

When the Sakura Bloom

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What begins as a grey tale, and a somewhat everyday tale, transforms into something more when the cherry trees start to blossom above harried travelers' heads. Their pink petals glow, and the color emanates outward, until the once humdrum setting is flooded with light and life. The rush of characters finally stops to appreciate the changes, and the Sakura Festival begins. Onomatopoeic in its telling and burbling with touches of nature, this is a perfect picture book articulation of spring's triumphant return.

MICHELLE ANNE SCHINGLER (January / February 2022)

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