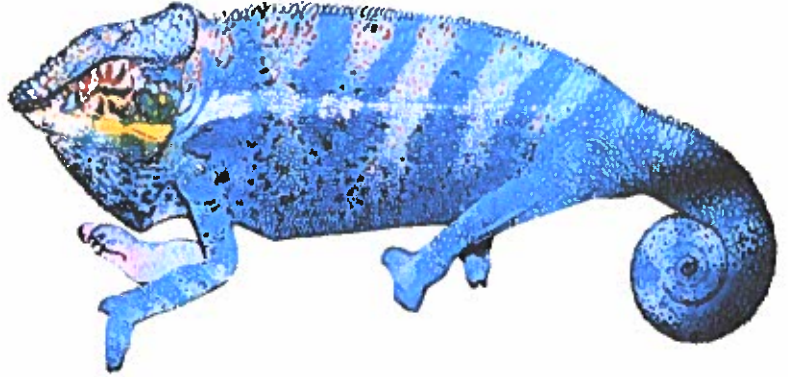


## Magic the Chameleon

One day, a little girl called Rebecca had saved enough money to get a pet at the pet store. She chose a small chameleon. She called him Magic because she thought it was magic how he would change colors. Magic rode around on her shoulder, hanging onto her clothes with his tiny claws.



When summertime came, Rebecca took Magic along when she and her family went to their summer camp. She made a nice little home for him in a shoebox that had water and food in it. When they got to the camp, Rebecca was so excited to see everything that she jumped out of the car and ran off through the woods and down to the creek, leaving Magic behind in the car in his box. She stayed outside playing until it was time for dinner. Then, all of a sudden before dinner, she remembered that she had left Magic in the car. She went out to the car and saw that the door was open. Rebecca reached in and picked up Magic's box, but he was not in it. He was gone. Mother said that the car door had been left open all afternoon while they had unpacked their things.

Where could Magic have gone? If he had gone toward the woods, how could such a small chameleon ever be found among all the trees? If he had gone under the seats in the car, it would be hard to find him there, too. If he had crawled into blankets and clothes, then he was carried inside. The rest of the day everyone searched inside and outside of the cabin for Magic, but they could not find him.

That night when Rebecca was being tucked into bed, she smiled at her mother and said: "I know that God cares for everything that He made. Right where my chameleon Magic is, God is. God won't let anything hurt him. I know we will find him because he can't stray from God's presence. And I know this is the truth." This she said in a very confident voice, and then she closed her eyes and went to sleep.

The next day everyone tried to comfort her and convince her that it was useless to be hopeful that Magic would be found. But Rebecca never doubted for a minute that she would find him because she knew that God keeps His promise to take care of all of His creation. She would not let fear in. She continued to believe the truth about Magic being safe.

That afternoon, when Mother went out to the car to get something she had left there, she saw Magic's box. It had been left sitting up on the ledge of the back window and it was still open. When she took it down and looked inside, there was Magic. His eyes were looking up at her and blinking in the sunshine.

Rebecca was so happy to see Magic. She put him on her shoulder and off they went to explore the woods and the creek, thanking God as she went for caring for Magic.

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*Ezekiel 34:16 "I will seek that which was lost and bring again that which was driven away."*