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THE  
PAPER  
DOLLS



*By the author of*  
THE  
GRUFFALO

There was once a girl who  
had tiger slippers



and a ceiling with  
stars on it



and a butterfly hairslide  
which she kept losing



and two goldfish

and a nice mother who helped  
her to make some paper dolls.



They were Ticky and Tacky  
and Jackie the Backie  
and Jim with two noses  
and Jo with the bow.





And they danced

and they jumped



and they sang.



And they met a dinosaur  
who clawed and roared,  
and said, "I'm going to get you!"





But the paper dolls sang,

"You can't get us. Oh no no no!  
We're holding hands and we won't let go.  
We're Ticky and Tacky and Jackie the Backie  
And Jim with two noses and Jo with the bow!"

And they jumped . . .



... on to a bus



and rode to a farmyard,  
and danced with the pigs.



Then they lay on a rooftop and stared at the stars,  
till a tiger slunk out of his den  
and he crouched and snarled  
and said, "I'll leap up and catch you!"

But the paper dolls sang,

"You can't catch us. Oh no no no!  
We're holding hands and we won't let go.



We're Ticky and Tacky and Jackie the Backie  
And Jim with two noses and Jo with the bow!"

And they floated . . .



... down the stairs

and they danced round  
the honey pot



and kicked crumbs  
and explored an island

til a fierce crocodile grinned his grin  
and gnashed his teeth  
and said, "I'm coming to crunch you!"





But the paper dolls laughed, and sang,

"You can't crunch us. Oh no no no!  
We're holding hands and we won't let go.



We're Ticky and Tacky and Jackie the Backie  
And Jim with two noses and Jo with the bow!"

And they hopped . . .

... into the garden



and they sniffed the flowers  
and chatted to a ladybird



and lay down in a  
forest of grass.



But along came a boy  
with a pair of scissors  
and he said, "I'll SNIP you!"



And he did.  
He snipped them into tiny little pieces  
and he said, "You're gone for ever."



But the paper dolls sang,

"We're not gone. Oh no no no!  
We're holding hands and we won't let go.  
We're Ticky and Tacky and Jackie the Backie  
And Jim with two noses and Jo with the bowl!"



And the pieces all joined together,  
and the paper dolls flew . . .



... into the little girl's memory  
where they found white mice and fireworks,  
and a starfish soap,  
and a kind granny,  
and the butterfly hairslide,  
and more and more lovely things each day  
and each year.



And the girl grew . . .



. . . into a mother

who helped her own little girl  
make some paper dolls.



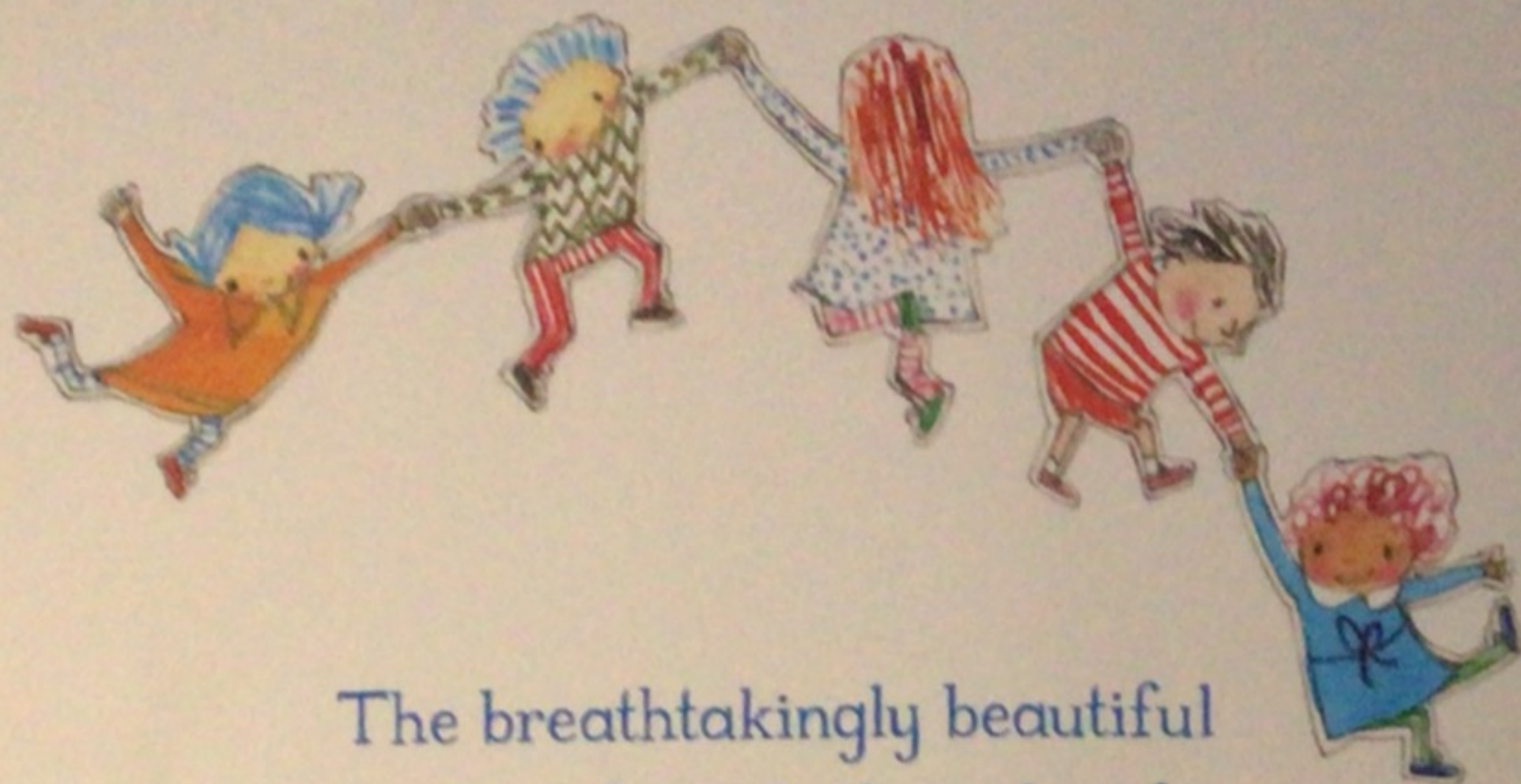
They were Poppy and Pinkie  
and Binky the Blinkie,  
and Fred with one eyebrow,  
and Flo with the bow.



And they jumped,

and they danced,

and they sang.



The breathtakingly beautiful  
story of one little girl and  
her five paper dolls

They were Ticky and Tacky and Jackie the Backie  
and Jim with two noses and Jo with the bow

*'Gets richer every time you look at it . . .  
a book that works like magic'*  
Sunday Times

*'Wonderful . . . beautifully drawn'*  
Guardian

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