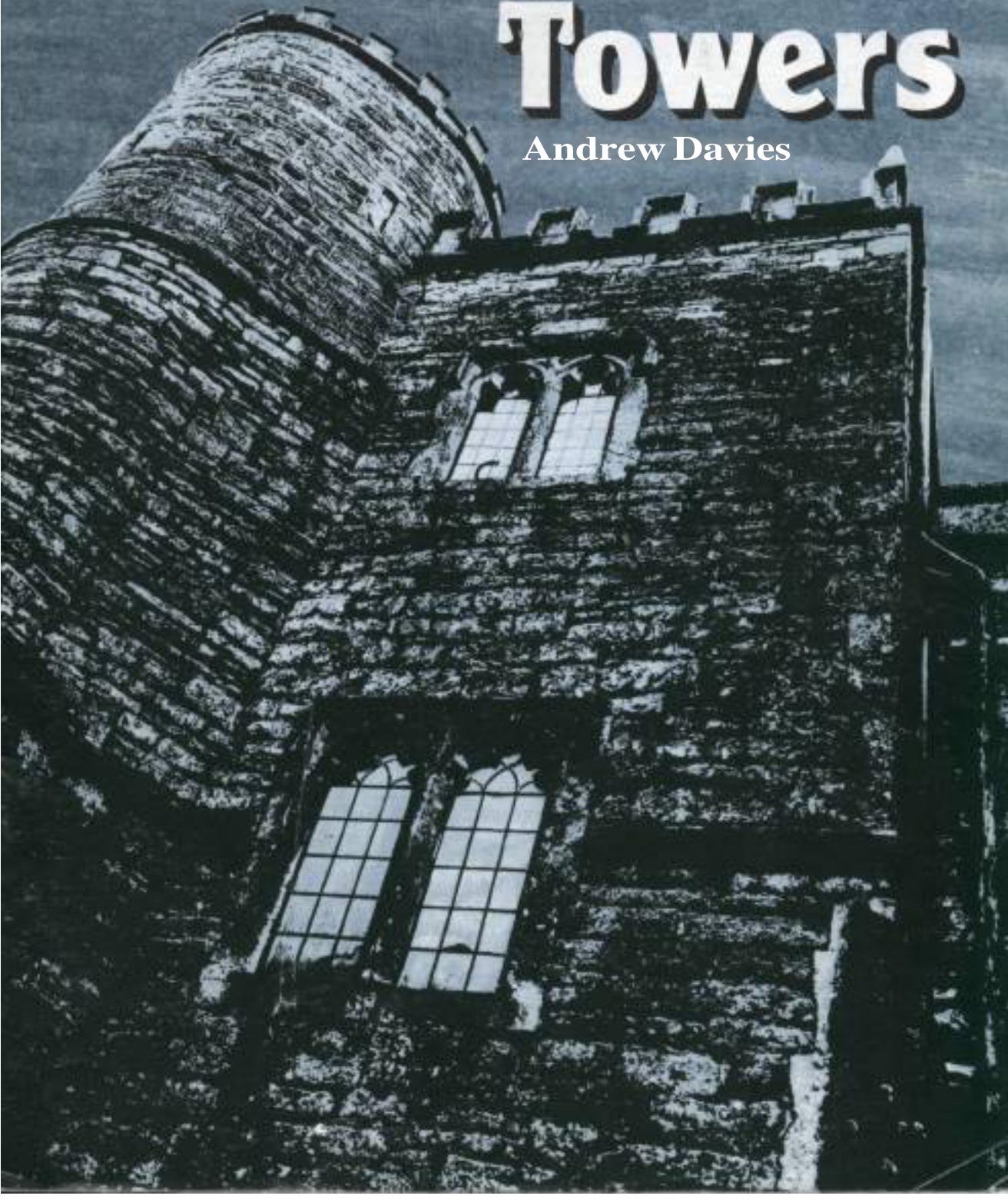


**BBC Television for Schools**  
**A Look and Read Book**

# **Dark Towers**

**Andrew Davies**





This is Tracy,  
and this is her dog, Towser.



This is Edward,  
and this is his father,  
Lord Dark.



Who is this ?



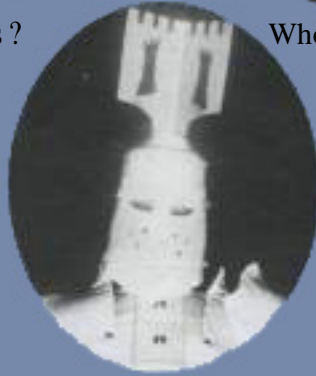
Who is this ?



Who is this ?



Who is this ?



Who is this ?

# Chapter 1 **Dark Towers in danger!**

Tracy was a loner. She thought boys were daft and she thought girls were daft. She thought football was daft and she thought dolls were daft. What she liked was Towser. Her dog Towser was her best friend. Towser was a friendly dog with black ears. He liked long walks and strange smells and he liked Tracy.

Tracy and Towser liked going for long walks. Sometimes they walked all day to places Tracy had never seen before, but Towser could always find the way home. Then one day, they came to a wild garden.





'Towser! Come back here!' Tracy shouted.

She had to go after him. Suddenly, she heard a voice.

'You! What are you doing in my garden?'

Then she saw it was only a boy.

'Seen my dog?' she asked.

'Do you know who I am?' said the boy. 'I am

Lord Edward Dark of Dark Towers and I order you to leave!'

'This boy is crackers,' said Tracy to herself.

'Oh! Sorry, my lord!' she said. 'Can I just find my dog first, please?'

The boy thought about it. 'Very well,' he said. 'I shall help you look for him, to show you there is no ill will.'

'Why do you talk like a book?' asked Tracy.

'I read a lot of books,' said Edward. 'I like books better than people.'

'Ah,' said Tracy, 'Like me and dogs.'

Then she saw the huge house.

'Whose is this great thing?' she said.

'Mine,' said the boy. 'I told you.'

'Crackers. Must be. Poor chap,' said Tracy to herself.

'Look, there he goes!' Edward was off, chasing Towser.

'Edward! Wait for me!'

Crackers or not, he could run.



Tracy ran after him, and found herself running straight into a knight!

