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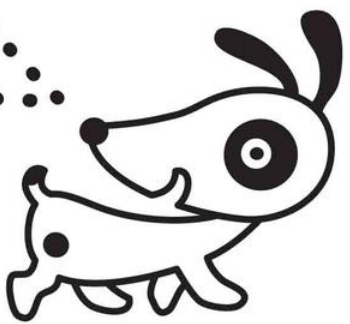
Little Miss Didi Match-A-Lot



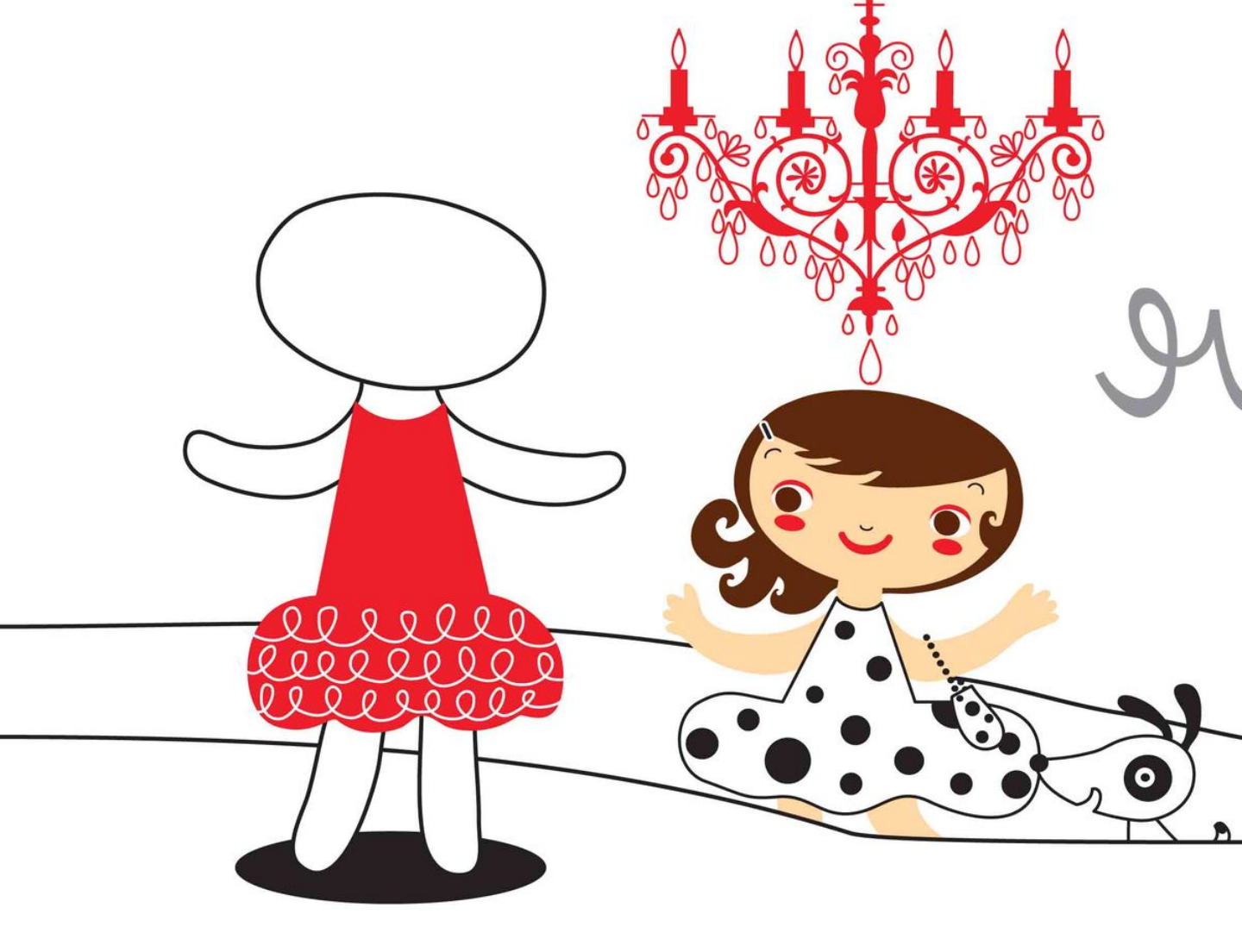
Oishi
Peso-Smart Kids Series

Words by May Tobias Papa
Art by Beth Parrocha Doctolero

Little Miss Didi Match-A-Lot



