

A BUG HOTEL

ILLUSTRATED BY TOMÁŠ KOPECKÝ

A
BUG
HOTEL



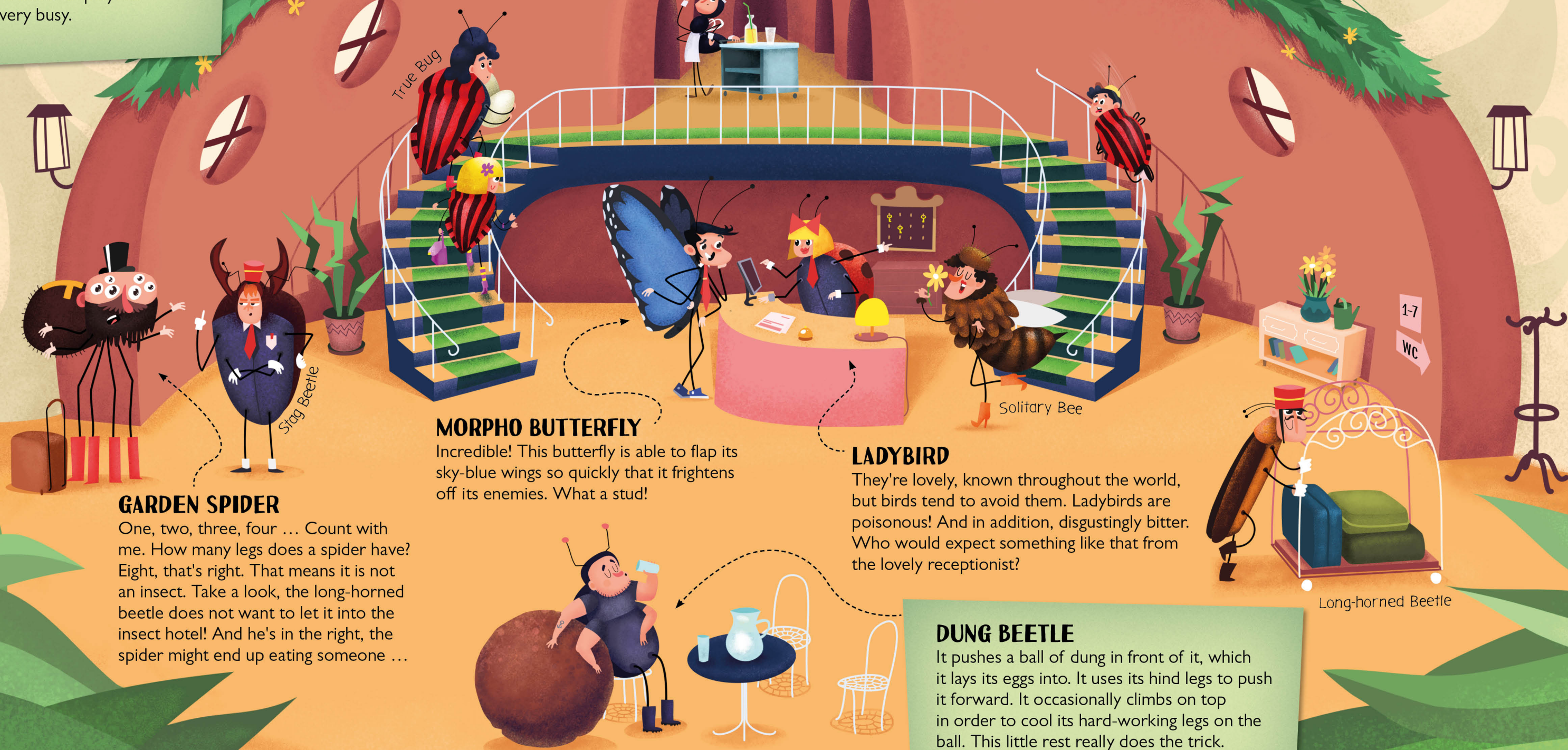
CROSS-SECTION
OF THE
BUG HOTEL
INSIDE

RECEPTION

My goodness, it looks like the hotel is completely full today. How can you tell? The hollows are sealed up in the chambers and heads and antennae can be seen everywhere amongst the twigs. The hotel employees will be kept very busy.

WELCOME, INSECT!

Insects are extremely useful in gardens. The more insects there are in a garden, the better. They help pollinate flowers and ... to be absolutely honest, they are also food for other animals, such as birds, hedgehogs and frogs. Gardens really need insects! So, come on in dear insects! All of you are cordially welcome in the hotel.



GARDEN SPIDER

One, two, three, four ... Count with me. How many legs does a spider have? Eight, that's right. That means it is not an insect. Take a look, the long-horned beetle does not want to let it into the insect hotel! And he's in the right, the spider might end up eating someone ...

MORPHO BUTTERFLY

Incredible! This butterfly is able to flap its sky-blue wings so quickly that it frightens off its enemies. What a stud!

