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I reading

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Opening extract from

Counting Birds

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Four baby birds raise their beaks from the nest,
squarking and squealing their breakfast request.
But which is the cuckoo? Look – can you see?
(He's at least twice as big as the other three!)



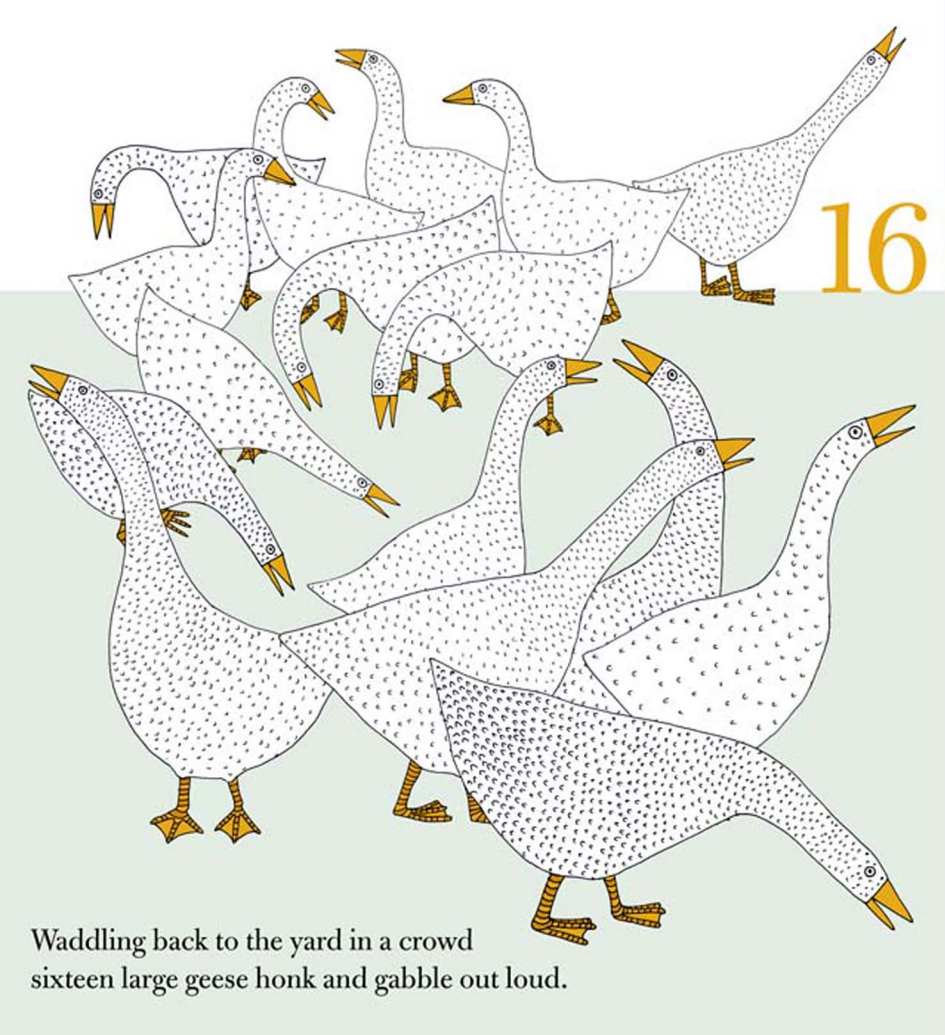


Another young baby is sleeping in bed
whilst five wooden birds gently turn overhead.



Strutting about in the heat of midday
Nine handsome peacocks are out on display.
What beautiful feathers of turquoise and blue -
a great host of eyes seems to look straight at you!





Waddling back to the yard in a crowd
sixteen large geese honk and gabble out loud.

As day turns to dusk and the sun starts to set,
Seventeen starlings are not asleep yet.
Up on the chimneys they noisily chat
Safe from the claws of the tortoiseshell cat.

