



**After reading the following excerpt, write about something you bought in the form of a diary entry.**

20 May 1891

"Uncle Fydor, in Chicago, sent me some money for my birthday. I was saving it until I saw something I really wanted, and today I did. It is a beautiful book with leather binding and marbled edges and five hundred blank pages. It has no words in it until I put them there." (Kalman, p. 1).

---

Text excerpt from: Fernandez, Laura, and Rick Jacobson. *Tchaikovsky Discovers America*. Illustrated by Esther Kalman. New York: Orchard Books, 1994.