

Queen Victoria's Bathing Machine

Queen Victoria wishes to swim in the sea but cannot allow her subjects to see her getting into the water wearing only her swimming suit. Fortunately, her loving husband called Prince Albert comes to her rescue. He invents a bathing machine that is perfect for his queen.

Author

Gloria Whelan wrote this true tale. She is an American author. Gloria lives with her husband in a log cabin in the woods of northern Michigan. Her hobbies include fly fishing, walking and cooking.

Setting

Osborne House is a beautiful building on the Isle of Wight that belongs to Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. It is their holiday home next to the beach.



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Characters

Queen Victoria

Queen Victoria enjoys relaxing holidays at Osborne House with Prince Albert and their children. She is uncomfortable on a hot summer's day and desperately wants to swim in the sea.

Prince Albert

Prince Albert is Queen Victoria's clever, loving husband. He wants to make his wife's dream of swimming in the sea come true.

The children

The children's mother and father are Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. They help their father to build the bathing machine.

The lady-in-waiting

The lady-in-waiting helps Queen Victoria with her daily activities. She helps the Queen to dress.

The sailors

The sailors are out at sea on a ship and see Queen Victoria swimming. They cannot believe their eyes and mistake their queen for a tureen.

Glossary

corset

A tight piece of clothing worn by women in the past to make their waists look small.

device

An object or machine made to do a special job.

hose

A piece of clothing made of see-through material that fits tightly over a person's feet and legs and goes up to their waist.

invention

Something that has never been made before.

petticoat

A skirt that a woman or girl wears under a dress or outer skirt.

populace

The people who live in a country.

queen

A female ruler of a kingdom.

tureen

A large, deep bowl with a lid that is used for serving food.

