

# A RAINY AFTERNOON

Aining Wen





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Emma was spending the afternoon at grandad's house.





They had planned to go to the park together to see the swans in the pond, but it had been raining all day.

Emma was very bored.





The musical merry-go-round wasn't playing.



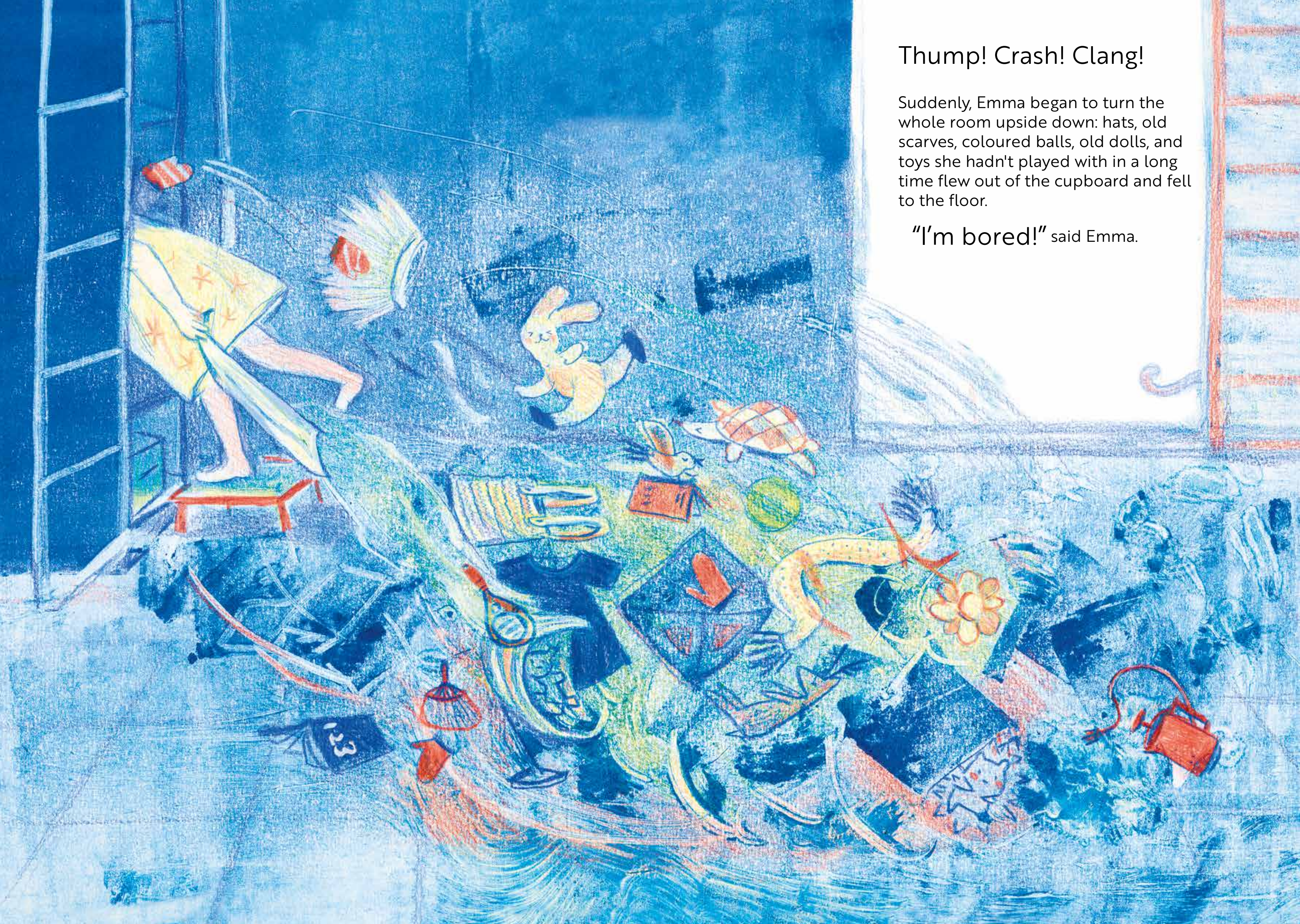
The toy train wouldn't work.



Even the teddy bear had a sad face.  
"I'm so bored!" said Emma.







## Thump! Crash! Clang!

Suddenly, Emma began to turn the whole room upside down: hats, old scarves, coloured balls, old dolls, and toys she hadn't played with in a long time flew out of the cupboard and fell to the floor.

"I'm bored!" said Emma.



Then Emma's eyes lit up.

"Wow! What's that?" she asked, surprised.

Grandad finished tidying the kitchen and came over.

"It's my cello. It was my favorite toy when I was younger."

"Your favorite toy? Can we play with it now?" Emma asked excitedly.

"Of course! Did you know this toy can work magic?"



