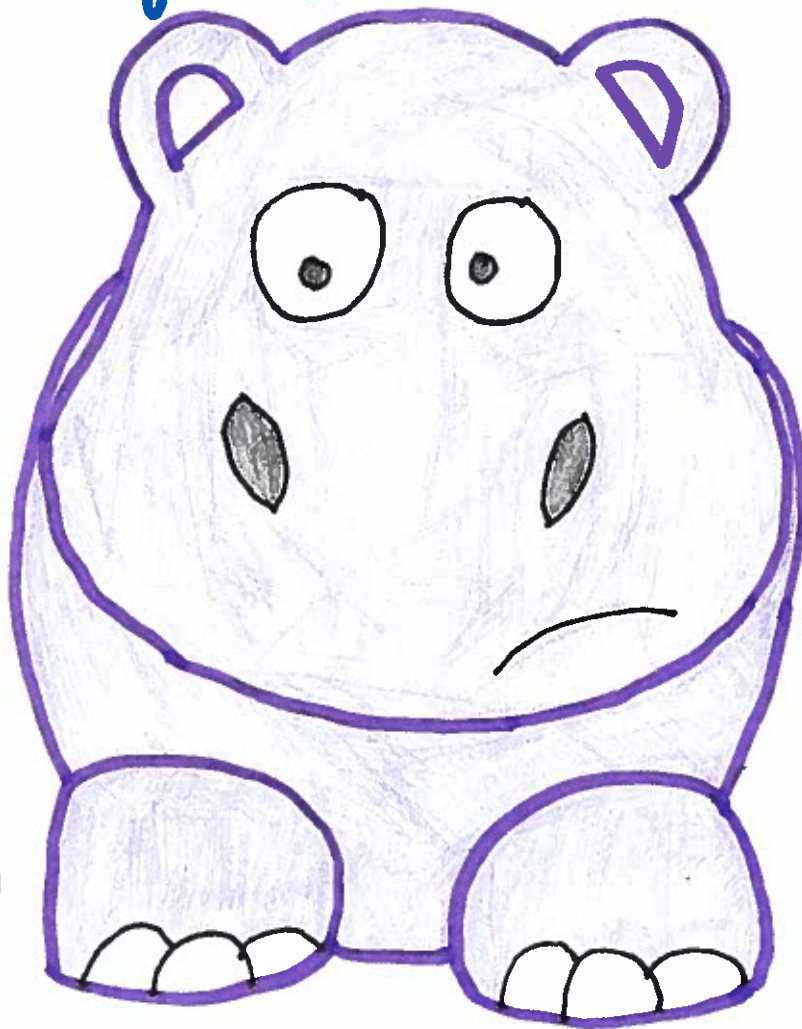


# Henry the Hippo Has a Bad Day



Written and Illustrated by Holly  
Hortsch

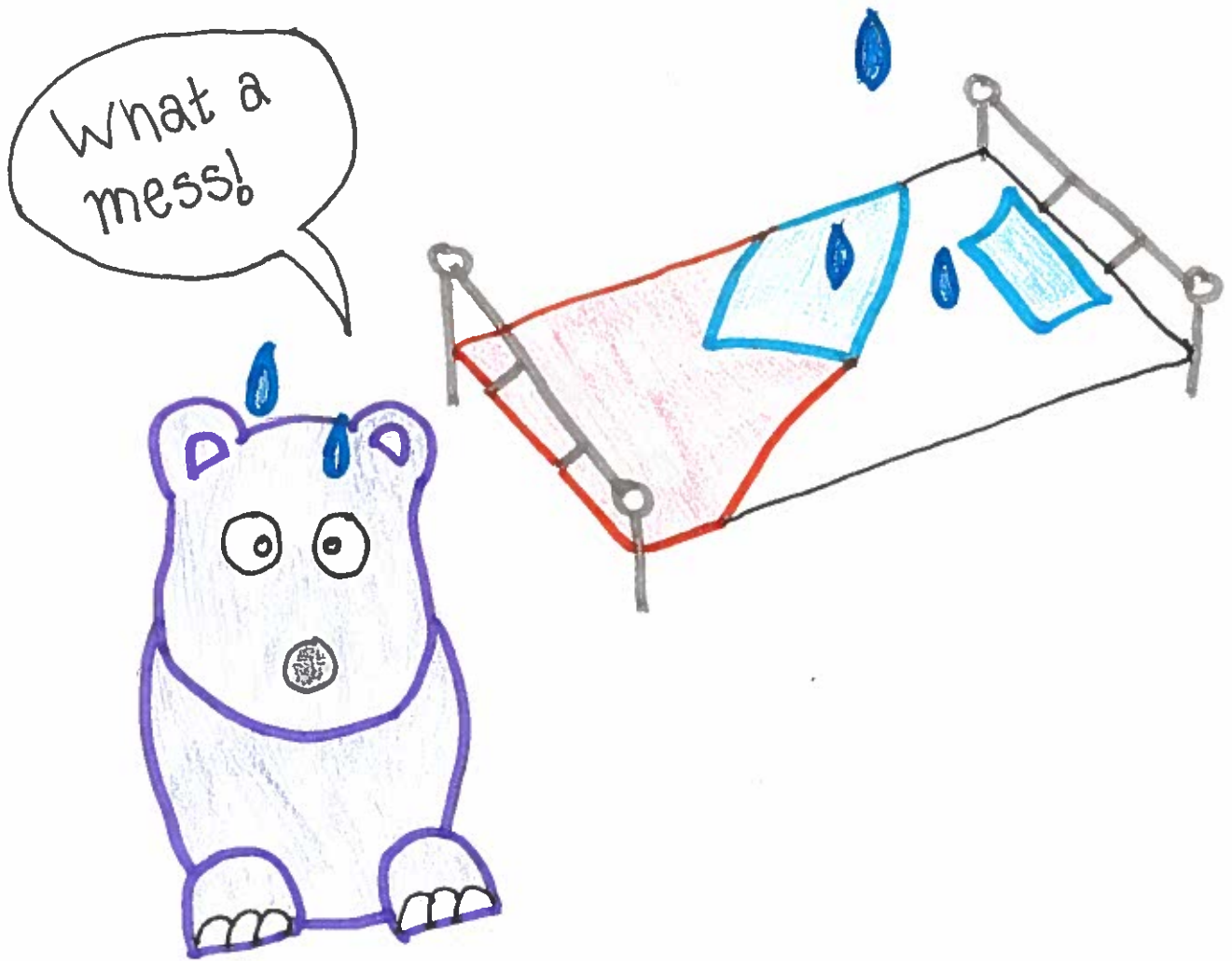




Dedicated to Kohen

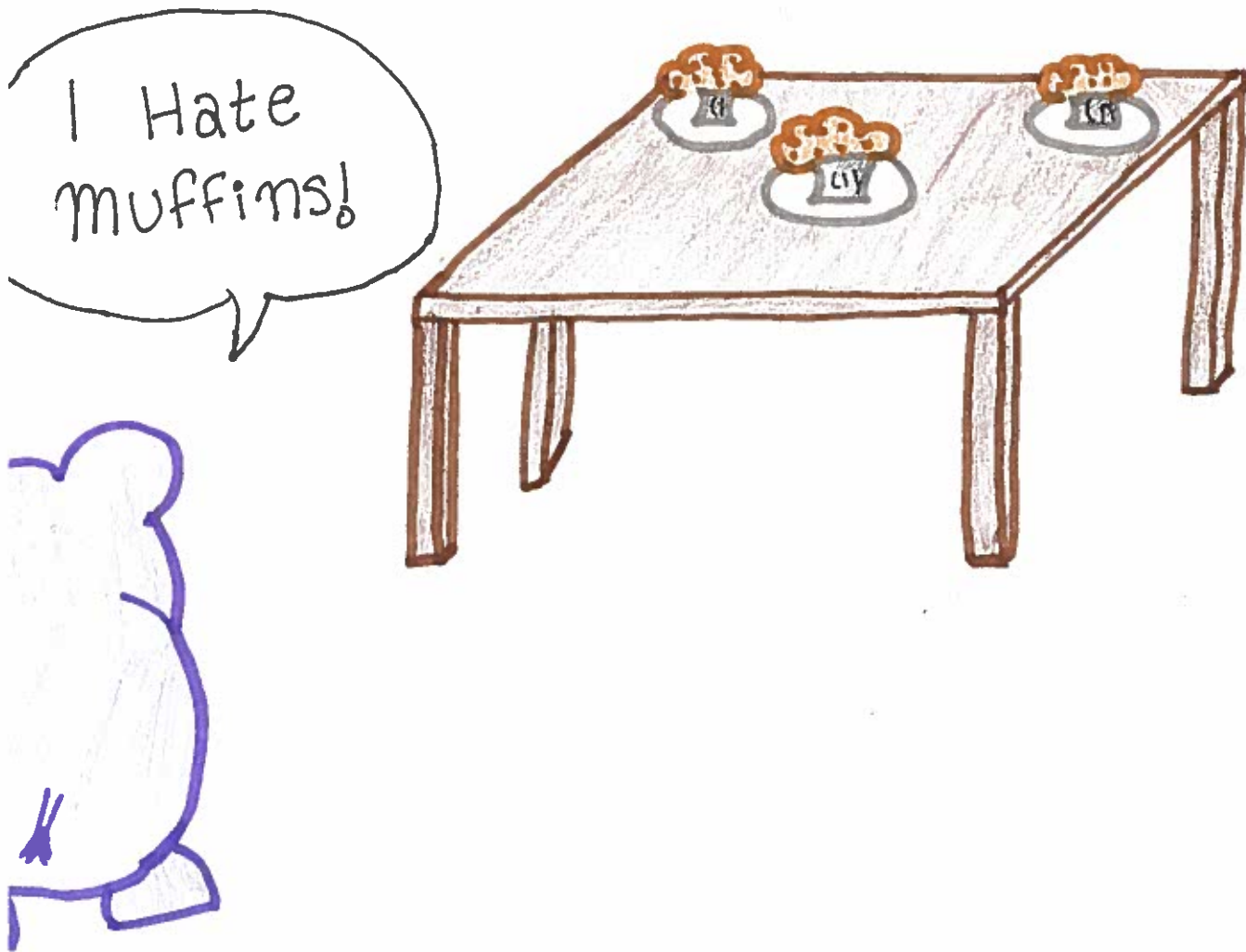


