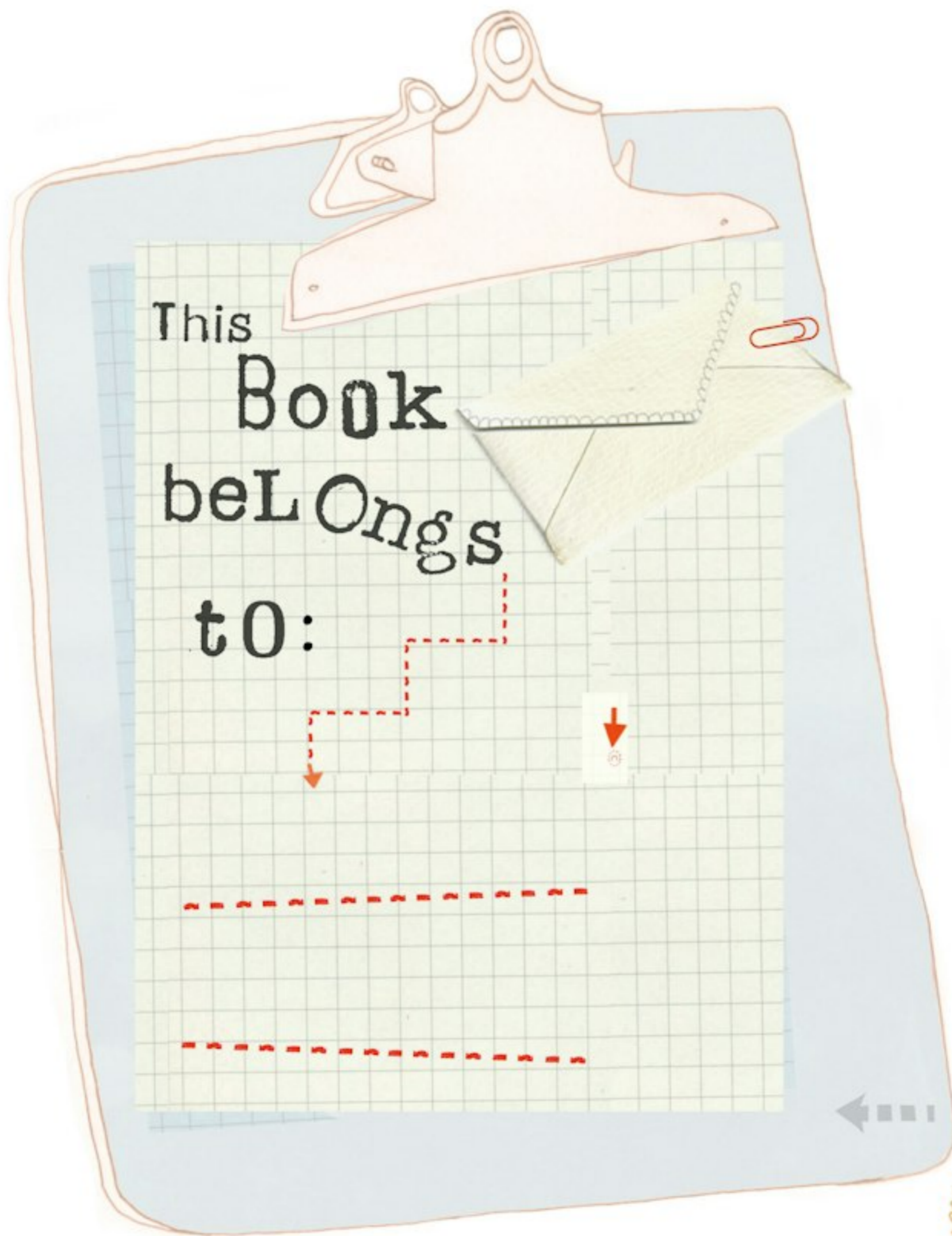




The  
Fixer of  
Broken  
THINGS

By

JULIA  
PATTON





Dedicated To...  
Talking Therapies  
www.nhs.uk  
Thank you

Don't worry! Now we have spoken,  
I can fix what is broken!

