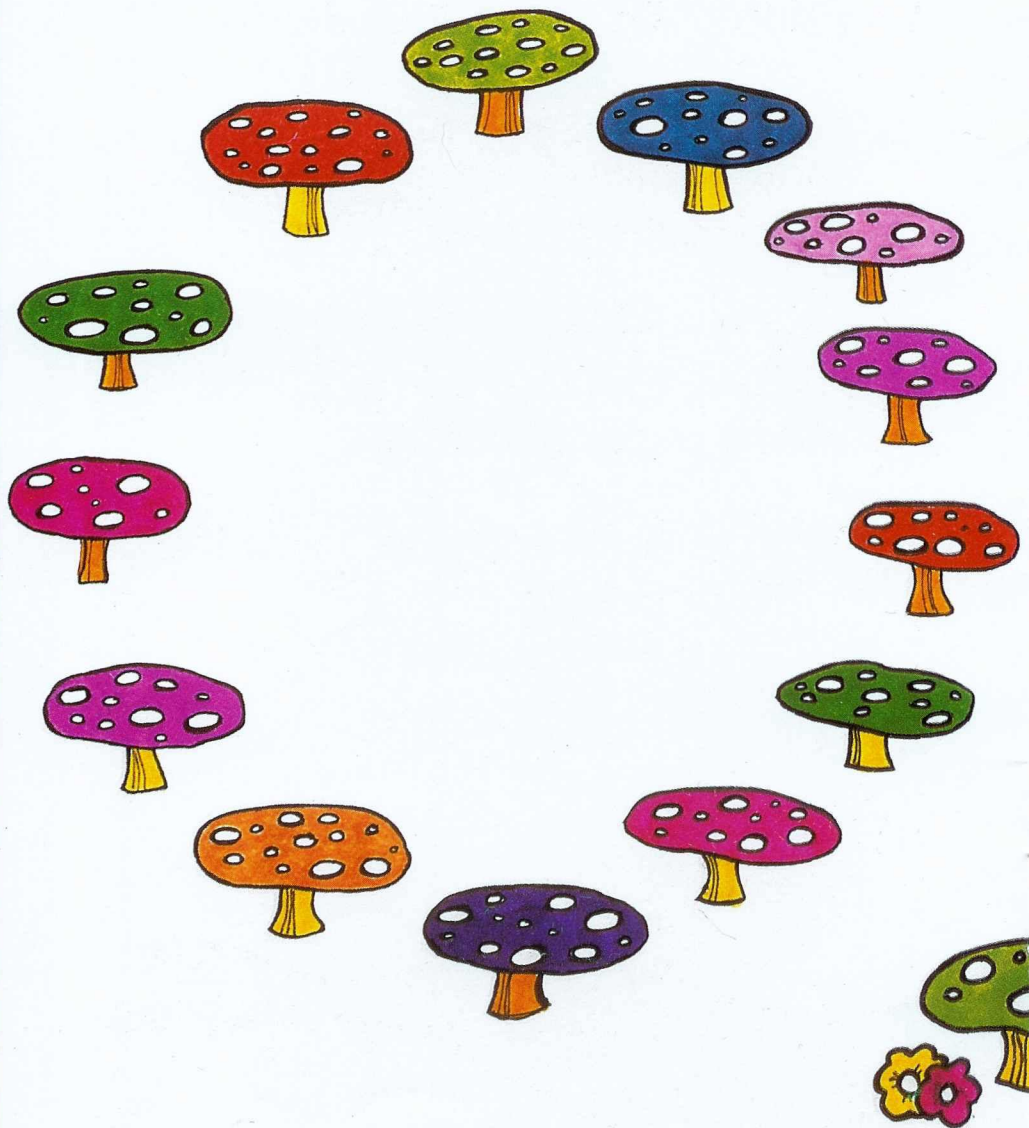
Princess Poppy shut her eyes and
Prince Fred ran off to hide.

“One, two, three, four, five, six,
seven, eight, nine, ten. Coming!”
shouted the princess.

She ran round and round looking
for him. She found Prince Fred
hiding under the bridge.

“Found you!” she said. “Now it is
my turn to hide”.





