

# Kids Fiction Writing Samples for ages 3-5

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## The RigaTonys and Carl, Accepting Others Differences

[Molly] Alright, we are back. And it's time for the Scoop With Adelina! Adelina can you hear me?

[Adelina] Loud and clear Molly!

[Molly] Great, because you're just on the other side of the room.

[Adelina] Oh, right. Yeah. Hi Molly!

[Molly] So, what are you doing over there in our Recipe Lab pantry?

[Adelina] Well, today I'm talking with a box of pasta. The Riga Tony's to be exact! Say hi Tonys!

[Tonys] Hello! Hi! Hey there!

[Carl] Hi!

[Adelina] So can I get you to introduce yourselves?

[Tonys] Well, we are the Riga Tonys. (Hurray!)

[Carl] And Carl!

[Tonys] And we're a bunch of noodle heads to be honest. (Riga Tonys all Laugh) Ah I'm just kidding, we're a big box of rigatoni pasta.

[Carl] And... Carl?

[Tonys] And Carl I guess, but don't worry about him he's not really supposed to be here.

[Carl] Yeah I mean, I guess that's probably true but, I'm here anyways so! Hi! I'm Carl!

[Adelina] I'm sorry, Carl? Hi, can you tell me more about yourself?

[Tonys] Don't worry about Carl! He's a mistake! He's in this box by accident but it's fine! Let's talk rigatoni! (Yeah!)

[Carl] It's okay, I'm sort of used to it.

[Adelina] Well no, I think you're pretty neat looking Carl! So, what kind of pasta are you?

[Tonys] Not rigatoni... (Riga Tonys laugh)

[Adelina] Guys, I was asking Carl. Go ahead Carl.

[Carl] I'm fusilli.

[Adelina] Fusilli! I love that! And for our listeners can you describe what Fusilli looks like?

[Carl] Well, I'm about an inch long. And I'm super curly. I'm like, one big fun cork screw!

[Adelina] You kinda look like a pasta I've had in pasta salad.

[Carl] Yeah, I've gotten that before.

[Adelina] Amazing.

[Tonys] Not that amazing! You never asked us what rigatoni looks like...

[Adelina] Sorry, Tonys. Do any of you want to describe what rigatoni looks like?

[Tonys] Well, we are bigger than fusilli. And sort of a tube shape, like a big straw. And we've got little grooves, or lines going all the way down to help us pick up some sauce. Pretty amazing. Right? No Just me? Alright, Okay.

[Adelina] Sounds kind of like penne.

[Carl] Or ziti.

[Tonys] Kinda but like, it's not! We're wider than penne. It's completely not the same. And we've got the grooves! For the sauce!

[Carl] All my curls and swirls make me one of the BEST shapes to hold onto pasta sauce. I'm pretty one of a kind which I guess is cool. But I'm SUPER one of a kind in a box full of rigatoni.

[Adelina] Yeah Carl, how did you end up here?

[Carl] Well a lot of factories that make pasta make all types of pasta. They make a bunch of the same dough, and then cut it up into different shapes. So way back when we were all exactly the same.

[Adelina] So wait, talk me through this a little bit. Pasta starts as dough?

[Tonys] Yup! We all start as just a big batch of dough. We're made outta flour, and a little water.

[Carl] Durum Semolina flour! To be exact.

[Tonys] Don't mind him he's just being fancy. So they make a bunch of dough, roll it out really thin and then split us all up by shape.

[Carl] Some of the dough gets pressed with grooves and put through a machine, like rigatoni, and some gets curled around in on itself like me!

[Tonys] Yeah but that was like, forever ago, before we were shaped and dried. Now we're very different.

[Adelina] You're not all that different. You're all pasta. You just look different.

[Tonys] Yeah... but we're different shapes!

[Carl] Yeah but, she's right. We're all pasta. I mean take a look around us at this pantry. There are all different types of crazy and amazing foods! There's rice and beans, chicken stock, salt, those things are all completely different! Compared to that, we have much more in common than we have apart. We've got the same hopes and dreams!

[Tonys] Like meeting Joey Pesto!

[Carl] And we have the same fears.

[Tonys] Arts and crafts! (Gah! Yikes! Oh no!) I don't know Carl. That might all be true, but you don't look like us, or sounds like us. We're all exactly the same! And then you're here all curly and little.

