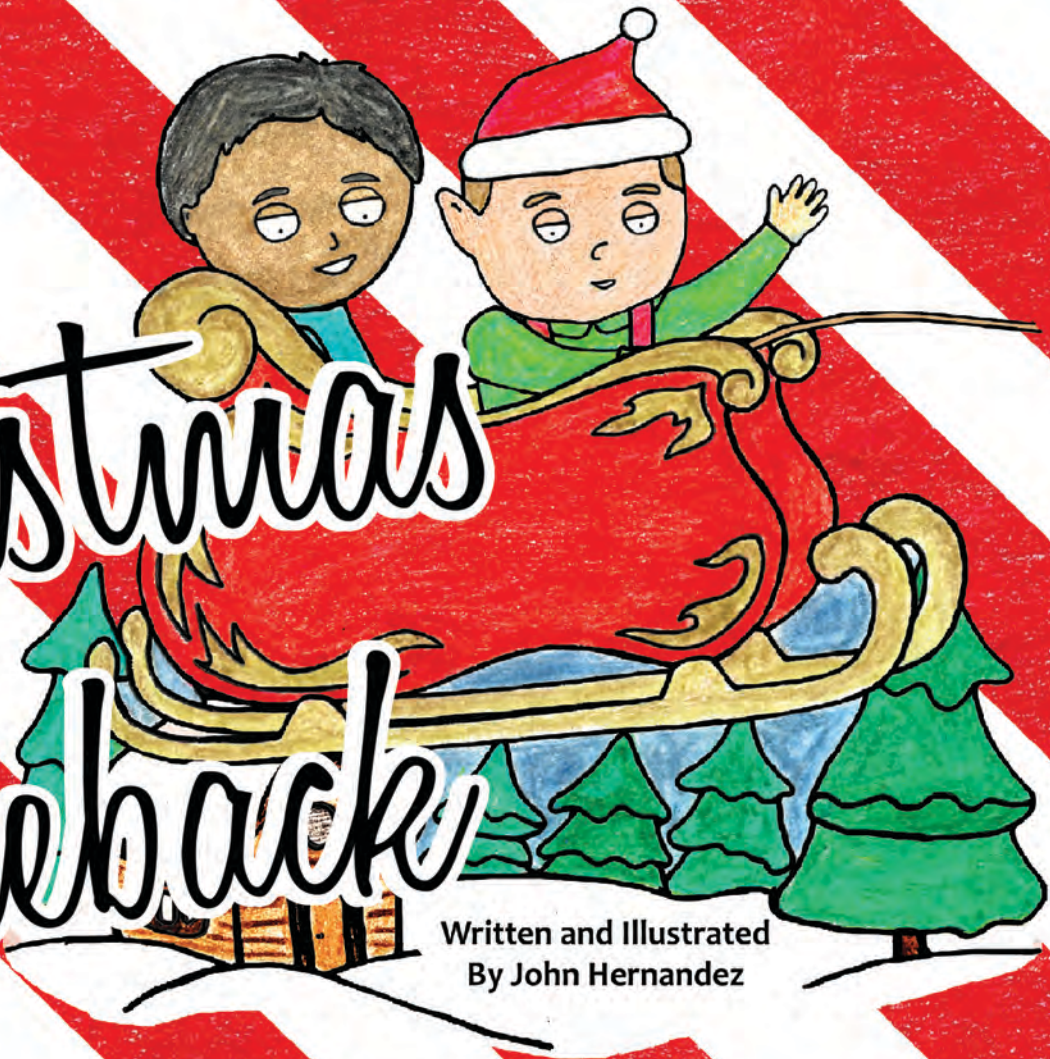
