

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

Published in Great Britain in 2023 by Graffeg Limited.

Written by Isla McGuckin copyright © 2023.

Illustrated by Catalina Echeverri copyright © 2023.

Designed and produced by Graffeg copyright © 2023.

Graffeg, 24 Stradey Park Business Centre,
Mwrwg Road, Llangennech, Llanelli,
Carmarthenshire, SA14 8YP, Wales, UK.
Tel: 01554 824000. www.graffeg.com.

Isla McGuckin and Catalina Echeverri are hereby
identified as the authors of this work in accordance with
section 77 of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act
1988.

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

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be
reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted,
in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical,
photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior
permission of the publishers.

The publisher acknowledges the financial support
of the Books Council of Wales. www.gwales.com.

ISBN 9781802583410

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9



April's Garden



IsLa McGuckin

CatAlina Echeverri

GRAFFEG

An illustration showing a woman and a child walking at night. The woman is in the foreground, wearing a light-colored jacket and a long skirt, holding a flashlight that illuminates the path ahead. The child is walking slightly behind her, also wearing a light-colored jacket. The background is dark and textured, suggesting a night scene with some foliage or a fence.

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."

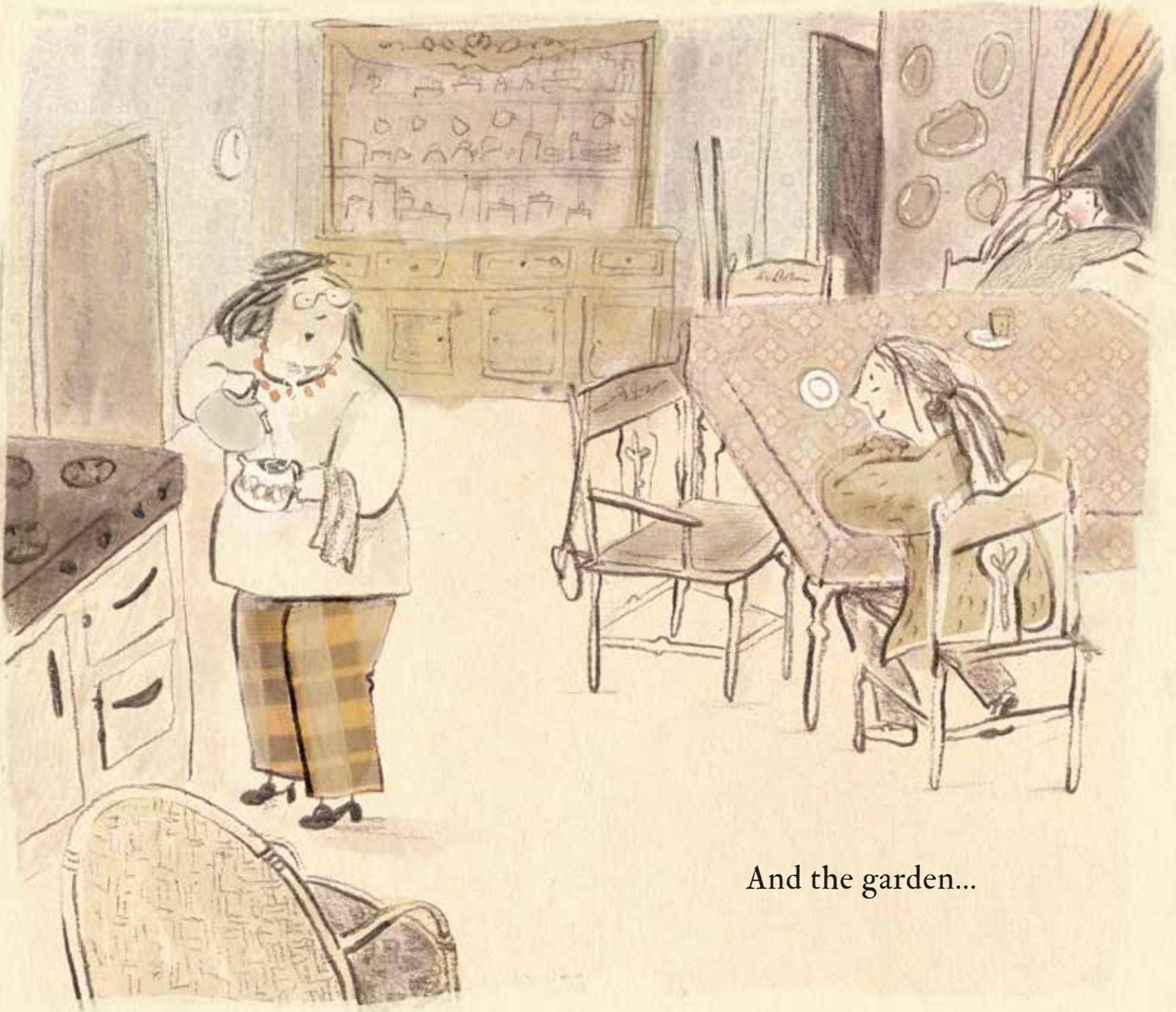
An illustration of two women standing in front of a door. The woman on the left has long, dark, curly hair and is wearing a light-colored top and dark pants. The woman on the right is wearing glasses, a white top, and a yellow and black plaid skirt. They are both looking towards the door. The background shows a simple house and a tree.



