

GOOD NEWS FOR LITTLE HEARTS

WHEN YOU ARE SAD

# Henry Says Good-Bye

EDWARD T. WELCH  
Editor

JOE HOX  
Illustrator





# Henry Says Good-Bye

EDWARD T. WELCH  
Editor

JOE HOX  
Illustrator



Henry Hedgehog woke to the sound of his little sister, Halle, reading stories to Mama and Papa—stories with happy endings. Henry didn't care for happy endings—not right now. Nothing felt happy without his ladybug, Lila.







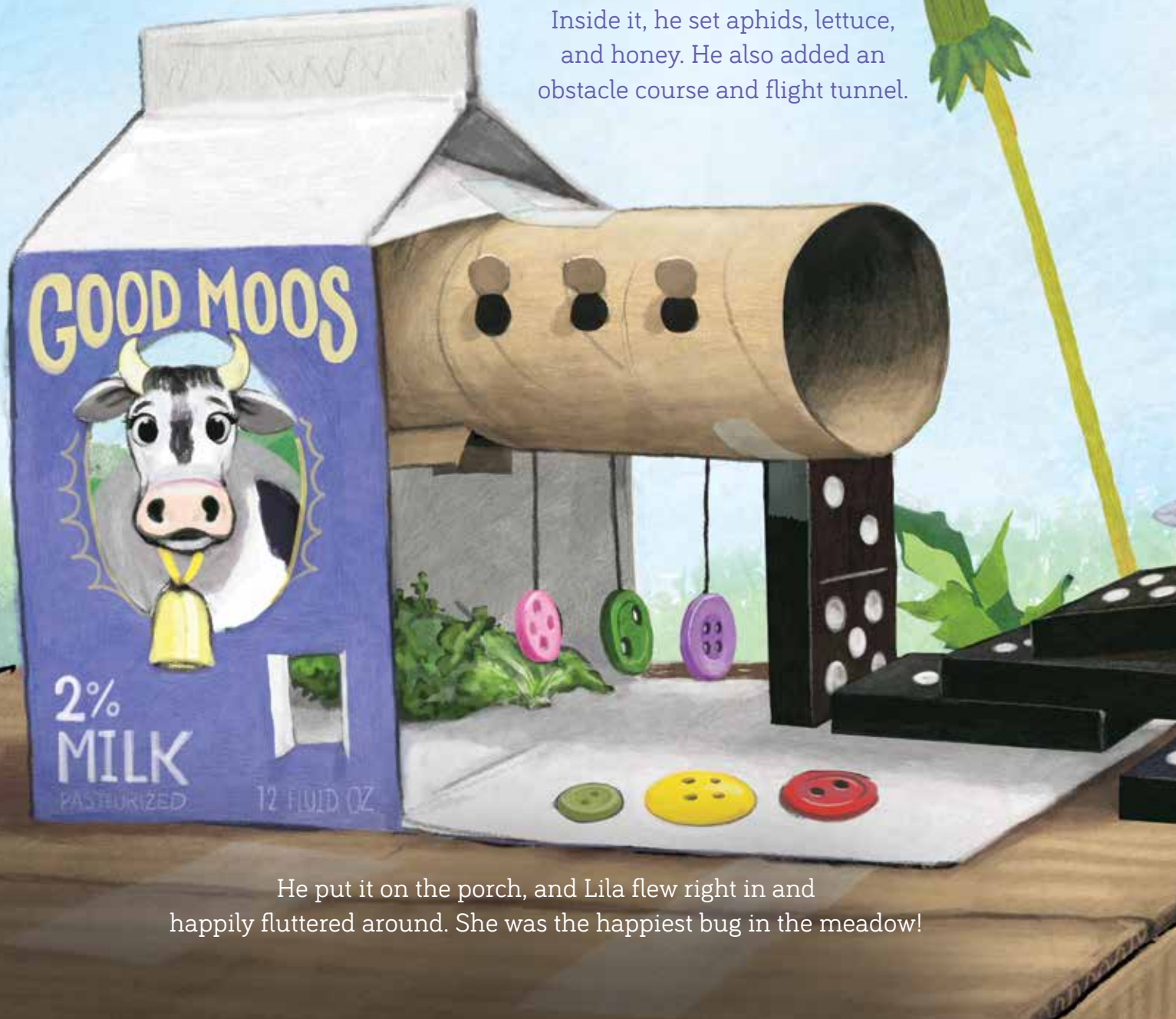
As he got dressed for school,  
Henry thought about the first time he met Lila.



He had just come home from school,  
when he saw a spotted wing case on the  
screen door. Lila smiled, fluttered her  
wings, and flew right to Henry's paw.  
They became instant friends.

Later that afternoon, Henry built  
Lila a beautiful little home.


Inside it, he set aphids, lettuce,  
and honey. He also added an  
obstacle course and flight tunnel.



He put it on the porch, and Lila flew right in and  
happily fluttered around. She was the happiest bug in the meadow!



Several days later, Henry asked Lila,  
“Would you like to come to school with me today?  
All of my friends bring their pets, so if you come,  
you can make new friends, too!

Henry is a hedgehog with brown spines and a light-colored face, wearing a blue t-shirt. He is looking towards a small table on the left. On the table, there is a stack of black and white dice, and a red and black ladybug is perched on top of the dice. A large yellow daisy is in the background. Henry is holding a red backpack that is open, showing a book inside.

