

Every
Picture
tells a
Story



Dougal M. Haggart

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A - Z

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For kids of all ages
who want to read

A is for Arrogant

Without reins or saddle, the “Businessman on a horse” does not even watch where he’s going. Good thing the horse is alert. Pay attention!

B is for Busy

Bees complement coneflowers; they help each other out.







C is for Canning

Making blackberry jelly is like keeping summer in a jar.

D is for Dragon

A long way from his winged, horned, four-legged, and fire breathing ancestors, a concrete dragon guards the garden.



E is for Encounter

In the frosty silence of dawn, a whitetail deer pauses briefly, and vanishes – just as we draw breath to whisper “look!”

F is for Family

Granny Les (daughter, sister, mum, wife) making magic with her two grandkids. They have the same glint of mischief in their eyes.







G is for Geocaching

Geocaching is a hi-tech treasure hunt where you use multimillion dollar satellites to find tupperware in the woods.

H is for Houseboat

Moored in the lagoon south of Algonquin Island, houseboats enjoy a warm November day before battening down for winter.



I is for Investigate

“What’s on the other side?” Inquiring minds want to know.

J is for Jack Russell Terrier

Bucky avidly searches for squirrels, while the girls scamper up willows, ignoring their billing as “dirt dogs,” to secure the area.







K is for Kindergarten

Stepping out on a field trip; “Adventure is out there!”

L is for Lakeshore

Dogwalkers at Cherry Beach watch their packs enjoy the lake on an entrancing summer day. Their “office” in winter is not so engaging.



M is for Music

Music takes a lot of practice. The Heliconian Piano Trio patiently rehearses a tricky bit of Beethoven (Kye on cello, Velma on violin, Louise on piano).

N is for Nightfall

Down goes the sun, out come all the stars, and it's the last night of their holiday: back to the city the cottagers must return.







O is for Orange

February oranges in the winter sun; with a bowl by my neighbour, a coffee mug from my cousin, and a tray from Africa.

P is for Pack

Charlie is pensive as the rest of our pack of “blonds” patiently wait to get to the park: Arlo, Roscoe, Samson, Potter and Zoe.



Q is for Quiet time

Nothing like a quiet nap in the afternoon sun to set you up for your next adventure.

R is for Roses

“Raindrops on roses, and whiskers on kittens,
Bright copper kettles and warm woolen mittens...”







S is for Sycamore

Birds hop in and out of the hollow in the sycamore.

Serendipity: The lost limb means they get a convenient retreat.

T is for Tent

On a rare warm Saturday in November, the whole city is outside. The parks are – for some literally – their home.



