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opening extract from

Caterpillar Dreams

written by

Jeanne Willis

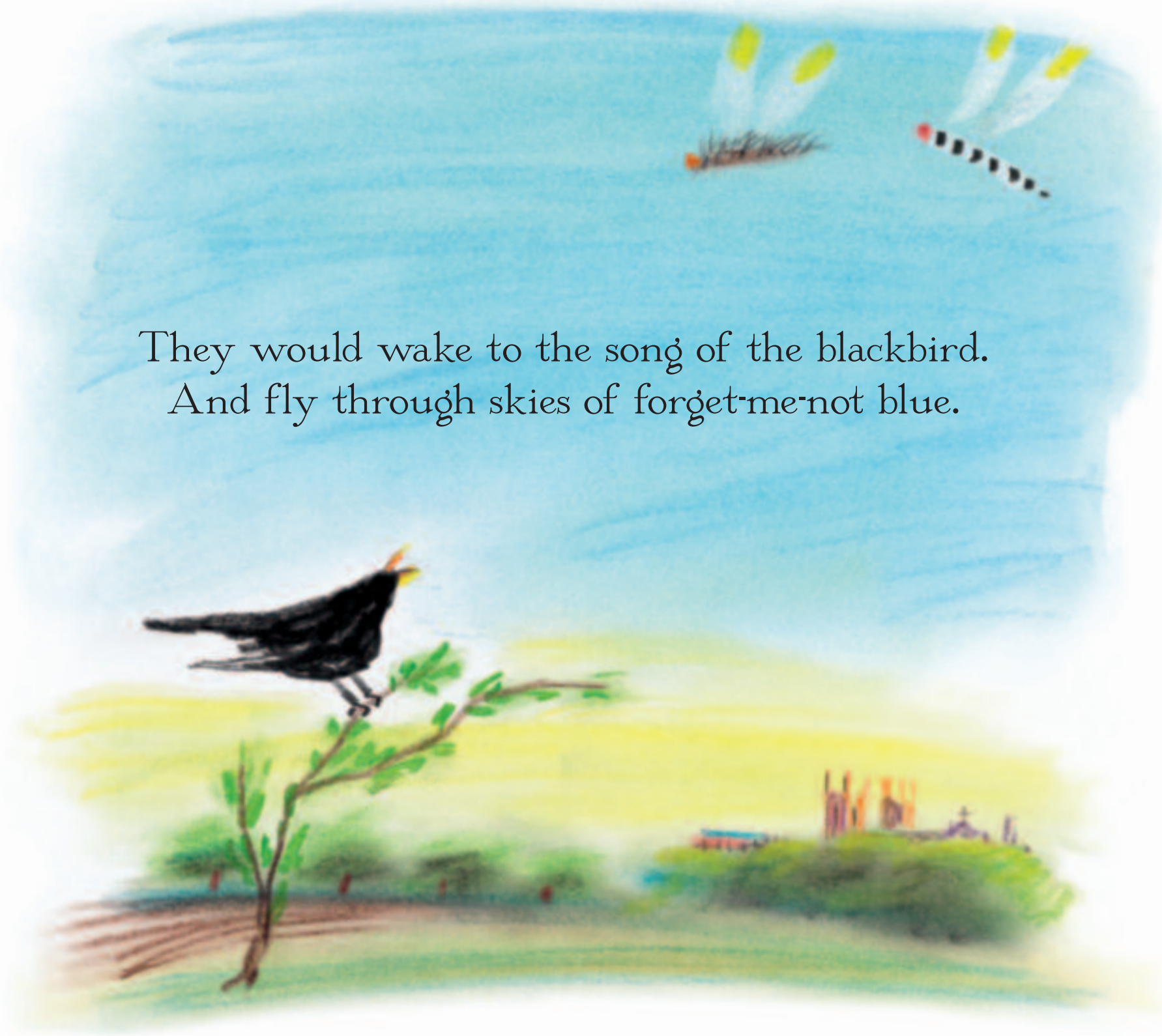
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A blackbird with a bright orange beak is perched on a thin, leafy branch in the foreground. The background features a soft, hazy landscape with rolling green hills and a small cluster of buildings with red roofs in the distance. The sky is a clear, pale blue. Two dragonflies are flying in the upper part of the sky; one has a brown body and yellow wings, and the other has a black and white striped body and yellow wings.

They would wake to the song of the blackbird.
And fly through skies of forget-me-not blue.

A dragonfly with a brown body and yellow wings is flying over a field of yellow buttercups. The field is filled with many buttercups on green stems, and the background is a soft, hazy landscape with rolling green hills and a small cluster of buildings with red roofs in the distance. The sky is a clear, pale blue.

They would sip from buttercups . . .

flit through sunbeams . . .

and bathe in gold dust.

The days grew long.
The caterpillars grew longer.
“It won’t be long now,” they said.
“We will be butterflies. Beautiful butterflies.
Sisters under the sun.”



The bees were leaving.
The flowers turned to seed.



“When the sun sleeps, we will sleep,” the caterpillars said.
“When we wake, our dreams will all come true.”