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Opening extract from
The Bear and the Piano

Written & Illustrated by
David Litchfield

Published by
Frances Lincoln Children's Books

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To Katie and Ben.
—D.L.

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The Bear and the Piano



David Litchfield



Frances Lincoln
Children's Books

A young brown bear cub stands on the right side of the image, looking at a dark brown upright piano. The piano is positioned in a lush, green forest with tall, slender trees and various plants and flowers in the foreground. The scene is bathed in a soft, golden light, suggesting a misty or early morning atmosphere. The bear cub is looking at the piano with a curious expression.

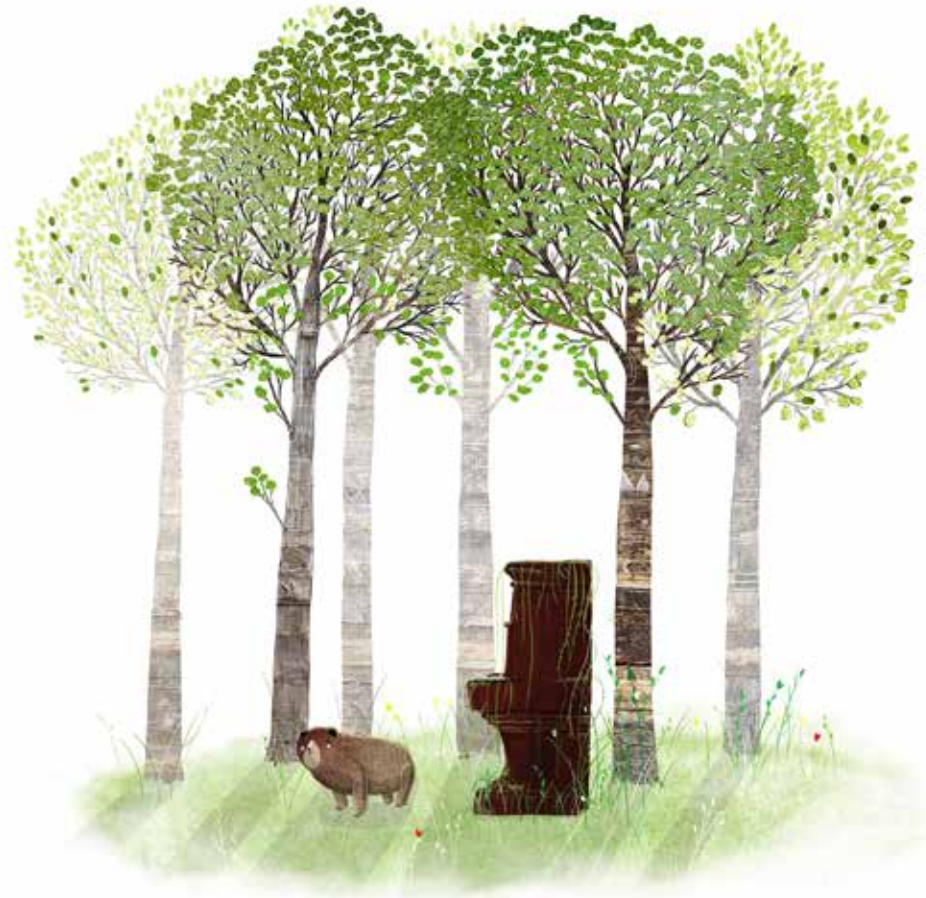
One day in the forest, a young bear cub
found something he'd never seen before.

“What could this strange thing be?” he thought.
Shyly, he touched it with his stubby paws.

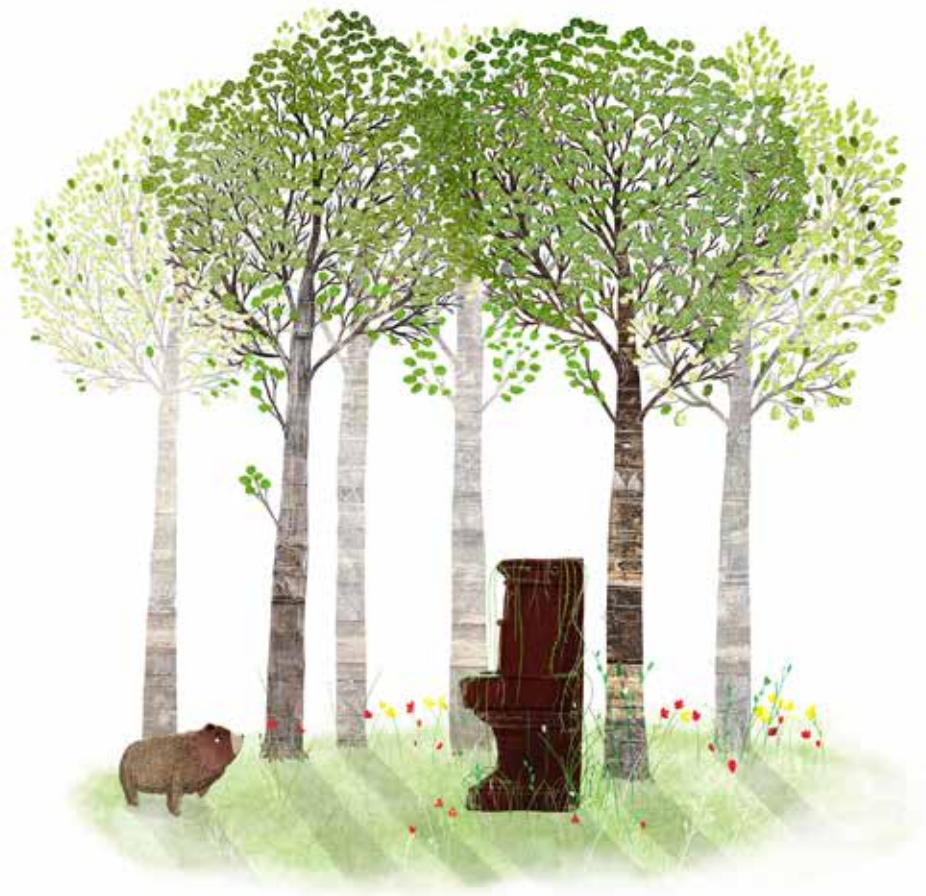
“PLONK!”

The strange thing made an
awful sound.

So, the bear left.



But the next day he came back,



and the day after that too.



And for days and weeks and months and years,



Until eventually...



The sounds that came from the strange thing were beautiful, and the bear had grown big and strong and grizzly.



When the bear played, he felt so happy.



The sound took him away from the forest,



and he dreamed of strange and wonderful lands.