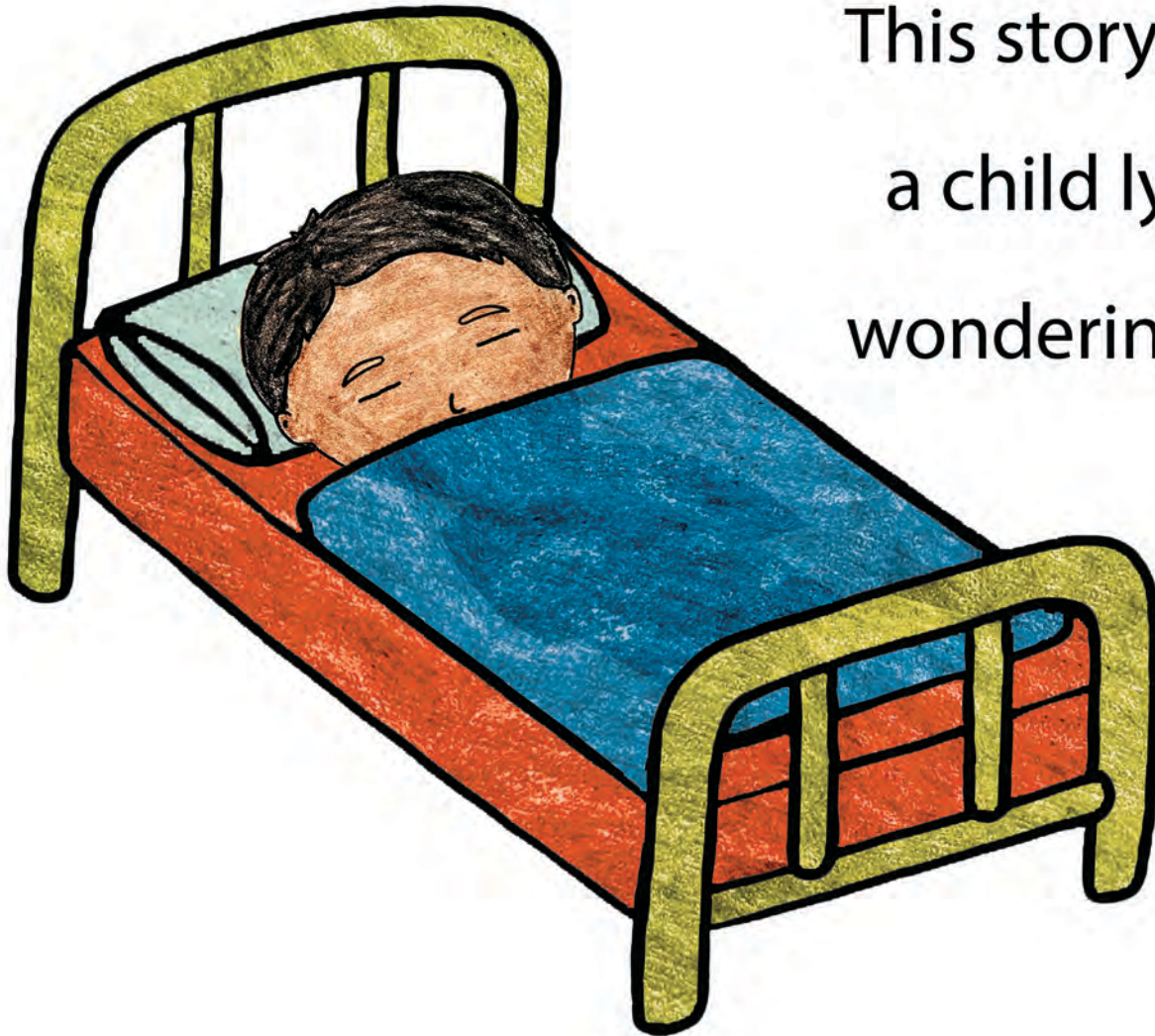


