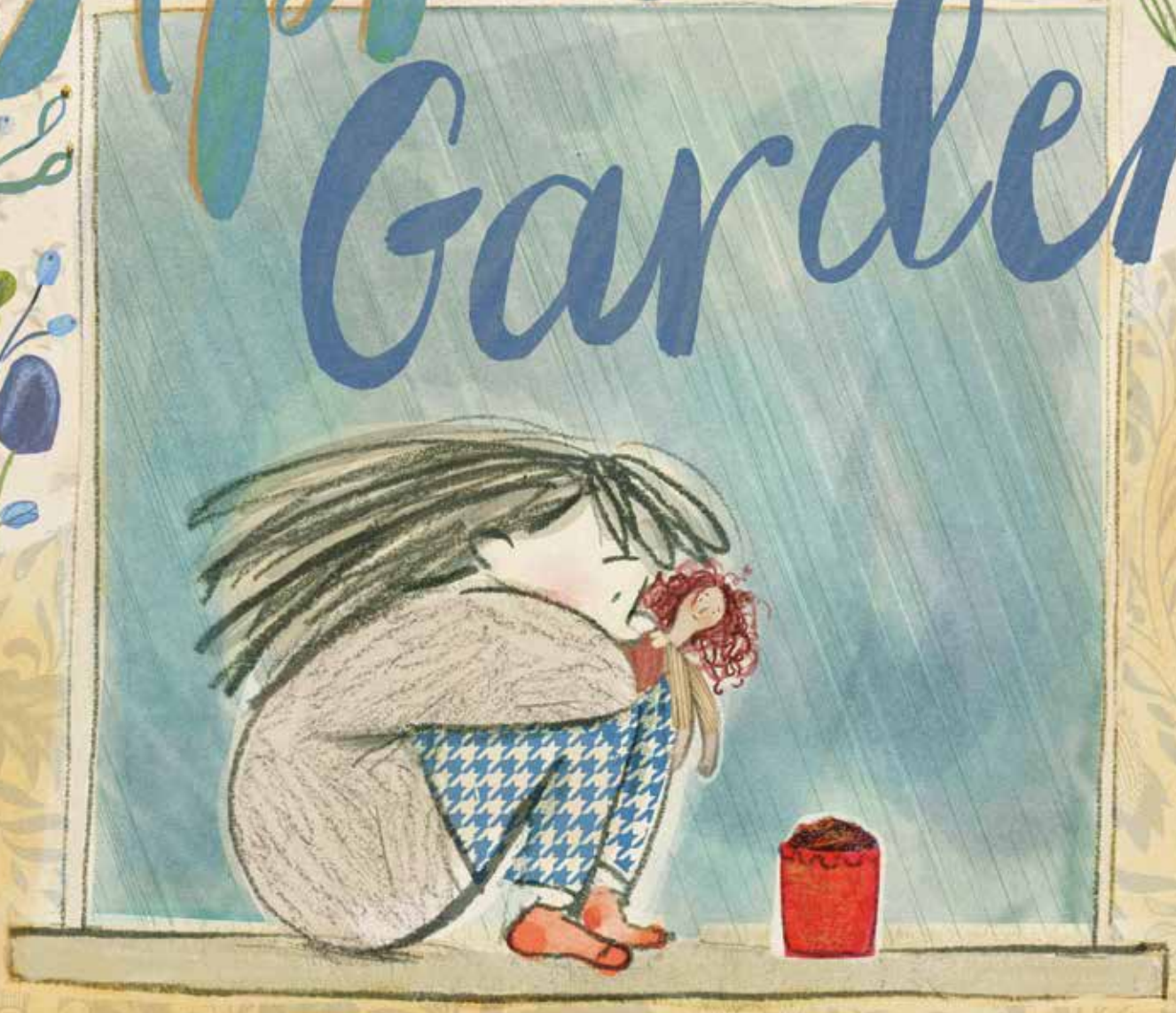
April's Garden



Isla McGuckin

Catalina Echeverri

For my daughters, Tallulah and Violet. I adore you.
Far more than words could ever express. I.McG.

For my three little flowers, Sofi, Abi and Violeta. C.E.

