

The Attic

In this last room - which has been transformed often over the centuries - you can see a magnificent wooden roof structure from the 18th century. At the time of Jean sans Peur, this room was almost certainly a guard level.

Eight light boxes explain what daily life was like in a palace at the beginning of the 15th century.

We learn how the residence was defended, what the different rooms were used for, who stayed in the mansion, what furniture and decoration was used, how the lord and the people close to him entertained themselves, dressed, ate and which were the main holidays celebrated.

Light box n° 33: what is the first name of Jean sans Peur's daughter?

→

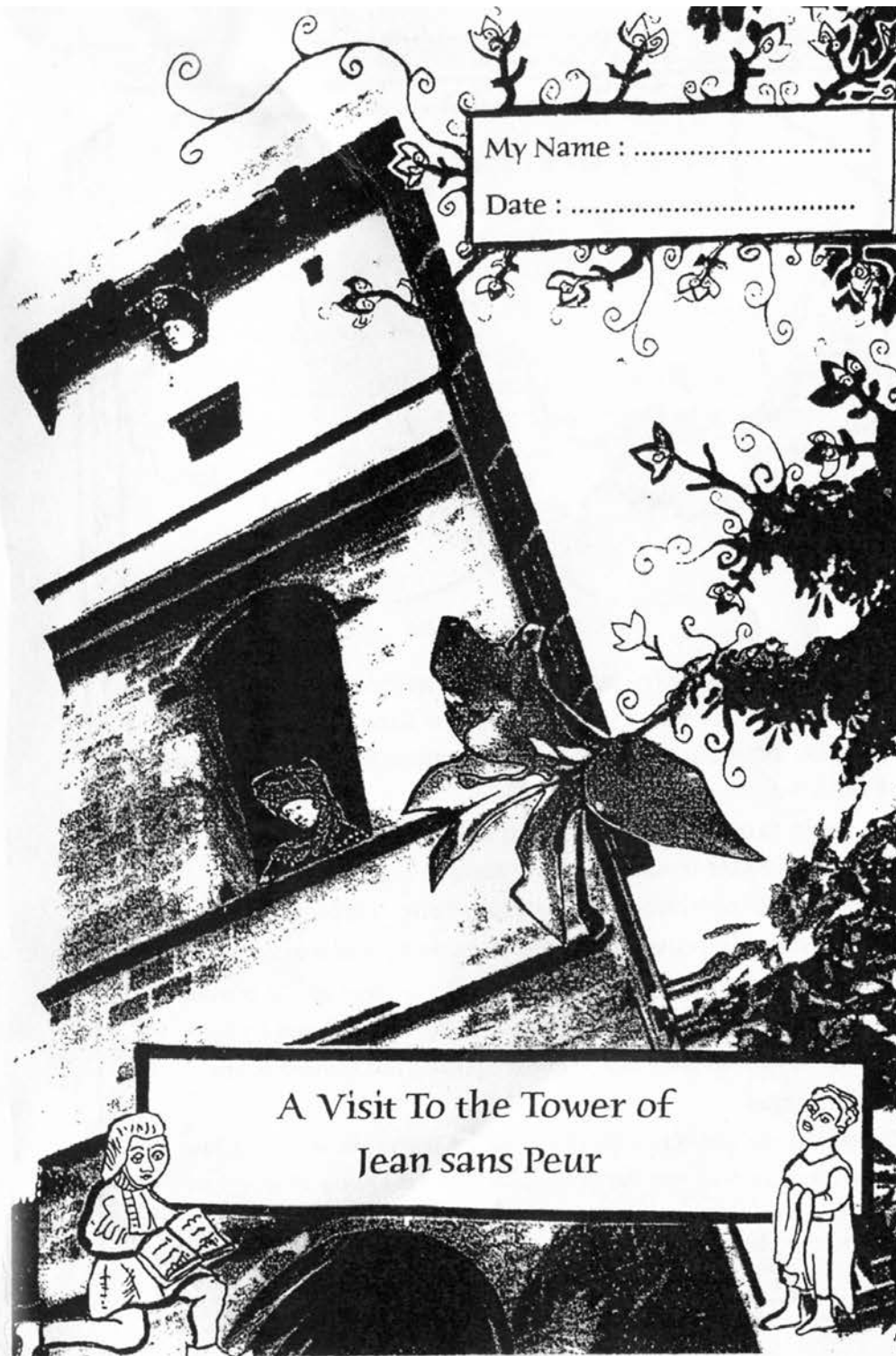
Light box n° 38: what colour is the wedding dress?