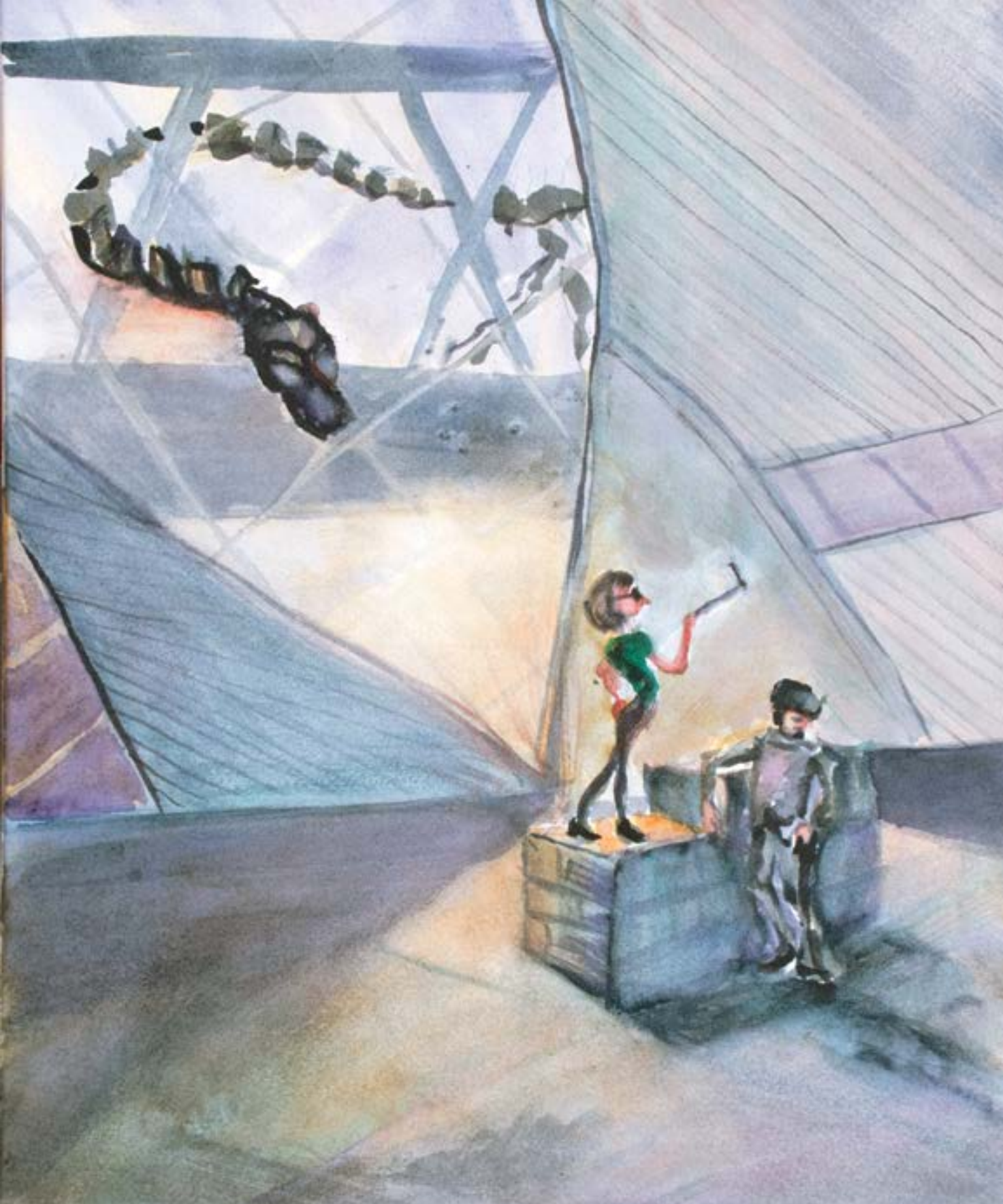
U is for Undaunted

Undaunted and proud, Oscar the poodle effortlessly carried his gift of an immensely long heavy branch to his people.