April's Garden
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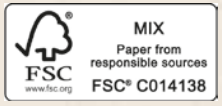

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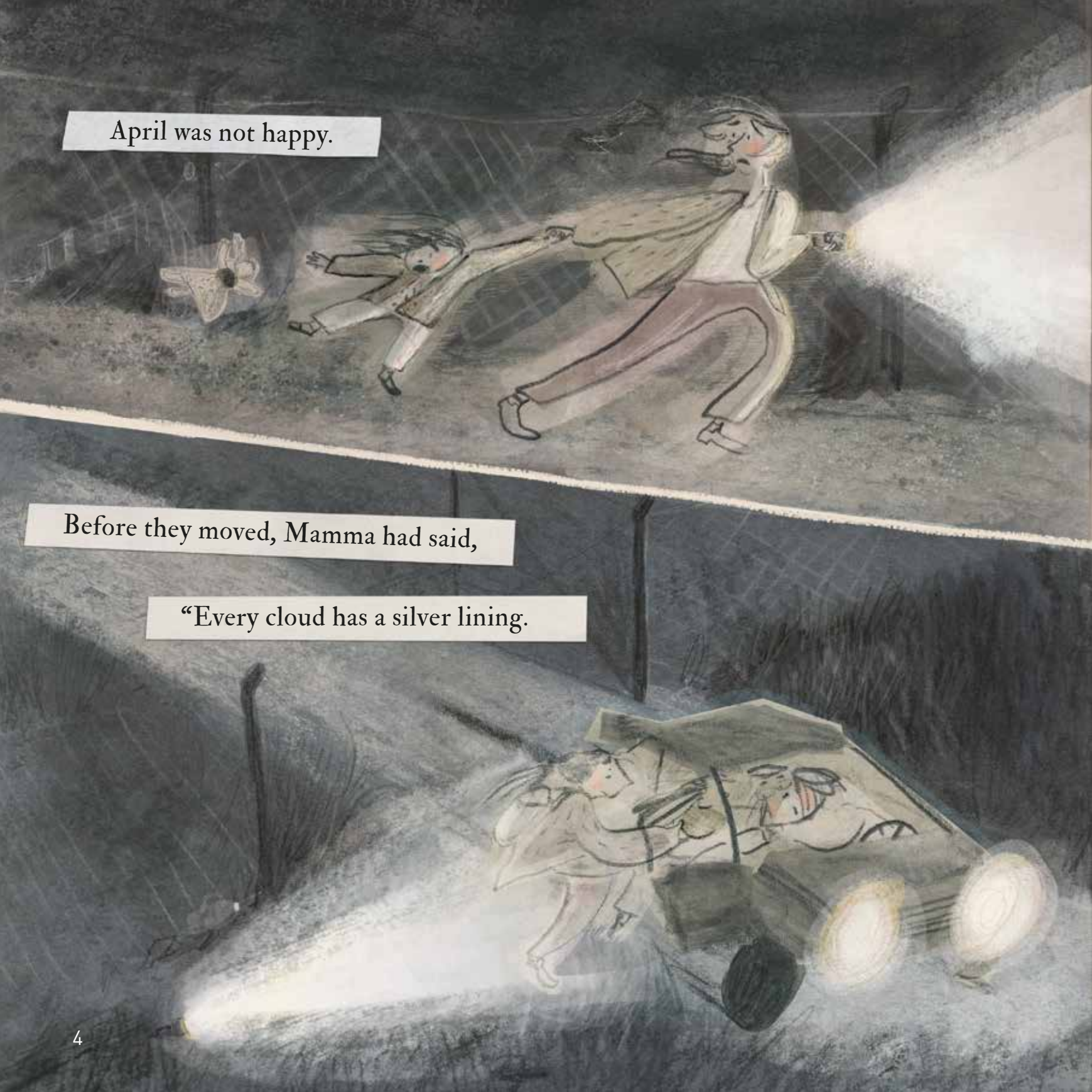
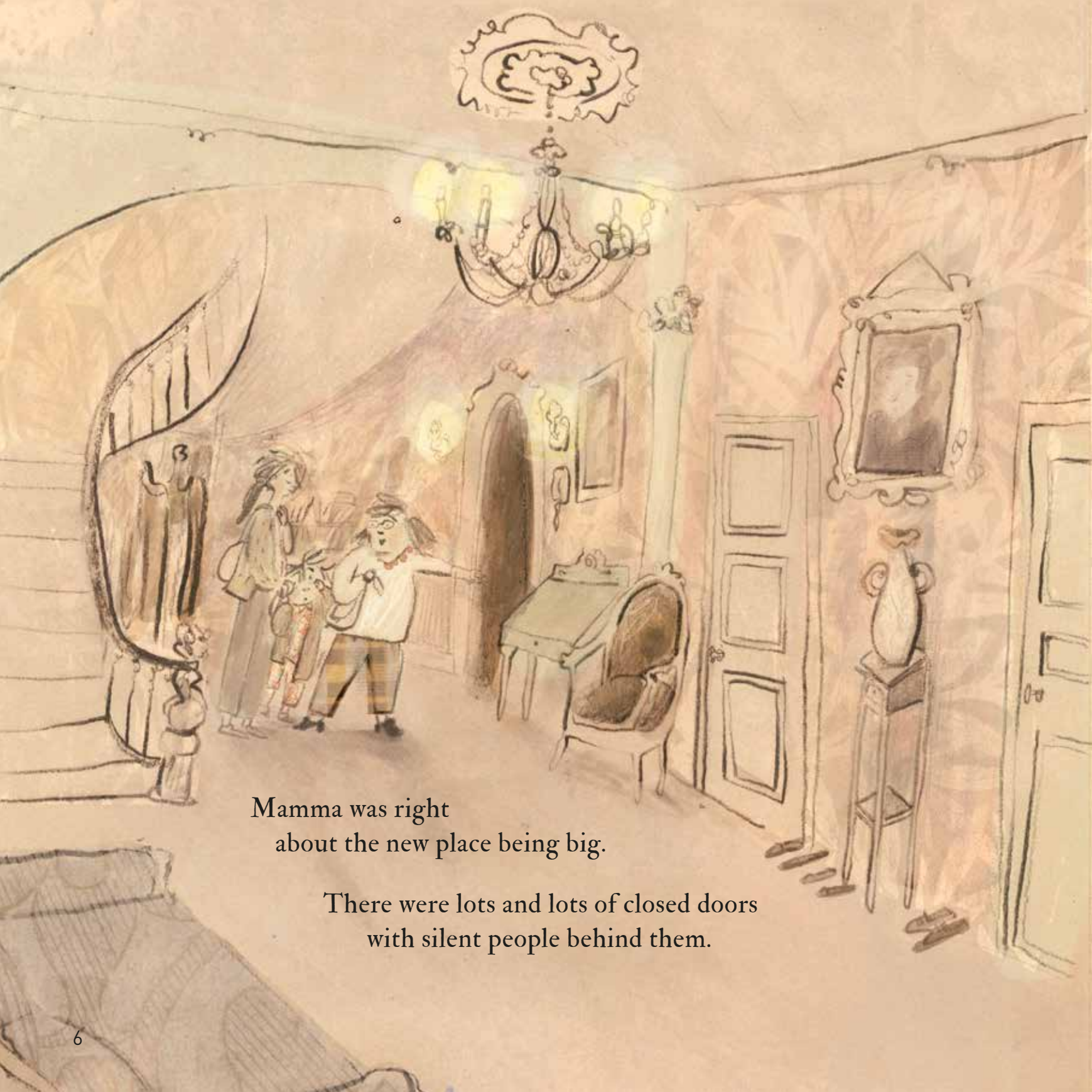

