

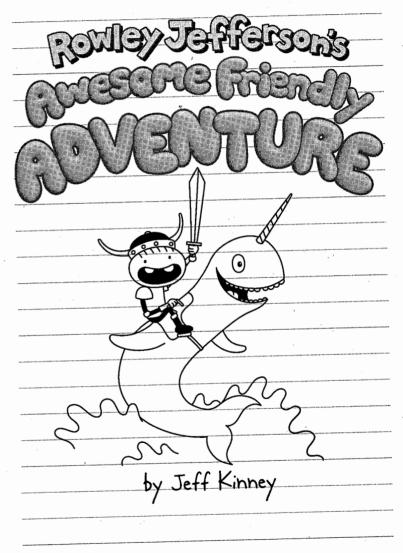
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## ALSO BY ROWLEY JEFFERSON

Diary of an Awesome Friendly Kid

## GREG HEFFLEY'S DIARY OF A WIMPY KID BOOKS

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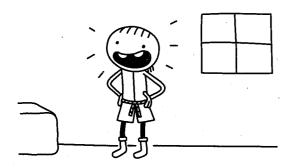
PUFFIN BOOKS

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## CHAPTER 1



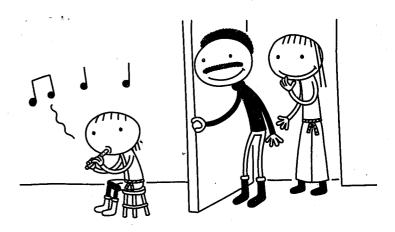
Once upon a time in a land far away there lived a boy named Roland. And Roland was a very good boy.



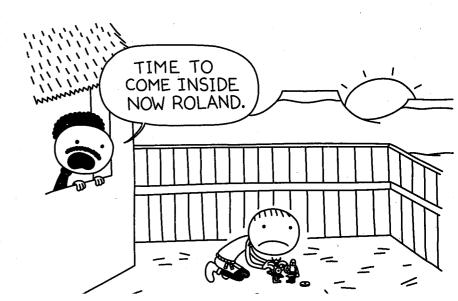
Back then school hadn't been invented yet so most kids worked on their family farms all day.

But Roland's parents thought it was important for their son to get an education and to learn to play an instrument. So he spent his days inside, reading books and practicing the flute.

Roland didn't like practicing the flute very much but he never complained because he wanted to be a good son.



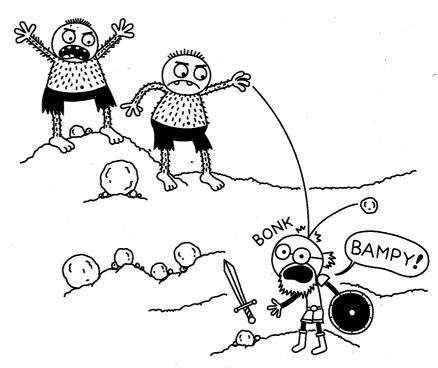
It was a dangerous time when ogres and giants roamed the land. So Roland's parents liked him to stay indoors where it was safe, especially after dark.



Roland had never even been outside his village. He wished he could go on adventures like his grandpa Bampy the Brave who used to fight monsters and search for treasure.



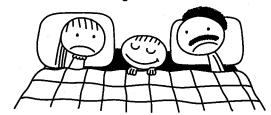
But Bampy was never the same after he got back from his adventures. And Roland knew that was because Bampy didn't always wear his helmet and he got hit on the head a few too many times.



Roland promised his parents that if he went on an adventure he'd ALWAYS wear a helmet and he'd make good choices. But they said he'd be much safer staying at home and practicing his flute.

So the only thing Roland could do was read stories about Bampy and imagine what it would be like to have adventures of his OWN.

Sometimes after Roland read about the monsters in Bampy's stories he'd get kind of SCARED and then he'd have to sleep in his parents' bed for a few nights. But his parents probably didn't mind because they loved him very much.



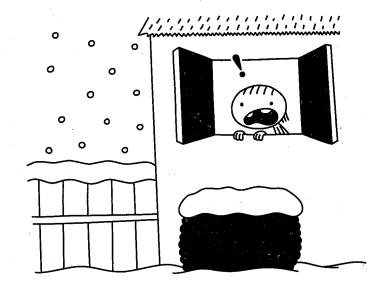
Most of the time Roland's dad worked from home but once or twice a month he'd go on a business trip to another village. And Roland's dad would always say the same thing when he left.



Right about now you're probably thinking "So far this is a pretty boring book." But just wait because in a second it's about to get really GOOD.

