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Opening extract from
Poppy and the Blooms

Written & Illustrated by
Fiona Woodcock

Published by
Simon & Schuster Ltd

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A watercolor illustration of a hand holding a flower. The hand is rendered in shades of grey and white, with a simple line drawing of a flower. The background is a soft, hazy landscape with a city skyline in the distance. The foreground is filled with a dense field of colorful flowers in red, pink, yellow, and purple.

Poppy and the BLOOMS

by Fiona Woodcock

SIMON AND SCHUSTER

First published in Great Britain in 2017 by Simon and Schuster UK Ltd
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the British Library upon request • ISBN: 978-1-xxxx-xxxx-x (HB)
ISBN: 978-1-xxxx-xxxx-x (PB) ISBN: 978-1-xxxx-xxxx-x (eBook)
Printed in China • 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

SIMON AND SCHUSTER

London New York Sydney Toronto New Delhi

On top of a hill, in a secret magical place
not far from here, live *Poppy* and her friends.

There's *Dandy* and *Bluebell*

and sweet little *Buttercup*.

Together they smile sunshine into the
darkest corners and greyest shadows.



One morning, Poppy woke up with a strange tingling feeling. It fluttered in her tummy and shivered the tips of her petals.

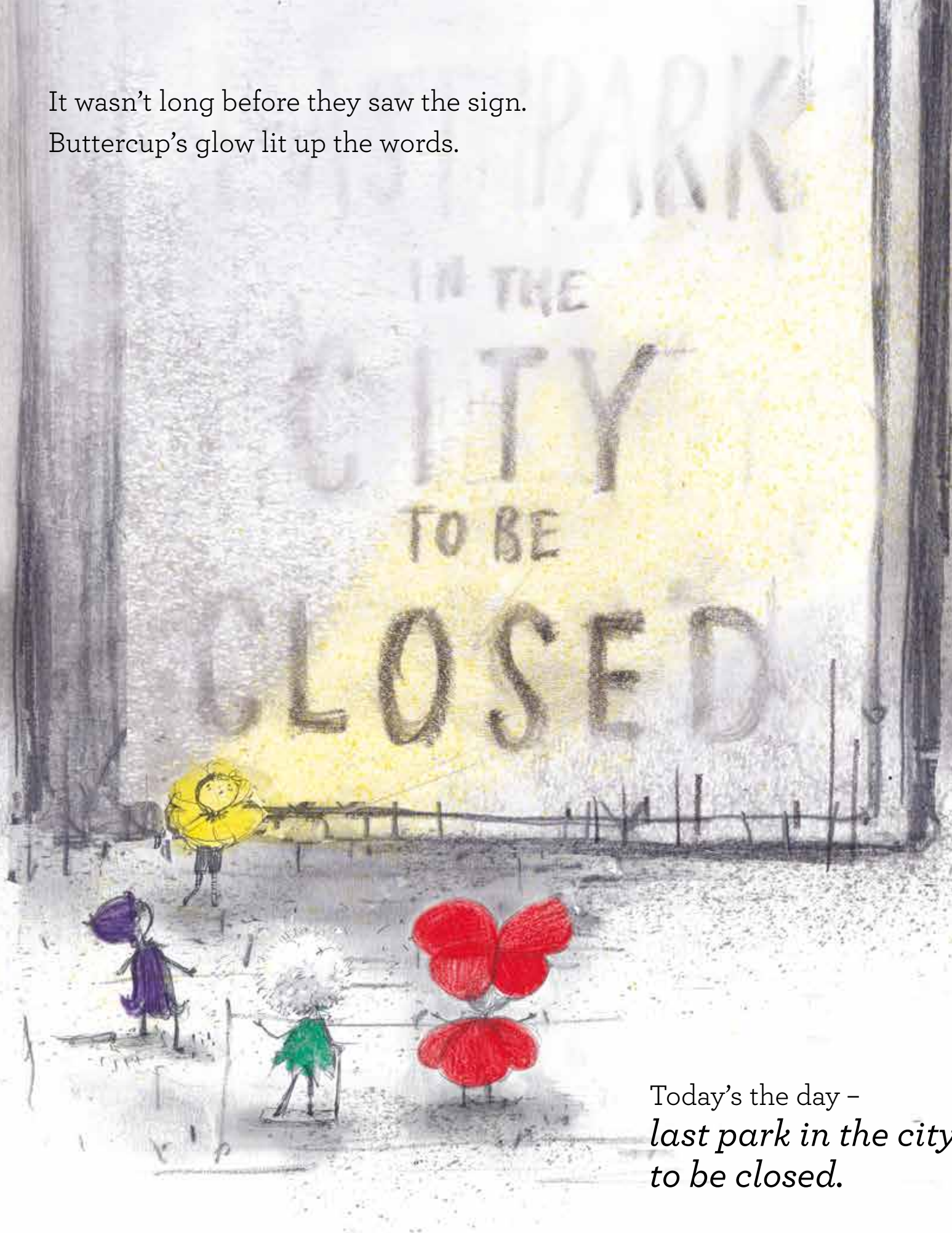


‘Blooms,’ she said. ‘We have to go into the city. I don’t know why, but I know we have to go.’