'Look out!' said a deep voice.

'You can't scare me!' said Tracy.

But her voice sounded a bit funny.

Then she saw that it was not a real knight. It was a stone carving

of a knight. And there was

a man behind it.

'Who are you, then?' said the man.

'Tracy Brown. I'm looking for my dog. Who are you?'

'Lord Dark.'

Oh, no, thought Tracy.

Not another of them.

Is this one crackers, too?

'What about that boy?'

she said.

'Edward is my son,'

said Lord Dark.

'Listen,' said Tracy. 'If you two are lords, why is this place so scruffy?'

Lord Dark laughed. 'Some lords are poor,' he said. 'I'm an artist. Not a lot of money in that. This house was left to us.

It's a very old house. Some people say it has ghosts. Not scared of ghosts, are you?'

'Course not,' said Tracy.



'This man used to live here hundreds and hundreds of years ago,' said Lord Dark, looking at the stone carving. 'The Tall Knight of Dark Towers. Some people say they've seen his ghost walk round the walls.'

'Quick! Come here!' It was Edward calling !

Tracy and Lord Dark found him in a big room.

Towser was there, too. He was looking at a picture and barking,

The room went cold. Very cold. Then the picture started to shake. A strange ghostly voice came from the picture.

'Dark Towers is in danger! The girl . . . the girl . . . the girl will help to save the house.'



## Chapter 2 The man in the picture

'The man in the picture! He talked!' said Tracy.

'I heard nothing,' said Lord Dark. 'Did you, Edward?'

'I felt cold and strange, Father,' said Edward. 'But I heard nothing.'

'Well, I heard him, and so did Towser,' said Tracy

'Something about danger. Is the house in danger?'

'The roof is in danger of falling in. We don't have the money to mend it,' said Lord Dark. 'Look, Edward, why not show Tracy round the house? She might find some more ghosts for us.'

Edward, Tracy and Towser looked round the old house.





Dark, dust, cobwebs. Old books, old pictures, old swords. Strange sounds and strange smells. And then they were in the big room with two strange men.

'How nice! Benger and Bunce at your service.

I am Mr Benger. This is Mr Bunce.'

'Not lords or anything, are you?' asked Tracy.

'No, indeed,' said Benger. 'Far from it. What a charming dog!'

Towser growled at him. Charming dog indeed!

'We are experts, Mr Bunce and I. Experts on anything old.

Old books, old pictures, old swords . . . '

'Old women who talk too much,' said Bunce, giving Benger a poke.

'Oh, dear, that's very good! He's such a joker,

my friend Bunce! But we must get on!' said Benger.



'They are sorting things out for us,' said Edward. 'If we want to mend the roof, we must sell some pictures and things. Bengener and Bunce are helping us. Look, that's their van.' The writing on the van said 'Museum of Long Ago'. Tracy stared at it. 'Look,' she said. 'It's coming off at the corner.' She pulled at the corner. Underneath, it said:



'Funny,' said Tracy. 'Perhaps the van belonged to someone else.'

'I think not,' said Edward. 'B and B . . . . Bengener and Bunce!'

'Oh!' said Tracy. 'You're not as daft as you look. Oh, Towser, where are you off to now?'

The dog was whining again, and running into the house and up the stairs.

'The Red Bedroom!' shouted Edward.

But when they got to the Red Bedroom Towser was standing there, with his fur sticking up on end. He was staring at the big old bed. Something very strange was happening. The bedclothes were moving. There was something there! A man! Or was it? He had a funny old nightcap on his head, and his face was the same as the face in the picture! Could he be . . . ?

'Fear not,' said the man in the bed. 'I am a friendly ghost. Your dog knows this well. See how his tail waggeth!'



## Chapter 3 The old legend

'A ghost!' said Tracy.

'This is crackers!

I don't believe in ghosts!

'Oh, yes, you do,' said the Friendly Ghost. 'You saw my picture move and talk.

Now you see me. Look at your dog.

He can see me very well.'

'Arf!' said Towser.

'Can you see him, Edward?' asked Tracy.

'Yes, I can now,' said Edward.

'Where do you come from?'

'I am always here, but not always seen. My ghostly power is not strong, and I have to stay inside the Red Bedroom.'

'Whose ghost are you?' asked Tracy.

'I am Lord Dark,' said the Friendly Ghost.

'Oh, no,' said Tracy. 'Not another one!'

'You must be my great-great-great-great-great-grandfather,' said Edward.

'More or less,' said the ghost.

'I believe you,' said Tracy. 'You talk like a book as well.' The ghost gave Tracy a look.

