

Let those **BIG** feelings out!



Kerfuffle Bird

Helen Docherty

Gwen Millward



For Tom, with all my love—H.D. x

To Louise, with love—G.M. x



OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Great Clarendon Street, Oxford OX2 6DP

Oxford University Press is a department of the University of Oxford.
It furthers the University's objective of excellence in research, scholarship,
and education by publishing worldwide. Oxford is a registered trade mark
of Oxford University Press in the UK and in certain other countries

Text copyright © Helen Docherty

Illustrations copyright © Gwen Millward

The moral rights of the author have been asserted

Database right Oxford University Press (maker)

First published in 2025

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored
in a retrieval system, transmitted, used for text and data mining, or used
for training artificial intelligence, in any form or by any means, without
the prior permission in writing of Oxford University Press, or as expressly
permitted by law, by licence or under terms agreed with the appropriate
reprographics rights organization. Enquiries concerning reproduction
outside the scope of the above should be sent to the Rights Department,
Oxford University Press, at the address above.

You must not circulate this book in any other binding or cover
and you must impose this same condition on any acquirer

British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data

Data available

ISBN: 978-1-38-205382-2

1 3 5 7 9 10 8 6 4 2

The manufacturing process conforms to the
environmental regulations of the country of origin.

Printed in China

The manufacturer's authorised representative in the EU for product
safety is Oxford University Press España S.A. of el Parque Empresarial
San Fernando de Henares, Avenida de Castilla, 2 – 28830 Madrid
(www.oup.es/en).





Kerfuffle Bird

Helen Docherty

Gwen Millward



OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS

The Hushlings of Hushville were always polite.
They kept all their feelings shut in, very tight.



They spoke in soft voices; a whisper was best,
and after each meal they would all take a rest.

Every Hushling seemed happy,
except for one:
Maeve.



She knew how a Hushling was meant to behave . . .



But she longed to be noisy, to run and to shout;
she longed to let some of her Big Feelings out.
Maeve's parents, she knew, would be very ashamed.
So, she tried hard to keep all her Big Feelings tamed.



Then, one day Maeve spotted an egg:
huge, and blue.

What was it doing there?
Nobody knew.



The Hushlings agreed, having each had their say,
they should leave it alone, and it might go away.

But the egg didn't go. Three days later, in fact,
they saw a big change. Yes, the egg's shell had
cracked!



The Hushlings all watched.
No one uttered a word . . .

as the egg split apart,

and out stepped a **strange bird**.

He gazed all around.

Then he opened his beak . . .