çc The right tool for the right Job X

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These characters are inspired by my family, friends & historical heroes.

More here → [jullapatton.co.uk](http://jullapatton.co.uk)

Bea's Workshop →

Home →

# The Fixer of Broken THINGS



JULIA  
PATTON



templar



Beatrice Millicent Robinson  
was a fixer.

But she was no ordinary fixer.  
She was the fastest and finest fixer there was.  
Bea could mend everything (yes, really everything)  
from the trickiest sprocket to the largest rocket!

Whenever something broke,  
Bea was the first person anyone would call.

OPEN

## FIXING LIST

- Monsieur Lockheart  
+ cLock
- DR AnkiTa  
+ counting Machine
- MR M<sup>c</sup>Nick  
+ MEchanical  
ELephant

Bea fixed small tricky things like Monsieur Lockheart's tiniest clock,  
which once had a tick but now had no tock.



She swapped the springs and tightened the sprongs.  
Soon the clock was as good as new.

Bea could fix fiddly things like Dr Ankita's clever counting machine.



She replaced all the 0s and restored all the 1s.  
Dr Ankita turned some knobs and whirred the cogs.



Bea could even fix

# HUMONGOUS

things like Mr McNick's marvellous mechanical elephant Sophia, whose giant legs had sadly stopped

## STOMPING.



Bea! Sophia has seized up! She's stonkered!



Don't worry! Now we have spoken, I can fix what is broken.

Strapped securely in her harness, Bea's tiny hands tinkered and tightened until Sophia's magnificent legs were stomping once again.

# STOMP!

# STOMP!

# STOMP!

She looks wonderful, thank you!



Bea's fame spread far and wide.  
She was brought

handbags

and  
helicopters.

trains and toasters,

saxophones and  
satellites.

and once an entire collection of tiny robots.

Don't worry!  
Now we have spoken,  
I can fix what is  
broken.



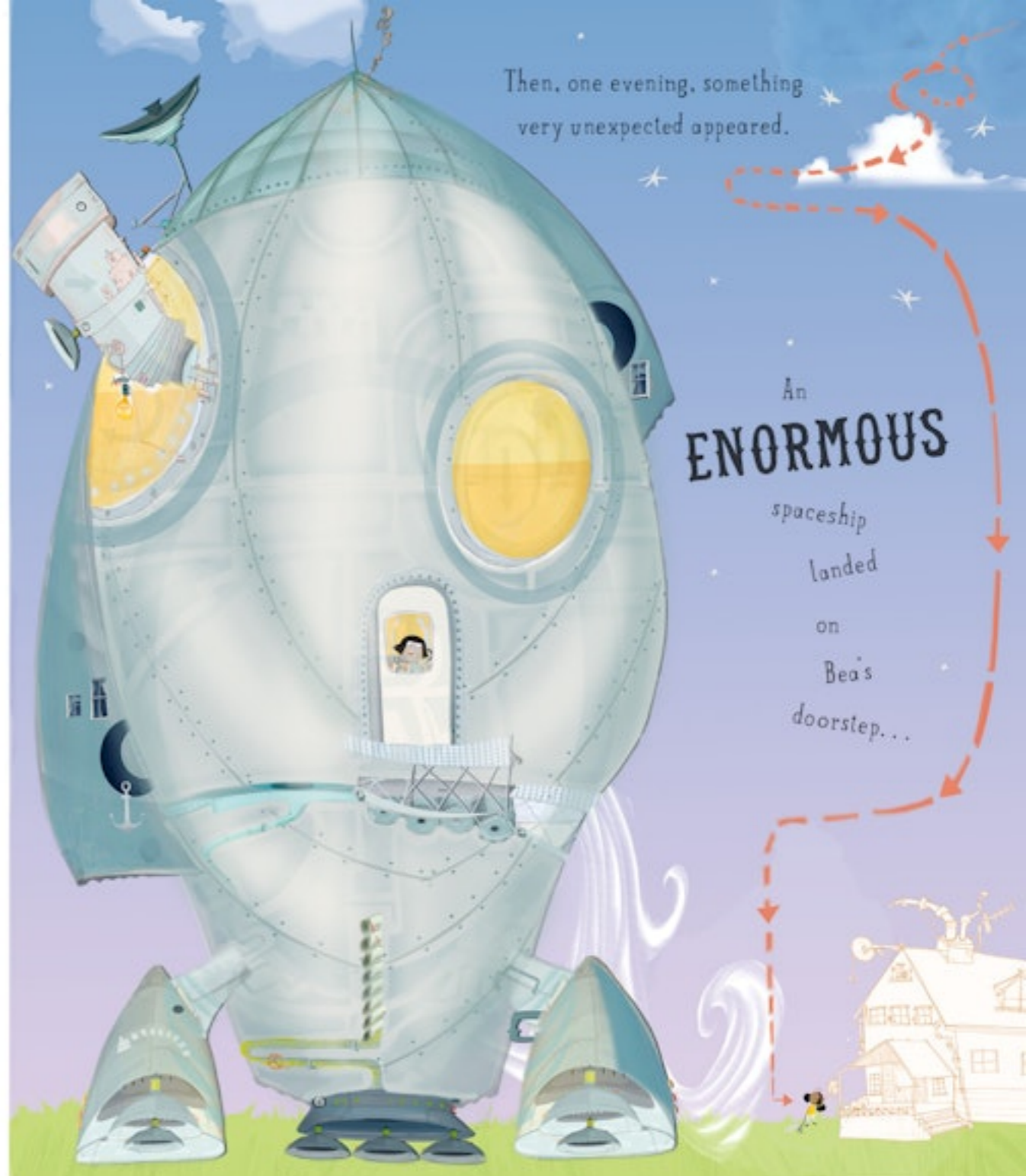
Thank you,  
Bea!

