

## Where is Everything?

Little Blue House at the end of road frowns at the stars.

“I’m lonely.”

“You have us,” sing bluebirds.

“I visit every night,” hoots Owl

“You have friends,” snorts Deer.

“I love you all, but I miss a family,” says Little Blue House. “Once a father, mother and two daughters lived in my rooms,” she said. “They had a spaniel that played in the yard.”

“What happened?” Owl hoots.

“The daughters went to college. The parents took the dog and moved to someplace called Florida. I’ve been empty a long, long time.”

“We like the quiet,” chirp the birds.

“I’m a wreck,” sobs Little Blue House.

“My paint peels.

my shutters sag.

my front door sticks.”

“Raccoon shouldn’t have ripped the screen on the back door,” hoots Owl.

“Mice came and gnawed the carpet,” snorts Deer.

“Raccoon had a bad day. He was looking for peanut butter,” says Little Blue House.

“Who broke your windows?” twitters a bluebird.

“An angry child. He had a bad day too,” Little Blue House answers.

“Don’t lose hope,” says Owl.

“I was excited when two couples came last week,” said Little Blue House.

“One said, ‘She’s dirty and needs a lot of work.’ The other couple said,  
‘She’s too far from everything’”

“How rude,” snorts Deer.

“Nonsense,” says Owl. “What is better than this?”

“Where is everything?” asks Little Blue House.

Nobody knew for sure.

The next day Little Blue House saw a cloud of dust. “People are coming.  
Will they explain everything?”

“Lots of room,” says Dad.

“Chicken coop. Fresh eggs,” says Mom.

“It has a barn for a horse,” says their son, Logan.

Nobody mentions the dirt. Nobody says she is too far away from  
everything.

“Please stay,” whispers Little Blue House.

But the family drives away.

“Come back,” calls Little Blue House

“Maybe they went to Florida too,” says Deer.

“Does Florida have dirt?” asks Little Blue House.

“Your day is coming,” Owl promises.

“How do you know?” asks sad Little Blue House.

“I just do,” hoots Owl.

Days later the family returns.

“Look at me now,” cries Little Blue House.

“Dad and Logan painted me and rehung shutters,  
repaired my screens,

and planted petunias in my window boxes.”

“I sparkle inside too,” says Little Blue House.

“Mom and her sisters scrubbed my rooms,  
threw out torn carpet and  
wallpapered my walls.”

“This house has everything,” says Dad. He lets the dog into the yard.

“The cat likes the sunny windowsills,” says Mom.

“The horse will love the barn,” says Logan.

“I’m a home again,” calls Little Blue House.

“I have curtains at my windows,  
a swing on my porch,  
my open door and windows invite the breeze.”

“You glow,” snorts Deer.

“Always believe,” Owl hoots.

“You have everything when you are with those you love,” says Little Blue House.

“You are wise,” her friends tweet, snort and hoot.

Little Blue House smiles at the stars.