

Freddie the Penguin



Written by Isabella Hill
Illustrated by Lauren Crest

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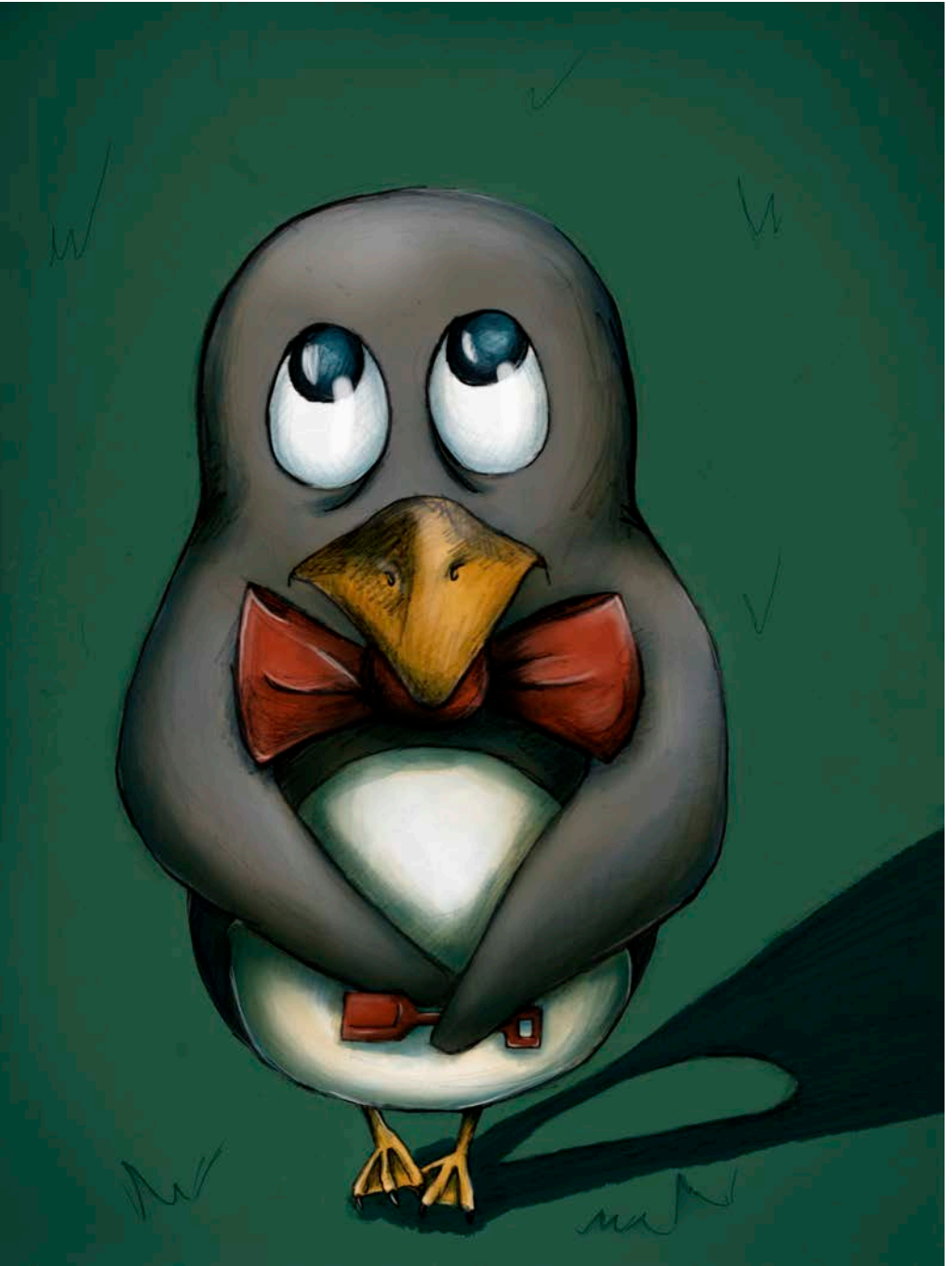
Freddie the Penguin never had many friends

and he couldn't fly.

Anyone who was anyone down at Franklin Jay Academy, Freddie's school, could fly. So all of the other birds would tease him and leave him out of games.







“C’mon guys! Come play with me!” He would say to them shyly. All of the other birds would erupt into laughs and insults. **“WHY DON’T YOU COME PLAY WITH US? OH YEAH, YOU CAN’T FLY!”** said **BOBBY JAY.**



BOBBY was a very popular bird at the school, his grandfather, Franklin Jay, was the number one fast flying bird in the Bird Kingdom and the school was named after him.

