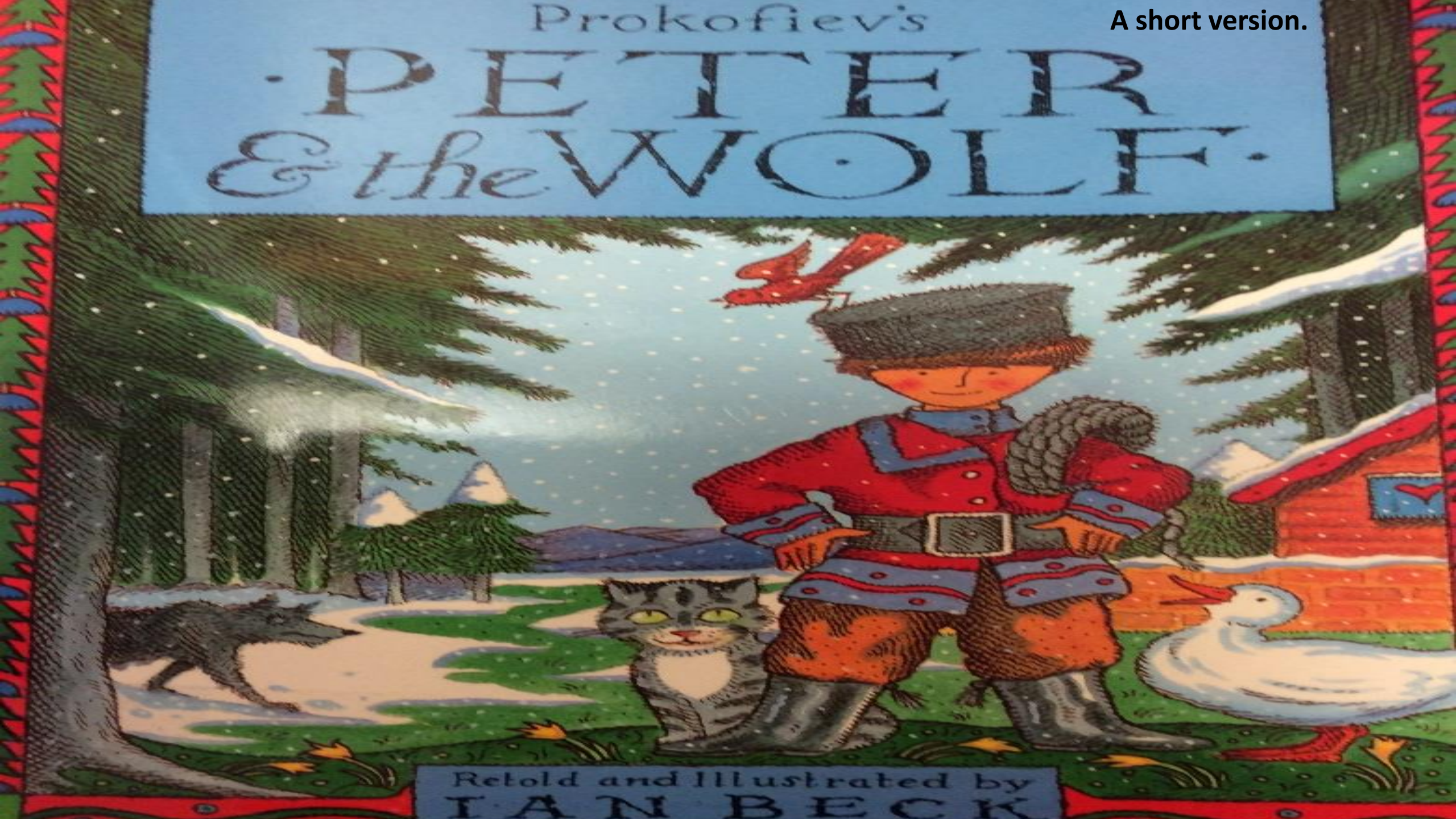


Prokofiev's

A short version.

PETER & the WOLF.



