

RANDOM HOUSE  BOOKS



Little Princesses: The
Golden Princess

Katie Chase

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Acknowledgments

Also by Little Princesses

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About the Book

Little Princesses

Rosie knows a very special secret. Hidden in her great-aunt's mysterious Scottish castle are lots of little princesses for her to find. And each one will whisk her away to another part of the world on a magical adventure!

Chayna, the Golden Princess, is sure that the High Priest is tricking her people into thinking that the Sun God is angry with them. The answer lies deep inside the temple in the City of Gold, but Rosie and Chayna must avoid the traps in order to reach it!

Join Rosie and meet her exciting new friends, as she discovers all the Little Princesses.

Little Princesses
**The Golden
Princess**

By Katie Chase



Illustrated by Leighton Noyes

Red Fox

For Bam and Jam - *W.P.*

For Duncan, Sara and Emma,
with all my thanks - *L.N.*



Chapter One

“LUKE! WHERE ARE you?”

Rosie hurried into the Great Hall of the castle and looked around, but her brother was nowhere in sight. He was probably playing in his bedroom, she decided. She went over to the wide oak staircase and skipped up the stairs.

It's great living in a castle! Rosie thought happily. I'll never get tired of it!

The castle in the Scottish Highlands belonged to Rosie's favourite relative, Great-aunt Rosamund. Rosie's great-aunt loved to travel the world collecting antiques and treasures for her beautiful home, and she was away again on another long trip. This time she'd asked Rosie and her family to move in and look after the castle while she was gone. Rosie was thrilled. Every day seemed like a fairytale when she woke up in her round bedroom in one of the castle's turrets.



Rosie hurried down the landing and up the spiral staircase that led to the top of another turret. Luke's bedroom door was firmly closed, which Rosie thought was rather strange. When Luke was playing, he and his toys usually spilled out of his room onto the landing.

"Luke!" she called, rapping on the big wooden door. "Mum wants to know if you want a sandwich."

"Oh!" Luke replied, sounding startled and a little bit guilty. "Just a minute, Rosie!"

Rosie frowned and put her ear to the door. She could hear lots of shuffling coming from the other side. He's up to something! she thought, and flung the door open.

Luke was sitting on the floor surrounded by a jumble of toy cars. He almost jumped out of his skin when Rosie marched in. Quickly he scrambled to his feet, biting his lip.

"What's going on?" asked Rosie suspiciously.

"Nothing," Luke muttered. But Rosie noticed that he couldn't look her in the eye.

"OK," she replied with a shrug. "Maybe I'll just go and tell Mum that you don't want a sandwich because you're too busy doing something naughty!"

Luke looked even more guilty. "I didn't mean to do it!" he said anxiously.

"Do what?" Rosie asked.

Slowly Luke knelt down and slid his hand under the bed to pull out two dazzling pieces of curved golden metal.