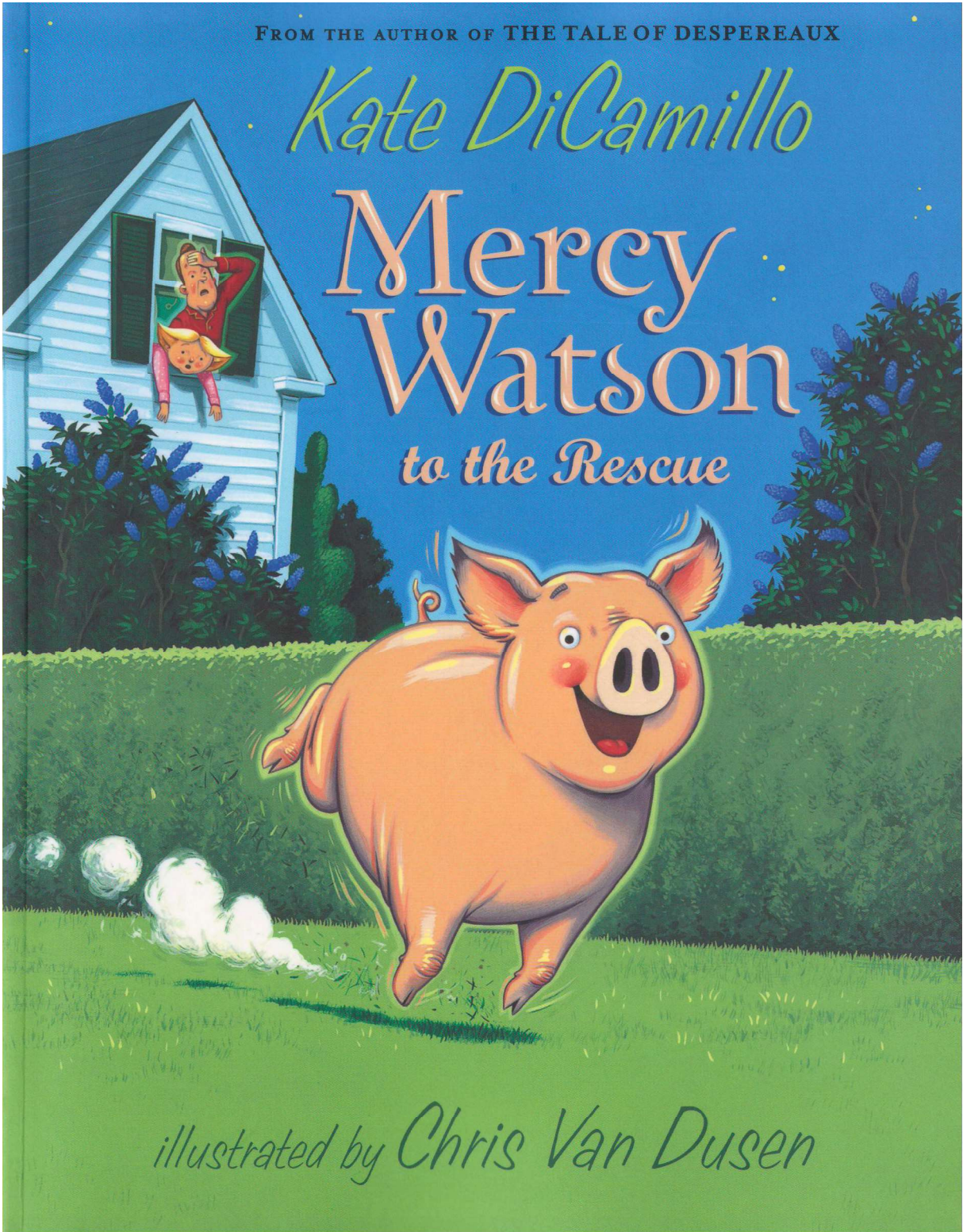


FROM THE AUTHOR OF THE TALE OF DESPEREAUX

*Kate DiCamillo*

# Mercy & Watson

*to the Rescue*



*illustrated by Chris Van Dusen*

*Kate DiCamillo*

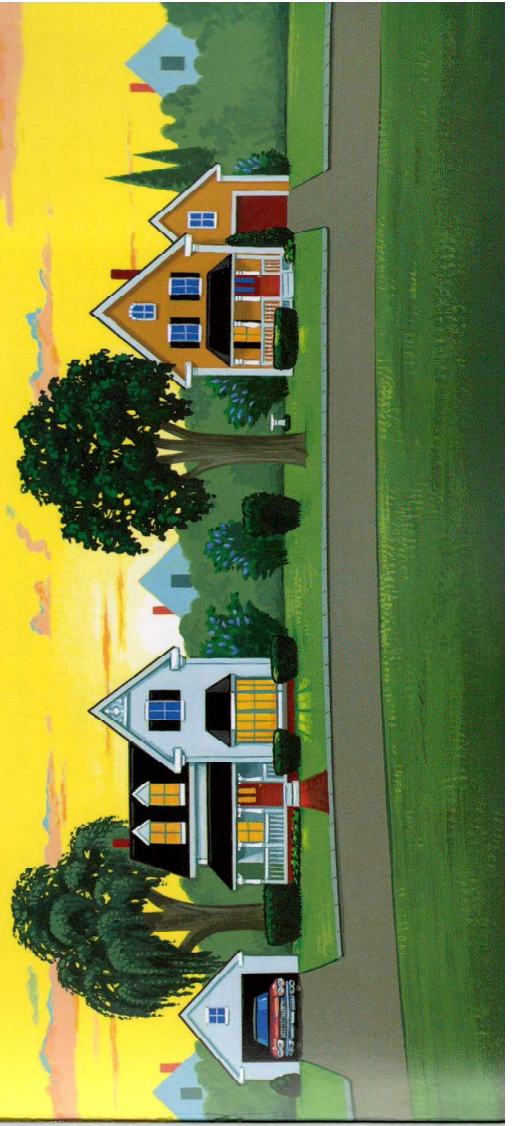
# Mercy Watson

*to the Rescue*

*illustrated by Chris Van Dusen*



CANDLEWICK PRESS





## Chapter

# 1

Mr. Watson and Mrs. Watson have a pig named Mercy.