→

Now you are right at the top of the tower, count the number of steps there are from top to bottom, right to the iron gate (= the real entry to the tower).

→steps

You've come to the end of the visit!



Family Tree of Jean sans Peur



Once upon a time

In the beginning of the 15th century - right in the middle of the « Hundred Years War » - Charles VI, the King of France, went mad. The powerful lords of his family attempted to take control of the land.

In 1407 the king's brother, Louis d'Orléans, took control. In order to take over the kingdom, Jean, Duke of Burgundy - better known as Jean sans Peur - assassinated his cousin Louis. To prove his power, in 1409 he had a magnificent mansion, complete with a stair tower, built right in the middle of his Parisian residence. The building was completed in 1411 and the tower became the highest existing civil tower in the north of Paris.

Today you are going to visit the tower of Jean sans Peur, the last remaining trace of the Parisian palace of the Dukes of Burgundy.

The « Bedroom » of the Equerry

When you take the small, winding staircase you will find yourself in a room known as the « bedroom » of Jean Sans Peur's equerry. At the far end of this room you can see the latrines (latrines = toilet).

How are the latrines heated ?

The « Bedroom » of Jean sans Peur

This room is higher and lighter than the previous one. Around the top of the walls you can see mouldings sculpted into the stone. We presume it must have been a meeting room where Jean sans Peur advised and met with a select group of people. Here we have explained the organization of a princely room.

Where does the lord often work?

How many windows are in this room (including the latrines) ?

Vault of the great spiral staircase

The great spiral staircase finishes with a vegetal decoration sculpted on the ceiling. 3 plants are represented, including the hop (the symbol of Jean sans Peur) and the hawthorn (the symbol of his mother, Marguerite of Flanders).

What is the main tree represented in this ceiling vault?
It is the symbol of Philippe le Hardi, the father of Jean sans Peur.



Can you match the plants with the person that it symbolizes?



