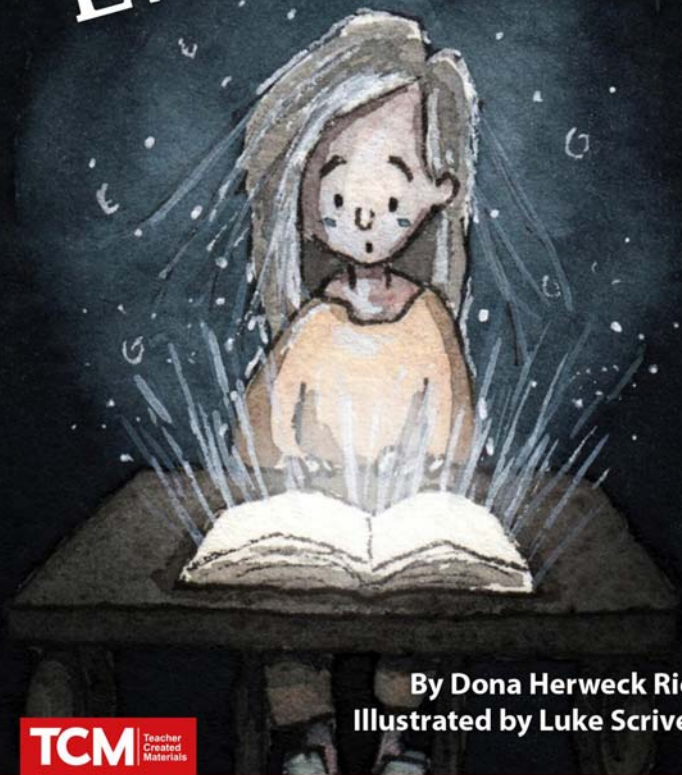


# The Magical, Mystical Book of EVERYTHING



By Dona Herweck Rice  
Illustrated by Luke Scriven

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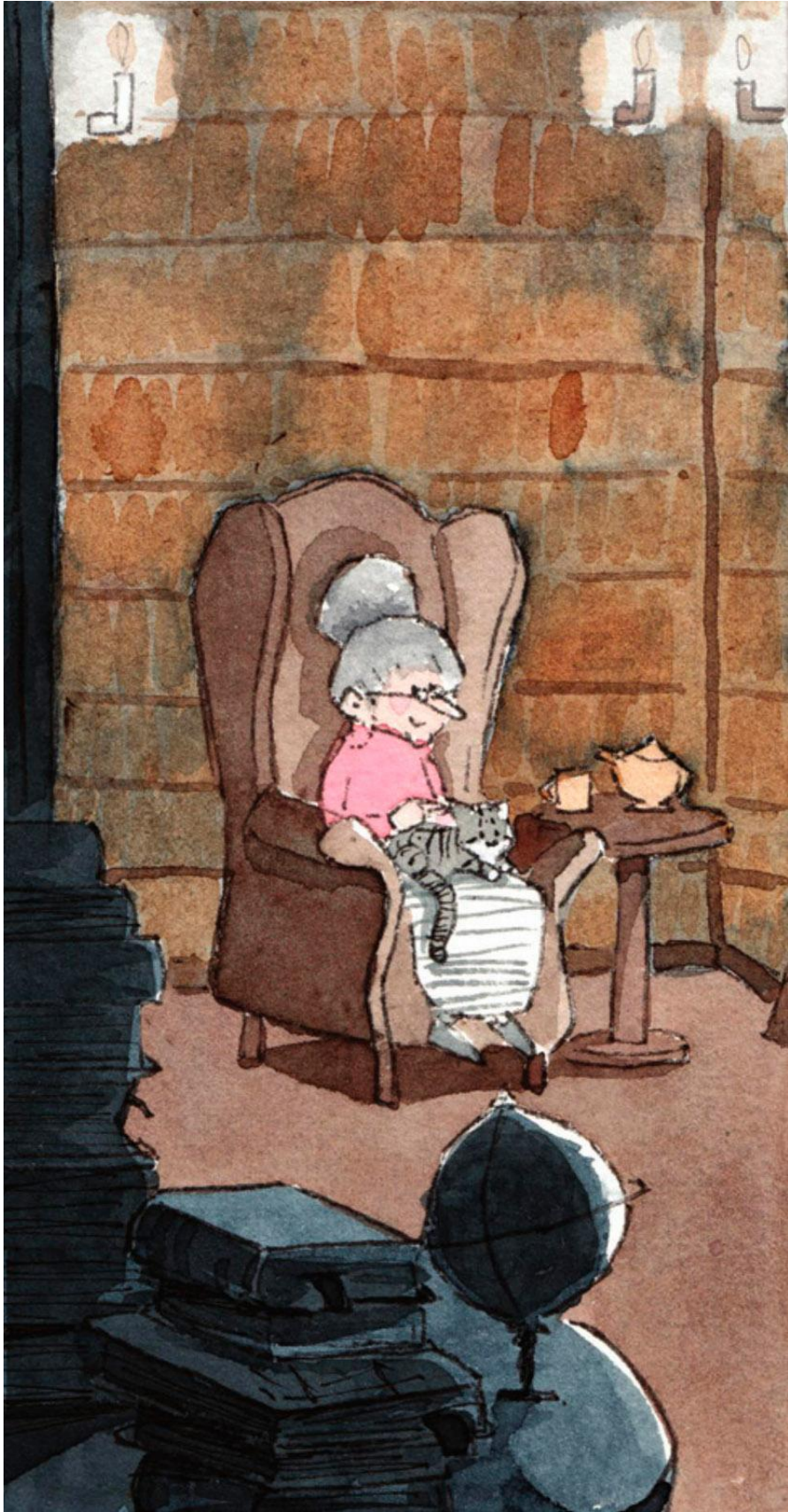
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## CHAPTER ONE



### A New Day

*“Ahh, that hits the spot.*

*Does it not?”*

The tiny, gray-haired woman of uncertain age sat sipping her morning tea. She set down her teacup with a satisfying clink on its matching saucer.

*“I wonder who—I mean what—is in store for us today.*

*Felis, my dear, what do you say?”*

Mrs. Bibliogo stretched the crooked joints of her wrinkled hand along the tabby fur of the contented library cat. Felis purred in agreement. Each day always brought a new seeker. And Mrs. B always knew exactly what that seeker truly sought. She kept it handy in the creaky, old cabinet behind the reference counter. The cabinet had weird etchings of wizards, wands, and moonlight, if one cared to look closely enough. Which Felis did not, thank you very much. He was just fine where he was, plopped comfortably on Mrs. B’s blanket-covered lap.

*“Well, we’ll be ready when they come.*

*Won’t we, little furry one?”*

“Surrre,” Felis purred in reply.

*“That’s my witty kitty.”*

## CHAPTER TWO



### Enter Rosie

Rosie turned right off Bleecker Street onto 7th Avenue, lugging her heavy backpack. She was headed home from school to where her family lived above Popolchek's Bakery.

“Hi, *Bubbee*,” Rosie called as she opened the bakery's screen door, ringing the bell overhead.

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