Each night, they sing Mercy to sleep.

*“Bright, bright is the morning sun,”*

sing Mr. and Mrs. Watson,

*“but brighter still is our darling one.*

*Dark, dark is the coming night,*

*but oh, our Mercy shines so bright.”*



This song makes Mercy feel warm inside, as if she has just eaten hot toast with a great deal of butter on it.

Mercy likes hot toast with a great deal of butter on it.

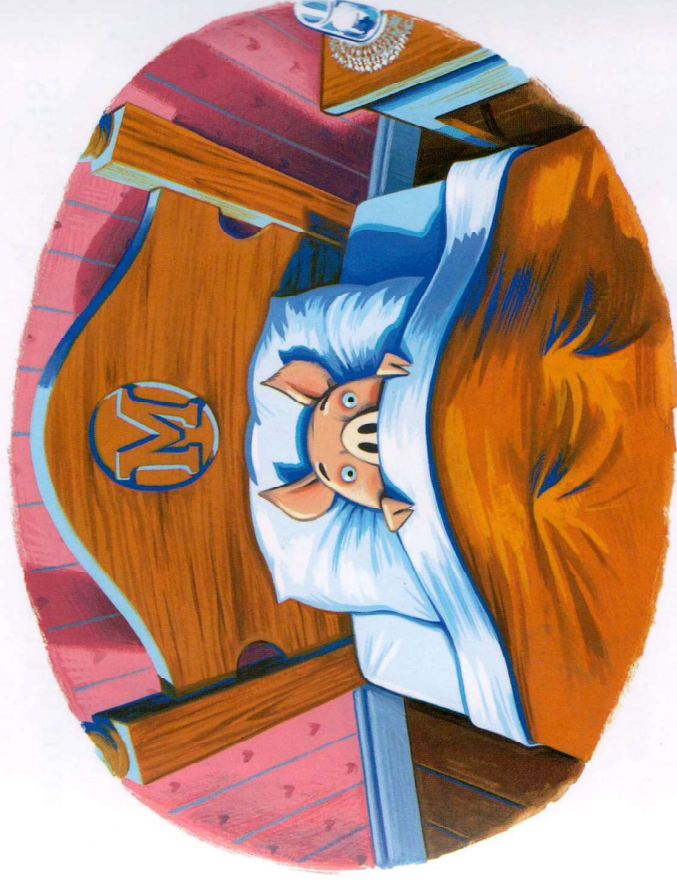


But when Mr. and Mrs. Watson kiss her good night and turn off the light, Mercy's room becomes dark. Very dark.



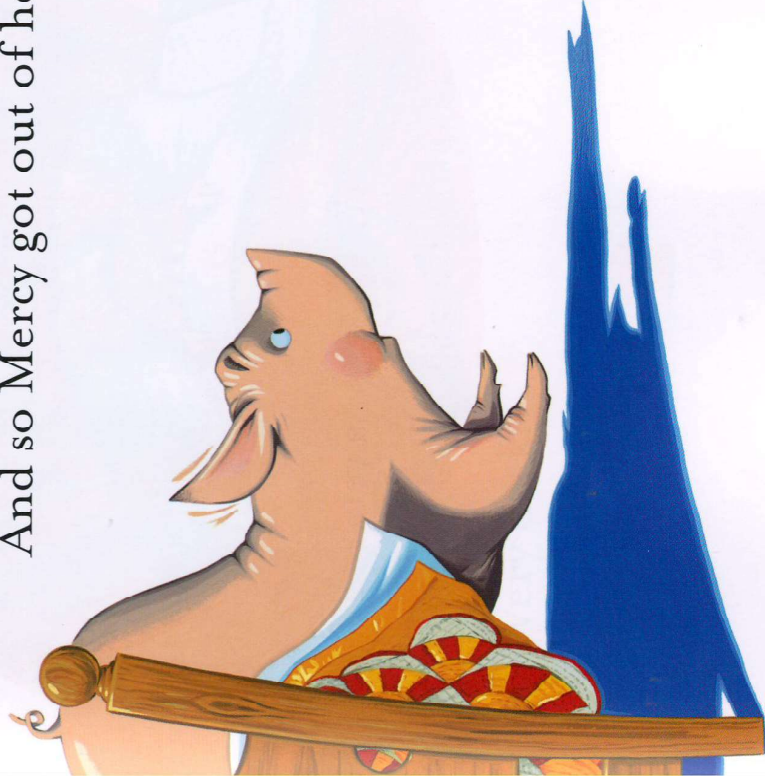
And Mercy does not feel warm and buttery-toasty inside anymore.

She feels afraid.



One night, after Mr. and Mrs. Watson sang their song about the sun, kissed Mercy good night, and turned off the light, Mercy decided something. She decided that she would be much happier if she wasn't sleeping alone.

And so Mercy got out of her bed



and went and got in bed with Mr. and Mrs. Watson.

She snuggled up between them.



Mercy felt warm inside, as if she had just eaten hot toast with a great deal of butter on it.

