

For Helen & Jane, who have always believed in me . . . love, L.F. xxx

To Lucy and Harry – never let failing (or fear of failing) stop you from trying.

That goes for Lee, too. Love always, Sarah



BASIL DREAMS BIG

SIMON & SCHUSTER

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LU FRASER & SARAH WARBURTON

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A long way away, where the jungle moon glows,
And the crocodiles dream snappy dreams as they doze,

and the fireflies fly,

Where the spotty frogs sing

A very small bat
sighs a very BIG sigh . . .



“Oh dear,” Basil frowned as he clung to his tree,
“Everyone’s loop-the-loop swooping . . .
but me!

Do I start with a skip?

With a flip?

With a flap?

Will I know where to fly if I don’t have a map?

How do I steer? And how do I stop?
And what if I LOSE all my UPNESS and . . .

DROP?!”



Then down from the faraway stars a friend flittered . . .

“Moth!” Basil blinked as her tiny wings glittered.

“Now, Basil,” Moth smiled, “it takes LOTS of trying
And sometimes there’s DOWN-NESS before you start flying!”



So, though he was fearful he’d fall and get bumped,
Basil closed his eyes tightly . . .

unclung . . .

and then . . .