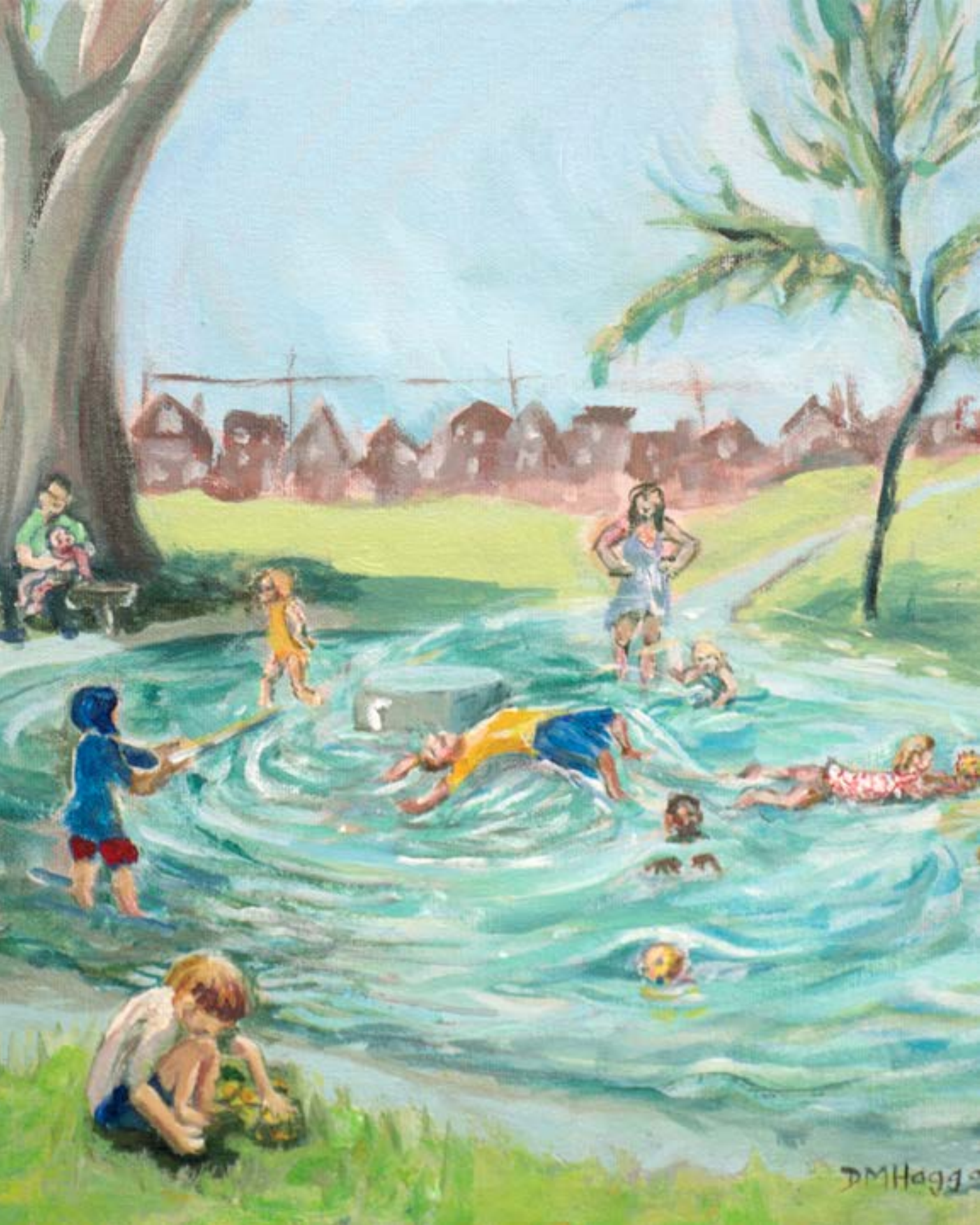
V is for Vain

No time to lose, says the barosaurus. But we find our selves and our distractions so fascinating that we ignore his warning.





DM Haggart '19



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W is for Water

It was a hot day, and all eagerly awaited the filling of the splash pad at noon. Water is bliss!

X is for Xeric

Xeric means adapted to an extremely dry habitat. In the nearly waterless high plains of Kansas, the yuccas hang in.



Y is for Yorkville

The billion year old rock is not native to Toronto; it was moved from the Canadian Shield to rest between the chic boutiques of Yorkville and Bloor Street.

Z is for Zoom Boom

The lifts at Leal Rental look like a clutch of metal insects caught in mid motion -- like baby Groot in *Guardians of the Galaxy*.





A note from Dougal

Starting new things can be scary, but it's also the only way to get to where you want to go.

When I went to art school after years of working in an office, taking that first step was hard but exciting. As archy said, “expression is the need of my soul.” If I get discouraged, a friend says: “If you don't make your paintings, who will?”

I remember my own delight the moment I was shown how *letters make words*. I hope this picturebook helps unlock reading, writing and the world for you.



Images

A

Watch where you're going, 2018

B

Complementaries, 2018

C

Harvest time, 2020

D

Dragon in the garden, 2020

E

Prongs at dawn, 2012

F

Xmas cookies, check., 2016

G

Geocaching outside the lines, 2014

H

Maybe, 2015

I

Three, 2018

J

The Rare Tree Terrier, Cherry Beach, 2012

K

Stepping Out, 2016

L

Welcome to my office, 2016

M

The Trio tackles Beethoven, 2020

N

Last day on the Bay, 2020

O

Round we go again, 2020

P

Are we there yet?, 2020

Q

The Geojacks go on an Adventure, 2019

R

Favourite things, 2020

S

Sycamore patches, 2015

T

The whole city is outside, 2020

U

I come bearing gifts: Oscar in Spring, 2019

V

Hour upon the Stage, 2019

W

In the Circle, 2016

X

Arikaree Breaks, High Plains, 2014

Y

Yorkville Mountain, 2019

Z

SkyJack and Zoom Boom, 2019

On the cover:

The Harvest and the Hunt, 2019

Rosebud, 2012

On the dedication:

All I need, 2019

Bonus!

A is also for Apple,

B is also for Bear!

