

Hollie Hughes Sarah Massini

Believe in the
impossible

The GIRL
and the
DINOSAUR

BLOOMSBURY

The GIRL
and the
DINOSAUR



For Sam, Nathan, and Charlotte—H. H.

For Eve—S. M.

BLOOMSBURY CHILDREN'S BOOKS
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Summary: A young girl with long red hair and a blue dress is digging in a hole in the ground with a red shovel. She has found a small brown dinosaur skeleton. The background is a simple landscape with rolling hills and a few small trees.

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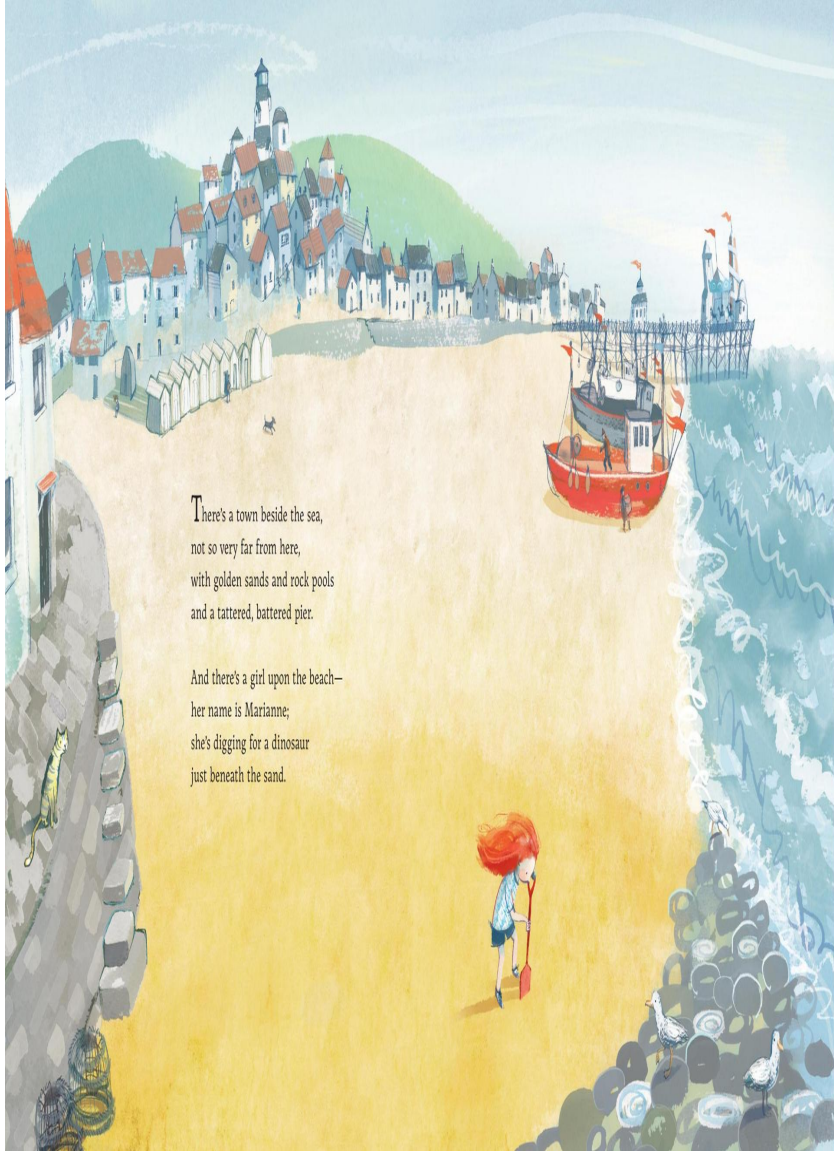
The GIRL and the DINOSAUR

Hollie Hughes

illustrated by
Sarah Massini



BLOOMSBURY
CHILDREN'S BOOKS
NEW YORK LONDON DELHI NEW DELHI TORONTO



There's a town beside the sea,
not so very far from here,
with golden sands and rock pools
and a tattered, battered pier.

