

## Ballewiena

**Rebecca Bender**

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In this inspiring tale, a dance-dazzled dachshund, Dotty, cannot resist mimicking the ballet moves she loves—even when her person, Ms. Austere, issues other commands; even when she's out on walks among other, baffled dogs. Rendered in grayscale against Dotty's colorful world, frustrated Ms. Austere boots Dotty off to obedience courses with similarly colorless rules. But an artistic spirit heels to no outside demands: Dotty flees. She finds kindred spirits at the park—and a new way into her resistant person's heart.

MICHELLE ANNE SCHINGLER (May / June 2022)

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