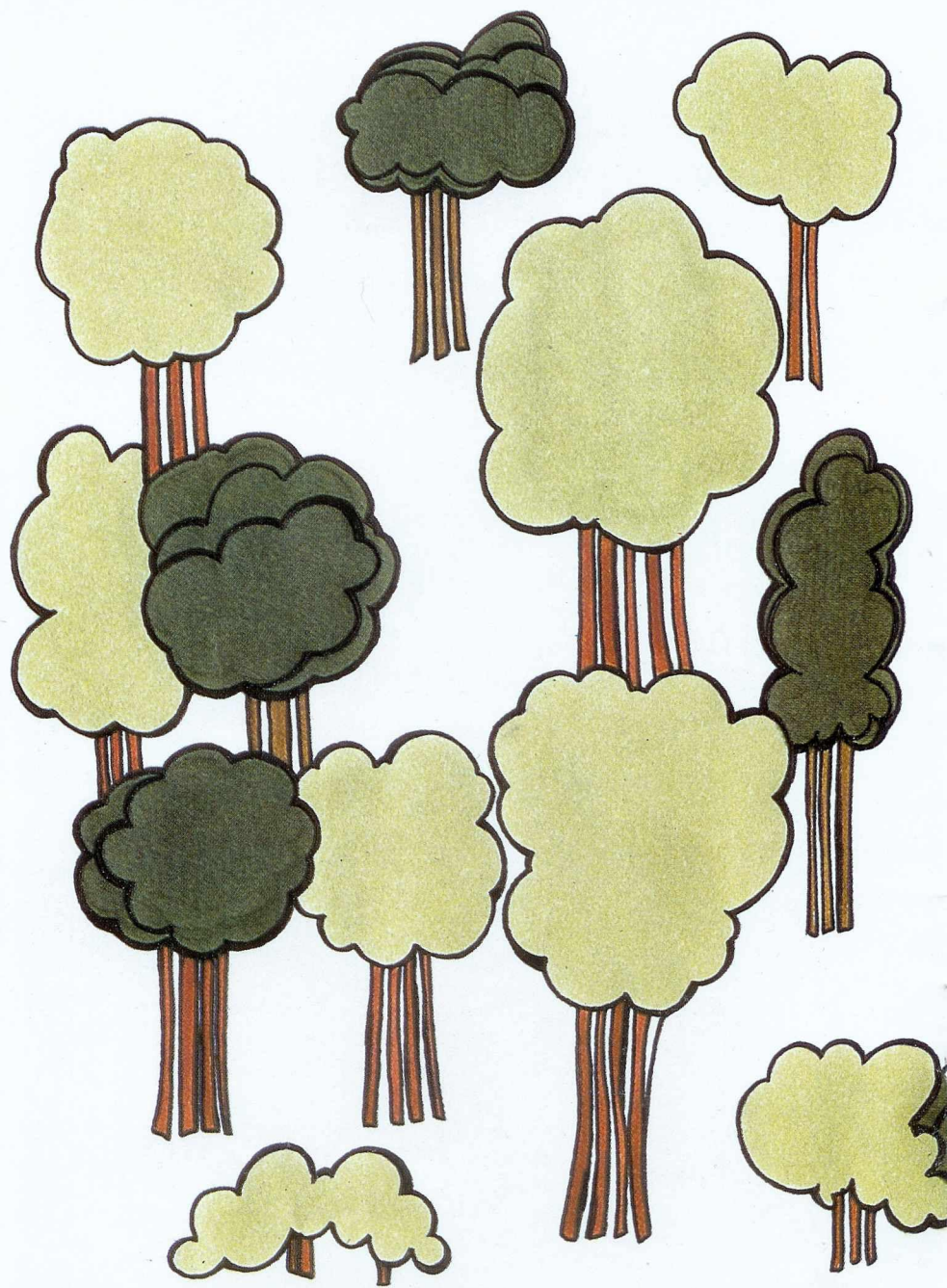
The princess tried to find somewhere good to hide. She stopped at the waterfall. The water looked very cold.

No, she could not hide there.

She found a cave. It looked very dark inside. She did not want to go in there.

She walked across a field. There was nowhere to hide here. Only some toadstools, but they were too small.