# The Christmas Comeback



Written and Illustrated  
By John Hernandez





This story begins with  
a child lying in bed,  
wondering one thing.



“How can Santa fly through the air delivering millions of gifts to kids everywhere?” Rogan asks his mom. “Good cheer. Now go to sleep. Remember, tomorrow we go see Santa.” She kissed Rogan and left the room.





Rogan wakes up and heads downstairs for breakfast. "Did you make your bed and brush your teeth?" Mom asked. Rogan lied. "Yes," he said, but he didn't make his bed or brush his teeth. "It's time to go, grab a puzzle for the car ride," mom said. "NO, you go and get me one," Rogan yelled. They were running late, so Mom gathered their things, and they headed out the door.



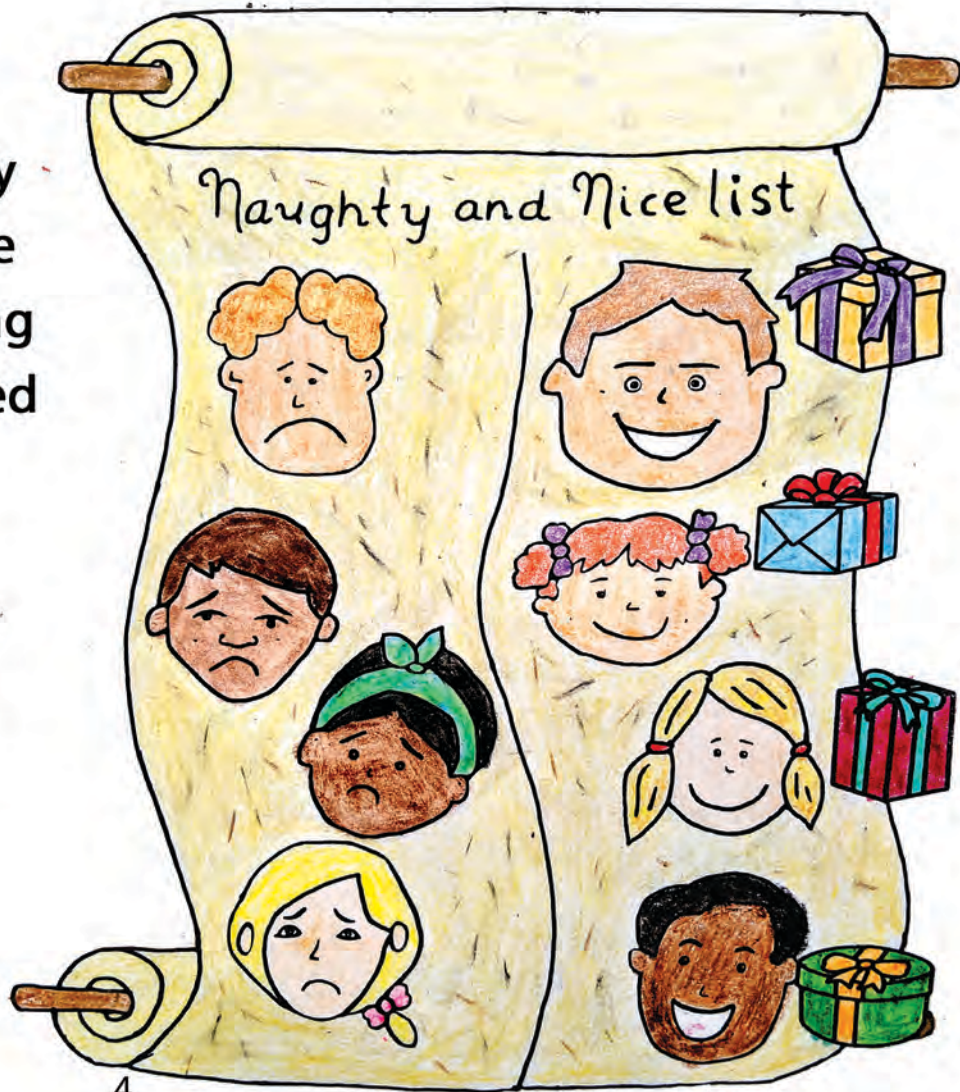


“Just in time, come with me, I’ll take you to see the big man,” said the Elf. “Ho, Ho, Ho,” Santa cheered. Rogan immediately started telling Santa his wish list: “I want a bike, candy, blocks...” “Slow down Big Guy, before we get to your list, have you been naughty or nice this year?” “Nice,” said Rogan.





"I just need to check with my head Elf." The Elf checked the list and whispered something to Santa. "My Elf has informed me today you lied to and yelled at your Mom. That's not going to get you on the nice list. That behavior will have you placed on the naughty list." "Nooooooo." Rogan exclaimed.





