

## Loud Things Are Splendid

by Ajay Shroff

Inspired by "Swift Things Are Beautiful" by Elizabeth Coatsworth \*

Loud things are splendid:  
Trumpets and drills  
And air horns that shriek  
Sharp-toned and shrill;  
Thunder and voices,  
Nails on a slate,  
The roar of a lion,  
Church bells at eight.

And soft things are splendid:  
The sounds of the night,  
Or into the waiting sky  
A hawk taking flight,  
The wind that whooshes,  
A knock on the door,  
And the clocks that tick on  
In peace and in war.

## Kumquat

by Allie Calegari

I wonder what it's like to be a kumquat  
Nobody would know what I am  
I like that a lot  
I would be small and sweet  
And grow on a tree  
I would spend all my days  
Being wild and free  
When ripe, I'd be anxious to go  
Off to the restaurant  
Where I'd be the hit of the show.  
They still wouldn't know what I am,  
But they'd decide to give me a try:  
"Oh, this is delicious!"  
They'd all cry

## The Book

by Connor Buffkin

The reader  
Skims through the pages  
Reading about bears,  
His imagination takes him away

It gets loud,  
He pauses,  
Runs through water  
And snatches a fish  
Then licks his fur