Mamma was right
about the new place being big.

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

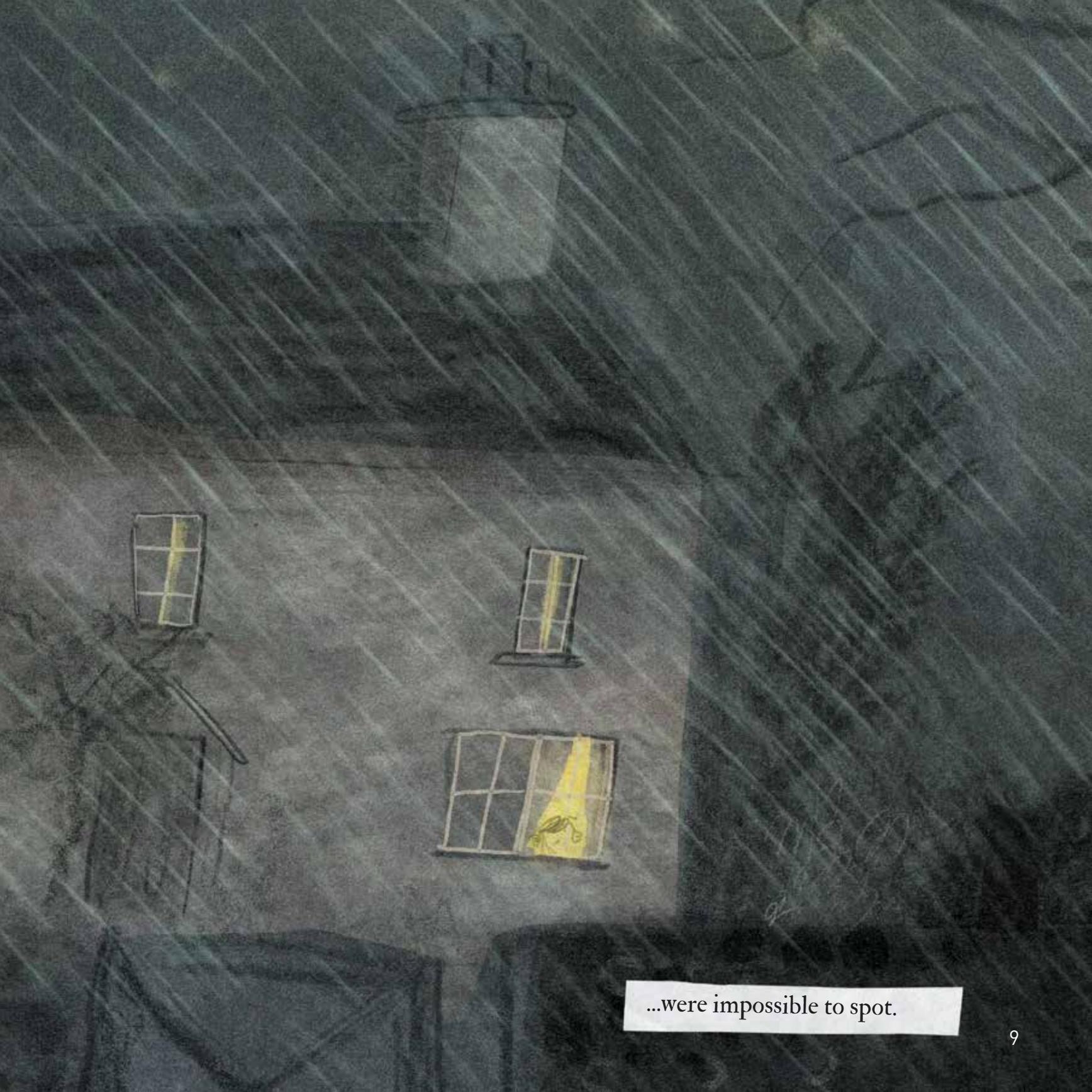
But there weren't any children, apart from April.