“There is one way to make it back on the nice list. The Christmas Comeback, earn five Comeback Tickets for being courageous, kind, helpful, honest and respectful before Christmas and you’re back on the Nice List. Can you do it?”  
“YES I can!”



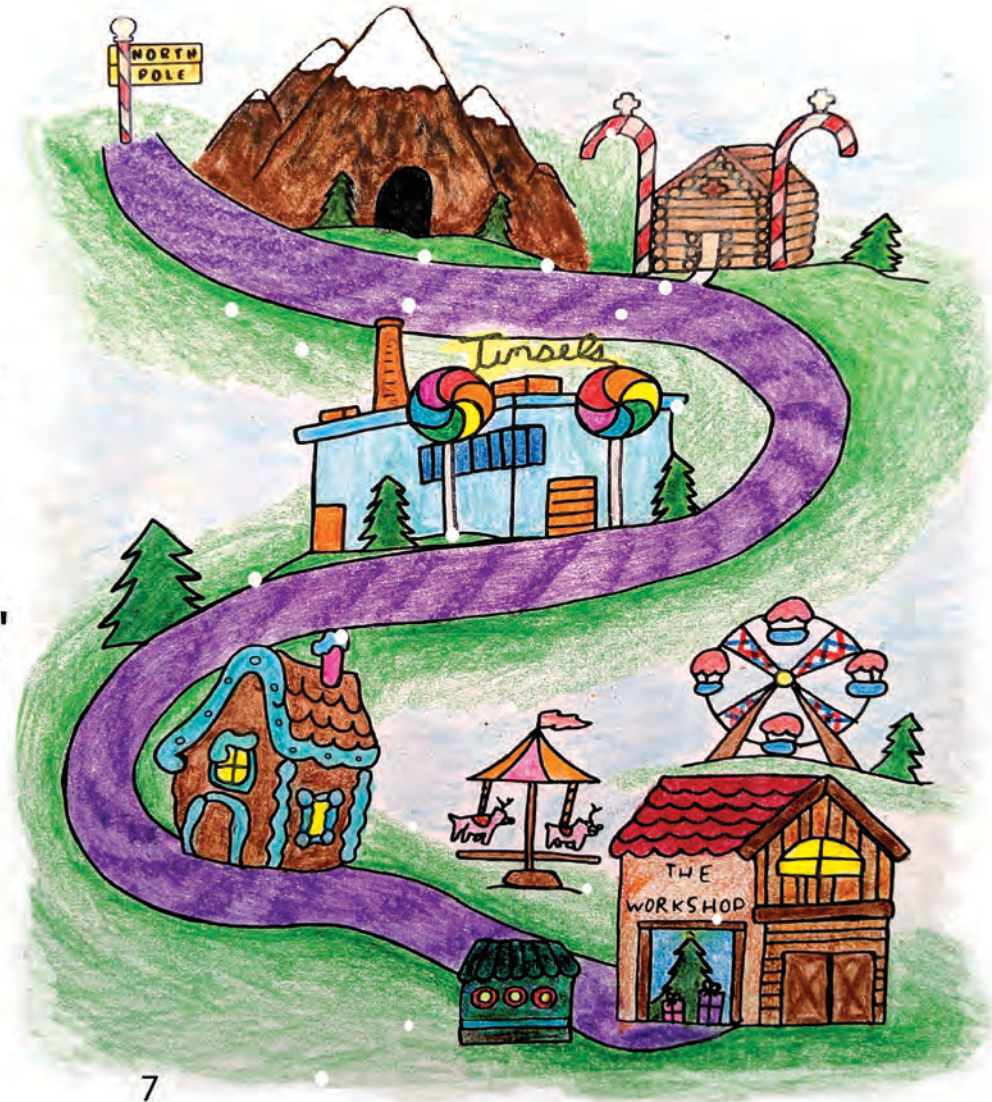


Not sure what all the words meant, at dinner, he asked his mom to explain respect, courage, and honesty. Rogan went to bed thinking of ways to earn the tickets. Fast asleep, he woke up when an elf threw a snowball at his window. "Santa needs you at his workshop in the North Pole," the elf said.





