

Marina Kavallieraki



A Rainbow Tangled up

Illustrations by
Paris Charalampidis





Marina Kavallieraki was born in Athens and comes from Chania. She has graduated in the department of French Literature from the University of Bourgogne. She travels through books and she sometimes blogs in the internet to unblock herself, but what she likes the most is to create fairytales with children for children and then to bring them to life through sounds, pictures and crafts. At an early age the phrase “Once upon a time...” seemed magical to her. She keeps herself occupied with the latest technology and especially with its application in education and interactive activities and craft projects for children. She “cooks” her own “fairy-recipes” like “Agapo’s braids” which was distinguished from the competition in short stories of the “Kritiki Estia” (Cretan Hearth) with subject the hospitality in Crete. Some of her short stories have been published in electronic literary magazines. She has been working in a non-governmental organization for the last thirteen years dealing with children. Above all she is the proud mother of Dimitroula.

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*Illustrations by:
Paris Charalampidis*

*Translation from Greek:
Anastasia Vitou*



Marina Kavallieraki, *A Rainbow Tangled up*

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*To my sweet fairytale
Dimitroula*

Xanthi

Mani

Crete

"Shush... Be quiet, girls! Urania has just fallen asleep."
said Thalassini.

"Luckily for me, I feel a little bit stiff and I want to stretch."
exclaimed Portokalenia.

"Ouch, my little back is aching. Why don't you stop talking, so we can rest at last! Urania made us go everywhere today. It seems as if we went round the world twice."
said Smaragdenia.

"But when will all these sudden rain showers stop? I want to go on holiday."
announced Rodoula.





The truth is that Urania, the rainbow fairy, *had a very* exhausting day.

One sudden rain shower down in Mani, then *another* one up in Xanthi and Urania was running to unfold *the* rainbow ribbons from side to side. But apart from *the* distance she had to cover, she had also to cope with the caprices of every ribbon! One ribbon was sleepy, another one was complaining because she wanted to climb first in the chariot as she considered her color to be the best.

“Why don’t they understand that it is important to bring colors where there is none?” Urania was constantly wondering.

“That’s enough for today. This little cloud is so soft *and* warm, the best place for some rest!”





"I don't understand why you always want to get ahead first." said Smaragdenia to Thalassini.

"I am the green color of nature and hope."

"Well, that's not new, but I am the color of the sky and sea, and I can hug all the earth. So I need to be first." stressed Thalassini.

"I think you two are wrong." said Portokalenia.

"I am the warmest and juiciest color. I have the sun and fire inside and I am going to sit in the front in the chariot for you to see how wonderful I look from above!"

"Don't! I told you I will go!"

"No way! The color of the sea is the most important!"

"Oh, get off me! You are choking me, don't you see?" she coughed.





Suddenly, the ribbons began to quarrel about which is the best, until they got tangled up so much together that they ended up into a... big colorful tangle!

Although they were tangled, they kept on quarreling and the tangle rolled and all of a sudden it flopped from the sky...

“Aaaaaaaaah... We are falling! Hold on tight!”
shouted Portokalenia.

They crossed thousands of clouds;
they met a flock of swallows which had started their journey for warmer places, until they slid into a chimney.





"I can't breathe." said Thalassini coughing.

"It's too dark in here and it's cold." exclaimed Portokalenia.

"How did we end up like that? Even Cinderella wasn't so dusty." noticed Rodoula.

"Where is our nice fairy to come and save us?" wondered Smaragdenia sadly...

Suddenly all the ribbons looked at each other. Their shiny clothes were ruffled and dirty. Their colors had been gone. They were alone in an empty cold house and they all had the same grey color.





Then, they understood that all this time they had been quarreling unfairly, since every color is unique and equally important. As the ribbons cuddled up together, they looked up in the sky.

“We’re sorry Urania. Don’t leave us down here” said all the ribbons in unison.