She  
fixed  
them  
all.

Then, one evening, something  
very unexpected appeared.

An  
**ENORMOUS**

spaceship  
landed  
on  
Bea's  
doorstep...





... and out stepped the famous Captain Shimura.  
It was the biggest thing that Bea had ever been asked to fix.



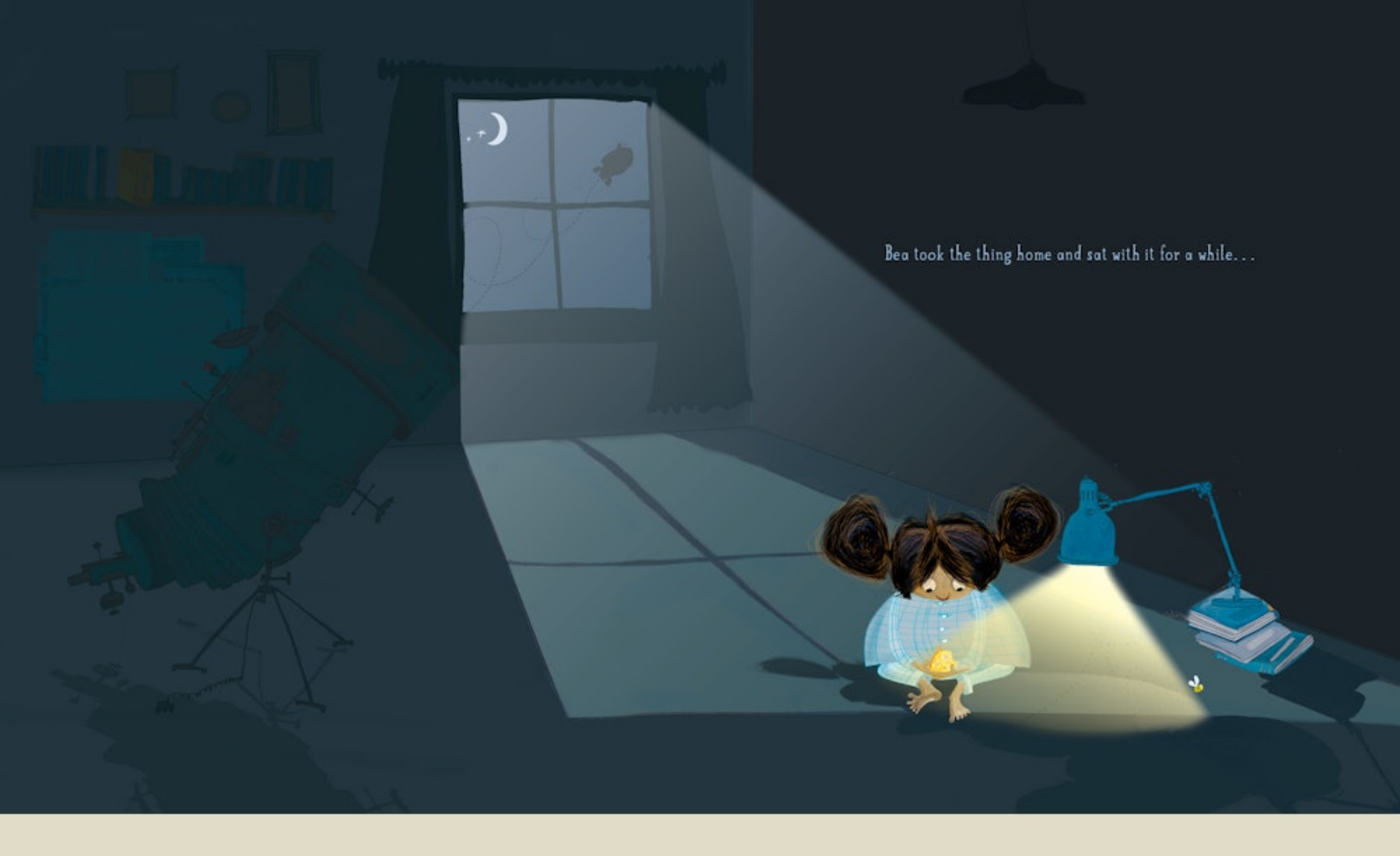
In a flash, she'd reconnected the circuit boards and reset the coordinates.



As Bea was packing away her tools she came across something she'd not seen before. She was baffled.



She didn't know where it had come from or what it was exactly, but she knew from the very moment she held it close that it was broken on the inside.

A dark, atmospheric illustration of a child's bedroom at night. A young girl with two large, dark, curly pigtails sits on the floor, wearing a light blue and white checkered nightgown. She is holding a small, glowing yellow object in her hands. To her right, a blue desk lamp with a stack of books underneath it casts a warm, yellow glow on the floor. In the background, a window shows a crescent moon and a star, with a faint silhouette of a creature flying outside. A bookshelf with several books is visible on the left, and a bed with a striped blanket is partially seen. The overall mood is quiet and contemplative.

Bea took the thing home and sat with it for a while...

Bea spent a whole week trying to figure out the problem.



No matter what she did... it stayed quiet and still.

Bea was quiet too so Mum asked her, "Why is my little Bea not buzzing?"

But Bea didn't tell her about the broken thing.

What good was a fixer who can't fix a little problem like this?

So she said:



But she wasn't okay because the thing was still broken.

Bea slipped it into her backpack and went to see if anyone else had an answer.

Monsieur Lockheart was in his workshop.

Morning Bea!  
It's all tick-tock today!  
Since you fixed my clock  
it's been non-stop!



He looked much too busy to be bothered by Bea's broken thing.



Dr Ankita was  
in her laboratory.



Morning Bea!  
Look at these numbers.  
Thanks to you I've got a  
billion possible answers  
to the problem...  
Now, where was I?



Bea didn't want to disturb her,  
so didn't show her the broken thing.

Mr McNick was in the circus ring with  
Sophia who was stomping and stamping  
so loudly he didn't hear Bea at all.



It looked like he had much bigger things  
to worry about than her broken thing.

