

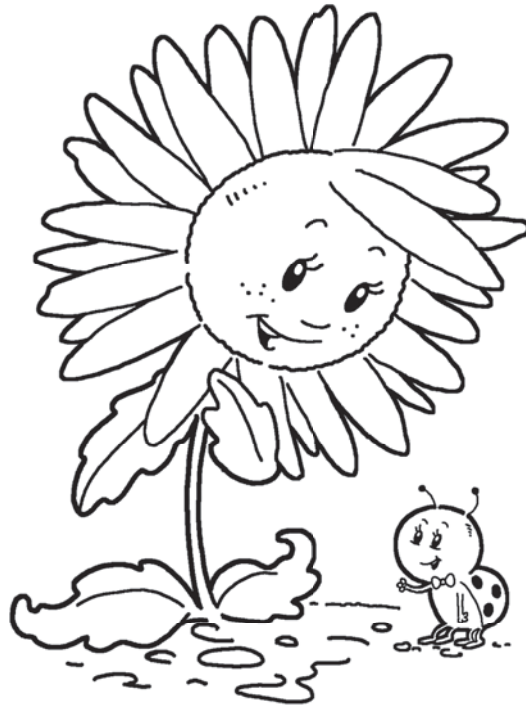
SARAH MARS

# Daisy Daisy



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Illustrations: Aicke-Wulf Linsner



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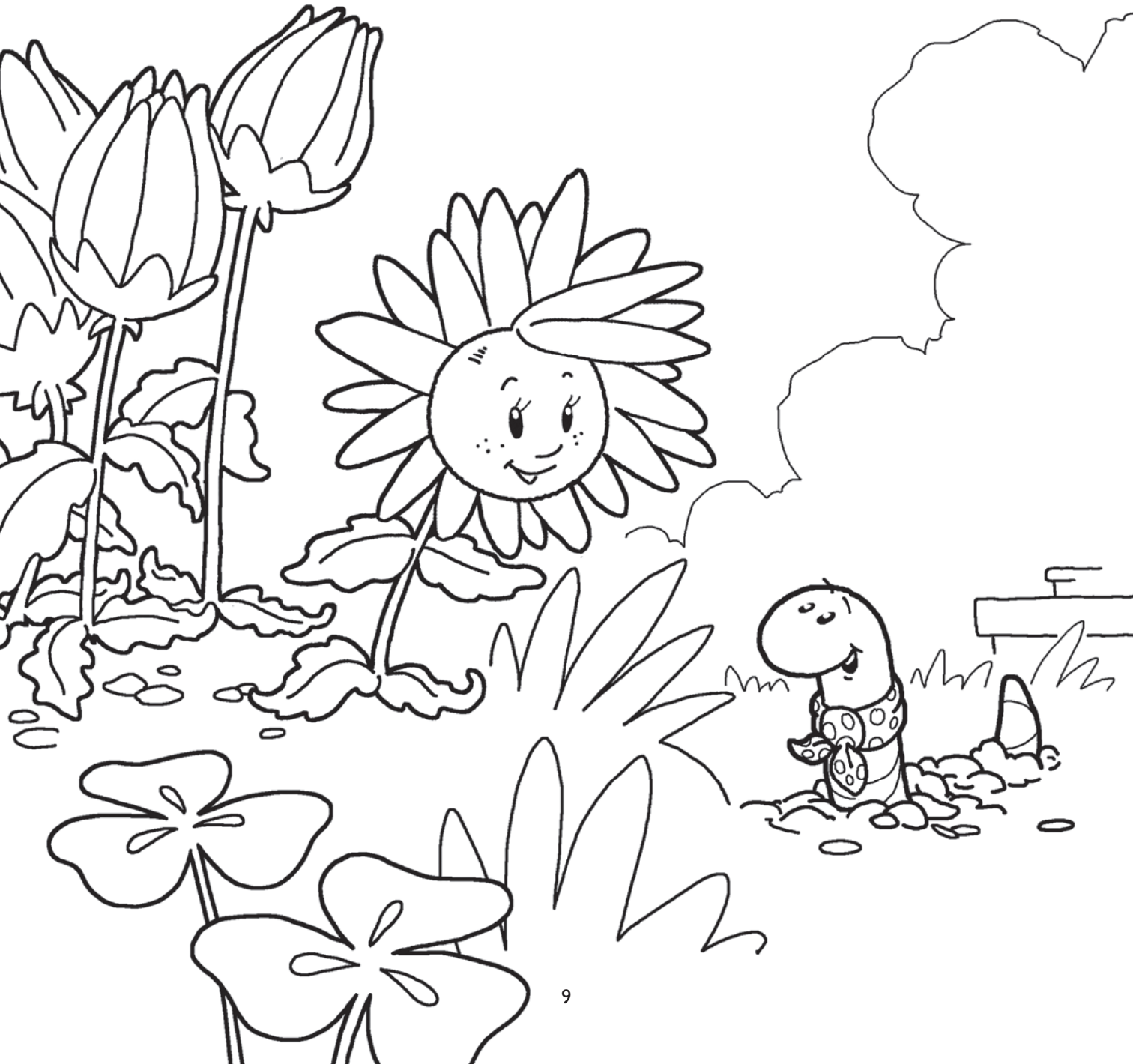
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“My dad and all my relatives keep saying that’s just baloney. I shouldn’t be worrying about things that don’t concern me, I should just be a daisy, nothing more. That simply makes me sad and mad at the same time! Am I not allowed to have dreams? I think, there’s so much more I can do than just being a daisy. Day in and day out only waiting for the sun and for some water; that can’t be all there is! Why shouldn’t a daisy be able to explore the world? Believe you me, one of these days I’ll go on a journey of discovery—somehow,” said Daisy convincingly. Willi smiled at her. He just loved her enthusiasm.

