

Founding Editor: John Milne

The Macmillan Readers provide a choice of enjoyable reading materials for learners of English. The series is published at six levels – Starter, Beginner, Elementary, Pre-intermediate, Intermediate and Upper.

Level control

Information, structure and vocabulary are controlled to suit the students' ability at each level.

The number of words at each level:

Starter	about 300 basic words
Beginner	about 600 basic words
Elementary	about 1100 basic words
Pre-intermediate	about 1400 basic words
Intermediate	about 1600 basic words
Upper	about 2200 basic words

Vocabulary

Some difficult words and phrases in this book are important for understanding the story. Some of these words are explained in the story and some are shown in the pictures. From Pre-intermediate level upwards, words are marked with a number like this: ...³. These words are explained in the Glossary at the end of the book.

CLARE HARRIS

The Umbrella

It is raining. The sky is grey.

Carla goes to the market.
She looks at the umbrellas.
She likes a red umbrella.

It's very smart. It costs ten dollars.

Carla is a student. She doesn't
have much money.

MO'S MUSIC

BAGS, BOOTS and UMBRELLAS

I can give you
seven dollars for
that umbrella.

OK, young lady.
This is your lucky day.
Give me seven dollars.
The umbrella is yours.

'This is my lucky day!' says Carla. She holds the red umbrella above her head. The rain falls on the umbrella.

Carla goes to a cake shop. She wants to buy some cakes. Her little brother loves cakes. She goes into the shop.

She leaves her red umbrella near the door.



It is quiet inside the shop.


Carla chooses three small cakes. She talks to the shop assistant.



A customer is leaving the shop. She is a young woman. She is holding a cake box.

Carla is going to leave the shop.
But where is her umbrella?

There is one umbrella near the door. It is
not a red umbrella. It is not Carla's umbrella.
This umbrella is old and black. It has
a pattern of yellow ducks. It is not smart.
Carla takes the umbrella.



This is not my
lucky day!

6


Carla walks to the town square.
A young man speaks to her.



Hello!

He smiles.
Carla does not know this young man.
She walks away quickly.

7



The young man is following Carla. She walks into a crowd of people. The young man follows the black and yellow umbrella.

Hello! Wait!

Carla turns. She looks at the young man. She is angry. 'Go away!' she says.

The young man is sad.

'Marisa, I'm sorry!' he says. 'I'm very late.'

'I'm not Marisa!' Carla shouts.

'You are not Marisa?' says the young man. He points at the black umbrella with yellow ducks. 'That's her umbrella.'

'Oh,' says Carla. 'Who is Marisa?'

'I don't know Marisa,' says the young man. 'I'm going to meet her. We are going to have coffee. It is my cousin's idea. Marisa works with my cousin.'

'I am not Marisa!' says Carla again.

'My cousin has a photo of Marisa,' says the young man. 'She's tall. You're tall. Her hair is short and dark. Your hair is short and dark. In the photo, she has an umbrella. It's a black umbrella with yellow ducks. You have a black umbrella with yellow ducks!'

Carla looks up at the old umbrella. 'Marisa is a thief,' she thinks. 'She has my new red umbrella.' Carla is angry again.



'Please don't be angry,' says the young man. He looks at his watch. 'It's three o'clock. Marisa goes to work at 2.30. I can't meet her now. It's too late.'

He smiles at Carla. 'Let's have coffee together,' he says.

Carla thinks for a moment. 'OK,' she says. 'Let's go to my aunt's café.'

The young man smiles again. 'That will be great,' he says.



My name is Paul. I'm a law student – third year.

I'm Carla. I'm a student too. I'm studying science.

Carla sits in the café with Paul. They drink coffee. They talk. They laugh. They laugh and talk.

Suddenly Carla jumps up.

'Oh, no!' she says. 'It's late. I must go home. I must study. I'm going to have an exam tomorrow.'



Good luck!
Will you meet
me again?

