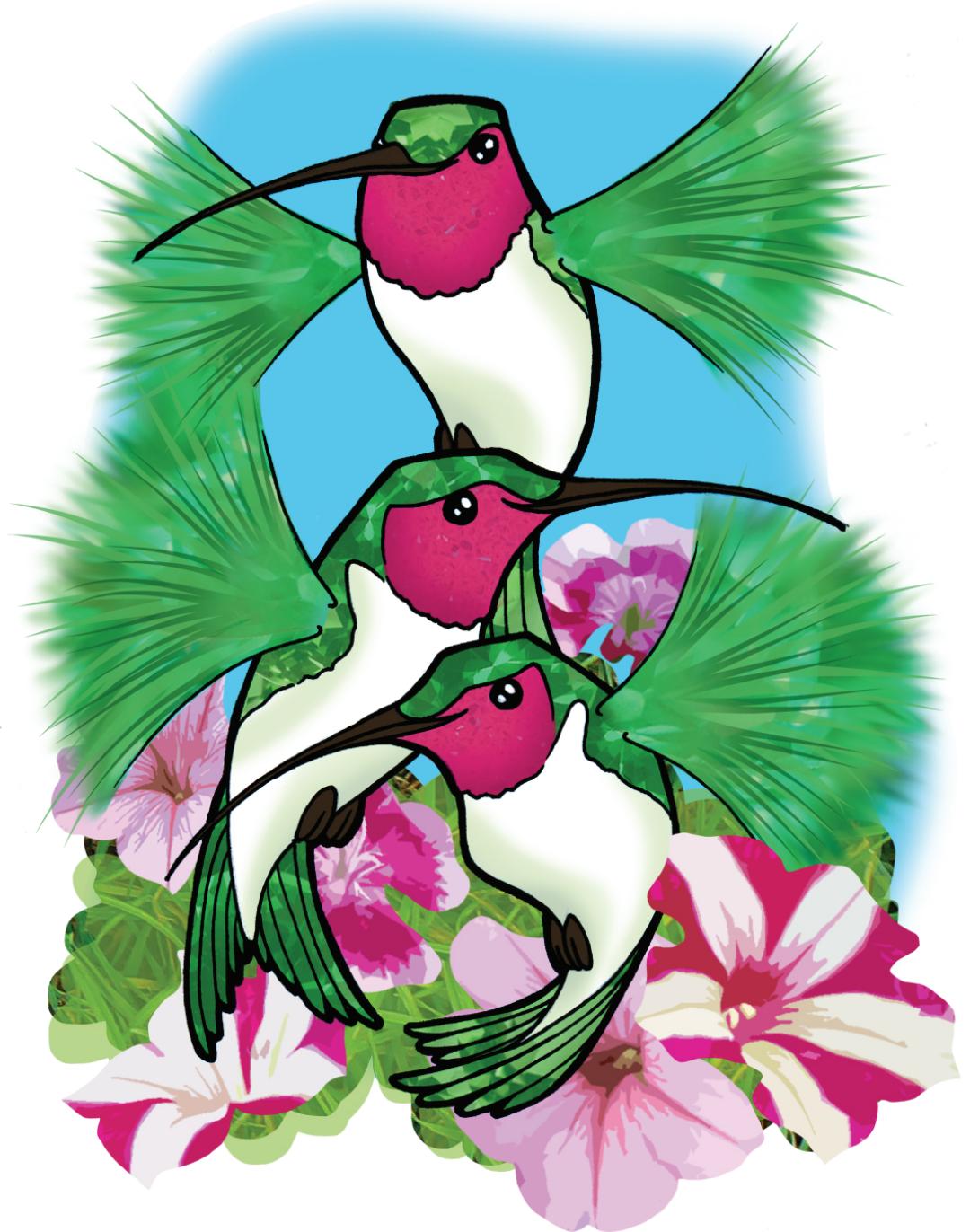


# Mel Schade

Illustration portfolio for 'The Colonel'  
A childrens picture book written by Rebecca Cain