[Adelina] Sure, you look different now. But deep down you're all just flour and water.

[Carl] Durum semolina flour. To be exact. Sorry.

[Adelina] You're both made from the SAME dough. And the reality is, you're stuck in this box together.

[Tonys] Tell me about it.

[Adelina] I don't get why you have to think of Carl being here as "a mistake".

[Carl] What do you mean?

[Adelina] Maybe Carl's here for a reason! Maybe he's here to break up the rigatoni monotony a little bit. Swirl things up, add a curly bit of pizzaz! Maybe Carl makes this box special, not worse.

[Tony's] I mean, I guess I do kinda feel kinda attached to the little guy.

[Carl] And I really do like it here! Feels like home, or at least it would if you'd all just be a little more welcoming.

[Adelina] So, what do you say Tonys?

[Tonys] Ahh Carl buddy! We're sorry, you aren't a mistake! We're glad to have you here! (Yeah! We love you Carl! Sorry Carl!)

[Carl] Aw, thanks guys. You're not half bad yourselves.

[Adelina] Aw, I love a happy ending. Well, you heard it here first folks. Today's scoop is that sometimes being in the wrong box isn't a mistake, and being different doesn't mean you don't belong.

[Carl] And fusilli is great at holding sauce.

[Adelina] Yeah, that too. Did you get all that Molly?

[Molly] Thanks Adelina! Yes, I did. again I am just sitting across the room from you, right over here.

[Adelina] Right. Sorry. Back to you Molly!

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## Parkers Intro and Pronouns from the Mystery Recipe Podcast

[Door Opening]

[Mitsy] And here is the recording studio.

[Parker] Wait I'm not ready to leave the recipe lab yet. I have never seen so many ovens in my LIFE!

[Mitsy] Don't worry Parker, we'll spend LOTS of time in the lab. Come on, right through here. Hi Molly!

[Parker] What?! THE Molly Birnbaum?! Cotton fibers! I am so glad to meet you.

[Mitsy] Told you Parker was great.

[Parker] Thank you Hand Safety Officer Mitsy! Intern extraordinaire Parker the Pot Holder reporting for duty!

[Mitsy] Ah Parker I love ya. But I told you, you don't have to call me officer! That's more of an external title.

[Parker] Wow look at all these microphones.

[Mitsy] Molly, meet Parker! Parker is the first ever Mystery Recipe Intern! And that makes me a manager for the very first time in my life which is no small feat, really proud to be moving up in the world here Molly. BUT... sorry. This is about Parker! Not me. Parker is a pot holder, and will be helping and learning with us all season.

[Parker] That is correct! I am in my final semester at PotHolder University and this internship is right at the center of all my hopes and dreams. I love cooking, hot pots and pans, learning, friendship, and dance parties. My pronouns are they/them, and I am absolutely honored to meet you Madame Birnbaum. Do you all ever have any dance parties?

[Molly] Well same to you Parker. And please, call me Molly. My pronouns are she/her. And we have been known to have the occasional dance party.

[Parker] Okay Madame... Molly. (to themselves) Nice save there Parker.

[Mitsy] Um, sorry to, just to backup a little bit here. What did you mean, your pronouns are they/them? What's a pronoun?

[Molly] A pronoun is a word we use to talk about someone when they aren't here. Like, "he" or "she" or "they".

[Mitsy] Ah, so "he" "she" and "they" are examples of pronouns. For instance, if we were talking about Zoe, I'd say "SHE is the smartest ingredient guesser this lab has ever seen."

[Molly] Exactly! Zoe uses she/her pronouns. You might have heard someone use he when talking about a boy, and she when talking about a girl. But some people use other pronouns, like they or them, because it feels like the right way to describe their gender.

[Parker] Right! I'm not really a boy, or a girl. I'm somewhere in between. So please use they/ them pronouns when talking about me!

[Mitsy] I think I get it! Thanks for explaining Molly. So far Parker here has had a GREAT first day. They have already helped me clean out all the refrigerators-

[Parker] So much yogurt.

[Mitsy] Then they labeled all the spices in the spice rack-

[Parker] Did you know All Spice is actually only ONE spice?!

[Mitsy] And then they got to tour the Test Kitchen!

