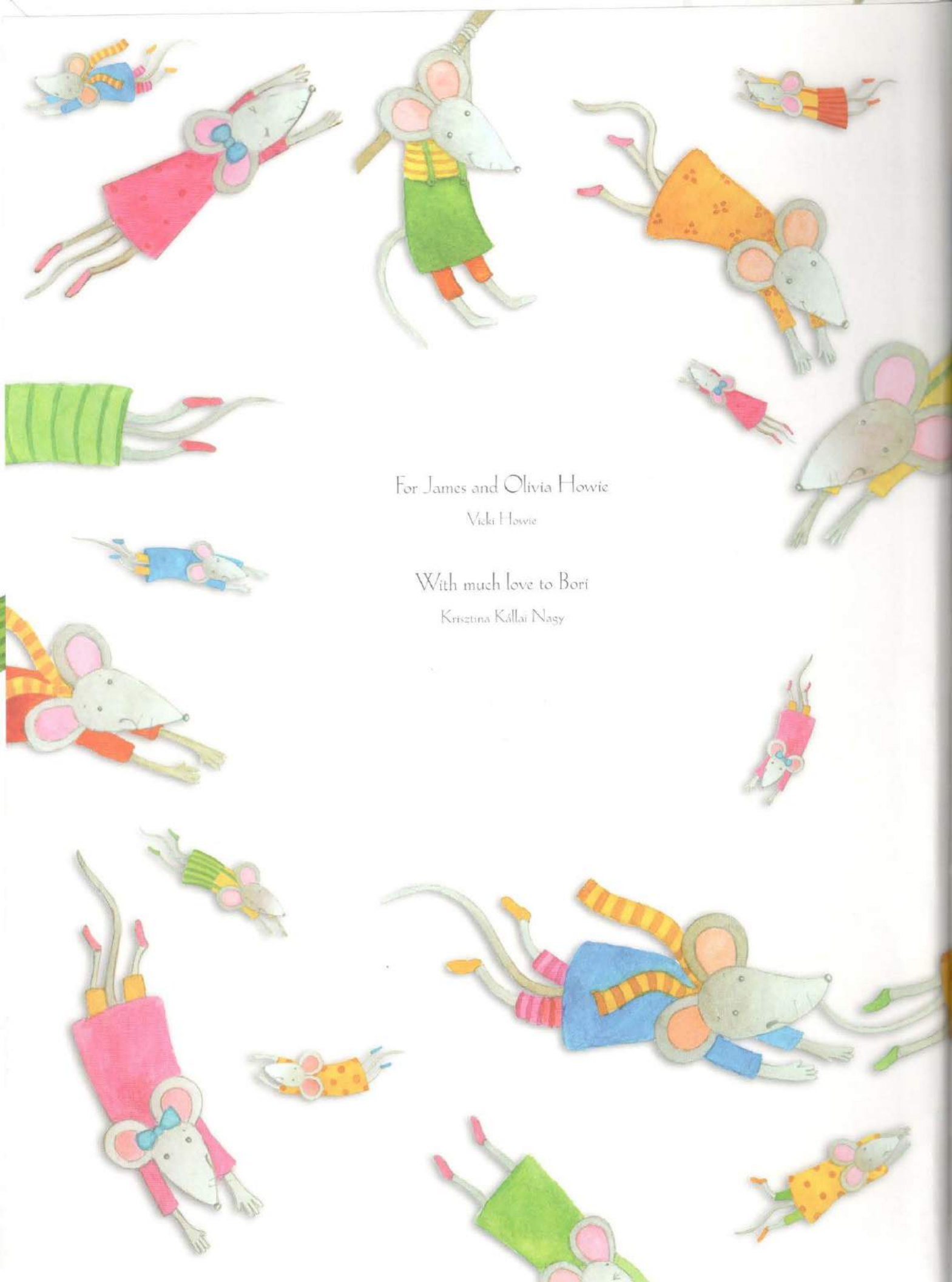


Once Upon a  
**SILENT  
NIGHT**

by Vicki Howie illustrated by Krisztina Kállai Nagy



For James and Olivia Howie

Vicki Howie

With much love to Bori

Kristina Kállai Nagy





Once Upon a  
**SILENT  
NIGHT**

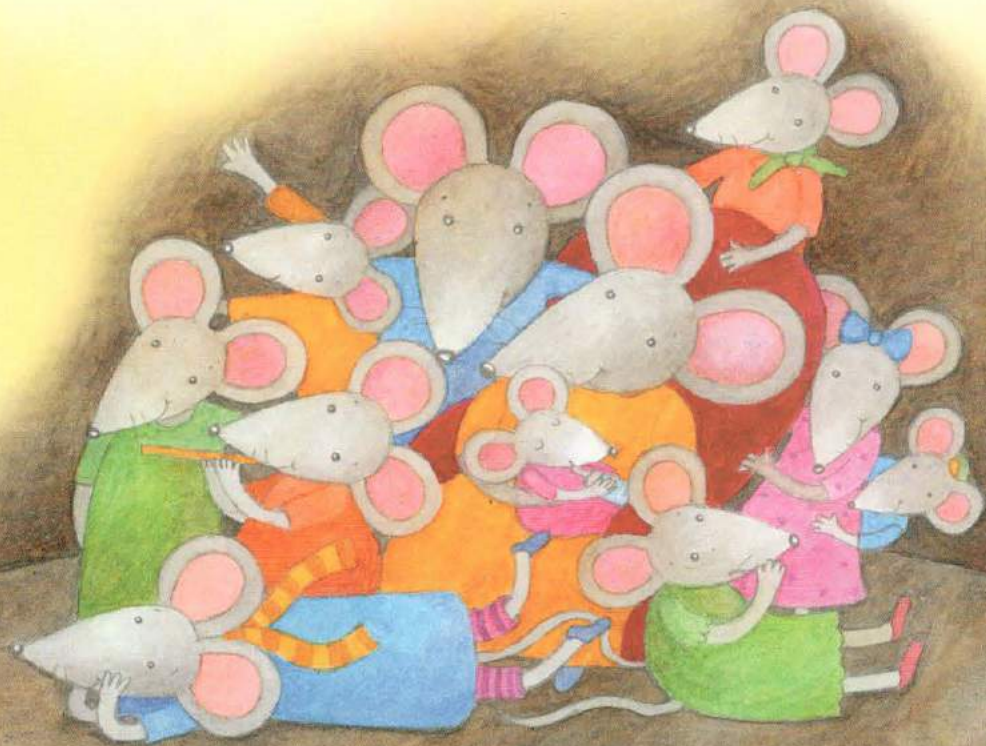
*Written by*  
Vicki Howie

*Illustrated by*  
Krisztina Kállai Nagy



Long ago,  
inside a dusty hole,  
hidden in St. Nicholas Catholic Church,  
in the heart of the village of Oberndorf,  
by a river that rushed helter-skelter  
through a land of music and mountains and snow  
called Austria,  
there lived a large family of mice.











But whenever Franz Gruber, the organist and choir director, played his rousing music on the church organ, the mice went scampering back to their mouse hole, shaking with fright. Organ music sounds like thunder to a tiny mouse.

