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Chateau D'If

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Ellen Levine

CHATEAU D'IF

At first there is nothing but rock and sunlight piercing the water.

Then the sleek, beautiful boys diving and warming themselves

on the rocks just below me. A faint breath of stones

rises from the core of the island.

I grow luminous in this naked light and my white dress falls away.

I remember the imprint their bodies left,

birds circling the stubborn tower, and the slow lapping of water.