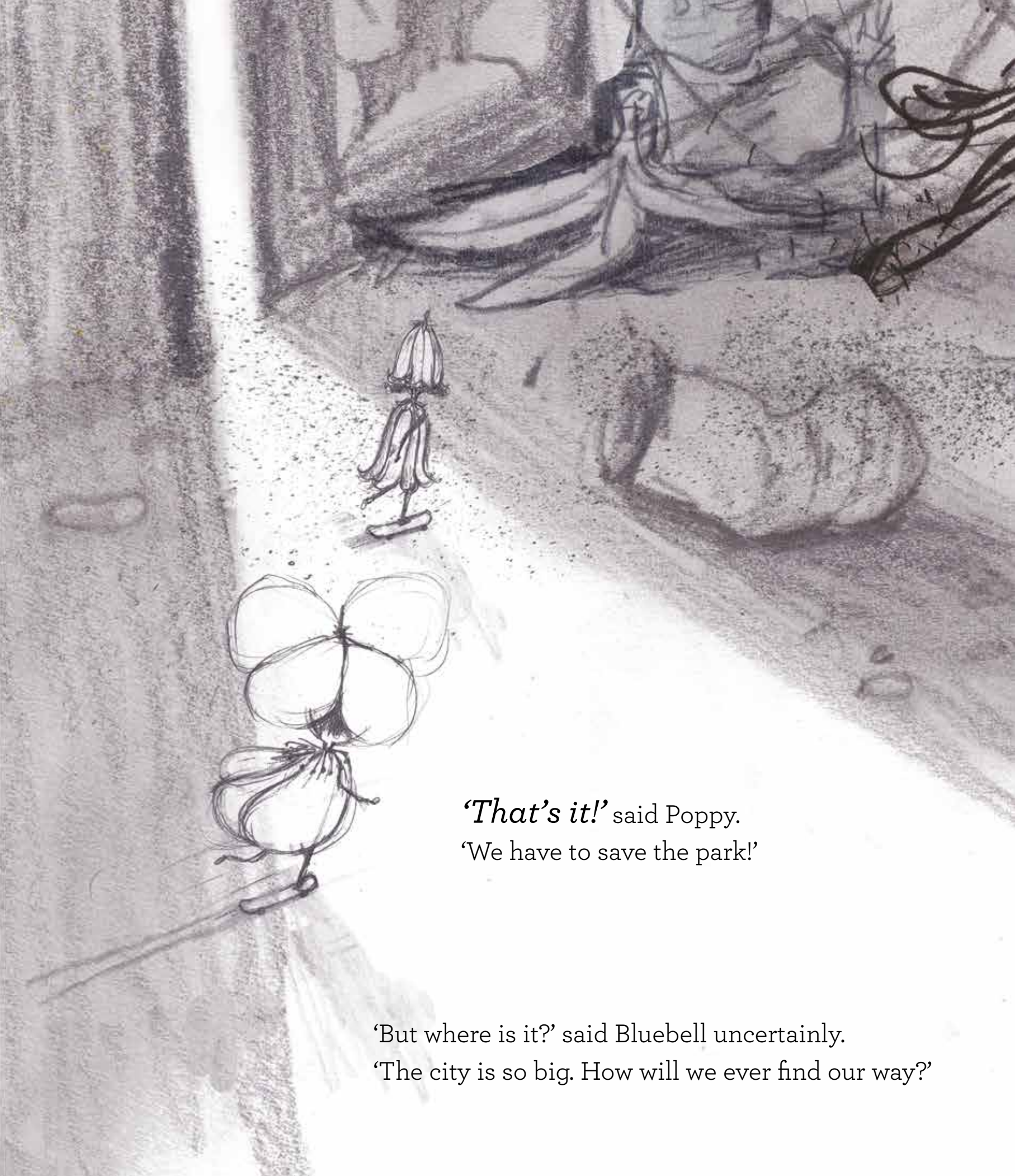
So together *Poppy* and *Dandy* and *Bluebell* and *Buttercup* bravely set off into the towering shade of the big city streets.



It wasn't long before they saw the sign.
Buttercup's glow lit up the words.



Today's the day –
*last park in the city
to be closed.*



'That's it!' said Poppy.
'We have to save the park!'

'But where is it?' said Bluebell uncertainly.
'The city is so big. How will we ever find our way?'