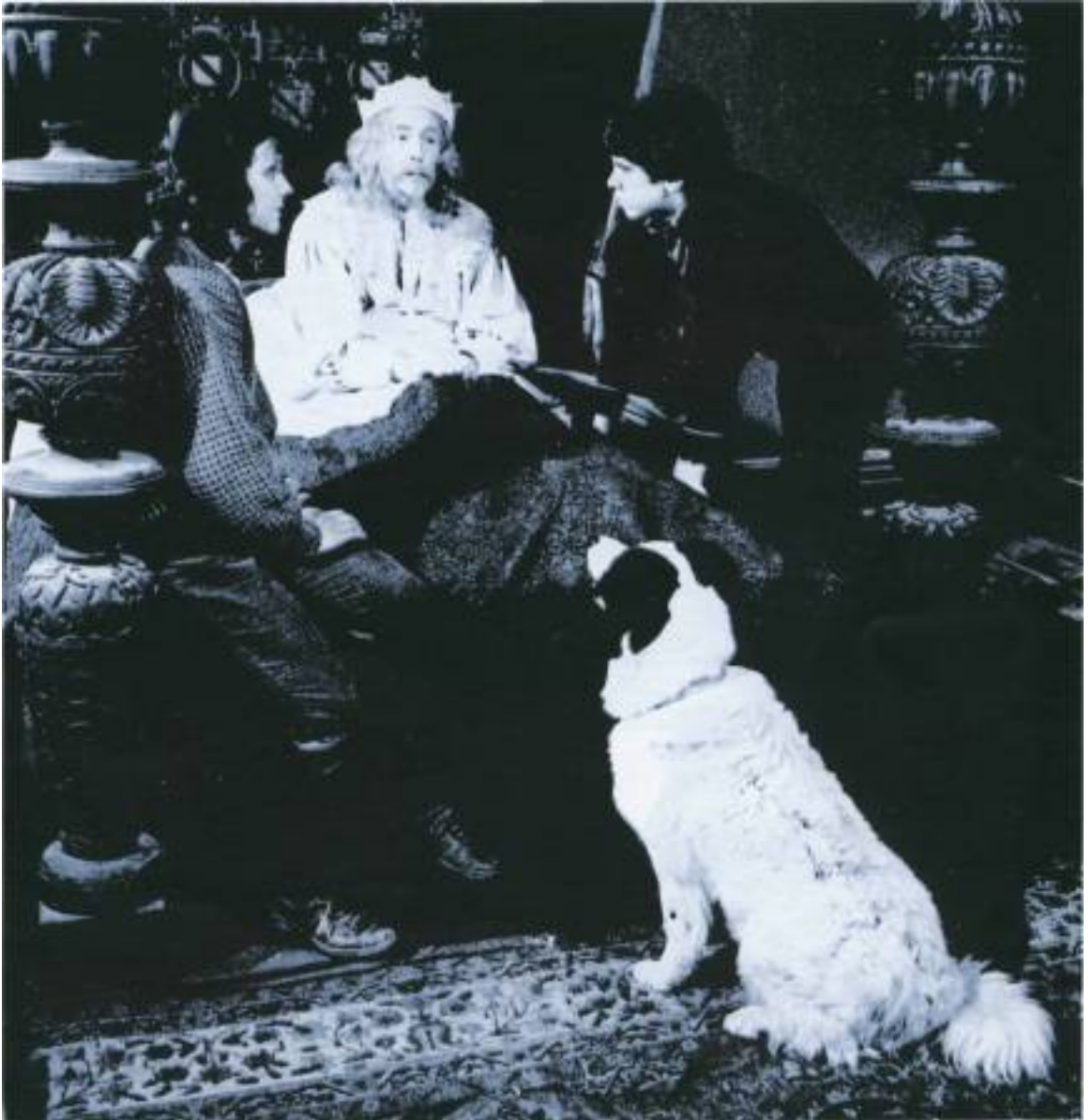


'Girls were not like you in my day,' he said. 'Now listen. This house is in danger. Danger from fire. That is why I have come back.

Beware of two bees buzzing together.

Beware of a bird with a brown feather.

The house will be saved by the Tall Knight's treasure.'



'What does all that mean?' asked Tracy.

'I do not know,' said the ghost. 'It is part of the legend of Dark Towers. I heard it when I was alive. Now I hear it in my head again.'

'What do you know about the Tall Knight?' asked Edward. Suddenly, the ghost shivered, as if he was scared.

A scared ghost?

'The Tall Knight has haunted Dark Towers for hundreds and hundreds of years. He used to haunt me when I was alive. They say he was looking for his treasure. They say he is still looking. He cannot find it alone, because he cannot come inside the house. I cannot find it alone, because I cannot leave the Red Bedroom. You must help us find the treasure and save the house. Then we can both rest. Do you know I have not had a good sleep for three hundred years?'



Down in the yard, Benger and Bunce were waiting. Bunce saw the writing on the van with the corner pulled off. 'Funny,' he said. 'Just those kids,' said Benger. 'Look. Here comes our book expert.' A car arrived and a woman got out.



'Well,' she said. 'Find anything good?'  
'Not really,' said Benger. 'Old swords, old pictures, old books.'  
'Oh,' she said. 'I heard a story about a treasure. Treasure in a book.'  
Benger laughed. 'Treasure in a book! You've been reading fairy stories again!'  
'All the same,' said the woman, 'I think I'll take a look.'

In the Red Bedroom, Tracy and Edward stared at the ghost. He was getting fainter and fainter.

'Listen . . . Book Room . . . four up, four along, inside, four from the end, four from the top.'

'Four up, four along, inside, four from the end, four from the top,' said Edward and Tracy.

And the ghost had gone.

'Quiet!' said Tracy. 'I hear footsteps!'

'Who could it be?' said Edward. 'No one ever comes up here!'

Towser growled and growled and growled.

And then the footsteps stopped and the door began to open.





## Chapter 4 The clue in the Book Room

'Oh,' said the woman.  
'I hope I didn't scare you.  
My name is Miss Hawk.  
I am an expert on old books.  
I work with Mr Benger and  
Mr Bunce. You must be  
Edward.'

'And I'm Tracy Brown and  
this is Towser,' said Tracy,  
not wanting to be left out.  
'And we have just seen a ghost!'  
said Edward.

'Arf!' said Towser.

'Very strange,' said Miss Hawk. 'I've read that this bedroom  
had a ghost long ago. Perhaps you thought you saw him.'

'We did see him,' said Edward. 'He's the man from the picture.  
The Friendly Ghost. The other ghost is the Tall Knight.  
We're looking for his treasure.'

Miss Hawk went pale. 'The Golden Book of the Tall Knight?  
Is it really here?'

'We're going to look in the Book Room, whatever that is,'  
said Tracy.

'Book Room? Oh, you must mean the Old Library!  
Can I help you?' said Miss Hawk.



'Is this a library?' said Tracy. 'It's not like the village library. It's old. It smells old. It's just a room full of smelly old books.'

'Old books can be very interesting, you know,' said Miss Hawk.

'Four up,' said Edward. 'Four up?'

'Four books up,' said Tracy, and they counted.

'Four along . . . four books along!'

But the fourth book along was not golden. It was old and brown like the others.

