

WRITTEN BY:

LAUREN CHANDLER

ILLUSTRATED BY:

CATALINA ECHEVERRI

# Goodbye



to

# GOODBYES

A TRUE STORY ABOUT JESUS, LAZARUS, AND AN EMPTY TOMB

WRITTEN BY:

LAUREN CHANDLER

ILLUSTRATED BY:

CATALINA ECHEVERRI

# Goodbye



to  
GOODBYES





In the little town of Bethany,  
there lived a man named Lazarus.

He had two sisters, Mary and Martha.

Martha loved to  
throw a party.

Mary loved to sit  
and listen.

Lazarus loved his  
two sisters.

And they were all  
friends with a man  
named Jesus.







But one day,  
Lazarus got sick.

He went to bed sick.  
And he woke up sick.



Martha and Mary  
looked after him,  
But Lazarus got worse  
and worse...



"I Know," said Martha,  
"I will tell our friend  
Jesus! He can help!"

Martha thought about  
all Jesus had done.

He made the blind  
people see.



**BAAA  
CLUCK  
HEE-HAW**



He made the deaf  
people hear.

He made people who had been  
sick walk, jump, run, and  
leap for joy.

He could make Lazarus well!



So she and Mary  
sent a message  
to Jesus:



*Lord Jesus,  
Our brother Lazarus,  
the friend that you love,  
is sick.  
Come quickly!*

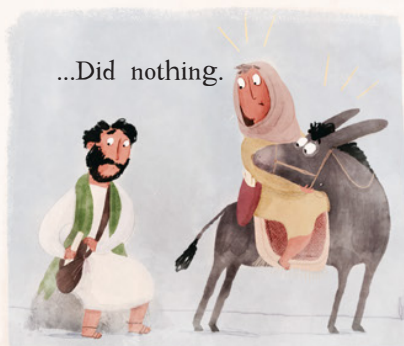




It took two days for  
Martha's message to  
reach Jesus.



And when Jesus heard his friend was very, very sick, he...



Did nothing?? That's right.

He didn't ride the first  
donkey to Bethany.

He didn't run until  
his side hurt.



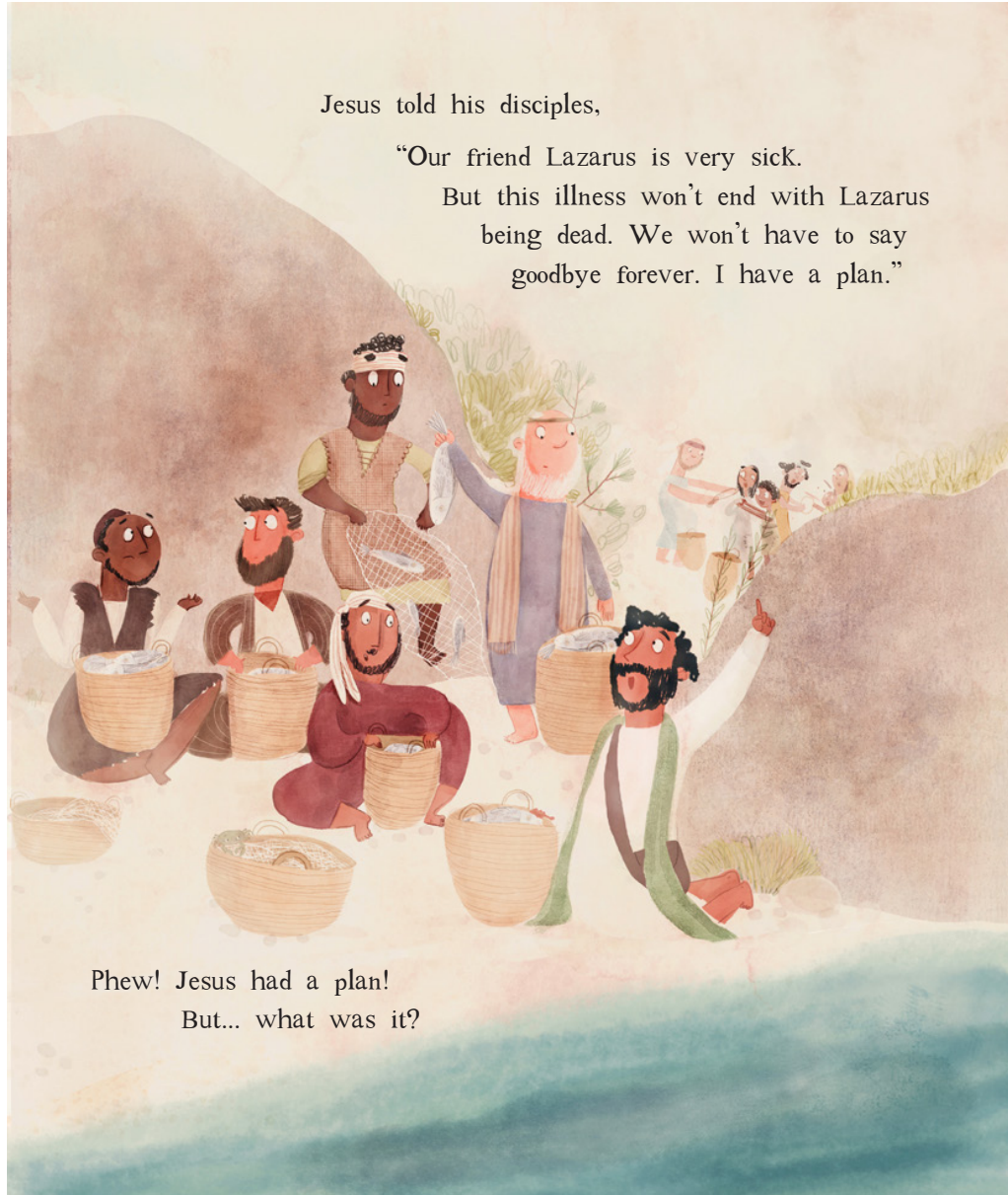
For two whole days, he  
stayed right where he was.

