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Illustraties Trish Flannery

Midnight Train





Flash!

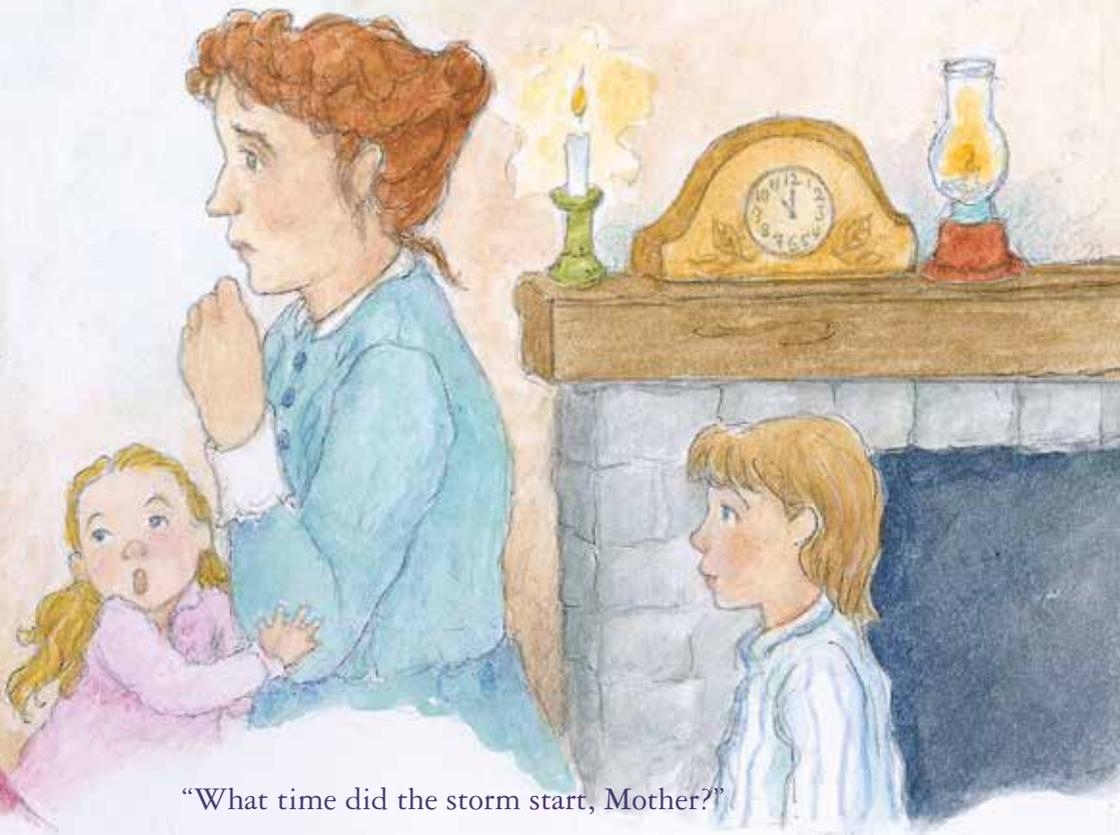
Oh no, not again! Kate Shelley counted the seconds.
*1 second, 2 seconds, 3 seconds ... boom-boom-BOOM-
BOOM-BOOM-boom!*

Only 3 seconds?

Kate looked at her mother. Mrs. Shelley looked at Kate.
Only 3 seconds? Then the storm must be close. Very close!

The thunder stopped.

Kate listened. Her mother listened. It was raining.
Raining *hard!*



“What time did the storm start, Mother?”