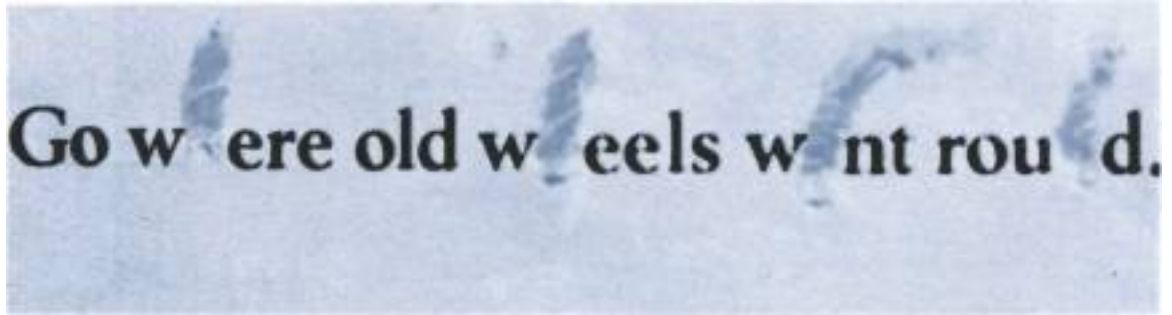


'Inside, four from the end,' said Tracy. 'Try four pages from the end.' The dust made her want to sneeze. 'And four from the top.'

'Four lines from the top,' said Miss Hawk.

They all looked at the writing.

What did it mean?



'That doesn't make sense,' said Tracy.

Then Edward shouted, 'Got it!' and ran out of the Book Room.

Miss Hawk and Tracy stared at each other.

'Crackers,' said Tracy.

'Shall we go after him?'

said Miss Hawk.

'Not me, Miss Hawk,' said Tracy.

'I like working things out for myself.'

'See you later then,' said Miss Hawk.

'Miss Hawk,' said Tracy to herself.

'Funny name. Sounds like a bird.

Better than Miss Duck! Ah, well.

Go . . . were . . . where!'





'Father,' said Edward. 'How old is that wheel you're working on?'

'It's not old at all,' said Lord Dark.

'Oh. Are there any really old ones round here?'

'Why?' asked his father.

'Well,' said Edward, 'We saw a ghost in the Red Bedroom and we're going to find the treasure and save the house from danger and . . .'

'Edward,' said Lord Dark, 'You read too many books. Go and play with your new friend.'

Edward gave his father a look.

'Sometimes,' he said, 'You talk to me as if I were about four. You know very well . . .' Then he stopped. 'Of course,' he said. 'The old well!'

Up in the Book Room, Tracy smiled.

'I know, Towser,' she said. 'Wheels. Go where old wheels went round. What does that mean?'

'Arf!' said Towser.

'And what was that other thing the Friendly Ghost said? Beware of two bees buzzing together. Beware of the bird with the brown feather . . . Crackers!'



# Chapter 5 The Old Coach House

'Edward!' shouted Miss Hawk.

'Over here!' he said.

Edward was turning the wheel of the old well.

'The clue said something about old wheels,' he said. 'First, I thought of my father's wheel, but that wasn't old enough. Then I thought of the old well, because it has this wheel.'



'That's very clever,' said Miss Hawk. 'Perhaps you will find the Golden Book of the Tall Knight.'

'And save the house from danger,' said Edward. 'But how can a book be a treasure? And how can it save the house?'

'Some books are so old, they are rarer than diamonds.'

The Golden Book of the Tall Knight is said to be a thousand years old. If we find it, some museum might give more than a million pounds for it.'

'And then we could keep the house and put everything right,' said Edward.

'The Golden Book of the Tall Knight,' said Miss Hawk softly.

'How I long to see it and touch it!'

There was a strange look in her eyes.

'I can feel something,' said Edward, as he turned the wheel.

'Do you think it's the treasure?'

He gave the wheel one last turn.

Up came the bucket.

There was something in it.

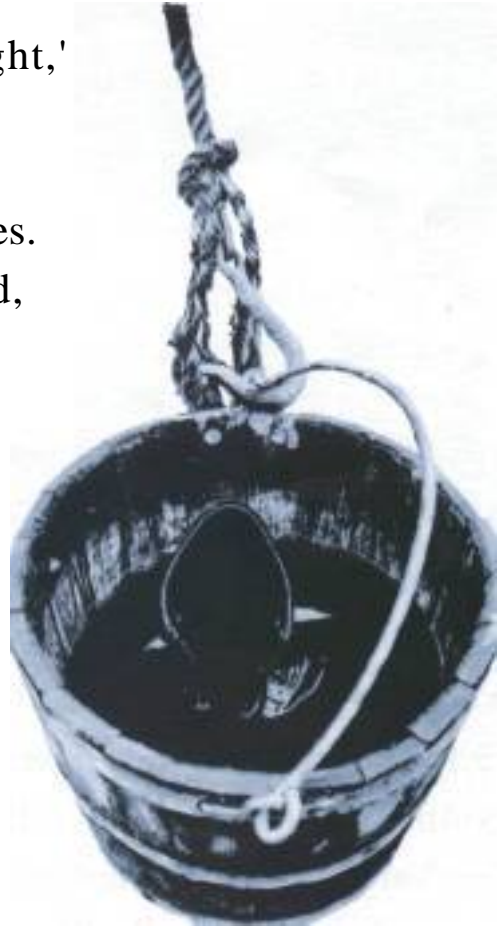
An old boot.

'Go where old wheels went round,' said Tracy to Towser.

'Coach wheels go round.'

The Old Coach House!'

'Arf!' said Towser.





It was dark in the Old Coach House. The coaches were quiet and ghostly in the dark.

'Clues, Towser, find them!' said Tracy.

'Arf!' said Towser. He thought clues were like rats.

Then Tracy and Towser looked inside one of the coaches. Dust, dark, cobwebs. Nothing else. But under the seat . . . a bit of paper!

Someone was coming. Tracy and Towser hid inside the coach. It was Benger and Bunce.

Tracy had a thought. 'Two bees buzzing together. Oh, no!'

'Nothing much here,' said Bunce.

'Nothing worth stealing, my dear old Bunce,' said Benger. 'We have all the best stuff. Tomorrow we can put it in the big van, and then . . . set the house on fire!'



'Why do that?' said Bunce. 'I like this old house. Why set it on fire?'

'So that people will think the old chairs and pictures are in the fire, not in our van, my dear old Bunce!' said Benger.

And then Tracy sneezed.



'In there!' said Bunce, and opened the door of the old coach.

'Two spies. One with a tail, one without.'

'Oh, dear. Did you hear us, young lady?' asked Benger.