Why?

Jesus told his disciples,

“Our friend Lazarus is very sick.

But this illness won’t end with Lazarus  
being dead. We won’t have to say  
goodbye forever. I have a plan.”



Phew! Jesus had a plan!  
But... what was it?

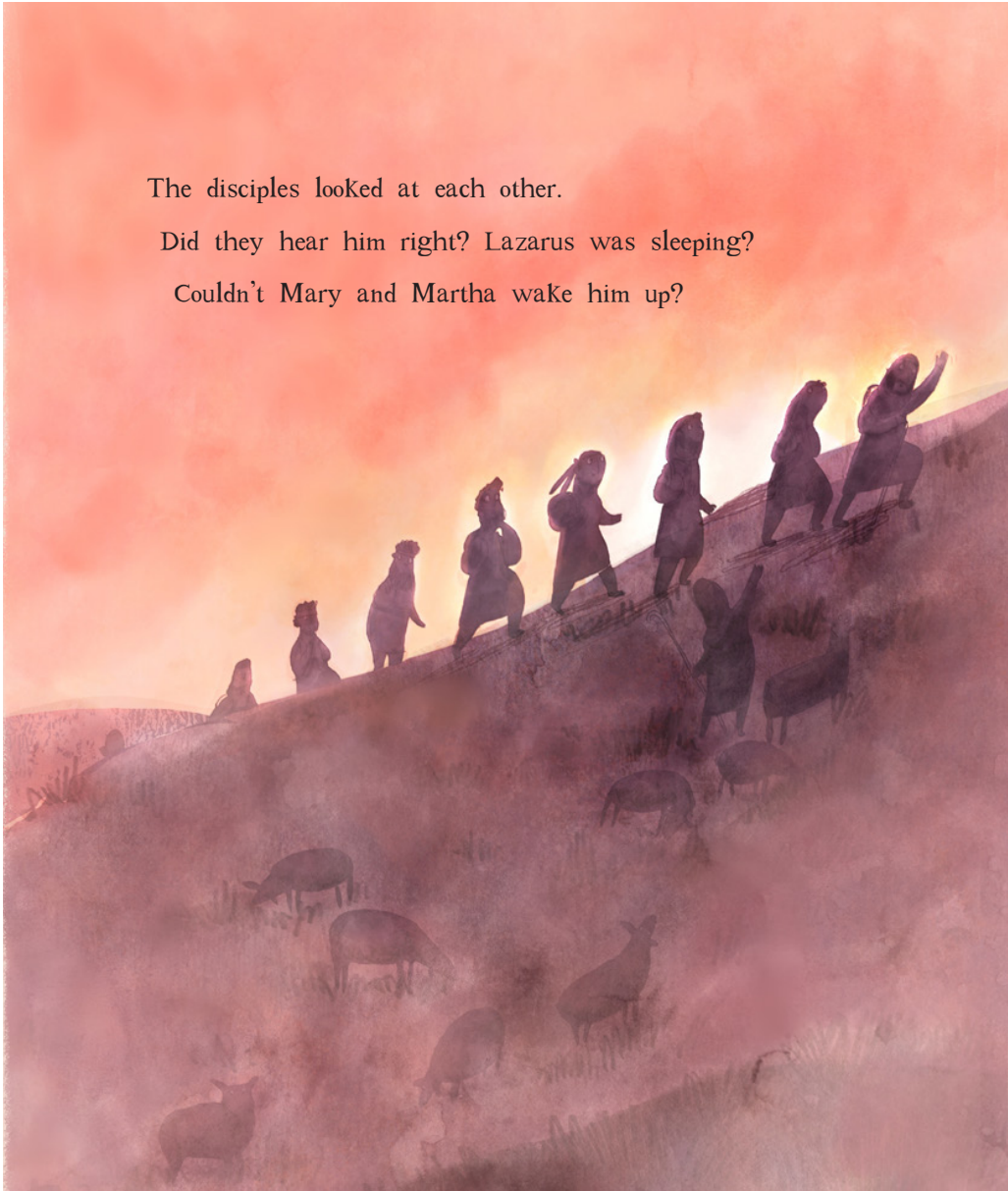
Then, at last, Jesus and his disciples  
headed to Bethany.