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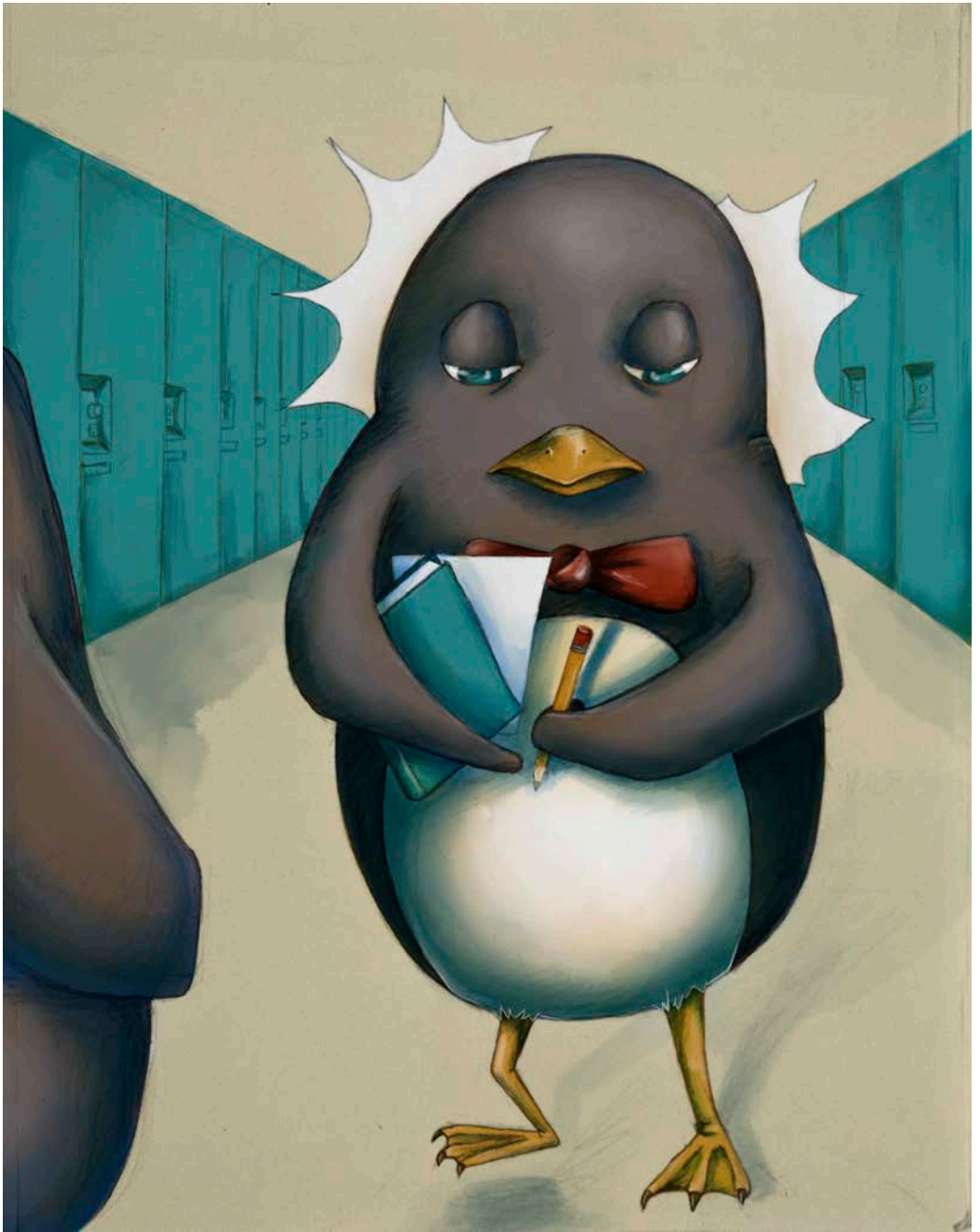
freak''

nora the crow, who was not popular just mean, yelled.