Henry the Hippo started his day by waking up to a drop on his head. Henry looked up at his ceiling to see there was a leak in the roof, right above him. The water had dropped all over Henry and his bed. Wiping the water droplet off, Henry exclaimed,



Then, the little hippo got out of bed to start his day.

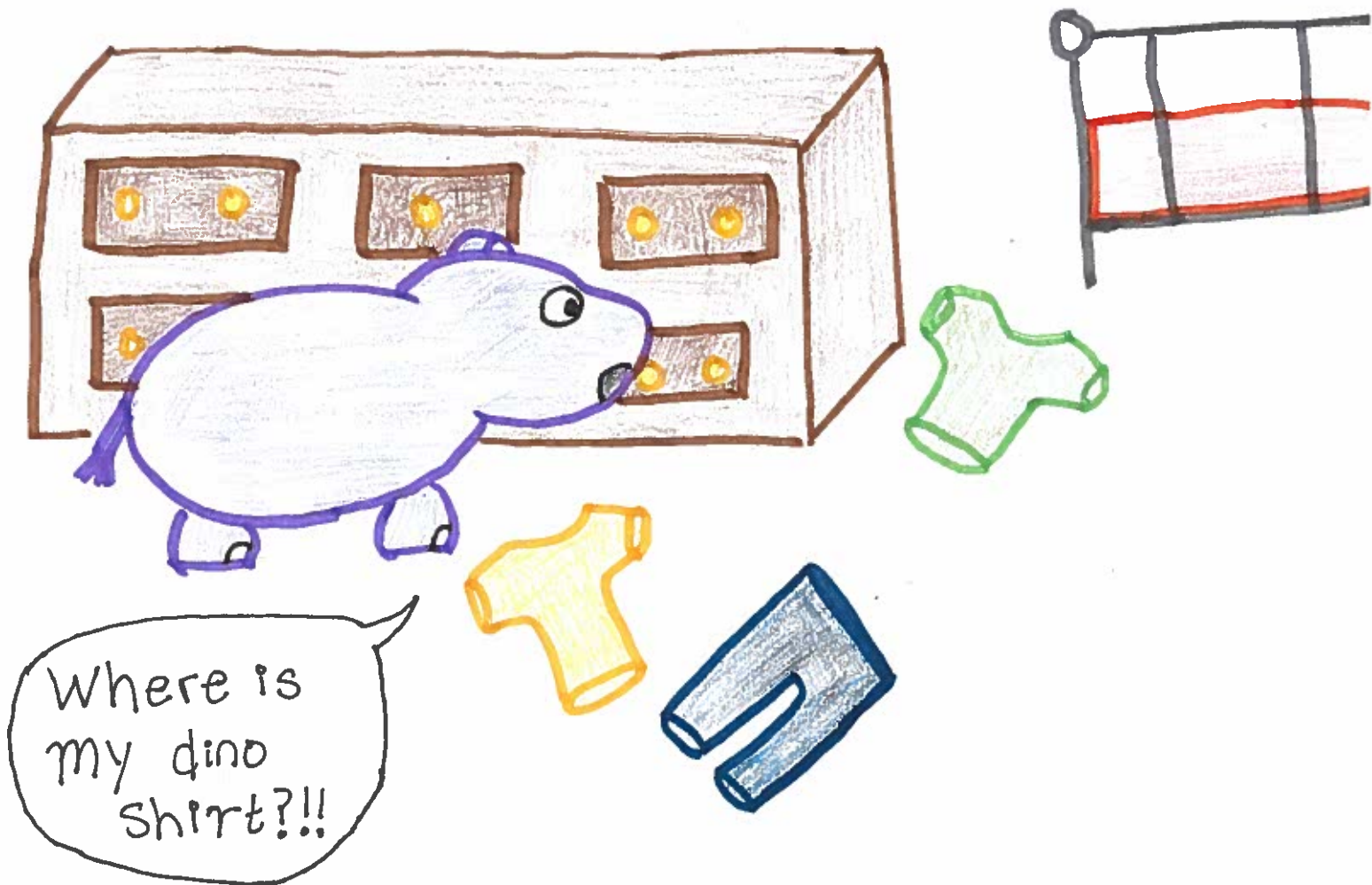
Once Henry got out of bed, he saw muffins on the kitchen table that had been set out for breakfast.



