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extracts from Gus and Me

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When Gus and I got back to his house that day,
I took a long look at that guitar
that always sat on top of his piano.
It seemed more beautiful than ever.
All I wanted was to make the strings go
dinka-plink-plink like the men in the store.
But I couldn't reach it.
"When you're tall enough, you can have a go," Gus said.

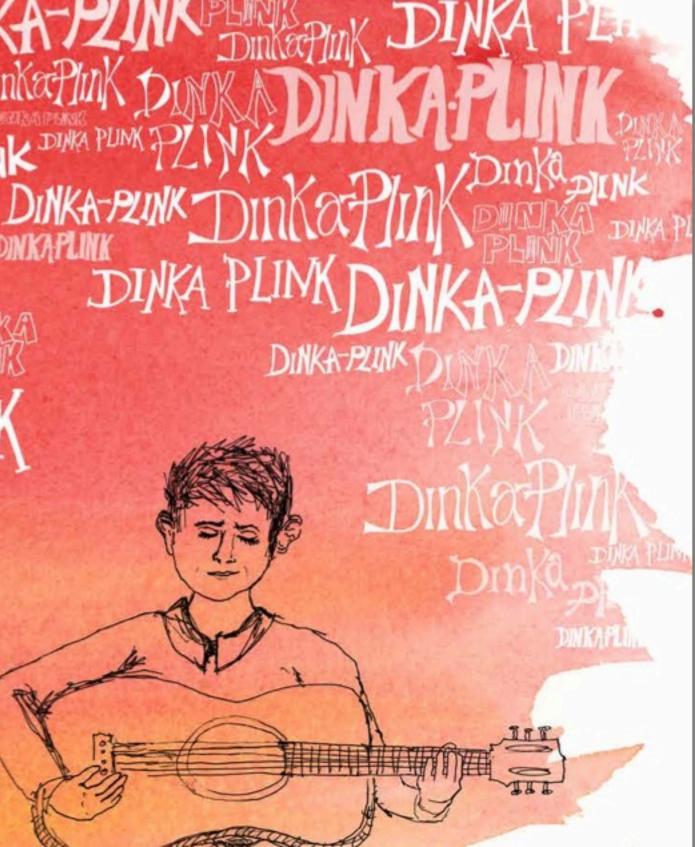


PLINK He sat with me, taught me how to hold it, strum it, and pluck a little. "When you learn how to play 'Malagueña," he told me, "you can play anything." Dinka-plink dinka-plink dinka-plink. And I practiced and I practiced on that beautiful guitar.

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