

### Setting description from the book

-The journey down the Amazon was one that Maia never forgot. In places the river was so wide that she understood why it was called The River Sea.

-But sometimes they made their way between islands, and then, on the sandbanks, they saw some of the creatures that Maia had read about.

-Once a litter of capybaras lumbered after their mother and they were close enough to see their funny little snouts and sandy fur.

-Once they passed a tree whose roots had been killed by the rise of the water, and its bare branches were full of scarlet and blue parakeet, which flew up, screeching, when the boat came past.

-And once, Maia saw a grey log lying in the shallows which suddenly came to life. It was an alligator.