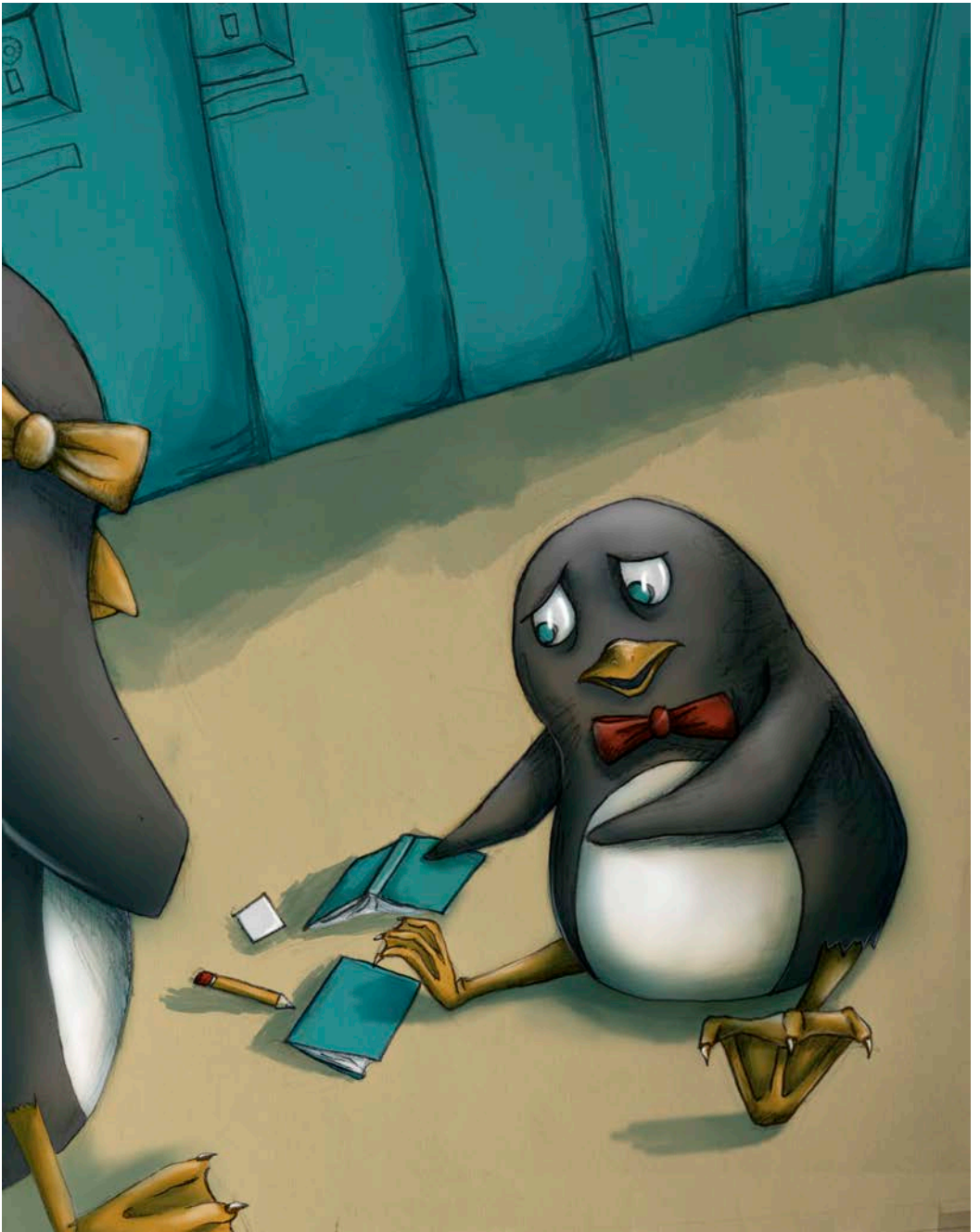
Poor Freddie would walk away and play in the old sandbox, as usual. Day after day Freddie spent recess that way.







Soon enough half the year had gone by and he still had no friends. What a great way to start school, he thought, I wish I was like the others! But I have to be a stupid penguin.



Freddie, too deep in thought to notice, ran into a girl in the hallway on the way to recess. "I'm sorry! That was my fault, I wasn't paying attention." "It's okay, probably my fault more than..."



Freddie stopped mid-sentence. He hadn't looked up when he bumped into her and looking closely he realized what he was talking to. **A PENGUIN!!!!** The girl that he bumped into was another penguin!



He soon found out that the new girl's name was *Isabelle*. They became fast friends.

He tried to act casual on the outside but on the inside he was jumping and hollering "I have a friend! I have a friend and she is a penguin!"



At recess all the other birds were not only teasing Freddie but Isabelle too. Freddie stuck up for Isabelle knowing it was just as upsetting for her. Then he came up with an idea, something that might end this terrible bullying forever.



“I have an idea!” Freddie suddenly yelled. “What is it?” Isabelle asked. “Come over here and I’ll tell you my plan!” He replied. They walked over to the sand box and came up with an incredible plan.

Plan #1

Wings



For the rest of recess they gathered supplies and busied themselves with their project. That night *Isabelle* and *Freddie* met up to start experimenting on the idea.



They were going to build a flying contraption! A real flying machine! How were they going to do it? They had absolutely no idea.



