

The Wish Stone



by Katie Clarke





To all the inspirational children
and wishful thinkers
in the world.

The illustrations were done in watercolour with digital editing.
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By the sea you may see, a wish stone for you and me.
Pick it up and take a peek, you may find what you seek.



Lorna sat up in bed with a heavy heart.

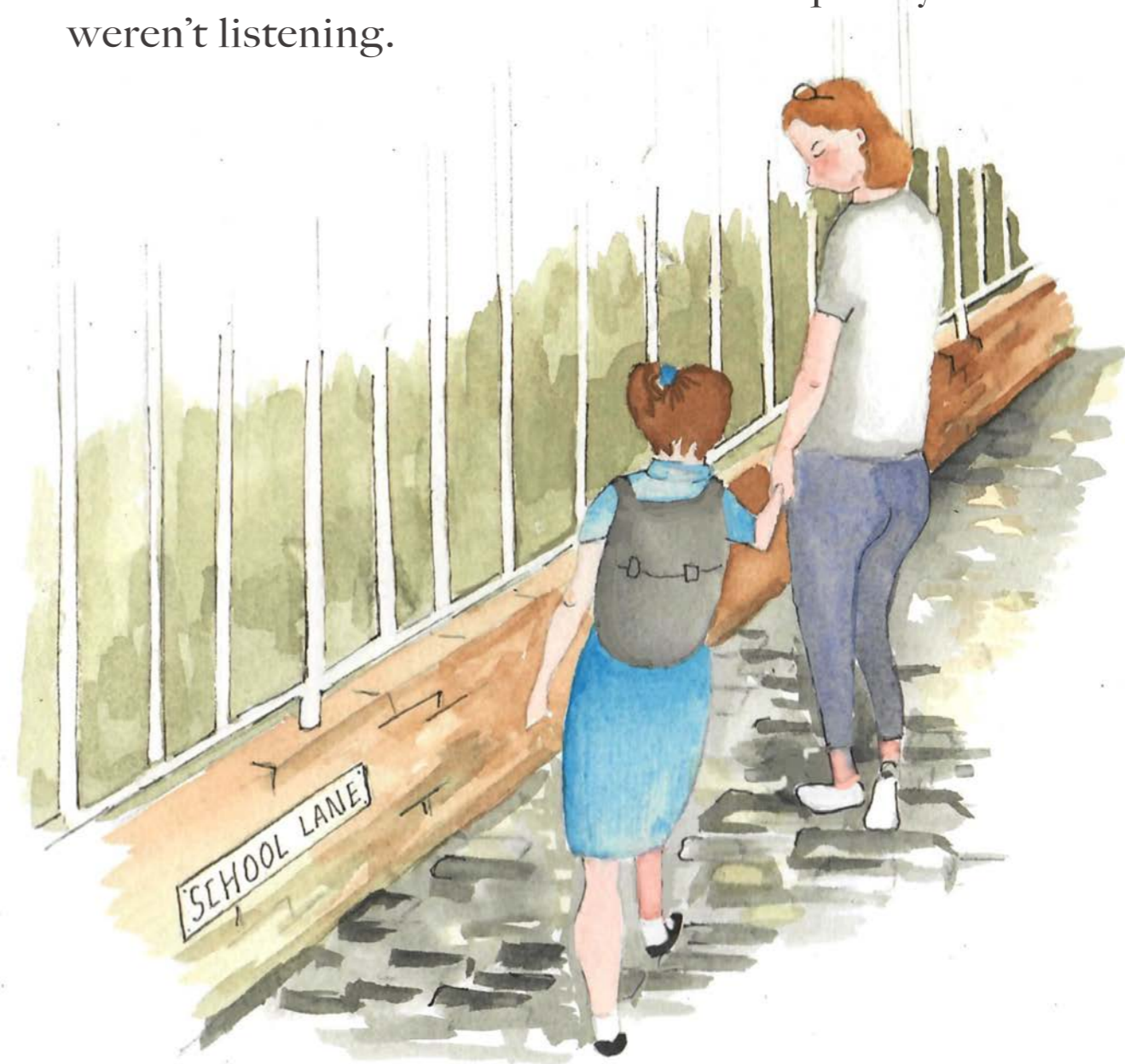


She slowly pulled on her school uniform and went downstairs.

Lorna spooned cereal into her mouth. It tasted like cardboard.



Lorna's mother told her to walk more quickly but her legs weren't listening.





The playground was noisy with shouts of laughter.

