

WEIRD



For Katherine, Harvey & Maud – Z.S. & N.L.
For my mum, Angela. And my weirdo, Joel. – M.F.

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WEIRDO

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Penguin
Random House
UK

First published 2021

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Printed in China

The authorized representative in the EEA is Penguin Random House Ireland,
Morrison Chambers, 32 Nassau Street, Dublin D02 YH68

A CIP catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

ISBN: 978-0-241-44960-8

All correspondence to:
Puffin Books, Penguin Random House Children's
One Embassy Gardens, 8 Viaduct Gardens, London SW11 7BW



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It was Kit's birthday.



Her present was a soft, small, sleepy surprise.

*She's perfect! Kit whispered.
But why's she dressed like that?*



No-one knew.
The Surprise wasn't telling.



Kit left for school. The Surprise woke up.



She was surrounded.

But what is it?
chirped Derrick.
She clearly can't fly.

Not a cat. Too round,
said Dora.

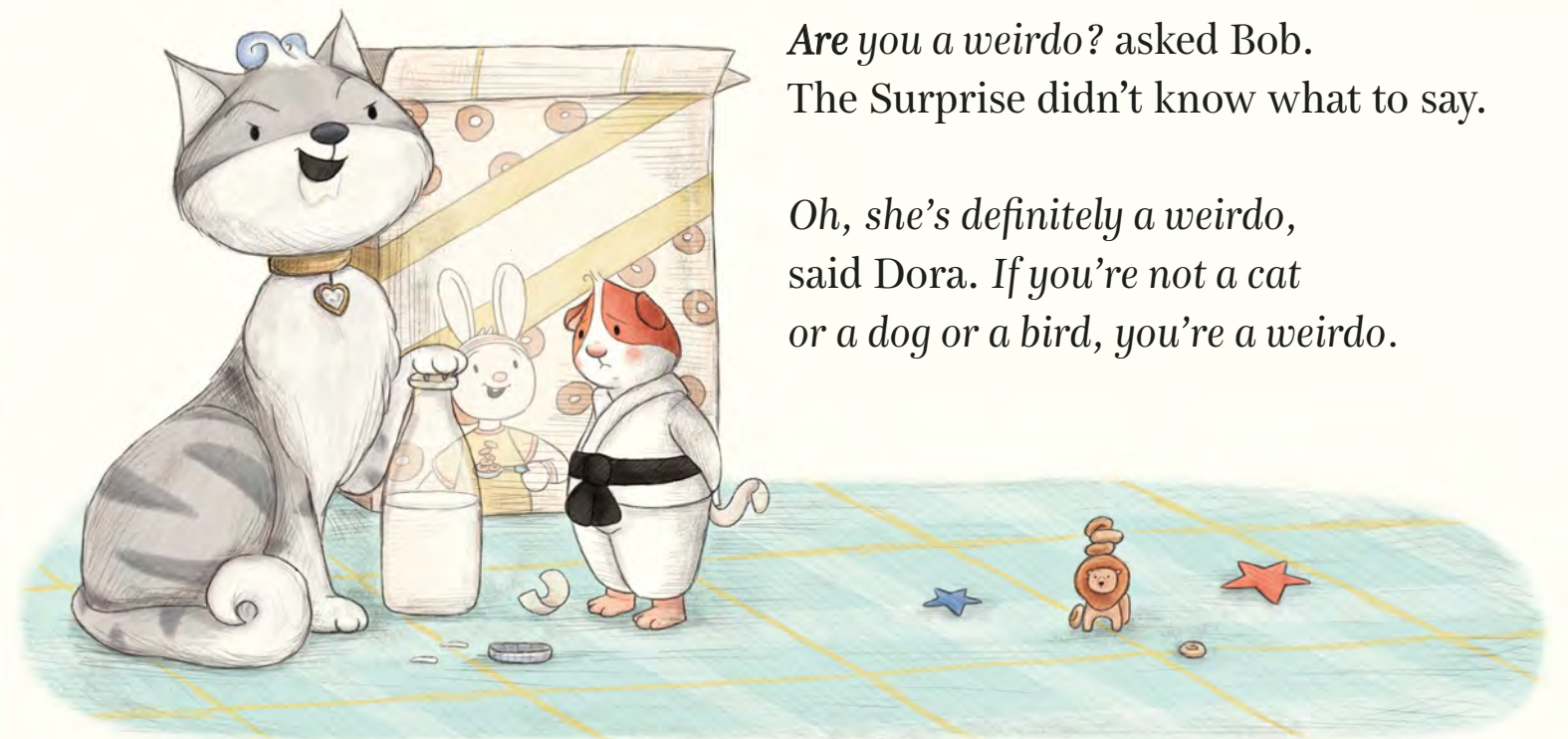
Or a pug, Bob decided.
Those legs!

She don't do much, noted Derrick.
Actually, whispered the Surprise,
I'm quite into Judo.

What's that now? barked Bob.
He was a bit deaf.



She just said she's a weirdo, sniggered Dora.



Are you a weirdo? asked Bob.
The Surprise didn't know what to say.

Oh, she's definitely a weirdo,
said Dora. *If you're not a cat*
or a dog or a bird, you're a weirdo.