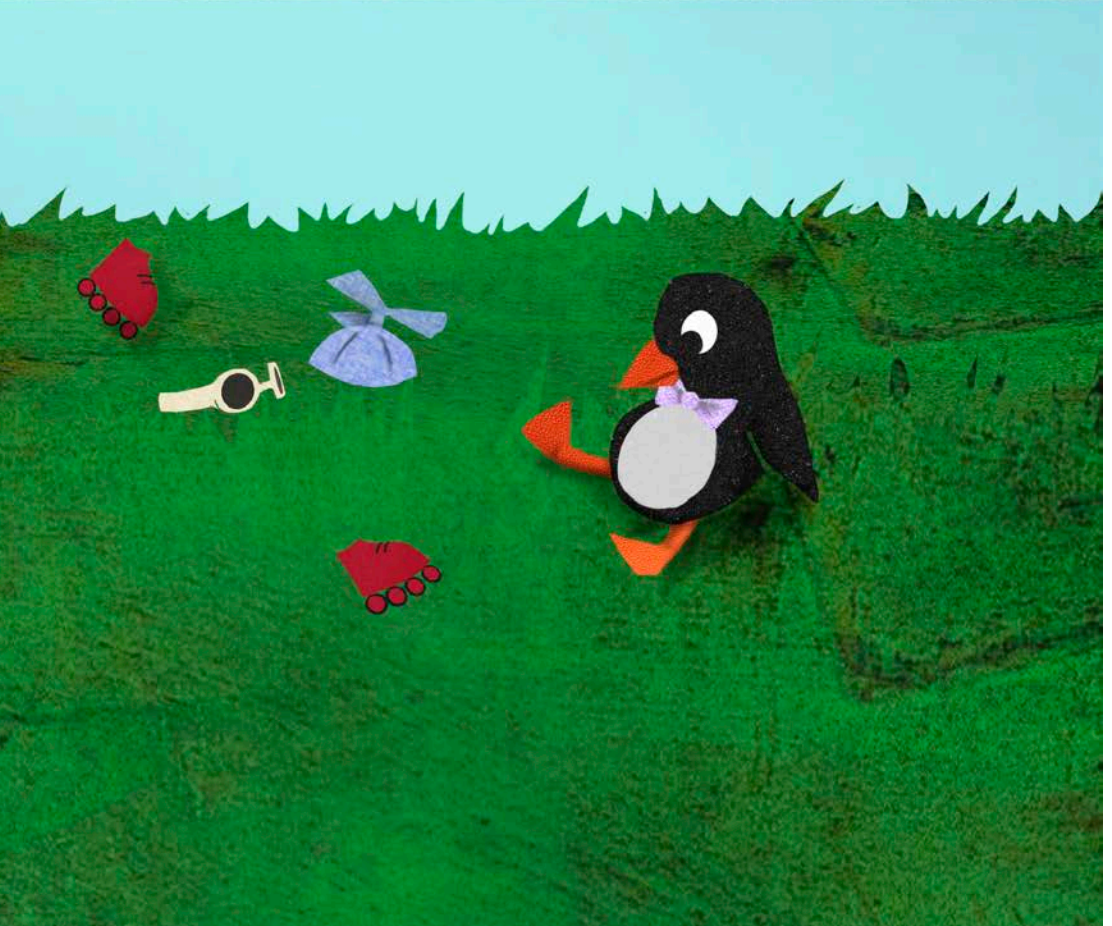
The first try...

