

Everything's Nicer When We're Together



3+

Christian Morgenstern
Philip Waechter


The Three Sparrows

18 pages, fully coloured,
15 x 15 cm,
cardboard

€ 10.00

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Die Drei Spatzen (The Three Sparrows) is probably Morgenstern's most popular poem for children. Its simple message stirs children and adults alike even today. Philip Waechter's illustrations bring us close to the three small sparrows – so close that we can almost see their tiny hearts beating. There they sit cozily, the three sparrows on their branch, despite the snow and the cold, trusting that one day soon they'll fly again in the springtime sun. . .

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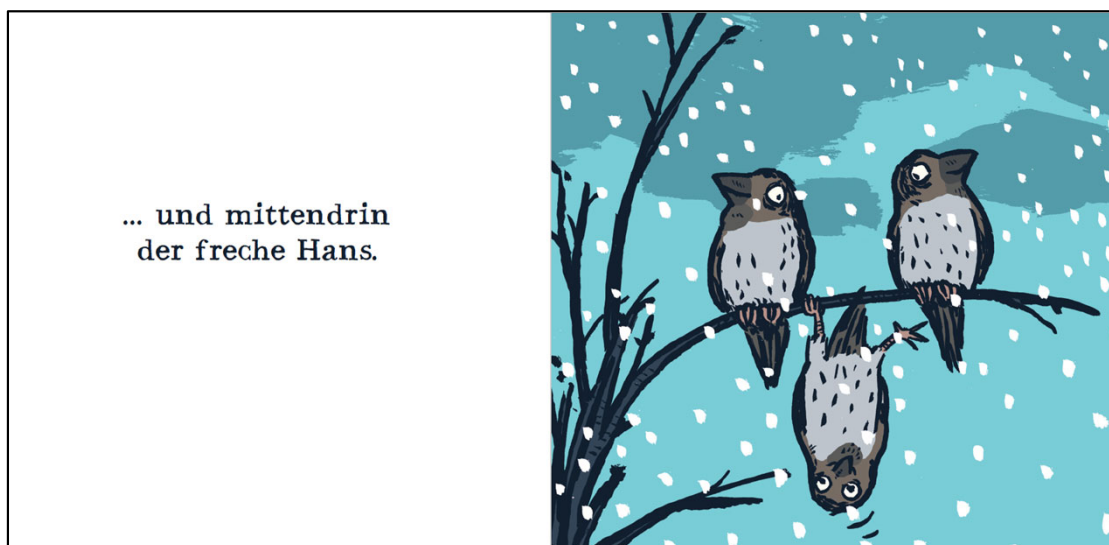
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Philip Waechter, born 1968 in Frankfurt, studied Communication Design with a concentration on Illustration. Since 1995 he's worked on illustrated books, especially picture books for children. He's now a freelance graphic artist and illustrator in Frankfurt. In 1999, he and other illustrators founded a studio co-op called "Labor".

Christian Morgenstern (1871-1914) first became known for the witty, ironic verse that nevertheless tapped into deep feeling. He was also recognized for his love poetry and lyric poetry, and for his translations of Scandinavian literature.



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Text:

In einem leeren Haselstrauch
Da sitzen drei Spatzen, Bauch an Bauch.

Der Erich rechts und links der Franz
Und mitten drin der freche Hans.

Sie haben die Augen zu, ganz zu,
Und obendrüber da schneit es, hu!

Sie rücken zusammen dicht an dicht.
So warm wie der Hans hats niemand
nicht.

Sie hören alle drei ihrer Herzlein Gepoch.
Und wenn sie nicht weg sind, so sitzen sie
noch.

Very rough Translation:

In an empty hazel bush
There sit three sparrows, belly to belly.

Eric on the right and Franz on the left
And cheeky Hans in the middle.

Their eyes are closed, completely closed,
And overhead it's snowing, hu!

They huddle close together.
No one is as warm as Hans.

They all three hear their hearts beating.
And if they're not gone, they're still sitting.

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