[Parker] I've never SEEN so many POTS! And... now I'm here! And I just wanted to say, I am so excited to learn all about the fun and fantastical side of food from you both this season.

[Molly] Well we are lucky to be working with you Parker, welcome aboard.

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## The Pet Pals of Pleasantville, Part 1

[Narrator] Once upon a time, there were three best friends. Shedrick the dog, Meowtilda the Cat and Cracker, the parrot. They lived in Pleasantville, in the happiest part of town on the sunniest side of the street. But Shedrick was bored...

[Shedrick] It's always so perfectly happy and sunny here. What should we do today? I don't know if I could stand another perfect, happy, sunny day.

[Cracker] We could sit on the porch and soak up the sun.

[Shedrick] We do that every day!

[Meowtilda] We could take a nap on our comfy beds and wait for the dinner bell?

[Shedrick] We do that every day too! I want to go... over there!

(DUN DUN DUN)

[Narrator] Thunder crackled and an inexplicable storm rolled in as the three pet pals looked next door at... the factory.

[Meowtilda] Not the factory! That horrible place, it looks just dreadful!

[Shedrick] Exactly! It's miserable and dangerous, we have to go check it out!

[Cracker] No way! We are safe and happy here on the porch, why risk it?

[Shedrick] You can't tell me you aren't bored Cracker! You can FLY, don't you want to try something new?

[Cracker] Who needs new when you already have perfect?

[Shedrick] What about you Meowtilda, you've still got all nine lives left, can't you spare ONE to go on an ADVENTURE?

[Meowtilda] Not a chance Shedrick, I don't have a hair out of place and I don't intend to change that.

[Shedrick] Well, the good thing about friendship is that you have my back, and I have both of yours. Isn't that right?

[Meowtilda] That's right.

[Cracker] Yeah, of course.

[Shedrick] Let's put that to the test then... shall we?

[Narrator] Shedrick suddenly bolts upright and, tail wagging, makes a break for the factory next door. Meowtilda and Cracker screech, eyes wide but it's too late! Shedrick is off the porch and already halfway to the factory before they can even call after him.

[Meowtilda] Shedrick! Arg, he's insufferable, isn't he?

[Cracker] Come on Meowtilda we better hurry after him if we're going to catch up!

[Meowtilda] I'm coming, I'm coming!

[Narrator] Shedrick runs to the back door of the factory, and waits patiently for Meowtilda and Cracker to catch up. He sniffs the air, surprised to smell something... sweet.

[Meowtilda] Slow down, slow down! Are you trying to ruin my purrfect hair day?!

[Cracker] Shedrick, we really aren't supposed to leave our perfect porch, we gotta go back!

[Shedrick] Aw come on friends, live a little! Besides (sniff sniff) can't you smell that? It smells.... super sweet!

[Meowtilda] You're the one with the bonafide nostrils Shedrick, not me. I'm best for rodents and hairballs, CERTAINLY not smelly adventures.

[Shedrick] Come on, I think this back door is open just a crack...

[Narrator] Shedrick paws the door open, and all three pets slip inside. The door slams shut behind them with a terrifying boom!

[Meowtilda] Well there goes our way out.

[Shedrick] Look! They're making sugar cubes!

(the sounds of conveyor belts and factory equipment)

[Cracker] Hot dog, I think you're right!

[Shedrick] Cold Parrot, of course I am!

[Narrator] Cracker takes flight and circles around the factory, dipping in to grab a couple sugar cubes and dropping them down to Shedrick and Meowtilda.

[Shedrick] Yum yum yum yum, these are amazing! Aren't you glad we came Meowtilda?

[Meowtilda] What do you mean amazing, these don't taste like anything at all!

[Cracker] Nothing at all?! Why they're sweet as can be!

[Meowtilda] I haven't gotten the time, nor the taste buds, for SWEET things Cracker. Cats aren't able to taste sweet, didn't you know that? Just cause something is true for you doesn't mean that's safe to assume about everyone! Listen, there's the front door, let's get out of here please!

[Shedrick] Alright alright, I've had my fun. Come on, lets go. (We hear them start towards the door) So, you can't taste sweet things at all? That's a shame!

[Meowtilda] Can't miss what you've never had Shedrick.