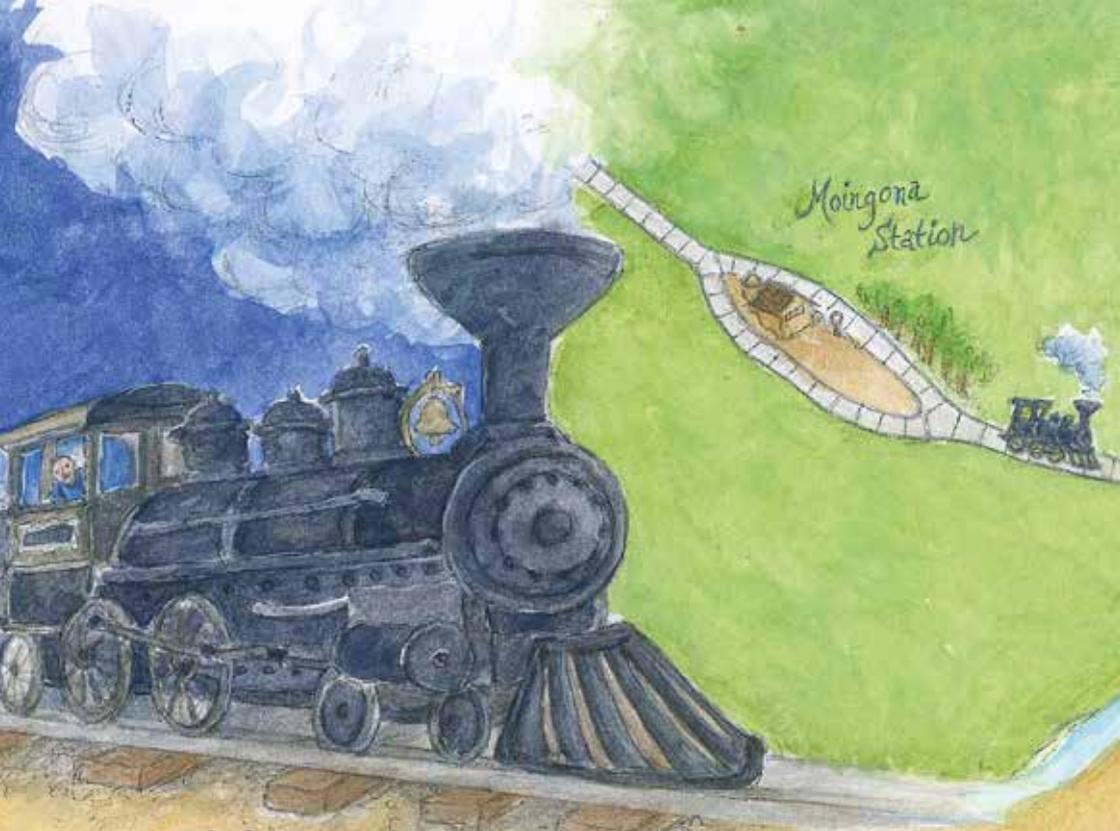
“Ummm, this afternoon. 3 o’clock?”

Kate looked at the clock. Hmm, 3 o’clock to 11 o’clock ... That was 8 hours. 8 *long* hours of rain. 8 long hours of *hard* rain.

How was the Des Moines River? Was the water high?
And Honey Creek? Honey Creek was closer to the house.
How was Honey Creek? Was the water high? Would
water come to the house? Would water come *in* the house?

again = (al)weer
close = dichtbij

only = alleen maar
would = zou



Flash!

