

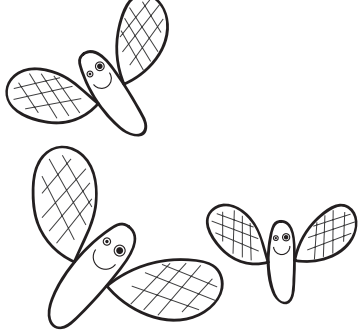
MADISON AVE

The
Magic
Stoner

Anne
Schraff







MEET THE



Ms. Nealy

Age: 84

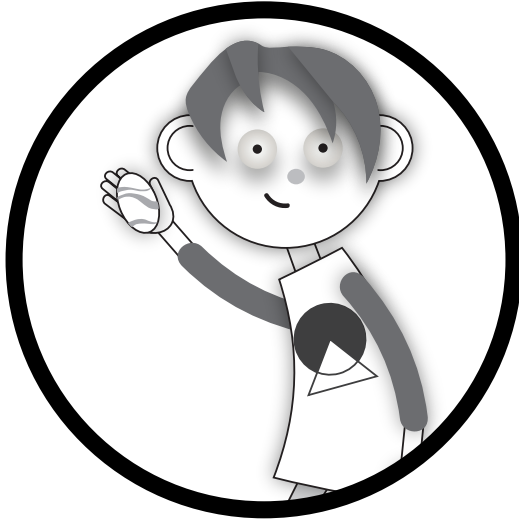
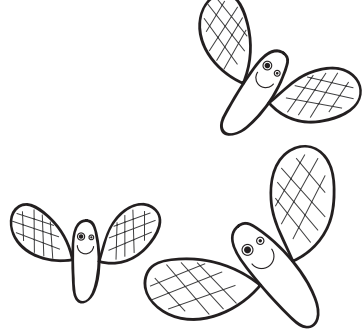
Biggest Secret: she invented toe socks

Favorite Sport: baseball

Best Health Tip: don't eat sugar

Best Quality: she always has a positive attitude

CHARACTERS



KIRBY

Age: 10

Worst Habit: bites his nails

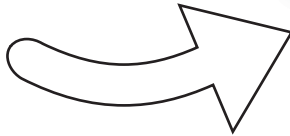
Least Favorite Food: bacon

Biggest Fear: that he hit his growth spurt too soon

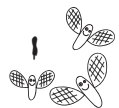
Best Quality: he is a loyal friend

1 DON'T WALK

Kirby Aki headed to school. He crossed Madison Avenue every day. It was a busy road. The ten-year-old pushed the button. He waited for the Walk sign.

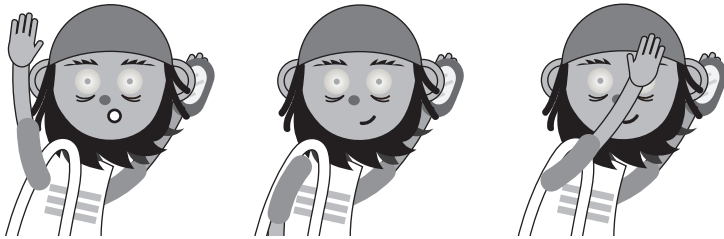


“Look both ways before crossing,” said



his mom. Some drivers didn't stop for red lights. Even if the sign flashed "Walk." They drove very fast.

Today Kirby waited to cross. Just like always. A slim man stood beside him. Kirby had never seen him before. He was also waiting to cross. He was talking on his cell phone. He wore a red shirt. He spoke in a foreign language.



↖ VERY ANIMATED
ON THE PHONE!