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me@melschade.com



Pigeon



Hummingbird





Magpie



Duck

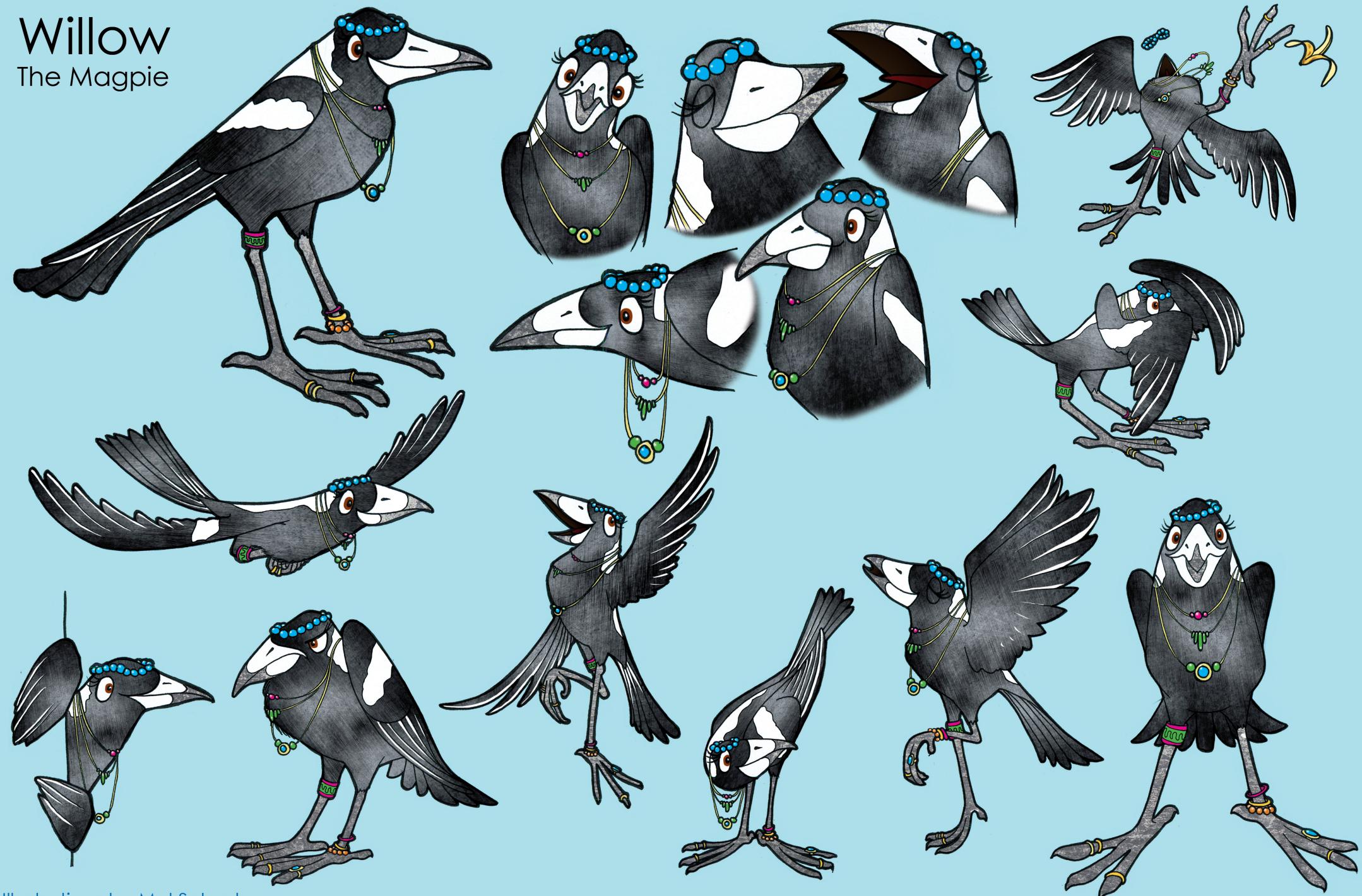
# Endpaper pattern



Illustrations by Mel Schade

Character design

# Willow The Magpie







Illustrations by Mel Schade

# 'The Colonel' Book Dummy

## 32 page childrens picture book

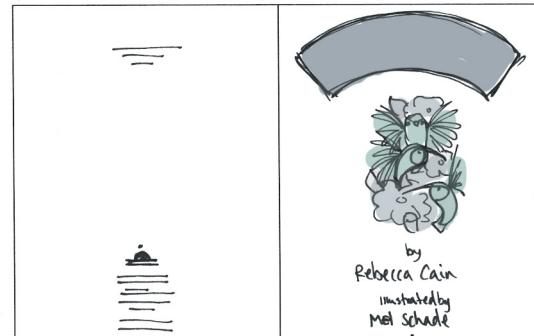
Text by Rebecca Cain  
Illustrations by Mel Schade