You can ride in  
my backpack!”

Lila fluttered her  
wings as if to say yes.



Soon, Lila had a whole new host of friends. She met honey bees, butterflies, dragonflies, and even a praying mantis! Each day at recess, the pets outdid each other in performing flying tricks.

They flew in circles,  
did barrel rolls,  
and raced each other.



They had the best time! At the end of recess,  
each pet returned to their backpack for a nap.



But, one particular day, Lila wanted to stay out of her backpack.  
She teetered on the edge of the backpack pocket,  
just waiting for the right moment to escape.



And so it happened—  
right in the middle of  
Miss Minnick's math lesson.

Lila sprung out of her backpack and into the air.  
She put on a spectacular aerobatic show.





Lila spun around the class, creating lines, loops, and rolls!  
She even did a hammerhead.  
The other pets woke from their naps and peeked out of their backpacks.

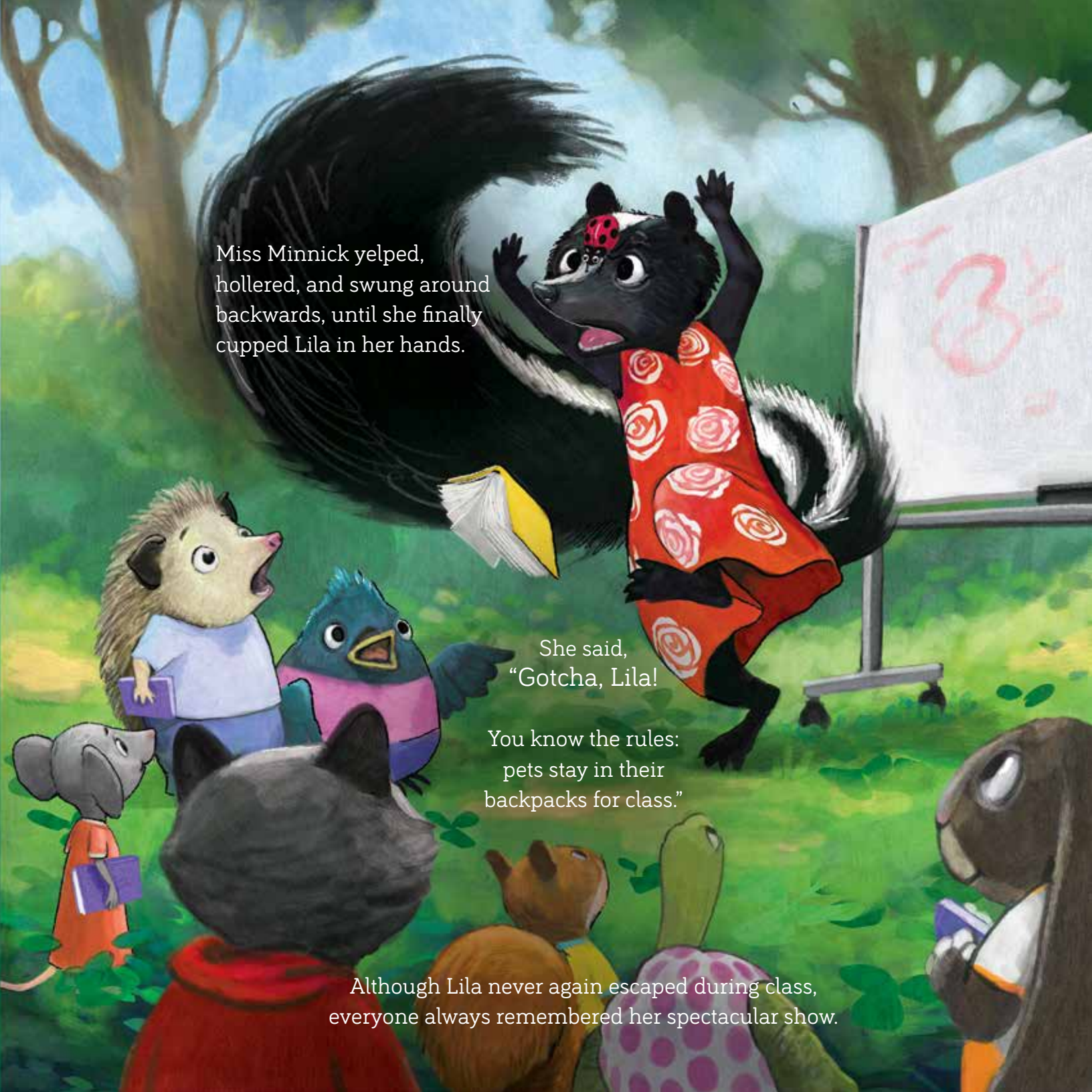


Lila was as free as ever—  
flying, looping, soaring.

She was having the time of her life—  
that is, until she accidentally landed  
on Miss Minnick's forehead!







Miss Minnick yelled,  
hollered, and swung around  
backwards, until she finally  
cupped Lila in her hands.

She said,  
“Gotcha, Lila!

You know the rules:  
pets stay in their  
backpacks for class.”

Although Lila never again escaped during class,  
everyone always remembered her spectacular show.