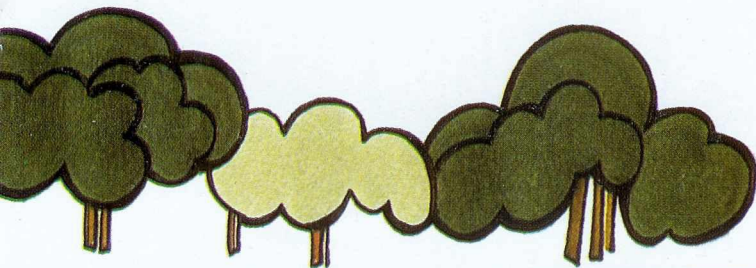


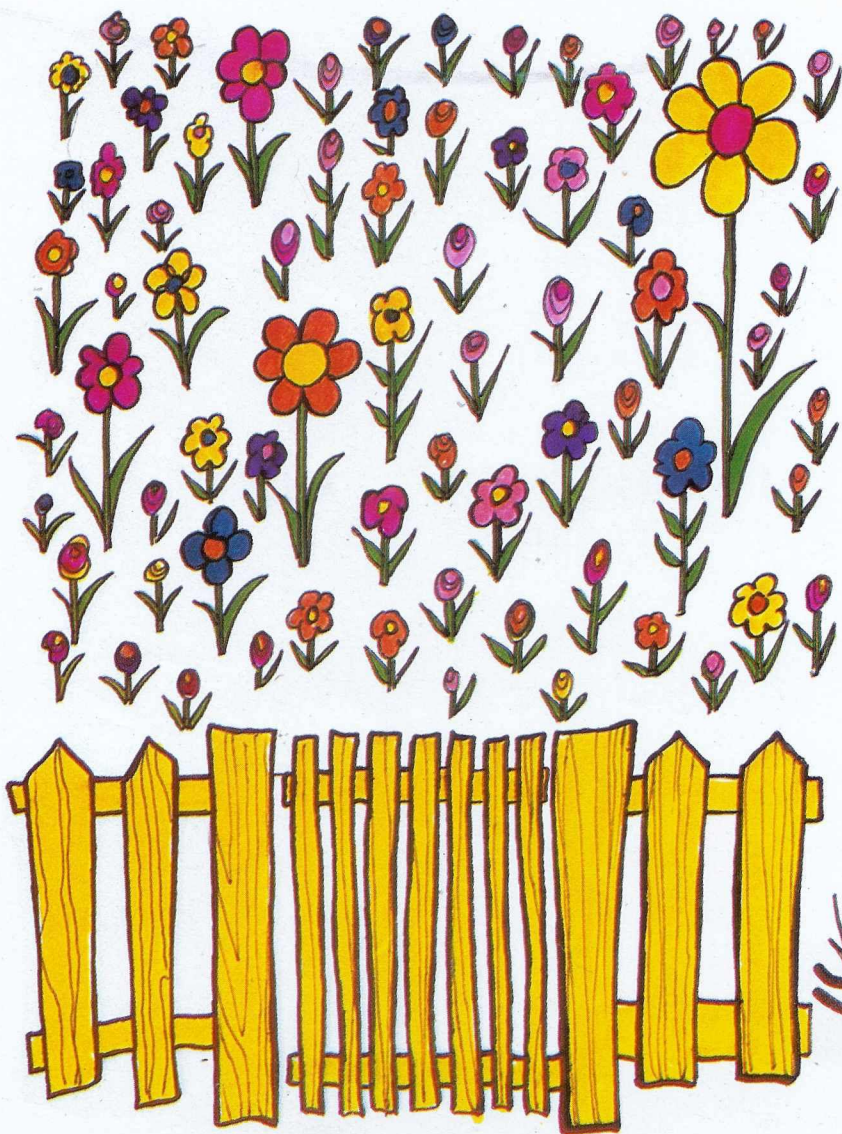
Princess Poppy walked on until she came to some woods. Could she hide in there?

She saw a twisty path and started to walk along it.

She walked and walked and walked. The trees were very tall, too tall to climb. And the bushes were very thick, too thick to hide in.

The path went on and on. Princess Poppy was feeling very tired.





“Ha-ha-ha!” laughed a voice.
Princess Poppy jumped.

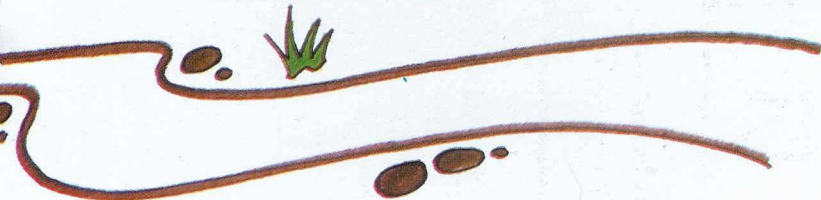
Who was that?