Endpapers

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Publishing information  
and title illustration



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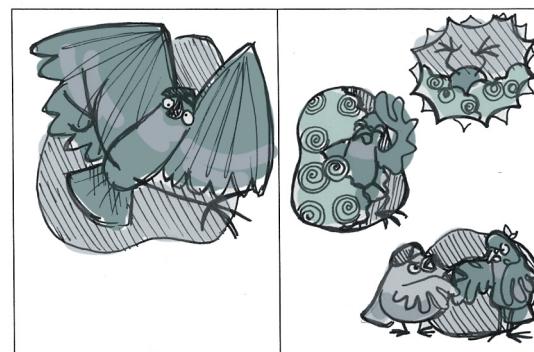


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All of a sudden the Colonel heard the most atrocious noise coming from the sky, when he looked up he saw Jasper spiralling down head first.

Bang! "Ouch!" Cried Jasper. The Colonel fluffed up his feathers and said, "Humph! This is not how I trained my soldiers to behave! Stand up man!"



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The Colonel paced up and down,  
waiting and watching.

"I'm s-s-sorry Sir," said Jasper looking sheepish. "I was coming in to land when I saw Priscilla in the tree, I thought she was going to attack, I, I lost control. I'm sorry."

"Yes, well...what is your report? Any sightings of the enemy?"

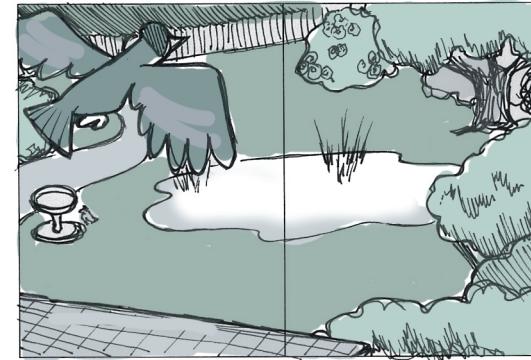
"There are three, it seems they are gathering in the park near the pond." Jasper said.

"Near the pond, eh? Well we can't have them advancing any further. Gather the troops and begin the scheduled patrols at once!" The Colonel bellowed as he continued to pace back and forth. The troops thought Jasper, there's only me. With a great sigh, Jasper took off again, rising high in the sky.



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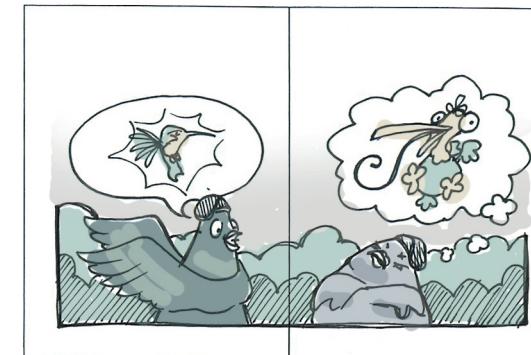
He had landed on the far side of the park in the shadows of the old, Oak tree. The unfamiliaris hovered by the flowers. Jasper thought this behaviour was most unusual.

Suddenly they flew! Up Down Backwards Forwards Left Right "How peculiar" said Jasper. Jasper knew that he would have to report this odd behaviour to the Colonel. Jasper didn't know why the Colonel thought they were the enemy. Surely if they can fly then they must be the same as us, thought Jasper.



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"Incoming" said the Colonel as he looked up in to the sky he could see Mr. and Mrs. Mallard approaching the garden. "Quak!" "Oh, yes Valerie, John good day to you" said the Colonel, fluffing up with importance. "I don't suppose you have noticed anything unusual in your travels have you, John?" The Colonel said.

"I have not, what is the report?" John said.

"Well Jasper saw these, these creatures..." The Colonel said as he launched in to a rather theatrical account of what Jasper saw in the park.