And there's a girl upon the beach—
her name is Marianne;
she's digging for a dinosaur
just beneath the sand.

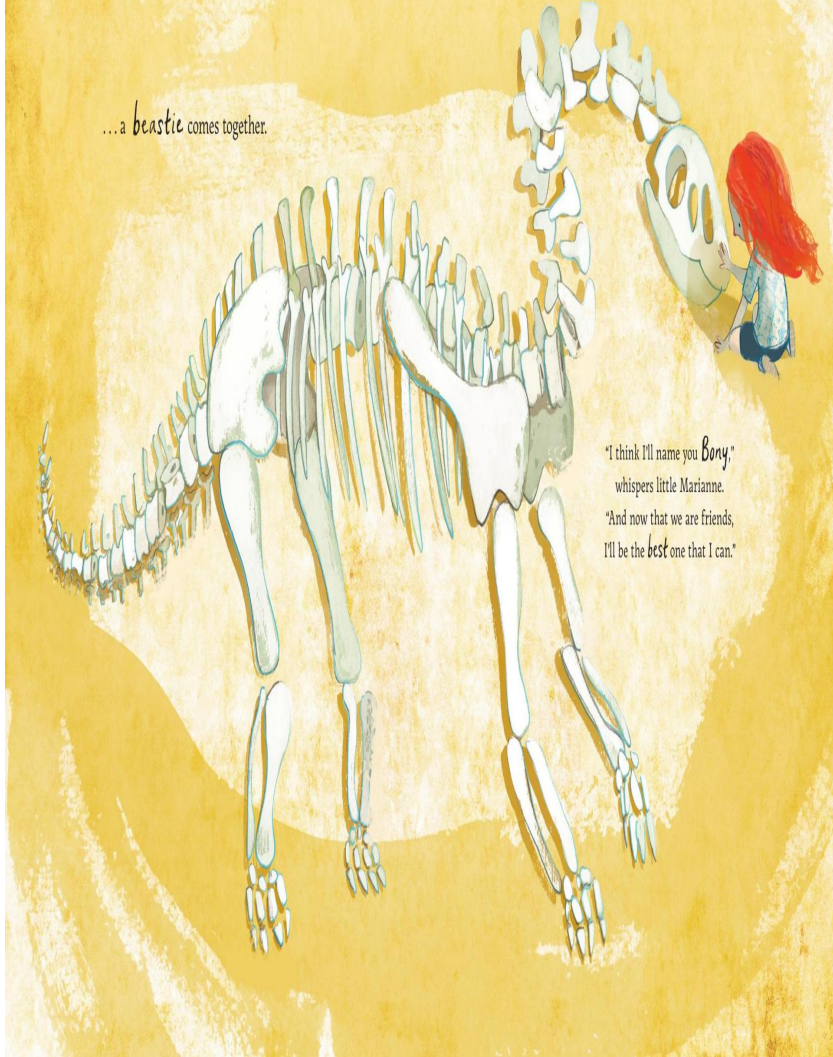


Now, the fisherfolk all worry
for the girl beside the sea.
"She needs to find some friends," they say,
"and let those *old bones* be."

Still, Marianne is patient,
and Marianne is clever,

and *stony bone*
by *stony bone*...

