

A Nest For

Robyn



MyStories
your own adventure

Cené de Wit
Mariana van der Merwe

A Nest For
Robyn

Written by Mariana van der Merwe
Illustrated by Cené de Wit

MyStories
your own adventure



www.mystories.co.za

Robyn lives in a penguin colony on top of a big ice cap.

During the day, the young penguins play on the ice while the older penguins catch fish in the deep sea.





Every night, Robyn's mommy and daddy come back to her.

They hug her and feed her fish with their beaks.



One night they don't come back.

All the other young penguins' mommies and daddies climb out of the sea and feed their young. But not Robyn's.

Some of the older penguins look and point in her direction.

She wonders why. But no one says anything.

What might that mean?

Then Robyn hears them talking about a strong sea current that pulled two older penguins away, forever.

Is that what happened to her mommy and daddy?

The sun has already set, and a strong wind blows over the ice. Young and old scramble to their nests.

All of them, except Robyn.
Her nest is empty and cold.
She feels very lonely and her tummy growls.



“Where is Mommy and Daddy?” Robyn whispers.

“And where will I find food? And who will keep me warm?
I can’t swim or fish yet and my down feathers are very thin.”



Robyn looks around.
Maybe someone dropped
a piece of fish?

There is nothing.

But wait.
What does she see there?

A road sign with an arrow and
a drawing of a little fish.



Who drew that? Should she follow the direction of the arrow?
What if it is dangerous?

Her tummy growls again and she decides to follow the arrow
straightaway.



She walks and walks and walks. Suddenly, she sniffs the air.
Something smells wonderful. Is it fish?

The smell leads her to a big pile of snow.
She stops and peaks around it ...



There is a dish filled with fish next to the fire. Robyn's tummy growls again.

On her penguin toes, she sneaks closer.

... and she sees red and orange stains that dance in the dark.
It's bright and warm. Is it a fire?

“GRRRRRRRRRRR!”

A dog runs towards Robyn.

“HELP!”



The dog opens his beak and licks her face.

BAH!

Robyn falls over ...
on the pile of snow ...

... she sinks deeply into the snow.

She tries to get out, but she is stuck. Oh boy, what is the sound that she hears? Footsteps? She tilts her head and peeks.



Something strange on two long legs is coming closer.

Is that a human?

Are humans dangerous?

“Who are you, and where do you come from?”
the human asks with a deep voice.

Robyn gives an anxious chirp.

The human looks friendly, and his mouth turns into the same
shape as the crescent moon up in the sky.



“I understand,” he nods. “Be at ease, Robyn. I know of a
place where you will be very happy.”

Robyn's heart beats fast.
What does he mean?