failed,

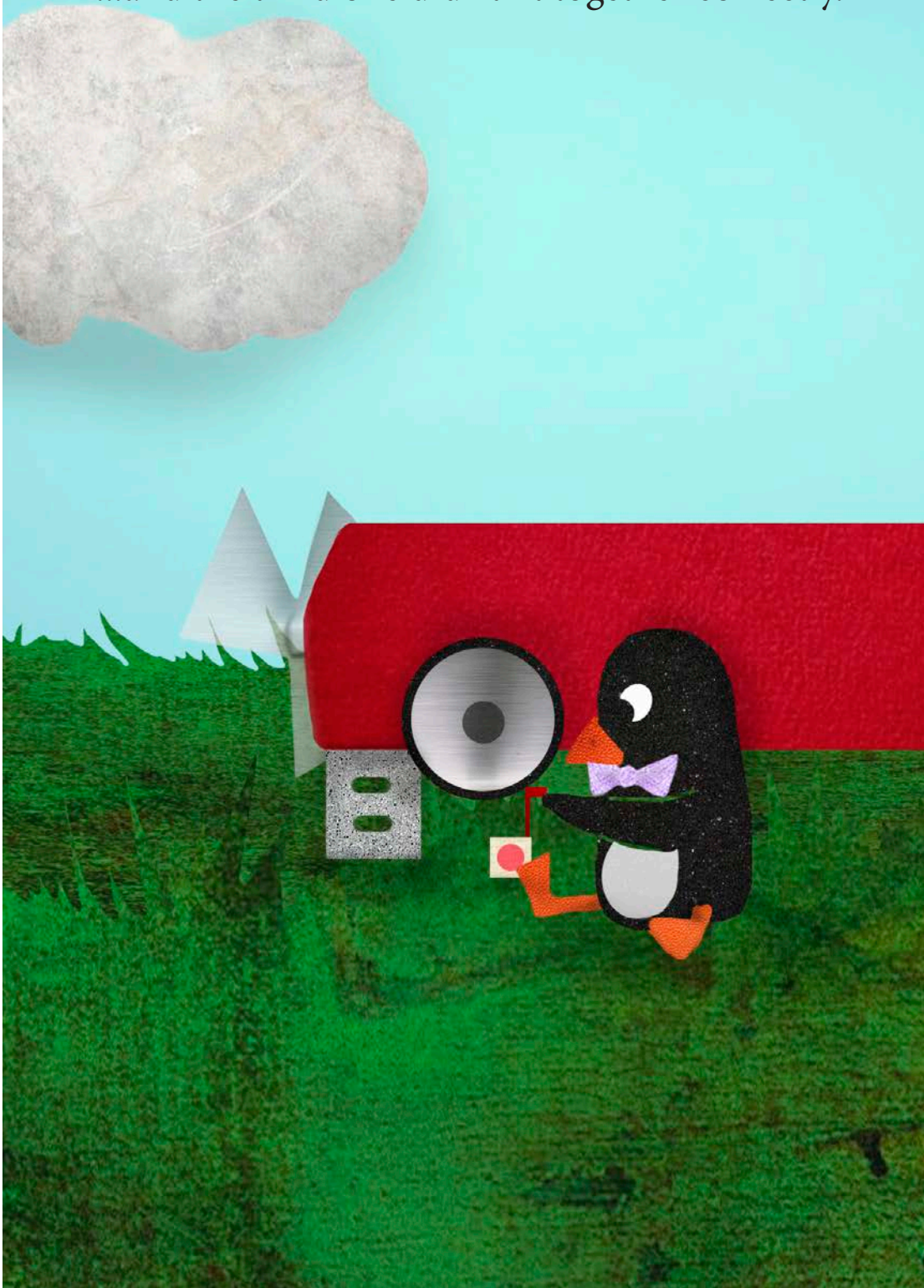




then the second try fell apart,



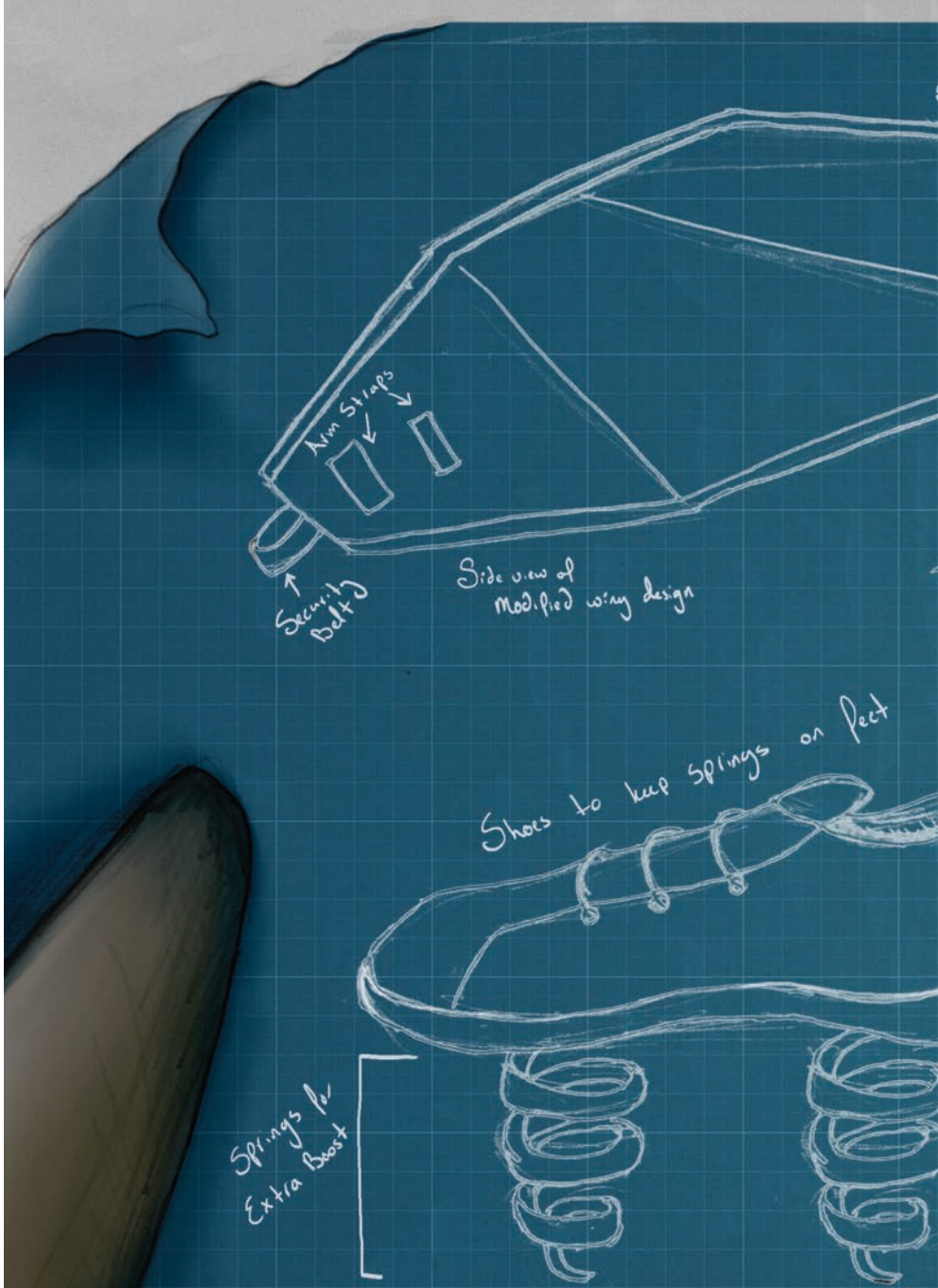
...and the third one didn't fit together correctly.