● Marguerite of Flanders



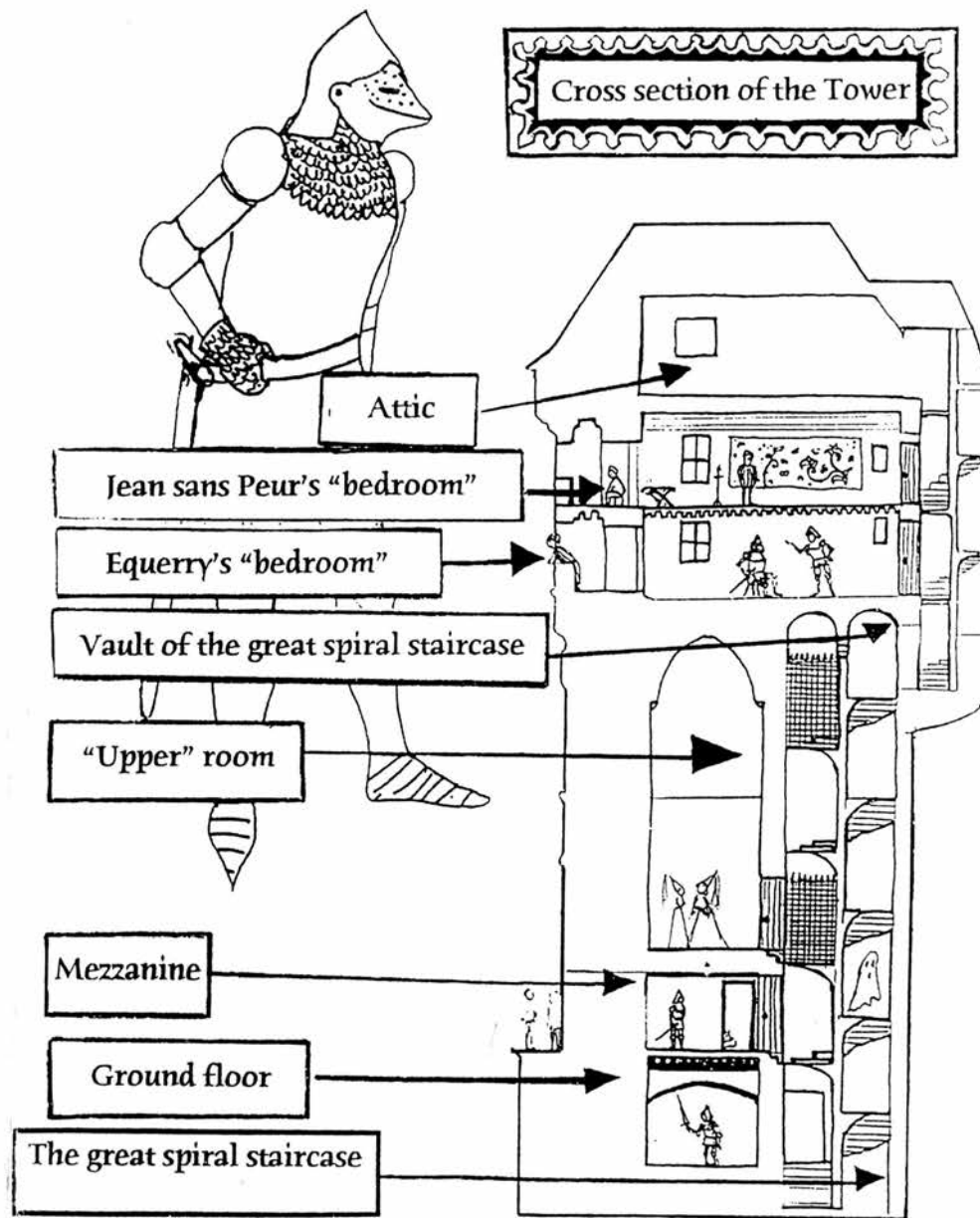
● Philippe le Hardi



● Jean sans Peur



Cross section of the Tower



Mezzanine

Here you will find a scale model of the tower and the buildings built by Jean sans Peur.
The room you are in leads to the old city walls - built under the reign of Philippe Auguste (1180 - 1223) - by a passage situated on the southern side.

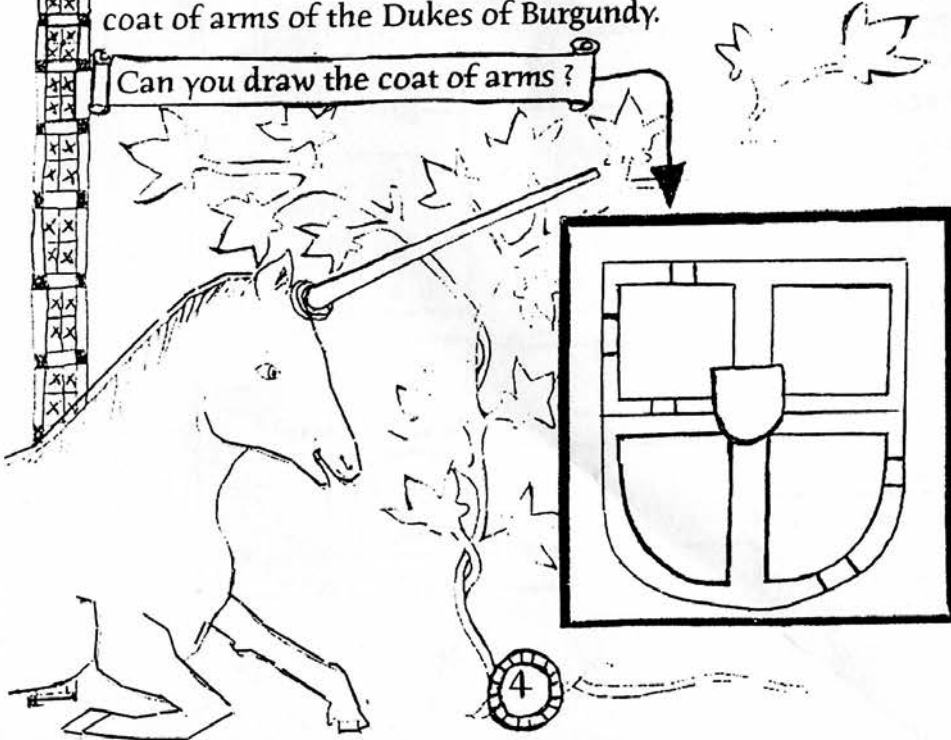
When you look towards the rue Etienne Marcel, you can see this passage cut into the wall's thickness. How thick do you think this wall is? Circle the correct answer:

1,00 m 1,80 m 2,60 m

"Upper" Room

When you are in this room, look up and you will see the coat of arms of the Dukes of Burgundy.

Can you draw the coat of arms?



The Great Spiral Staircase

In the tower of Jean sans Peur there is a spiral staircase. On the walls around this staircase and in the rooms on each floor, you can see different kinds of marks on the stones. Most often these marks were the « signatures » of the stone cutters, which permitted them to be paid!

Below, one of the « signatures » has been drawn, find others and draw them in the spaces provided.