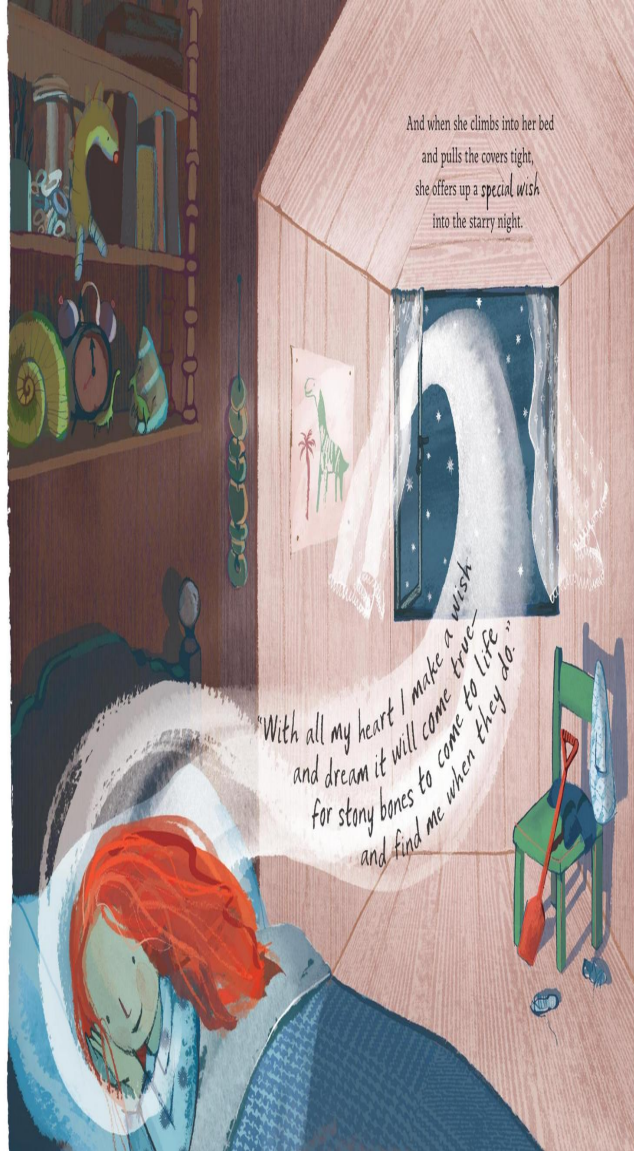
...a *beastie* comes together.



"I think I'll name you *Bony*,"
whispers little Marianne.
"And now that we are friends,
I'll be the *best* one that I can."



But the sleepy sun is setting,
and Marianne must go.
"Sleep tight," she says to Bony,
"I'll be back before you know."



And when she climbs into her bed
and pulls the covers tight,
she offers up a special wish
into the starry night.

With all my heart I make a wish—
and dream it will come true—
for stony bones to come to life—
and find me when they do.



The wishing stars burn bright that night,
the air is thick with dreams,

and a deeply sleeping dinosaur
is waking up, it seems . . .



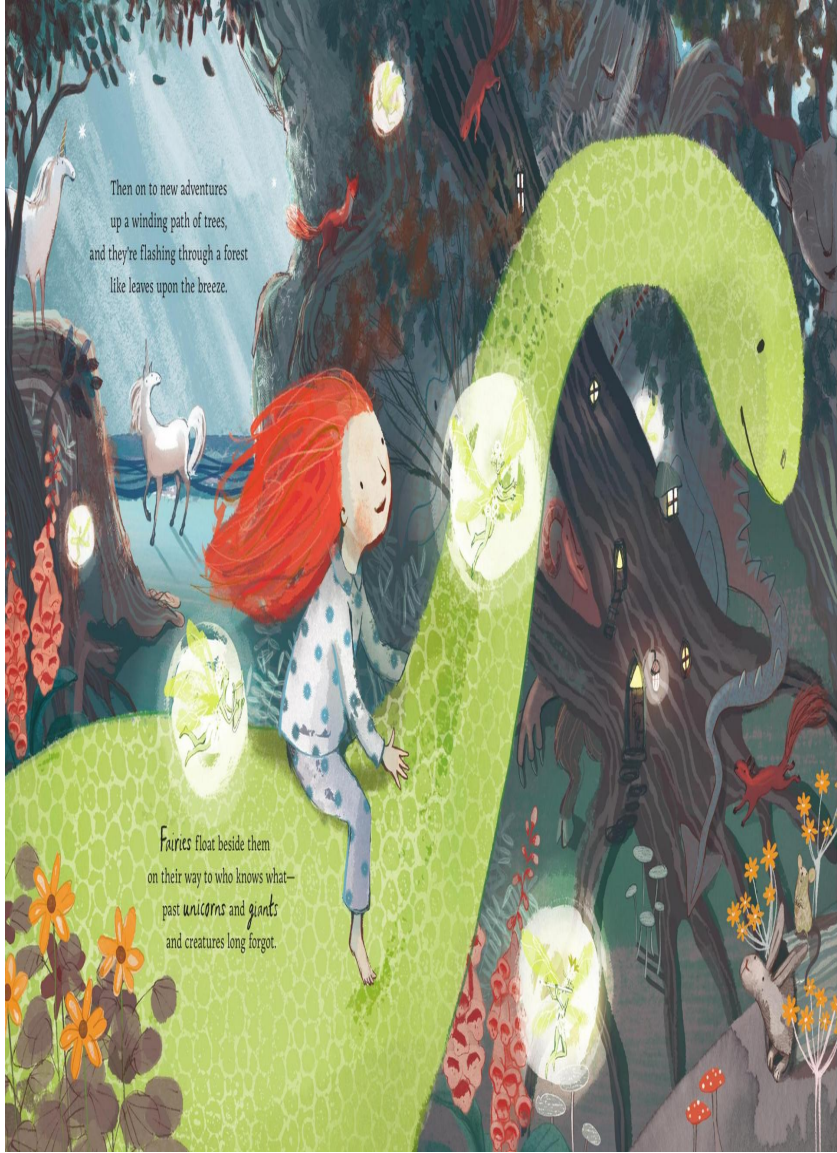
Then a *tap tap* at the window—
and Marianne's awake!
Her wishes have come *true*,
and there are memories to make.



