FORTE
AND
PIANO

BY

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In a little town somewhere in the North, named Tula, there lived a young man who played the clarinet. His name was Clarence. He tried to make a living as best he could. But he did not always find work. You see — he lived in a little town and there were not many concerts or many students.

One day an orchestra came to town from the big city to give a concert.
They were in trouble because the man who usually played the clarinet had missed the plane.

So, Clarence was called and played in the concert.

Before the concert there was a rehearsal. There Clarence met the lady who played the flute.

Her name was Flora.

Clarence and Flora liked each other very much.

After the orchestra left, they wrote letters to each other.
One day Clarence wrote to Flora and asked her to marry him.

She accepted and came to live with him in Tula.

They were poor but very happy with each other and with making music. They did hope that some day they would have a child and on Beethoven's birthday a baby boy was born. He right away cried very loud and therefore his parents called him Forte. He was a nice, active, and showy boy and gave his parents a lot of joy.
When he was three years old, a little sister was born on Mozart's birthday. She came a little early and was quite tiny. She cried as soon as she was born but it was a soft cry and therefore her parents called her PIANO.

PIANO was a sweet little girl. She was small but healthy.

Both children loved music. They listened and conducted with their little feet and hands whenever music was played. Soon they learned to sing and
THEY HAD LOVELY VOICES AND
SANG EVEN DIFFICULT SONGS
CORRECTLY.

THEIR FATHER AND MOTHER
WOULD HAVE LIKED TO TEACH
THEM TO PLAY THE PIANO BUT
TIMES WERE HARD AND THEY
COULD NOT AFFORD TO BUY ONE.

THEN ONE DAY THERE WAS TO
BE A PERFORMANCE OF A NEW
SYMPHONY WITH CHILDREN'S
VOICES IN THE TOWN'S CONCERT
HALL. THE NEWSPAPER HAD AN
ADVERTISEMENT THAT THERE WOULD
BE AN AUDITION FOR CHILDREN
ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON.
AUDITION! AUDITION!
FOR TALENTED CHILDREN
SATURDAY 3 p.m.
BARNES HALL
SING WITH YOUR BEST VOICE
FOR WINNERS: CONCERT PERFORMANCE
FOR NON-WINNERS: CANDY BARS
COME AND SING!
CLARENCE AND FLORA ASKED THE
CHILDREN WHETHER THEY WOULD
LIKE TO TRY AND THEY GOT ALL
EXCITED.

THERE WERE MANY CHILDREN
IN THE CONCERT HALL. ONE
MAN SAT AT THE PIANO AND
PLAYED A TUNE. EACH CHILD
THERE, IN TURN, HAD TO SING
THAT TUNE AS HE OR SHE REMEMBERED
IT.

THE COMPOSER OF THE SYMPHONY
AND THE CONDUCTOR LISTENED AND
BOTH WERE VERY NERVOUS BECAUSE
MOST OF THE BOYS AND GIRLS THERE
DID VERY POORLY. THEN FORTE
and piano came forward. Each of them sang the tune which was played on the keyboard perfectly and with beautiful voice and expression. They were chosen to sing in the concert which was a great success because they were so wonderful.

After the concert, the composer came to Clarence and Flora and congratulated them on their children's talent.
"Are they taking piano lessons,"

he asked.

"We cannot afford a piano right now," the parents said.

"This must be remedied,"

answered the composer.

On the following day a beautiful piano arrived at Clarence's Flora's forte's piano's house.

A card was attached to it

"With the compliments of the Composer."

And they played happily, beautifully ever after.
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