



Lou's

Garden

Surprise

Written and illustrated

by Clodagh Crowe

One morning Lou was delighted to receive a card in the post from her Nonna, it read:

Dear Lou,

I miss seeing you in my garden! At the bottom of this envelope, you will find five mystery seeds: plant them, take care of them and you just may be surprised...

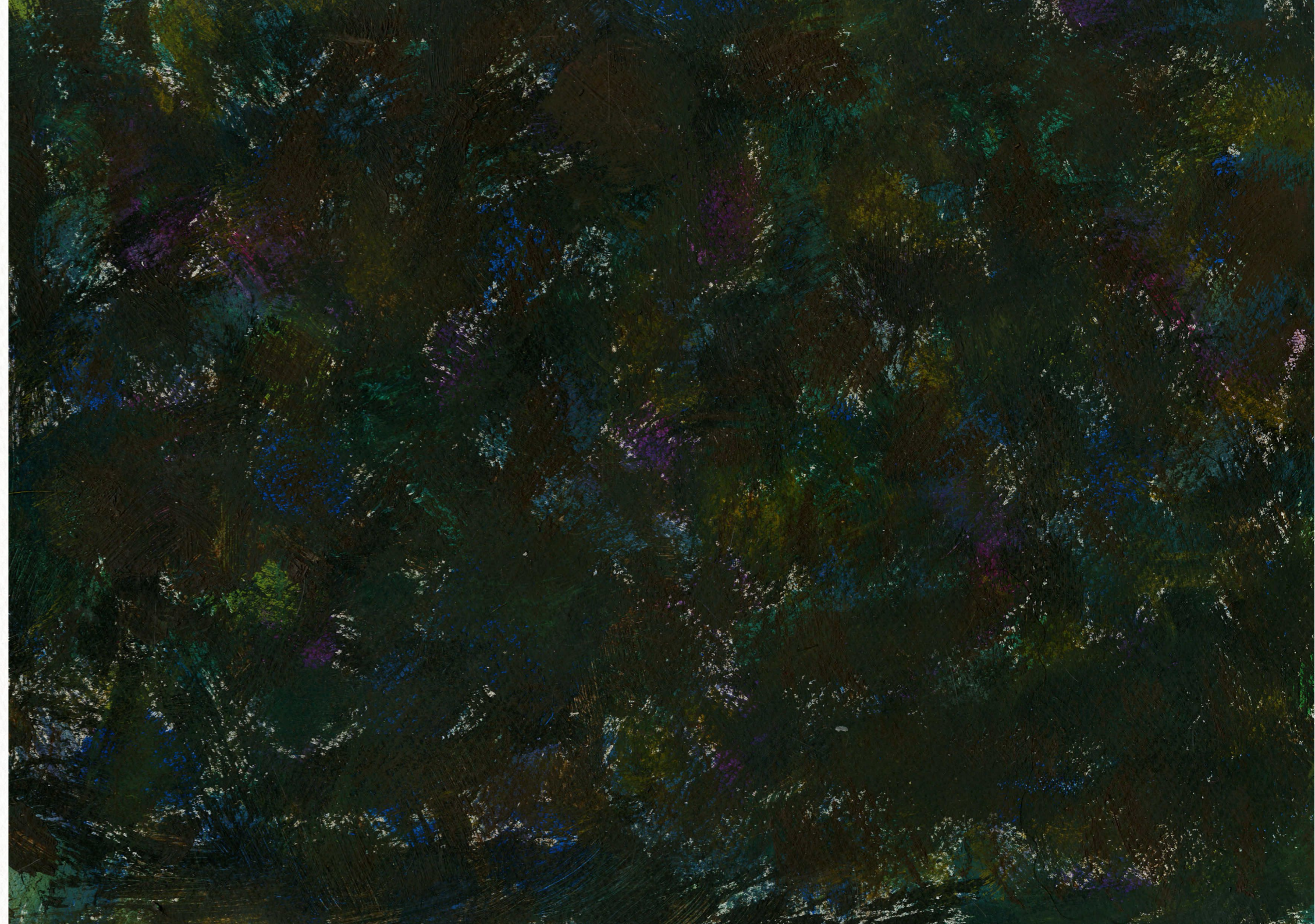


That afternoon Lou's Dad helped her find the perfect sunny spot to plant the mystery seeds. Carefully, Lou tipped out the seeds into her hand:

1, 2, 3, 4, 5 tiny little seeds.



The first day there was nothing.



Lou looked for signs of growth every day for a week. She watered her seeds. She even sang to them... and still nothing!

Were these seeds ever going to grow?



One day Lou spotted one blade of green peeping through the soil.



A couple of days later there were 2 more. Now there were 3 green shoots.

3 little seedlings keeping their secret of what they were going to be!



It wasn't long before seed number 4 popped up to say hello!  
But wait... something else was happening.

Lou spotted tiny buds forming on her seedlings.





The next day Lou found that seed number 5 had jumped up!  
Every day Lou's seedlings grew and changed. New leaves appeared and began to change shape.



One sunny day Lou was delighted to discover that her carefully watched buds had bloomed. Her 5 tiny seeds had grown into a rainbow of swaying flowers in the sunlight. As they danced in the breeze they seemed to say "Surprise!"



But there were more surprises in store...

Lou noticed that butterflies and buzzy bees began to visit her flower garden. They danced and flitted around her flowers - just as if it were a party.



A surprise garden party!

Thanks Nonna - what a bee-utiful surprise!



A surprise garden party!

Lou couldn't wait to draw a picture and send it to her Nonna.

Inside she will write just one word: "Surprise!"



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