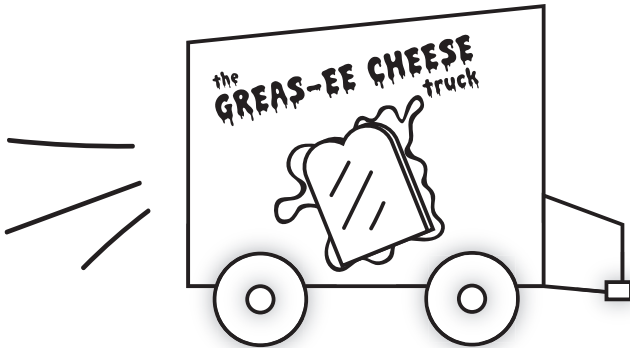
The man stepped into the street. A big truck was coming fast. The light was yellow. But the truck didn't slow down. It



sped up. Kirby wanted to scream. “Look out!” he would yell. But the man wouldn’t understand. Would he? He wasn’t speaking English.

Kirby panicked. He had to do something. The truck was coming. The man wasn’t paying attention. He was still on his phone. So Kirby reached out. He grabbed the man.

Kirby was tall for his age. And strong too. He yanked the man backward. Both fell onto the sidewalk. The big truck sped by.



The man got up. He didn’t seem hurt.

He helped Kirby stand up. The man looked stunned. Kirby couldn't speak.

An older woman saw what happened. She wore a Dodgers baseball cap. She always wore it. Kirby recognized her. She knew Kirby's mom.



“Whoa! That was crazy,” she said. “You both okay?”

The man was shaking. He stared at Kirby. “You saved me. You saved me,” he said.

“I’m glad,” Kirby said. He tried to smile. But he was shaking too.

“I would be dead now,” the man cried. “You saved me!”

He reached into a cloth bag he carried. He took out a yellow stone. It was about the size of Kirby’s palm.

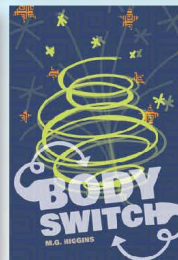
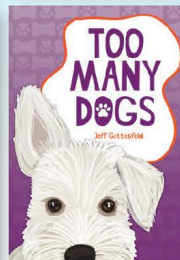
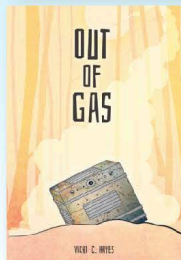
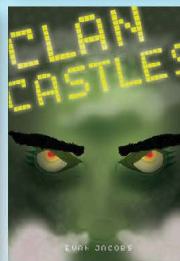
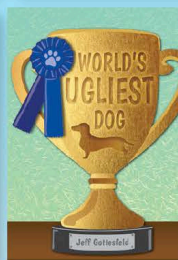
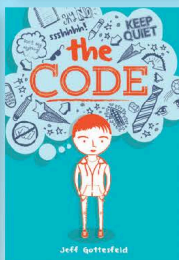
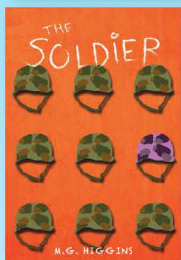
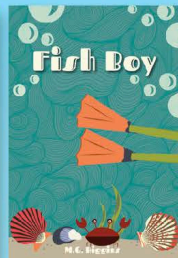
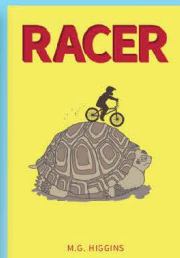
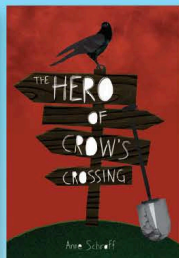
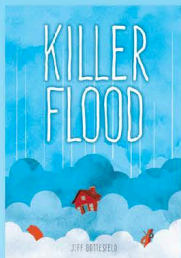
“I don’t have money for you, ” he said. “But here. Take this. I thank you for my life. You take this. It’s magic. You know magic?”

Kirby nodded. He knew about magic.

“Rub the stone. You will get your wish. Rub it, okay? It happens. I promise you. You rub, you wish. It happens. Here, take it. It will change your life. I promise you!”



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The Magic Stone

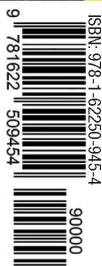
Do you believe in magic?
I do. I have a yellow stone
that grants wishes.




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