**BUTTERFLY EARS**

Text by **LUISA AGUILAR**

Illustrations by **ANDRÉ NEVES**

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- FINALIST OF THE IV CITTÀ DI BELLA NATIONAL AWARD (Italy) 2008
- SELECTION MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (Argentina) 2015
- READING NATIONAL PLAN (PNL Portugal)
- LEGGERE SENZA STEREOTipi (Italy) 2015

**Butterfly ears** (English)

**Orejas de mariposa** (Spanish)

**Orelhas de borboleta** (Galician)

**Orelles de papallona** (Catalonian)

**Tximeleta-belarrak** (Basque)

**Orelhas de borboleta** (Portuguese)

**Croccie di farfalla** (Italian)

“Mara’s got big ears!”
“Mum, do you think my ears are big?”
“No, sweetheart. You’ve got butterfly ears.”
“What are butterfly ears?”
“They are ears that flutter around over your head and paint all the ugly things in beautiful colours.”

Mara is special, and nothing or nobody will be able to put her down, because her mother has given her the key to rise above any type of criticism: self-esteem, imagination and spontaneity.

To have big ears, to be tall or small, a thin or fat person... even the most insignificant characteristic can be reason for laughing between children. Because of this, it’s necessary a book like this, as it shows that those behaviours are reprehensible.

This is a very tender and simple story by Luisa Aguilar, full of literary strength. The maternal figure seems to be a very important support for the main character: she advises her to accept herself and turn her differences into values. What others can see as a fault, it can be an advantage, something that makes us different and unique in front of the rest of the people.

The illustrations show all this joy and optimism, with images full of colour. André Neves uses techniques like collage and mixes different materials with textures, so that the result stands out for its talent and originality.