

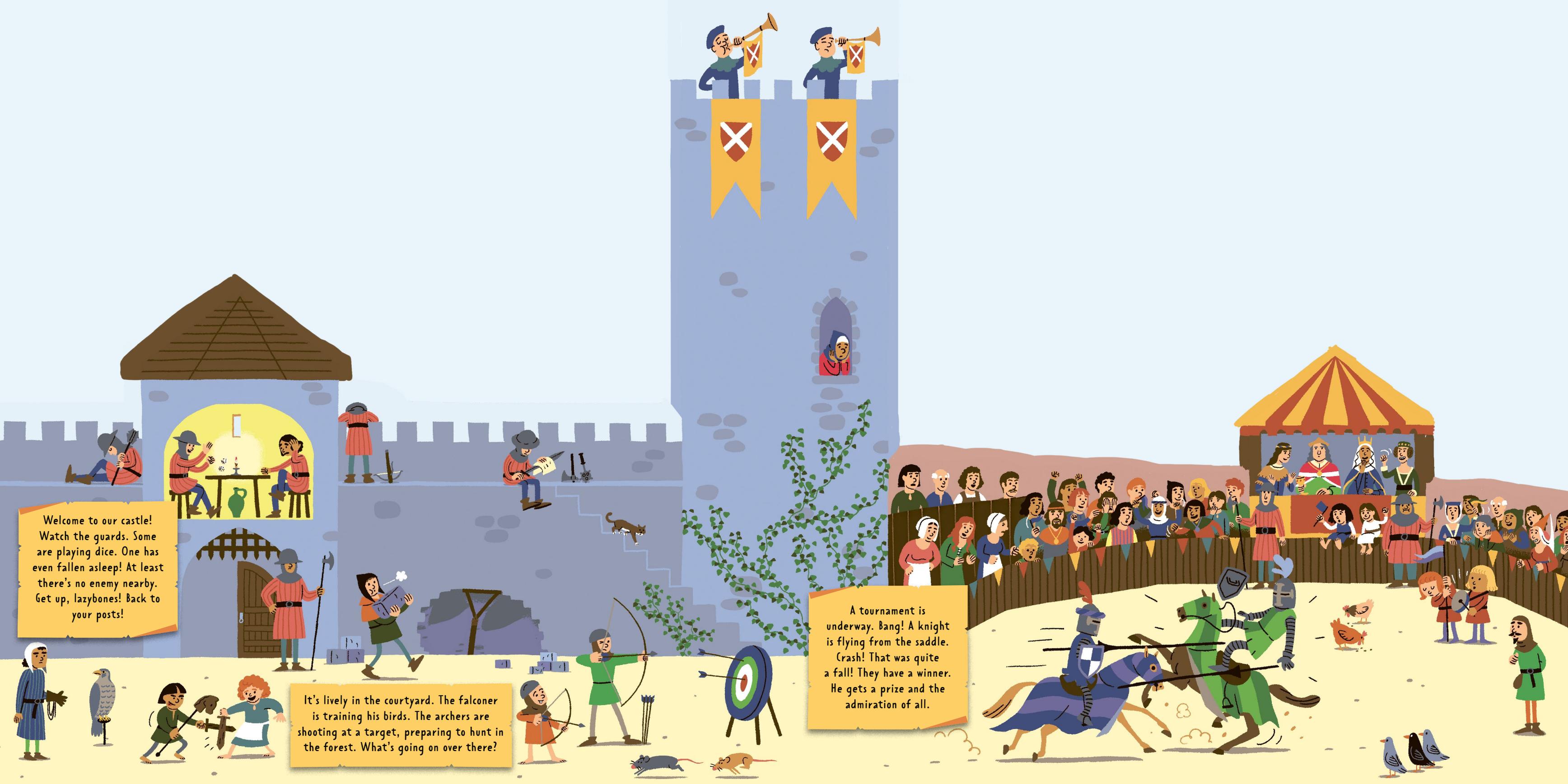
David J. Plant

LIFE AT THE CASTLE

Ondřej Navrátil



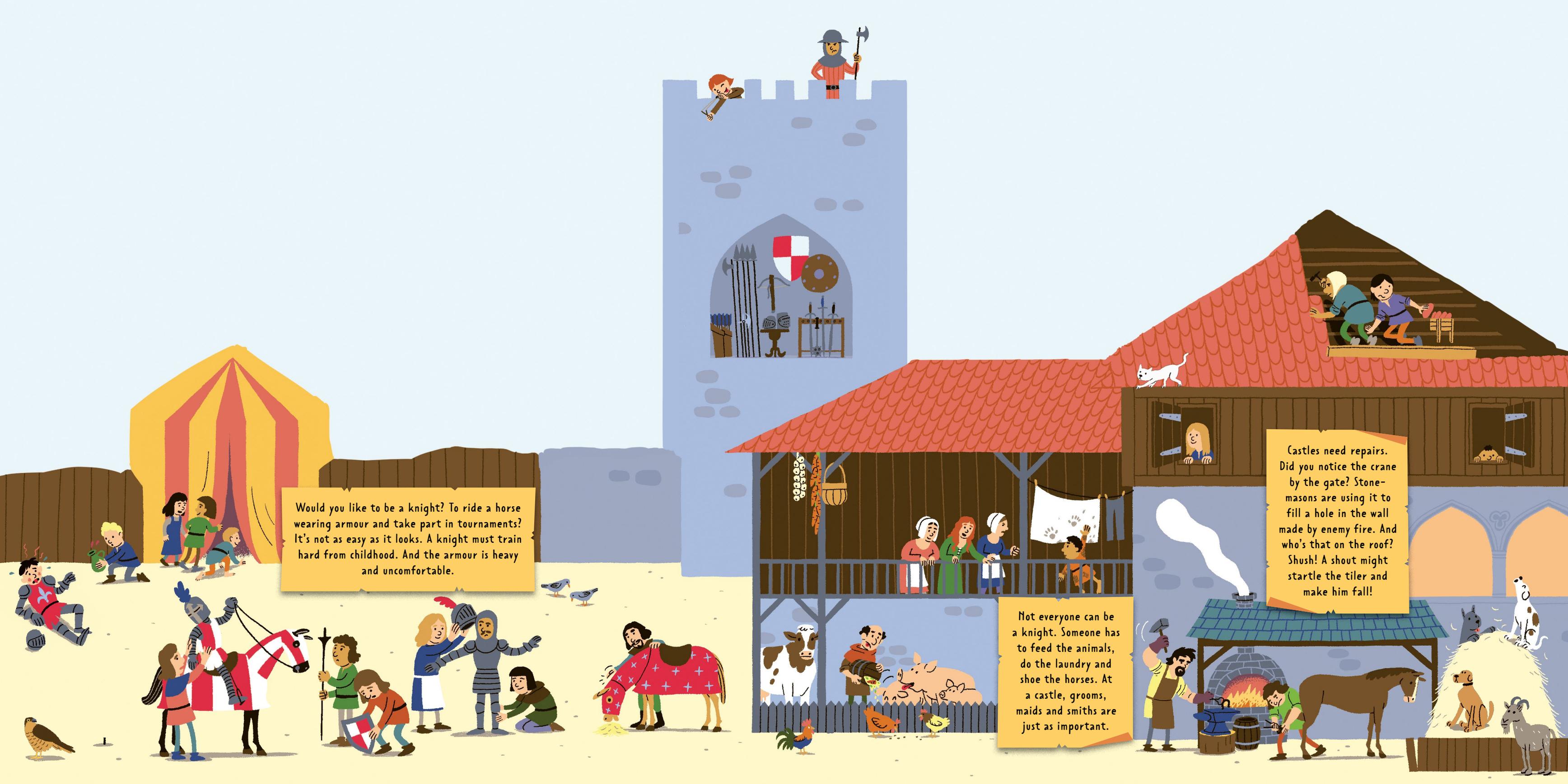
LIFE AT THE
CASTLE



Welcome to our castle! Watch the guards. Some are playing dice. One has even fallen asleep! At least there's no enemy nearby. Get up, lazybones! Back to your posts!

It's lively in the courtyard. The falconer is training his birds. The archers are shooting at a target, preparing to hunt in the forest. What's going on over there?

A tournament is underway. Bang! A knight is flying from the saddle. Crash! That was quite a fall! They have a winner. He gets a prize and the admiration of all.