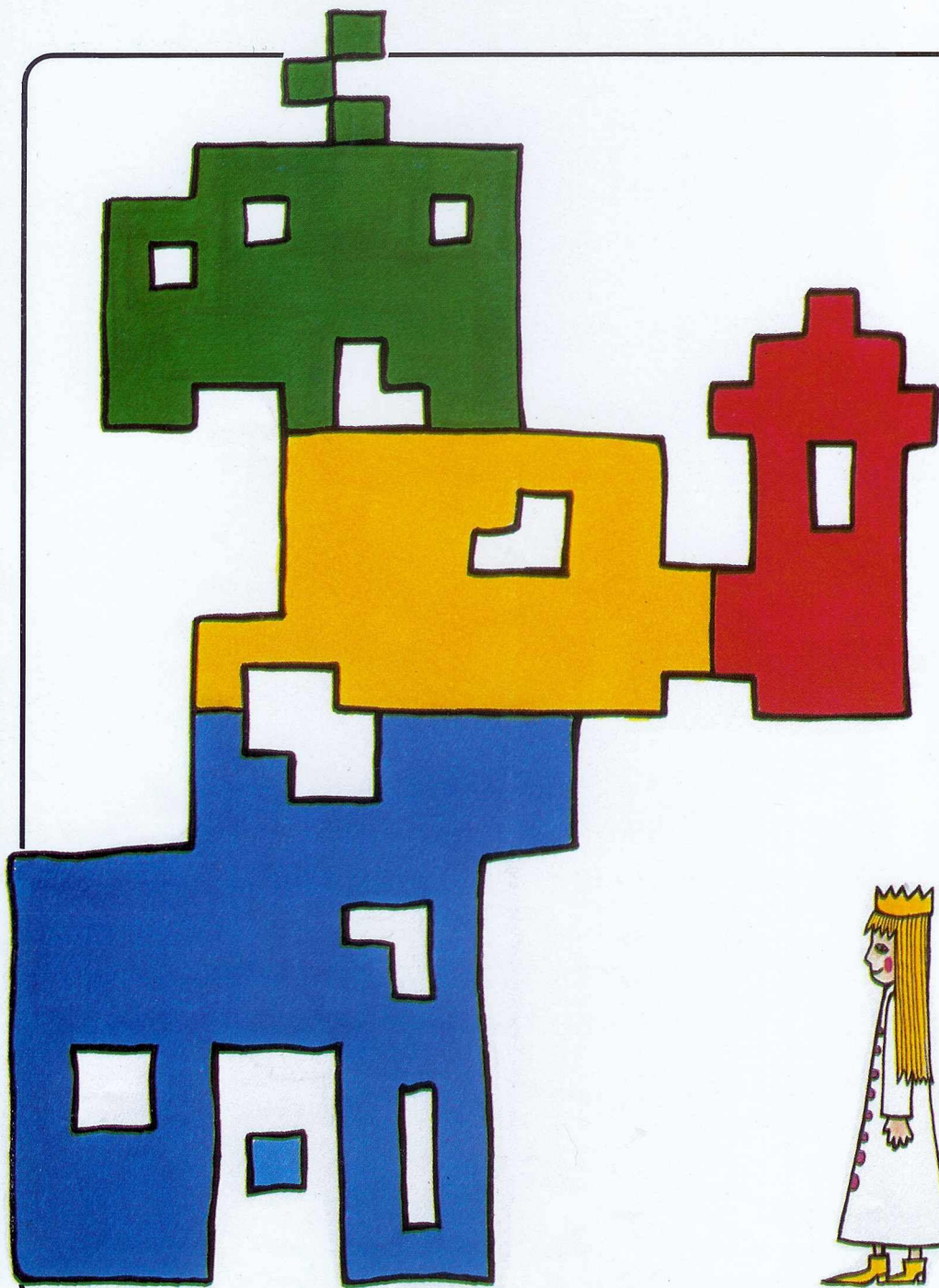
“Prince Fred, is that you?” called
the princess. There was no reply.

She came to a wooden gate. She
opened the gate and went into
the garden.

Princess Poppy had never seen so
many flowers. There were
hundreds and hundreds.

The flowers were beautiful but too
small to hide her.