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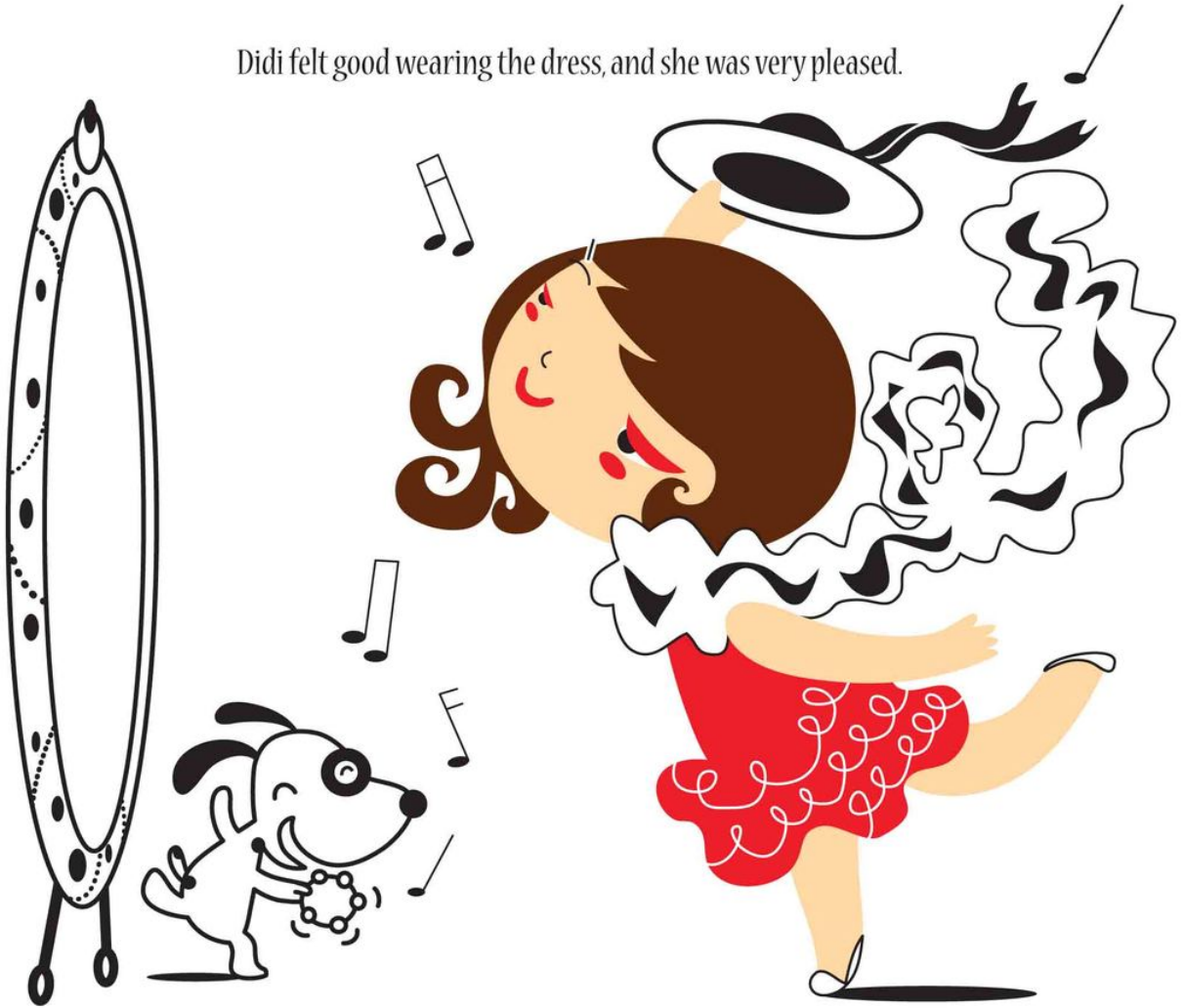
Le Boutique

It was a good day for walking, so Didi and her loyal Dots went out for a stroll.
Outside a dress shop they stopped, for they saw the most vivid and gorgeous red dress.
Without even thinking twice, Didi bought it.