Retold and Illustrated by
IAN BECK

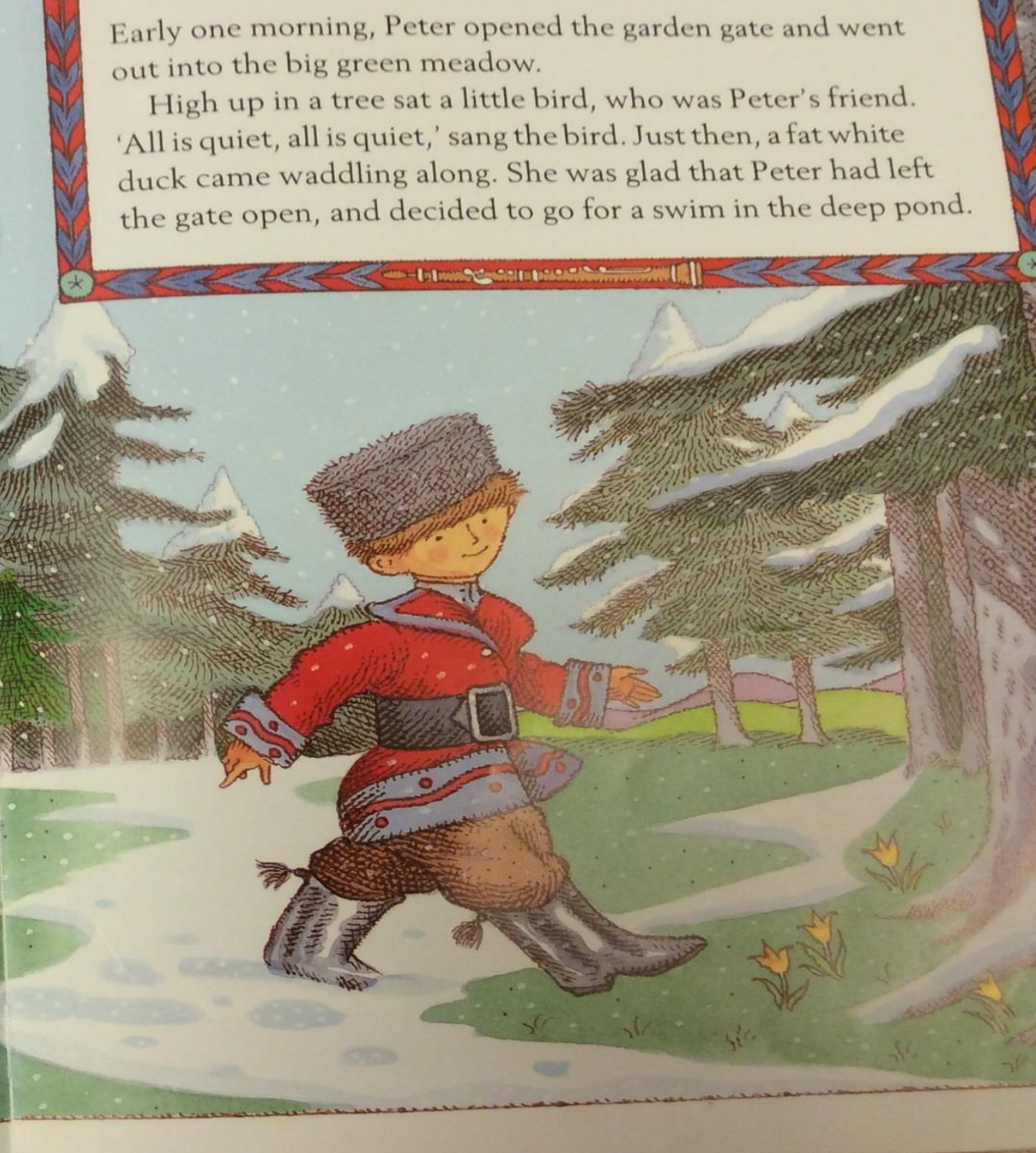


Peter lived with his grandfather in a little wooden house at the edge of a great dark forest. Around their house was a garden and beyond the garden was a meadow.



Early one morning, Peter opened the garden gate and went out into the big green meadow.

High up in a tree sat a little bird, who was Peter's friend. 'All is quiet, all is quiet,' sang the bird. Just then, a fat white duck came waddling along. She was glad that Peter had left the gate open, and decided to go for a swim in the deep pond.





The duck just shook her feathers and said, 'What kind of bird are *you* if you can't swim?' and dived into the water.

Peter watched them as they argued and argued – the duck quacking in the pond, the little bird hopping round the edge.



Suddenly, something caught Peter's eye. It was a cat, creeping slowly towards them.

The cat was thinking, 'While the little bird is so busy arguing with that duck, I'll just grab him.' Stealthily she crept nearer and nearer on her soft, velvet paws ...



‘Look out!’ shouted Peter. And the bird flew high into the tree, while the duck flapped and quacked at the cat from the middle of the pond. The cat walked round and round the tree and thought, ‘Is it worth climbing up so high? By the time I get near the bird, he will have flown away.’



Peter paid no attention to his grandfather's words. Boys like *him* aren't afraid of wolves.

But Grandfather took Peter by the hand, led him home and locked the garden gate



how hard the duck ran, she couldn't escape the wolf.
With every step, he was getting nearer and nearer...







One of the branches of the tree around which the wolf was prowling stretched up over the wall. Peter grabbed hold of the branch and climbed on to the tree.

‘Fly down and circle round the wolf’s head,’ he said to the little bird. ‘Only watch out that he doesn’t catch you!’

the tail, and pulled with all his might.

Feeling himself caught, the wolf snarled and jumped wildly, trying to escape. But Peter had tied the other end of the rope to the tree and the wolf's jumping only made the rope round his tail tighter.





Imagine the triumphant procession ... Peter at the front, then the hunters leading the wolf, then Grandfather. And, right at the end, the cat. Grandfather shook his head. 'Ah it's all very well ... but what if Peter *hadn't* caught the wolf? What then, eh?'



Above them flew the little bird, singing happily, 'My, what brave fellows we are, Peter and I. Look what we've caught!'



And, if you listen *very* carefully you might hear the fat duck quacking inside the wolf because the wolf, in his hurry, had swallowed her whole!

The music was written by the Russian composer, [PROKOFIEV](#) in 1936. He wrote his first piece of music aged 5!

Did you spot the instruments on each page?

Try to identify which animal and which instrument represents it using [this website](#)

scan down to the second paragraph - **Musical Themes**

Watch the whole orchestral narration [here](#)

CHALLENGE: What is **timbre?**

A: The distinctive tone of a sound or instrument.



Describe the timbre of the oboe (duck).

What atmosphere do the horns (wolf) create when they first appear?

How would you describe Peter's mood and movement when you hear the strings?