

Adele stood under the tower at the castle gate and watched the light snow gently fall to the ground. She wrapped her cloak up around her neck to keep warm. It was cold outside, but Adele loved winter. She stepped out from the tower's protection to catch a snowflake on her tongue.

The Feast of the Nativity was the next day and Adele could hardly wait. The great hall of the castle was already decorated with ivy and greenery. Tomorrow many peasants would arrive for a holiday feast presented by the Duke of Normandy and his family. The castle would indeed be a busy place.

Adele decided to enjoy the quiet peace of the snowfall. She turned to climb the stairs of the tower. At the top of the tower, she was able to look out onto the city that surrounded the castle walls. Beyond the buildings she could see the beautiful countryside of Normandy.

There was a light covering of snow over the green grass. Adele hoped that it would not make the walk to the castle difficult for the people who lived in the town. Those who were poor and did not have money to buy fine leather shoes might have trouble walking on the frozen ground.