ANDY DAY

Illustrated by

STEVEN LENTON

CHILDREN'S TV STAR

DINO DAD

What if YOUR dad could change into a DINOSAUR?

ME AND MY TOTALLY NORMAL FAMILY...

BUT WE'RE ACTUALLY TOTALLY NOT!

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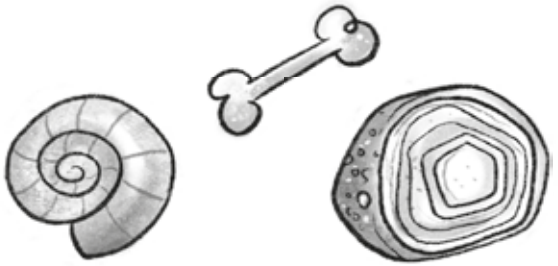
DINO DAD



GO GO
DINOS GO!

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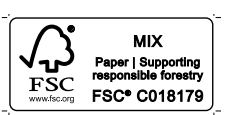

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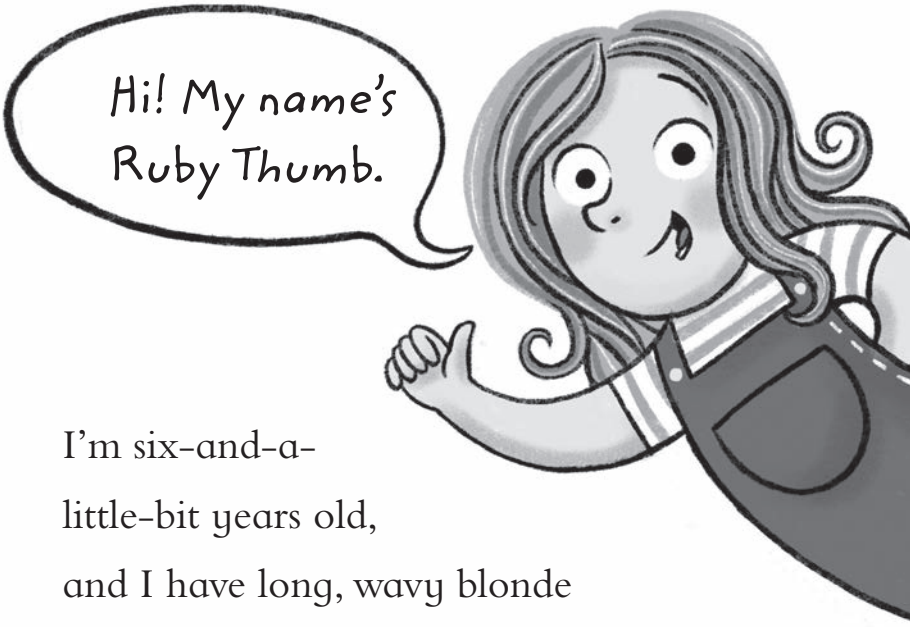
For my beautiful, funny
and cheeky girls –
Ruby-Roo and Indiana.
A.D.

Welcome to Dinotropolis,
Oscar August Toime!
Love, S.L. X



I'm six-and-a-little-bit years old, and I have long, wavy blonde hair. I love outdoor adventures, solving problems and learning new things. Oh, and dinosaurs – you'll soon see why!

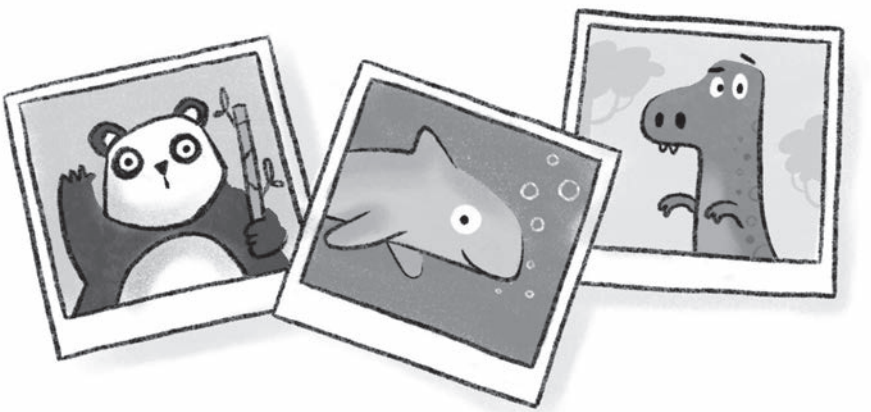
I live on a very NORMAL street, in a very NORMAL house, where EVERYTHING is absolutely and completely **NORMAL** . . .

