



Marie Thérèse Charlotte, Madame Royale.

Marie Thérèse Charlotte was born on 19 December 1778, at the [Château de Versailles](#), in Versailles, France. She was the daughter and first child of [Marie Antoinette, Queen Consort of France and Navarre \(2 November 1755 - 16 October 1793\)](#) and [Louis XVI, King of France and Navarre \(23 August 1754 - 21 January 1793\)](#). Her maternal grandparents were [Maria Theresa, Holy Roman Empress \(13 May 1717 - 29 November 1780\)](#) and [Francis I, Holy Roman Emperor \(8 December 1708 - 18 August 1765\)](#). Her paternal grandparents were [Princess Marie Josèphe of Saxony \(4 November 1731 - 13 March 1767\)](#) and [Louis, Dauphin de France \(4 September 1729 - 20 December 1765\)](#). Marie Thérèse Charlotte's parents were married by proxy 19 April 1770, in the Augustine Church, in Vienna. Then officially on 16 May 1770, in the Chapel Royal, at the Château de Versailles. Her siblings were [Louis Joseph Xavier François, Dauphin de France \(22 October 1781 - 4 June 1789\)](#), [Louis Charles de France \(27 March 1785 - 8 June 1795\)](#) and [Marie Sophie Hélène Béatrix de France \(9 July 1786 - 19 June 1787\)](#). Born in front of the Court, as the eldest daughter of the King, she was referred to as Madame Royale.



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by Adolf Ulrich Wertmüller

1786

Her brother, Louis Joseph died on 4 June 1789, at the Château de Meudon. He was buried at the Basilica of St. Denis. In July 1789, the French Revolution broke out. The Royal family was forcibly moved to the Tuileries Palace, in Paris. During June 1791, the family attempted to escape from France. They were caught at Varennes and brought back to Paris. According to the *Mémoires de Madame Royale, Duchesse d'Angoulême* by Marie Thérèse Charlotte, Duchesse d'Angoulême, *"The King my father, and his family, reached the Temple at seven o'clock in the evening of the 13th August, 1792. The gunners wanted to take him alone to the Tower, and to leave us in the Palace of the Temple, but Manuel had by the way received an order to shut us all up in the Tower. Petion appeased the anger of the gunners, and the order was executed. Petion went away, but Manuel remained, and the municipal officers would not let the King out of their sight: he supped with his family. My brother was dying with sleep. At eleven o'clock Madame de Tourzel took him to the tower, which was positively to be the common lodging of all. About one o'clock in the morning, my father and the rest of the family were conducted thither; there was nothing ready for our reception. My aunt slept in the kitchen, and it was said that Manuel himself was ashamed at showing her the way to such a bedchamber."* In September 1793, her mother, Marie Antoinette was transferred to the Conciergerie. *"The company of my aunt, whom I loved so tenderly, was a great consolation to me; but, alas! all that I loved was perishing around me, and I was soon to lose her also. In the beginning of November I had an illness caused solely by my anxiety about my mother; I never heard a drum beat that I did not expect another 3d of September."* Madame Royale was ordered to go