Captain Shimura was still on Mars  
so Bea spoke to her on the computer.

Bea it's wonderful here,  
the sands are as red as  
the sunset. You would love it!

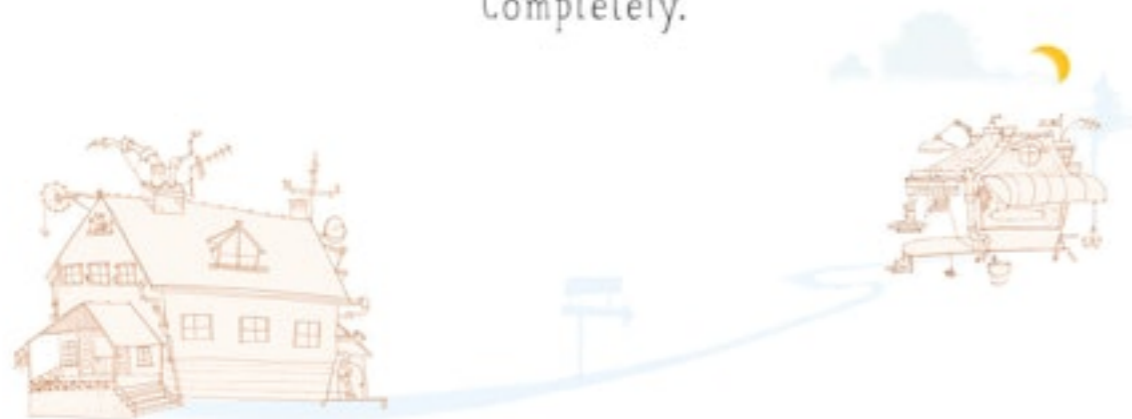


It sounded so amazing that Bea  
didn't think the captain would be very  
interested in her broken thing.

Back at the workshop, Bea switched off the lights and hung up her toolbelt.



For the first time ever the happy buzz of fixing stopped.  
Completely.



Bea held the broken thing  
in her hands.



I'm sorry.  
I don't know how  
to fix you.



But what Bea hadn't realised is that all her friends had noticed her silence.

1 Mum told Monsieur Lockheart that Bea had stopped fixing.



2

Monsieur Lockheart told Dr Ankita.



3 Dr Ankita broadcast the message to Mr McNick...



4

... who used his loudest voice to call Captain Shimura...



5 ... who turned around her rocket.



6

They all gathered outside Bea's workshop to see how they could help.





There was a loud  
**KNOCK KNOCK**  
on Bea's door.

Bea went to open it,  
and outside was her mum  
and all her friends.  
"What is it that can't be fixed  
my little one?" asked Mum.





Bea slowly started to talk, and with many *umms* and *ahhs*, she finally held out the broken thing. Then she whispered...

I need some help please. This heart is broken and I can't fix it by myself.



"Thank you for sharing this with me, Bea," said Mum. "Together we can fix anything. Do you remember your own rule of fixing?"



... sang everyone together.

So they all looked at the thing together and began to talk...



Bea, I think you're the finest fixer there is. I believe in you!

Let's all take a look and see what we can do to help.

I think this thing just needs a little love.

We are so proud of you!

Thank you, everyone! I felt sad, but now we have spoken. I think we can fix it together.

Well done, Bea. It's good to talk about what's making you sad.



1

And then something very special happened.



The broken thing started to gently hum.



2

Then it buzzed.



3

Then it started to whirr...



And finally it began to beat happily in Bea's hands!



4

BA BOOM! BA BOOM!  
BA BOOM! BA BOOM!



Beatrice Millicent Robinson was a fixer.  
But she was no ordinary fixer. Bea could mend anything...



... especially now she knew that not even a fixer  
of broken things had to mend everything by herself.

In Bea's workshop, the once broken thing whirred and hummed...



... and if it ever missed a beat or seemed a little sad and quiet,

Bea knew exactly who to talk to.



Another fantastic story of friendship  
from Julia Patton