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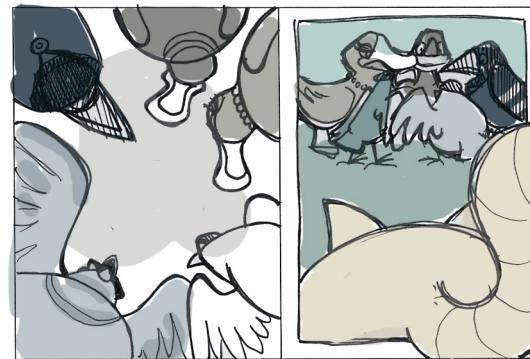
The park was large, lush and green. The trees stood tall and the flowers danced as the wind tickled them. On the banks of the pond stood a large bush covered with the most beautiful flowers. This was the bush that Jasper was watching.

"We can't have these monsters approach with their long, black tongues."

"No,no,no, I said they had odd looking beaks!" "Jasper, you said they had eyes that glowed--" "Sir! I did not, I said they were quite spectacular"

"And they dance" whispered Willow.

During this rather loud and unruly argument, Priscilla had silently climbed down from her perch and was crouching down behind them all ready to pounce. This was perfect thought Priscilla, maximum result with so little effort.



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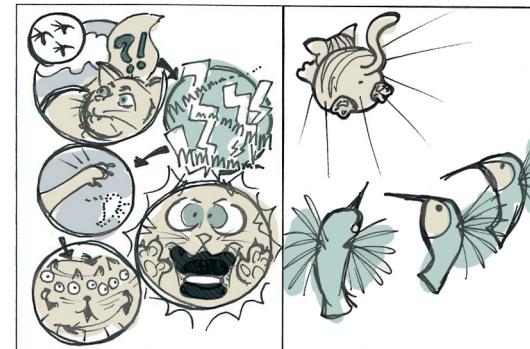


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"Meow!"

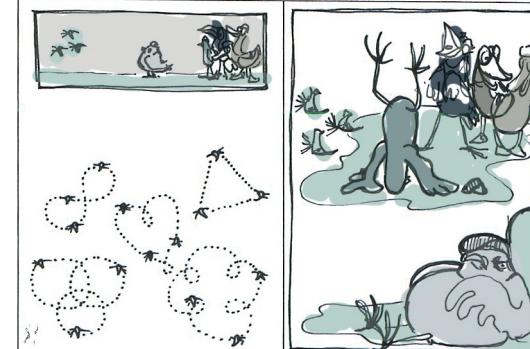
All of a sudden, hovering above Priscilla the three unfamiliar appeared making the most unusual noise. "Meeeeooowww! What is this? I'm being attacked!" Yelled Priscilla who had never used up so much energy before.

It didn't take long before Priscilla who was not only quite tired but a little frightened, ran off to seek refuge inside the house.



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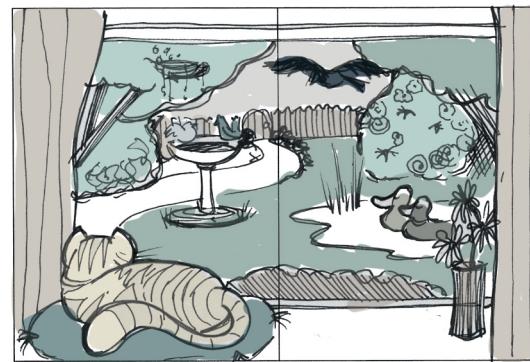
The Colonel took one step forward, fluffed up his feathers and puffed out his chest. "Well, uh, that was, quite a remarkable flight formation you have there. Uh, where did you train?"

The three birds hummed their story showing the garden all the different flight formations they could do, and even attempted to teach Jasper.

It was clear that everyone was fascinated. The Colonel, although only mildly impressed with the frivolity, shrugged his shoulders and simply said, "Welcome".

With Priscilla locked away safely inside the rest could go about there daily business. The Colonel returned to his post, Valerie and John went for a cool dip in the pool and Willow began to sing her tune, and to her great delight the three hummingbirds began to float in unison to her song.

"I knew they were the same as us, just a little different, that's all", said Jasper to himself as he watched everyone going about their business. There's nothing wrong with being a little different, thought Jasper.



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Endpapers