Then, a flash emerged from the small skylight.

In the meantime, Urania had woken up and she was worried because she hadn’t seen her ribbons around. Once she saw the grey tangle, she sent a ray of sunlight to raise them quickly in the sky.





*She dripped cool,
colorful water on them
and the grey color disappeared immediately.*





The chariot was now ready
and some raindrops
had been already calling the colorful company
for a new journey...



How we got... tangled

Once upon a time

I think it was early autumn

A company of adults was observing a company of children.

Katherine: Look Dimitroula, a rainbow!

Dimitroula: A ribbon in the sky!

Antonis: It's not a ribbon. We have learned that the light goes through the raindrops and creates the rainbow.

Dimitroula: But still it looks like a ribbon.

Helen: Yes, but Dimitroula is very young and she can't understand it yet.

Dimitroula: I'm not that young and I can understand everything!

Helen: Ok, let's say then that there is a country - I don't remember its name - where there is ...

Antonis: I know that, it's Ireland. And they say that at the end of the rainbow there is a leprechaun with a pot full of gold coins.

Helen: Antonis, first stop barging in and second it's not a pot but a tsoukali (marmite)!

Antonis: It's the same! And my grandfather calls it tsikali in Crete!

Katherine: I know that in the past, I mean in ancient times, there was a goddess called Iris and she was the goddess of the rainbow. Maybe it's her ribbon.

Dimitroula: Iris is the name of a teacher at school!

Somehow like that the idea of this fairy tale was born which is actually a “mummy-tale” that is a fairy tale by a mother.

The truth is that the creation of a story along with children can be a clever solution during rainy and cold winter days and especially those days when we make the flu or a sniffle our friends. It is then when we are often asked to act as MacGyver – for those who remember the TV series with the ingenious hero. We find together the hero’s name, what he wants to do, what magical powers he has, where he lives and off we go! We animate the story through painting, handicraft, puppetry and any other material that is available at home such as paper plates, ribbons and gauze from “mpomponieres” (wedding gauzy fabric), colorful straws or more.

Through the specific “mummy-tale” I would like to create the framework of a discussion of many and various elements as:

- ★ The meaning of being different
- ★ The creation of colors
- ★ Various myths related to the rainbow
- ★ The geographical orientation since Urania visits various places in Greece

For all these reasons, I added a series of cross-curricular (cross-thematic) activities and the above informational content along with the fairy tale.

Finally, I would like to thank the Saita publications and the illustrator Paris Charalampidis who brought Urania to life.

I wish that this book can keep good company to both children and adults!

Marina Kavallieraki

CROSS-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES BASED ON THE FAIRYTALE

★ Come and see how the rainbow is created

First of all we need sun and rain at the same time! Imagine a cloudy sky. Suddenly it starts raining. After a while the clouds start diluting and Mr. Sun appears slowly. His rays pass through the raindrops and then the physical phenomenon of refraction happens. The white sun light refracts into different colors and creates the rainbow. It hides many colors but only seven of them prevail which are known as “the seven colors of Iris”!



★ The rainbow in the Greek Mythology

According to our tradition, Iris is one of the smallest goddesses of Mount Olympus and the messenger of the Olympian Gods.

She is like our mailmen but with some differences. Instead of a bag she has a herald's staff (kerykeion), and instead of shoes she has gold feathered sandals. This footwear is the reason why she is called "swift-footed". Iris is also dressed in a short tunic (chiton). To deliver the messages, she uses the bright and colorful road of the rainbow, which connects the sky with the earth. Iris also helps the Olympian Gods to solve their disagreements. Iris is responsible for the administration of justice, every time a fight and disagreement takes place.



★ Where else do we use the word “Iris”?

Today the name Iris can be used with different meanings.
“Iris” is called the colored part of our eyes.



There is also a beautiful scented flower which is called
“Iris” and it flourishes in winter.