[Shedrick] Hey Cracker, grab us a few more cubes for the road? There's a giant pyramid of sugar cubes right by the door!

[Narrator] Cracker flew over to grab a few more cubes. BUT, not getting out very much, she didn't think to be careful. She grabbed a few cubes from the center of the pile, and started an avalanche!

[Pets] AH! Oh no! Look out!

[Narrator] And just as quickly as it had started, it was over. The sugar dust began to settle, and Meowtilda was the first to see their newest problem.

[Meowtilda] Oh, no look what you've done! The sugar cubes are blocking the door! We'll never get out now!

[Shedrick] Not if I can help it. Come on Cracker, let's eat our way out!

[Cracker] Oh boy, I was born for this!

[Narrator] And eat they did, cube after cube Shedrick and Cracker gobbled them up until...

[Shedrick] Yikes, I don't feel so good Meowtilda.

[Cracker] You're telling me! I don't even want to LOOK at another sugar cube. Too much sweet!

[Shedrick] Well, if we can't eat our way out... what will we do?

[Meowtilda] I can't take you two anywhere, can I? Leave it to me.

[Narrator] Not being able to taste sweet things came in handy for Meowtilda today. She nibbled and munched a dog sized hole in the sugar barricade, just big enough to allow for the pets escape.

[Meowtilda] (BURP) Come on pals, let's get out of here.



[Shedrick] Meowtilda! You saved the day! Not being able to taste sweet things really saved our hides this time.

[Meowtilda] Well maybe that'll teach you to go on adventures! But, I gotta say, it was sort of fun being a hero.

[Cracker] Thanks for saving us Meowtilda.

[Meowtilda] (YAWNS) Anytime pals. Now, it's still sunny enough for us to catch a quick cat nap before dinner, what do you say?

[Narrator] And nap they did, tired out from their latest adventures. It's back to their perfect daily routine for this group of pet pals, until next time...

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## The Pet Pals of Pleasantville, Part 2

[Narrator] Once upon a time, there were three best friends. Shedrick the dog, Meowtilda the Cat and Cracker, the parrot. They lived in Pleasantville, in the happiest part of town on the sunniest side of the street. But Shedrick was bored...

[Shedrick] It's always so perfectly happy and sunny here. What should we do today? I don't know if I could stand another perfect, happy, sunny day.

Record Scratch

[Cracker] Not so fast Shedrick. I remember what happened LAST time you said something like this.

[Meowtilda] Right. We ended up getting trapped inside THAT sugar factory.

(DUN DUN DUN)

[Meowtilda] -and I had to bail us all out! Not this time. We are never setting paw back into that sugar factory again.

[Shedrick] Okay fine, fine. We don't need to go to THAT factory. But... what about that OTHER factory over there!

(DUN DUN DUN)

[Narrator] Thunder crackled and an inexplicably storm cloud rolled in, as Meowtilda and Cracker looked in the opposite direction to see a NEW factory they had never noticed before!

[Meowtilda] Oh brother.

[Cracker] How long has that been there?!

[Shedrick] Come on pals, we've GOT to go check it out!

[Meowtilda] No, we don't! What we've GOT to do is stop getting ourselves into tricky situations where someone could get hurt.

[Cracker] I don't know Meowtilda, they put that building up awfully fast. I get a funny feeling about that new factory. I think maybe we SHOULD go check it out.

[Shedrick] Exactly! Thank you Cracker. We're going to go see what's going on over there with or without you Meowtilda, but we could really use your help.

[Meowtilda] Ugh. Fine, but only because I know you're useless without me. But I swear, if I get a single hair out of place, I'm blaming it all on YOU Cracker!

[Cracker] ME?!

[Meowtilda] Come on, let's go before I change my mind.

[Narrator] Meowtilda hopped up from her bed and with a frustrated prance headed across the field towards the brand new factory.

[Meowtilda] This was a perfect day to sit on our perfect porch, I was having a perfectly FINE TIME.

[Shedrick] Oh Meowtilda. There's nothing wrong with a little adventure.

[Narrator] The three pet pals crouched low in the grass so as to not be seen. And they peered towards the back of the factory.

[Shedrick] Look! Inside that stall in the factory, is that a... horse?!

[Cracker] I don't know Shedrick. That horse is big. And looks REALLY strong! We wouldn't want to mess with him.