(Pssst – I have to say that because Dad told me to. Thanks to our Big Secret, we're actually totally NOT NORMAL . . . but I'll tell you about that soon, I promise!)

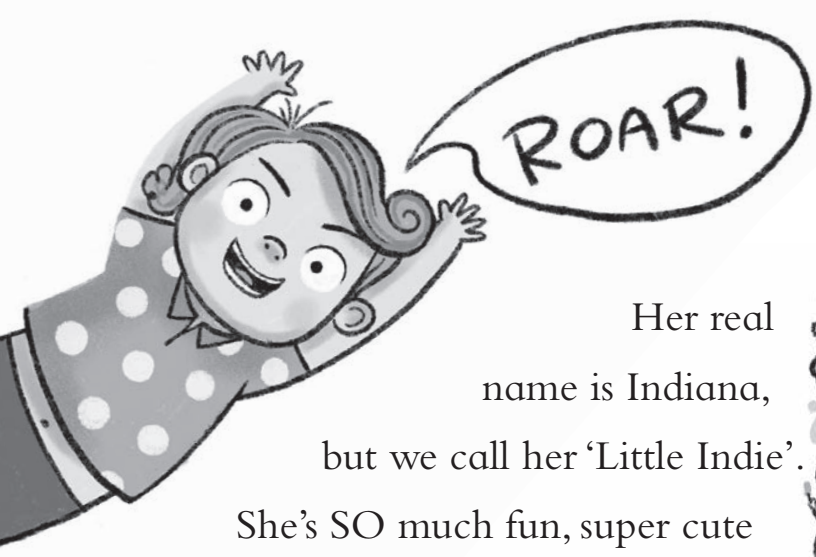
This is my mum, Belinda Thumb.

She is kind, caring and very hard-working, and she makes super-delicious dinners (her

blue-coconut curry is my favourite). When she's not looking after me and my sister (and my dad, she says), Mum works as a photographer. She travels all around the world taking pictures of rare animals.