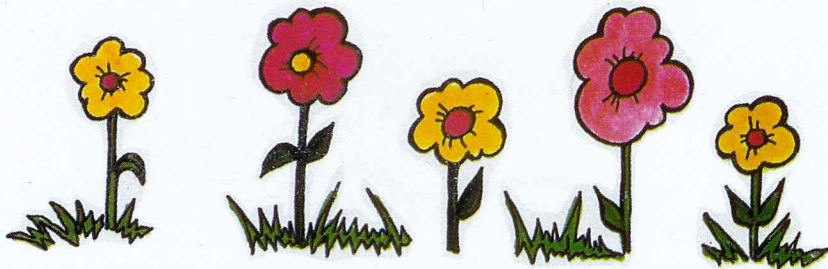


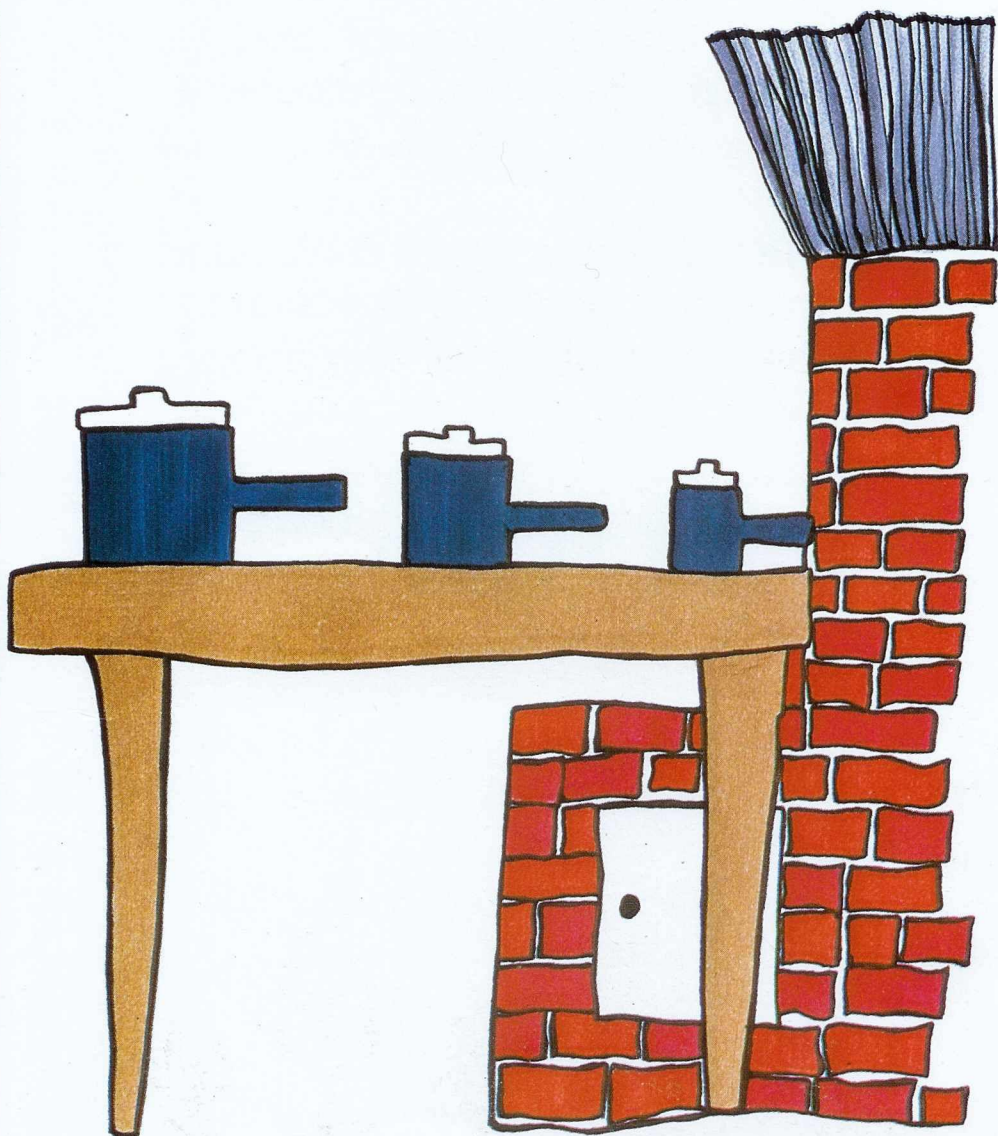


Princess Poppy walked past the flowers until she was standing in front of a little crooked house. It was not like a real house.

The house was red and blue and green and yellow. It had funny windows in all the wrong places and a chimney at one side.

The door was open. Princess Poppy went inside to find somewhere to hide.





The house was very dusty and untidy inside. Princess Poppy found a library and a bedroom but nowhere to hide.

Then she went into the kitchen. There was a table with pots and pans on it. She saw an oven.

Could she hide in there?

She looked inside the oven. It was a very big oven.

She could hear footsteps coming. Prince Fred would find her.

