

*For my sister, Emma.*

C.G.

*For Di and Julian.*

S.U.

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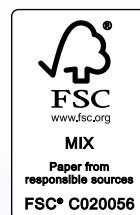
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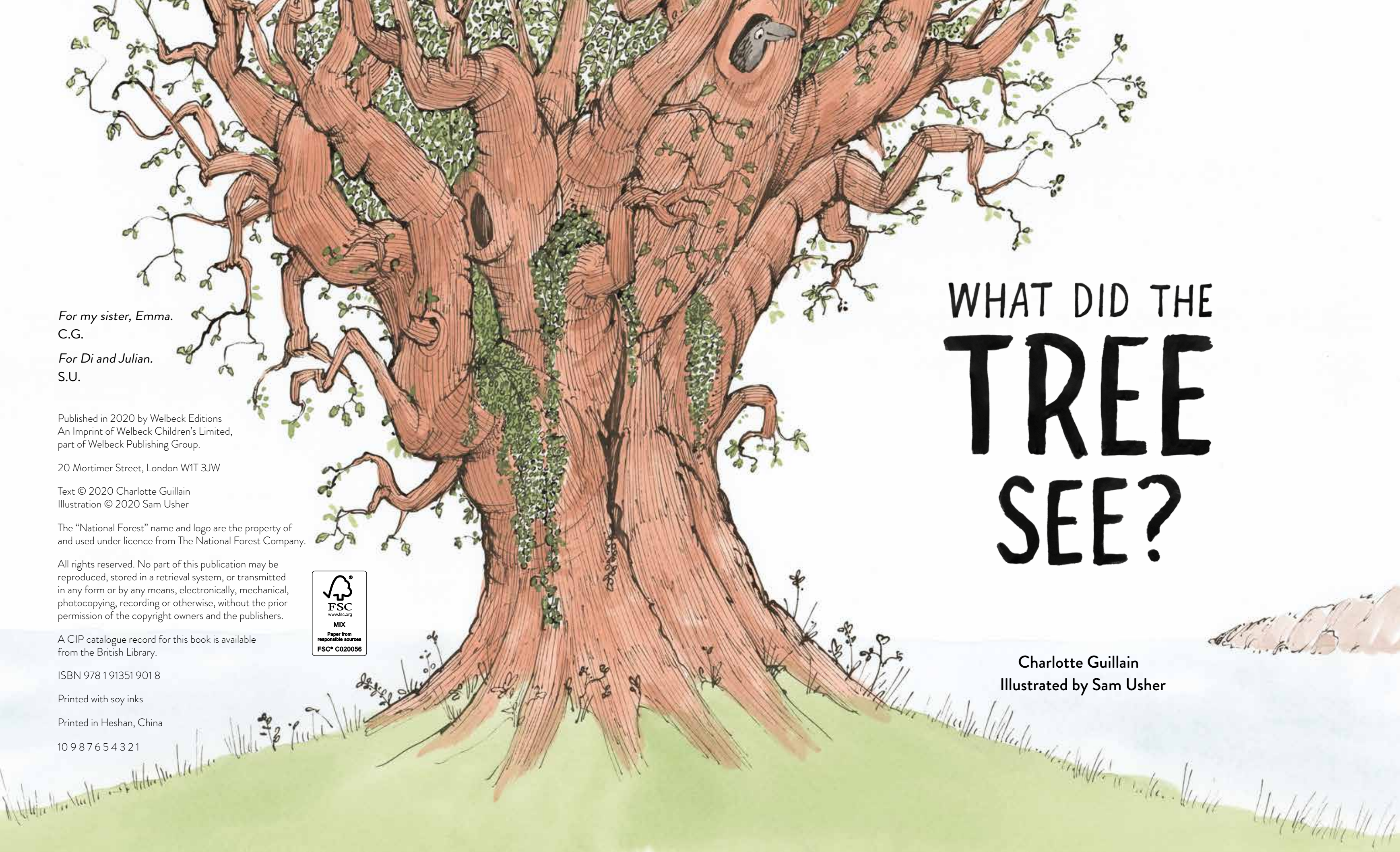
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# WHAT DID THE TREE SEE?

Charlotte Guillain  
Illustrated by Sam Usher



I first was an acorn, so tiny and round,  
I fell from a branch and sank into the ground.  
Then as I grew up, I turned into a tree...  
over hundreds of years! So, what did I see?



When I was a sapling, still growing my bark,  
trees shot up around me – we filled a huge park.  
My tender young leaves would be nibbled by deer,  
but they ran away when the hunters came near.



For years, I grew bigger. My roots reached and spread.  
My branches got thicker and stretched overhead.  
Some trees were cut down and the forest was cleared.  
More people arrived and a village appeared.



Time passed, I got older. My trunk grew and grew,  
a ring for each year, where my wood was brand new.  
The land all around me was ploughed up and sown.  
The people worked hard when the crops were all grown.