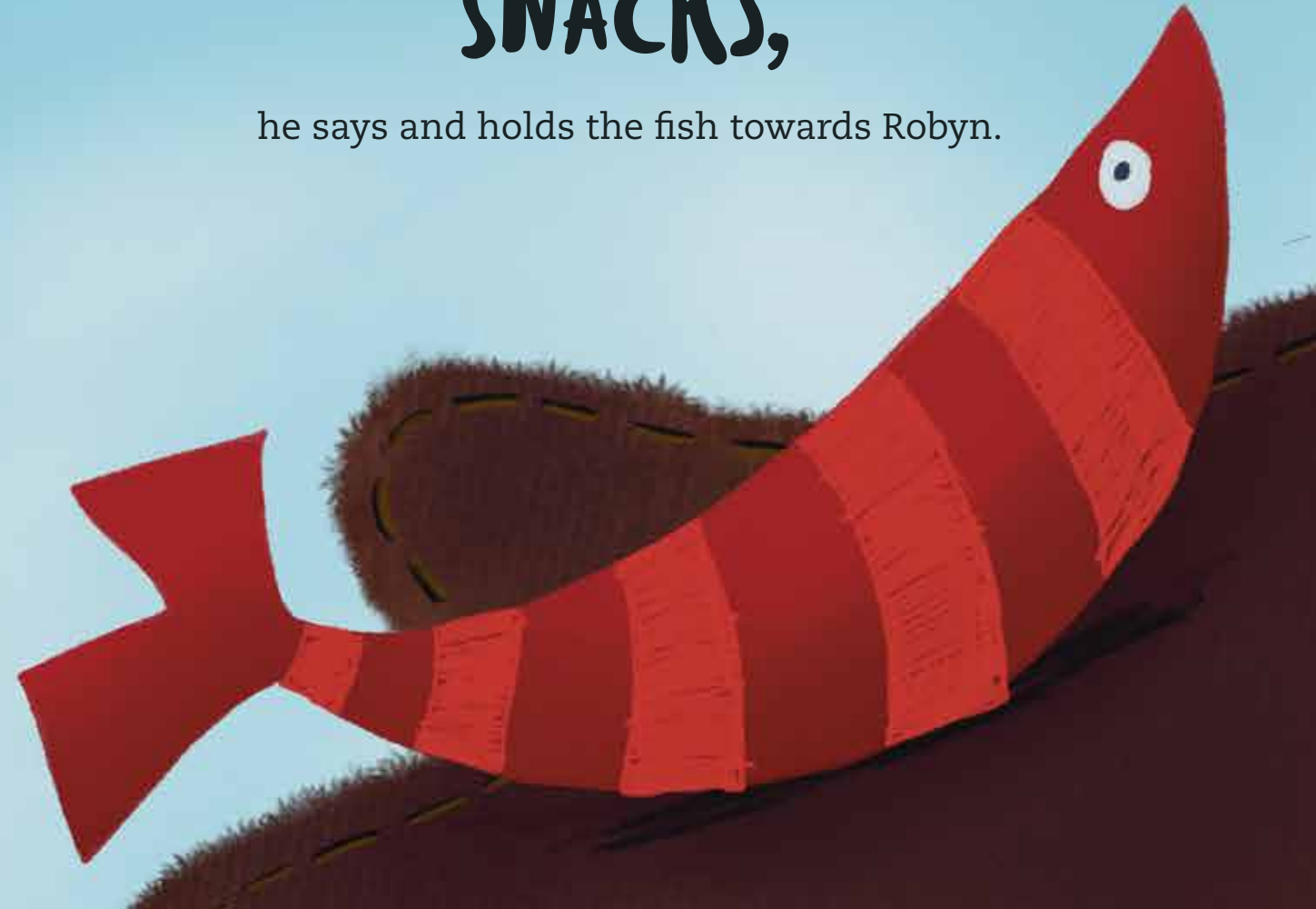



Against his chest, Robyn spots the same fish
drawing that she saw on the road sign.
Did he draw the fish and arrow on it?

He lifts her out of the snow, covers her in a blanket
and places her onto a sled. He harnesses the dog
in front, and before jumping onto the sled himself,
the human grabs a handful of fish from the dish.

“SNACKS,”

he says and holds the fish towards Robyn.



The illustration is split into two panels. The left panel shows a snowy landscape with several tall, thin, blue-tinted trees. A set of tracks leads from the left towards the right. The right panel shows a sled with a person wrapped in a yellow blanket and a red scarf, moving across the snow. In the background, there is a dark night sky with a crescent moon and falling snow. A large, dark, textured shape, possibly a cave entrance or a large log, is partially buried in the snow.

The dog runs with long strides
over the snow and the sled
follows in his tracks.

“WHOA!”

The sled stops and the human jumps off.
Gently, he lifts Robyn out and places her next to a
huge pile of snow.

He rubs her head and jumps back on the sled.

“STRA-A-A-A-AIGHT AHEAD!”



Robyn watches as the sled disappears in the distance.
She wiggles herself out of the blanket.

Where is she?
What will happen now?

“HELLO,” a voice behind her says. Robyn turns around.

A white, furry animal crawls out of the pile of snow.

“I’ve always dreamed of the day that a young penguin will stand at my door,” the voice says.



“Come in, you’re
just in time for
dinner.”

Robyn shuffles closer and peeks in.

“WELCOME IN OUR NEST,”

says another massive, furry animal.



Robyn crawls in and looks around.
Big eyes sparkle, and round ears
wiggle curiously.

What can they be?