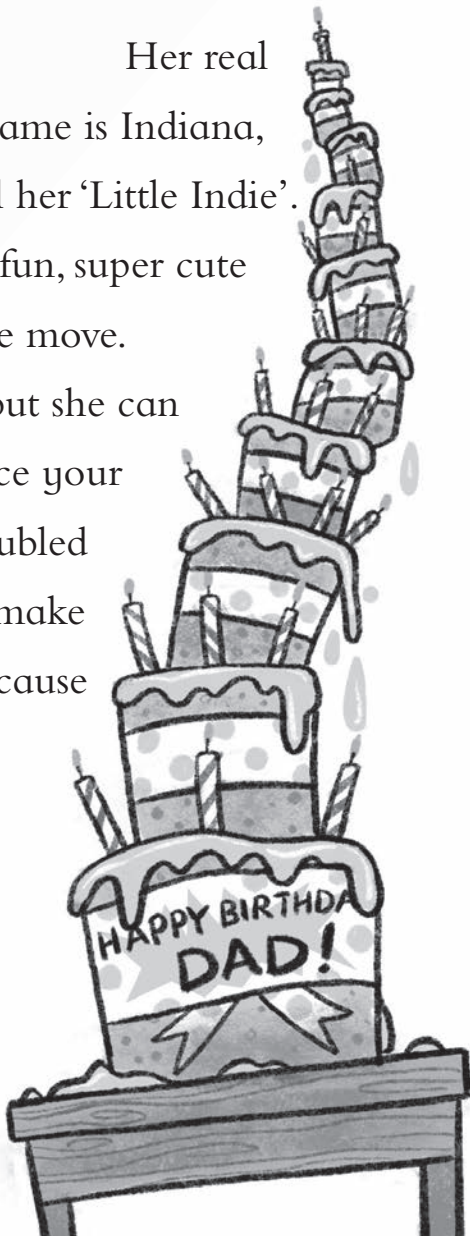


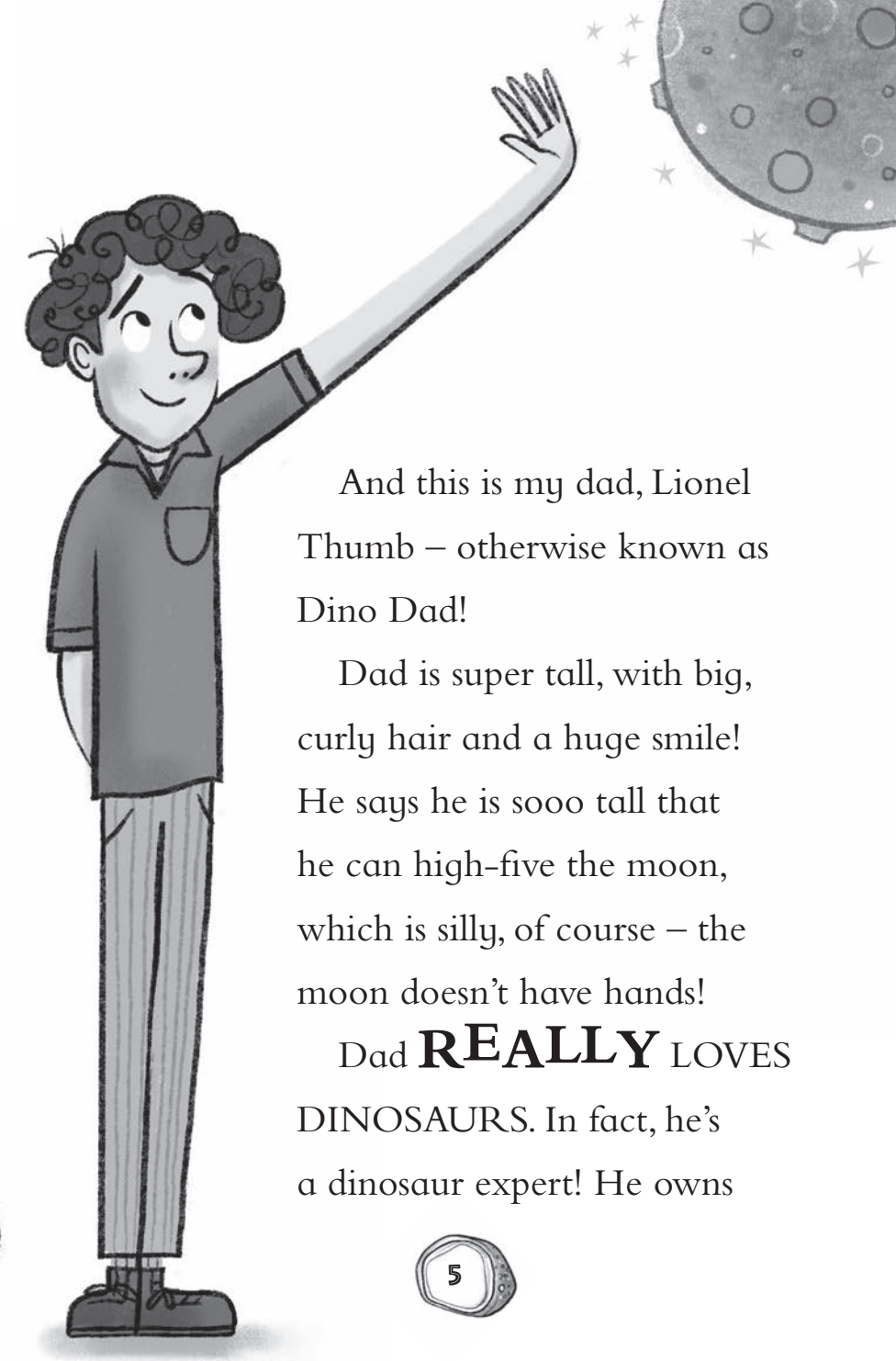
OOOPS – I shouldn't have shown you that last one! Erm, let me introduce you to my little sister instead . . .



Her real name is Indiana, but we call her 'Little Indie'. She's SO much fun, super cute and always on the move.

She can't speak yet, but she can ROAR! Dad says, 'Since your sister was born, I've doubled in age', which doesn't make sense if you ask me, because he still only has one birthday a year.





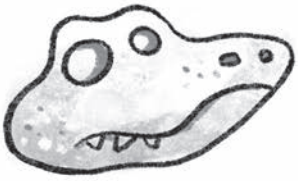
And this is my dad, Lionel Thumb – otherwise known as Dino Dad!

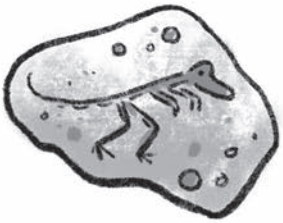
Dad is super tall, with big, curly hair and a huge smile! He says he is sooo tall that he can high-five the moon, which is silly, of course – the moon doesn't have hands!