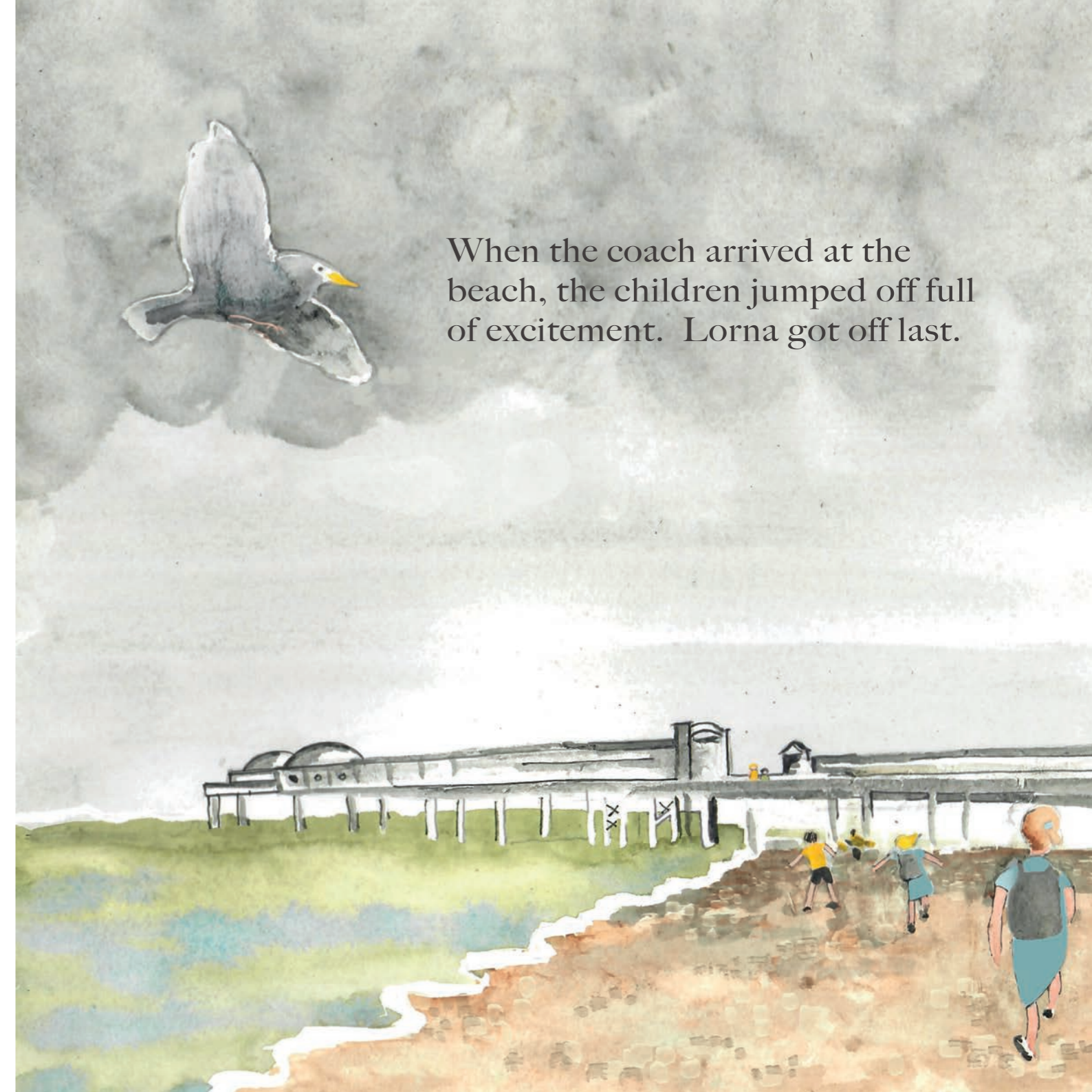
Lorna sat on the friendship bench and watched the children play.



When the whistle blew, Lorna lined up with her class.
They were going on a trip to the seaside.



Lorna sat with her partner but he was busy chatting to his friends, so she looked out of the coach window at the grey clouds overhead.



When the coach arrived at the beach, the children jumped off full of excitement. Lorna got off last.