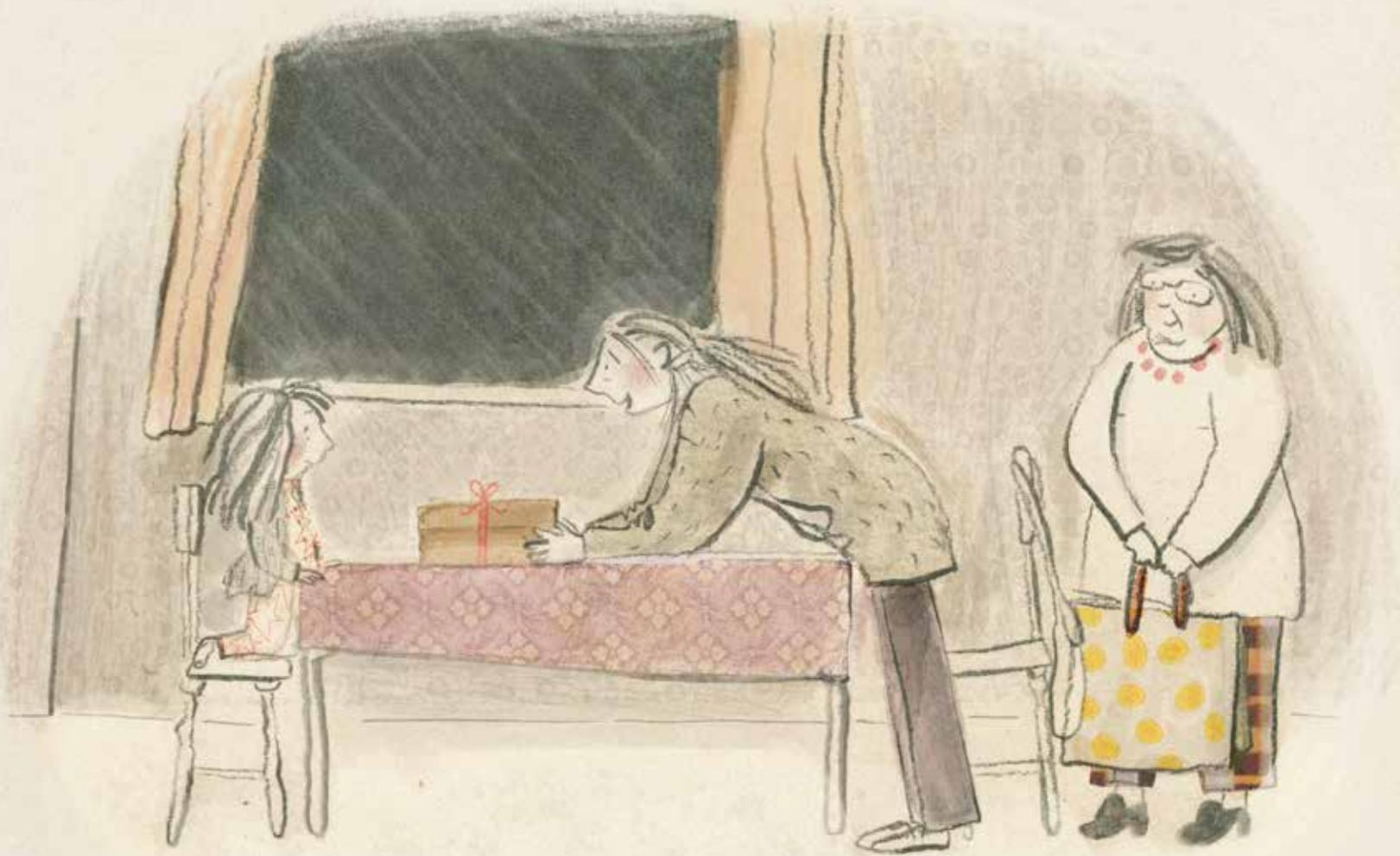
And the garden...

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."

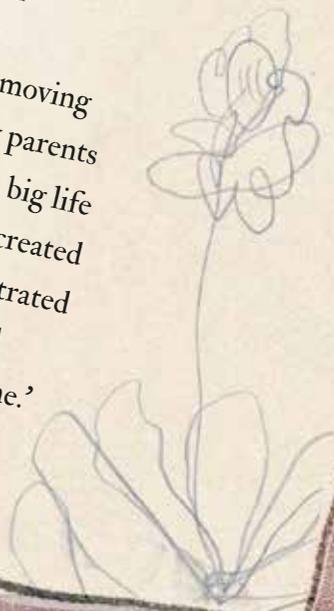
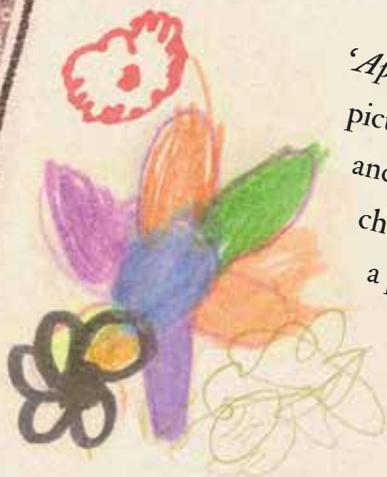


Living in a grey and dreary room in a house that couldn't
feel less like home, April dreams about how life could be
with happy, peaceful spaces and somewhere to play.
But every seed that April plants refuses to take root and
her dreams start to feel hopelessly out of reach.

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



Teaching resources:
[www.graffeg.com/pages/
teachers-resources](http://www.graffeg.com/pages/teachers-resources)

www.graffeg.com

£7.99



9 781802 583410

Children

GRAFFEG