They knew they couldn't give up. They decided to try one more time and if it didn't work they would try again the next day.

On their fourth try Freddie realized something, he would probably never be able to actually fly but he could build something that would help him come close to flying.



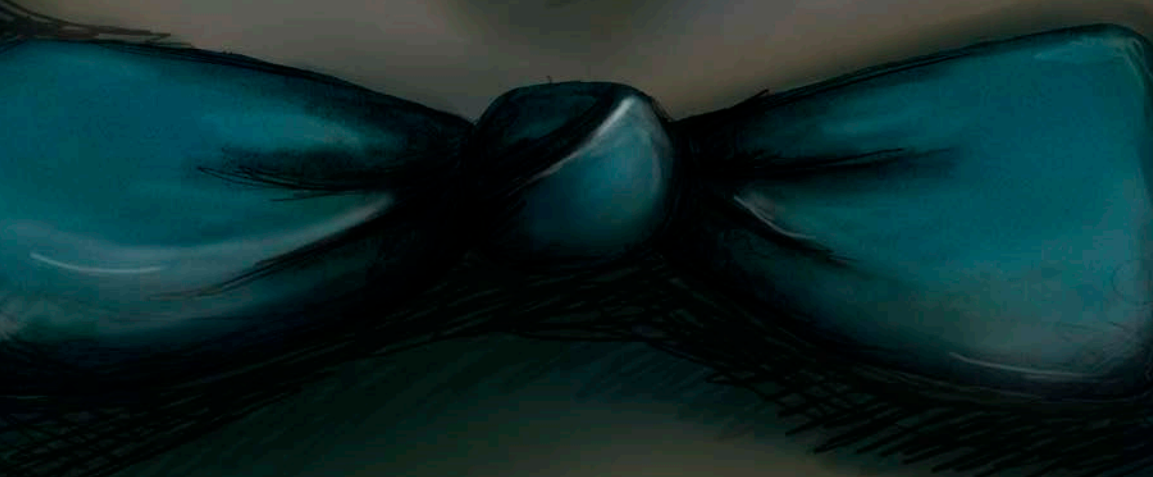
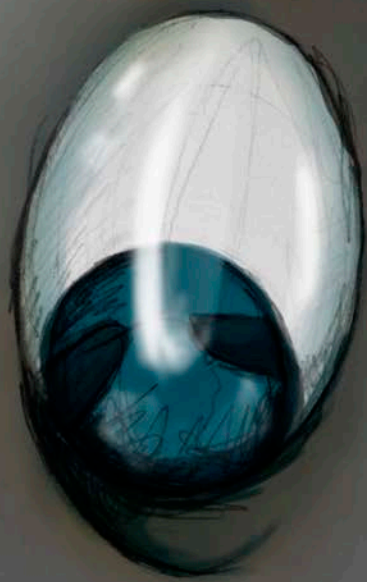
So they got new materials and drew a different blueprint. Freddie was sure it would work this time, they just had to get more creative.