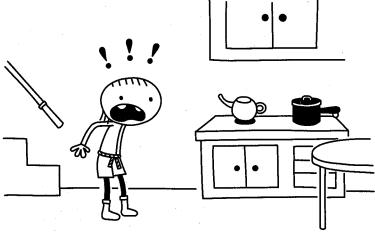
This one morning when Roland's dad was on one of his trips something totally CRAZY happened. Roland woke up early to practice his flute but then it got really COLD in his room.

And when he looked out the window he couldn't believe it was SNOWING.



Oh yeah I probably should've mentioned that this was the middle of the summer because then you'd be even MORE amazed.

Roland ran down to the kitchen to tell his mom about the snow but he couldn't find her ANYWHERE.



So Roland went outside to ask his neighbor Mrs. Nettles where his mom was because Mrs. Nettles was pretty nosy and she always knew everybody's business.

But that's when Roland got some really bad news.

Mrs. Nettles said the White Warlock came to the village and KIDNAPPED Roland's mom. And he took her to his Ice Fortress where he was keeping her as his PRISONER.



Now Roland was TOTALLY FREAKED OUT. You're probably thinking "Well why didn't Roland just call his dad?"

But guess what? Phones weren't invented yet so he COULDN'T.

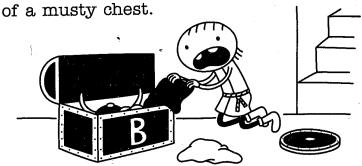
Plus if Roland mailed his dad a letter to tell him what happened it wouldn't get to him for a long time because back then the mail took FOREVER.

Roland was worried about his mom but he was ALSO worried what his dad was going to say when he got home from his trip.

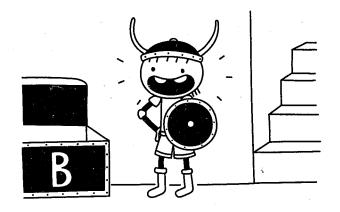


Roland decided the only thing he COULD do was travel to the Ice Fortress and rescue his mom on his OWN.

But Roland knew the journey was going to be dangerous so he went down to the basement and got Bampy's old armor out of a musty chest.



And even though Roland was a little nervous about monsters and sad about his mom getting kidnapped he was also EXCITED because he was about to go on his first ADVENTURE.

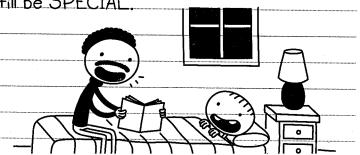




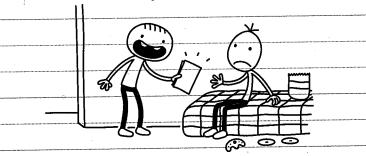
After I wrote the first chapter of my book I showed it to my mom who said she was proud of me for using my imagination. Then she said she couldn't wait to find out what happens NEXT.



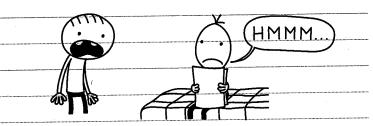
I haven't shown it to my dad yet because
I wanna FINISH it first. And when I'm
done I'm gonna ask him to read it to me
as my bedtime story. But I'll pretend I
don't know what's gonna happen so it'll
still be SPECIAL



I was pretty excited to show the book to my best friend Greg Heffley because he likes stories with dragons and wizards and that kind of stuff and I figured he'd think it was pretty awesome.

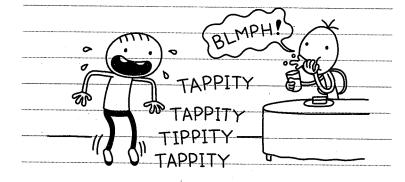


But I couldn't really tell if he liked it or not because at first he didn't say much.

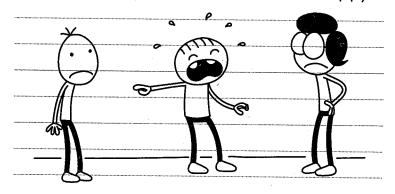


I asked Greg what he thought of the story so far and he asked me if I wanted his honest opinion or if he should tell me what I WANTED to hear. And I said I wanted his honest opinion.

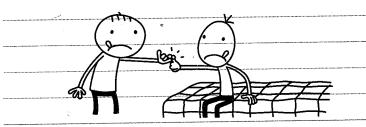
But Greg reminded me that the LAST time I asked for his honest opinion it got him in TROUBLE. That was the time I showed him my tap-dancing routine after taking my first lesson.



Greg told me he thought it was terrible and that hurt my feelings. So I told his mom what he said and she wasn't happy.