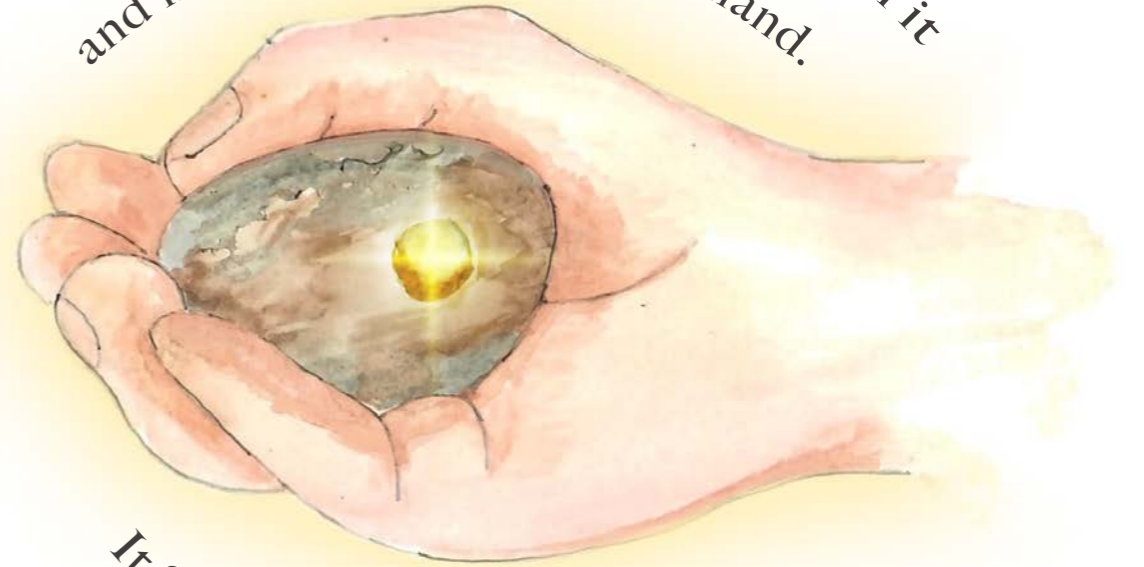


The children sat under the pier and hungrily opened their packed lunches. Lorna ate her apple watching the tide go in and out.



Lorna's downcast eyes suddenly spotted something different among the pebbles on the beach.

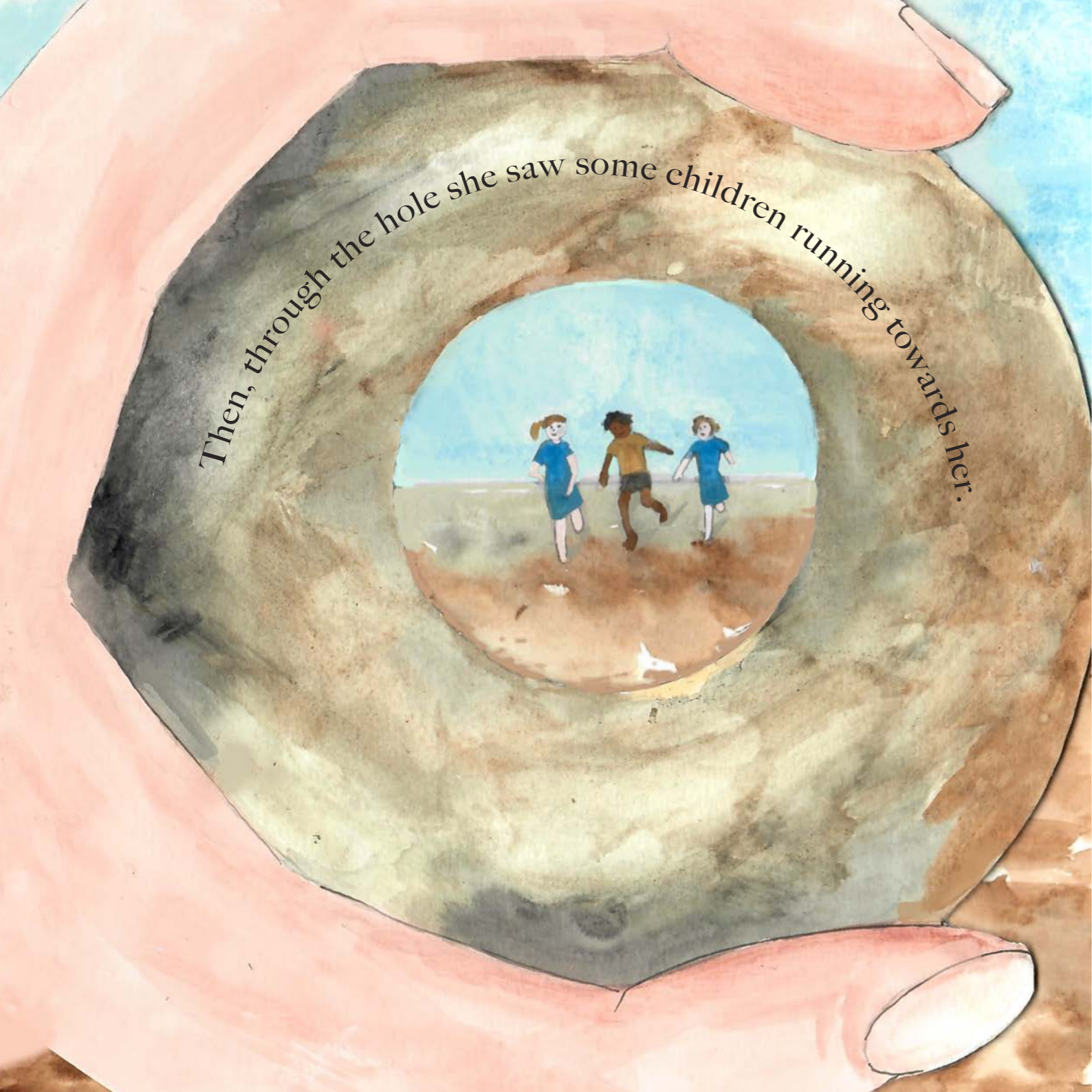
She picked up a stone with a hole in it and held it in the palm of her hand.



