### **National Youth Foundation** *Presents:*

# from BULLIES to BUDDIES



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# 2020

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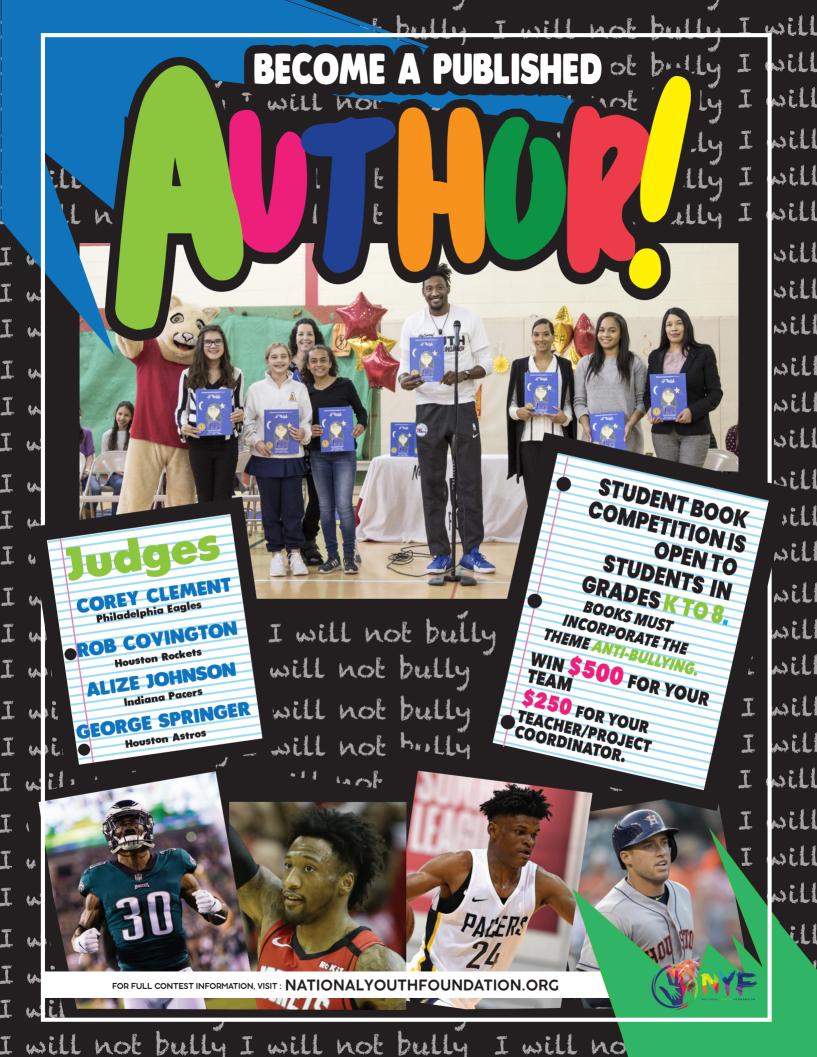










