

The book cover features a vibrant illustration of a pond scene. At the top, a wooden sign with a blue border contains the text 'BOOK 2' and 'Little Glass Lake'. A ladybug is perched on the top of the sign, and a butterfly is flying nearby. Below the sign, a boy is rowing a red boat on the water. In the foreground, two large green turtles with yellow spots are on a log, and a smaller one is in the water. In the background, a woman and a child are walking on the shore. The scene is framed by tall green reeds and a blue sky with a sun.

BOOK 2

Little Glass Lake

Turtles



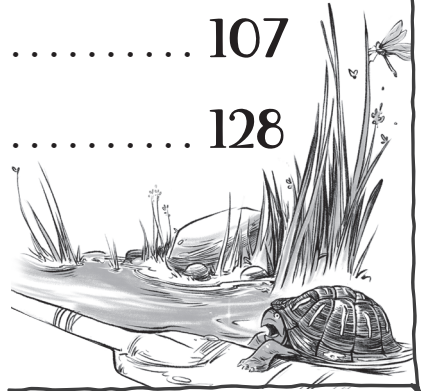
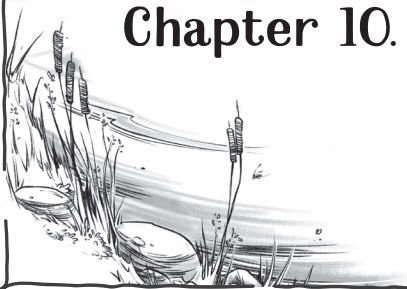
THE GOOD AND THE BEAUTIFUL LIBRARY

Jenny Phillips



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Chapter 1



Holly breathed in the smell of freshly mowed grass and marveled at dewdrops sparkling in the sun.

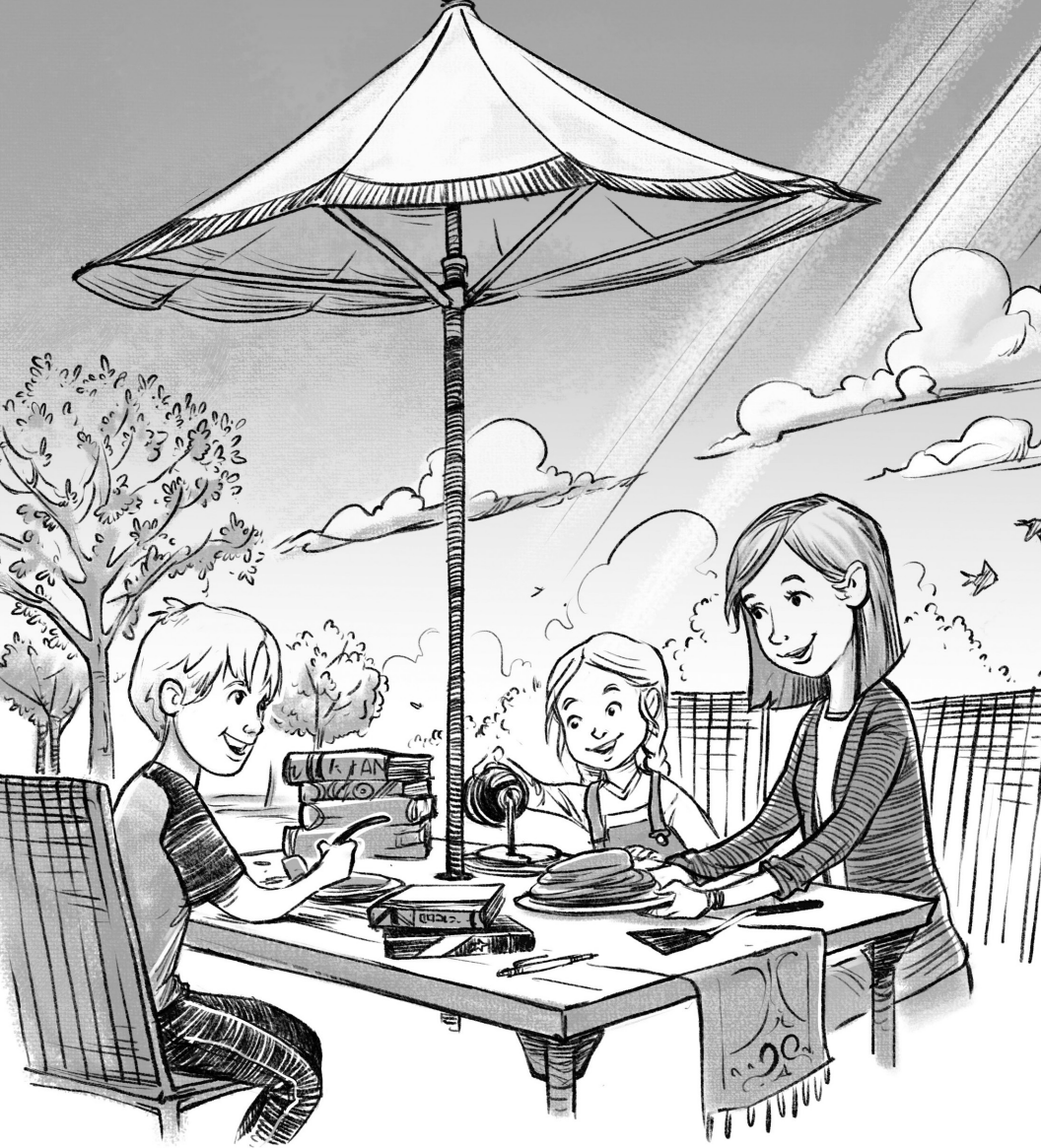
Spring was in full bloom at Little Glass Lake. Orange poppies nodded in the breeze, and the apple trees in Holly's

