

Isaac's Book 2 Story Playthrough:

The Lost Daughter of King Crescendo

Children at Play- Bartok

Another school day, another playtime. Isaac and his friends were digging in the mud as usual.

'Boring, boring, boring,' sighed Isaac. 'Nothing exciting has happened since our pirate adventure a whole year ago. And worse still, we can't even dig to lava now that we've learnt in school about all of the rock in the way...'

'Yes,' agreed Edward. 'I wish that we could have another adventure...'

Jasper jumped up. 'Maybe we need to dig somewhere else!' he exclaimed.

'How about in the chalk over there?'

'Great idea!' shouted the boys as they ran over to the chalk pit, armed with their sticks. They dug for the whole playtime, filling their pockets with chalk to take home.

DING DING! DING DING! The bell was ringing.

'Oh no', groaned Jasper, 'We have to go in now, and it's French next...'

'Just a second,' frowned Isaac, 'There's something here that definitely isn't chalk...' He scraped away the chalk to reveal a rectangular stone engraved with writing.

'HELP, please HELP...' read Edward. 'I need brave knights to rescue my daughter! Find the magic sword and it will bring you to me. Signed, King Crescendo of Scotland.'

'Well, we aren't knights,' pointed out Henry glumly.

'But we are brave!' exclaimed Isaac. 'Keep digging, keep digging! We must find the sword.'

'Boys!' Their teacher, Mrs. Bell, was shouting at them. 'You need to come in at once!'

'Dig faster' urged Jasper.

The boys dug as fast as they could, and suddenly Edward's stick hit something very hard. They had soon revealed a silver sword and Isaac lifted it out from the chalk. It began to flash like lightning.

Mrs Bell had started to walk up the hill towards the boys, looking cross.

But before she could come any nearer, the four friends put their hands on the sword and vanished into thin air.

Ecossaise- Hummel

‘Where are we?’ wondered Edward, looking around. They were on the top of a mountain covered in purple heather; through the rain they could make out a beautiful loch in the valley below.

‘Scotland of course,’ Isaac told him. ‘I know the flag.’

‘Woh!’ cried Henry, ‘Where have our school uniforms gone?’

The four boys were dressed in suits of armour and carried swords and shields.

Edward jumped up and down with excitement. ‘I’ve always wanted to be a knight!’ he cried.

‘We need to find King Crescendo’s castle,’ Isaac told his friends. ‘Down the mountain, everyone.’

At the bottom of the mountain there was an old farm. The boys knocked on the farmhouse door and were greeted by a very jolly-looking farmer with rosy cheeks.

The Happy Farmer- Schumann

‘How can I help you, brave knights of the realm?’ the farmer asked with a friendly smile.

‘We are on an important quest for King Crescendo’ Jasper told him. ‘Could you show us the way to his castle?’

‘You need to go around the loch and over three hills. It’s a long way- you can take my horses.’

‘Now we are real knights!’ exclaimed Isaac as they jumped up on to the horses. ‘Let’s go!’

They soon arrived at the castle and were shown into the great hall, where the lords and ladies were dancing a graceful dance.

Minuet in G Major: J.S. Bach

‘That was a lovely dance,’ said Henry, but where is the King?

‘King Crescendo is very sad,’ one of the Lords told him. ‘He’s upstairs in his chamber- I will take you to him.’

Minuet in G Minor: J.S. Bach

King Crescendo was sat at his desk, tears rolling down his cheeks. He looked up at the friends in surprise.

‘We have come to help you,’ said Henry, ‘We found your message.’

‘Oh, that’s wonderful!’ exclaimed the King, looking a little happier. ‘Not one brave knight, but four! Let me tell you my story.’

A Short Story: Lichner

‘And so my daughter, Princess Arietta, was playing tennis in the castle grounds when she hit the ball over the walls and climbed over to look for it,’ King Crescendo told them. ‘Her maid saw a great dragon swoop down and fly off with her. I’m afraid I will never see her again!’

The King had begun to sob again. ‘Don’t worry, Edward reassured him, ‘We will rescue Arietta.’

The knights picked up their swords and shields and ran out of the castle, jumping on to their horses. ‘To the dragon’s lair!’ they shouted, and off they galloped at moderate speed.

Moderato, 1st movement from Sonatina in G major: Beethoven

The knights finally arrived at the dragon’s lair and hid behind a rock. The dragon was as big as a house and stomped around breathing fire. They could feel the incredible heat from their hiding place.

‘We can never slay this dragon!’ said Henry, trembling. ‘Our armour will melt if we go near him!’

‘Then we need a different plan,’ decided Isaac. ‘I know! We can play some music to send him to sleep! Luckily there is a piano behind that tree.’ Isaac quickly ran over to the piano and began to play a beautiful melody.

Melody- Schumann

The dragon stopped stomping to listen to the music. He yawned twice, but then snorted and went back to his stomping.

‘It didn’t work!’ whispered Edward. ‘What can we do?’

‘He is a Hungarian Horntail dragon,’ Jasper informed them. He was an expert on Harry Potter. ‘You need to play him a Hungarian piece, Isaac!’

Hungarian Folk Song- Bartok

As soon as the music began this time, the dragon curled up on the ground, sighing happily as he remembered the tune that his mother used to sing to him at bedtime. He closed his eyes and was soon sleeping like a baby.

Cradle Song: Weber

‘Quickly!’ Isaac told the others. ‘Into the lair to look for the princess!’

They cautiously entered the dragons lair. It was dark inside, but they could just make out a cage with someone trapped inside. As they got nearer, a girl called out to them. ‘Please help me, brave knights! I want to go back to my father at the castle.’

‘It’s the Princess Arietta!’ exclaimed Henry.

Arietta: Mozart

Arietta was a beautiful princess, with long flowing golden hair. Edward looked at her and smiled.

Romance, 2nd movement from Sonatina in G major: Beethoven

‘This is no time for romance, Edward,’ Isaac told him. ‘We need to rescue Arietta before the dragon wakes up!’

The knights used their swords to cut through the bars of the cage and free Arietta. They jumped on their horses, Arietta on Edward’s, just as the dragon was beginning to wake up.

‘Back to the castle, as fast as you can!’ shouted Henry.

The dragon tried to fly after them but was still sleepy and couldn’t catch them. They arrived safely at the castle and Arietta ran to meet her father.

‘How can I ever thank you enough?’ King Crescendo asked the four friends.

‘Would one of you like to marry Arietta- Edward, perhaps?’

‘Yes please!’ exclaimed Edward.

‘Sorry, King Crescendo,’ Henry told him, ‘But we’ve got to get back for our French lesson.’

‘Well, at least stay for a feast,’ smiled the King. They enjoyed a wonderful meal in the great hall, and danced to a Minuet played by the castle musicians. They would never forget this adventure.

Minuet in G Major- from J.S Bach’s Notebook for Anna Magdalena Bach