"Follow this map. It will lead you to Santa's Workshop. Along the way, you will need to stop at Dr. Candy Cane's Cabin, Tinsel's Sweet Shop, and the Ginger Bread Village." Rogan took the map and began his adventure.





Rogan stopped walking the trail when he heard a voice yelling, "Help! Help!" It was coming from a dark cave. "I have courage," he shouted and entered the cave. He saved an elf named Penny. "You're a hero," Penny said and kissed Rogan on the cheek. They traveled together to Dr. Candy Cane's Cabin.





Rogan waved goodbye to Dr. Cane and Penny, and headed for Tinsel's Sweet Shop. There he met an elf named Tinsel. She needed someone to deliver the most excellent, most delicious Rainbow Lollypop to Santa. "Can I trust you to bring this to his workshop?" She asked. "Yes, I promise," Rogan said.





He arrived at the Ginger Bread Village, and some elves needed help gluing walls for a new gingerbread house. Rogan volunteered to operate the frosting cannon. When he finished, they gave him a cup of hot cocoa with whipped cream and marshmallows on top.



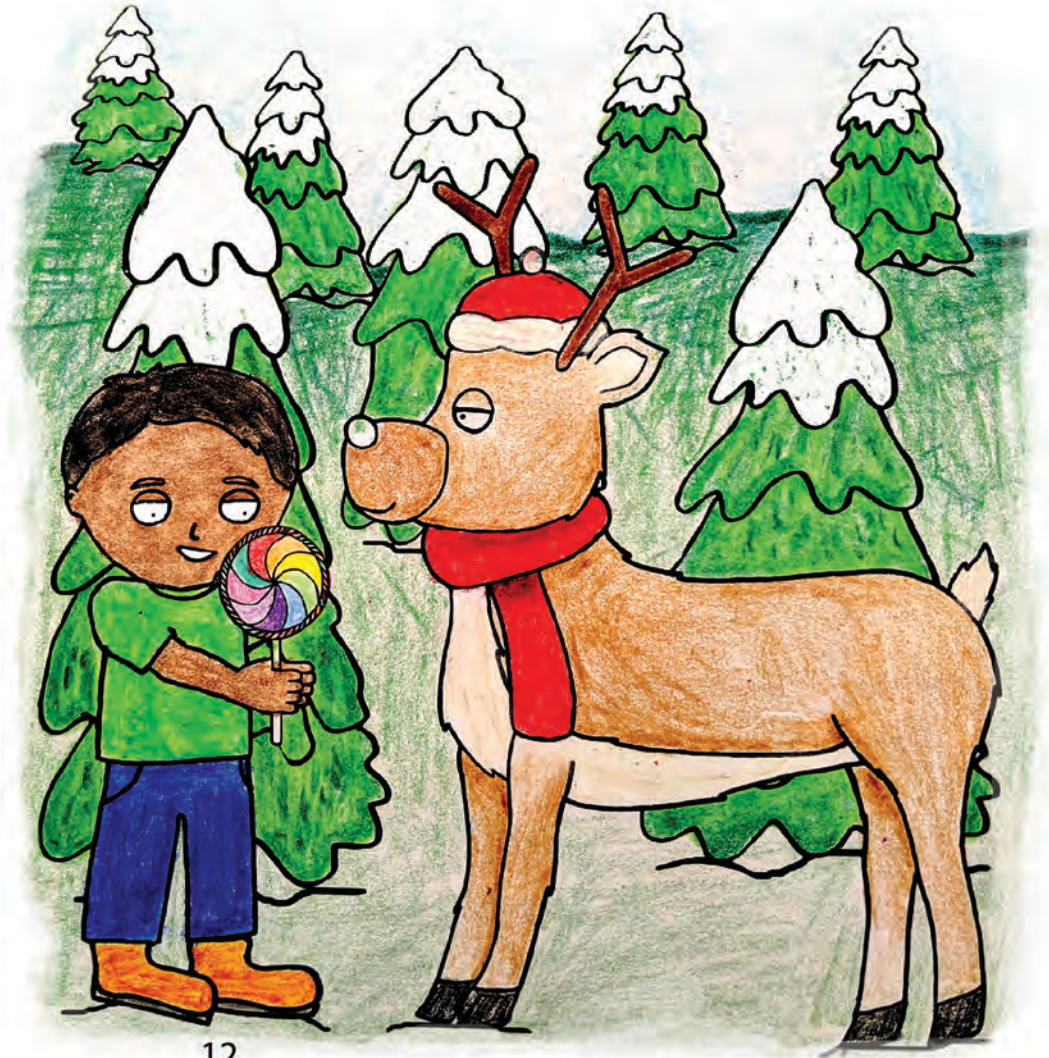


Back on the trail, Rogan met an elf named Cotton. He looked upset and told Rogan some elves were bullying him at school. "Think about something or someone you love if kids are acting mean. Love makes us strong!" Rogan said.



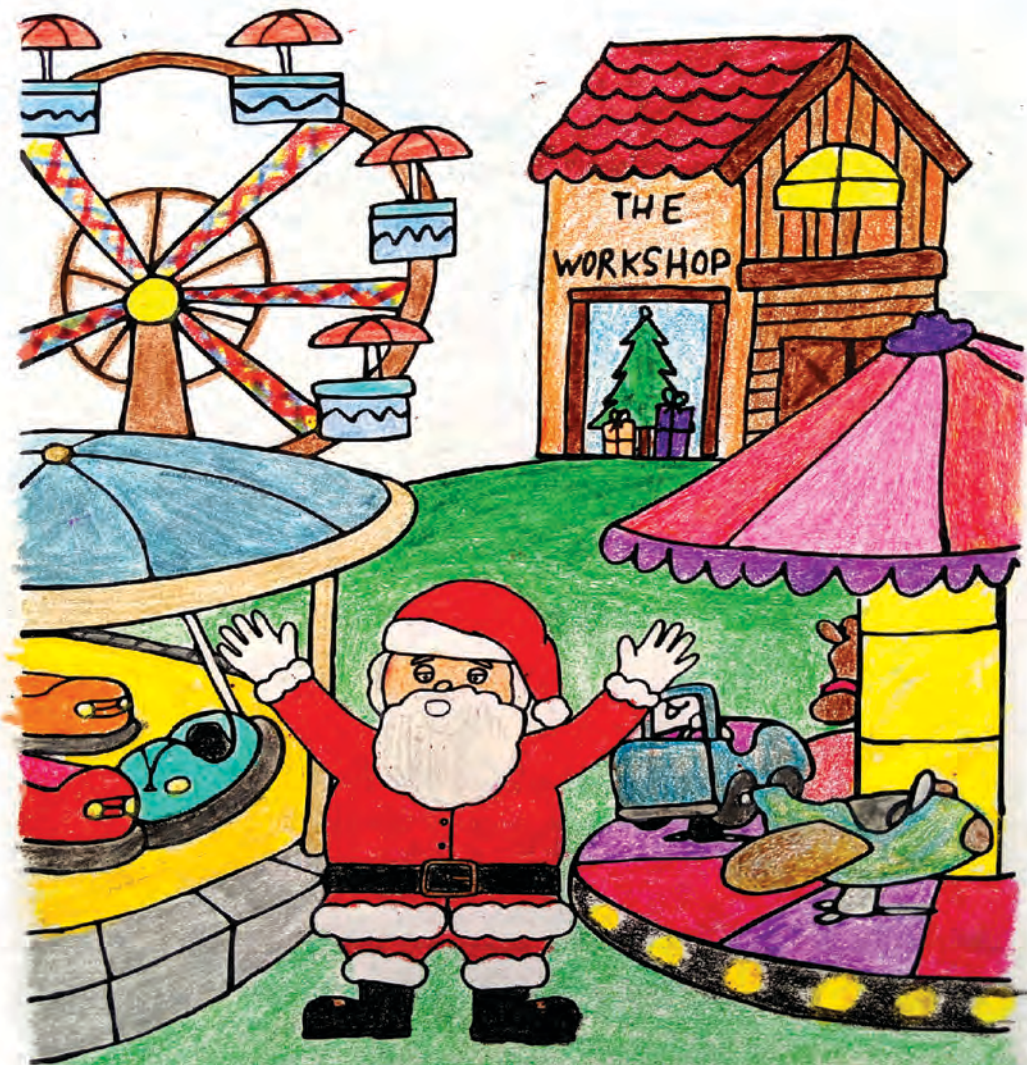


Tired of walking the trail, he decided to take a break. A reindeer approached him and asked if he would like a ride to Santa's Workshop? "It cost one Rainbow Lollypop," the reindeer said. Rogan wanted a ride, but he promised to bring the Rainbow Lollypop to Santa.