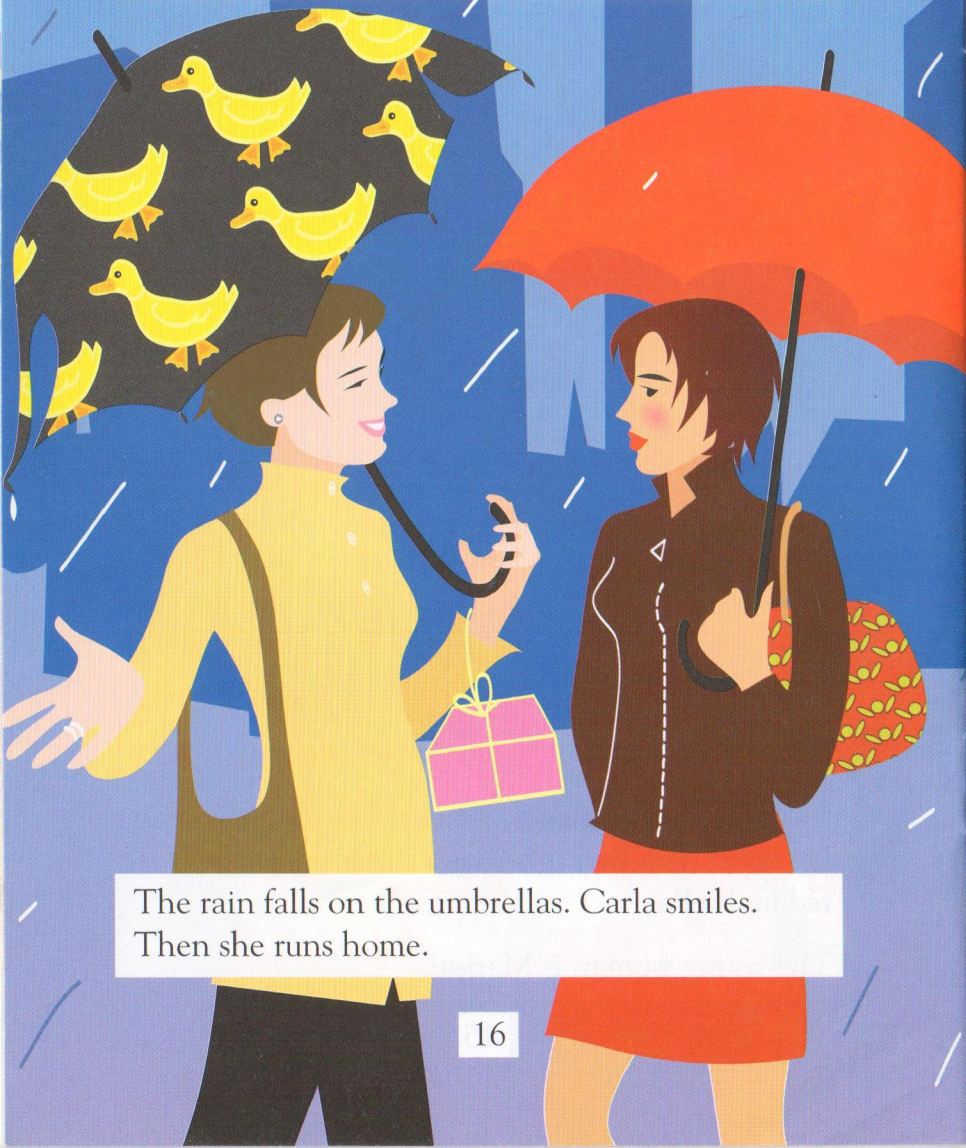
Yes. That
will be
nice.



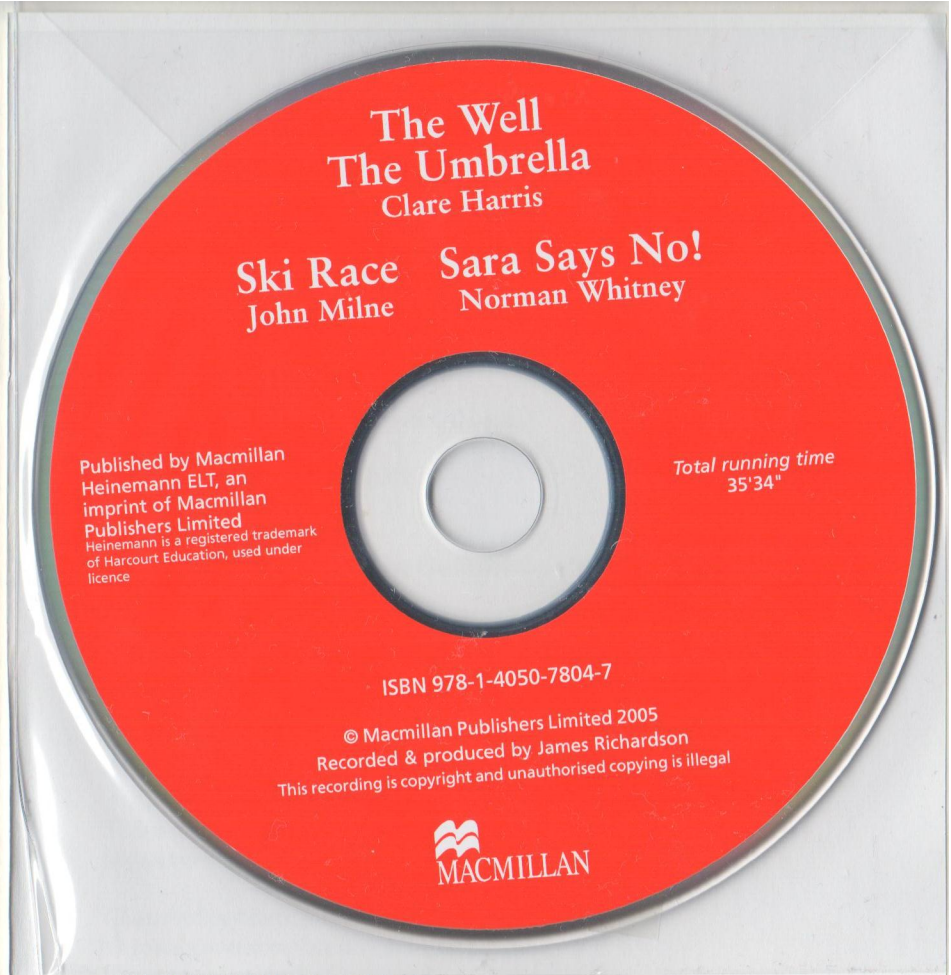
It is almost dark. The town square is quiet. Carla sees a tall young woman. The young woman has short dark hair. She has a smart umbrella. It is a red umbrella. The young woman is Marisa!

Marisa sees the old black umbrella with yellow ducks. She is worried. Suddenly, her face is red.

'Don't worry,' says Carla. 'Keep my red umbrella. I like this umbrella. It's a lucky umbrella. This is my lucky day!'



The rain falls on the umbrellas. Carla smiles. Then she runs home.



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