LADYBIRD

They're lovely, known throughout the world, but birds tend to avoid them. Ladybirds are poisonous! And in addition, disgustingly bitter. Who would expect something like that from the lovely receptionist?

DUNG BEETLE

It pushes a ball of dung in front of it, which it lays its eggs into. It uses its hind legs to push it forward. It occasionally climbs on top in order to cool its hard-working legs on the ball. This little rest really does the trick.

True Bug

Worker Ant

Solitary Bee

Stag Beetle

Long-horned Beetle

SUITE FOR BEES

Welcome the most respected personage in the insect hotel, the queen bee! Everyone knows that the future of the entire hive depends on her. And without bees, which pollinate most of the flowers, the entire planet would gradually die.

QUEEN BEE

Each bee community is ruled over by a queen, she being the only female who can reproduce. When she has to use her stinger, she does not die like other bees and her mandibles are also larger. She watches over, in short, her power.

WORKER BEES

Worker bees divide up important tasks amongst themselves: pollinating flowers, producing honey and royal jelly, caring for larvae, protecting the hive or constructing the comb. Only the fittest take care of the queen herself. What an honour!

DRONES

Boy, the life of a drone is cruel! Male bees are only tolerated in the hive up until they impregnate the queen. Then they are mercilessly chased out, where they die.

EGG

The queen lays a new egg each day, which is carefully and lovingly watched over by selected worker bees. Larvae grow out of the eggs, which eventually pupate and change into new bees.





GYM

The strongest and fastest studs in the insect empire gather here. Some of the local record-holders can easily outdo even the greatest human athletes!

True Bug



Violet Ground Beetle



Spanish Fly



SPANISH FLY

Everyone prefers to keep a distance from the hotel doctor, the spanish fly. This master of elixirs is able to release a poisonous substance, which brings about a painful blister and even loss of sight!

MEALWORM BEETLE

Mealworms, as the larvae of mealworm beetle are known, contain a great deal of protein. This is extremely important for nourishment and growth of muscles, cartilage and bones. This insect looks, however, as if nothing has remained out of the proteins in its body.

GREEN TIGER BEETLE

Let's meet the quickest runner in the natural world. It can run 120 times the length of its body per second, this being a tempo which not even its own eyes can follow. It practically cannot see when it runs, everything is blurry.

EARTH-BORING DUNG BEETLE

No one wants to get into a fight with this musclemán. While the African elephant can carry 1.7 times its weight, 9 tons to be exact, the dung beetle can lift a burden 1,115 times heavier than itself!

Strawberry-root Weevil



Ant



ANT

Ants are most hard-working cleaners, guards, servants and cooks in the hotel. Did you know, however, that an ant can carry more than fifty times its weight?

NEW

SPECIAL OFFER!



BURYING BEETLE

The burying beetle received its name based on its fondness for burying the corpses of small predators, which it lays its eggs into. And the hatched larva feeds off that which it finds the closest... that's right. Gross!



DOCTOR

THE DISCO

Things are lively here after the sun goes down! Those not showing off their dance moves on the floor, are drinking at the bar or flirting with the opposite sex in the lounge. The ladybird, the bumblebee and the cricket are providing the finest music possible!

RED ADMIRAL

The barman knows what the brush-footed butterfly likes. Even the sparrows are whispering behind the windows of the hotel about her weakness for nectar from blossoms.

BUMBLEBEE

Only a few years ago no one had any idea that such a fat and heavy bumblebee, with such small, thin wings, could fly at all! The bumblebee itself was not worried about it and flew on happily. It also hummed along happily in rhythm, only to become the most popular members of a local famous band.

CRICKET

This usually shy musician begins to play after sundown. It therefore feels totally in its element in a dark concert hall where the light is dim. And how beautifully it plays! Its loud chirping attracts crowds of enthusiastic fans.

HARLEQUIN BEETLE AND COMMON GREEN LACEWING

Oh my, the romantic couple of the year! The harlequin beetle would be more than willing to guard the lovely lacewing, being you see a great womanizer. But she herself, at first glance helpless and delicate, is also a good hunter...

FIREFLIES

Our guests would end up stepping on each other in the dark. Luckily, we have some light-providers, the fireflies, which work responsibly up until dawn. They have a special organ in their rear which lights up.



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Small and fragile, they are **easy to overlook** in the countryside. Which is a pity. Do you have any idea how picturesque the lives of insects can be? Take the **long-horned beetle**. It may look like an antisocial know-all, but that's because of its extremely long antennae, which make it difficult to approach. Then there's the **dragonfly**. It flaps its wings so rarely and carelessly, it's a wonder it doesn't fall. And these are just two of the creatures in the **remarkable world of insects**. So what are you waiting for? Open the book, step into the **Bug Hotel** and get to know first-hand its fragile guests with their antennae and wing-cases. The ladybird receptionist is so impatient for your arrival that she is tapping the table with her pencil ...



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