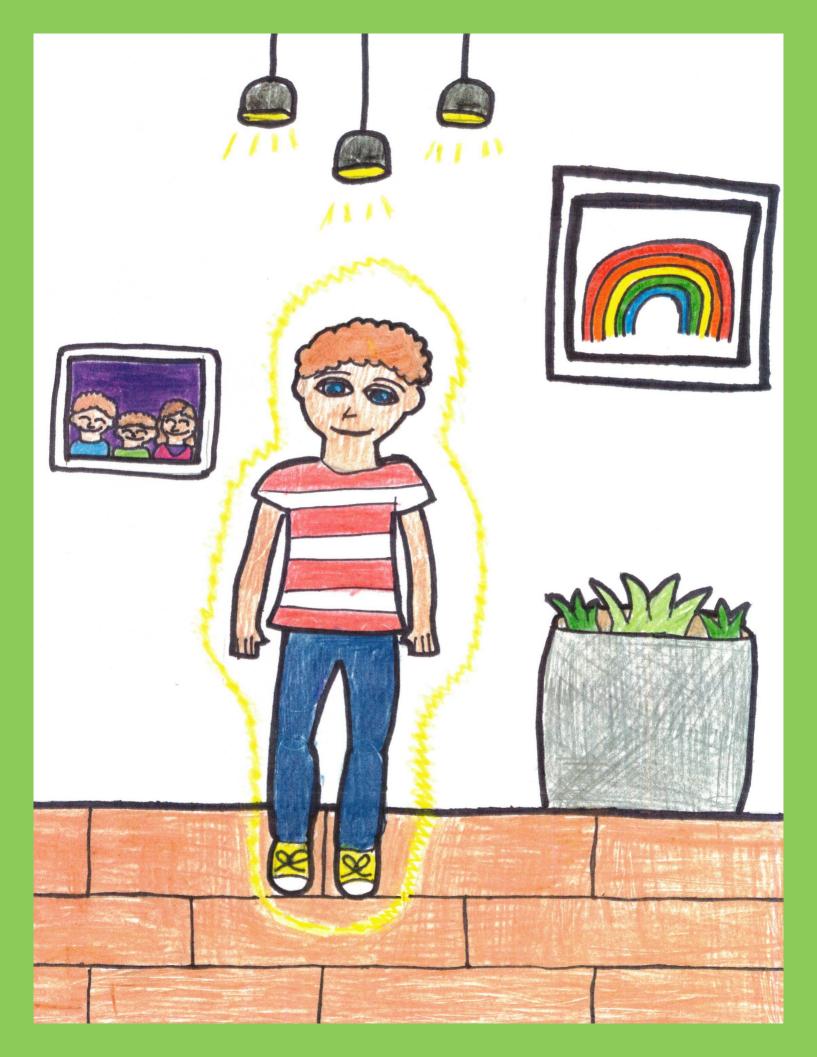




#### **OUR MISSION**

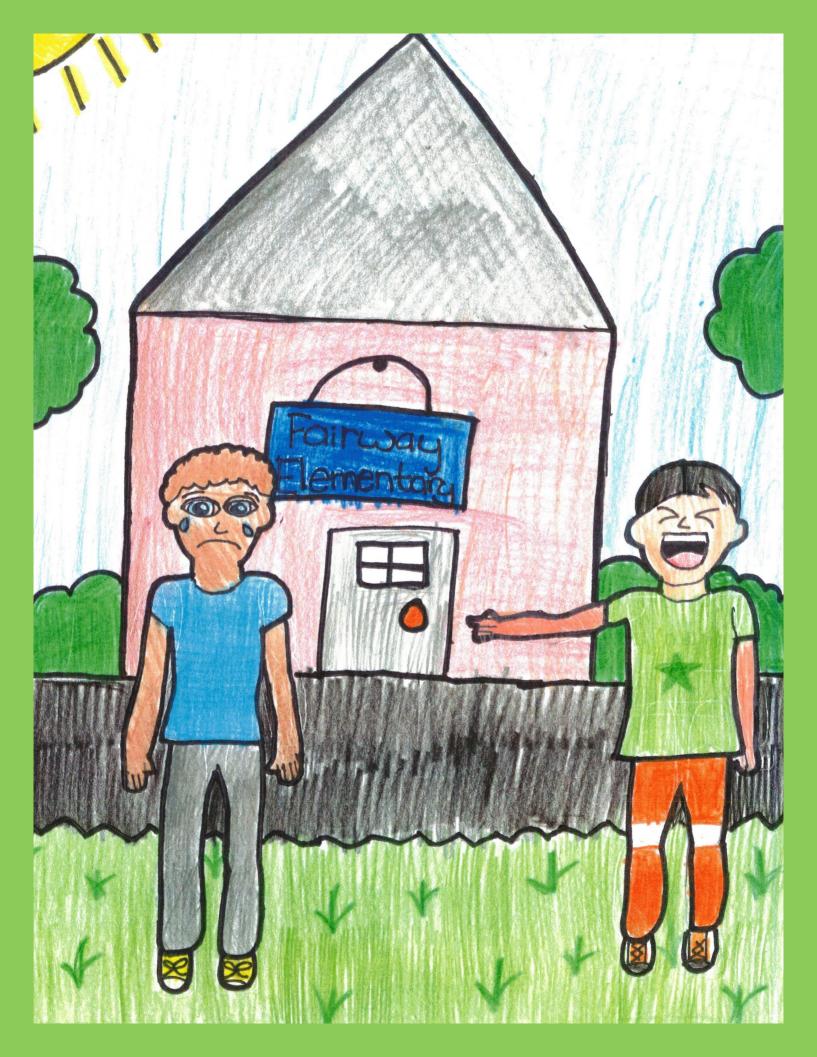
The National Youth Foundation is dedicated to enriching the lives of children through creative educational programming. Our mission is to promote diversity, inclusion, and gender equality, while helping young students develop their literary skills through academic and team-building projects.

