

The Song

Tusiata Avia

Supporting Pasifika learners
through dual language texts



New Zealand Government

This book is for shared reading with students.

Teacher and audio support for this text is available online at
<http://literacyonline.tki.org.nz/Pasifika-dual-language-books>

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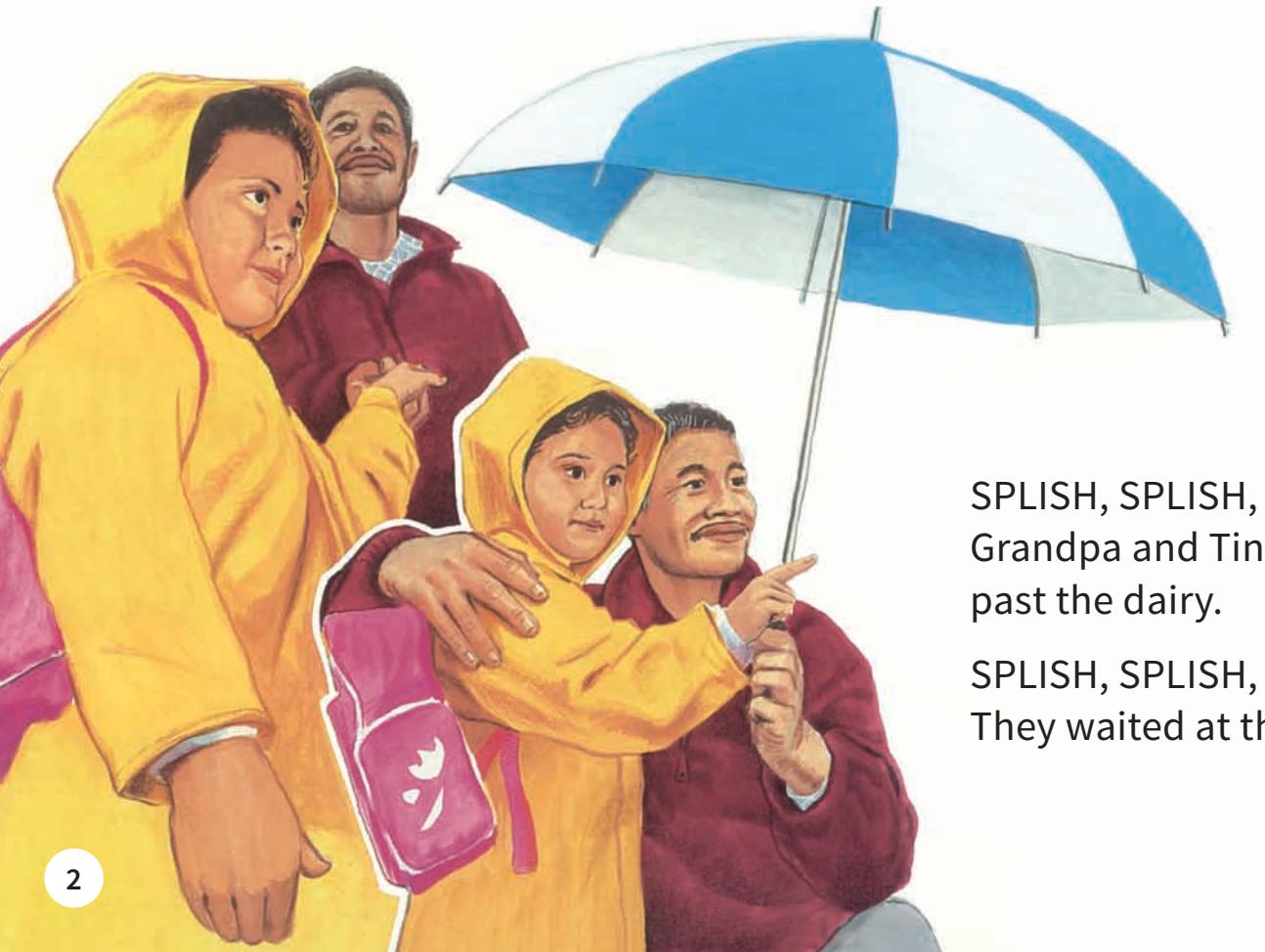
The Song

by
Tusiata Avia

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Ministry of Education

It was raining.
“Let’s take our umbrella,”
said Grandpa to Tina.



SPLISH, SPLISH, SPLISH!
Grandpa and Tina walked
past the dairy.

SPLISH, SPLISH, SPLISH!
They waited at the traffic lights.