'Yes, I did!' said Tracy.

'Oh, dear, Oh, dear,' said Benger. 'We had better go and see Lord Dark.'

Tracy did not see Bunce put something in her pocket.

## Chapter 6 The Tall Knight's Folly

'I'm sorry, Lord Dark, but we've found a thief,' said Benger. Tracy was angry. 'I'm not a thief, you are!' 'Make her turn out her pockets,' said Bunce. In Tracy's pocket was a little gold picture!

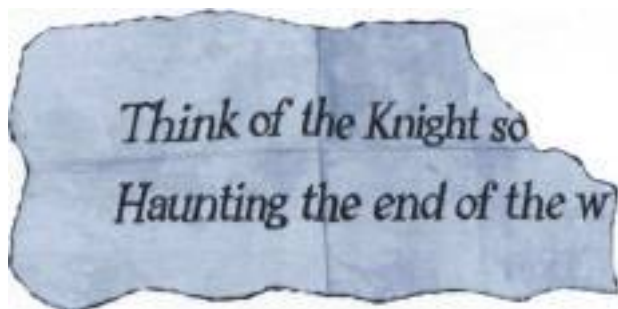
Just then Edward and Miss Hawk arrived. But Edward's father would not let him talk to Tracy because he thought she was a thief.

'Please don't come here again,' Lord Dark said to Tracy. 'I thought you were going to be a new friend for Edward. Now I find you are a thief. If I see you here again, I'll have to 'phone the police.' So Tracy and Towser had to go.

Outside the house, Tracy looked back. 'Oh, Towser,' she said, 'How can we tell Edward that Benger and Bunce are the crooks?' 'Arf!' said Towser, and wagged his tail. 'All right, Towser,' she said. 'We'll find a way to come back.'



Edward went to look in the Old Coach House. The door of one of the coaches was open. He looked inside. Dust, dark, cobwebs. Nothing else. But wait! Under the seat. He saw a bit of paper . . . but it was torn:



What did it mean?

'I wish Tracy were here,' he said to himself. 'I'm sure she's not a thief. She could help me.' He could only think of one thing to do. Go and ask the Friendly Ghost for help.

Could he do it alone?





The Red Bedroom was cold. But Edward was not too scared. 'Come on, Friendly Ghost,' said Edward. 'Come on. I am not afraid. I need you, ghost!'

'Wait a minute!' said a cross voice.

Then the Friendly Ghost was there, all scruffy and cross with his nightcap over his eyes!

'Oh!' said the ghost. 'It is you, is it? Where is that girl with the dog? And what do you want?'

Edward said in a rush: 'Benger and Bunce say Tracy is a thief and Father has sent her away and I have found a clue and I can't do it on my own because . . .'

'Stop!' said the ghost. 'One thing at a time. Benger and Bunce. Who are they?'

'Two men,' said Edward.

'Beware of two bees buzzing together. You must not trust them. They may be very bad men indeed. By the way . . . have you seen any birds with brown feathers?'

'I haven't seen any birds at all,' said Edward.

'All right,' said the Friendly Ghost. 'What is the clue you have found?'

Edward showed the ghost the bit of paper.

'Ah,' said the ghost. 'I think we have a rhyme here. Think of the Knight so . . .'

'Tall!' shouted Edward. 'And if it is a rhyme, then the word beginning with *w* must be . . . wall! The end of the old wall! The next clue must be there, at the Tall Knight's Folly.'



'You may meet the Tall Knight!' said the Friendly Ghost.

'Are you brave enough to go alone?'

'I will if I have to,' said Edward.

'Good boy. Good boy. Good . . .'

But the ghost had gone.

Edward walked along the wall to the Folly. He did not see Miss Hawk watching him. Then he heard a strange sound, like thunder.

And then a deep voice.

'Who comes to the Tall Knight's Folly?'

He looked up.

A tall shape towered over him, surrounded by darkness.



# Chapter 7 The Dark Tree

'Where are the girl and the dog?' said the Tall Knight.

'They had to go ... my father sent them away!'

'They must be here. It says so in the old legend.'

'But they can't come!' shouted Edward.

But it was no good. The Tall Knight had vanished.

Tracy and Towser were hiding in the garden.

'Quiet, Towser,' said Tracy. 'No-one must hear us.'

They think I'm a thief. We must find Edward and tell him what's happened.'

But Towser pulled the other way. Towards the old wall.



'No, not that way, Towser!'

It was no good. Towser was a strong dog. And that was how Tracy and Towser came to the Folly and found Edward.

'Tracy, I'm so glad to see you,' said Edward.

'You look as if you've seen a ghost,' said Tracy.

'I have. The Tall Knight.'