Sophia Hanson, Executive Director



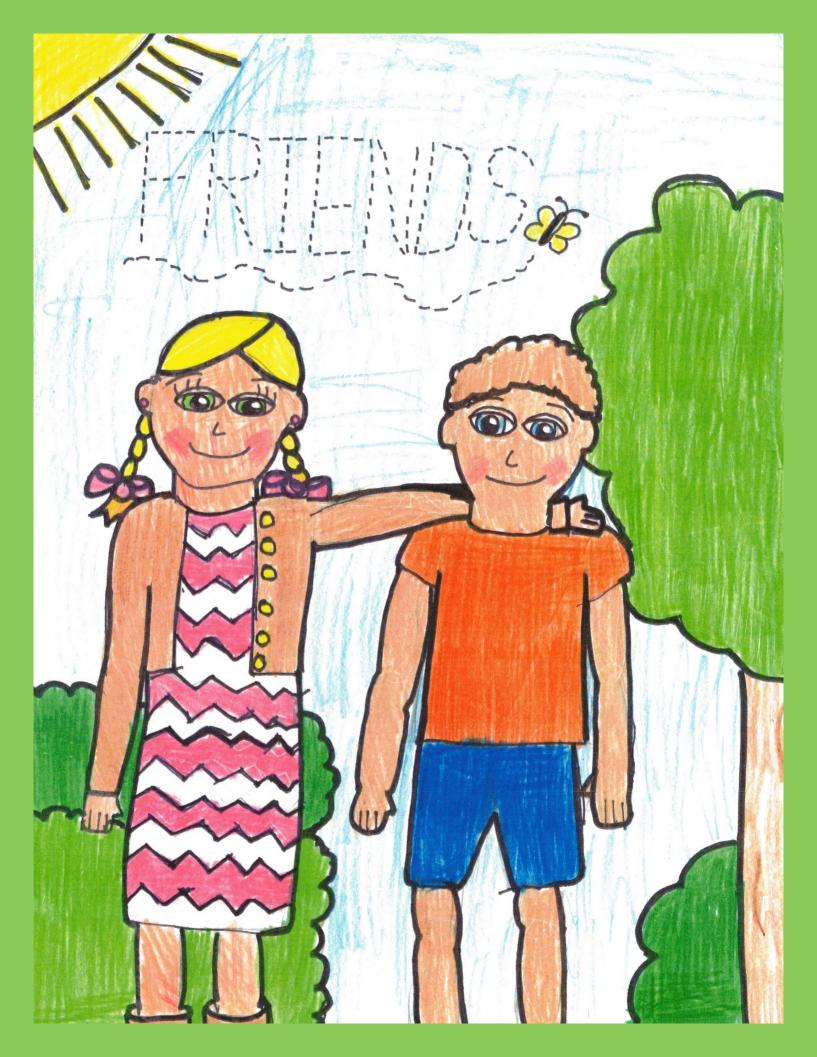
September 5th,

I am Avess. I come from India looking for a better life. Some might think I look strange or talk weird. I don't think it makes me much different. However, I found out some people think it does.



