



Chapter One



“Gruella darling, could you ask Daisy to pass the marmalade? Nobody here has ANY manners, even though they’re supposed to be princesses!”

We were sitting having our breakfast, and as usual the twins were showing off. Princess Diamonde was so near the



marmalade she could easily have reached it herself.

I looked at Daisy, and she was staring at her plate. She didn't seem to have heard Diamonde at all. Alice leant across the table and thumped the jar down, right under Diamonde's nose.

“Your marmalade, Your Majesty,” she said.

“Sorry to have troubled you, I'm sure,” Diamonde said in a sneery voice, and tipped at least half the jar onto her toast.

Sophia was sitting next to Daisy, and she'd noticed how quiet she was too.

“Are you all right?” she asked. Daisy shook her head.





At once we all clustered round her, asking what was wrong. Daisy is so lovely, and she's SO kind...none of us wanted her to be unhappy.

“It's the school outing,” Daisy said, and she sounded very wobbly. “I don't want to go. I'm scared!”

“What outing?” I asked. I hadn't heard about any outings – but I'm not always very good at remembering to read what's on our noticeboard. I certainly hadn't that morning – I'd only just been in time for breakfast.

Emily and I had seen a row of coaches crossing the courtyard with the most gorgeous horses, so we'd just HAD to sneak out and watch...and then the bell had rung and we'd zoomed back in.

“Oh dear,” said a loud voice behind me. “You mean you haven't heard that we're going to



meet a WITCH?” Gruella sniggered. “Maybe you could ask for a spell to make Daisy braver!” And she flounced away, cackling at her own joke just as if she was a witch herself.



I ignored her, and grabbed Charlotte. “Are we really going to meet a witch?”

Charlotte nodded, her eyes shining. “It was on the board this morning! Fairy Angora’s taking us! We’re going to spend the afternoon with Witch Windlespin, and hear about Good Magic—” Exactly at that moment, Crown Prince Dandino bounced into the breakfast hall, followed by Lady Albina, the school secretary. Prince Dandino’s in charge of arranging outings and excursions, and he was looking SO excited, but Lady Albina was



looking really gloomy.

Alice chuckled in my ear. “My big sis told me Lady Albina hates trips out!” she whispered. “She thinks we’ll all get lost!”

“Now, my dear young princesses,” Prince Dandino said, “We have such a VERY special treat for you today. As you may know, Queen Samantha Joy thinks it is a Very Good Thing for you to see how other people live their lives—” he stopped for a second to give Lady Albina SUCH a superior look – “and Witch Windlespin has very kindly offered to show you her beautiful



home. The coaches will be leaving immediately after lunch, so please be ready! Fairy Angora will meet you at the main door at two o’clock precisely – don’t be late!” And he bounced away.





Lady Albina sniffed disapprovingly. “If you look at the board you will find out which coach you are travelling in,” she snapped. “And please make sure you wear your name badges, and do EXACTLY as you’re told!”

As Lady Albina stalked out of the breakfast hall, I gave Daisy a hug, and Emily, Charlotte, Alice and Sophia did too.

“You’ll be fine!” I told her. “What could happen when you’ve got US to look after you?”

And Daisy looked SO much happier as we went off to our morning lessons.