It felt warm and seemed to glow.



Lorna held the stone up to the overcast sky.
The clouds parted and the sun came out. She wished
she had some friends to share this special stone with.



Then, through the hole she saw some children running towards her.



Shyly, Lorna showed them what she had found.



The children touched the stone and made a wish.
Lorna had already made hers!

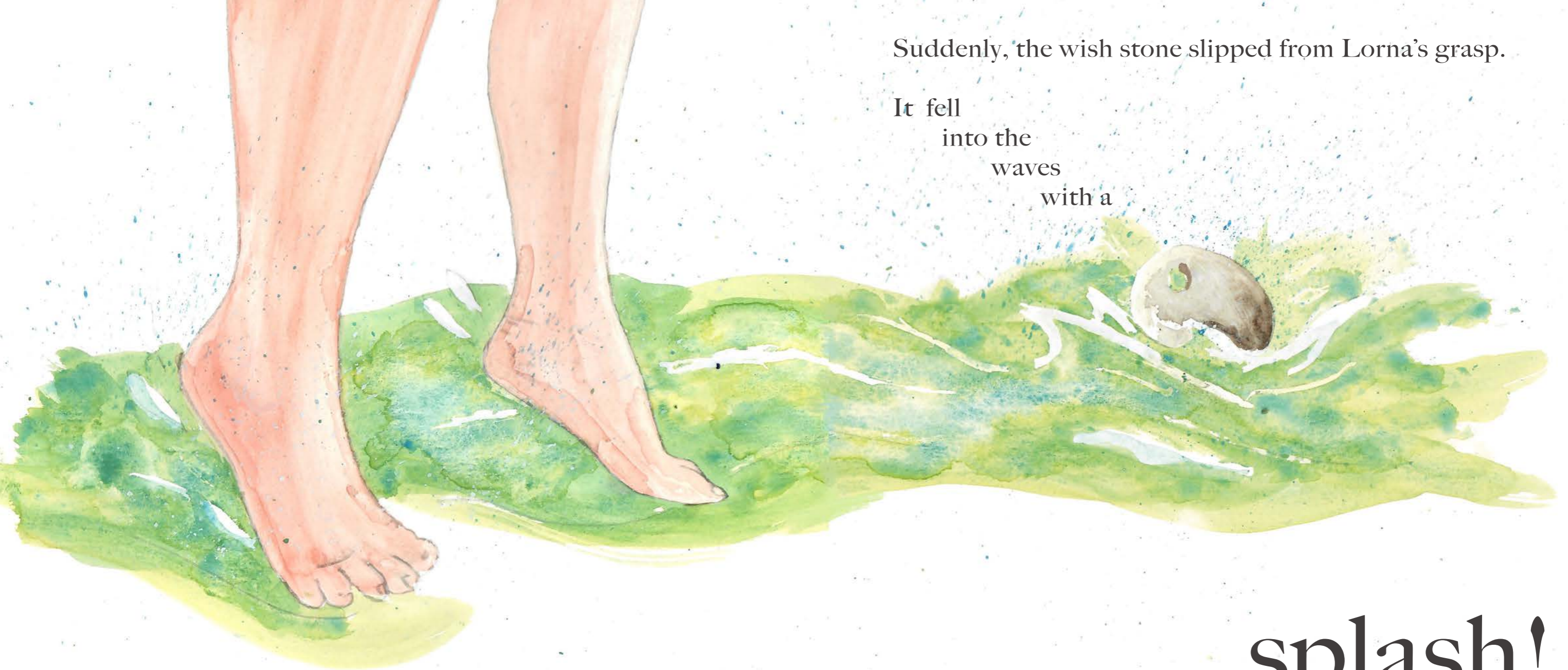


The children played catch with the stone, running
happily in and out of the waves on the shore.