yard were covered with thousands of tender green leaves.

Holly, her mom, and her brother Henry sat around a big table on the back porch. A stack of pancakes and a stack of books sat on the table.

“I love doing school outside in spring!” Holly bubbled.





“Me too!” Holly’s mom
smiled.

“Me three!” Henry said.

“Well,” said Holly’s mom, “now that we have prayed, let’s dig into these pancakes.”

Breakfast, history, and math whizzed by as the twittering birds filled the air with songs.

After chores and piano practice, the sun had gotten quite hot, so Holly

curled up on the couch with a book to read.

With a playful smile on his face, Henry walked into the room with his hands behind his back.

“Have you finished all of your chores?” he asked.

“Yep!” Holly said as she closed her book.

Henry pulled a beach towel from behind his

back and tossed it to her.

“Well, then! Want to go swimming in the lake? It’s finally warm enough. Mom said we can go today.”

In five big leaps, Holly bounced across the room and disappeared through the door as she called, “I’ll be in my swimsuit in a jiffy!”

While skipping to the lake next to Henry and her mom, Holly smiled. “I love swimming in Little Glass Lake!”

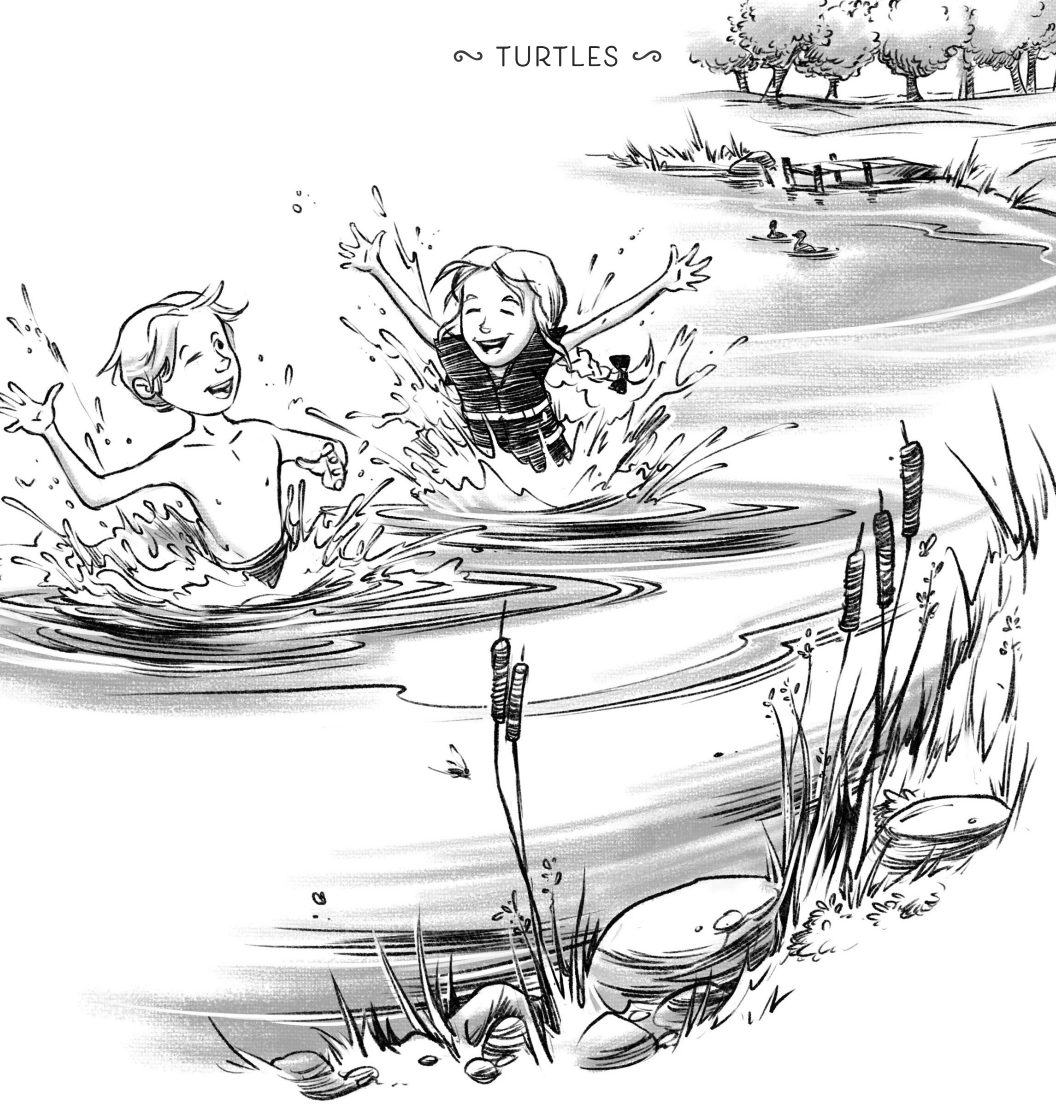
Mom insisted that Holly wear her life jacket while in the lake until she was a teenager. Because she was eight years old, she had five more years of wearing a life jacket. She

didn't love wearing it, but she understood why the rule was important.

As the deep blue sky smiled above them, Holly and Henry ran down their favorite grassy slope by the lake and jumped into the cool water.

Holly's mom laid out a blanket on the grass and sat down to watch the





kids swim and enjoy the
warm spring day.

I feel like a silvery fish,

Holly thought as she swam around in the water.

After a while, Henry and Holly launched their small rowboat into the water and floated around lazily. A little breeze began to ripple the water and dry Holly's wet hair. She closed her eyes and leaned her head back, enjoying both the warmth of the

sun and the freshness of the breeze.

Without warning, Henry splashed Holly with an oar.

“Oh! You’ll pay for that!” Holly said with a big grin as she began splashing Henry back with her own oar.

Then the oar slid through her wet hands

and plunked into the water. The light breeze had created a gentle current in the lake, and the oar started floating away.