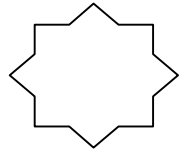
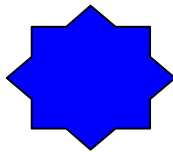
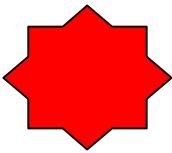
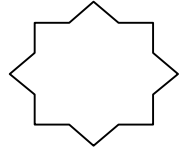
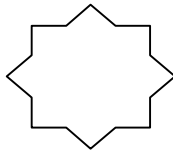
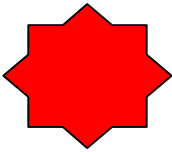
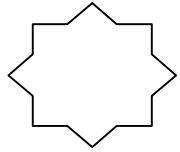
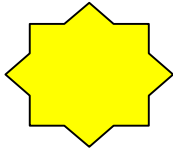
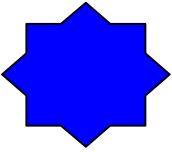
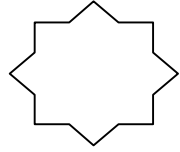
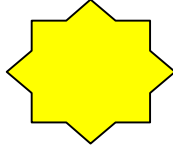
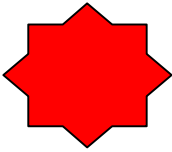
★ The leprechaun and the pot with the gold coins, a myth from Ireland

According to this myth, there is a pot full of gold at the end of every rainbow which is guarded by a leprechaun.

But the leprechaun is very devious and when he finds out that the treasure is in danger by a human, he tries to confuse him so that he can never find it!



★ I learn how to make color combinations



★ *A rainbow for the door!*



Materials

- *White paper plates*
- *Markers or crayons*
- *Craft glue*
- *Some Cotton*
- *A ribbon or a string*
- *A hole punch*

Instructions

- *We cut carefully a paper plate in half.*
- *We remove the inside part and keep only the hoop.*
- *We paint the hoop.*
- *We attach cotton balls at the bottom to look as if the rainbow reaches the clouds.*
- *We punch a hole in the center and attach the ribbon or the string in order to hang it.*

Congratulations! The rainbow is ready!

★ Rain... Collage

with waste material from different types of paper



Materials

- Paper cuttings - type of paper: Canson (we could have kept them as supplies from previous handicrafts)
- A pair of scissors
- Craft glue
- A plain cardboard as a background for the collage or even a white paper (size A4)

Instructions

We cut the different types of paper into many paper bits and then we create our rainbow!

★ *Urania creates music!*

Materials

- *One empty plastic bottle of 500 ml (0,5 l)*
- *Beads, seashells, and paper supplies*
- *Some rice*
- *Ribbons of different colors*
- *A pair of scissors*