“My mom is the only one who gives me any moral support. She always tells me that dreams can come true if you firmly believe in them and if you do the right things. I don’t know what is right yet, but I spend every day thinking about how I can make my dream come true,” Daisy explained.

“I believe in you, Daisy, but I do need to get going. See you soon, my little one!”, and wiggling into the ground, Willi said goodbye.






“Good morning, mom. Yes, time was just creeping by. Do you have any idea at all how I can get out of here?” Daisy asked.

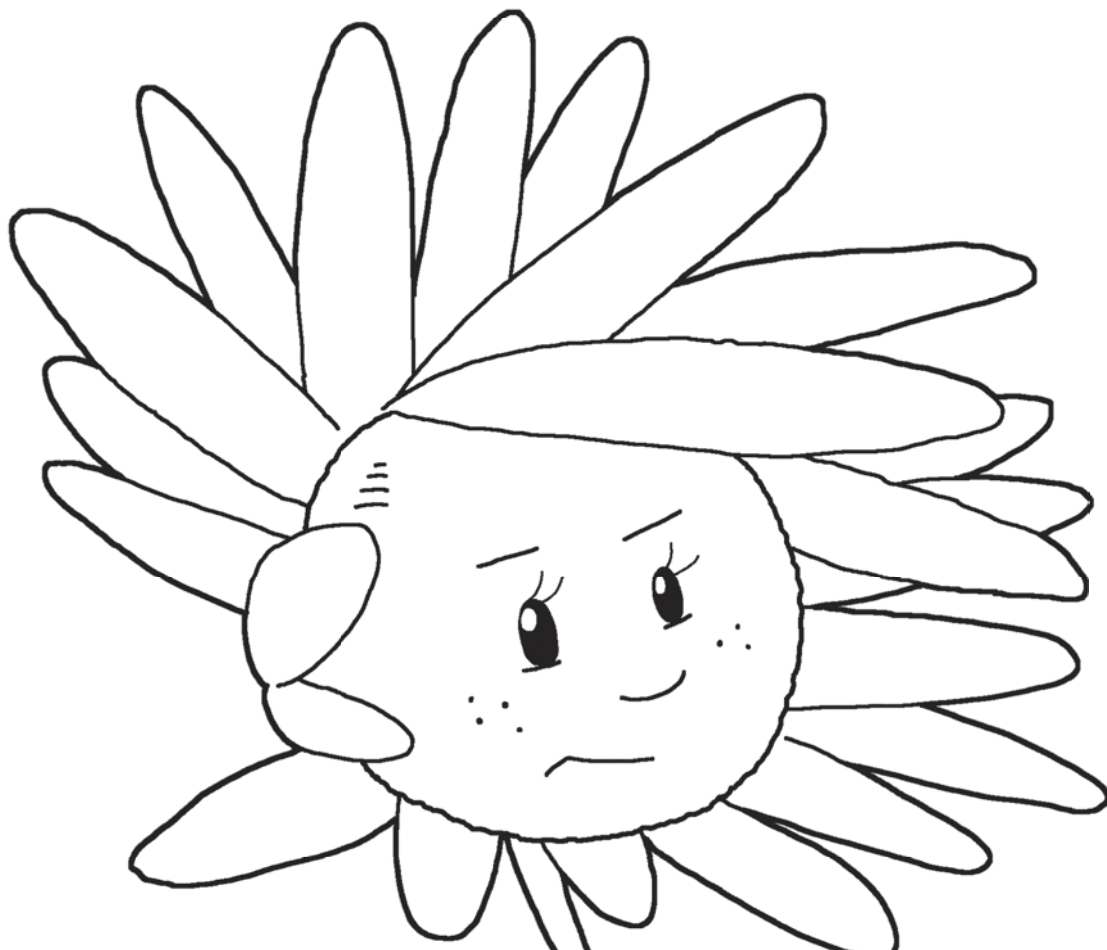
“No sweetheart, but if you happen to have an idea, I’ll be there to help you,” she said encouragingly patting Daisy’s little head with her right leaf.


“Soaking up the sun and water, and not doing anything else or seeing nothing interesting—what kind of life is that anyway?” Daisy wanted to know.

“My dear child, we daisies in this garden have a job to do. We are healing plants, and most people don’t know that, but luckily the lady of the house does. She takes care of us and she even put us in a special bed, where we don’t have to be afraid of the lawnmower like many other daisies do. I think you’re seeing things a bit too gloomily; we get to know lots of little critters and we get to talk to them all we want. We get to watch the family playing, to enjoy the sun and the rain. Each of us is important. Life does have a meaning and we do have a purpose, if you want to see it. And it’s a good thing too,” her mother explained.



