

# Roftoppers



Katherine Rundell

Chapter 1 up to *'but it showed potential.'*

<https://www.lovereading4kids.co.uk/extract/9018/Roftoppers-by-Katherine-Rundell.html>



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# Vocabulary Check

- in the middle of the English Channel
- the shriek of a passenger would duet with a high C
- Wrapped for warmth in the musical score of a Beethoven symphony
- a fellow passenger and a scholar
- a narrow aristocratic face with a hooked eyebrows
- As thought she were an acquaintance at a tea party
- very white and fragile

# Quick Start

1. Who was in the cello case?
2. Where was the cello case?
3. Who found the cello case?
4. How did they know the baby was 1 year old?
5. Who came to see the baby?



## Individual Thinking

*...he determined, as he held her in his large hands - at arm's length, as he would a leaky flowerpot - that he would keep her.*

Do you think the description of the scholar holding the baby is effective? Why?



## Individual Thinking

*I will be more careful now that there is you little cello child'. Charles's home was beautiful but it was not safe; it was all staircases and slippery floor-boards and sharp corners. 'I'll buy some smaller chairs, and we'll have thick red carpets!*

Find a phrase/phrases that show Charles's kind nature towards Sophie.



## Individual Thinking

*I do, I'm afraid, understand books far more readily than I understand people. Books are so easy to get along with.*

What impression do you get of Charles if this is how he feels?

## Individual Thinking



*He spoke English to people and French to cats, and Latin to the birds. He had once nearly killed himself trying to read and ride a horse at the same time.*

What perception does the author want us to receive of Charles at this point?

## Solo Work



*A man can't do this kind of thing alone.*

Miss Eliot does not believe Charles can look after Sophie because he is a *man*. What would you tell Miss Eliot to convince her that she is wrong? Think about what you have already learned about Charles.