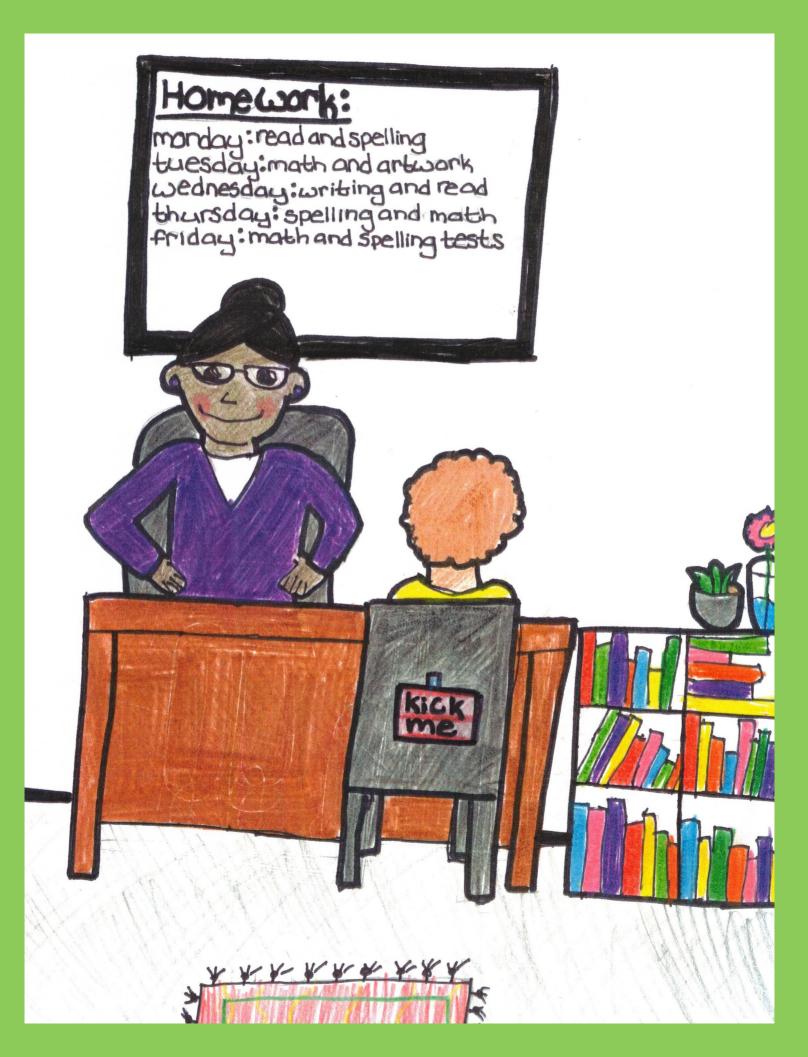
September 18th,

I live in California and am attending Fairway Elementary School. Not everyone is nice to me there. One kid named Marv picks on me because of my accent. It hurts. I wonder how he would feel if he had to learn a whole different language.