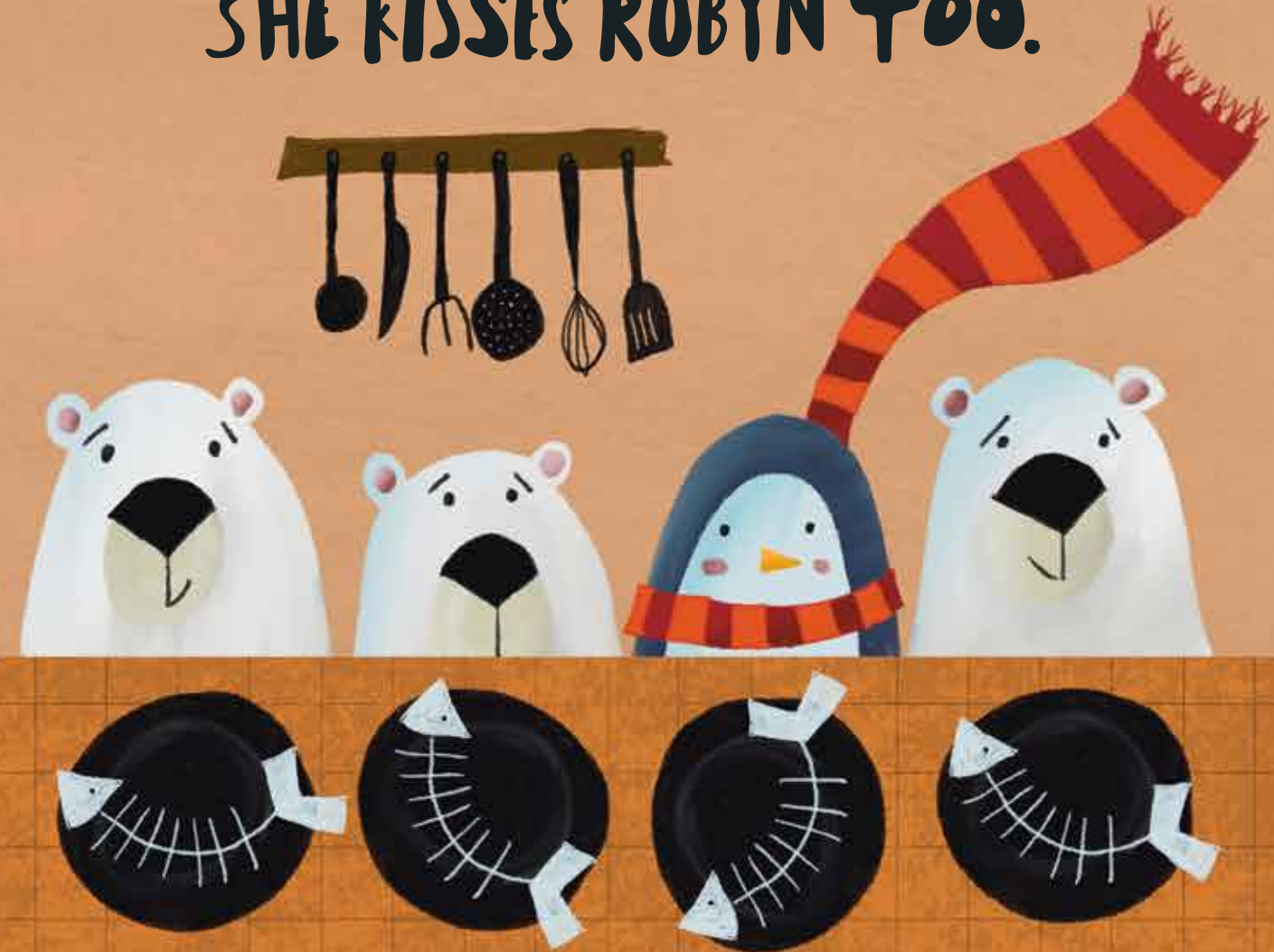


“Are ... are you Polar Bears?”
Robyn asks.
Suddenly she feels very small.

Papa bear nods. They all feast together.
After dinner Papa Bear reads a bedtime story and
Mama Bear gives everyone a goodnight kiss.

SHE KISSES ROBYN TOO.

The bears nod and introduce themselves.
Mamma Bear lifts the lid of a sweet-smelling pot on the table.
“It smells delicious ... is it fish?” Robyn asks.



Then Papa, Mama, and their three baby bears curl up together.
Robyn hides her face underneath her wings. What about her?
“There is space for you too,” Mama Bear invites.



Robyn crawls in between them.

The bears are warm and soft and it is perfectly snug
there between them.



“Does this mean I can live with you forever?” Robyn asks.

Mama Bear nods.
“Forever and always.
For as long as you want to.”





Robyn yawns and
closes her eyes.

