Helping your children choose books they will love

I reading

Lovereading4kids.co.uk is a book website created for parents and children to make choosing books easy and fun

Opening extract from

The Pilot and the Little Prince

Written & Illustrated by

Peter Sis

Published by

Pushkin Children's Books

All Text is Copyright © of the Author and/or Illustrator

Please print off and read at your leisure.

Lovereading4kids.co.uk

The Wind—idea—Bill Shipsey
The Earth—inspiration—Terry Lajtha
The Stars—dreams—Frances Foster

Pushkin Children's Books
71-75 Shelton Street,
London WC2H 9JQ

Copyright © 2014 by Peter Sís
All rights reserved
Color separations by Embassy Graphics Ltd.
Printed in China by South China Printing Co. Ltd., Dongguan City, Guangdong Province
Designed by Andrew Arnold
First edition, 2014
1 3 5 7 9 10 8 6 4 2

www.pushkinchildrens.com

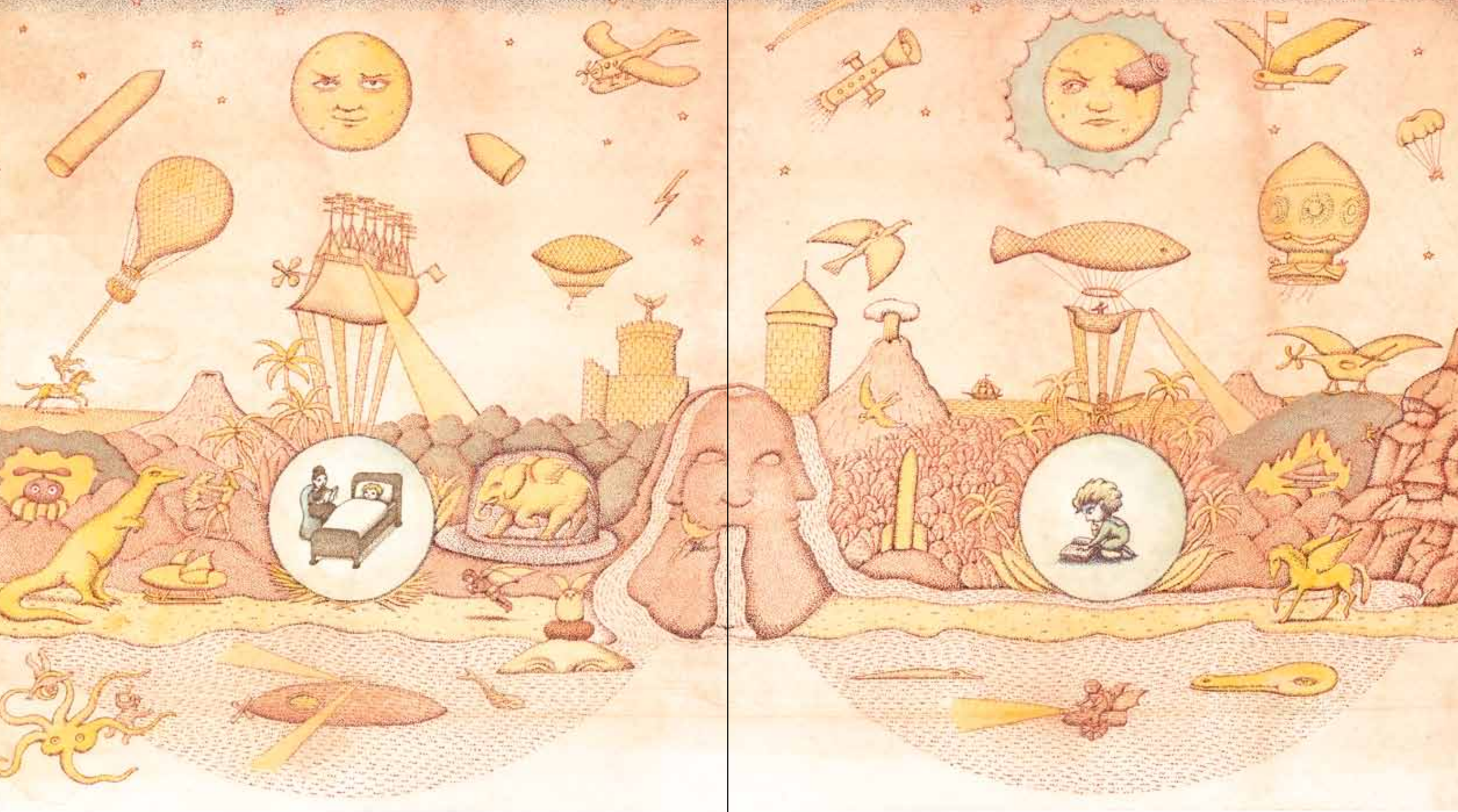
Thanks to Howard Scherry of Remembering Saint-Exupéry for information on Antoine de Saint-Exupéry's life and to the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum and Leo Opdycke for information on early aviation history

