

HOW  
**GUS**  
AND GRETKA SAVED  
THE CONCERT



LUCIA ZEDNIKOVIČOVÁ

SPARROWS  
COMMUNICATE  
AMONG  
THEMSELVES  
BY CHIRPING.



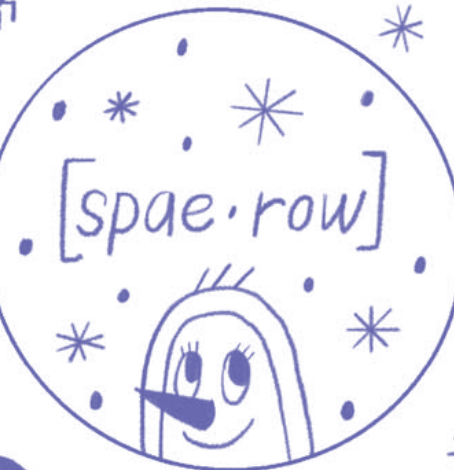
SPARROWS  
HAVE  
HIGH VOICES.



NOT ONLY  
SPARROWS BUT  
ALSO MAGPIES  
USUALLY LIVE  
CLOSE TO HUMAN  
DWELLINGS.



SOMETIMES,  
THEY ORGANIZE  
INTO LARGER  
FLOCKS ALONG  
WITH OTHER  
KINDS  
OF BIRDS.



MAGPIES LIKE  
SHINY THINGS  
AND OTHER  
TREASURES  
A LOT.



THE MAGPIE IS  
LARGER THAN  
THE SPARROW  
AND IS BLACK  
AND WHITE.

MAINLY CATS  
BUT ALSO BIRDS  
OF PREY ARE  
THE PREDATORS  
OF SPARROWS.



SPARROWS  
ARE CALLED  
SPARROWS  
IN ENGLISH.



THEY AMASS  
TREASURES IN  
THEIR NESTS.







FOR ALÁNEK AND MILI





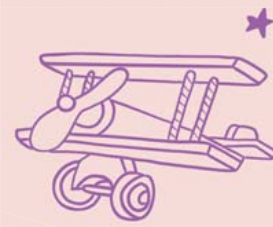
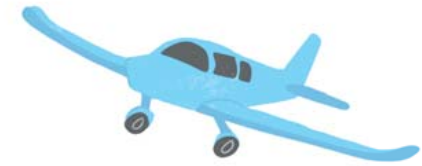
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Albatros



Summer was in full swing and a gentle breeze tickled the feathers of sparrows spread out in the grass. Siblings Gus and Gretka stared dreamily into the clouds and watched the planes. They were passionately discussing their latest construction plan own plane until their parents came into view.



"We have great news!" they exclaimed. "On Sunday, there is a big concert in the meadow and we will perform there with a forest orchestra," they announced excited their little ones.



"And Vojtech Veveric, the famous conductor from the neighboring forest, will also come," Mom added and proudly pressed the poster to her chest with the conductor's portrait.



