

THE RIVER THAT STOPPED SINGINGⁱ

ACT 1

Characters: *A river, a high mountain, the sun, a robin, trees and flowers. They sing a song: "The river"*

The river is sad. His friends ask him about the problem.

Mountain: Why are you so sad?

River: Because I sing and sing. But nobody can hear my song. People in big cities don't know me. I'm not important.

Mountain: But we live close to the sky and I'm your friend.

River: Yes, but I'm not important.

Sun: Why are you so sad?

River: Because I sing and sing. But nobody can hear my song. People in big cities don't know me. I'm not important.

Sun: But I visit you every day and I'm your friend.

River: Yes, but I'm not important.

Robin: Why are you so sad?

River: Because I sing and sing. But nobody can hear my song. People in big cities don't know me. I'm not important.

Robin: But I like your water and I like your song. I'm your friend.

River: Yes, but I'm not important.

Trees: Why are you so sad?

River: Because I sing and sing. But nobody can hear my song. People in big cities don't know me. I'm not important.

Trees: But we like your water and we like your song. We are your friends.

River: Yes, but I'm not important.

Flowers: Why are you so sad?

River: Because I sing and sing. But nobody can hear my song. People in big cities don't know me. I'm not important.

Flowers: But we love you. We like your water and we like your song. We are your friends.

River: Yes, but I'm not important.

They sing a song: "Happy river"

Act 2

Three men arrive in a car. They have maps and other measure instruments.

Men 1: We can build the factory here. By the river.

Men 2: Good idea!

Men 3: Yes, excellent idea!

River: At last! I'm going to be very important!

One men cut the trees and the flowers. They start to built a town in front of the mountain.

Act 3

There are many factories that pollute the air. The trees and the flowers have disappeared. The mountain cannot be seen. People walk by the river and throw cans, plastic bags and other objects to it.

Girl 1: Let's go to my house

Girl 2: Oh, yes. We can play with the play station.

Girl 3: OK. Good idea.

(They go past the river and throw to it the papers of their sandwiches)

Boy 1: *(He is listening to some music on his walkman)* I like this music very much.

Boy 2: Can I listen to it, please?

Boy 1: Yes, here you are. *(As the second boy takes the walkman , he throws a coke can to the river)*

Woman 1: Hello, Maria

Woman 2: Hello. How are you?

Woman 1: Very well, thank you. Look, my new scarf! *(She picks the scarf from a shopping plastic bag)*

Woman 2: Wow! It's fantastic. Put it on!

(The first woman puts her scarf on and throws the bag to the river)

Woman 1: Let's go to the coffee shop.

River: *(Crying)* People don't love me!

Robin: *(He tries to drink the water)* Ouch! I can't drink your water. It's not good!

River: Oh! My water is dirty!. Where's the sun? Where's the robin? Where are the trees and the flowers? Where are my friends? I'm very sad. I can't sing anymore.

Act 4

Men 1: Look, the river is very dirty!

Men 2: Yes, and the air is polluted!

Men 3: What can we do?

Men 1: Let's make a demonstration.

All the people in the village make the demonstration. They show banners with different messages and throw pamphlets to the public with slogans. Finally they pick up all the cans, papers, etc from the river. A man plants the flowers again.

(The robin comes back to drink the river water)

River: Good morning, my friend.

Robin: Good morning, river. (He drinks) Oh! Your water is clean!

Flowers: We like your song.

All the people in the village comes. They stand by the river.

Everybody: The river is beautiful! We love the river!

They sing "The rainbow"

ⁱ Play based on a story by M^a José Lobo and Pepita Subirà