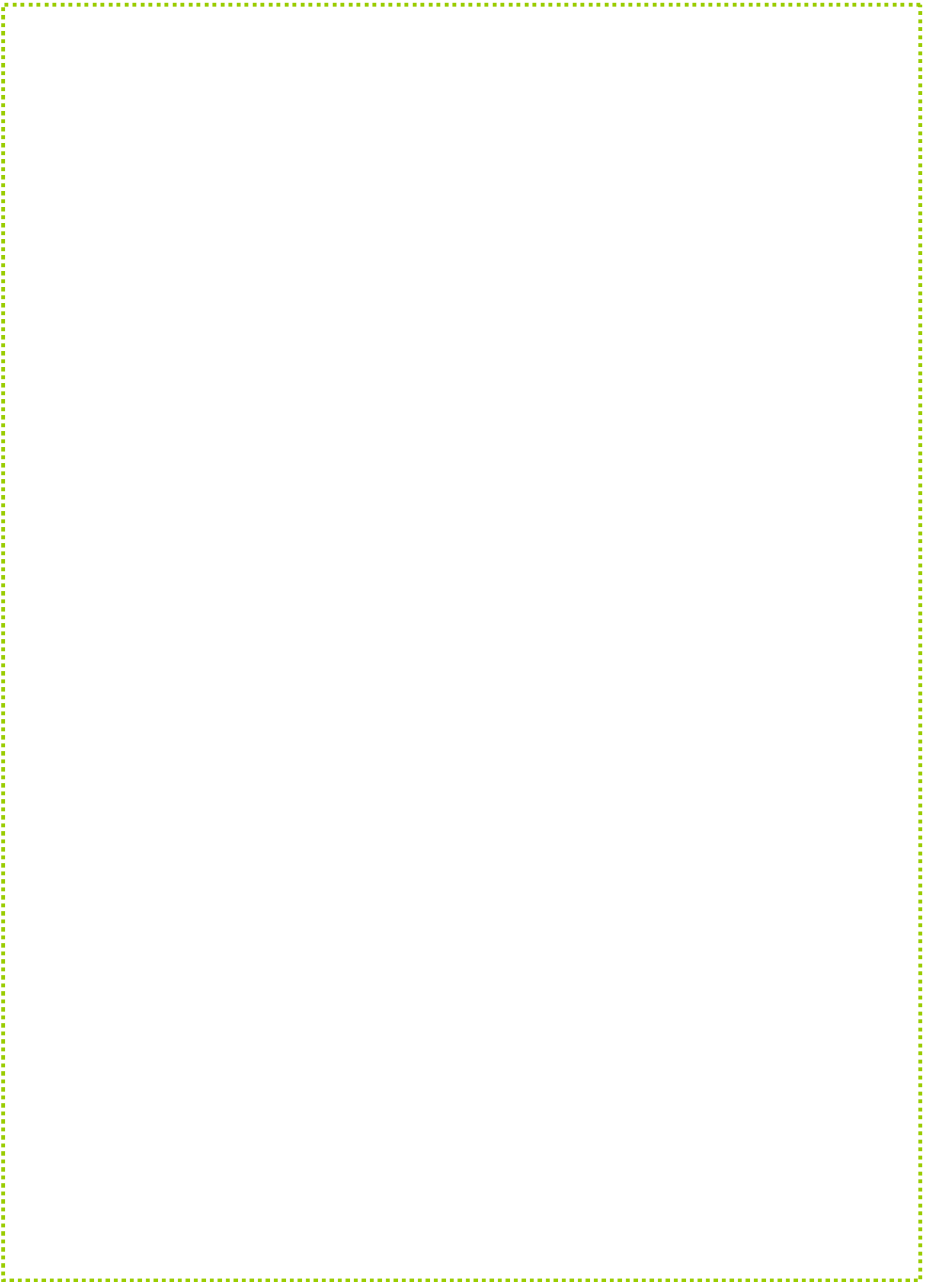
Instructions

- *We empty the bottle, wash it and dry it well.*
- *We fill the bottle with beads, seashells, rice and paper supplies that have been left from previous handicrafts. When we were making the handicraft that you can see in the picture, we added some glitter and some pom-poms.*
- *We close the bottle tightly. Then, we cut our ribbons into big pieces and tie them around the mouth of the bottle. You can tie all of them at once and then with each other in order to make the tie stronger.*

Congratulations!

You are ready to dance the ... Rainbow dance!

★ *Paint your own rainbow*



★ Urania suggests that you could sing the song with her...

«Rainbow'», Children choir Sp. Lambrou

*Every time the rain comes
On my window's glass,
I think that in a while the rainbow will show up
And the whole creation will cheer up.*

*When something bad happens in our life
A strong heavy sea like
Or an unhappy time
The rainbow will then arise
And it will be a new sunrise
So have hope in your life
After the storm something will appear
The rainbow shall send away the fear
So have hope in your life*

*I beg every time for more
The rainbow to stay more, one second more
To enjoy such beauty
And such sweet colorful unity*

*When something bad happens in our life
A strong heavy sea like
Or an unhappy time
The rainbow will then arise
And it will be a new sunrise
So have hope in your life
After the storm something will appear
The rainbow shall send away the fear
So have hope in your life*



<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MTAu5H-iEQQ>

Useful links

By using the Scoop.it platform I created a blog where useful links for both teachers and parents are posted every day.

