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Opening extract from
Ready Steady Ghost!

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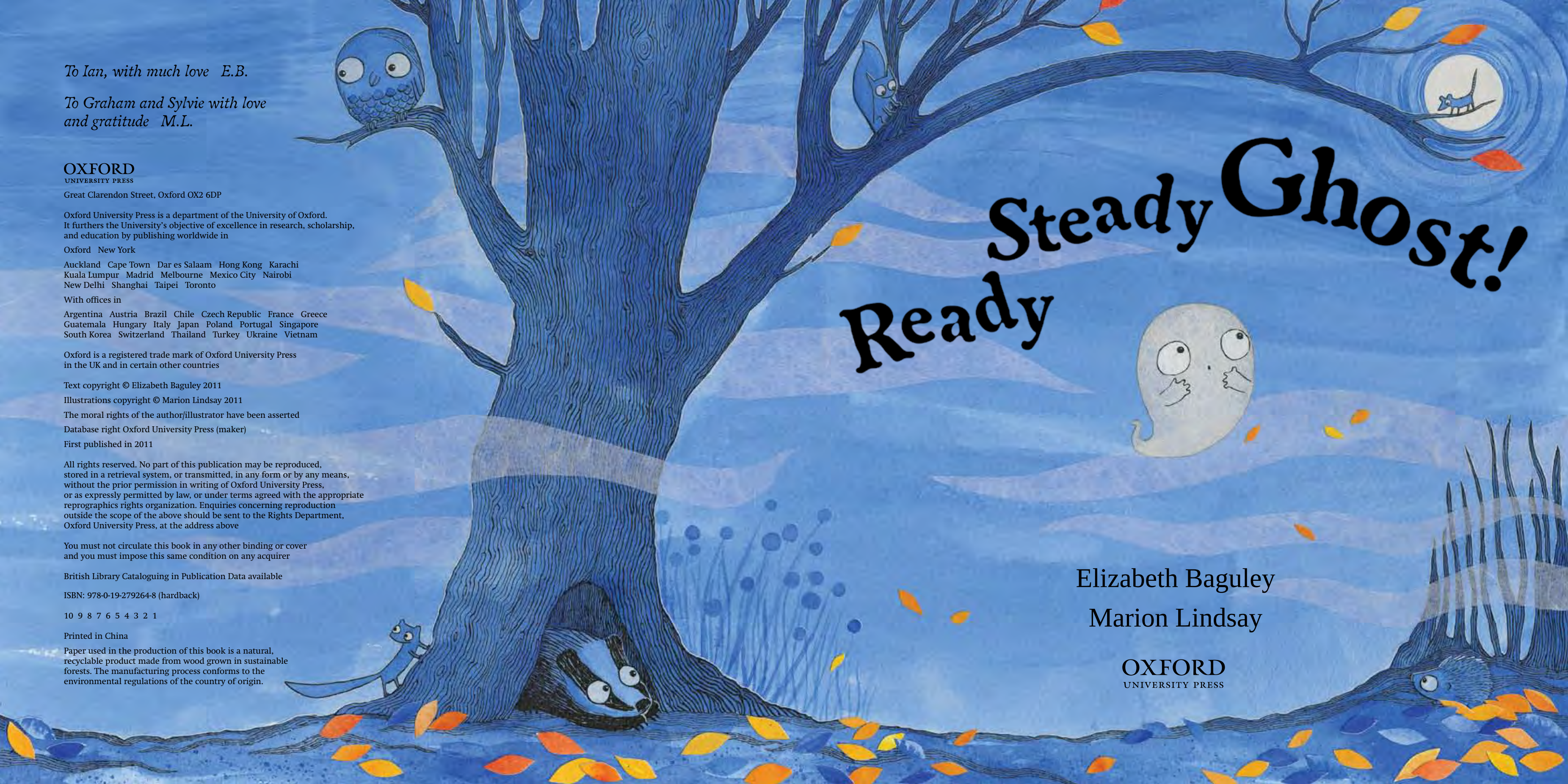
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To Ian, with much love E.B.

To Graham and Sylvie with love
and gratitude M.L.

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Steady Ghost!

Ready

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Midnight!

It was time for Bertie to go haunting.

Ready, steady, *ghost!*

The big ghosts rushed off to
‘Wooooo!’ and *‘Boo!’* in great forests
and tall castles. But Bertie wasn’t a big ghost.
He felt far too small to haunt somewhere huge.



Bertie crept further into the wood. It was darker than dark and lonelier than lonely.

'I don't like it out here,' he whimpered. 'I need to find a homely house to haunt, a cosy house, a little house!'

Two lights shone through the darkness.

'Windows,' said Bertie, hurrying towards them, *'on a little house.'* Then the lights blinked.

'Shiver-me, shake-me!' said Bertie.

'Not windows at all but eyes that belong to a big, gobble-me . . .'



WOLF!'

Luckily, the gobble-me wolf
didn't see Bertie among the leaves.
It howled and was gone.