

TEACHING CHILDREN TO USE THEIR WORDS WISELY

CHLOE *and*  
*THE*  
Closet  
— OF —  
SECRETS

A BOOK ABOUT LYING



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For Jennifer, Jake, Ansley, Aly, Kate, and Josie.

The LORD bless you and keep you;  
the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;  
the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.

Numbers 6:24-26

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 John 1:9





It was just after dawn. I lay still in my bed  
as sweet dreams from the night whirled around in my head.

When all of a sudden Dad yelled, "Don't be late!  
Get up and get moving. We're leaving at eight."

"I am up," I replied, with no effort to rise.  
I rolled over slowly and covered my eyes.

And that's when I felt it, down under my sheet.  
It was **WIGGLING** wildly, tickling my feet.



I jumped up with a start when it crawled on my knee.  
I yanked back the blanket and looked underneath.

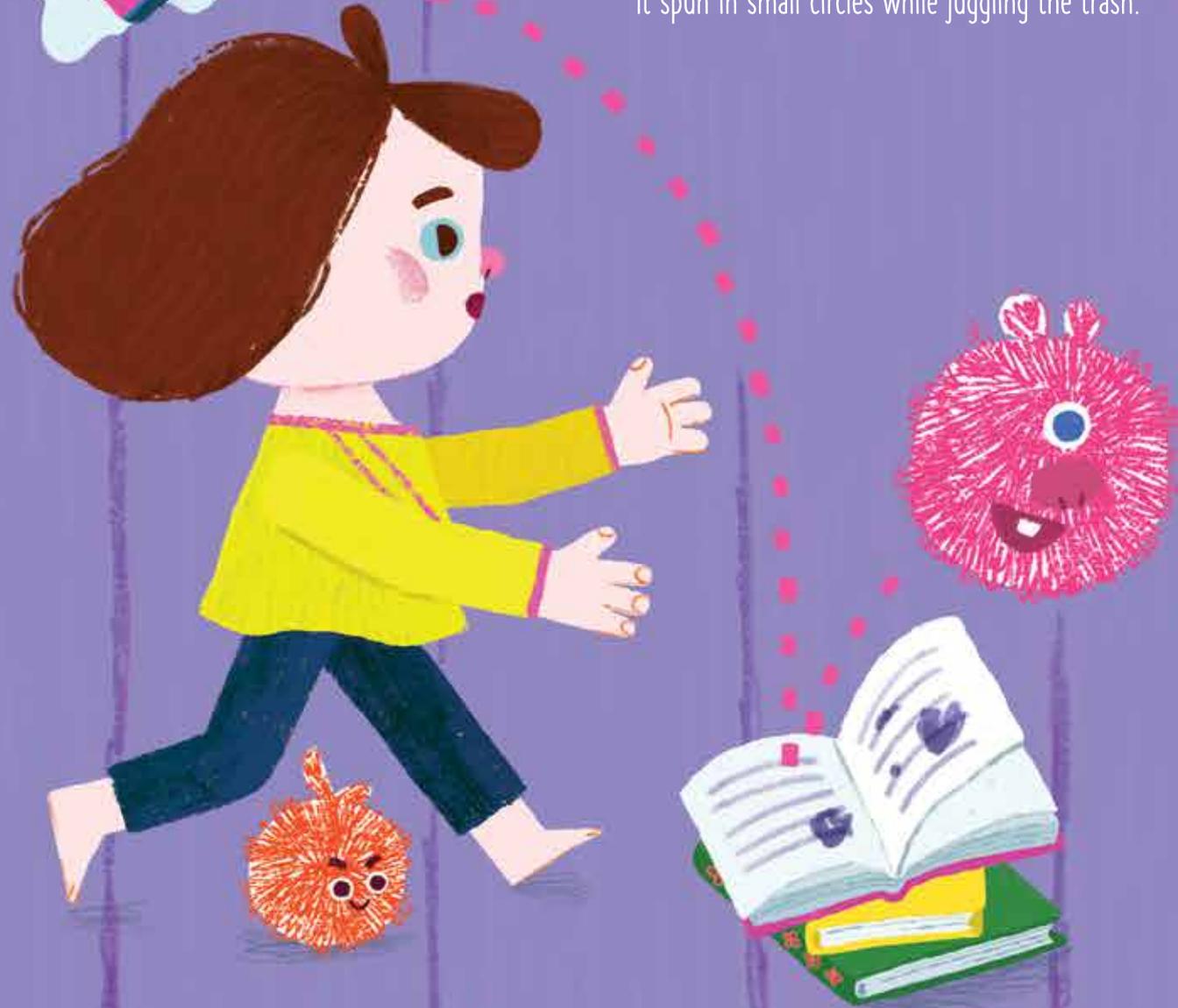
As soon as it saw me it bounced off my bed.  
A strange looking creature. Small, fluffy, and red.

"I don't hear you moving," Dad said through the door.  
"Are you all dressed and ready? Have you finished your chore?"

My heart started pounding when I answered, "Yes, Dad."  
I'd not emptied my trash and I sort of felt bad.

And then out of nowhere a new creature appeared,  
kind of cute like the first, but it growled and it sneered.

It was fluffy and pink and obnoxiously brash.  
It spun in small circles while juggling the trash.



It had only one tooth and an eye, colored blue.  
It **BOUNCED** over my books and it drooled on my shoe.

It emptied my toybox and knocked over my shelf.  
Then rolled around laughing as if proud of itself.