Would you like to be a knight? To ride a horse wearing armour and take part in tournaments? It's not as easy as it looks. A knight must train hard from childhood. And the armour is heavy and uncomfortable.

Not everyone can be a knight. Someone has to feed the animals, do the laundry and shoe the horses. At a castle, grooms, maids and smiths are just as important.

Castles need repairs. Did you notice the crane by the gate? Stonemasons are using it to fill a hole in the wall made by enemy fire. And who's that on the roof? Shush! A shout might startle the tiler and make him fall!



I like the bakery and the kitchen best. I love the smells of freshly baked bread and good food. The cook is singing a cheery song. And when she forgets to lock the door to the great castle pantries... Yum!



This big, high tower is invincible. If the enemy does get into the castle, we hide in the tower and pull in the wooden bridge that leads to its only door. Once we are safe, we stick out our tongues at the foe!

Every castle must have a deep well. Where else would its inhabitants get water for drinking, cooking and washing? Be careful not to lean in too close, because you might fall in!



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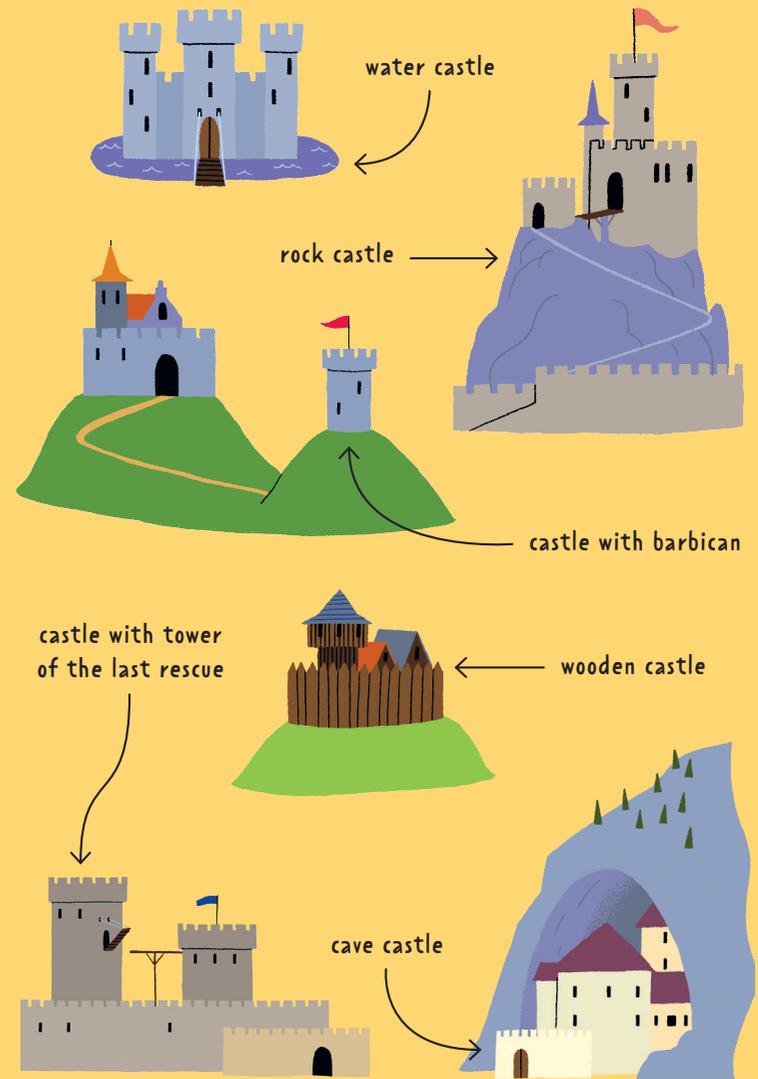
LIFE AT THE CASTLE

Written by Ondřej Navrátil
Illustrated by David J. Plant

Every castle has strong walls, that much is clear. But what goes on behind them – in the high tower, the beautifully decorated chambers, or the little room called the privy? Who at court rattles their armour, sings in the smoke-filled kitchen, or neighs in the stables? What goes on at times of tournaments and banquets, or sieges of war, or on an ordinary working day? Why not pass through the stone gate to find out?



TYPES OF CASTLES



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WARNING:
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