At home, Didi put it on and looked at herself in the mirror. "The red dress is SO you," Dots said.



Didi felt good wearing the dress, and she was very pleased.

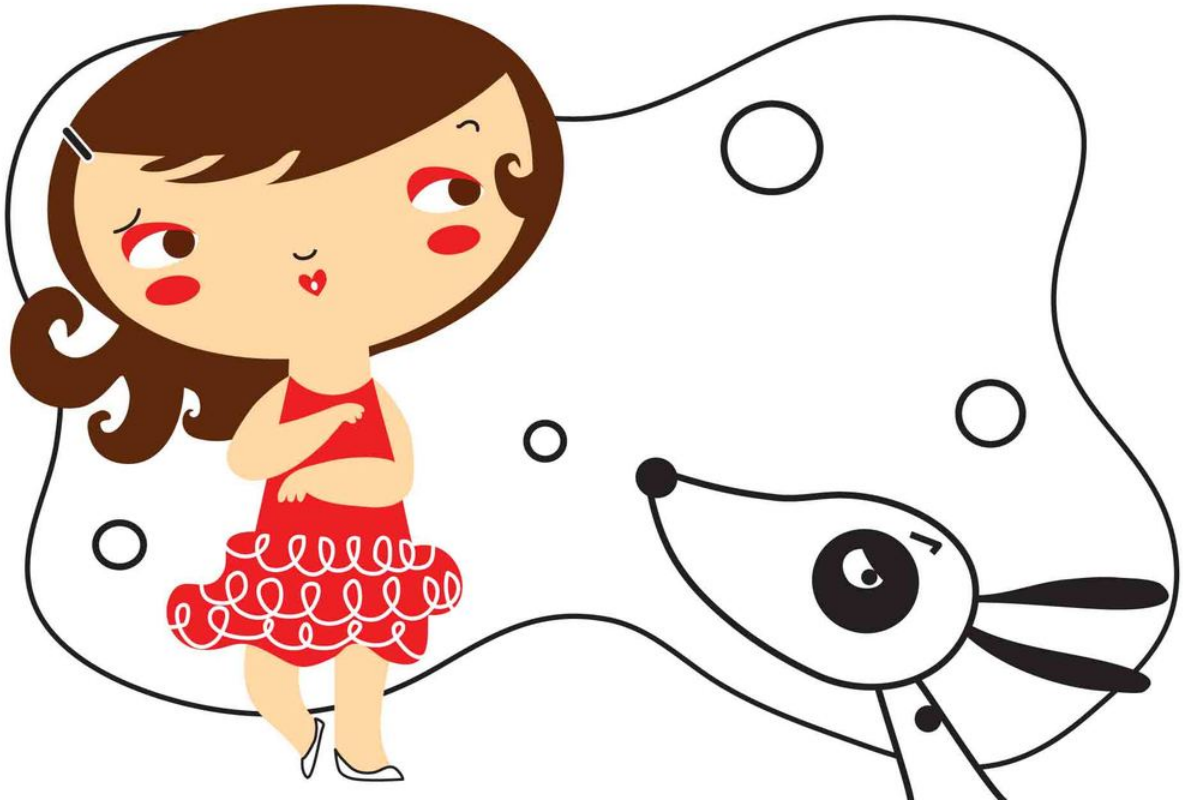


That night, Didi went to bed wearing her red dress.
In her dream, she happily waltzed around in her dress.