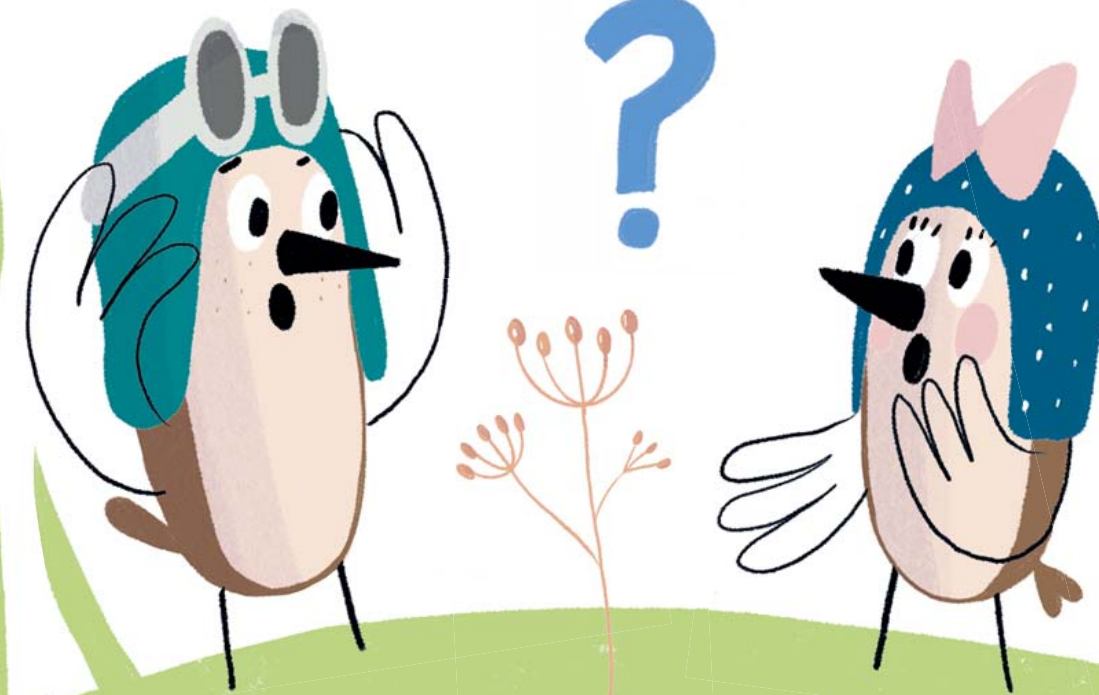


“But the best part is,” Dad continued impatiently, “that you two will appear there along with the baby squirrel choir. Well, isn’t it wonderful?”

Gus and Gretka looked at each other in disbelief. “The two of us and perform at a real concert?” the sparrows squealed.

# Seriously?

# ?



“Really,” Mom flapped her wings happily. “Both of you play musical instruments after all, so why not? And you have a whole week to practice,” she added with a smile and along with dad went to the forest to hang posters.

Each of the sparrow siblings had a different opinion on playing musical instruments. Gretka played the harp and always enjoyed it very much.

# Hooray!



# Sure, it does!

She was looking forward to the concert and the idea that her cheering crowds...it was simply a dream.

It was worse with Gus. The news quite shocked him. He was not very fond of the violin, but his parents wanted him to learn to play it. That is why he trained hard, even though he was not good at it at all. Well, how could they include him in music program that the whole forest will come to see?

# Nooo!



# No way!



“I can’t perform at that concert”  
confessed the devastated Gus  
to Gretka that evening.



“With my squeal I will not only bring  
shame on myself, but also on our parents.  
I don’t want to disappoint them. In addition  
we wanted to start tomorrow after all build  
our plane! Have you forgotten?”



“Don’t worry, I haven’t forgotten,” his sister  
encouraged him, “but our parents are counting on  
us. Let’s practice that song and immediately after  
the concert we will rush on our plane, deal?”





“Deal!” Gus sadly nodded, although he was not looking forward to the concert at all. He rested his head on the pillow and his eyes wandered around the room.



Then his gaze fell to the old photo on the wall and he remembered something which he had long since forgotten.

When Gus was still small, he listened to one of the records constantly on the record player. He didn't just like songs, but also its packaging. A charming sparrow with a trumpet was on it and Gus longed to be like him.



That's cool, he thought as he borrowed funnel from the kitchen and imitated a trumpeter from the record. He blew into it and amazed he blasted the tune as if from a record player.