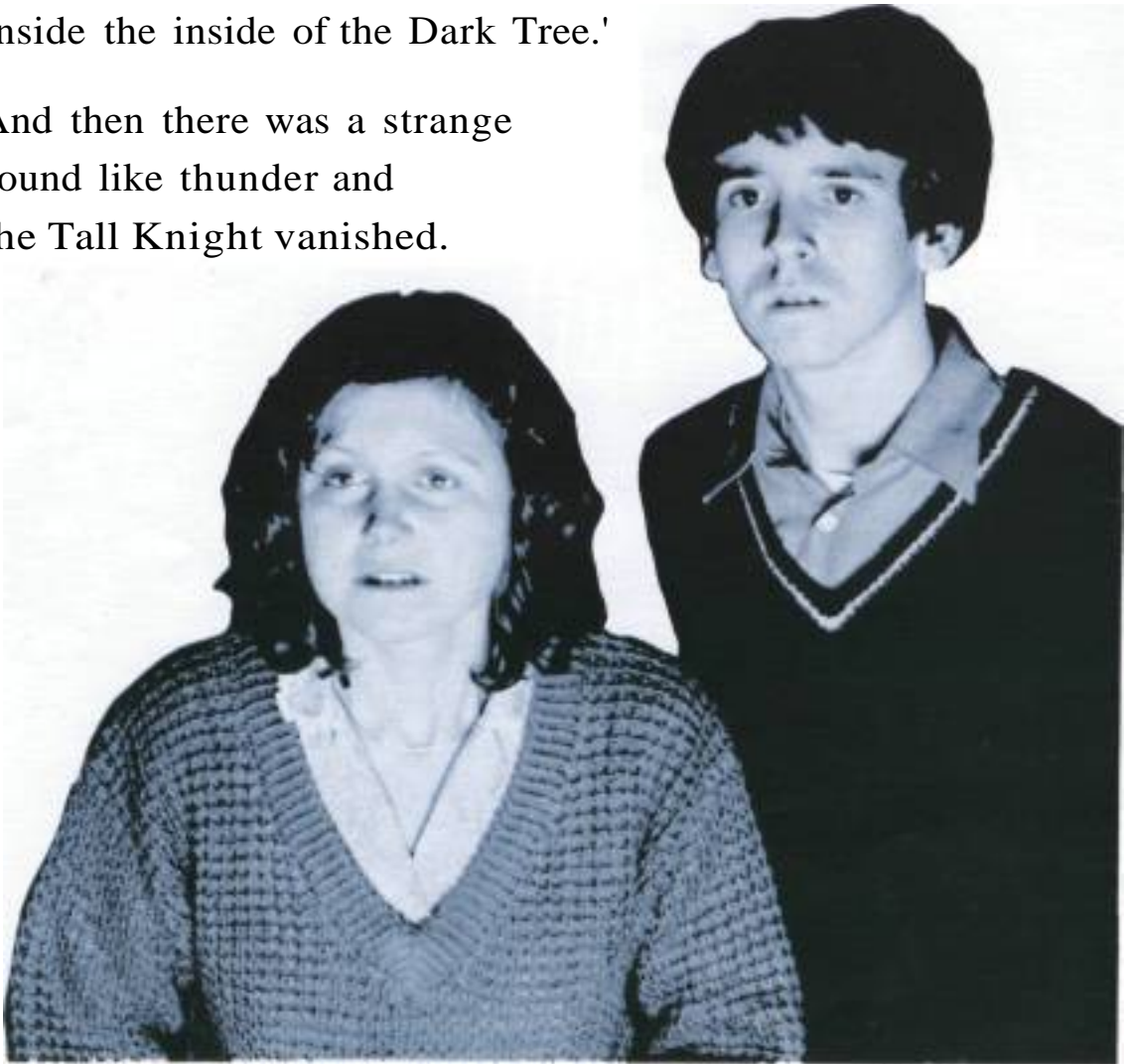
'I don't believe you.'

'Quiet. Listen.'

Towser put his ears back and whined. Then there was a strange sound like thunder and the tall shape was there again. 'Do not fear,' said the deep voice. 'The Tall Knight knew you would come. It says in the old legend that one day a boy, a girl and a dog would come and save the house from danger. Now listen.

Go to the Old Library  
And a gold key you will see  
Inside the inside of the Dark Tree.'

And then there was a strange  
sound like thunder and  
the Tall Knight vanished.





'Well, he's gone,' said Tracy. 'We'll have to work this clue out for ourselves, if you still trust me.'

'I never thought you were a thief,' said Edward.

'It's Benger and Bunce,' said Tracy. 'I heard them talking about setting the house on fire. They put a little gold picture in my pocket to get me into trouble. Your father wouldn't believe me.'



'Well, I do,' said Edward. 'Trouble is, this clue. We're stuck and we must find the treasure. What did the Tall Knight mean . . . inside the inside of the Dark Tree?'

'And a tree in a library? Crackers!' said Tracy.

'I know,' said Edward. 'The Dark Family Tree! It's in the Old Library.'

'Arf!' said Towser.

They did not see Miss Hawk who had heard them talking about the treasure. She went straight to Benger and Bunce who were in the yard with the van.

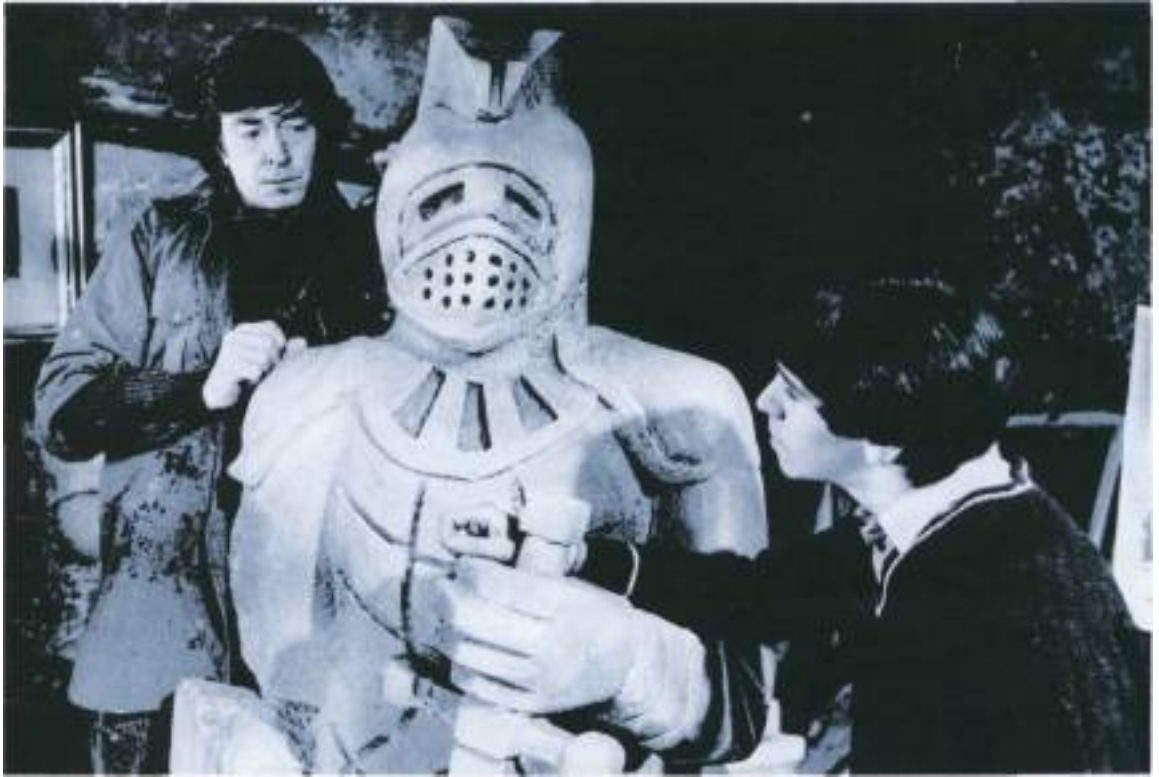
'I want you to help me,' she said. 'There is a treasure and those kids know something about it.'