Selected Bibliography

Cate, Curtis. *Antoine de Saint-Exupéry: His Life and Times.* New York: Paragon House, 1990.
Jarrett, Philip. *The Color Encyclopedia of Incredible Airplanes.* New York: Dorling Kindersley, 2006.
Saint-Exupéry, Antoine de. *The Little Prince.* New York: Harcourt, Inc., 1943.
Saint-Exupéry, Antoine de. *Night Flight.* New York: Harcourt Brace & Company, 1932.
Saint-Exupéry, Antoine de. *Wind, Sand and Stars.* New York: Reynal & Hitchcock, 1940.
Schiff, Stacy. *Saint-Exupéry: A Biography.* New York: Henry Holt and Company, 2006.
First published in 1994 by Alfred A. Knopf.
Groupe Latécoère Web site: www.latecoere.fr/content/en/About_us/History/

Quote on page 17 from *Antoine de Saint-Exupéry: His Life and Times* by Curtis Cate.
Inscription on page 37 courtesy of Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library.

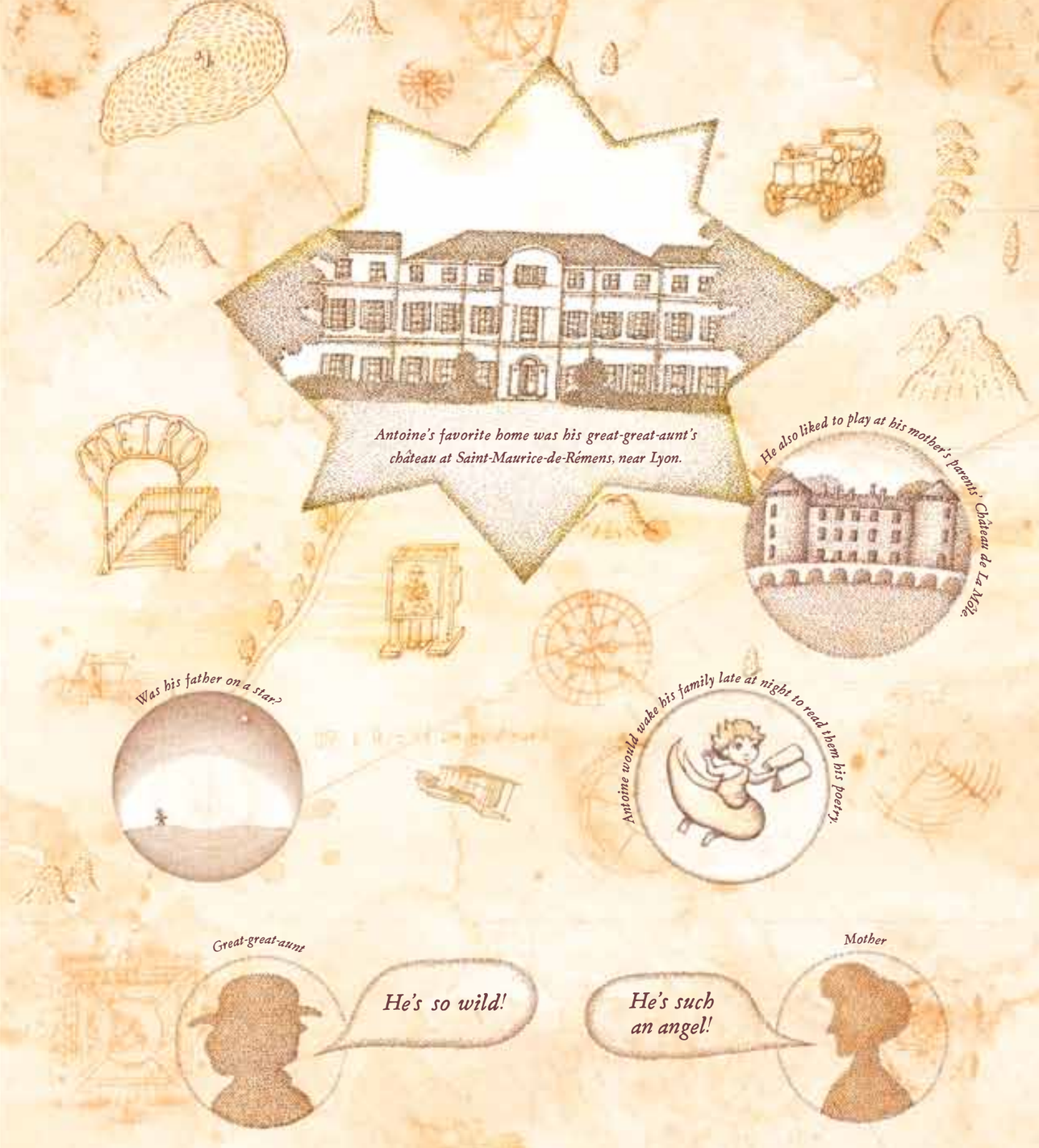
Long ago in France, at the turn of the last century, a little boy was born to be an adventurer.