When Rogan arrived at Santa's Workshop, he was having a Christmas Carnival with games, lights, and rides everywhere. "Ho, Ho, Ho, you made it. Did you bring the Rainbow Lollypop?" Santa Asked. If Rogan kept his promise and returned the lollypop, continue to page 14. If Rogan broke his promise and didn't return the lollypop, skip to page 16.





Rogan handed the candy to Santa.  
“Now I have something for you...

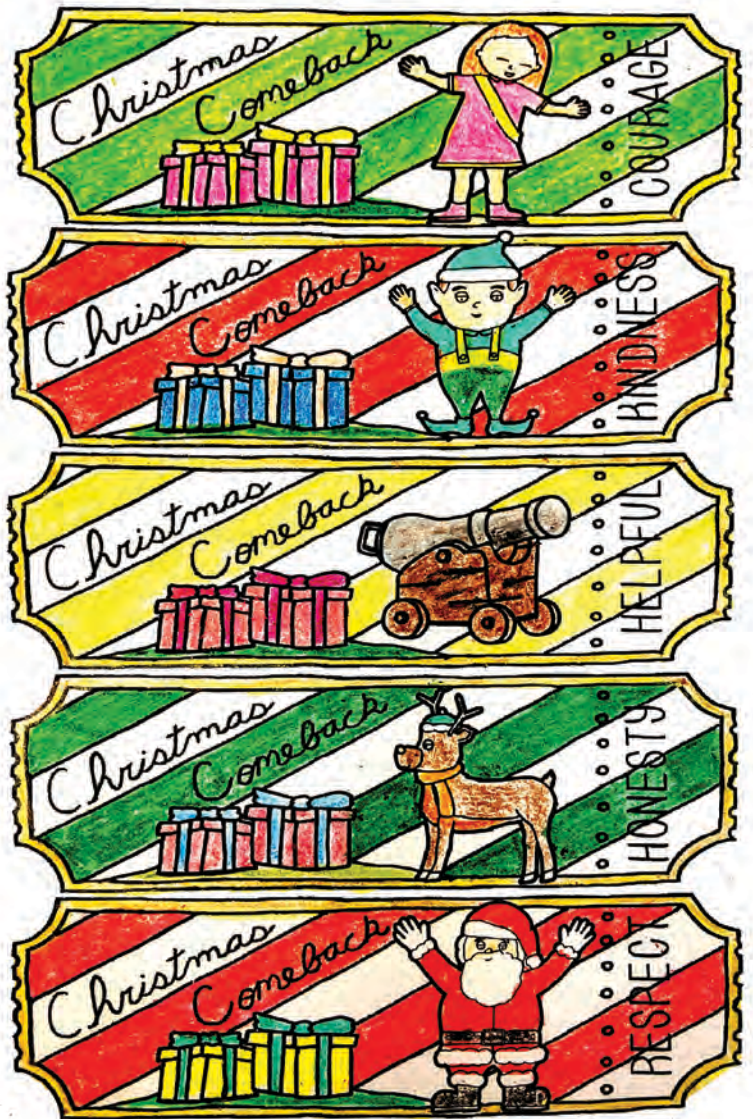
For going into a dark cave to save  
Penny, the ticket for courage.

For helping a young elf feel better,  
the ticket for Kindness.

For holding the frosting cannon, the  
ticket for helpfulness.