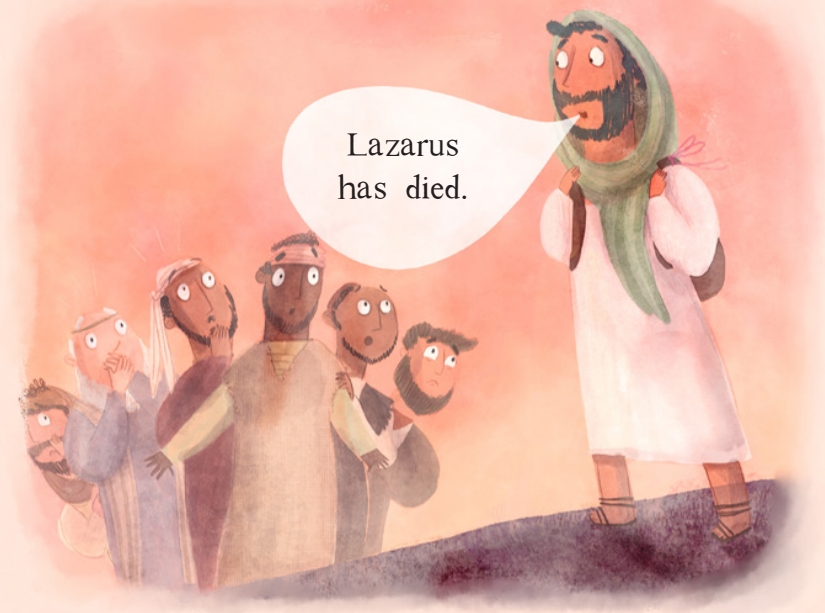
“Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep,”  
Jesus announced, “but I’m on my way  
to wake him up!”



The disciples looked at each other.  
Did they hear him right? Lazarus was sleeping?  
Couldn't Mary and Martha wake him up?



Jesus knew their questions.  
He looked at them and said,



Dead?! How could this be?  
Didn't Jesus say that Lazarus would not die?  
Didn't he say they wouldn't have to say goodbye forever?  
What happened to his plan?





Every step to Bethany felt heavier and heavier.  
Their hearts sank deeper and deeper.



They were sad their friend had died.  
They didn't even get to say goodbye.



Four days after Lazarus had died,  
Jesus and his disciples finally arrived.

Martha came running to  
meet them.

Her face was sad.  
Her eyes were red.



“Lord!” She gasped, “if only you had been here, Lazarus would not have died. But I know nothing is impossible with you—even after someone’s died and we’ve said our forever goodbyes.”



“You’re right, Martha,” Jesus said, “there is a day coming when we will say goodbye to saying goodbyes forever. Do you believe that?”

Martha nodded. “Yes! I believe in you, Jesus! I know you are the Son of God. And I know you always do what you promise. You will end all our goodbyes. Forever.”