Greg said if he told me his honest opinion about my book and it hurt my feelings I wasn't allowed to go running to his mom. So I said OK and we did a pinky swear.

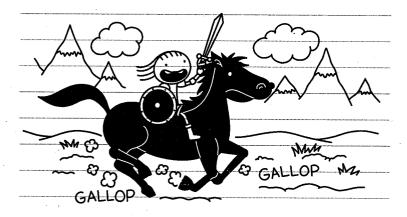


After that was settled Greg told me all the things that were wrong with my story. And boy he had a LOT to say.

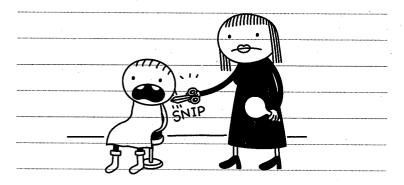
The first thing he said is that I can't start the book with "Once upon a time" because that's corny and it makes it sound like a fairy tale. And that kind of hurt my feelings right away because it's SUPPOSED to be a fairy tale.

Then Greg said no offense but this Roland character has got a lot of problems and the biggest one is his HAIR.

He said Roland has a mullet which is the worst type of haircut a person can have. I said the reason Roland's hair is long in the back is so he'll look cool when he does action stuff.

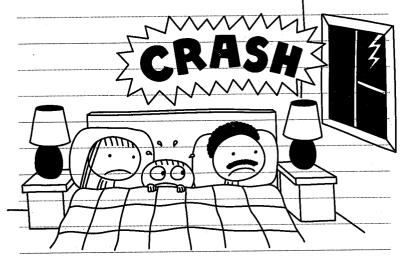


And Greg said maybe Roland can get a haircut at the beginning of Chapter Two.



Then Greg said no offense but Roland kind of seems like a BABY and it's not really believable that a kid his age would sleep in his parents' bed.

And that made me feel a little ashamed because sometimes I sleep in my parents' bed, especially on nights when there's a really bad thunderstorm.



Greg taught me a long time ago that if you say "no offense" then the other person isn't allowed to have hurt feelings about what you say AFTER it.

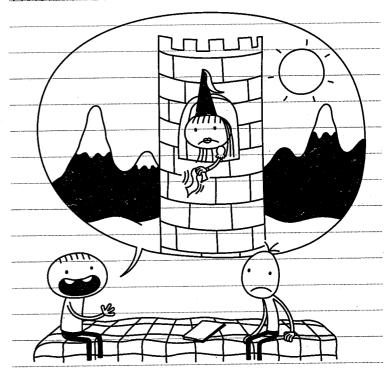
But I think that only works with kids because one time I tried it on my dad and he got mad.



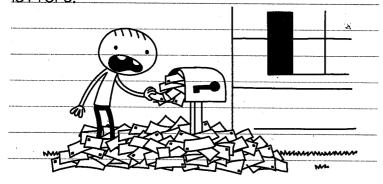
Greg said the book was gonna be too boring if it was only about Roland and that he needed a SIDEKICK. I said maybe Roland could have a best friend who goes WITH him and his name could be Greg Heffley.

But he told me everything about his life is "copyright Greg Heffley" and if I used his name I'd have to pay him MONEY. So I decided to make up a different sidekick for Roland because I don't want any trouble with Greg.

Greg said he didn't know if he could read a book about a boy who has to rescue his mom because that's a little too WEIRD. So I said maybe I could switch out Roland's mom for a PRINCESS and Roland could rescue her INSTEAD.



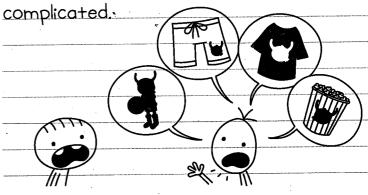
But Greg said nowadays princesses are tough and know how to fight so they don't NEED some guy to rescue them. He said if I wrote a book about a helpless princess who needs to be saved by some dude then I'm gonna get a ton of angry letters



Well that got me kind of worried because I don't WANNA get a bunch of angry letters. But Greg said I could put my publisher's address on the back of the book and then all the angry letters would go to THEM.

I said I was just writing the book for MYSELF and that I wasn't really TRYING to get it published. But Greg said if I was gonna do all this work I might as well try to cash in.

He said that if my book gets published
I'll have to think about movies and toys
and T-shirts and swimwear and all sorts
of OTHER stuff too. And that sounded



Then Greg said he'd make me a DEAL. He said I could focus on the writing and he'd handle everything ELSE. Then we'd split all the profits fifty-fifty.

I was excited because that meant me and Greg were gonna be PARTNERS. So we did another pinky swear to make it OFFICIAL.