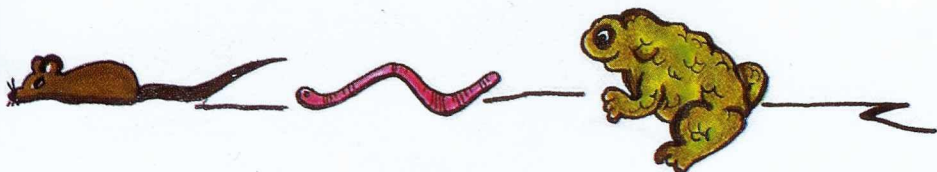


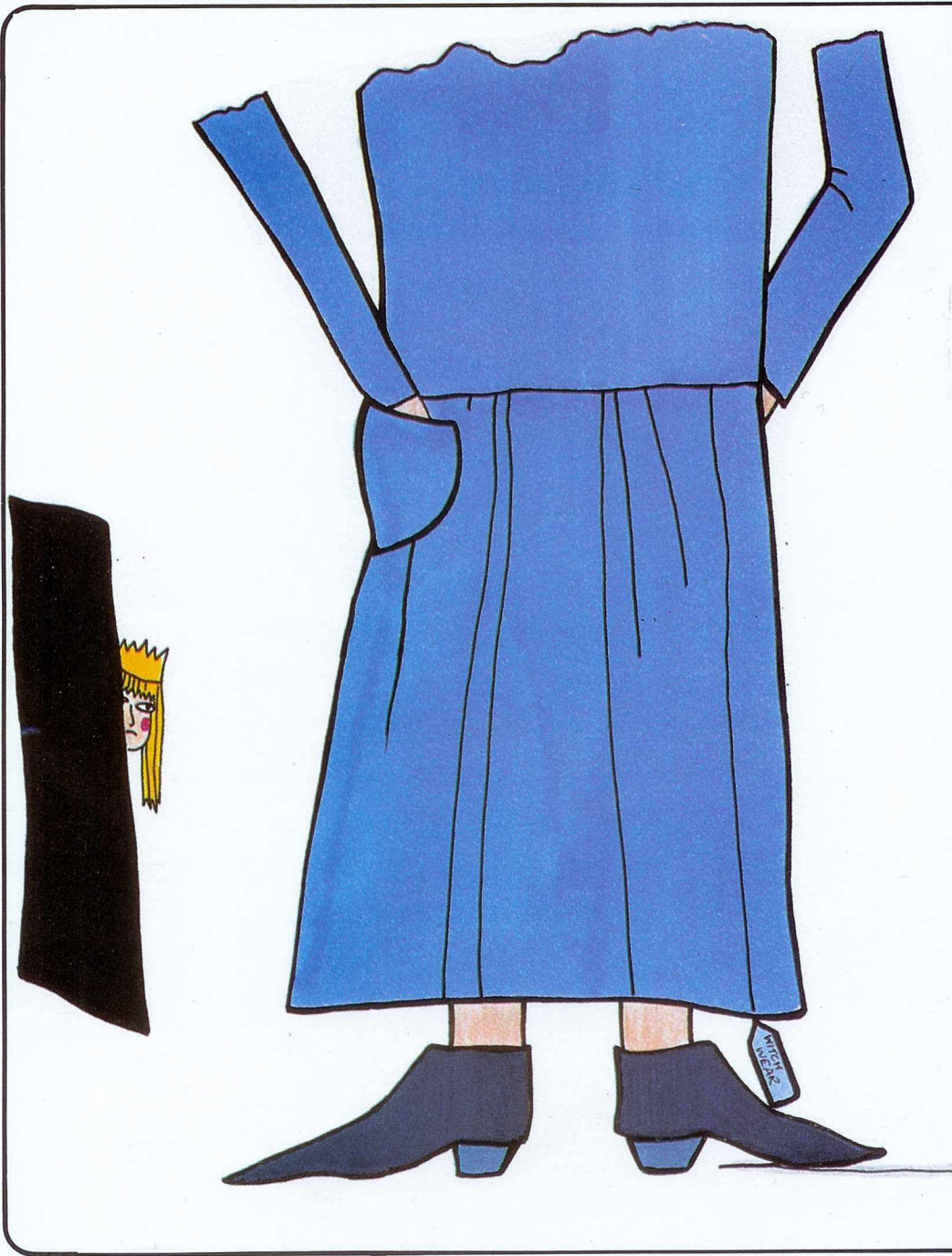
Quickly Princess Poppy climbed inside the oven and pulled the door shut. The footsteps grew louder. Then they stopped.

Princess Poppy looked out of the oven. She saw a pair of blue shoes and a blue dress. It was not Prince Fred. Who was it?

It was Bad Bertha, the wicked witch who lived in the crooked house. Bad Bertha did not like children.

If she found any children she liked to turn them into snails or mice or worms or toads.





“Ha-ha-ha! Ho-ho-ho!” laughed the witch. “There is someone hiding in my house. Is it a child? I do hope so. I want to try out my new spell”.

Bad Bertha could not see Princess Poppy hiding in the oven. She looked high, she looked low, but she could not find anyone.

The witch went out of the kitchen to look in her bedroom. Princess Poppy waited until the witch left the kitchen. Then she climbed out of the oven.





She started to run out of the kitchen. BANG! She crashed into Bad Bertha.

The witch and the princess fell down in the middle of the bedroom.

“Got you, you little worm”, cried Bad Bertha. She grabbed Princess Poppy.

“Let me go”, screamed the princess, and she bit the witch.

“Ow-ow-ow, how dare you bite me?” shrieked Bad Bertha. “I’ll turn you into a nasty fat toad”.