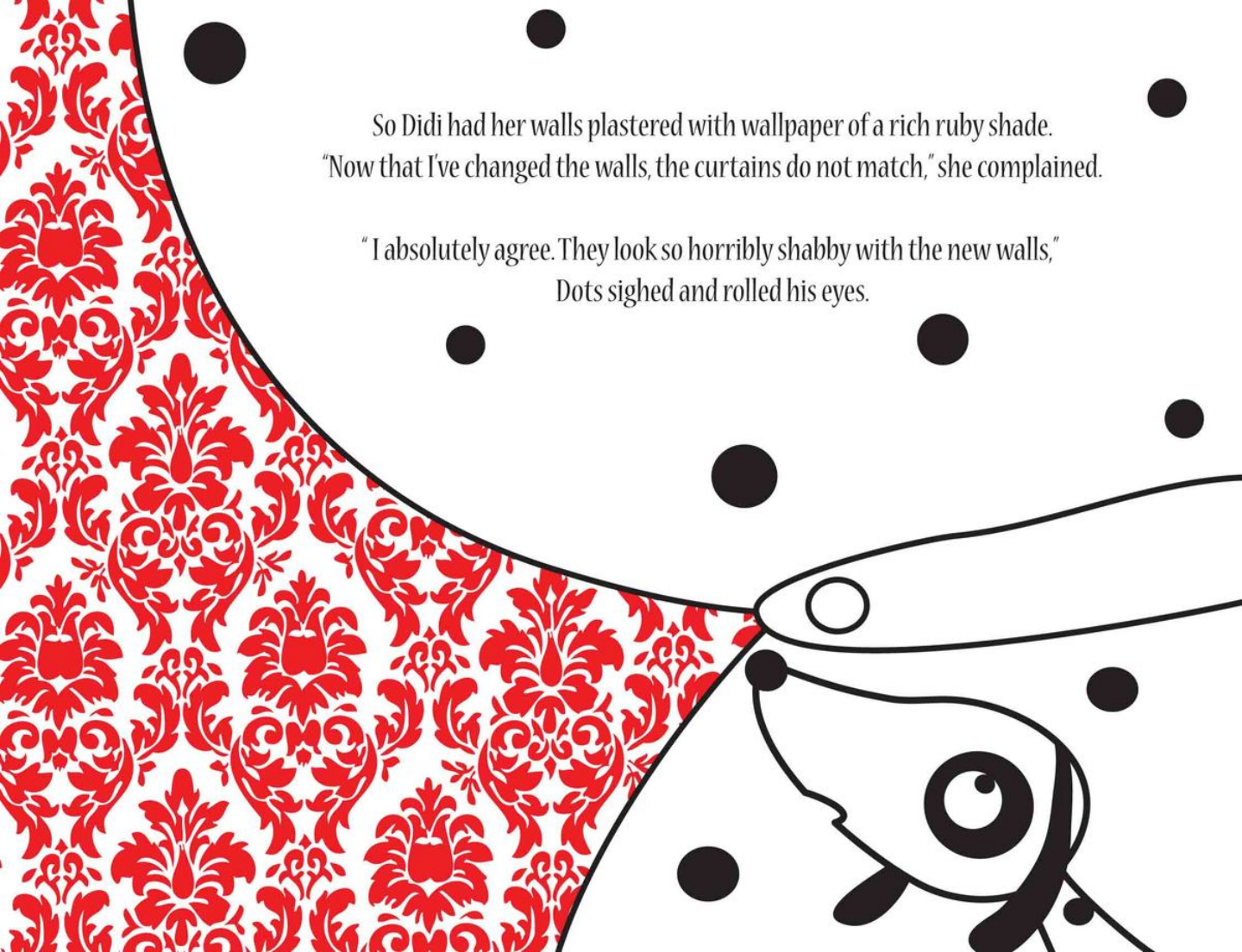


The next morning however, she felt that something was amiss.
It's the walls! She decided that her room didn't match her dress.

"You are so right," Dots said dryly.
"The walls simply do not agree with the luscious scarlet of your dress."







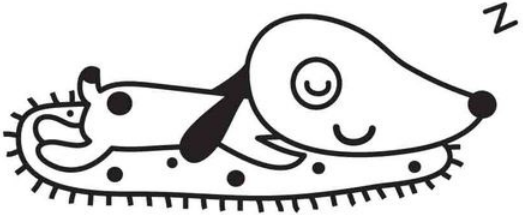
So Didi had her walls plastered with wallpaper of a rich ruby shade.
"Now that I've changed the walls, the curtains do not match," she complained.

"I absolutely agree. They look so horribly shabby with the new walls,"
Dots sighed and rolled his eyes.