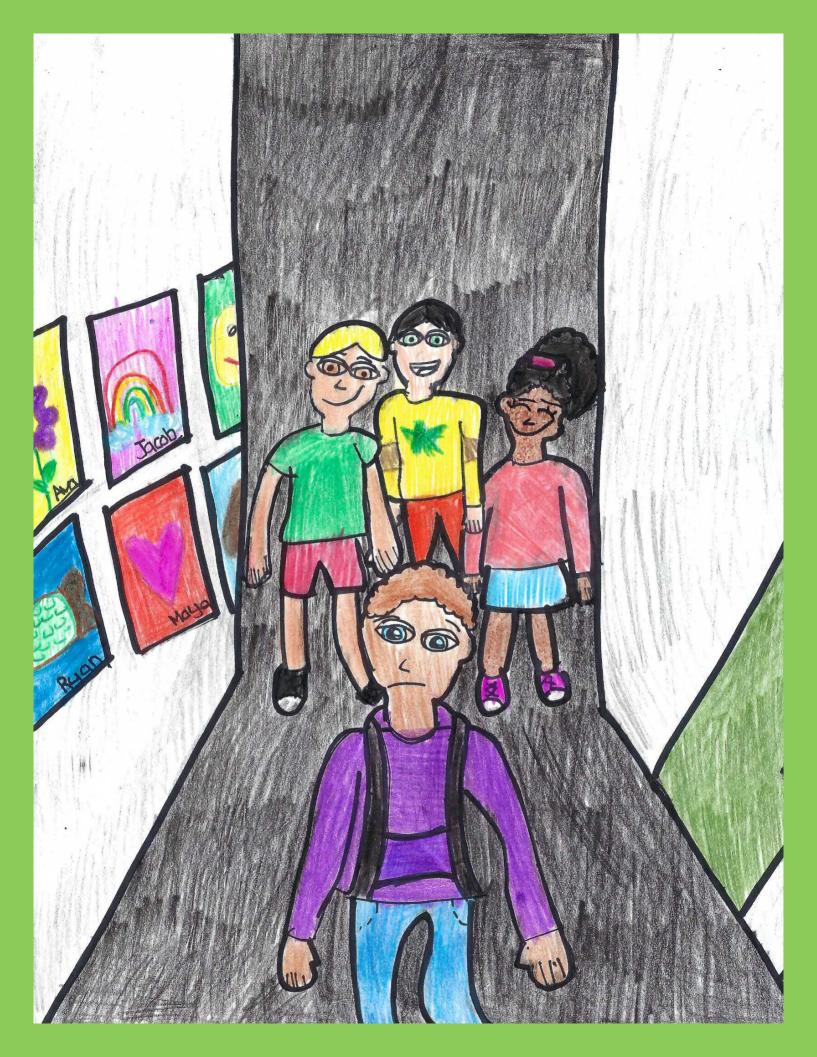
September 19th,

On the bright side, not everyone looks down upon me. My friend Athelia doesn't. She knows what it is like to be a new kid; she is a good friend that way. She gives me hope.



September 20th,

My teacher is also nice. She acts as a shield. No one tries to make her mad. I am thankful, but she doesn't always see everything that really happens.



September 30th,

Some days are better than others. I try to stay out of everyones' way. Most people, like Marv, still find me. It is like I am a magnet, attracting the worst possible things.



October 5th,

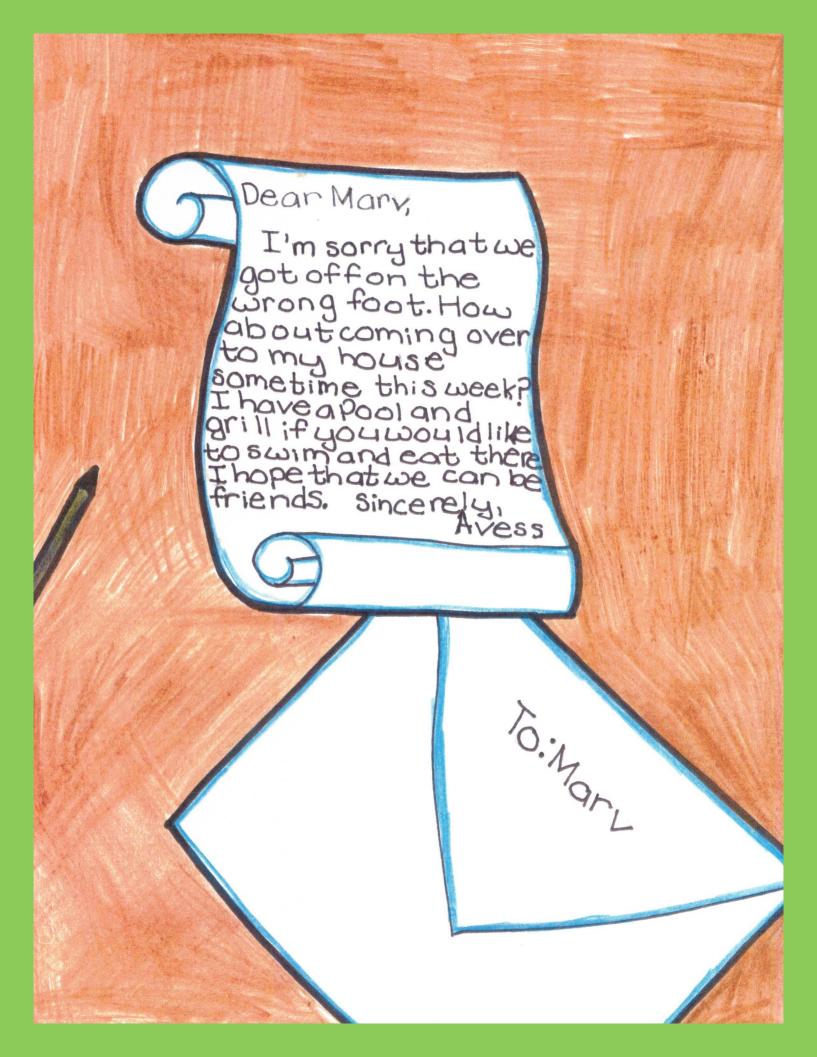
One day was especially bad. Marv teased me every chance he got. It made me sad.