The “Creative Library” includes useful English, Greek and French links about:

- o New technologies and their application in education
- o Educational sites
- o School blogs mainly those of primary education with a great variety of ideas for handicrafts and activities
- o Recommended fairytales and children’s books
- o Events and activities for children
- o Information about children’s protection and school bullying

You don’t need to sign up, just click on the link below and start navigation!

<http://www.scoop.it/u/creative-library>

The screenshot displays the Scoop.it interface for the 'Creative Library' user. The top navigation bar includes the Scoop.it logo, a search bar, and links for 'PLANS', 'DISCOVER', 'SIGN UP', and 'LOGIN'. The user profile on the left shows 'Creative Library by M.Kavalleraki' with a bio: 'Creative Library is all about New technologies in Education, educational sites for the entire family to use, resources for creative learning, books and fairytales as learning and bullying awareness. Scoops available in English, Greek & French'. It also lists social media links for Facebook and Twitter, and shows '190 views' and '+4 today'. The main content area is titled 'Creative Library by M.Kavalleraki's Community (3)' and contains five featured items:

- Creating and learning with child**: A thumbnail of a futuristic space station with a 'FOLLOW' button and '91 views, 1 follower'.
- New technologies in Education**: A thumbnail of a computer interface with a 'FOLLOW' button and '71 views, 4 followers'.
- Books and Fairytales**: A thumbnail of a book cover 'Petit Lièvre et l'Étranger' with a 'FOLLOW' button and '27 views'.
- My favorite school blogs**: A thumbnail of a colorful drawing with a 'FOLLOW' button and '1 view, 1 follower'.
- Child protection and bullying**: A thumbnail of a drawing with a 'FOLLOW' button and '1 follower'.



The idea of *Saita publications* emerged in July 2012, having as a primary goal to create a web space where new authors can interact with the readers directly and free.

Saita publications' aim is to redefine the publisher-author-reader relationship, by cultivating a true dialogue and by establishing an effective communication channel for authors and readers alike. *Saita publications* stay far away from profit, exploitation and commercialization of literary property.