Dad **REALLY** LOVES DINOSAURS. In fact, he's a dinosaur expert! He owns

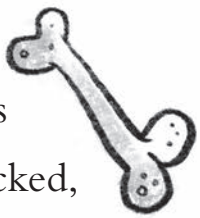
a VERY popular local dinosaur museum, full of fossils and models of amazing prehistoric creatures that people come from all over the world to visit. There's not a THING my dad doesn't know about dinosaurs – and you could say it runs in the family.

You see, my great-great-**GREAT**-grandad, William Thumb, named the first-ever dinosaur to be discovered – the Megalosaurus. So it's no surprise that Dad is an expert (well, that's not the only reason . . . I'll get to that soon, promise!)

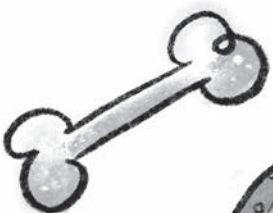


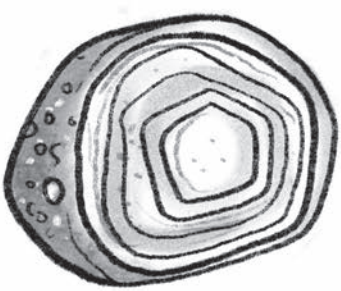


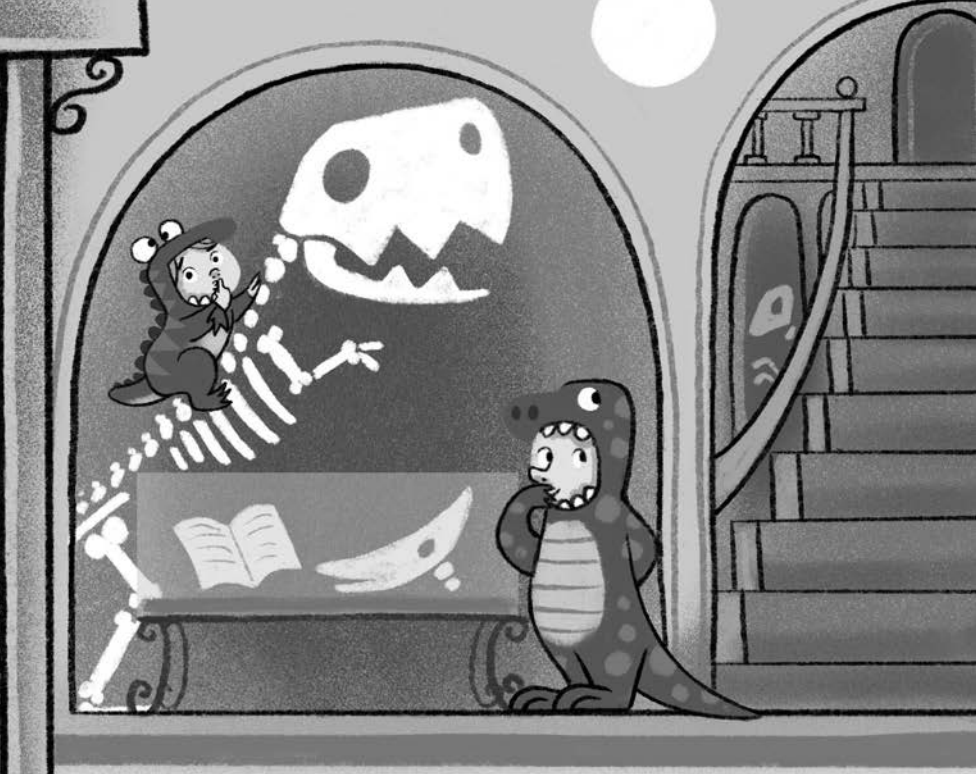
Dad also keeps a very SPECIAL collection of fossils in his study at home, where he spends A LOT of his time working. The door is always locked, and we're not allowed to go in there. EXCEPT sometimes on very special 'Dino-Dad Days'!



Dino-Dad Day is always on a Saturday – usually when Mum goes to work. Dad looks after me and Indie for the WHOLE DAY,







and we always do all sorts of amazing dinosaur-y things!

We go to the museum, fossil hunting, and we even play dinosaur hide-and-seek, where we dress up like our favourite dinosaurs and hide, then Dad comes to find us.

And SOMETIMES Dad opens up his study and lets me and Indie see all the super old and really cool prehistoric artefacts he has in there.

Dad's favourite fossil is a shell full of all the colours of the rainbow. It's called an ammonite shell, and Dad says we

must never touch it, because it's VERY SPECIAL and VERY, **VERY** RARE.

Of course, back before our first adventure, I didn't know just how super special it really was!

It all started a little while ago, on a Dino-Dad Day I'll never forget . . .