Henry groaned. However, his mom made Henry scarf down two muffins anyways. "Breakfast is the most important meal of the day!" She advised.



After the terrible muffins, Henry went to get dressed.  
In hopes of finding his favorite dinosaur shirt, he  
searched through all his drawers - but no dino shirt  
was found.



Henry yelled.

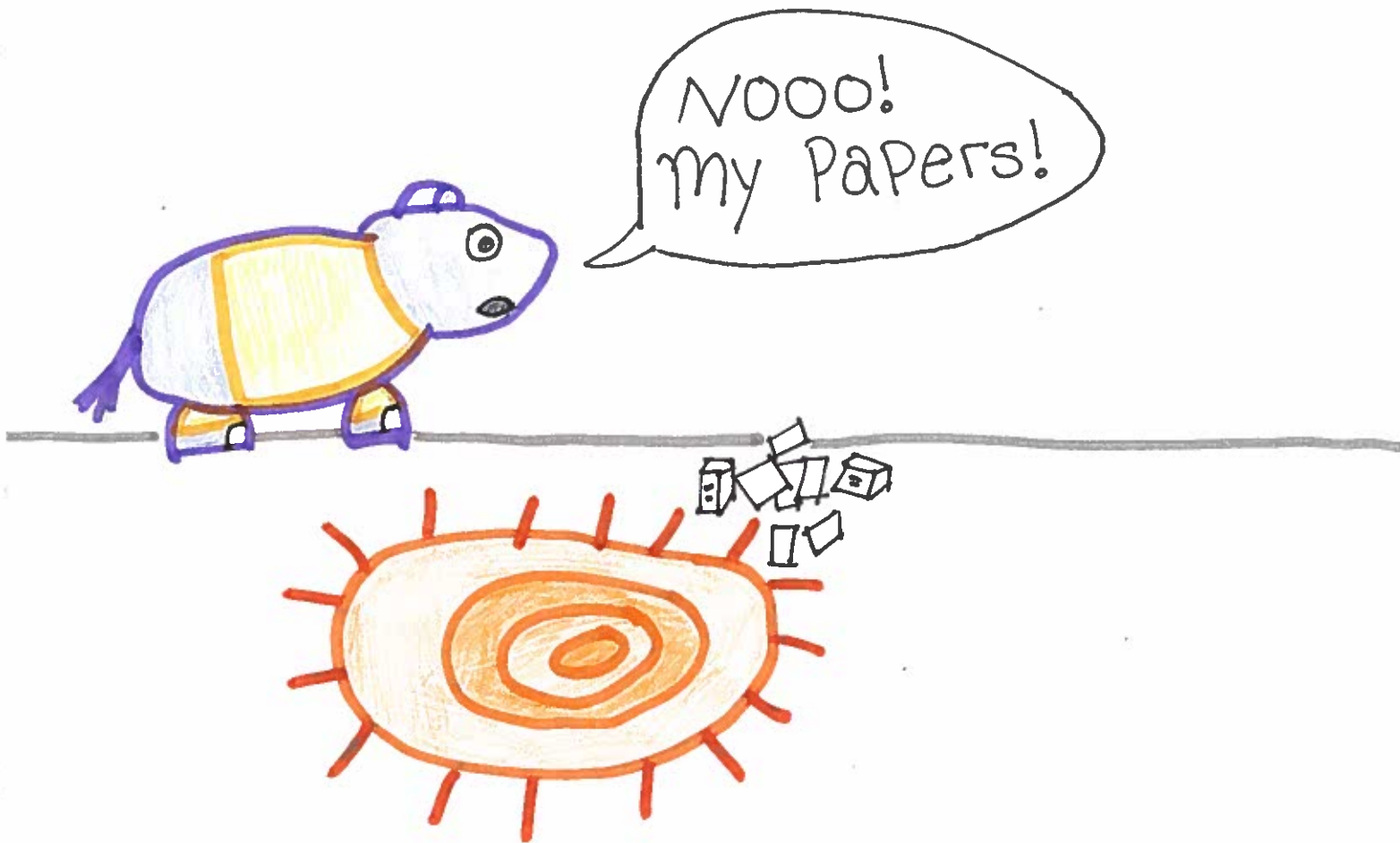
"Your Dino shirt is in the dryer. It'll be out soon."  
Henry's mom said calmly.