“But we still get picked for medicinal teas and creams, you said so yourself! That’s just as bad as the lawnmower! Even worse, ’cause they’re ripping off our heads! What’s so good about that? I wanna get out of here,” Daisy said vehemently with a look of rage on her face.





During the next few days, Daisy enjoyed every second, chattering as much as she could with the other daisies in her flowerbed and with the friends that stopped by. That made her feel happy, and she was very grateful to be here.

One morning Daisy was watching the lady of the house as she was pulling weeds. Her little daughter was in the yard playing in the sandbox when it hit her. “That’s it!” Daisy cried. “I got it! It’s brilliant!” she called out beaming. Daisy’s mother and the others in the flowerbed were startled as they looked her way, eyes wide open.

“Everything’s OK,” Daisy reassured the other flowers around her. Her mother looked her in the eye and asked: “So, you’ve got an idea?”

“Yes,” said Daisy mischievously, “but it’s a surprise!”

As all of the other flowers were closing their petals that evening, Willi stopped by to see Daisy like he usually did.

She was so excited that the words just tumbled out of her mouth. Willi was a bit confused, but he took in her instructions, slowly repeating what she’d said.



puts little snacks near our hole! We show our thanks by keeping the place clean and tidy. I mean not all of us live there; we've found different spots for the others. Every Sunday the whole clan comes by for coffee and cake. The family surely must know that you are here. Why else do you think that there is a little wooden crate so close to the compost pile? It must be for you! Anyway, our mission is really important, and we do need your help, Alice. What do you say?" asked Lizzy.



