Who Made
the Rain Cry?

A girl sits by her **window** and plays her flute. The tune is slow, and tears drip down her cheeks.

Her **shoulders** sag. Her **sadness** fills the room.

Her tune drifts out the **window** and into the breeze. Blue notes **follow** the leaves, floating past the treetops.

Every note is **perfect,** not a single **mistake.** But oh, how sad they sound.

Up in the sky, the sad notes start to cry.

Green tears drop down, one by one, into the clouds below. The clouds soak up each tear **until** they **cannot** hold more.

Then the clouds start to cry too.

Down in the **garden,** Brown **Rabbit** feels a raindrop on his nose, then ten more. 'That's odd,' says Brown **Rabbit.** 'It was **sunny** a minute ago.' Black **Rabbit** presses close beside him, and Bird hides in the flowers, small and still. A sad song drifts down with the rain.

Flower turns to Bee with a **worried** look. 'Such a sad tune. There must be a **problem.** Who could be playing this song?' Bee is not sure. She **buzzes** her wings and flies off to find out.

'Can you hear that sad, sad song?' Bee asks Bird. 'Each note is a tear. This is no **error.** Someone is truly hurting.'

'Who could **carry** such **sadness?**' Bird **wonders.** 'We must find out.'

Bird turns to Brown **Rabbit.** 'You see so well and run so fast. Will you help us find the one who plays this song of **sorrow?**'

Rabbit nods and bounds away.

Brown **Rabbit follows** the tune and finds the girl crying by her **window.** 'Why do you play such a sad song?' he calls up to her.

'I miss my mother and father,' she **whispers** with a sob.

Rabbit tells Bird, and Bird tells Bee why the girl is so sad. The girl comes down from her **window,** and the **critters** rush to greet her. The **rabbits** leap into her arms and Bird presses close to her neck. 'Do not be sad! We are here!'

Girl is not lonely now. She sits in the **golden garden** with a **rabbit** on each side, Bird on her arm, and Bee **buzzing** around the flowers to make her giggle. She does not play her flute. **Perhaps** soon she will, and the song will **welcome** the sun.

S4

Who Made the Rain Cry?

When Girl plays her flute, every note is sad, and her sadness floats into the sky until even the clouds start to cry. Soon rain is falling in the garden, and Rabbit, Bird, and Bee set out over the hill to find out why, with Flower fretting every step of the way. Can these worried critters carry some comfort to a lonely window before the storm gets worse? This story practices two-syllable words with VC/CV division, including 'rabbit', 'garden', 'sunny', 'golden', and 'welcome'.

Reading Skills: VC/CV division

buzzes, buzzing, cannot, carry, critters, error, follow, follows, garden, golden, happens, mistake, perfect, perhaps, problem, rabbit, rabbits, sadness, shoulders, sorrow, sunny, until, welcome, whispers, window, wonders, worried

Learn to read with confidence

The Bookbot app and its carefully designed decodable books help children practise the sounds and words they are learning, building strong phonics and reading skills one step at a time. In the app, children can listen to stories read aloud, follow highlighted words as they are spoken, and read independently when they are ready. Together, the decodable books and oral reading support help develop accuracy, fluency, confidence and a love of reading. Learn more at www.bookbotkids.com.

CC BY NC SA