Henry was now forced to wear another shirt, so he went back to his bedroom. He looked and looked in his dresser, but the only clean thing he could find was his old yellow t-shirt.



Henry shrieked.

Then, it was time to leave for school. Henry grabbed his back pack from the coffee table and strapped it on quickly. Papers fell everywhere from Henry's backpack after he picked it up. Henry checked the bag and saw it wasn't zipped. Now all his school work was all over the living room floor!



Henry yipped.

Henry cleaned up the schoolwork mess and leaped to the car. He buckled in, then waited for his mom.



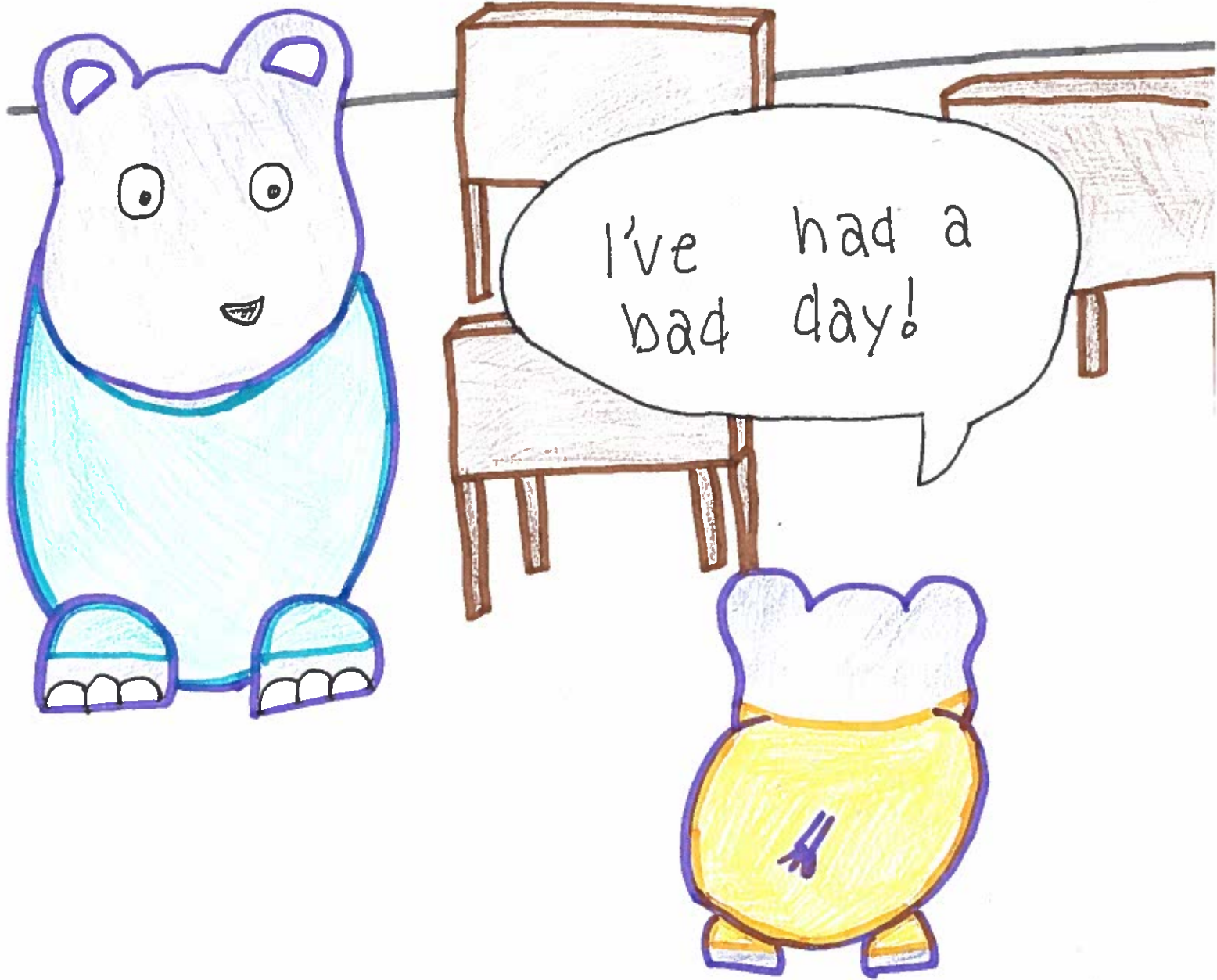
Henry screamed.