Princess Poppy twisted and turned. Her crown fell off. It landed on Bad Bertha's big toe.

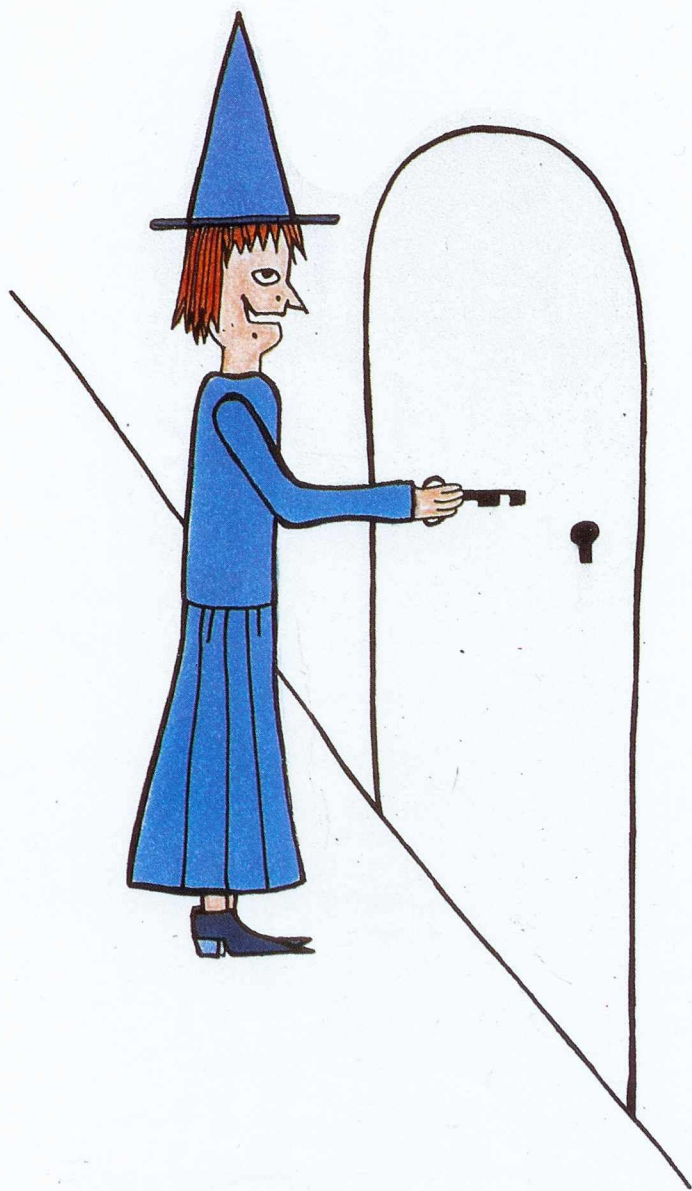
"Why have you got a crown?" snarled the witch.

"Because I am a princess", replied Princess Poppy. "And the king will cut off your head if you hurt me. Now take me home".

Bad Bertha was very angry. A princess! Too much trouble to turn her into a toad.

She dragged Princess Poppy outside and pushed her onto an old broomstick.

Bad Bertha climbed up behind the princess, muttered some magic words, and off they flew.



“Where are we going?” asked Princess Poppy. The witch did not reply.

They flew over the crooked house, over the woods, over the river, over the castle and stopped on top of the tower.

Bad Bertha pushed Princess Poppy into the tower and locked the door. She took the key out of the door.

“You wanted me to take you home”, laughed the witch. “Well, you ARE home now and you will stay here for ever and ever”.

Bad Bertha jumped onto her broomstick and flew over the castle waving the key.

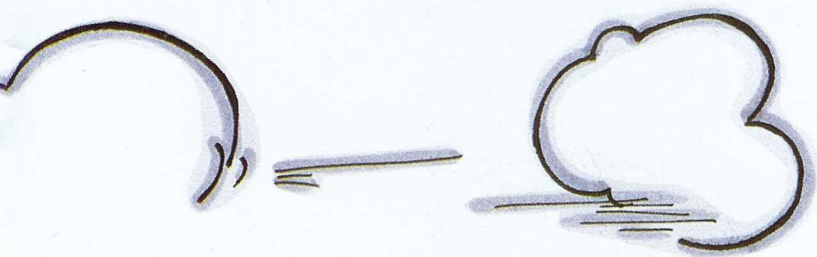


It was very windy on her broomstick. Bad Bertha had to hold on tight.

Her hat started to blow away. She put up her hand to catch her hat. The key fell out of her hand.

“Oh bother”, she said. “I will never find it now. It is too dark”.