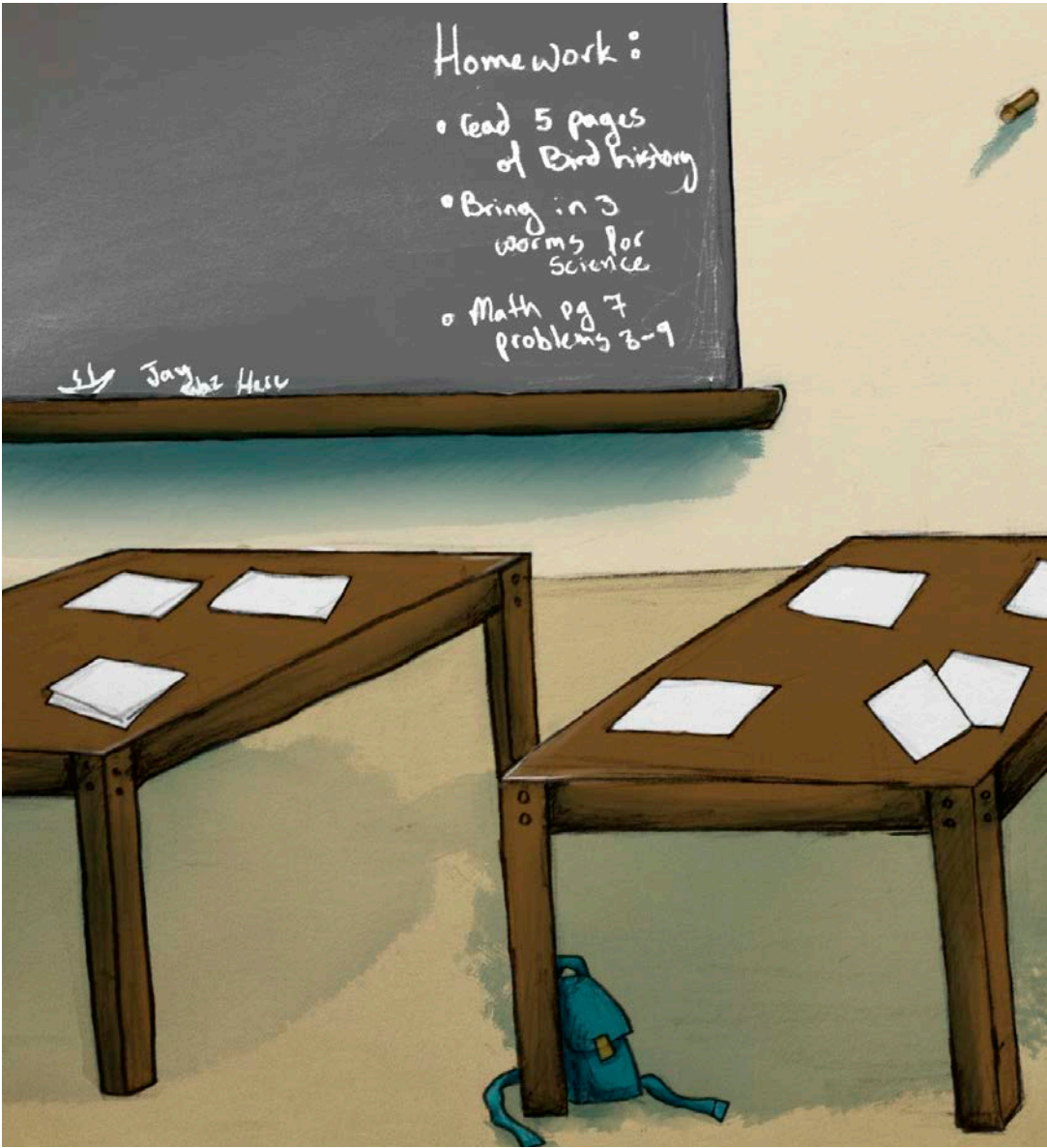


Isabella grabbed a pair of her sneakers and *Freddie* grabbed a pair of sneakers as well. Then they attached springs to the bottom so when they walked they would jump into the air.

Next they gathered sticks and pencils and bits of fabric from the house and fashioned wing shaped kites. And lastly they put straps on the kites for safety.







The next day Freddie and Isabelle arrived for school with their project and smiles on their faces.

DIING! DOOOONG!



The recess bell rang and all the birds sprang out of their seats and out the door, but *Isabelle* and *Freddie* made a stop to grab their flying contraptions. They exchanged excited looks as they half walked and half ran down the hallway.





Once they were outside they took the contraptions from out of their sacks and began to strap themselves in.

"Are you sure it'll work?" Isabelle asked.

"Of course!" Freddie exclaimed.





After securing themselves in tightly, they began to run. And after a moment they began to flap the wings strapped to their arms.