# Tan -ta -raa

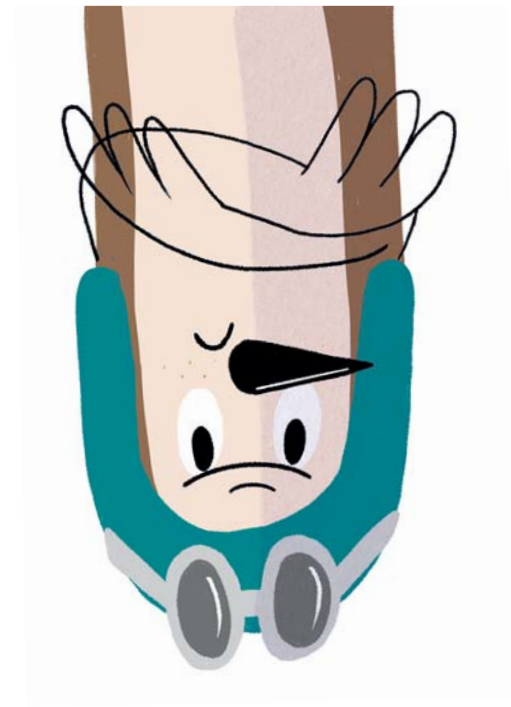




I have really enjoyed this, Gus thought. Why should I bother with a violin when can I play the trumpet at the concert? He rushed to the toy box with a smile. Even though he rummaged through a pile of toys to the bottom, he did not find his beloved trumpet.



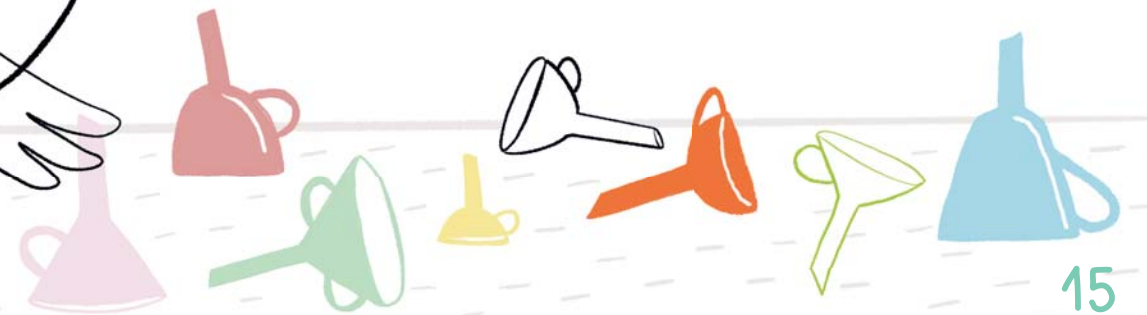
What are you doing?" his mom asked in the morning, when she saw him tirelessly searching for something in his room. "Do you know where my old trumpet is? So shiny as if made of gold, remember?" "You mean the funnel? I haven't seen it for a long time. I think it disappeared one day with the Christmas ornaments. They are all shiny things, Mrs. Magpie has probably got something to do with it," Mom laughed. "It was just an ordinary funnel," she said to Gus with a feather on her head and left.



## No funnel!



It's always been a trumpet for me, frowned Gus. What would I give for one now? Although he tried other funnels from his mom's kitchen, none of them could match the golden one for its sound.

