

BY

Kateřina Svozilová

ILLUSTRATED BY

Mag Takac



Bella and the Lost Ball

Albatros

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That morning, Bella got up and looked out of the window. It was a lovely, sunny day. "I'll go out into the garden and play with my ball," she decided.



She looked in her
toybox, but the ball
wasn't there.



She looked under the bed
and in the closet, but it
wasn't there either.



"Where are you?"
Bella called.
"I have to find
my ball."



A little bird was sitting on the windowsill. "Hey little bird,
have you seen my ball?" Bella asked. "I think I've lost it."



"What does your ball look like?" asked the bird.

"It's really, really beautiful," Bella replied.

"I saw something really, really beautiful under the kitchen window,"
said the delighted bird.



Bella ran down to the kitchen, leaned out of the window
and looked at the grass.



A beautiful flower was growing there.

"That's not my ball, little bird," said Bella, shaking her head.
"That's a flower. It's very nice too, but my ball looks different.
It's beautiful, and it's red."
"Oh," said the bird. "Then I haven't seen it." He spread his
wings and flew to a tree, where he would sing his first
song of the morning.



Bella got dressed, put on her shoes and ran into the garden.
She saw a butterfly sitting on the mailbox.



"Hello, little butterfly," said Bella. "Have you seen my ball? I think I've lost it."
"What does it look like?" asked the butterfly.
"It's really beautiful, and it's red," Bella replied.

"I saw something beautiful
and red behind the house,"
said the butterfly. "Follow me and
I'll show you." Bella did as he said.



The butterfly settled on a skirt Bella's mother had just hung on the line.
"That's not my ball, it's my skirt," said Bella. "Not only is my ball beautiful
and red, but it's round too."
"I'm sorry," said the butterfly. "I haven't seen anything like that." With a wave
of his wings, he flew away.

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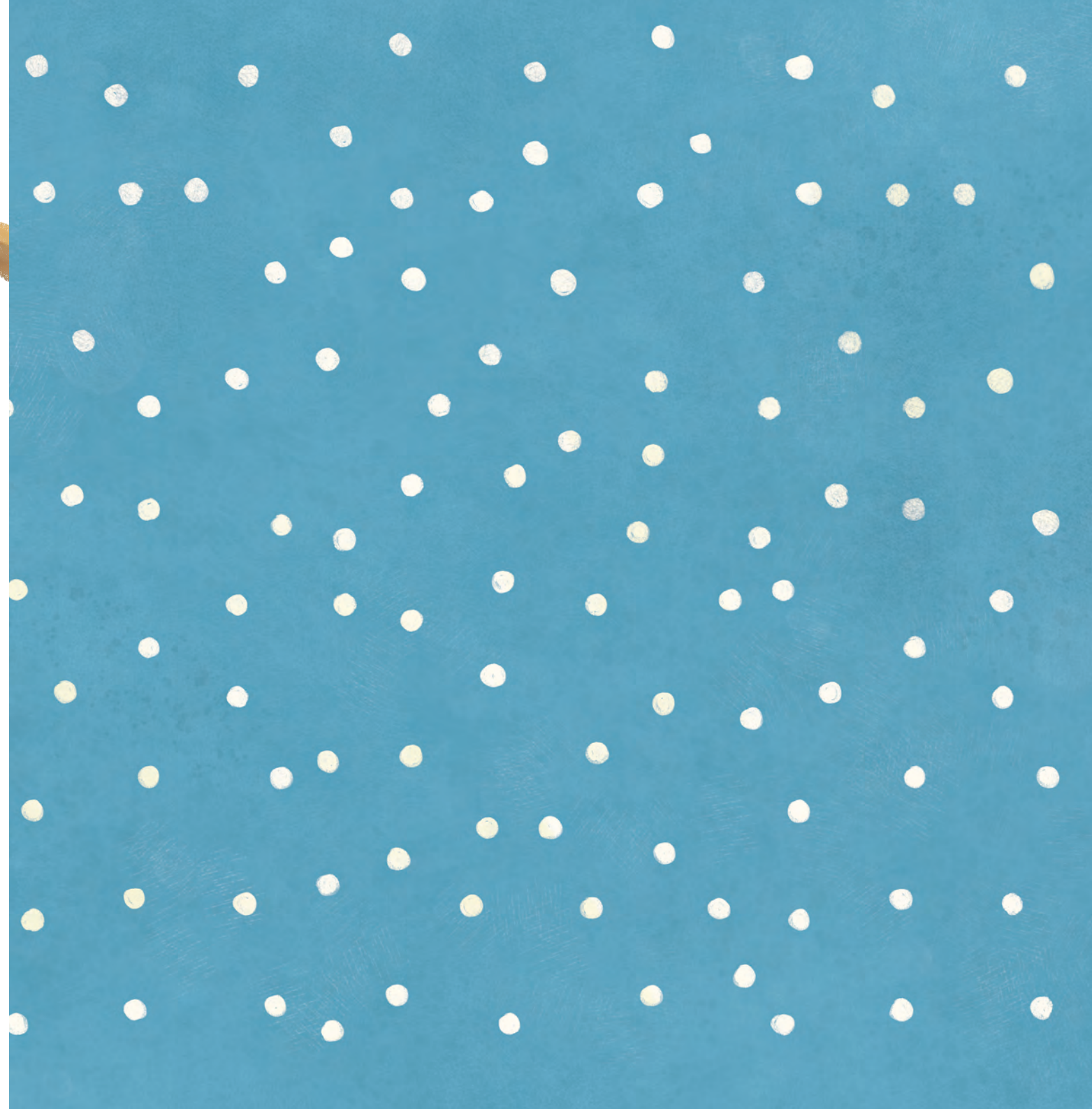
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The sun is lovely and warm, so Bella runs outside
to play with her ball. But where has it rolled to?
With the help of a butterfly, Mitzi the cat, Ally the dog
and an inquisitive bunny hopping around the garden,
will Bella be able to find it?

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