A bendy neck is offered
for a girl to slide right down,
and magic is now promised
in the sleepy, starlit town.

Happily together, the friends go to the sea,
to bob with boats and fishes, their spirits wild and free.





Then on to new adventures
up a winding path of trees,
and they're flashing through a forest
like leaves upon the breeze.

Fairies float beside them
on their way to who knows what—
past *unicorns* and *giants*
and creatures long forgot.

Up they climb, still higher,
hearts beating *boom-boom* fast,
till they reach a mountain summit
and stop for breath at last.

And as the clouds all part,
they spy a land up in the sky—
a *magical* moonlit island
where night and daydreams fly.



With a mighty leap of faith, our brave dinosaur takes flight,
and then the pair are soaring through the dreamscape of the night.

*Swooping,
gliding,
flying...*

to the land up in the air...





And—oh!—what fun and magic
awaits the two friends there!

A party place for children and
the creatures from their dreams,
where *anything* is possible
and *nothing's* as it seems.



But slumber's pull is beckoning the children back to town...

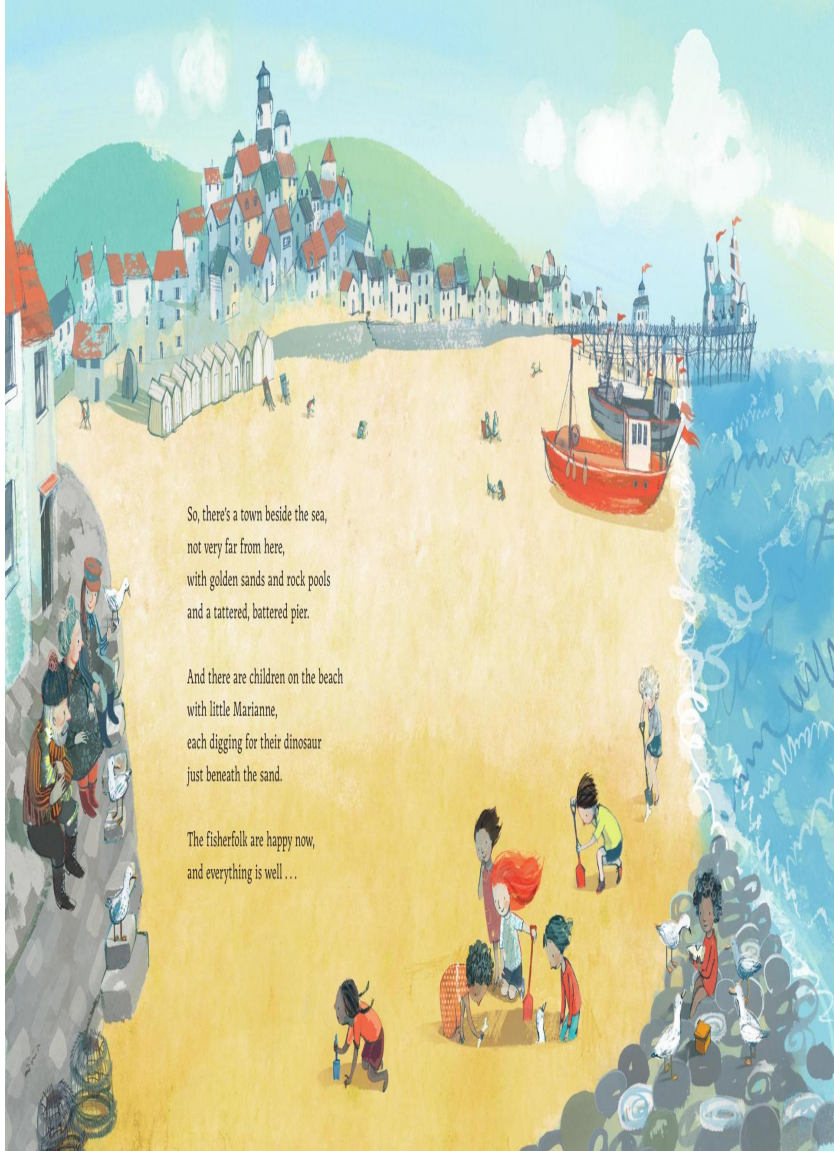


It's time to leave the island
and begin the journey down.

Back to the town beside the sea,
and back to empty beds,
and back to secret memories
to keep from grown-up heads.



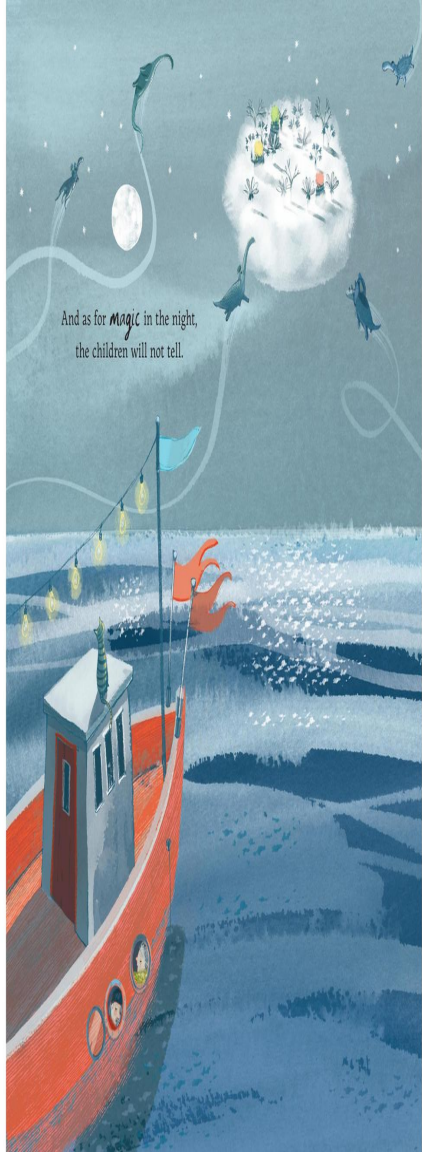
And when Marianne snuggles down
and pulls her covers *tight*,
she slips into a dream-filled sleep
of *magic* in the night.



So, there's a town beside the sea,
not very far from here,
with golden sands and rock pools
and a tattered, battered pier.

And there are children on the beach
with little Marianne,
each digging for their dinosaur
just beneath the sand.

The fisherfolk are happy now,
and everything is well . . .



And as for *magic* in the night,
the children will not tell.