[Shedrick] No one said anything about MESSING with him. Just cause someone's big doesn't mean they are dangerous! Come on! Let's go introduce ourselves!

[Meowtilda] Shedrick! Wait!

[Narrator] But it was too late. Shedrick had jumped up and was running excitedly over to the factory. All Meowtilda and Cracker could do was wait, and watch nervously. As Shedrick got closer he slowed a bit and called out to his new friend.

[Shedrick] Hello there! Horse friend? Hi! I'm Shedrick!

[Haymond] Howdy NEIGHbor. Good of you to come say hi! You must be part of that trio of perfect pals I can see from across the field! I'm Haymond. So, where are your friends?

[Shedrick] Uh.. haha good question.

[Narrator] Shedrick turned back towards his friends with his tail wagging, to let them know that the coast was clear! Meowtilda and Cracker hurried over to Haymond, excited to make a new friend.

[Haymond] Well hello to you both!

[Shedrick] Haymond, this is Meowtilda and Cracker. And this is Haymond!

[Meowtilda] Hello Haymond!

[Cracker] Nice to meet you! Hey, how come you're stuck in this stall inside a factory? Shouldn't you be on a farm, or in a stable?

[Haymond] Well. You may have noticed this factory was built really quickly? That's all because of me. The people who run this factory have had me working day and night to help them make it.

[Cracker] Yikes! That sounds just awful!

[Haymond] It is! I just hate it here. Can you help me? There's a key to this stall over by the other door!

[Shedrick] Of course we'll help you Haymond!

[Cracker] Yeah! Of course we will.

[Narrator] But Meowtilda looked a bit more cautious.

[Meowtilda] Of course, I WANT to help you, but. We've been in a factory before and we almost got TRAPPED inside! I'm afraid to put ourselves in danger.

[Shedrick] Meowtilda, listen. When someone needs help, especially a neighbor, it's our job to face our fears and help them! Sure these factories are big and scary, with inexplicable storms hanging over them that appear seemingly on cue.

(Thunder)

[Shedrick] But wouldn't you want someone to do the same thing for you if you were in trouble?

[Meowtilda] You're right. It is scary, but helping someone in need is the right thing to do. Come on pals, let's go!

[Narrator] Meowtilda and Shedrick ran over to the other side of the factory to grab the key while Cracker circled above to keep an eye out.

[Cracker] You guys! This factory is filled with GIANT sugar cubes! You all look like you've got this under control. I'm going to grab some for the trip home!

[Meowtilda] Not again Cracker!

[Narrator] But, it was too late. Cracker grabbed a large cube from the bottom of a pile, and started another avalanche! When the dust had settled, the pet pals could hear Cracker coughing.

[Cracker] These aren't sugar cubes! They're not sweet at all! These are salty!

[Haymond] They aren't sugar cubes, this is a salt lick factory! Some animals love licking big cubes of salt like these. Salt licks are a great source of mineral nutrients for animals that otherwise are hard to find in their natural environments.

[Meowtilda] Yes well, those salty salt licks are now blocking our way out. And not even I can lick my way out of this one!

[Shedrick] Yeah, it's far too salty for me.

[Haymond] Well, time for me to return the favor and help get us out of this mess. I could lick these salt licks for HOURS, this shouldn't be a problem.

[Narrator] Haymond licked a horse sized opening in the salt lick pile, and all four new pals ran from the factory, laughing.

[Cracker] We did it! You're free now Haymond!

[Narrator] And back across the field they ran, until they sat out of breath on their perfect porch.

[Haymond] Thanks for coming to help me get out of that factory, friends. I know it took a lot of courage to help you face your fears like that.

[Meowtilda] Hey, you helped US more than we helped YOU. I was only REALLY scared when those salt licks were blocking our way out. Thank YOU for coming to OUR rescue.

[Cracker] What will you do now Haymond?

[Haymond] That's a very good question. I'm not sure yet.

[Shedrick] Well, our perfect porch is pretty big. Care to join us for a nap?

[Haymond] That sounds... perfect.

[Narrator] And nap they did, tired out from their latest adventures. It's back to their perfect daily routine for this group of pet pals, until next time...