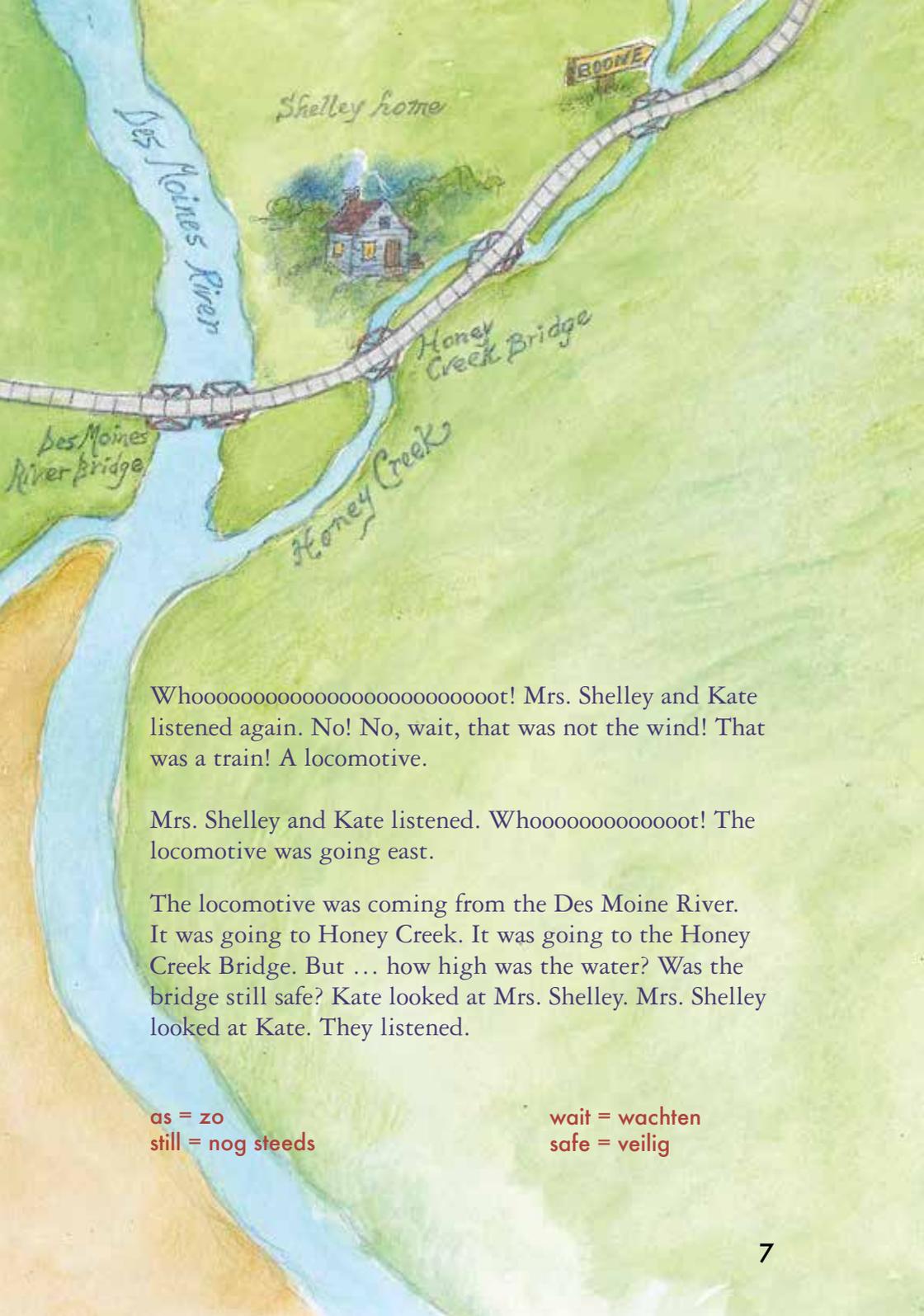
Kate Shelley counted again.

1 second, 2 seconds, 3 seconds, 4 seconds, 5 seconds, 6 seconds, 7 seconds, 8 ... boom-boom-BOOM-BOOM-BOOM-boom!

8 seconds. Good! Then the storm was not as close! The storm was going away!

Kate and her mother listened again. It was still raining, but not as hard. How long would it rain? How long would it thunder?

Whoooooooooooooot! Kate looked at Mrs. Shelley. Mrs. Shelley looked at Kate. The wind was loud!



Whooooooooooooooooooooooooooooot! Mrs. Shelley and Kate listened again. No! No, wait, that was not the wind! That was a train! A locomotive.

Mrs. Shelley and Kate listened. Whooooooooooooooooooooot! The locomotive was going east.

The locomotive was coming from the Des Moine River. It was going to Honey Creek. It was going to the Honey Creek Bridge. But ... how high was the water? Was the bridge still safe? Kate looked at Mrs. Shelley. Mrs. Shelley looked at Kate. They listened.

as = zo
still = nog steeds

wait = wachten
safe = veilig