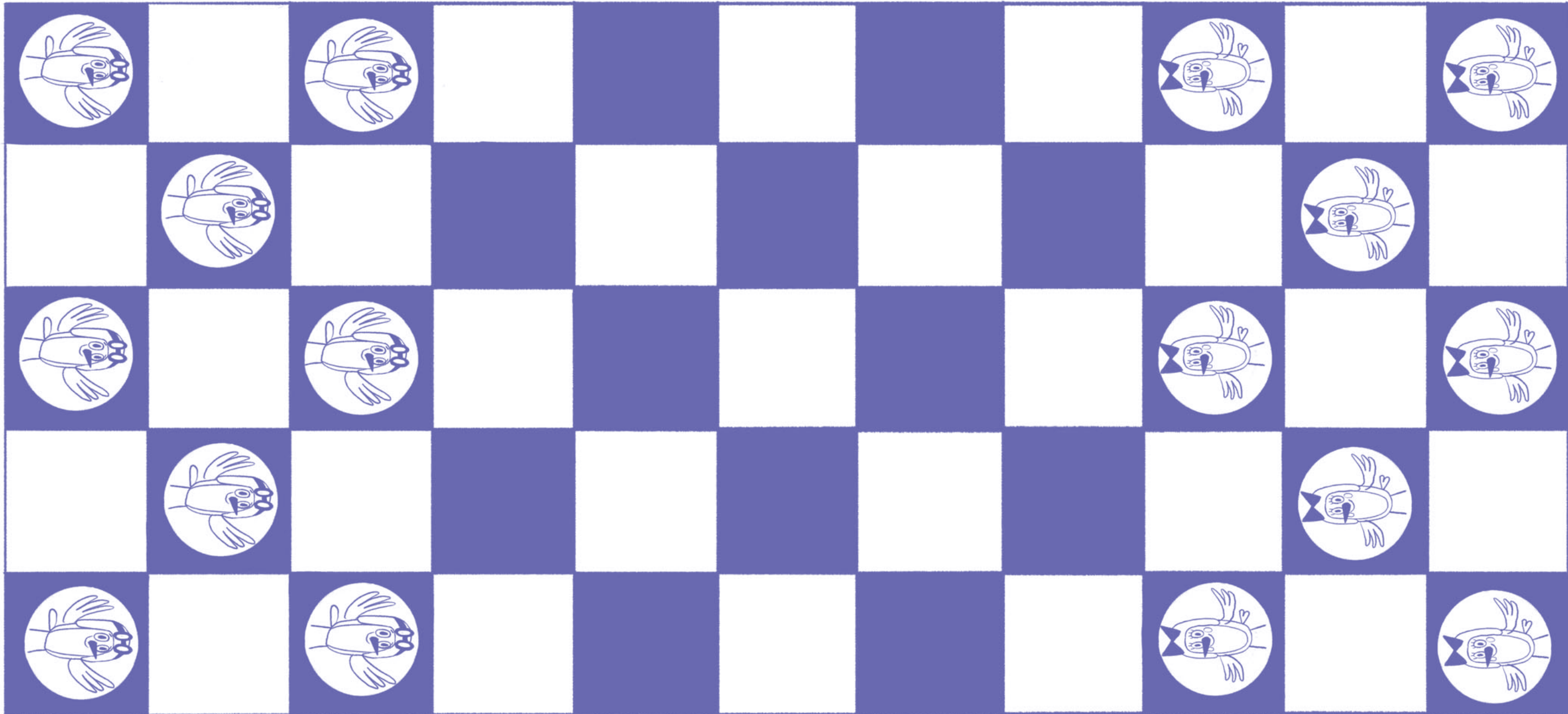




# NUT DRAMA

YOU WILL NEED TWO TYPES OF NUTS (8 OF EACH). EACH PLAYER PLACES THE NUTS ON THE SYMBOLS ON HIS/HER SIDE. THE PLAYER MOVES DIAGONALLY ONE BLUE SQUARE AT A TIME TOWARDS THE OTHER PLAYER'S SIDE. WHEN THE OTHER PLAYER'S NUT IS IN HIS/HER WAY, S/HE JUMPS OVER IT AND TAKES IT OFF THE BOARD. THE WINNER IS WHOEVER FIRST TAKES OVER THE SYMBOLS OF THE OTHER PLAYER OR TAKES ALL OF THEIR NUTS.

PLAYER  
ONE



PLAYER  
TWO

Gus's parents are organizing a concert of the forester orchestra. Gus and Gretka should also perform. However, Gus would much rather fly a plane. But the plane breaks down and conductor Vojtech Veveric crashes, so suddenly the whole concert is in jeopardy. How will it all turn out?