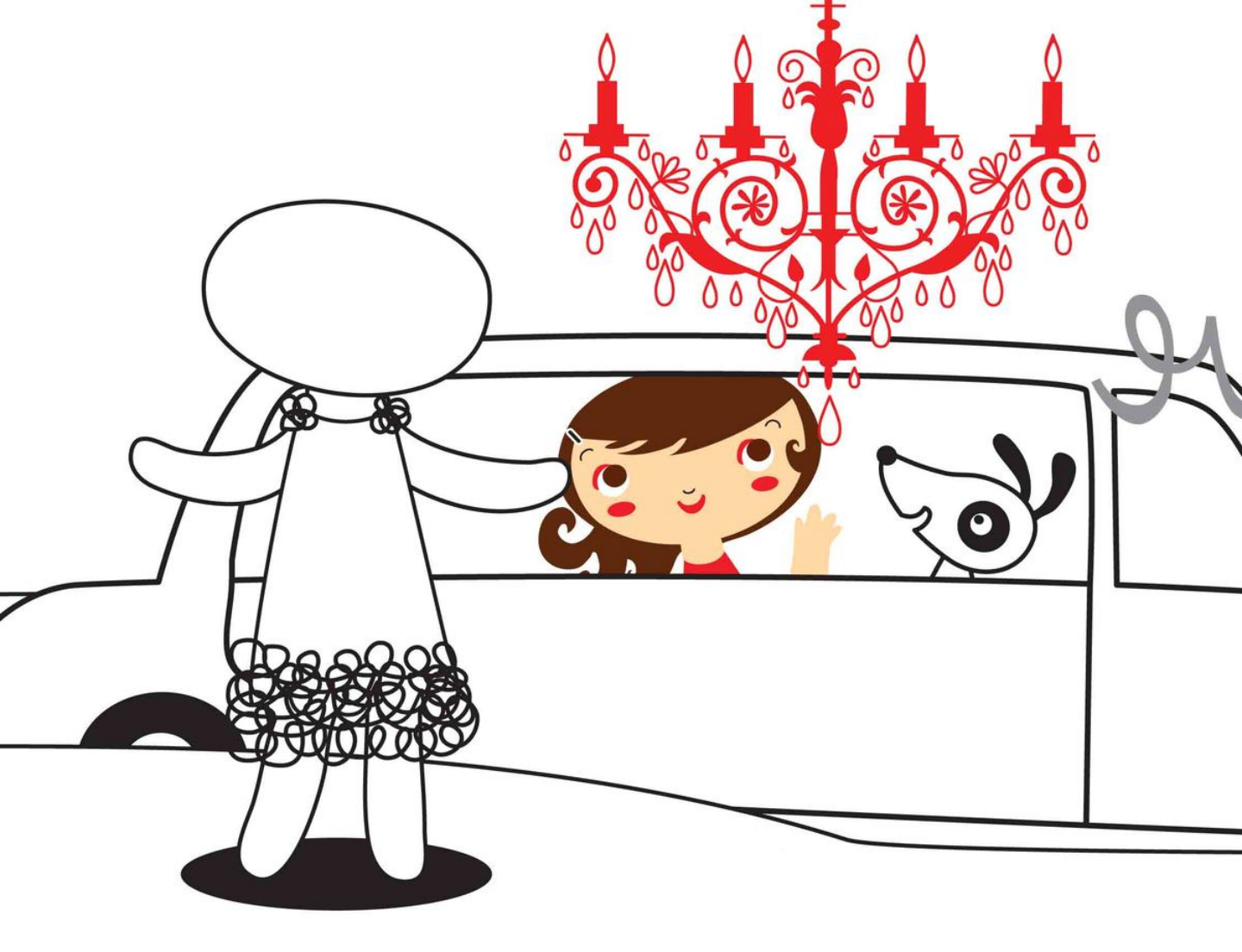
So, the next morning, Didi immediately ordered new curtains.
Didi happily went to bed that night, surrounded by her new wallpaper and curtains.
In her dream she twirled and spun in her wonderful red dress.



It was strange,
but when she woke up the next morning,
she felt, once again,
that something was amiss.