By the time Henry got to school, he was already late!

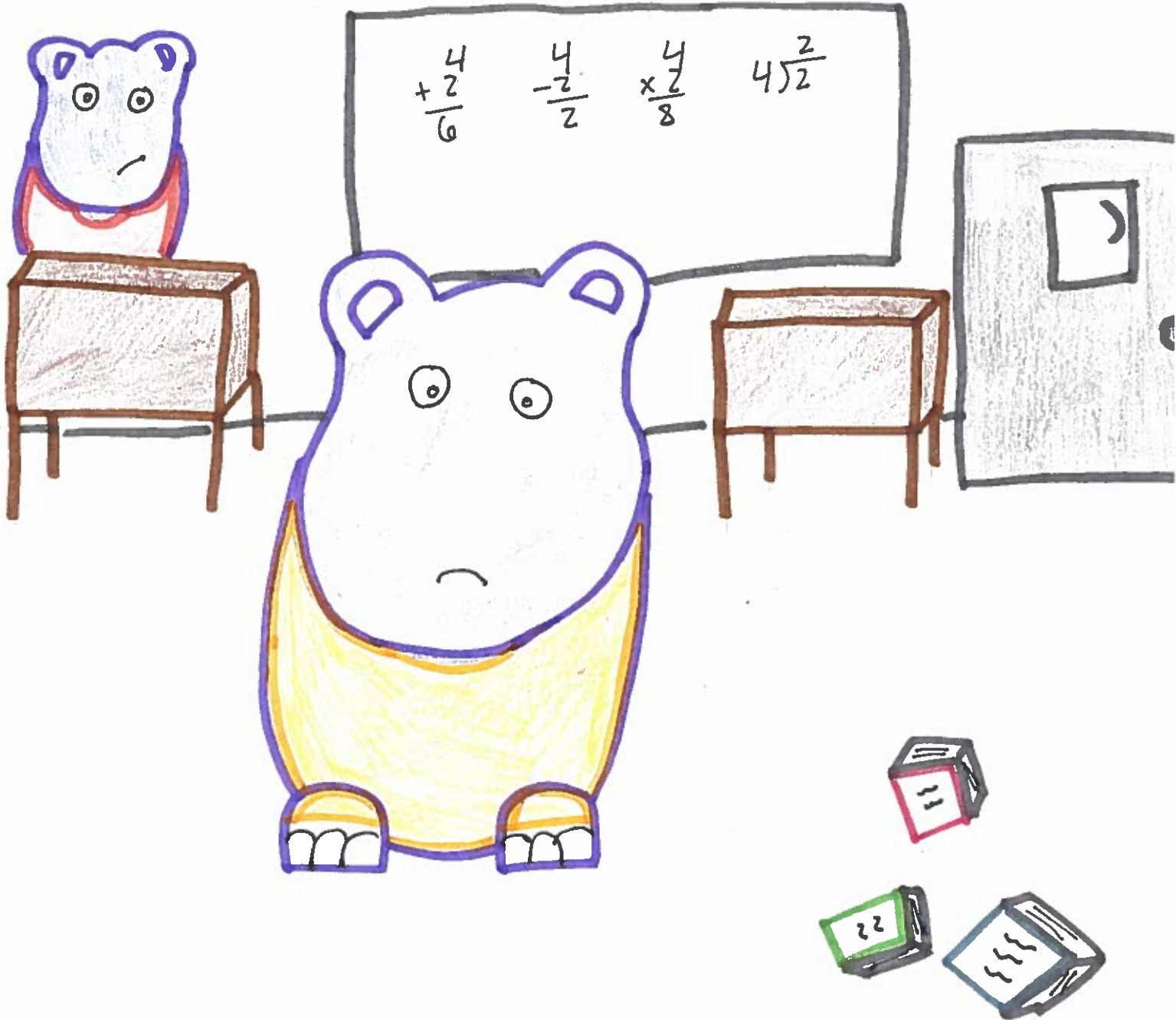
Henry stomped through the hallways before finally reaching his classroom. "Henry, where have you been?"

Scolded Henry's teacher. Henry shook his head.