She flew on, holding her hat in one hand and the broomstick in her other hand.





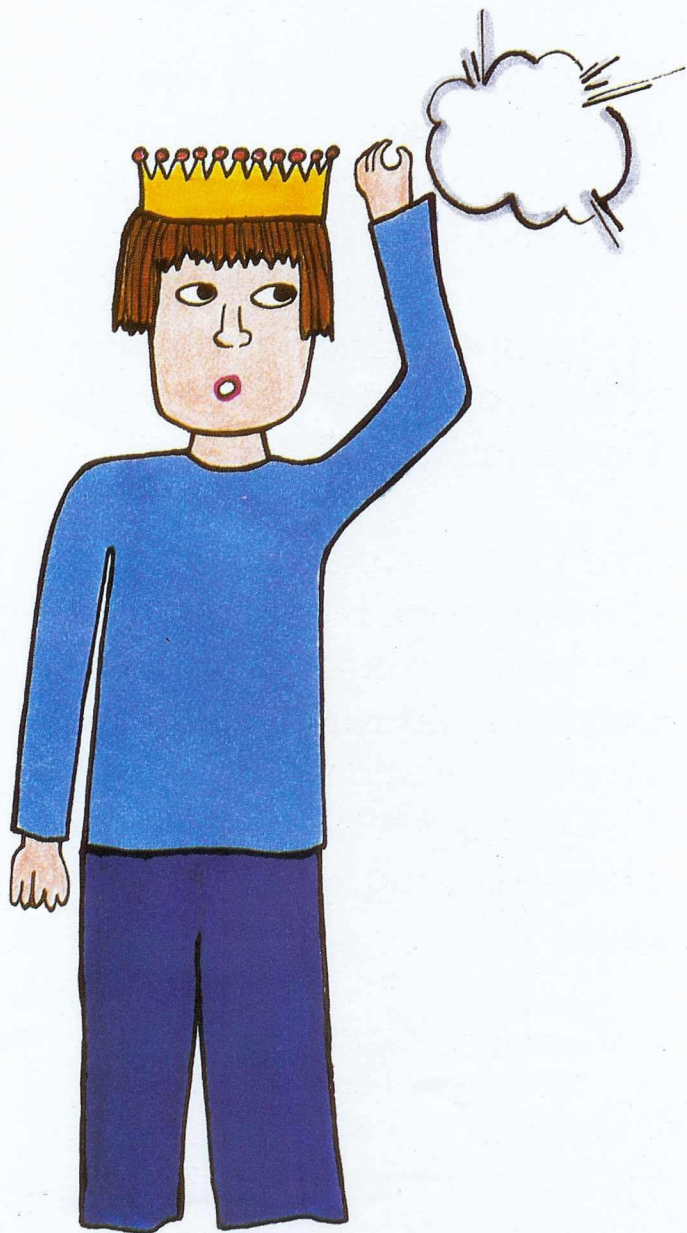
When she was nearly home she saw Prince Fred waving at her.

“Ho-ho-ho”, she cried. “A boy! I can try my new spell on him”.

She flew down and landed beside Prince Fred.

“You wicked old woman”, he shouted at her. “What have you done with Princess Poppy? I saw you flying away with her on your broomstick and now she is gone”.

He pulled out his sword and ran towards her.



“Wiffle, waffle, worple, wurple”,
screamed the witch. Prince Fred’s
sword disappeared in a puff
of smoke.

He stopped running and looked
at his empty hand. “Gone, my
sword has gone!” he cried.

Bad Bertha came closer and
closer to him. He turned and ran
as fast as he could. But Bad
Bertha could run faster.

She wanted to try her new spell.
She was going to try her new
spell.

Faster and faster, closer and
closer, came Bad Bertha.

POOF!

BANG!

FIZ Z!



Puffing and panting she grabbed Prince Fred. "Hooray, hooray", she cried. "Now to turn you into something nasty".

She waved her arms over his head, muttering her new spell.

"Eye of serpent, hair of hog,
Wing of bat and bark of log,
Leg of spider, tail of dog,
Turn him into a tiny..."

POOF! BANG! FIZZ!

"It works, it works", croaked Bad Bertha gleefully. She flew off into the night back to her house...

Can YOU defeat Bad Bertha and rescue Princess Poppy and Prince Fred? Put the program into your computer and start on the great adventure!

The Magic Sword



This book takes you up to the brink of your imagination. Then, when you get to the last page, the accompanying computer program takes over . . . inviting you to travel far beyond your dreams . . .

This captivating story by Kristin and Martin Hollis opens up a whole new world of fantasy and fascination for children with a taste for adventure.

Illustrations by Martin Hollis and Pamela Dunkerley