



THE THUNK



For Edward Lear - M.R.

For Rudi
with love - D.A.

BLOOMSBURY CHILDREN'S BOOKS
Bloomsbury Publishing Plc
50 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3DP, UK

BLOOMSBURY, BLOOMSBURY CHILDREN'S BOOKS and the Diana logo
are trademarks of Bloomsbury Publishing Plc

First published in Great Britain in 2023 by Bloomsbury Publishing Plc

Text © Michelle Robinson 2023
Illustrations © Deborah Allwright 2023

Michelle Robinson and Deborah Allwright have asserted their rights
under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act, 1988, to be identified
as Author and Illustrator of this work

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted
in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying,
recording, or any information storage or retrieval system,
without prior permission in writing from the publishers

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library

ISBN 978 1 4088 9284 8 (HB) ISBN 978 1 4088 9285 5 (PB) ISBN 978 1 4088 9283 1 (eBook)

2 4 6 8 10 9 7 5 3 1

Printed and bound in China by Leo Paper Products, Heshan, Guangdong

All papers used by Bloomsbury Publishing Plc are natural, recyclable products from wood
grown in well-managed forests. The manufacturing processes conform to the environmental
regulations of the country of origin

To find out more about our authors and books visit www.bloomsbury.com
and sign up for our newsletters




MICHELLE ROBINSON

THE THUNK



DEBORAH ALLWRIGHT

BLOOMSBURY
CHILDREN'S BOOKS
LONDON OXFORD NEW YORK NEW DELHI SYDNEY



Have you heard of
the **Thunk**?

It's a bit like
a **skink**,

although more like
a **skunk** on account
of the stink.

and its fur's
blue-ish pink

and it's ever-so-slightly
completely . . .

The Thunk
has a trunk

... **EXTINCT.**

Some say,
“That’s not
TRUE.”

Thunks have
NEVER
existed.

They’re just an
old legend

that grew and
got twisted.

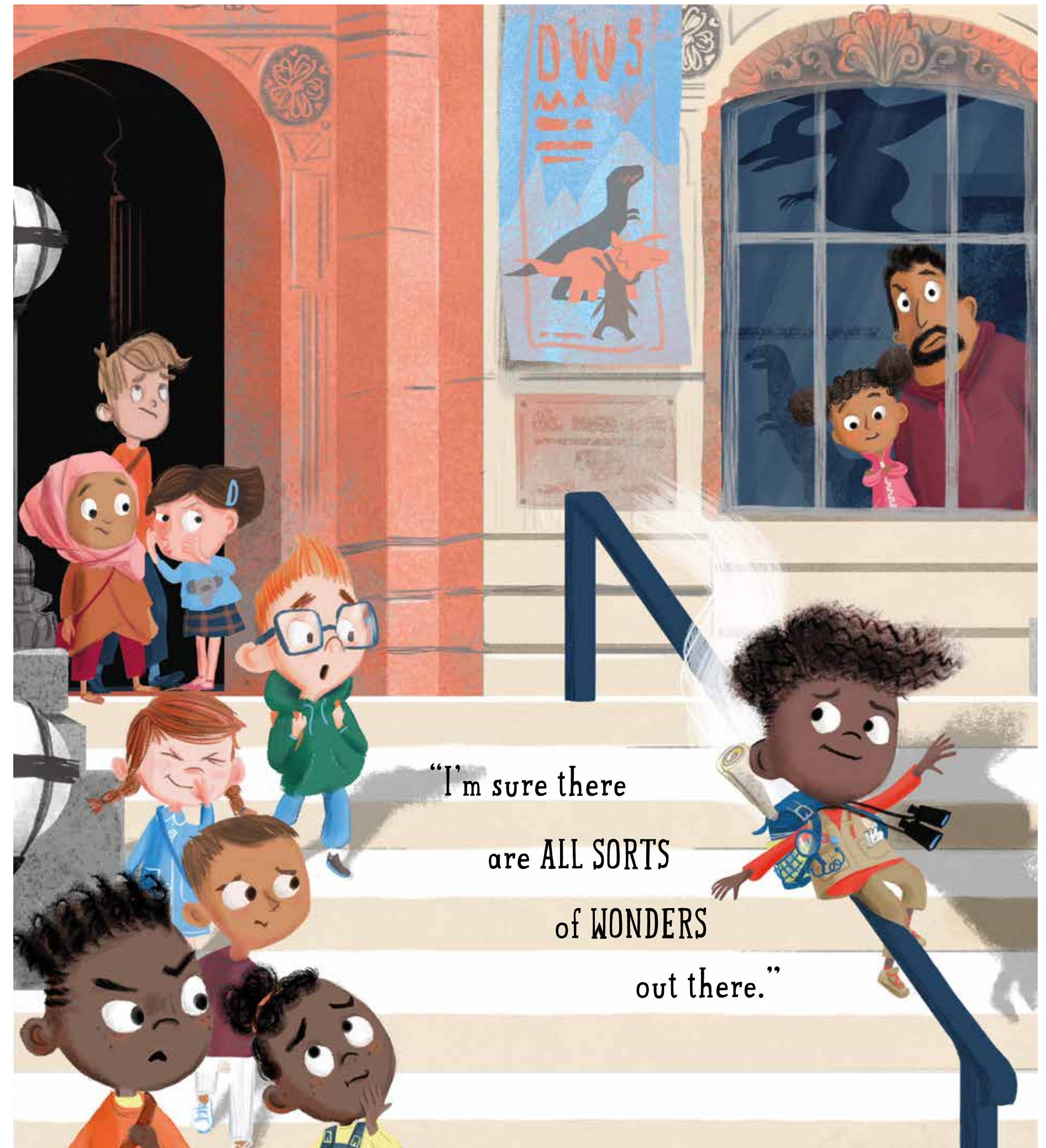
But there is one person who’s always insisted
that he’ll find a Thunk, on his own, unassisted.

Meet Hector Voltaire.

Hector's had his fair share
of other kids saying his head's full of air.



They tease and they taunt him.
He tries not to care.



"I'm sure there
are ALL SORTS
of WONDERS
out there."



"The cave of a dragon.



A rare fairy toadstool.



A unicorn foal.

But . . .

A hobgoblin's hole.



A lake with a monster



*. . . FINDING a THUNK is
my ULTIMATE goal.*



A bridge with a troll!

*If those kids are all wrong
and I'm right . . . what a thrill!"
But finding a Thunk will take
patience and skill . . .*



... and teabags
 and toast forks,
 a tent and
 some pegs.
 Some bread and
 some butter,
 a few
 dozen eggs,
 plus root beer
 (in barrels),
 and ketchup
 (in kegs),
 and one of those
 chairs that stands
 up on three legs.

