

Early★Reader

Shooting Star

Stella has always been different, but
it's not because she's in a wheelchair
- she's a superhero! But when a
burglar breaks into Stella's school,
she can't change into her disguise...
Can Stella still save the day?

Maverick
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RRP £5.99
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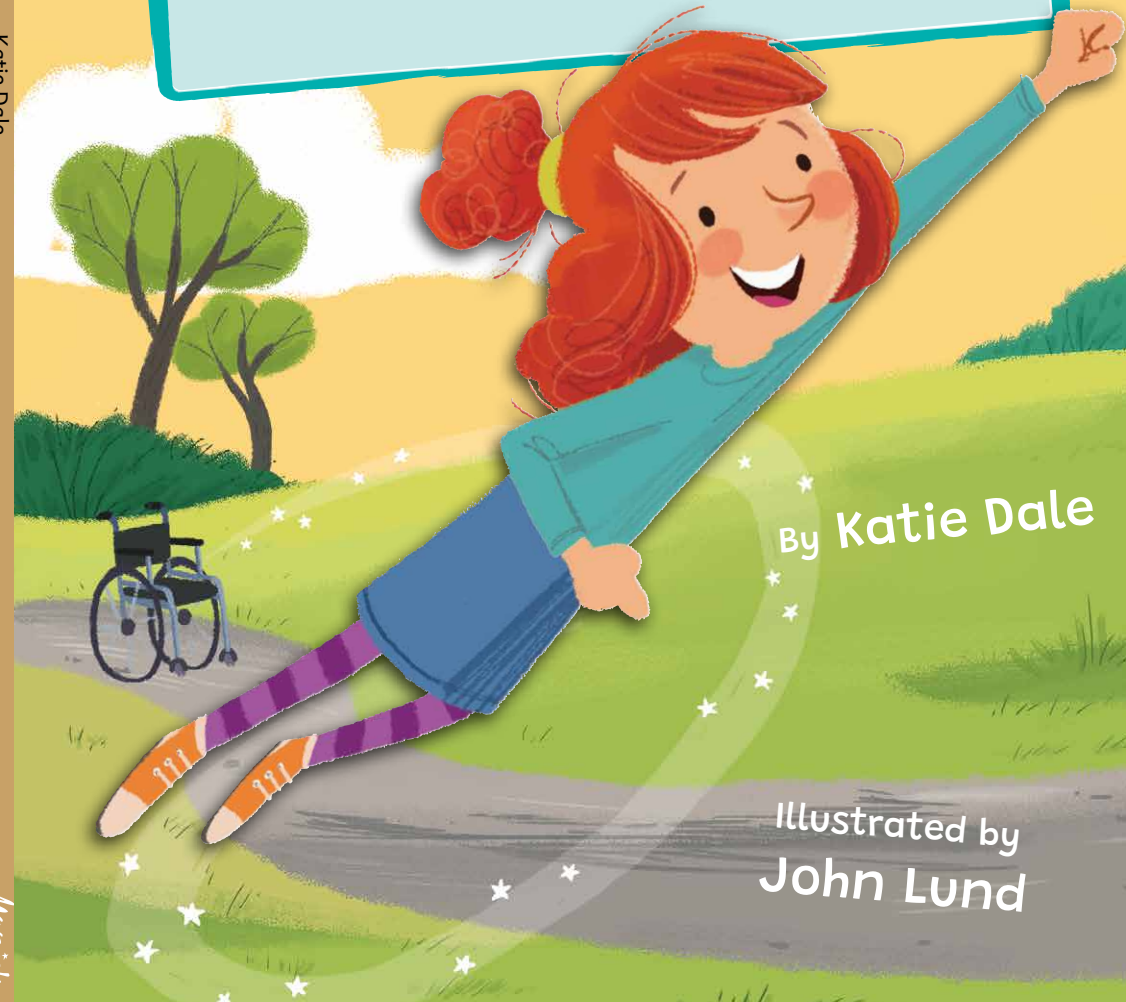
Katie Dale

Maverick

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Shooting Star



By Katie Dale

Illustrated by
John Lund

'Shooting Star'

An original concept by Katie Dale

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Illustrated by John Lund (Beehive Illustration)

Published by MAVERICK ARTS PUBLISHING LTD

Studio 11, City Business Centre, 6 Brighton Road,
Horsham, West Sussex, RH13 5BB

© Maverick Arts Publishing Limited November 2018

+44 (0)1403 256941

A CIP catalogue record for this book is available at the British Library.

ISBN 978-1-84886-391-0

Maverick
publishing
www.maverickbooks.co.uk

Gold

This book is rated as: Gold Band (Guided Reading)

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Chapter 1

Stella Smith was just like every other girl her age except for three things:

- 1) Stella couldn't walk. But that didn't bother her. She loved whizzing around on her wheelchair.
- 2) Stella was adopted. But that didn't bother her either. She loved her adoptive parents Mr and Mrs Smith, and they loved her.





3) Stella could fly!

She loved soaring up to the ceiling and doing loop-the-loops around the lampshade.

The only problem was, Stella had to keep her flying secret.

“If anyone finds out, they might take you away,” said Mr Smith.

“Or experiment on you,” added Mrs Smith.

“Or put you in a zoo,” said Mr Smith.

Stella gulped. She was very careful.

Whenever she went outside she used her wheelchair. She never flew in public, and no one suspected a thing. But Stella wished she could fly in the big blue sky.

One day, Stella’s neighbour’s cat got stuck up a tree. The tree was so tall, even the fire brigade couldn’t get poor Tibbles down.

Stella bit her lip. She knew she could easily fly up and rescue Tibbles, but she couldn’t let anyone see her powers! Then she had an idea.

Stella got out a sewing machine and her old swimsuits and leotards... and she made a disguise! She flew up and rescued Tibbles, and no one knew who she really was. Except Mr and Mrs Smith.

“You’re a superheroine!” cried Mr Smith.

“We always knew you were special,” said Mrs Smith with a smile. “Ever since you fell from the night sky and crash-landed in our garden when you were baby!”

“That’s it!” Stella cried. “I’ll call myself ‘Shooting Star’!”

