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Opening extract from

A Story About Ducks

Written & Illustrated by

Jack Townend

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A Story about Ducks
by Jack Townend
FABER AND FABER



There were once some ducks who lived on a little river in the country. It was a very pleasant little river, but the ducks sometimes grew very tired of always living in the same place, and they longed to go somewhere new and to have different things to eat. So one fine morning the ducks decided to go for a holiday. The big brown duck said that if they were back on the river by nightfall they couldn't possibly get lost, and the little red duck, and the little white duck, who were called William and Mary, were so excited that they couldn't eat any breakfast. Not even one little worm!

eaten for a Christmas dinner." And sure enough, the birds were right again, for along came a porter from the railway station, and on the wooden box he stuck a label which said, "DUCKS FOR CHRISTMAS". Then he put the box onto a trolley and off he went to the station, pulling the ducks behind him. "We told you so, we told you so!" shouted the little birds. But this time the ducks said nothing, they were too busy looking at the label on the box, and anyway, they had all squawked so much that they had no more squawks left in them. When they reached the station the ducks were bundled onto the platform, and very soon the signal went down and the train came chugging along the line.