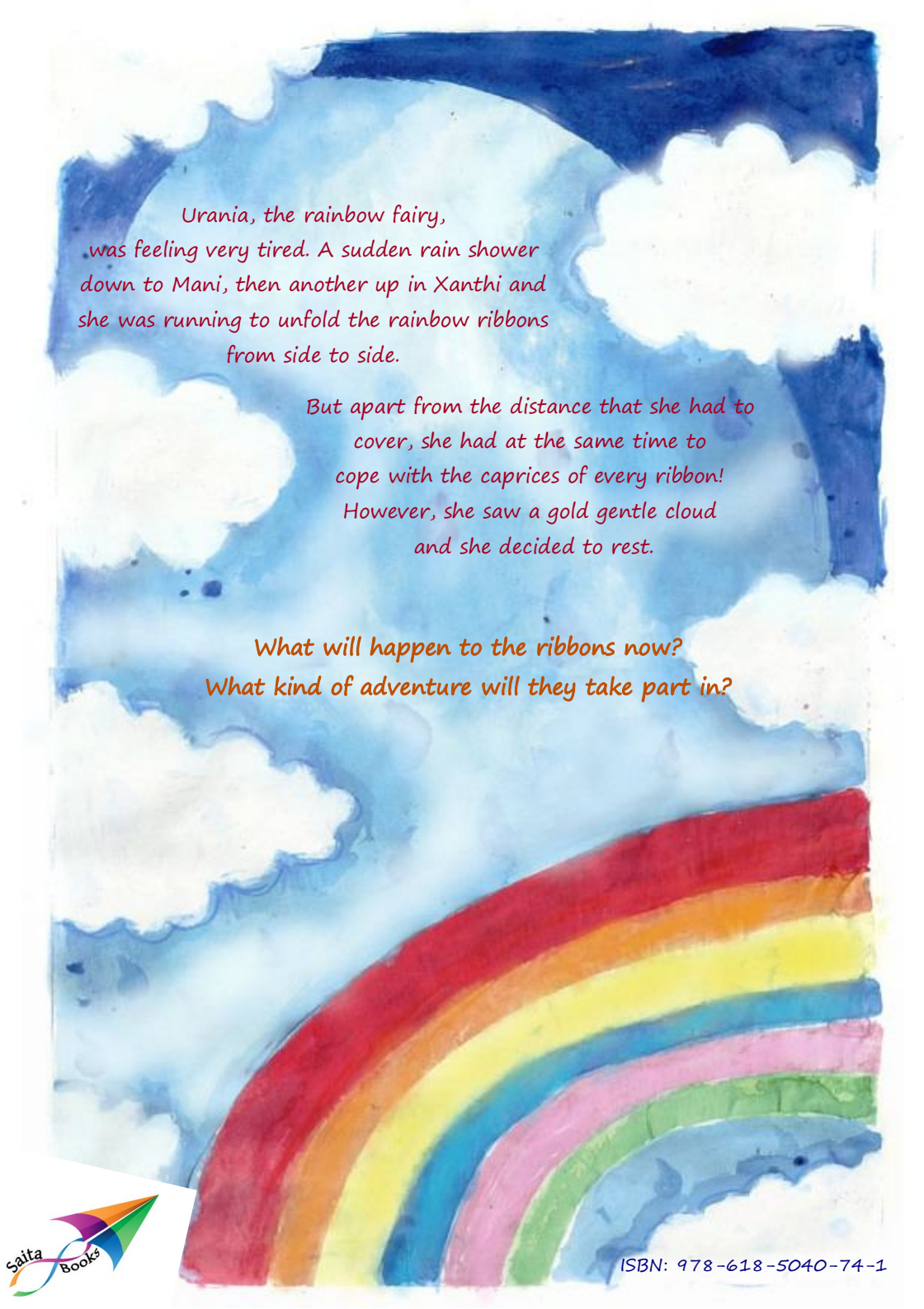
The strong wind of *passion* for reading,
the sweet breeze of *creativity*,
the zephyr of *motivation*,
the sirocco of *imagination*,
the levanter of *persistence*,
the deep power of *vision*
guide the *saita* (paper plane) of our publications.

We invite you to let books fly free!



Paris Charalampidis was born in Athens in 1984. In 2002 he began his studies in the School of Theology of A.U.Th., which he did not complete. However, he decided to keep himself occupied with something he loved more, the creation of pictures and narration of stories! So, after an initial wandering he turned to AKTO College and studied the three-year bachelor in Sketch-Comics-Cartoon, while in the meantime he attended seminars relevant to illustration and took part in group exhibitions. In addition, he has worked on the creation of works in interior design. For the time being he explores the field of animation and he continues creating stories and pictures in this begging of his journey.

<http://parischaralampidis.blogspot.gr>

A watercolor illustration of a sky filled with white and light blue clouds. A vibrant rainbow with bands of red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple arches across the bottom right. The background is a mix of light and dark blue washes.

*Urania, the rainbow fairy,
was feeling very tired. A sudden rain shower
down to Mani, then another up in Xanthi and
she was running to unfold the rainbow ribbons
from side to side.*

*But apart from the distance that she had to
cover, she had at the same time to
cope with the caprices of every ribbon!
However, she saw a gold gentle cloud
and she decided to rest.*

*What will happen to the ribbons now?
What kind of adventure will they take part in?*