

Hurry up, Thomas!

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY CLARA CABRERA

IT'S A SATURDAY MORNING, THOMAS AND HIS DAD ARE
RUNNING LATE, BUT WHERE ARE THEY HURRYING TO?





Hurry up, Thomas!

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'We are late, Dad'.

Dad heard Thomas's voice in his sleepy mind. How comes? Today was Saturday, there was no need to be up early. Wait... Saturday?





'Hurry up, Thomas!'

'Oh, no!
I overslept!'







'Then let's hurry', Dad answered, very determined.
'We cannot be late'.





'There is no time to waste', said Dad as they crossed the park. 'Let's take a shortcut.'



Thomas looked at the birds. Some were cheeping and hopping on the grass; some were soaring the sky. Oh, that day he wished he and Dad had wings. *That* would be a shortcut.







A colorful illustration of a rainy town street. On the left, a traditional half-timbered house with a red door and a golden roof is partially submerged in water. In the center, a row of houses with various facades and striped awnings are tilted at different angles, suggesting they are sinking. A small garden with a blue birdcage and some flowers is visible. In the foreground, two children are playing in the water: a boy in a yellow and green striped shirt and a girl in a white dress. The background shows a gradient from yellow to blue, with falling rain depicted as vertical blue lines.

'Faster, faster!'

'The flowers!'

Thomas suddenly remembered.



'There is no time to go back', Dad said; but Thomas was already coming up with another idea...



Dad rushed to take Thomas away. There was no time to argue with Mrs. Humphrey either.

that Mrs. Humphrey unfortunately didn't like.

Dad ran; and the more he ran, the
more bumps on the road he found.
And to every jump Thomas dropped
more and more flowers.





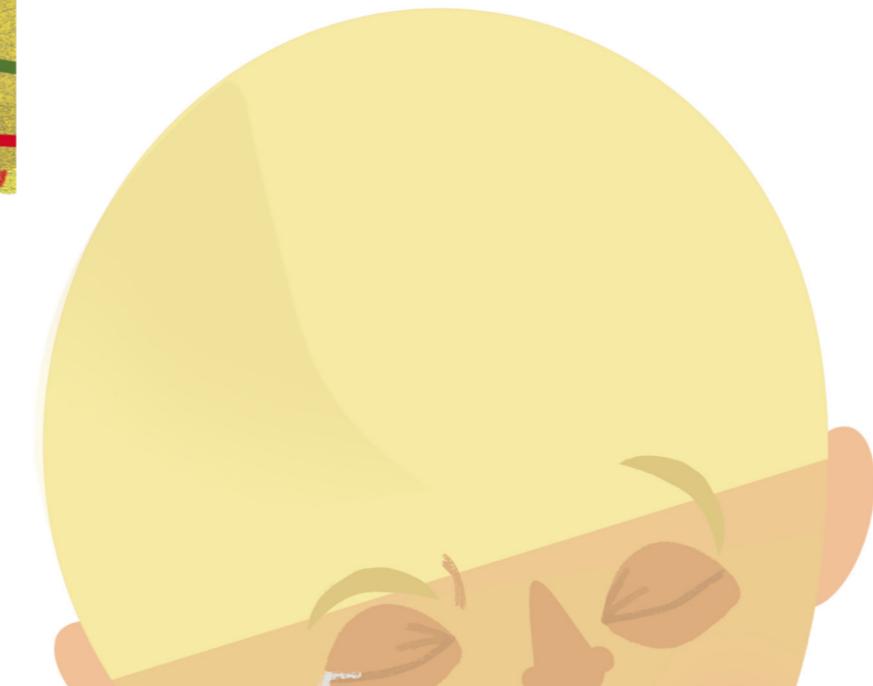








DADDY!







Thomas had learnt the lesson. He would not pick flowers from a garden.





He would pick *one* flower
from many gardens.

'Apologies, apologies!' Dad said one and a thousand times. 'But today is the day. We cannot be late!'





The neighbours nodded, not fully convinced. They would let it go for today. It was a special occasion after all.



Thanks to everybody's collaboration,
Thomas gathered a nice, big bouquet...







which Mum loved



...and Dad a little less.





Clara Cabrera (Valencia, 1991) is an artist, illustrator and writer. She graduated from Fine Arts in 2015 by the Polytechnic University of Valencia and spent an exchange year at Tartu Art College in Estonia, a turning point for her art as it was there where she developed her unique painting style. She pursued a postgrad in Professional Illustration by the ESAT, where she fell in love with illustration. She was one of the four Europeans selected to exhibit her work in one of Asia's most important illustration fair, AFCC (Asian Festival of Children's Content) held in Singapore during May 2016. Her work was exhibited in the National Library along with artists' from all over the globe.

Clara has always focused on plastic and creative activities; disciplines she is able to develop thanks to her passion for literature and her musical, artistic and language knowledge. Her studies in History have complemented her plastic vocation.

In 2013 she published a fantasy trilogy “Baile de Damas” under Chiado Editorial publishing house. The novels were well received by readers and reading blogs. Every year she attends



Lisbon's Book Fair with her books. She also visits schools to talk about her works and about what being a writer and an artist is.

“Hurry up, Thomas!” is her first children’s project which is written and illustrated by her. Currently she combines developing picture books with her painting career. She has taken part in more than a dozen art exhibitions in many countries. Clara also is focused on responding to the numerous commissions she gets from all over the world. Her paintings and illustrations have been featured in international magazines and in Spanish contemporary art catalogues.

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