Later that day I decided to talk to Athelia. I told her about how I felt. She gave me some advice. She suggested I talk to Marv and try to be his friend. I'm not sure what to do.



October 6th,

A day has passed and I have been thinking about what Athelia told me. I've decided to make him a card. I am nervous.



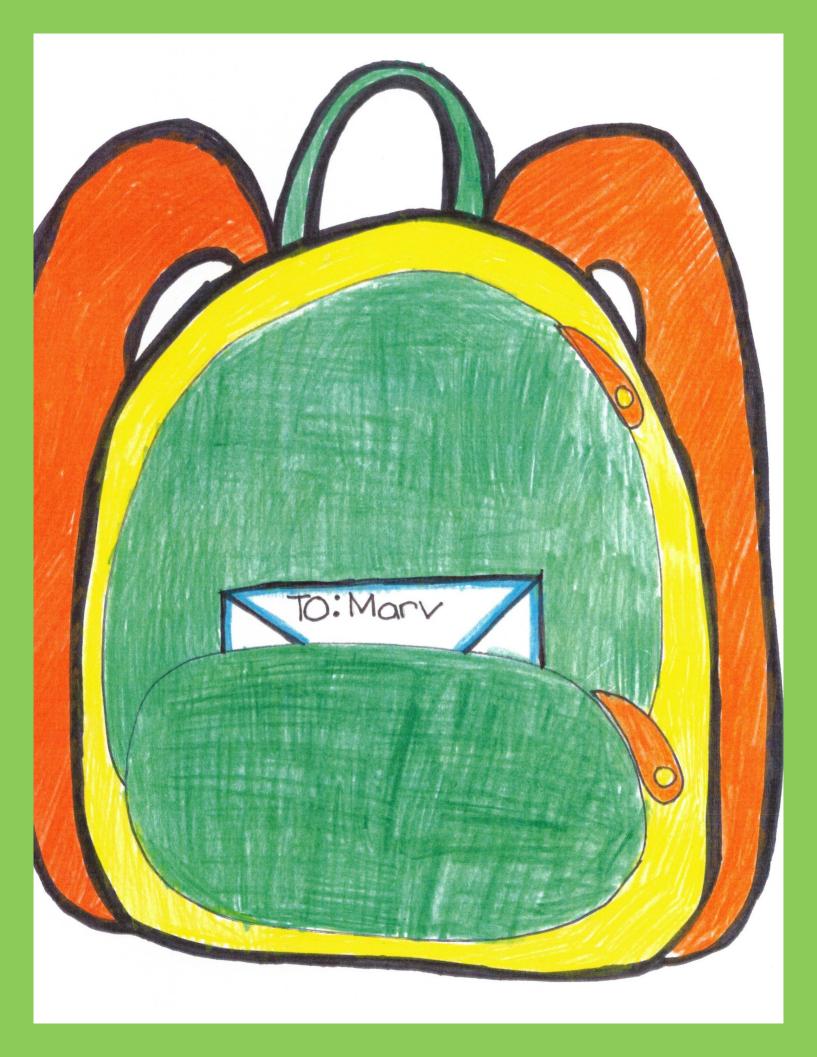
October 7th,

I finally finished my letter to Marv. This is what it says:

Dear Mary,

I'm sorry that we got off on the wrong foot. How about coming over to my house sometime this week. I have a pool and grill if you would like to swim and eat there. I hope we can be friends.