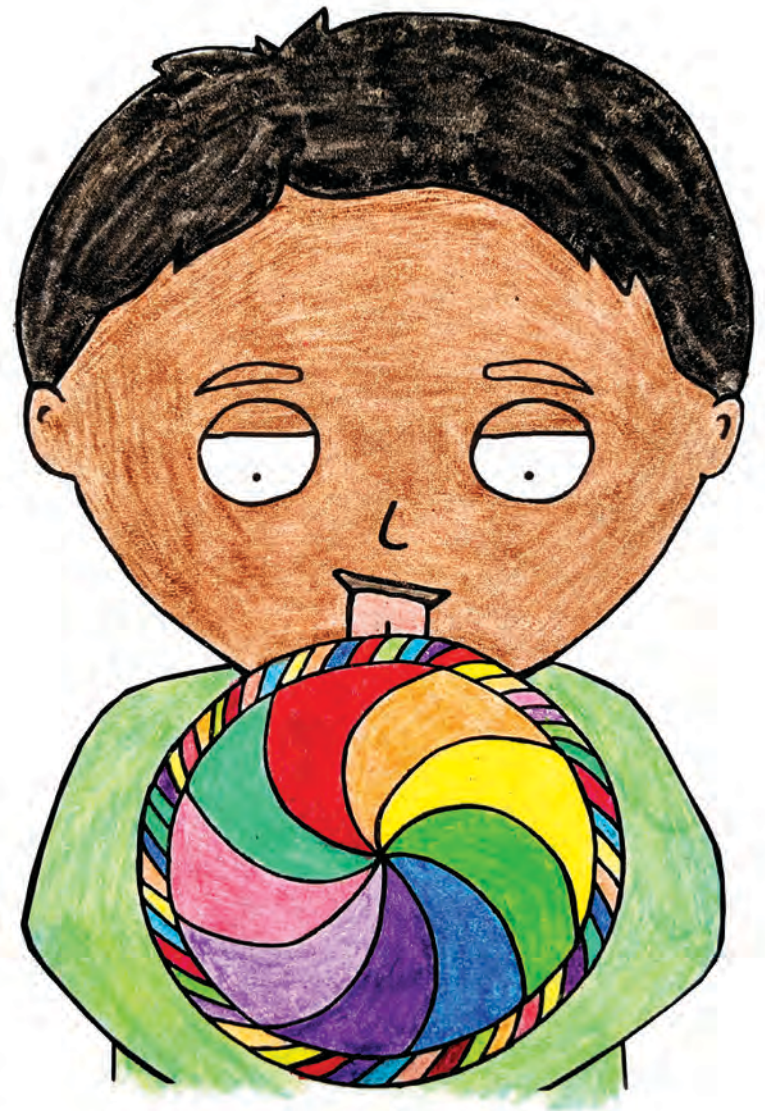
For not trading something that is  
not yours, the ticket for honesty.

Finally for keeping your promise  
to return the lollypop, the ticket  
for respect.





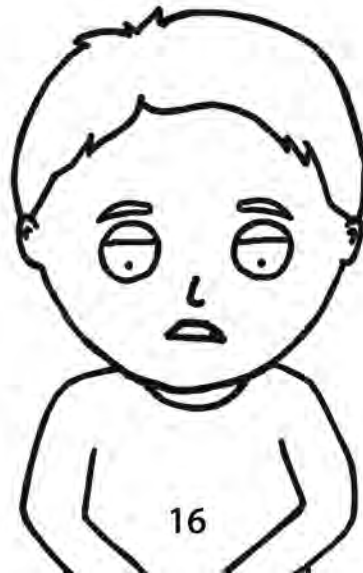
Christmas day arrived. Rogan was in the middle of opening gifts when Mom handed him a small box. The tag on the gift read, "To Rogan a courageous and honest child." He opened the present and found a Rainbow Lollypop. Tinsel the Elf was right. It was the most delicious candy Rogan had ever tasted.





Christmas day arrived. Rogan broke his promise to Tinsel the Elf. Rogan didn't return the rainbow lollypop to Santa. Rogan didn't get a Rainbow lollypop for Christmas.

Next time you have the choice, to be honest choose wisely and follow your heart. Always remember, you are good.





YEAR(s) 20\_\_ 20\_\_ 20\_\_ 20\_\_ 20\_\_

✓

✓

Earn your tickets every year.

✓

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