Edward and Tracy soon found the book in the Old Library. There it was, the Dark Family Tree. Tracy gave the book a shake. Then out it fell. A bit of old paper, with a gold key inside! Edward read the paper:

*The Knight's treasure will rest  
Inside the inside of a studded chest.*



## Chapter 8 Beware of the bird!



Edward went to see his father.

'How's the carving coming?' he asked.

'All right,' said his father.

'It looks a bit like the Tall Knight,' said Edward.

Lord Dark laughed.

'What do you know about him?' he said.

'More than you think,' said Edward. 'Tell me, have we got a studded chest anywhere?'

'Yes,' said his father. 'In a room in the Old Tower. No-one can open it. Why?'

'Oh, nothing,' said Edward.

'I'll help you find it, shall I?' said Miss Hawk, coming in.

'Oh, thank you,' said Edward.

Then, all of a sudden, the picture on the wall started to shake again. It nearly fell off the wall.

'Beware of the bird with the brown feather! A hawk to hunt treasure!' said the voice of the Friendly Ghost.

Edward went pale.



'It's you!' he said to Miss Hawk. 'You are the bird with the brown feather! Did you hear that, Father? We mustn't trust her!'

But Lord Dark had not heard the voice from the picture.

'I'm sorry,' he said to Miss Hawk. 'Edward gets some very silly ideas sometimes. Edward, tell Miss Hawk you're very sorry.'

But Edward ran out of the room.

Tracy and Towser were waiting in the garden.

'We have to be quick,' said Edward. 'Miss Hawk is the bird with the brown feather. And she's heard about the chest, too.'

'But we've got the key now,' said Tracy. 'Come on.'

It was dark in the Old Tower. A dark old staircase winding up and up and strange dark rooms that smelt damp and old.

'Find it, Towser!' said Tracy.

'Arf!' said Towser, and ran straight up the stairs.

'There!' said Tracy. Towser was wagging his tail. He had found the studded chest!

They both held their breath as Edward put the key in.

It turned! And slowly they lifted the lid. Then a big hand came down on Tracy.



'Just a moment, my dear!' It was Benger. And behind him stood Bunce, with a thick stick and a nasty smile. And by the door was Miss Hawk, the bird with the brown feather.

Benger looked inside the chest.

'There's nothing there!' he said.

'You'll never find the treasure, you thief!' shouted Tracy. She tried to hit Benger, but Bunce grabbed her. He was strong.

'Take that kid and dump her,' said Benger. 'And as for the little lord here . . .'

'Let me talk to him,' said Miss Hawk.

'Somewhere quiet like the Red Bedroom.'



Bunce put Tracy in the van and drove off. Towser ran after the van but was soon left behind. Where were they going? Tracy didn't know. All of a sudden Bunce shouted. There was something in the road. A tall shape, surrounded by darkness. The Tall Knight!

## Chapter 9 Who can help?

The van went into a bank on the side of the road. Bunce ran off.



In the Red Bedroom, Miss Hawk was talking to Edward. 'I know you want to help,' she said. 'But a treasure like the Golden Book of the Tall Knight can't belong to just one person. It really belongs to everyone. If your father gets it, he'll just sell it to someone rich, and no-one will see it any more. If you tell me how to find it, I'll see that it goes into a museum where everyone can enjoy it.'

'Why don't you ask my father, then?' said Edward.

'He won't understand,' said Miss Hawk. 'He's not really interested in books, like you and me. All my life I have been reading about the Tall Knight. No-one knows as much about the legend as I do. I must have that book. I'll do anything to get it.'

'You said you wanted it for a museum,' said Edward.

'Yes! Yes! A museum! That's what I meant!'

'I don't believe you,' said Edward. 'I shan't tell you what I know.' And he shouted for help.

'Silly little fool,' said Miss Hawk. 'I shall have to shut you up!' But then something strange happened. The bedclothes started to move, and suddenly there he was.

The Friendly Ghost!

'Woman!' he said. 'You are the bird with the brown feather, the hunting hawk. You have good in you, but now you are bad, and the Ghosts of Dark Towers will hunt you down in your turn!'

'Aaargh!' said Miss Hawk, and ran out of the room so fast she nearly went head over heels down the stairs.







Tracy sat up. What was she doing in the van? Where was she? Then she heard a sound she knew. A friendly whining and snuffling. It was Towser.

'Oh, Towser,' she said. 'We've got to tell Lord Dark what those crooks are trying to do!'

'Arf!' said Towser, and led the way back to Dark Towers.

In the Old Tower, Benger was still hunting for the treasure inside the studded chest. Bunce and Miss Hawk ran up to him. 'What's the matter, my little jam roll?' said Benger to Miss Hawk.

'I've just seen a ghost!' said Miss Hawk. So had Bunce! 'Oh, dear, it's ghost stories now, is it? Makes a change from fairies!' said Benger.

Miss Hawk was so angry with Benger that she pushed him hard.

'Hey, look out! You'll make me . . . aaaargh!'

He fell right into the chest. Bunce laughed at him.

Then he stopped.

'Look,' he said. Benger's fat body had moved a secret panel inside the lid of the chest. And inside the secret panel . . . a book. A golden book. The Golden Book of the Tall Knight.





'Beware when three thieves come together,' said the Friendly Ghost. 'Two buzzing bees and the bird with the brown feather. They have their hands upon the treasure. I'm scared, Edward.'

'You mustn't be scared of them,' said Edward.

'I'm not. I'm going to have to call for the Tall Knight, and I'm scared stiff of him. But he is the only one who can help us now.'

'Well, try and make him come then,' said Edward.

So the ghost shut his eyes and muttered a lot of strange words. The room started to shake and shiver. Then, far off, there was a sound like thunder.