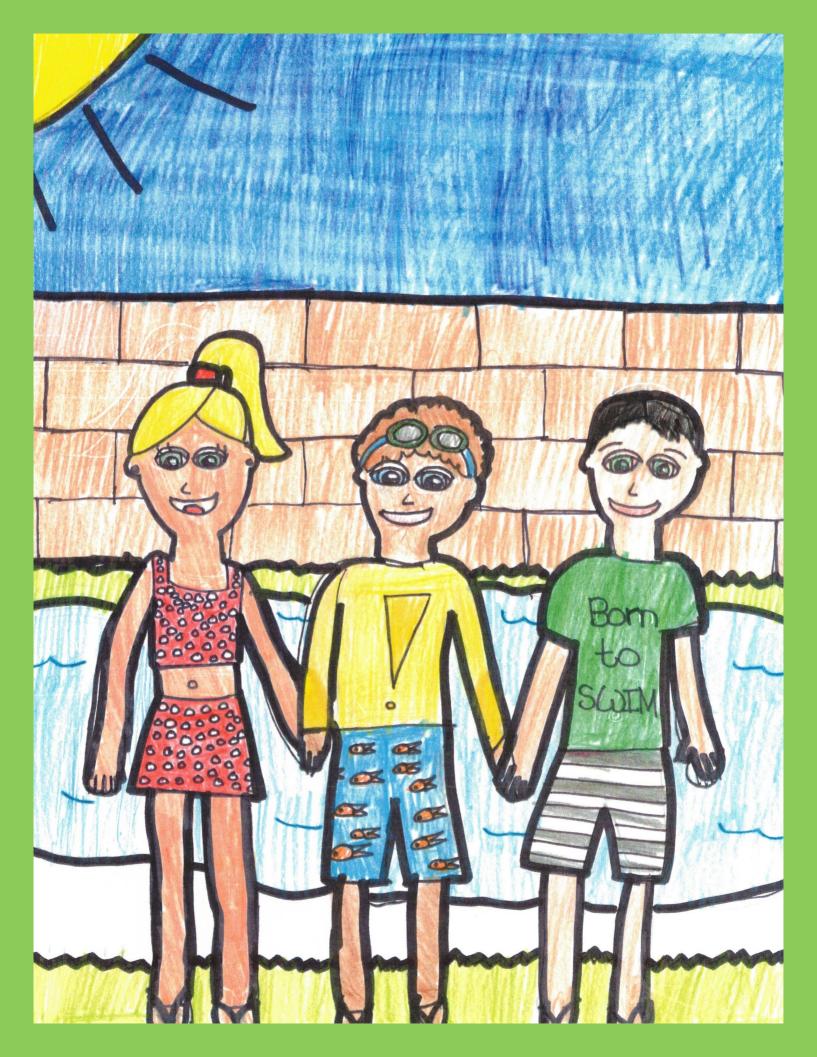
Sincerely, Avess



October 8th,

I left my card in his backpack this morning. I am really starting to get scared. Will this just become another reason for him to bully me?

After lunch Marv finally came up to me. I tried to act cool but inside I was really shaking with fear. Turns out, I had nothing to be afraid of. Marv told me he wanted to be friends and apologized for all the times he had bullied me. He even asked me if he could come over to my house on Friday!



October 11th,

Friday night was a blast! Athelia and Marv came over to swim and have a delicious dinner. Maybe Athelia was right, all he needed was a friend to bring out the good inside of him.

Just because someone is different than you doesn't mean that they can't be your friend.



## STUDENT BOOK SCHOLAR JUDGES



COREY CLEMENT Philadelphia Eagles

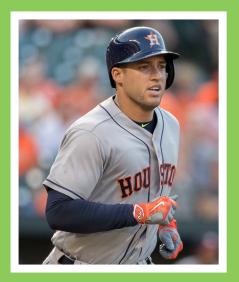


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