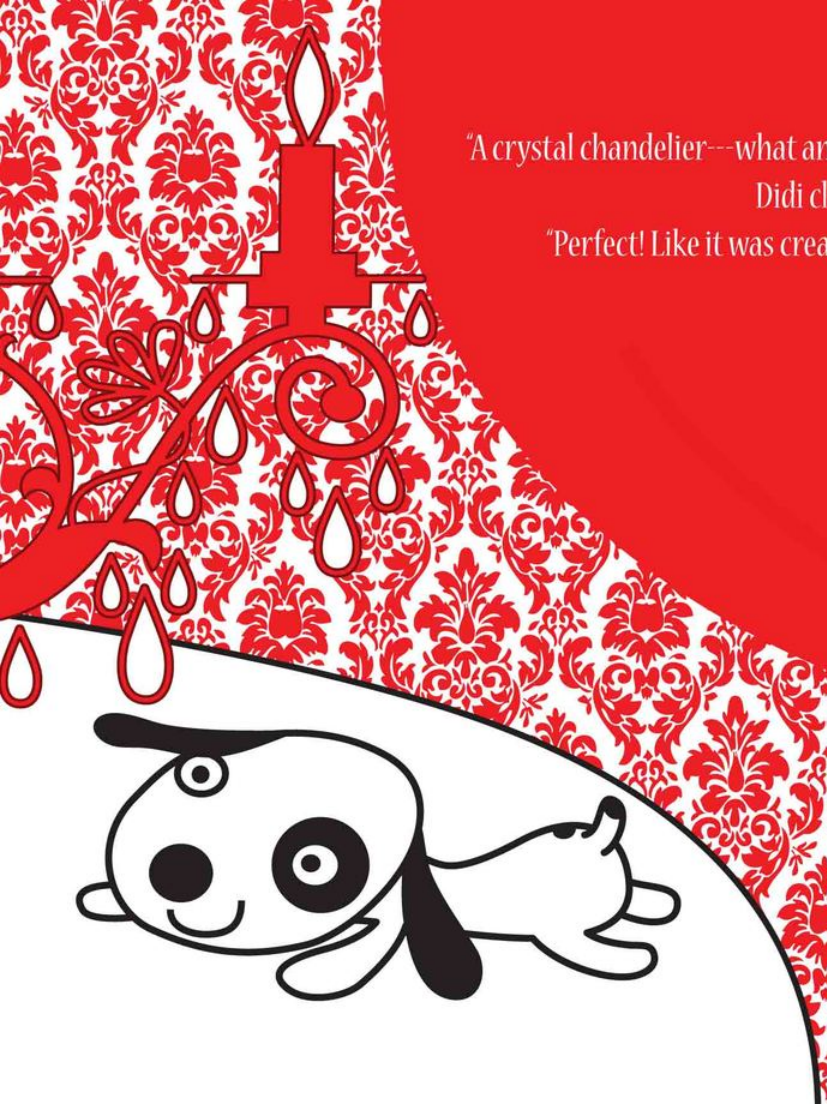






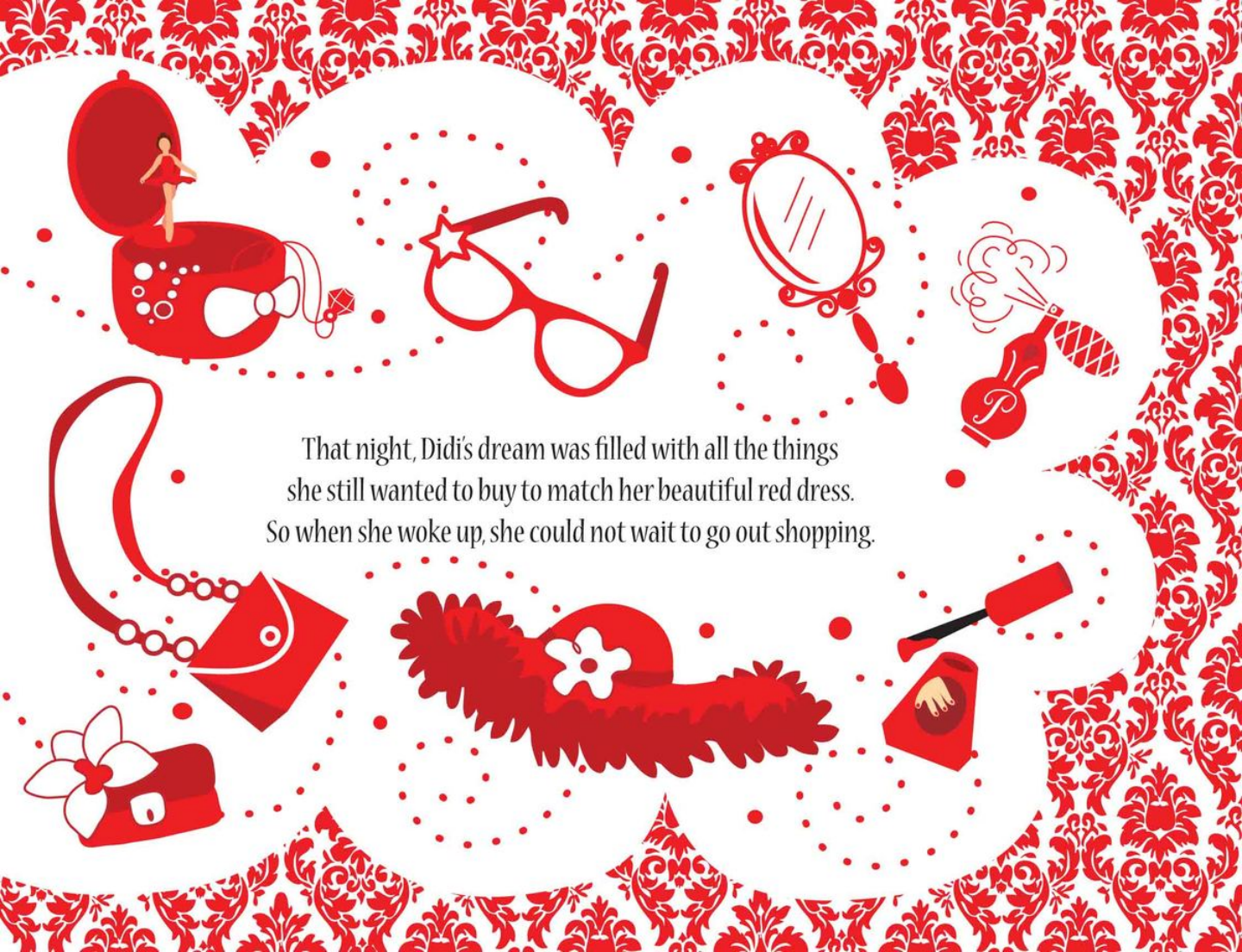
A thought nagged Didi.
"The lighting in the store was so much better," she said.
"I want that red chandelier!"





"A crystal chandelier---what an excellent idea, Didi!" Dots said admiringly.
Didi clapped her hands.
"Perfect! Like it was created just for my dress!" she swooned.





That night, Didi's dream was filled with all the things
she still wanted to buy to match her beautiful red dress.
So when she woke up, she could not wait to go out shopping.

"All the things our little princess wants, of course,"
Dots smiled.
"And you should also think about getting
a little crown for your pretty head," he added.










Didi now loved everything in her room.
Everything in it was just like how she dreamt it will be---
they all matched her red dress splendidly.
Well, almost.

"You have such exquisite taste, Didi.
It's amazing how that fabulous red dress has changed your life!" said Dots.

Happily and daintily, Dots munched the contents of his bowl.



Didi had kept it inside her for too long. It was already time to tell Dots how she felt.



"Dots, there is just one thing left that does not match my red dress," Didi began.
"Starting today, I'm afraid I will no longer need you.

Goodbye."




Fabulous
Pet Shop



"But, Didi, why?" Dots wanted to know. "I thought I was your best friend."




Didi looked at her room filled with
all the things that match
her beautiful red dress.

"I feel so tired," she sighed.
"Matching everything takes a lot ofwork, not to mention money."



"One more red thing and I'm going to

SCREAM!!!"



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Printed in the Philippines
Published by
Liwayway Marketing Corporation
2225 Tolentino St., Pasay City, Philippines 1300
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ISBN 978 - 971 - 94553 - 5 - 6



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Whatever Didi wants, Didi gets.
Then one day she sees a dress that completely changes her life.

There once lived a French philosopher named Denis Diderot (1713-1784) who wrote about his elegant robe. Diderot became so obsessed with its beauty that he went on a mad shopping spree to match everything in his life with it. In the process, he had to discard the things that used to be dear to him because they were too shabby in relation to his robe.

In a well-known fable, the grasshopper spends idle days under the sun while the ant works to store up food for the coming rainy days. When the rains come, the ant's hard work pays off while the grasshopper finds itself dying of hunger.

Oishi presents Peso-Smart Kids Series---a series of books on financial education for kids. It takes inspiration from the lessons taught by the diligent and wise ant.

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"Once I Was Rich"
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