April was not happy.
Before they moved, Mamma had said,
"Every cloud has a silver lining.

We'll have our own room, in the new place.

It's big.

There's a garden."

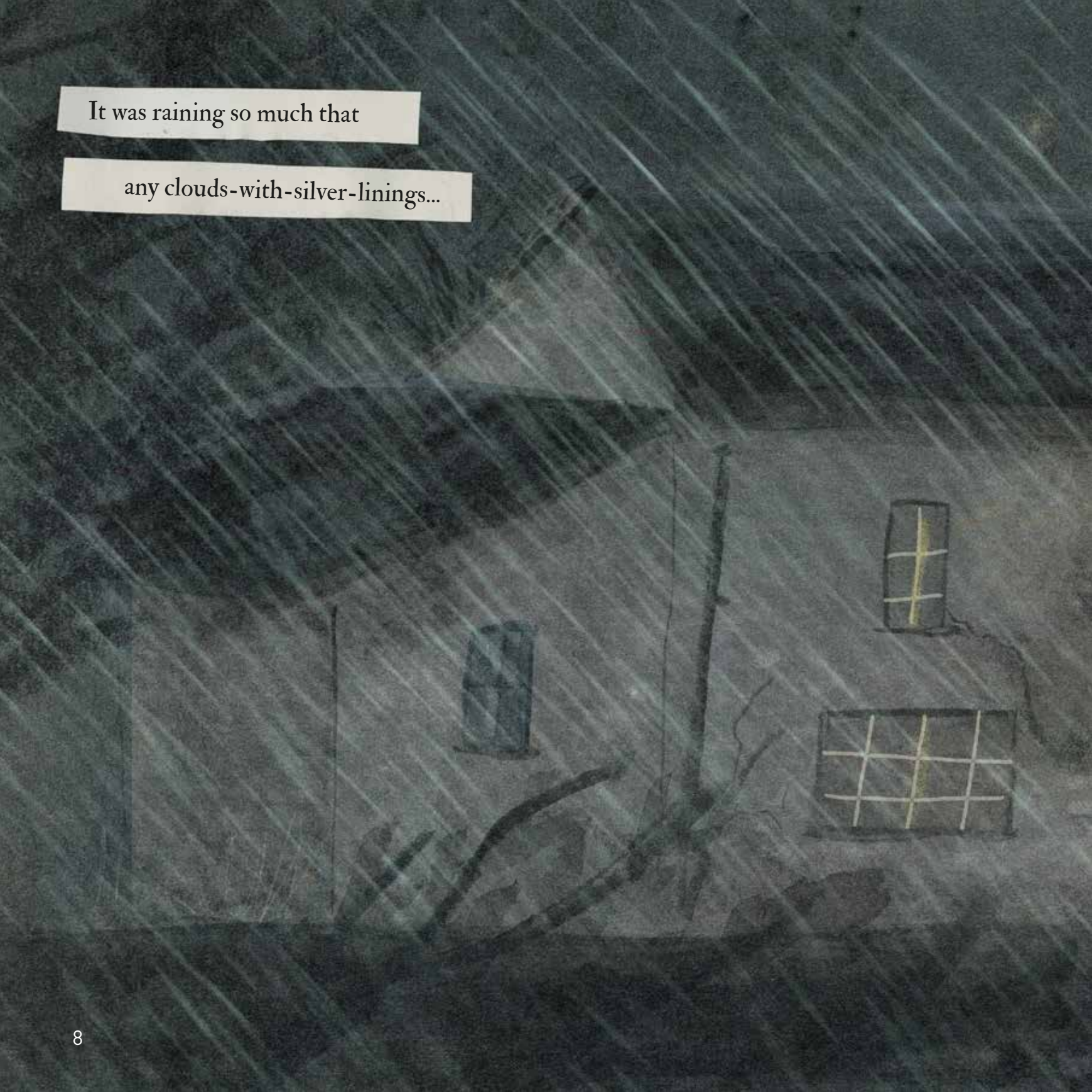


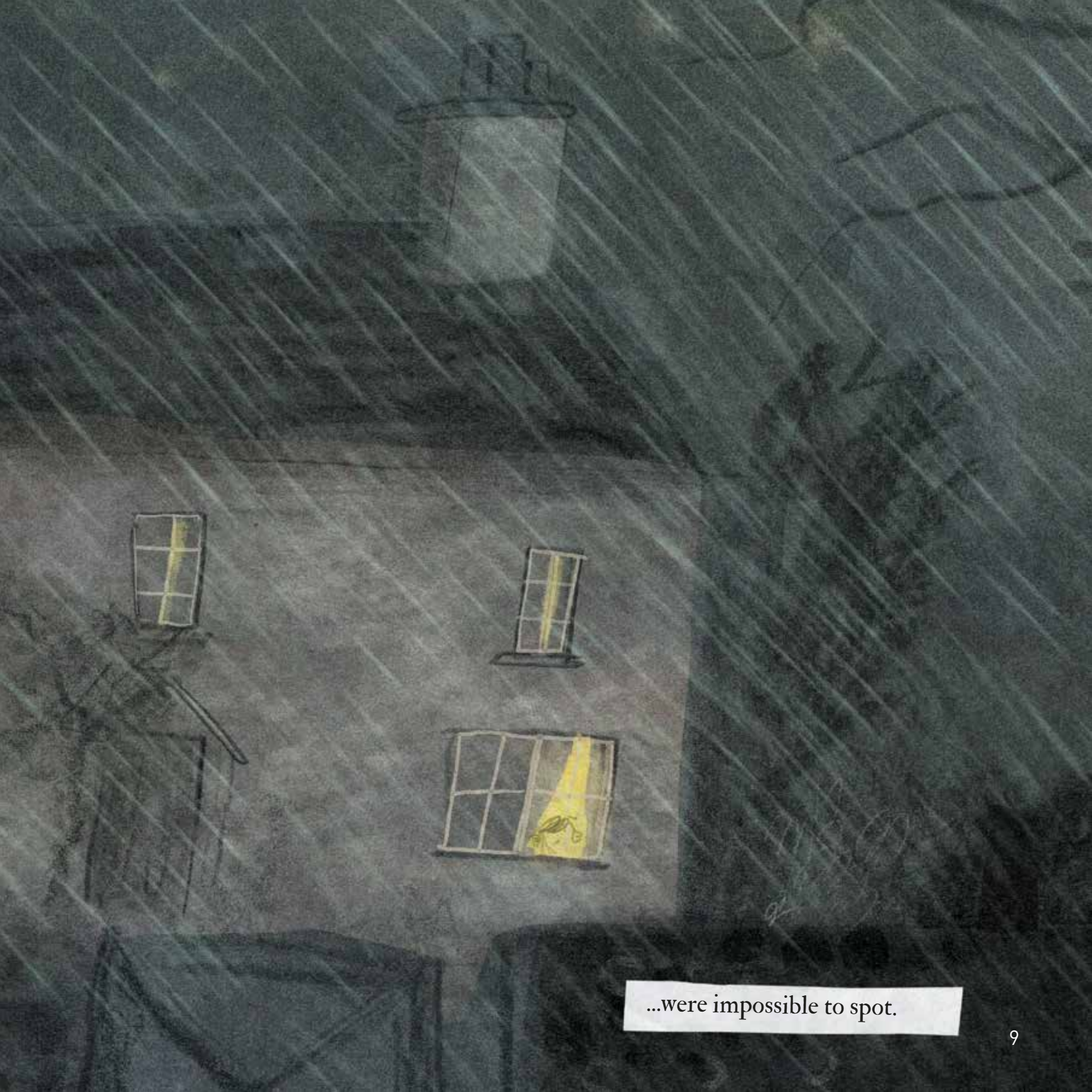
Mamma was right
about the new place being big.

There were lots and lots of closed doors
with silent people behind them.

But there weren't any children, apart from April.

And the garden...


It was raining so much that
any clouds-with-silver-linings...



...were impossible to spot.

Mamma said,

“Draw the garden of your dreams.

The neighbourhood ladies brought paper and pens.”

So, April drew.
Mamma said, smiling, "We'll save our pennies
for when we have a place of our own."

Living in a grey and dreary room in a house that couldn't feel less like home, April dreams about how life could be with happy, peaceful spaces and somewhere to play.

But every seed that April plants refuses to take root and her dreams start to feel hopelessly out of reach.

April's Garden is a story for anybody who, for whatever reason, fears that home is an impossible dream, reminding readers that even when things feel impossibly bleak, there's always something to hold on to: hope.

'*April's Garden* is a beautiful and moving picture book that will be loved by parents and help children going through big life changes. Isla and Catalina have created a powerful and gorgeously illustrated story full of hope, renewal and the healing power of time.'

Lucy Brandt, author

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