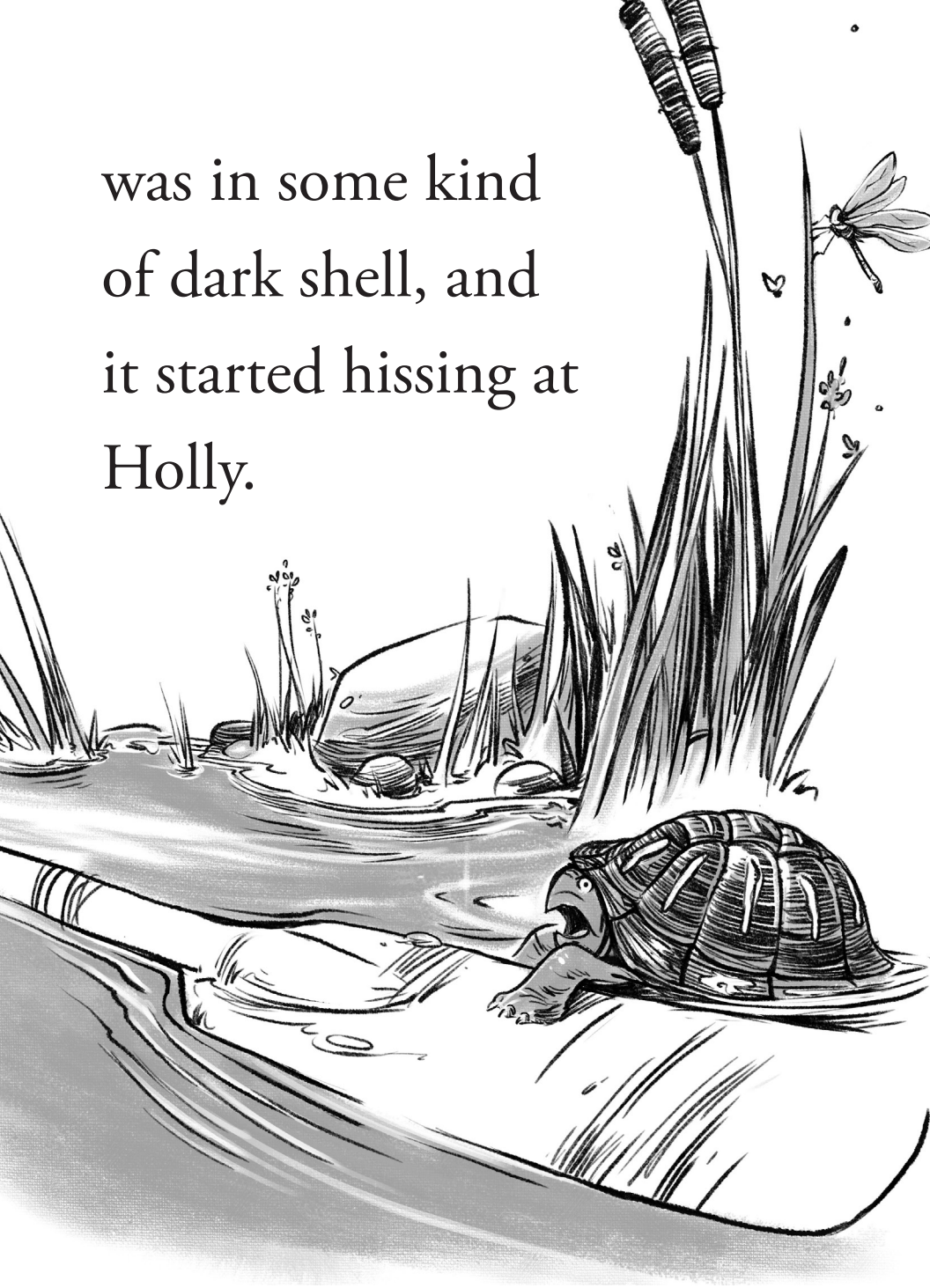
“I’ll get it!” Holly called, jumping so quickly from the boat that it rocked wildly and tipped Henry out.

Laughing, the siblings

both swam over to the reeds where the oar had floated. Holly got there first and saw the end of the oar.

She reached for the oar and then jerked her hand back and screamed. There in the reeds she saw a little face with yellow eyes and a slimy brown head staring at her. The head

was in some kind
of dark shell, and
it started hissing at
Holly.



Little Glass Lake

Turtles



The beginning of summer brings warmer days and a new animal resident to Little Glass Lake: a turtle! But Holly thinks turtles are scary. Will she ever be able to go swimming in the lake again? Join Holly and the other Little Glass Lake residents, as well as some special visitors, for another wonderful tale about the bonds of faith, family, and friendship.



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