Suddenly, the wish stone slipped from Lorna's grasp.

It fell
into the
waves
with a

splash!



The friends frantically searched for the special stone.

They turned over so many stones, but none with a hole in it.





The sun was setting. It was time to go home. Together they walked back to the coach.



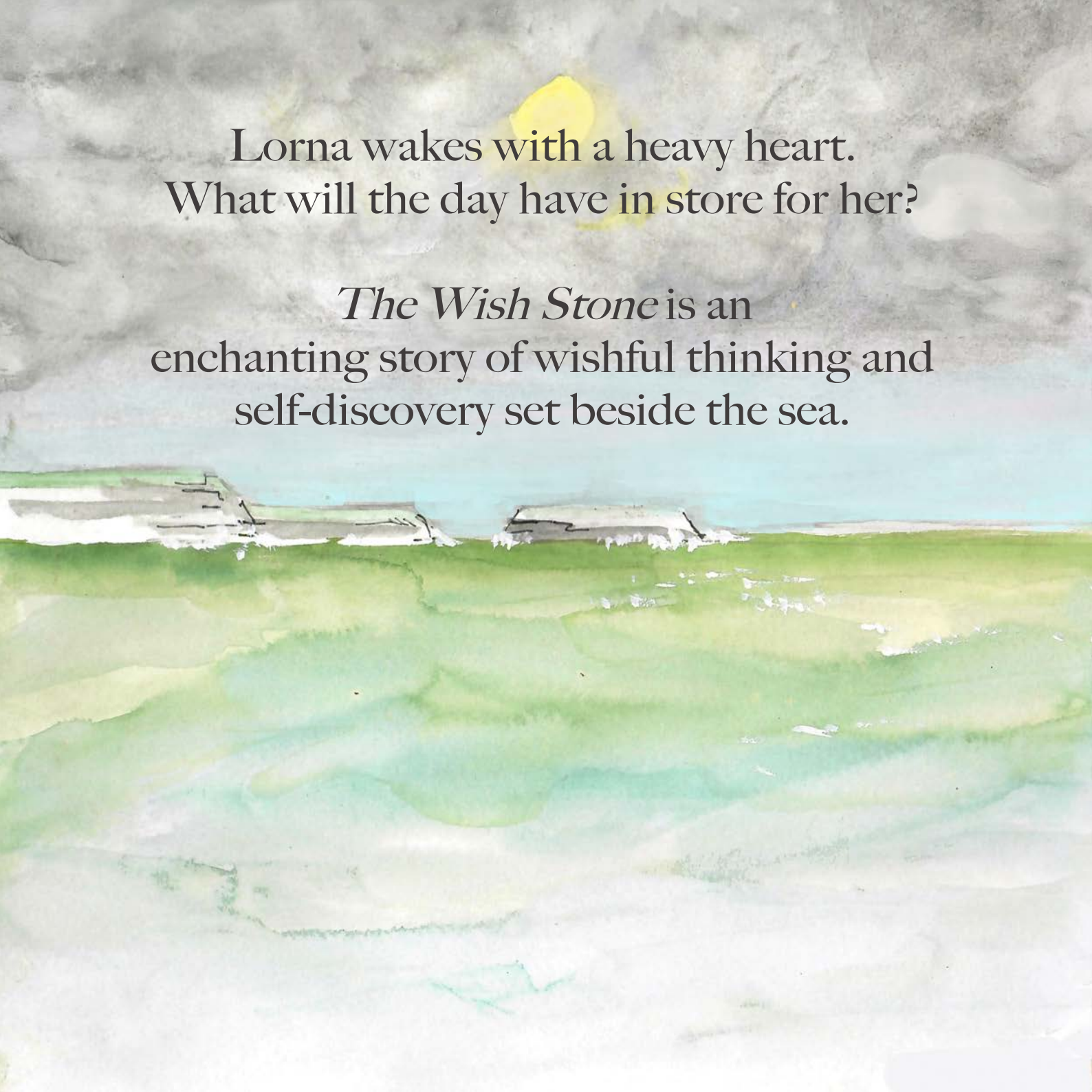
The stone was lost, but Lorna had found friendship.

As the coach drove away, the wish stone
was left behind on the beach..



..waiting to find someone else in
need...





Lorna wakes with a heavy heart.
What will the day have in store for her?

The Wish Stone is an
enchanted story of wishful thinking and
self-discovery set beside the sea.