

LUCIA GUGLIELMI

*Landing on the
BG Planet*

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The illustrations of Giacomino the Cucumber, The Magic Mirror, Carolina the Ant, The Lion on holiday and Choo-Choo the train are by Barbara Tersigni

The illustrations of the other fairy tales are by Simona Vecchini

To
MARIA
AND
SARA

Presentation

Dear children, dear parents, readers all,
we are happy to present you this collection of fairy tales. Written pages, which, however, were born as oral tales. All literature, after all, was born this way. For example, in ancient Greece, in the 8th century B.C. and even earlier, bards sang those poems that would eventually be put in written form in the Homeric poems of the Iliad and the Odyssey. So our writer too, a modern storyteller, entertain her little girls with these stories, in which everyday life is condensed and

Presentation

reflected in many little heroes. Storytelling means opening horizons of meaning. Fairy tales do this lightly. They combine storytelling and play, words and laughter. Human beings are talking and laughing animals.

«Once upon a time ...»: fairy tales always begin this way, and these are no exception either. All of us, though, at least from a certain age on, have wondered but “once” when? For us adults, the answer is obvious: at no time! These are fairy tales, pure fantasy, a delight: reality is something else. Real life always takes place in a specific time. Right now it’s Sunday, 9 o’clock and 8 minutes in the morning.

Presentation

But are we sure? “Once upon a time” is it really timelessness or unreal? Could it be that time is not pointed out, simply because it requires us being totally immersed in it? When children play they know this well, in fact they forget the time is passing by, for them an hour of playing seems like 5 minutes. Does this mean that they are outside time? Don't they rather experience time more authentically? Who experiences time? Who watches it flowing from the outside, facing a clock, measuring and calculating it? Or who immerses themselves in it, not bothering on how to control it? Which is the dream and which the reality?

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Enough talking, now it's time to start reading these fairy tales, to dive into them. Who knows maybe this "once upon a time" turns out to be the most real space in which we deeply encounter ourselves and others.

Happy diving!

Massimiliano Zupi

Easter 2021



The Planet of BG



Once upon a time there was a planet inhabited exclusively by children. Not ordinary children, but real superheroes. Each of them had a special power: some were able to grow up fast, others did not grow up at all; there were those who did not speak for no reason and those who had an immense heart. But all of them, really all of them, shared a superpower, the *IN-SPITE-OF-EVERYTHING*. They didn't know they had it until it suddenly manifested, in the most disparate and desperate situations. There had never been a child on the

The Planet of BG

planet of BG who lacked it.

It was said that, thanks to the IN-SPITE-OF-EVERYTHING, the little superheroes had become even more powerful, they'd become unbeatable. They knew how to laugh and joke, they rejoiced over nothing and they were able to transfer their strength to occasional visitors: relatives, friends and acquaintances, but even to those big, blue men, who, although not living on the planet of BG, every day paid brief visits. The latter were not nice at all, they could not be trusted. A smile, a tender word and then down to measuring, raging and experimenting. The struggle was



NONOSTANTE TUTTO

BG

The Planet of BG

becoming more and more demanding. Our superheroes, however, knew how to defend themselves, they had honed a thousand techniques: dreams, hopes and desires were their daily food.

Many of them had one day managed to leave for other planets and knowing this instilled confidence in those who remained. Sooner or later the spaceship would pass for everyone, they felt it, and it was the right charge to take on new enterprises. Impossible to list them all: sometimes it was necessary to hone a sharp sword, others would equip oneself with a sturdy armour, and still others, on the hardest oc-

The Planet of BG

casions, when patience lost its edge, time would come to unleash the IN-SPITE-OF-EVERYTHING. And there was none to be had. What temperament, what vigour! When a monster was about to annihilate one or an avalanche bury another, the superheroes fought with their heads held high, without losing heart, wars were won.

The prize at stake was to leave the planet of BG . But for every departing superhero there was inexorably another on the way. Do you want to know what they looked like?



The Planet of BG

Just look around, even today, and on every planet in the galaxy it is easy to find a superhero, now grown up, who stands out in the crowd; you recognise him because he smiles when others weep, he knows how to mock life's imperfections and when the going gets tough... he unleashes, without warning, an irresistible IN-SPITE-OF-EVERYTHING.

NONOSTANTE TUTTO

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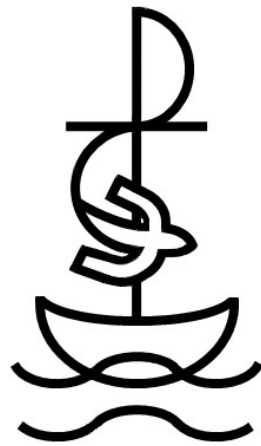
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