

Marina Kavallieraki



A Rainbow Tangled up

Illustrations by
Paris Charalampidis



Marina Kavallieraki was born in Athens and comes from Chania. She has graduated in the department of French Literature from the University of Bourgogne. She travels through books and she sometimes blogs in the internet to unblock herself, but what she likes the most is to create fairytales with children for children and then to bring them to life through sounds, pictures and crafts. At an early age the phrase "Once upon a time..." seemed magical to her. She keeps herself occupied with the latest technology and especially with its application in education and interactive activities and craft projects for children. She "cooks" her own "fairy-recipes" like "Agapo's braids" which was distinguished from the competition in short stories of the "Kritiki Estia" (Cretan Hearth) with subject the hospitality in Crete. Some of her short stories have been published in electronic literary magazines. She has been working in a non-governmental organization for the last thirteen years dealing with children. Above all she is the proud mother of Dimitroula.

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*Translation from Greek:
Anastasia Vitou*



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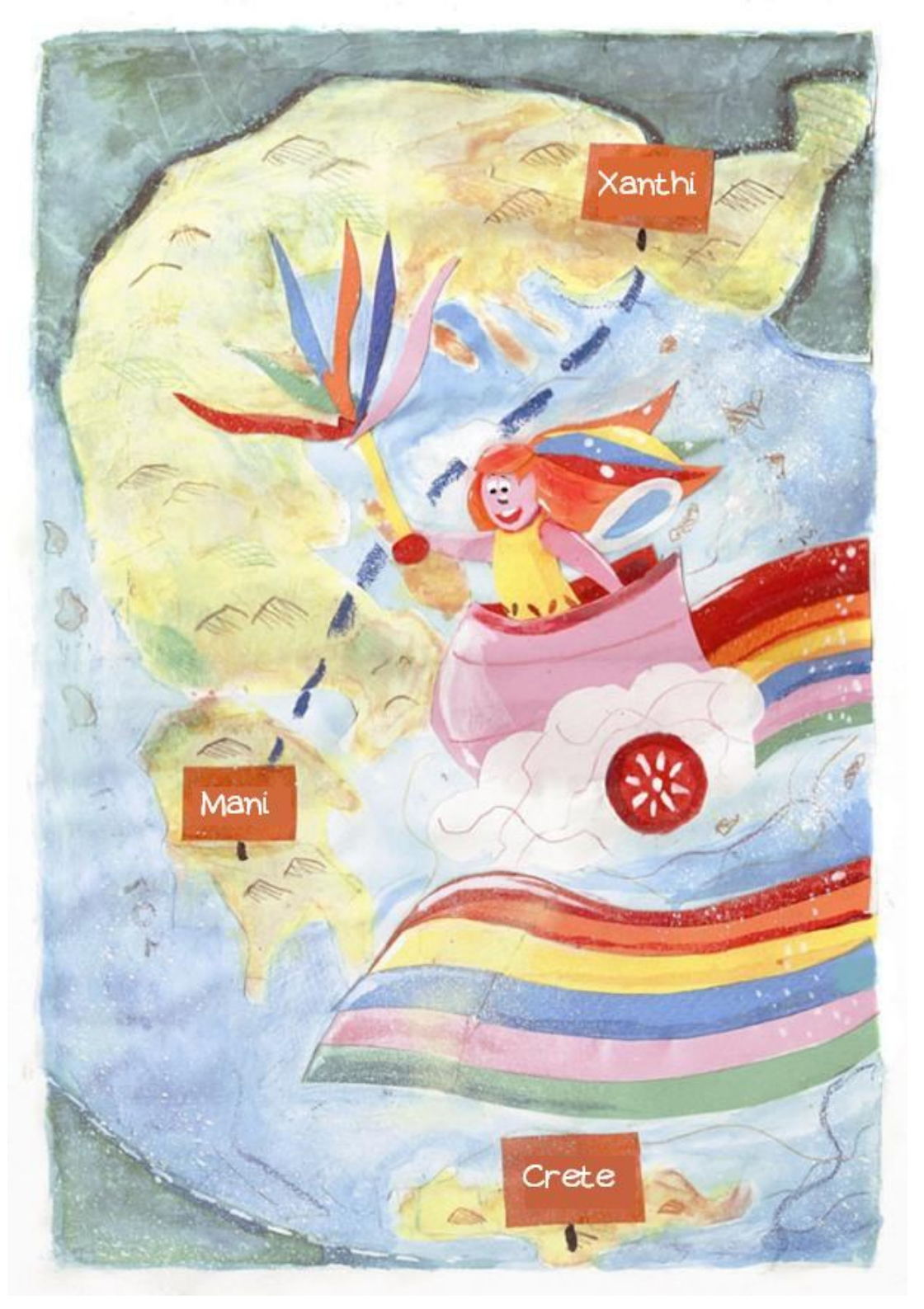
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To my sweet fairytale
Dimitroula



Xanthi

Mani

Crete

"Shush... Be quiet, girls! Urania has just fallen asleep."
said Thalassini.

"Luckily for me, I feel a little bit stiff and I want to stretch." exclaimed Portokalenia.

"Ouch, my little back is aching. Why don't you stop talking, so we can rest at last! Urania made us go everywhere today. It seems as if we went round the world twice." said Smaragdenia.

"But when will all these sudden rain showers stop? I want to go on holiday." announced Rodoula.





The truth is that Urania, the rainbow fairy, *had a very* exhausting day.

One sudden rain shower down in Mani, then *another* one up in Xanthi and Urania was running to unfold *the* rainbow ribbons from side to side. But apart from *the* distance she had to cover, she had also to cope with the caprices of every ribbon! One ribbon was sleepy, another one was complaining because she wanted to climb first in the chariot as she considered her color to be the best.

"Why don't they understand that it is important to bring colors where there is none?" Urania was constantly wondering.

"That's enough for today. This little cloud is so soft *and* warm, the best place for some rest!"





"I don't understand why you always want to get ahead first." said Smaragdenia to Thalassini.

"I am the green color of nature and hope."

"Well, that's not new, but I am the color of the sky and sea, and I can hug all the earth. So I need to be first." stressed Thalassini.

"I think you two are wrong." said Portokalenia.

"I am the warmest and juiciest color. I have the sun and fire inside and I am going to sit in the front in the chariot for you to see how wonderful I look from above!"

"Don't! I told you I will go!"

"No way! The color of the sea is the most important!"

"Oh, get off me! You are choking me, don't you see?" she coughed.





Suddenly, the ribbons began to quarrel about which is the best, until they got tangled up so much together that they ended up into a... big colorful tangle!

Although they were tangled, they kept on quarreling and the tangle rolled and all of a sudden it flopped from the sky...

"Aaaaaaaaah... We are falling! Hold on tight!"
shouted Portokalenia.

They crossed thousands of clouds;
they met a flock of swallows which had started their journey for warmer places, until they slid into a chimney.





"I can't breathe." said Thalassini coughing.

"It's too dark in here and it's cold." exclaimed Portokalenia.

"How did we end up like that? Even Cinderella wasn't so dusty." noticed Rodoula.

"Where is our nice fairy to come and save us?" wondered Smaragdenia sadly...

Suddenly all the ribbons looked at each other. Their shiny clothes were ruffled and dirty. Their colors had been gone. They were alone in an empty cold house and they all had the same grey color.



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