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## The Boy and His Sunflower

[Narrator] Once upon a time, there was a farm. A farm, just like any of the other farms all across the country. This was a very ordinary farm. That is, until it wasn't. On this farm, lived a young boy and his family.

[Boy] Hi family!

[Narrator] Every morning the boy would wake up early, and go feed the chickens.

Cluck cluck

[Narrator] And give hay to the cows.

Moo.

[Narrator] And say hey to the sheep.

[Boy] Hi sheep!

Bah.

[Narrator] And last, but certainly not least, the boy would water his favorite part of the garden, his sunflower. But, even though he liked the chickens and cows and sheep, and especially enjoyed his favorite sunflower he eventually started feeling very bored of doing the same thing every day.

[Boy] This farm is very ordinary, like we said at the beginning.

[Narrator] Then, one night, while he was sitting with his favorite sunflower before bed, the boy looked up and saw a shooting star.

[Boy] I better make a wish!

[Narrator] He thought. And he did. He wished that something extraordinary would happen. And then he went inside and went to bed, like he always did. And he woke up the next morning, and went to feed the chickens.

Cluck cluck

[Narrator] And give hay to the cows.

Moo.

[Narrator] And say hey to the sheep.

[Boy] Hi sheep!

Bah.

[Narrator] But, the moment he saw his favorite sunflower, he dropped his pail of water and loudly exclaimed-

[Boy] It's huge!

[Narrator] Overnight, the sunflower had DOUBLED in size! It had been a decently tall sunflower before, but now it was about 12 feet tall, higher than a basketball hoop! He called his family, who all came over and admired the extra special sunflower.

[Boy] How cool.

[Narrator] They all said. And then, the next day, the sunflower had doubled in size again!

[Boy] Wow!

[Narrator] And it was even bigger the day after that.

[Boy] WHOA!

[Narrator] And even bigger the day after that!

[Boy] NO WAY!

[Narrator] News spread quickly through the town, which was filled with other ordinary farms where not much happened. And so within a week, the whole town would gather every morning to see just how tall this sunflower was going to get. And it grew bigger.

[Town] Wow.

[Narrator] And bigger.

[Town] WHOA!

[Narrator] And bigger!

[Town] NO WAY!

[Narrator] Until eventually, it stretched so high that it reached outer space. Which was a story worth telling on the nightly news. News channels around the world began telling the story of the sunflower that wouldn't stop growing. The boy became famous.

[Boy] Hi.

Cheers

[Narrator] And everyone had the same question, where was this sunflower going?

[Boy] Well, probably to the sun.

[Narrator] The boy responded.

[Boy] Sunflowers love the sun. They turn to face the sun everyday. I bet that's where this one is headed.

[Narrator] And he was right. Which, if you know anything about the sun, you can imagine would not end well. The sun, you see, is of course a giant ball of fire. But the sunflower didn't know that. The little boy hadn't known that either.

[Boy] Wait, it's a giant ball of fire?

[Narrator] And so everyone waited, with bated breath. Hoping the giant sunflower they had all come to love would stop growing. Would change course. Would do anything besides grow straight into the sun. But there was nothing they could do.

[Boy] It's every sunflower's dream, isn't it? They love the sun. That's why we call them that. They look like the sun, even. Who are we to stop this flower from doing what it's always dreamed of.

[Narrator] The boy was right again. And besides, even if they'd wanted to, this sunflower was extraordinary. There was nothing they could do. The whole world was watching, using high powered telescopes and advanced astrophysics to predict when the sunflower would grow too close to the sun. And, eventually, that day came.

GASPS

[Narrator] The sunflower grew and grew until it was so close to the sun that it burst into flames. And, that was it. The astrophysicists were finished predicting, the high powered telescopes

were pointed back at stars, and the news all said, “In other news...”. And the boy felt, a bit relieved. Sure it had been fun, being a part of something extraordinary, but he was also glad for it to be done.

[Boy] Phew.

[Narrator] Or at least, almost done.

[Boy] Oh?

[Narrator] Because a few hours later, roasted sunflower seeds began to rain down all across the world. And everyone got to have a tasty little snack, all because of the sunflower that wouldn't stop growing! So, what is the moral of our story? Be careful what you wish for? Don't fly too close to the sun?

[Boy] How about, “sometimes there's nothing wrong with being ordinary”?

[Narrator] Sounds good to me.