



Polka-Dot Troubles

By Victor Pavlov
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A delightful story whose genesis was 25 years ago in Bulgaria has come to life in *Polka-Dot Troubles*, written and illustrated by Victor Pavlov.

Pavlov first had the idea of writing a children's book with the birth of his son Martin in 1984. Two years ago, the Gatineau resident returned to his native Bulgaria and while going through old books at his cottage, a few hand-written pages fell out of one of them. It was the unfinished manuscript for *Polka-Dot Troubles*, the heart-warming story of a little ladybug who loses her spots and turns to her friends for help.

Pavlov brought the pages back to Canada, finished the story, translated it into English and drew the illustrations. The rhyming vocabulary of the story and colourful pictures are geared to children between six and 10 years of age.

It also contains an educational section with facts about ladybugs, their life cycle and anatomy, as well as pictures of the most common lady beetles in Ontario and North America.

Pavlov, who describes himself as "a civil engineer by education, computer specialist by trade, and artist, illustrator and writer by heart," hopes the book will inspire children to observe and respect nature.

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