

# BOMBUS

## **Finds A Friend**



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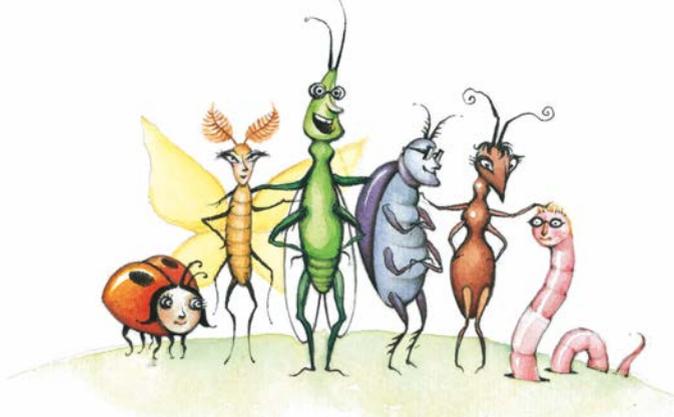


## DEDICATIONS

To Gail Denham

A good friend who has helped me to be a better friend.

— EJL



To the first friends I made in Savannah:

Amanda, Fay, Mark, Steve, Selena, and Chris—  
without whom this city would not feel like home.

— EH

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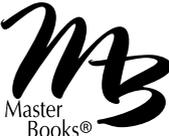
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## PREFACE

One day an experienced Sunday School teacher told me that many, many children in her classes confide that finding a friend is their most painful problem. Therefore, in this second Bombus story, I chose to write about the virtue of being a good friend.

When I was a child, I learned wisdom from animal fables. I regretted, however, that many cultures portrayed a disagreeable Creator, who was moody, mischievous, and sometimes mean.

In my imagined animal world, children may see wonders of the real creation and glimpse the wisdom of the real Creator, the loving God revealed in the Bible.

While fables are not intended to teach facts, they do teach truth. For me, every true virtue comes from God; every proven science fact shows the awesomeness of God. Bombus fables illustrate Biblical virtues. The facts at the end of the story reveal wonders of the Creator's creation.

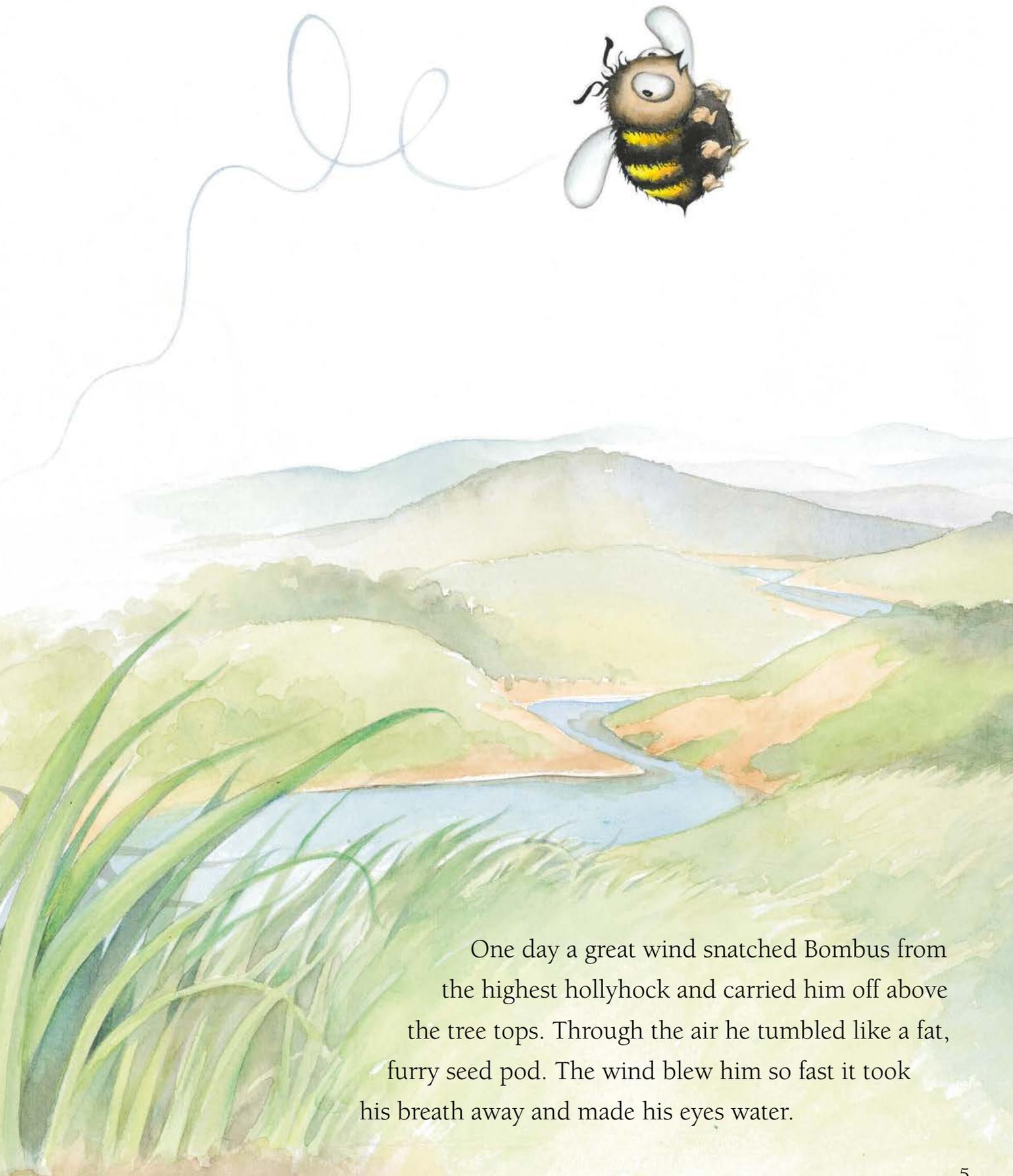
It is my hope that with the fable as a springboard, parents and teachers may teach more by using *Fun Science Facts*, *A Talking Time*, *Creative Activities*, and *Bible Search* in the back of the book.

— EJM, Gresham, Oregon, 1998



Long ago, a young bumblebee named Bombus lived in a flower-filled meadow. Every day he drank his fill of nectar. He was so happy, he felt he needed nothing more, not even a friend.





One day a great wind snatched Bombus from the highest hollyhock and carried him off above the tree tops. Through the air he tumbled like a fat, furry seed pod. The wind blew him so fast it took his breath away and made his eyes water.



When a leaf whipped by, he grabbed it with all six feet and held on. Riding the leaf was no better, but he was afraid to let go. At last the wind slowed to a breeze and the leaf sailed toward the ground.

Below lay a strange meadow splashed with poppies, dandelions, clover, daisies, and bachelor buttons, but no hollyhocks. In the middle of the meadow sparkled a lake and a wide stream.







Fanning his wings to a steady buzz, Bombus let go of the drifting leaf and flew toward the flowers.

Landing on clover, he exclaimed, “Where am I? How will I ever find my way home?”

A raspy voice answered, “That’s your problem. Get off my clover!”