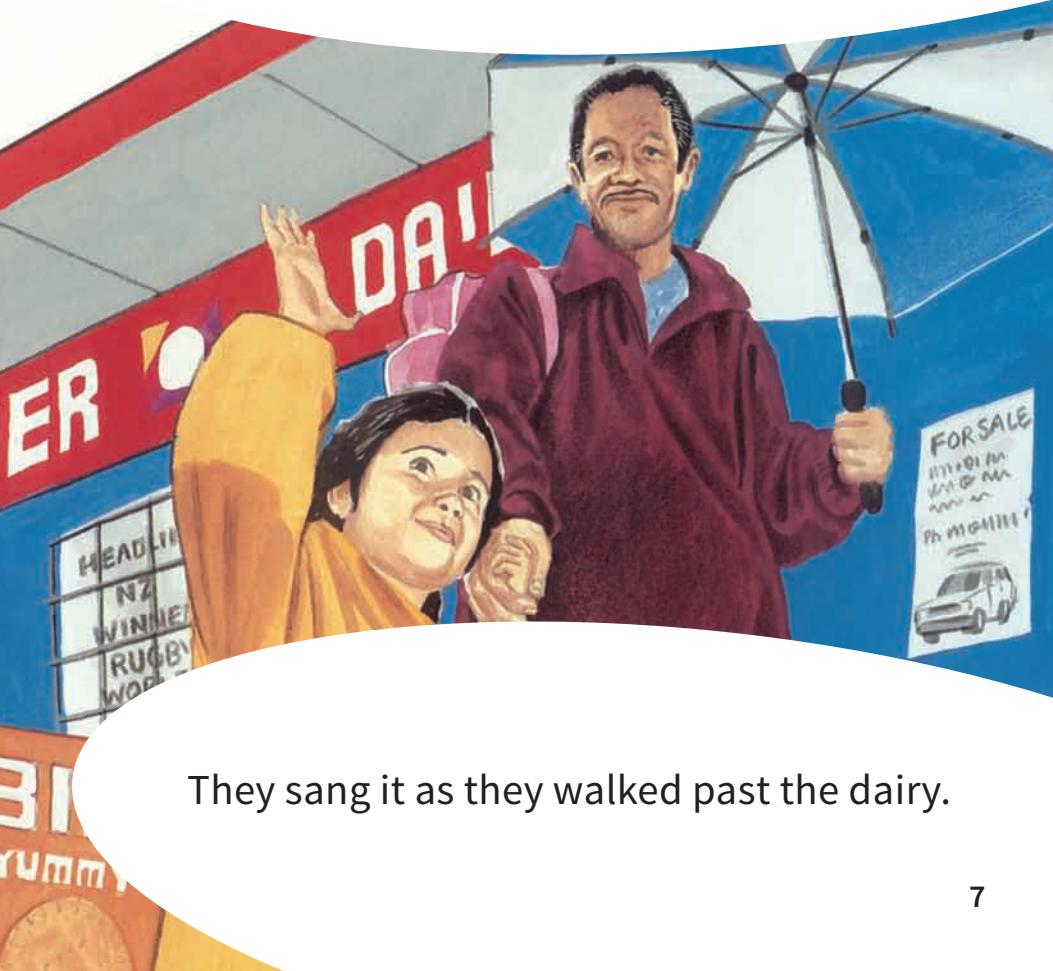


SPLISH, SPLISH, SPLISH!
They walked up the hill to school.
“Have a good day, Tina,” said Grandpa.
“Bye, Grandpa,” said Tina.



Just then, the children started singing:
“Mālō nī ...”
“I know that song,”
Grandpa said to Tina.
“Come on in, Grandpa,” said Tina,
and they walked inside together.
Hione was singing.
Lisa was singing.
The teacher was singing.
Ali was singing.
“We used to sing this song at school
when I was young,” said Grandpa,
and he started singing too.

After school, Grandpa and Tina sang
the song all the way home.
They sang it as they walked
along the road.



They sang it as they waited
at the traffic lights.

They sang it as they walked past the dairy.



That evening, before dinner, just as always,
Tina's family sang a special song
of thanks before they ate.



Next morning, it was raining again.
Grandpa and Tina walked
SPLISH, SPLISH,
SPLISH past the dairy.
The rain fell SPLISH, SPLISH,
SPLISH in the puddles
while they waited at the traffic lights.
They walked SPLISH, SPLISH,
SPLISH up the hill.

"Grandpa, why don't you stay
at school again this morning?" said Tina.
She gave Grandpa a big smile,
and then she winked.

"Hmmm," thought Grandpa.
"I wonder what Tina is up to?"



Grandpa helped Hione make a tower.
He listened to Lisa's story.
He talked to Tina's teacher.
He helped Ali hang up his painting to dry.



Then the teacher said to all the children,
“Tina has asked me if we would like to learn
a special song before we have lunch.”
Tina gave Grandpa her big smile.
“Would you teach everyone the grace
we sing at home?”
Tina asked Grandpa.





Grandpa sat down and began to sing.
Tina joined in.
They sang the song several times.
The other children joined in too.
Soon everyone was singing along.



Now, every day, before they stop for lunch,
the children sing the song –
and sometimes,
Grandpa stays to help.