It was an exciting time of discovery in the world. Things people had only dreamed about were being invented—including flying machines.

The boy would grow up to be a pilot. He would write about courageous flights, but also about places you might find if you were to fly long enough and far enough. What did he find on the earth? What did he find in the sky?

Antoine de Saint-Exupéry was born with golden hair. His family called him the Sun King. When he was four years old, his father died unexpectedly. The boy wondered, Where did he go?



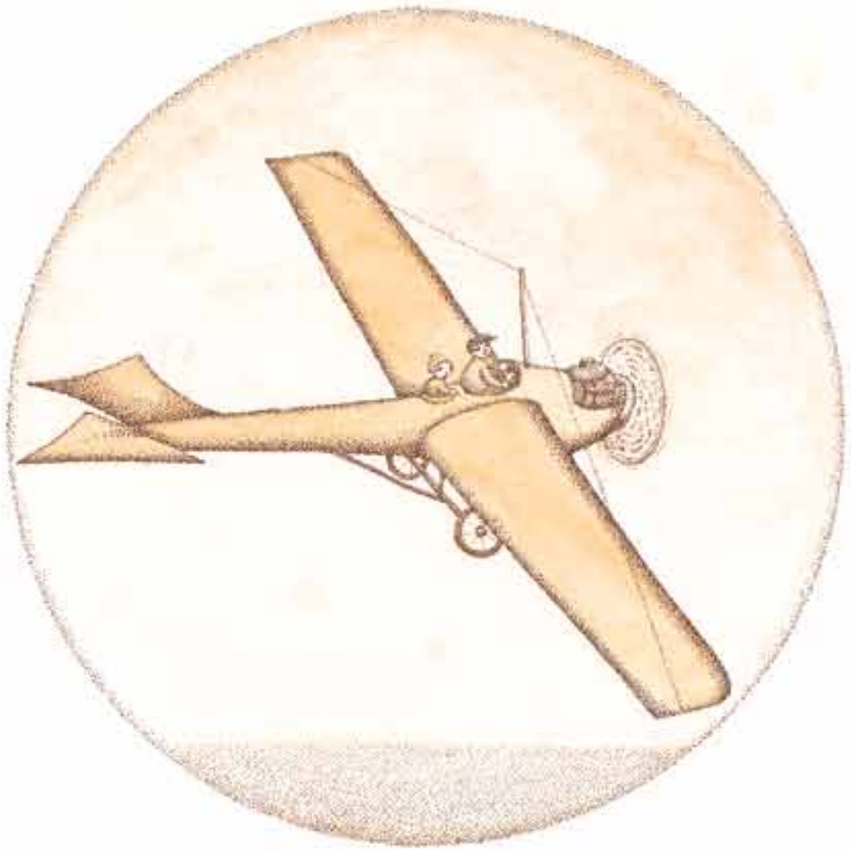
Antoine spent sunny days playing with his brother and sisters in the loving care of their mother and family. They lived in a big house surrounded by meadows and gardens.

1890: Clément Ader built a steam-powered plane. It got off the ground, but it did not fly.

December 17, 1903: Orville and Wilbur Wright flew in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. It was the first heavier-than-air flight.

Antoine attached sheets to wicker rods on his bicycle to make his plane.

Airplanes had just been invented and France was the center of aviation. When Antoine was twelve years old he made his own flying machine. It did not take off, but this didn't discourage him.



August 8, 1908: Wilbur Wright flew near Le Mans, France, delighting thousands of spectators.

July 25, 1909: Louis Blériot was the first person to fly from France to England.

He got a ride in a Berthaud-Wroblewski at the Ambérieu-en-Bugey airfield, near Saint-Maurice.

That summer, he rode his bike to a nearby airfield every day to watch pilots test planes. He told them he had permission from his mother to fly, so one pilot took him up in the air. His mother was not happy. Antoine couldn't wait to go up again.