

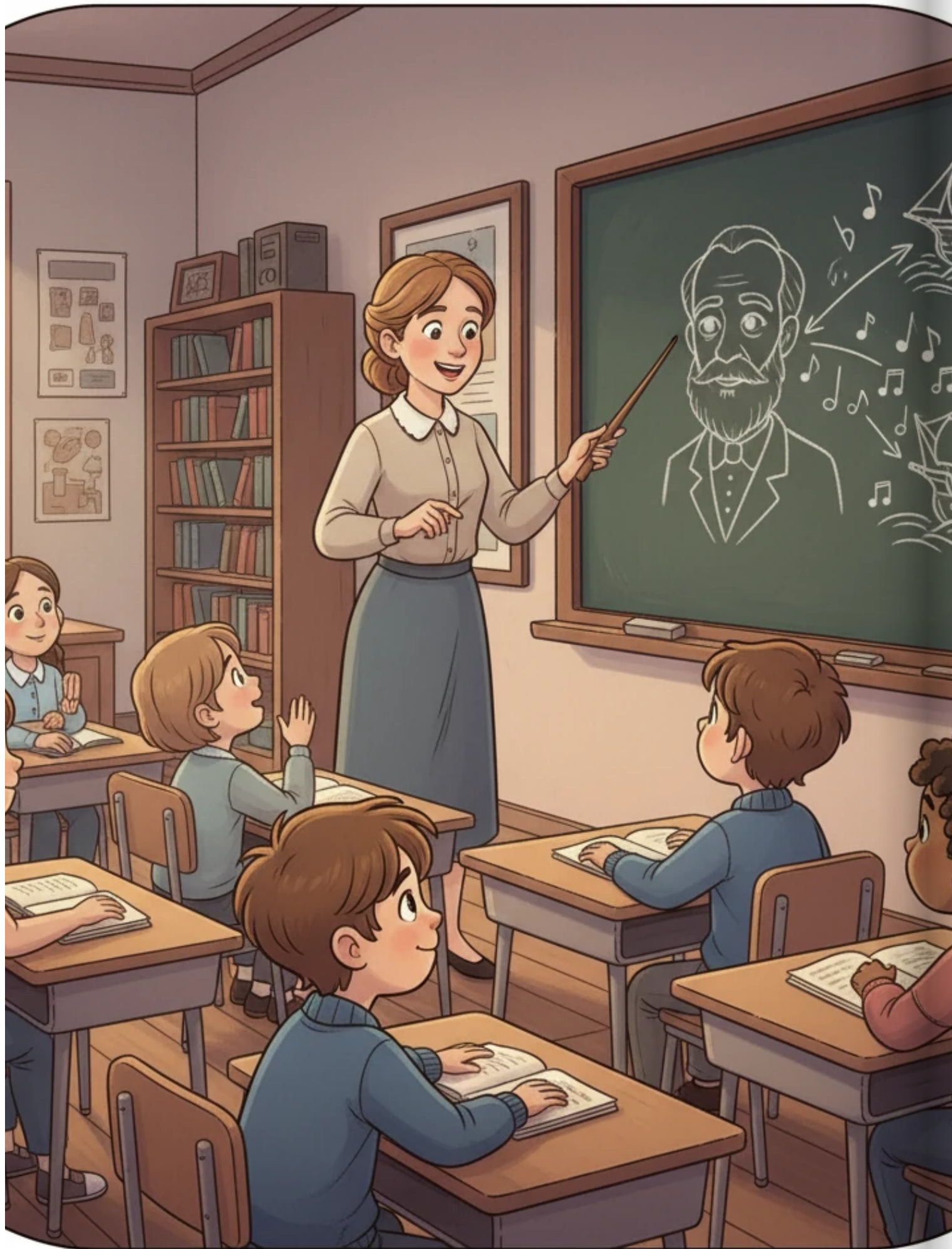


Modest's Musical Journey: Pictures at an
Exhibition

by Frannie Goldstein



Modest loved music. His favorite pastime was listening to his grandmother play the piano. The melodies seemed to tell stories of faraway lands and brave knights.



One day, Modest's teacher told the class about a famous composer, Modest Mussorgsky, who lived a long time ago. The teacher explained that Mussorgsky wrote amazing music about pictures.



The teacher explained that Modest Mussorgsky's best friend, the artist Victor Hartmann, had died. To honor his friend, Mussorgsky decided to create musical pictures based on Hartmann's artwork.



Modest imagined Mussorgsky, sitting at his piano, feeling sadness but also inspiration. He saw him composing each piece, starting with a grand promenade, as if walking through an art gallery.



Modest pictured each 'picture' in his mind: a lively children's game, a solemn castle, a graceful ballet. The music was like a magical journey through Hartmann's art.



Finally, Modest understood. Music could tell stories, evoke emotions, and even bring pictures to life. He ran home, eager to explore the world of music and create his own musical pictures.