## Chapter 10 **The last laugh**

On her way back to the house, Tracy heard the sound of thunder. She had to find Lord Dark and tell him what had happened. 'Please listen to me,' she said to Lord Dark. 'You've got it wrong. I'm not a thief. Benger and Bunce and Miss Hawk are going to take your things and set fire to the house. The house is really in danger. You must 'phone the police!' Lord Dark looked at her hard. Could he trust her? 'All right,' he said, and picked up the 'phone.



In the Old Tower, Miss Hawk snatched the golden book from Benger.

'I must have it,' she said.

They tried to stop her, but they only ran into each other.

Miss Hawk ran down to her car with the golden book.



In the Red Bedroom, the Friendly Ghost was still muttering strange words. The room was shaking and shivering, and so was the Friendly Ghost.

'The Tall Knight is coming!' said Edward.

The Old Tower was shaking, too. Benger and Bunce heard strange sounds getting nearer and nearer. They were scared stiff.

'Oh, dear,' said Benger. 'I wish I was back in my little shop.'

'Shut up,' said Bunce. 'We must get that book from Miss Hawk. That's the real treasure. Forget the rest.'

They ran down the stairs after her.

Miss Hawk had just got into her car with the golden book. But Benger and Bunce got the door open. They were struggling when Edward and Tracy and Lord Dark came running out of the house. Just in time to see the Tall Knight himself come round the side of the house: tall as a giant, his footsteps like thunder!



The three crooks ran off in different directions. But they could not escape. Benger and Bunce both fell in a ditch, and Miss Hawk tumbled down a slope. And just then the police car arrived.

Tracy picked up the Golden Book of the Tall Knight and gave it to Lord Dark.

'There,' said Edward. 'Now do you believe us?'

'Yes,' said Lord Dark. 'Thank you, Tracy. Dark Towers is out of danger now, thanks to you and the Tall Knight.'

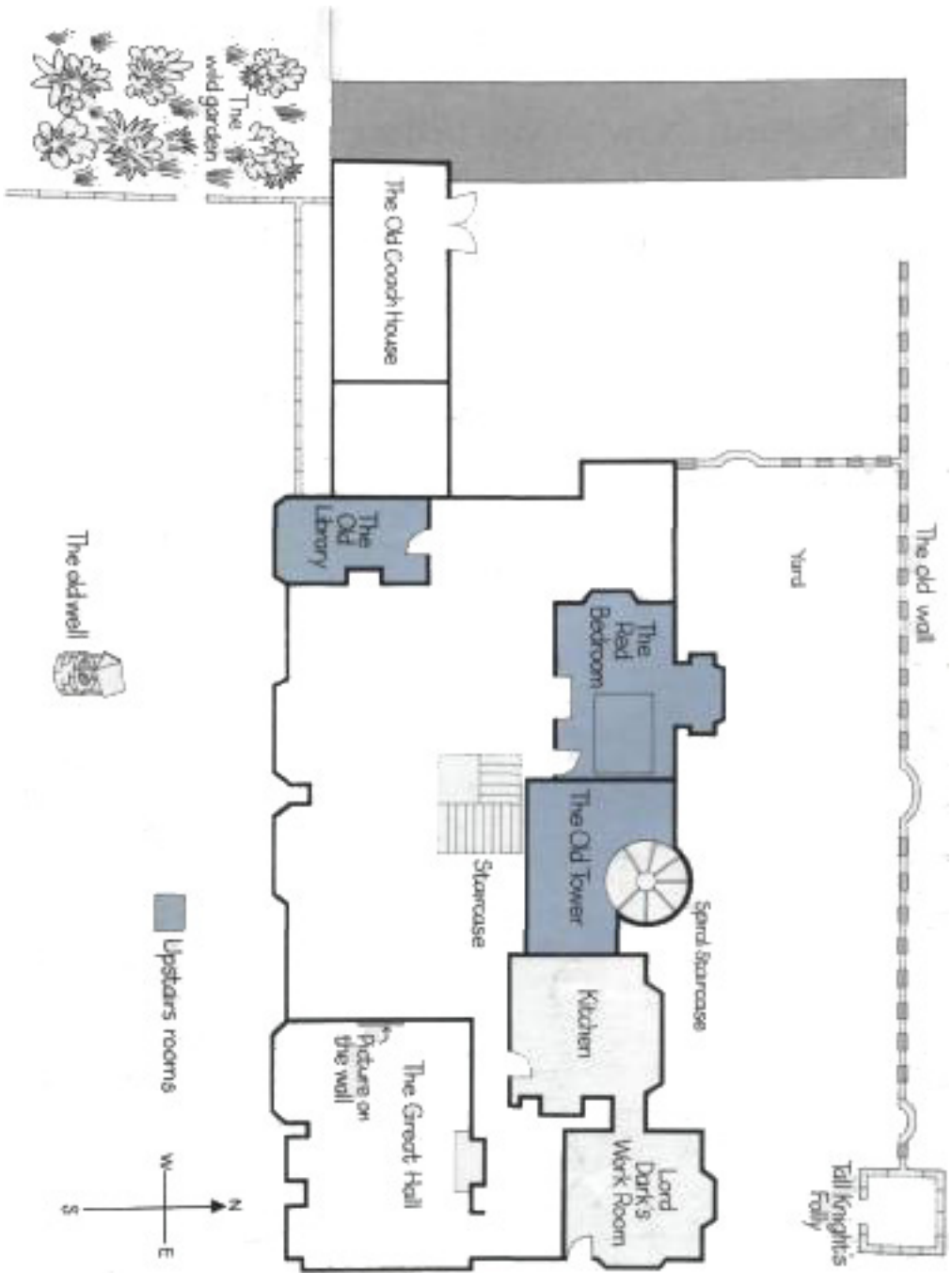
But where is the Tall Knight?'

'Arf!' said Towser.

For the Tall Knight had vanished again. But all round the house there were strange sounds. Like laughter. The ghosts of Dark Towers were having the last laugh!



# The ground plan of Dark Towers



Photographs by Barry Boxall, ground plan by Hugh Ribbons

LOOK AND READ

**101P**

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