

THE BETRAYAL The Betrayal A king lived in a fort with his daughter, Clara. The king had founded a great empire, but his land was rife with enemies who wanted to take over the kingdom. "You can't distrust everyone," commented Clara. Because there was so much civil unrest, the king told Clara not to trust anyone. One day, Clara was walking outside when she saw a girl sweeping the path. Clara felt sorry for Susie because she was very poor, and Clara gave her a bracelet. After that, Susie and Clara met every day. "She is my sole friend. It's OK to be friendly to people." The King said, "Don't argue with me. Stay inside from now on, and talk to no one." Clara felt lonely in the fort. But one day she saw Susie outside. She wrote her a note with a map showing a secret entrance to the fort. Clara wrote: "Come at night, and we can talk together. Clara crossed the garden, and they started talking. The girl's name was Susie. He told Clara, "Don't talk to that girl. She could be an enemy." Once, the King saw them talking