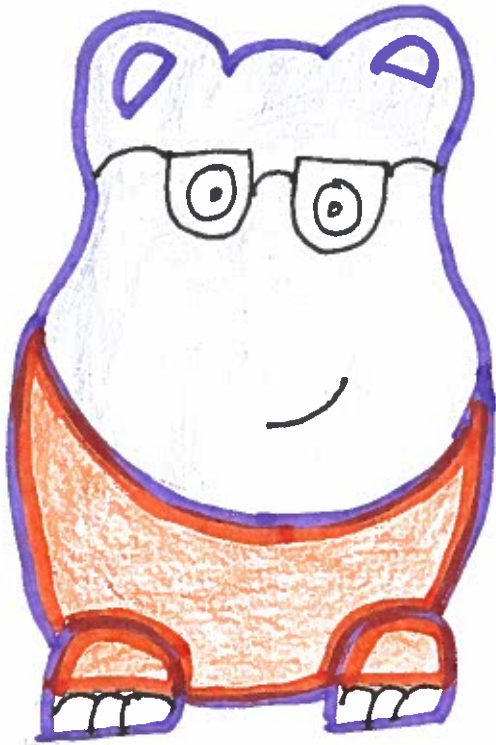


He shouted.

The teacher shook her finger at Henry, saying "There is no need for such loud voices Henry!" She pointed to the door. "Go to the principal's office now."



Henry moped all the way down to Principal Harry's office. When he reached the right room, he knocked twice on the door, and an answer came a few seconds later. The principal towered over little Henry the Hippo. "Come on in Henry." Principal Harry spoke.



Henry was guided into the tiny office and sat down across from the principal. "What's the matter Henry?"  
The principal asked kindly.



Henry sighed.



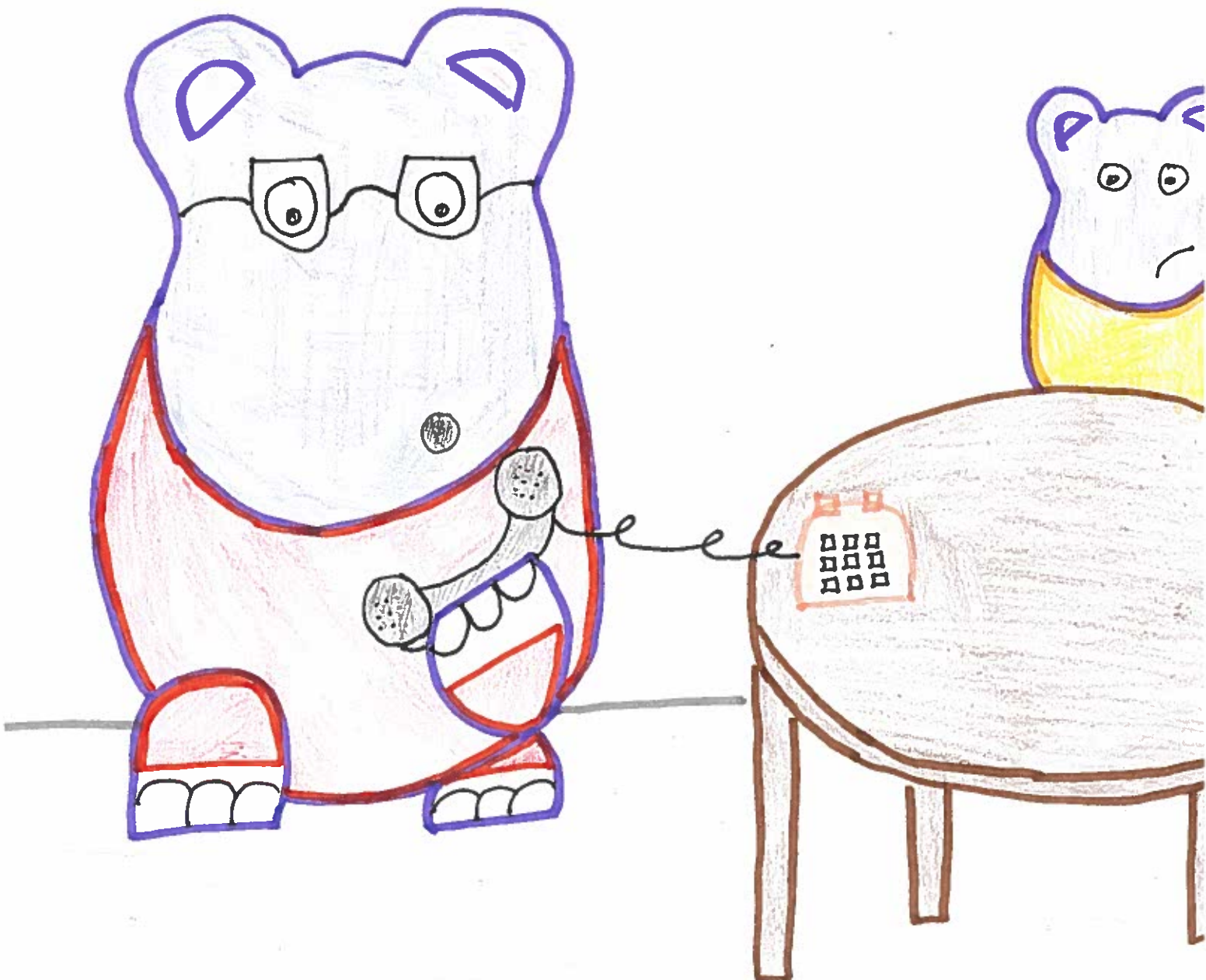
Principal Harry asked Henry about his bad day. And Henry told him everything - about the water leak, the muffins, the small dino shirt, and his tardiness.