A sense of adventure was in the air. At least that was what Daisy was convinced of as she woke in the wee hours of the morning. She was excited. Would her plan work? What would the other daisies have to say about it? Should she let her mum in on everything? Might it be possible that taking this risk could cost her her life? Thoughts like these and so many more were running circles in Daisy's head, and she suddenly began to have doubts. Willi popped up at the right moment, and immediately saw the apprehension in Daisy's face.

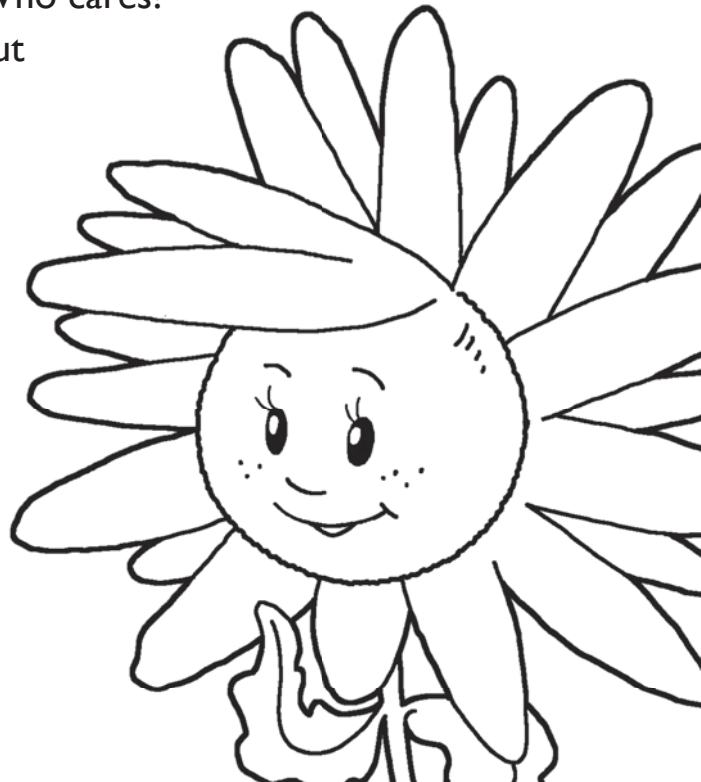
"You're worried, aren't you?" he asked wisely.

"Yes, I'm not sure anymore, if this really is such a good idea.

Anything might happen. And even if the worst doesn't come to pass, everyone could still make fun of me, if it doesn't work out in the end. Then I'll be stuck here and everyone will know that I'm a failure. Maybe the best thing is to keep your dreams to yourself.



Maybe all you should ever do is what you were supposed to do. Maybe just being a part of the common goal is enough. Maybe ...”  
“Baloney!”, asserted Willi, putting an end to Daisy’s rambling.  
“Maybe this, maybe that! Stop that right now and start believing that you have the power to make your dreams come true. Self-doubt is not what you need here. Believe in yourself. We’ll take care of you. You convinced me, and your enthusiasm inspired all of us. Everyone who is helping you today have their hearts in the cause. That’s all you need to know, believe you me.  
And if it happens not to work out, Who cares!  
Sure, you can’t fail if you don’t try, but you’ll never succeed either. At least, you’ll have a great story to tell, that’s something”, Willi said.  
Daisy looked him in the eye and called softly: “Let the adventure begin!”



Daisy might only be one of many, but she dreams of doing more than simply accepting her fate, being rooted to the ground. Does this mean that she can never be anything more than a pretty little flower?

Why shouldn't Daisy expect more from life than what it has in store for her?

Daisy has a dream, but will she be able to make that dream come true?

A delightful story about positive thinking and family ties, a willingness to help and a sense of community.

*Have fun  
reading & coloring!*