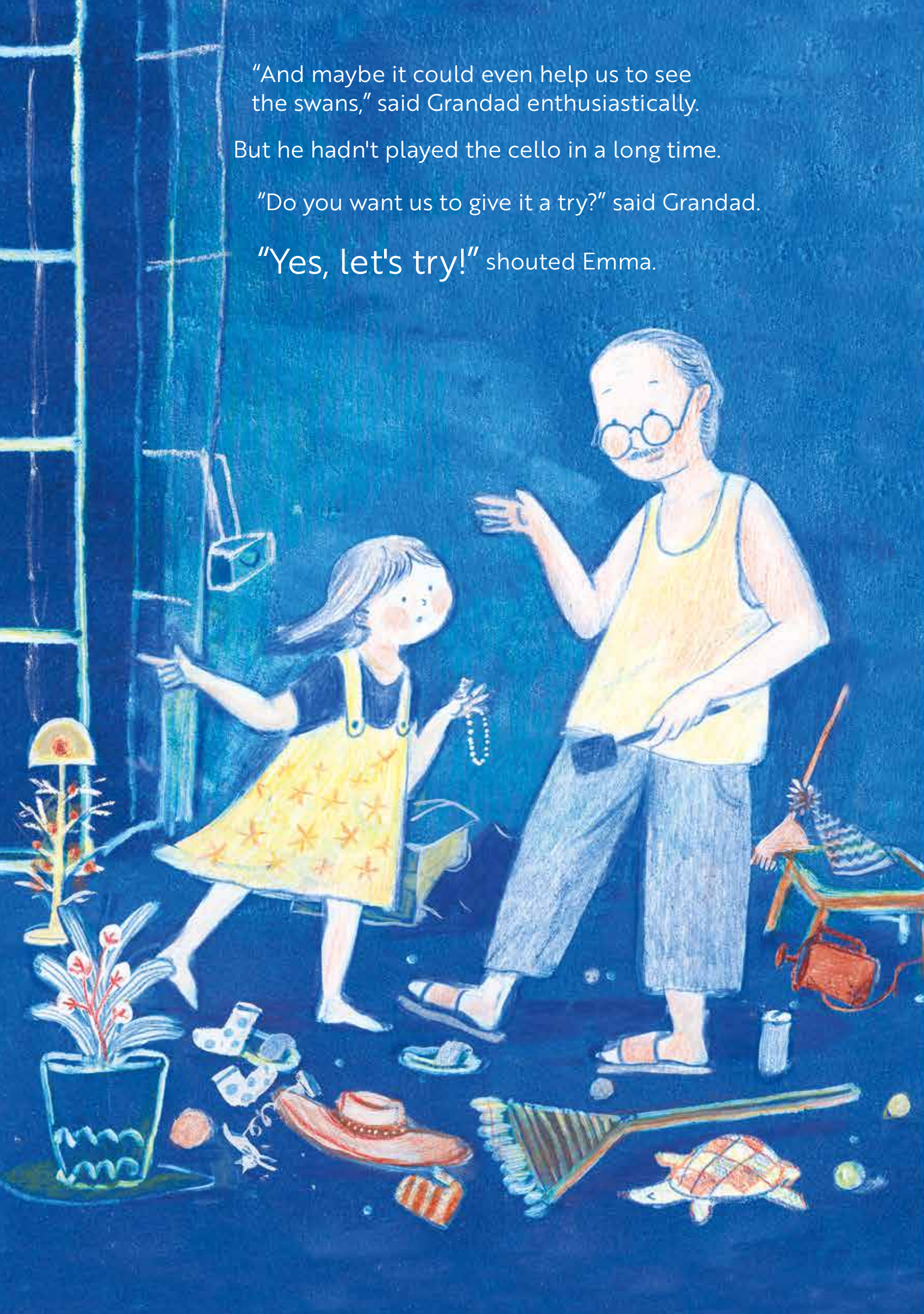


"And maybe it could even help us to see the swans," said Grandad enthusiastically.

But he hadn't played the cello in a long time.

"Do you want us to give it a try?" said Grandad.

"Yes, let's try!" shouted Emma.



Grandad went over to the cupboard. He carefully took out the case, opened it, and gently took out the cello, stroking it with his fingers. He tightened the strings and slowly, with great care, tuned it again.



Then he took out a special brown block and wiped the bow from top to bottom.



Finally, Grandad went into the living room with the cello in his arms. He sat down on a chair and took a deep breath.



## So-La-Ti.

The cello made a soft and enchanting sound. Grandad closed his eyes. One of his hands delicately drew the bow, while the other danced on the strings.

The sound seemed to come from a distant forest, floating in the air. There was a scent of wood and freshly wet grass from the rain.

Emma closed her eyes as well.





Cello

# LE CYGNE

Edited by  
Orfeo Mandozzi

N° 13 du Carnaval des Animaux

Composed in February 1886 in Austria. First performed on 9 March 1886 at a private concert.  
Camille Sait-Saëns on the piano and Charles Lebouc on the cello.

C. Saint-Saëns  
(1835-1921)

Adagio

5

9

13

16

19

23

26

*p*

*a tempo*

*rit.*

*mf*

*rit.*

*Lento*

*dim.*

*a tempo*

*rit.*

Hold down the note until the piano finishes.



Close your eyes, listen to the music  
and you will be able to see the swans with your imagination.



*Dedicated to Martin, Greg, Edu and Raquel.*

Title  
A Rainy Afternoon

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Wen Aining illustrated this book with both manual and digital techniques.

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A rainy afternoon stuck indoors  
can be boring... But sometimes it helps us  
discover something long forgotten...

Do you believe in the magic of music?

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