Principal Harry listened patiently while Henry explained his problem.





Just then, Principal Harry's phone rang. "Hold on a moment Henry." The Principal said as he answered the phone. After a minute of discussion over the telephone, the principal looked back up at Henry. "It's for you" he told the little hippo.



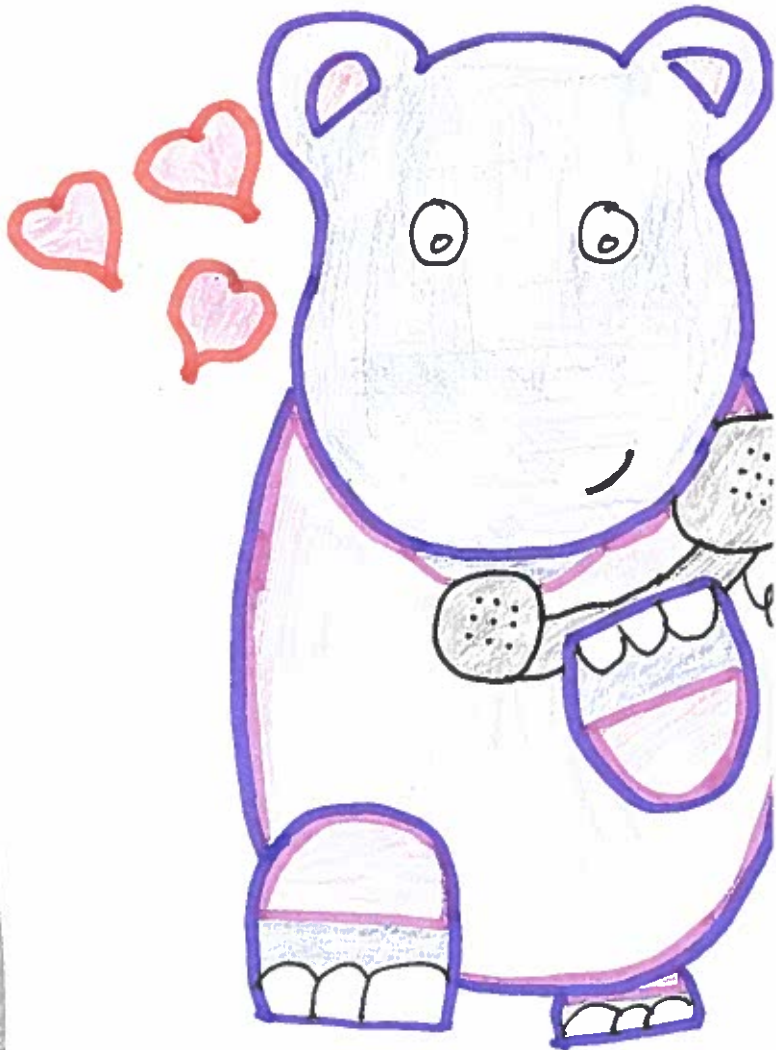
Anxiously, Henry held the phone in his hippo hands.



He answered. Soon, a familiar voice came over the line. "Hi Henry!" His mother's voice sang out. "I knew you were having a bad day today, I was just calling to make sure you're alright."

Henry's heart bloomed. He was having a bad day, but his mother's phone call made the bad day better. "I'm alright now" Henry spoke softly to his mother. "Your call made it better. Love you mom."

Henry's mom smiled on the end of the line. "Love you too Henry."





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### About the Author:

Holly Hortsch is a eighth grade student at Cheldelin Middle School. She enjoys reading, writing, and spending time with friends and family. She has a younger sister, and a big family. In her free time, Holly rides horses, plays volleyball, and meets with her young life group. She has two dogs and one cat. Holly and her younger sister often like to watch movies and tv together, along with spending time at a horse barn with each other.







This book is a short story about Henry the Hippo, and his day when everything that could go wrong goes wrong.

From yellow shorts to mean teachers, Henry is not having a good day. Until... A certain someone turns it around for him.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

"Sooooo relatable!" - Maddison David

"I love the theme of this book" -Haley Hass

"Such an adorable book, I love it" -Sarah Derrickson

"Fantastic book! I give it 5 stars." -Chloee Kisler