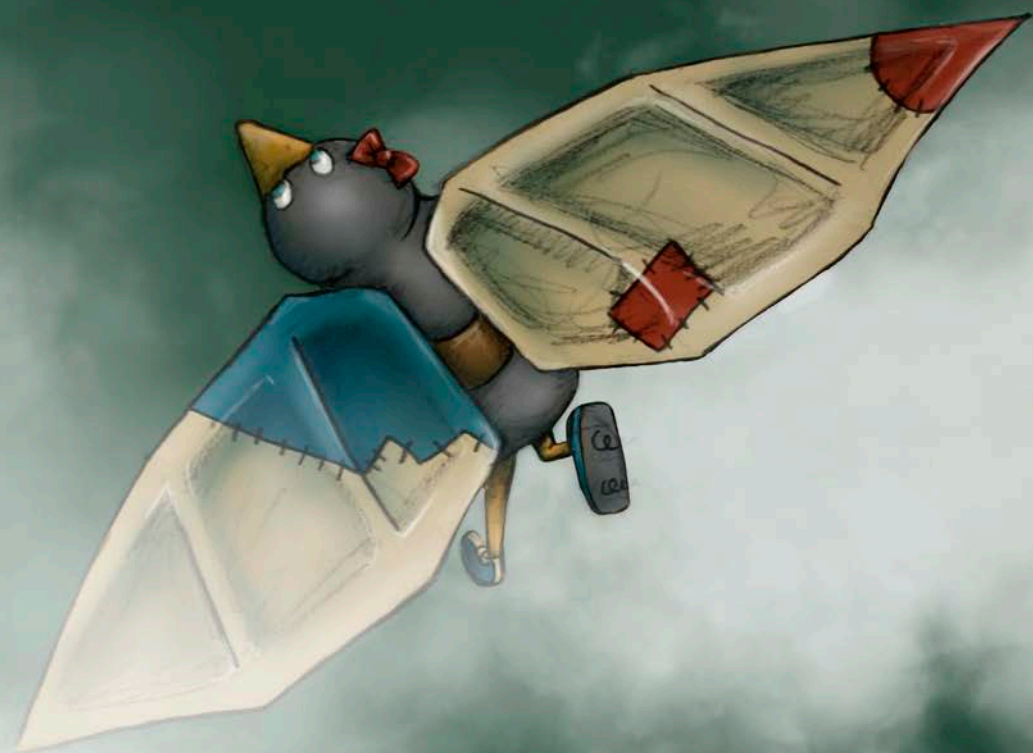
Then they were flying.





It felt as if they were soaring through the air. "**THIS IS AMAZING!**" Freddie and *Isabelle* exclaimed in unison.

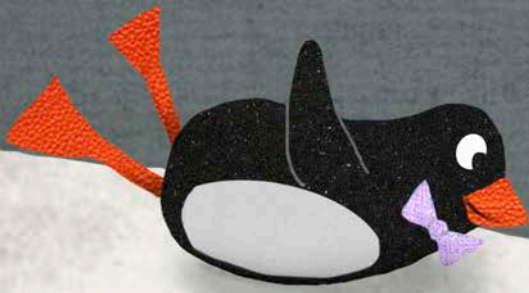
All the other birds were flabbergasted! Their mouths fell open and stayed that way all of recess. They were surprised when they saw what he had created.



Freddie was living his dream, having the time of his life. *"The bell rang Freddie, we should get down now."* Isabelle said. "No, you go. I will stay a while." he replied.

He stayed there for what seemed like days flying through the air. He pinched himself on the arm to make sure it wasn't a dream.

Of course Freddie **loved** flying but he realized that he loved being himself even more. He became happy with himself and his unique characteristics. Being like the other birds was not his goal anymore.



Can a blue jay slide on ice?



Can a crow dive into freezing cold water?



Freddie could do **all**
these things and more.

He was proud to be
a penguin.



NURTURE THE CREATIVE MIND

Nurture the Creative Mind is a 501 (c)(3) non profit organization dedicated to establishing youth self empowerment and self value, while developing marketable skills that immediately applicable in a young person life, through the means of creative and artistic expression.

About the Author

Isabella Hill was born on June 17 2000 in Ogden, Utah, where she currently resides. She is the third of five siblings and currently attends South Ogden Jr High. Next year she will be attending Bonneville High School. She currently enjoys being on the track team as a sprinter and hurdle as well as playing the cello. Art, however, is her true passion. Her favored art form is writing. Whether it is poetry, short stories, or a novel it makes no difference to her, she loves it all. Isabella Hill also enjoys painting (abstract), and theatre.

About the Illustrator

Lauren Crest is a freelance illustrator currently living in Ogden, Utah. She received her BFA in two-dimensional studies in the Fall of 2013 from Weber State University. She enjoys a wide variety of art forms but finds that digital illustration is her medium of choice. Aside from Freddie, she has worked on illustrations for a Young Adult fantasy novel, a graphic novel series, and is currently working on a web comic to be released next year. More information about Lauren and her work can be found at laurencrest.wix.com/artwork.

The idea for this book came to Isabella, quite literally, out of the blue. She wanted to write something that everyone could relate to and came up with Freddie's story. She realized that everyone, at one point in their life, gets made fun of or left out because of a unique characteristic they have or something that they don't have. For Freddie it is that he cannot fly like all of the other birds at his school.

This book was written with the guidance of The Nurture The Creative Mind Foundation's mentors. Isabella feels that everyone there has been incredibly encouraging and helpful. A special thanks is given to them. It would not have been possible to have created this book without their guidance.



Isabella Hill (left) and Lauren Crest (right)

