Angus is here. Angus is our dog. I've seen him sneaking, peeking, everywhere . . .



A heartfelt story about how things change, and what stays the same, when you're grieving a beloved pet.



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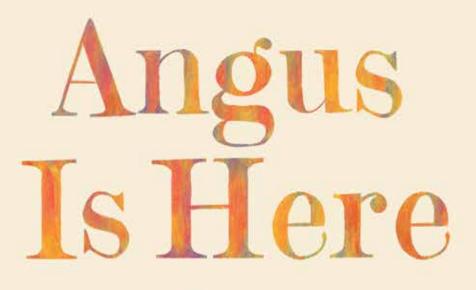




Angus IsHere

words by Hadley Dyer

pictures by Paul Covello





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For Henry, Margot, Kate, James, and Molly. -H.D.

For Eddie, Toby, Maggie, Christina, Murphy, Sally, Jasper, Leo, and Penny. —P.C.





I've seen him sneaking, peeking, everywhere.

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I've seen him in my bedroom, a flicker in the corner of my eye. I've seen his tail wagging under the table when we're having dinner.

When I feel for him with my feet, I find nothing but air.

When I turn my head, he disappears.

An and

Angus is fast for an old dog.

I've heard his hopeful sniff when I'm making a snack, his nails clicking on the floor when I'm by the hooks where we keep his leash.



I've even hidden, waiting for him to appear.

But he only seems to turn up when I'm not looking.

One second he's there, the next he's not. "You're being weird," my sister, Molly, says, finding me crouched behind the sofa.



One night in bed, I feel his warm body on my feet.

I hear his old-dog snoring, the little whimper that means he's chasing rabbits in his dreams.

I tell my parents in the morning. "It was just a dream," Dad says. "Do you remember what we said about death?" Mum asks.

I smell his fur. It smells like crackers, like it always did.

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