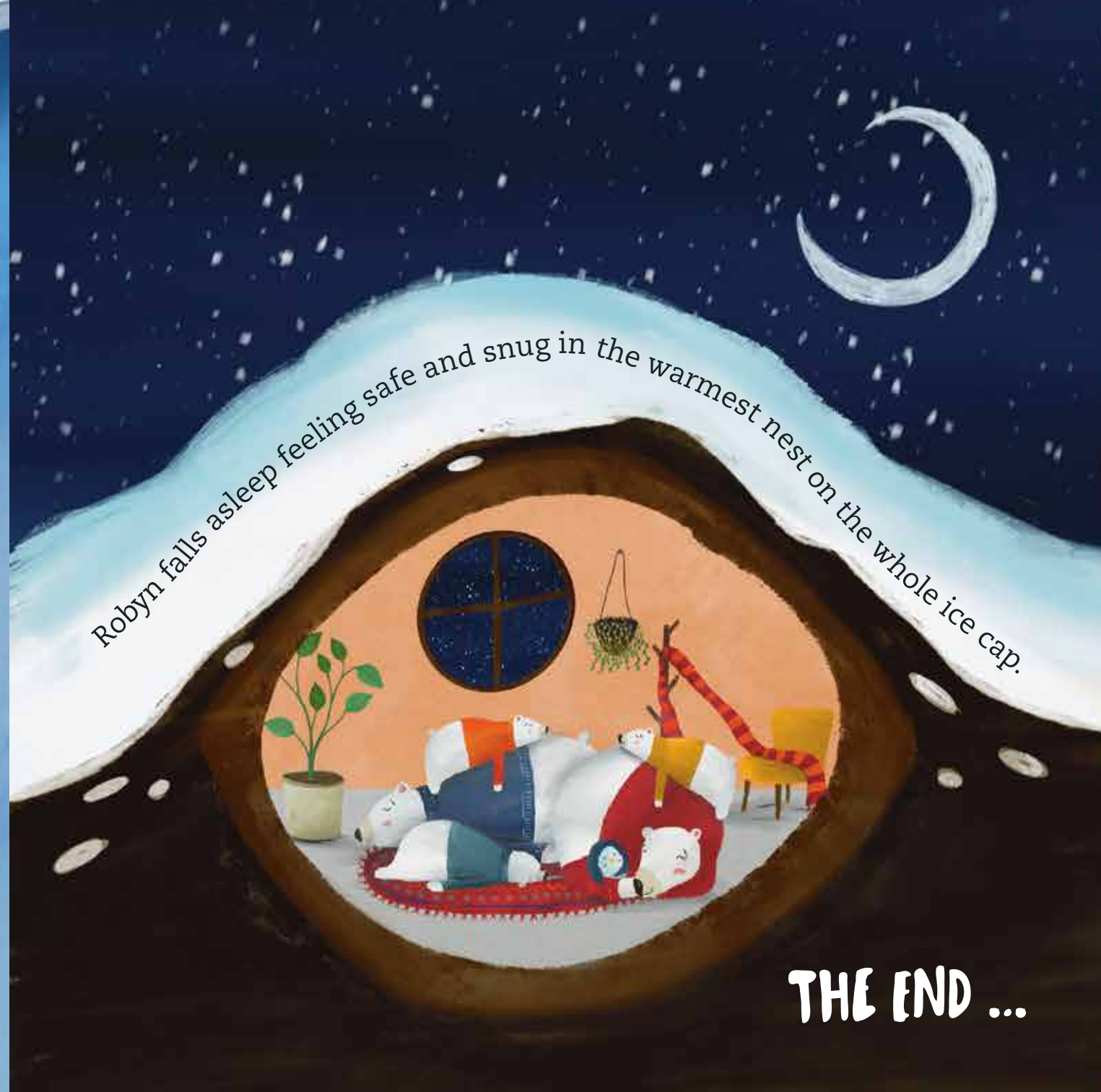


She thinks of her penguin mommy and penguin
daddy and all her penguin friends. She thinks of her
new bear mama and her new bear papa and all the
bear babies where she lives now.

And then, while the crescent moon guards outside,
she thinks of the friendly man that led her to the bears.



How did he know what she needed?
Will he help her again if she
has questions one day?
She hopes so!



Robyn falls asleep feeling safe and snug in the warmest nest on the whole ice cap.

THE END ...



MyStories

your own adventure

www.mystories.co.za

Robyn is a small penguin.

She lives with her family on top of a large ice cap. One day, a strong sea current pulled her parents away, forever.

Suddenly her nest is empty and cold.

That night, Robyn's path leads her to a friendly man. He knows exactly what she needs and helps her find a wonderful new home.

MyStories
your own adventure

www.mystories.co.za

