



# Henry Says Good-Bye

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Henry Hedgehog woke to the sound of his little sister, Halle, reading stories to Mama and Papa—stories with happy endings. Henry didn't care for happy endings—not right now. Nothing felt happy without his ladybug, Lila.



As he got dressed for school, Henry thought about the first time he met Lila.



He had just come home from school, when he saw a spotted wing case on the screen door. Lila smiled, fluttered her wings, and flew right to Henry's paw. They became instant friends.

Later that afternoon, Henry built  
Lila a beautiful little home.

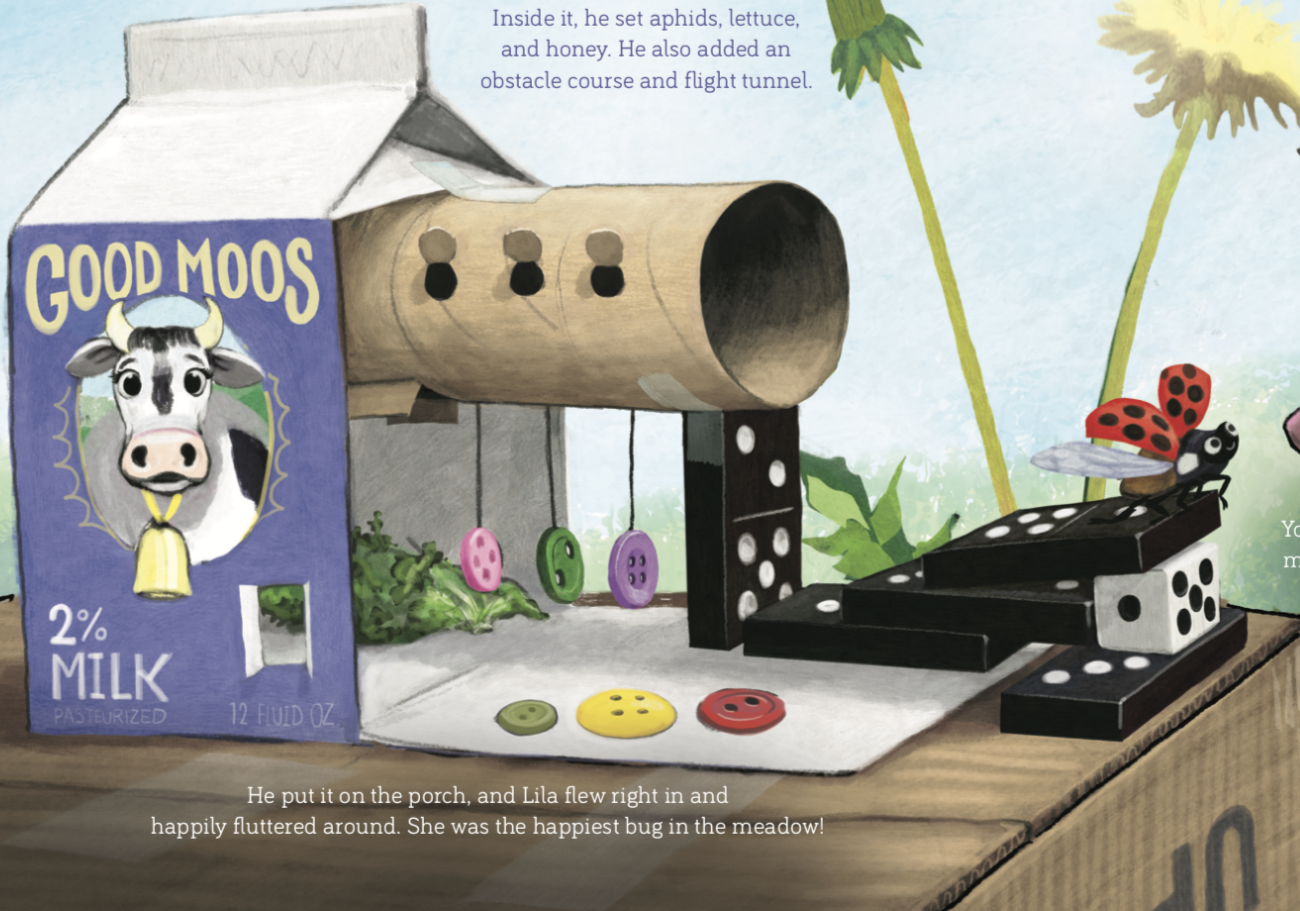
Inside it, he set aphids, lettuce,  
and honey. He also added an  
obstacle course and flight tunnel.

He put it on the porch, and Lila flew right in and  
happily fluttered around. She was the happiest bug in the meadow!

Several days later, Henry asked Lila,  
"Would you like to come to school with me today?  
All of my friends bring their pets, so if you come,  
you can make new friends, too!"

You can ride in  
my backpack!"

Lila fluttered her  
wings as if to say yes.



Soon, Lila had a whole new host of friends. She met honey bees, butterflies, dragonflies, and even a praying mantis! Each day at recess, the pets outdid each other in performing flying tricks.

They flew in circles,  
did barrel rolls,  
and raced each other.



They had the best time! At the end of recess, each pet returned to their backpack for a nap.

But, one particular day, Lila wanted to stay out of her backpack. She teetered on the edge of the backpack pocket, just waiting for the right moment to escape.



And so it happened—  
right in the middle of  
Miss Minnick's math lesson.

Lila sprung out of her backpack and into the air.  
She put on a spectacular aerobatic show.

