



To

From

Copyright © Ruth Mary Flanagan 2024

The right of Ruth Mary Flanagan to be identified as the author of this work has been asserted in accordance with the Copyright, Designs & Patents Act 1988.

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, digital, electronic, electrostatic, magnetic tape, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the written permission of the copyright holder.

Published under licence by Brown Dog Books, 10b Greenway Farm, Bath Rd, Wick, nr. Bath BS30 5RL, UK



ISBN printed book: 978-1-83952-864-4
ISBN e-book: 978-1-83952-865-1

Illustrations by Sarah Lovell

Printed and bound in the UK

This book is printed on FSC® certified paper



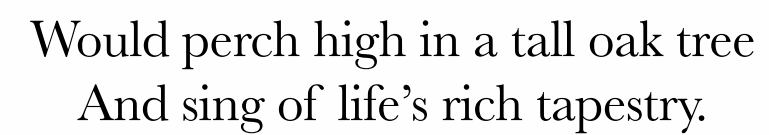
The Last Song of the Mistle Thrush



A Poem For Our Time

By Ruth Mary Flanagan

Illustrated by Sarah Lovell





He sang of bees and butterflies,
Of morning dew and azure skies,
Of maidens dancing at the fayre
With daisy garlands in their hair.

Of joyful faces as they danced,
Of rosy cheeks and sweet romance
And fields where plough and horses lay
As summer slowly slipped away.



Soon the Harvest Moon would glow
And paint the fields in gold below.

Then as the crop was gathered in,
He'd look across the fields and sing.



He sang of carpets on the ground,
Of crisp, bright leaves in red and brown,
Of fattened pigs with rounded bellies,
Of nuts and seeds and wild berries.

Of boys and girls that came and played
And chased each other through the glade,
Who laughed while dusky evenings crept
And spring and summer softly slept.