

My Ears Are Not Broken

Written by Holly Dainton

Illustrated by Tara Trimble

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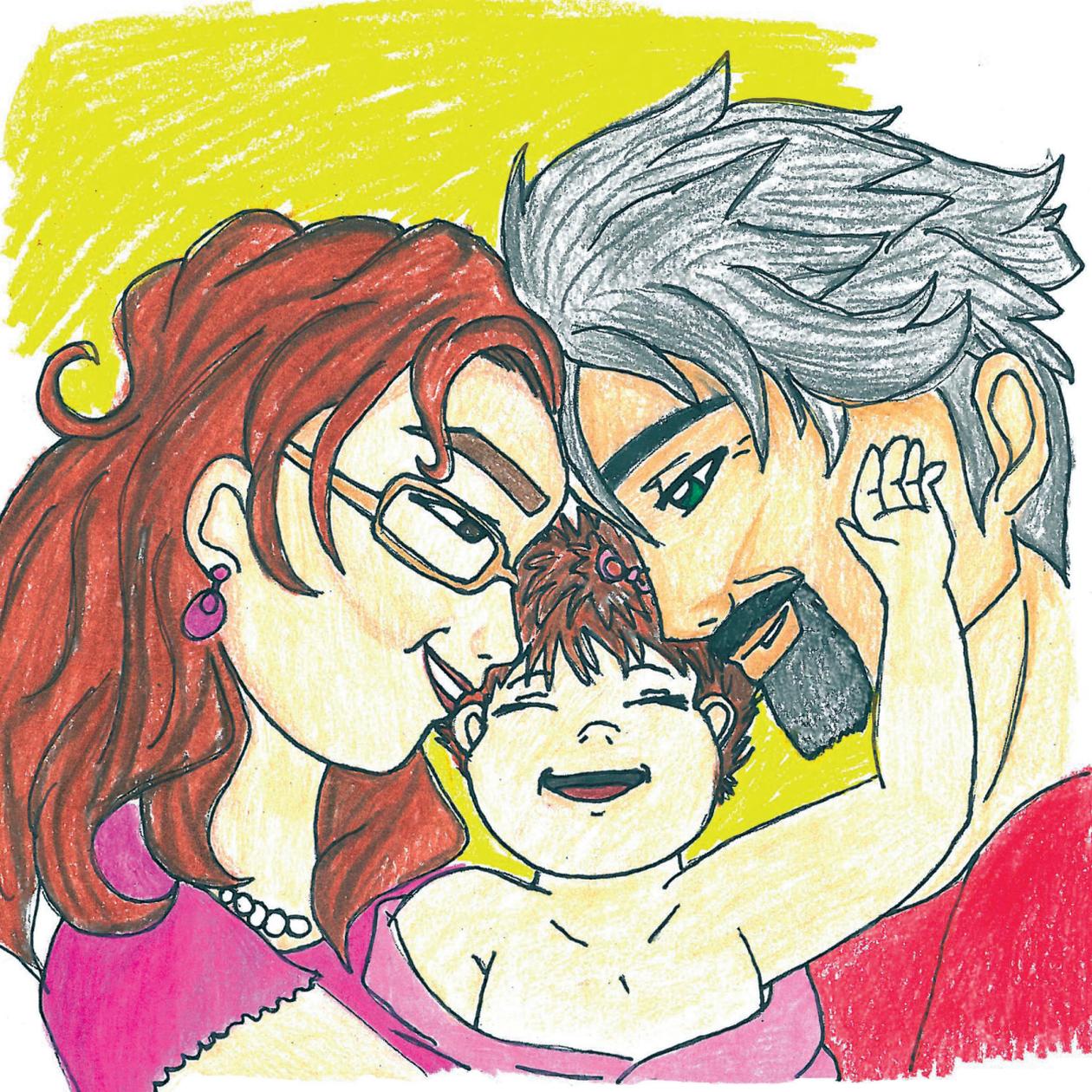
Written by: Holly Dainton

Illustrated by: Tara Trimble

Layout by: Jolynn Stinehagen

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Once upon a time, not so long ago,
there was a little girl named Sadie.

After she was born, Sadie's parents
learned that Sadie was deaf.



Her mother loved Sadie very much,
but was sad that something was
“wrong” with her daughter.







One day, Sadie's mother was excited. She told Sadie a doctor could "fix" her ears.

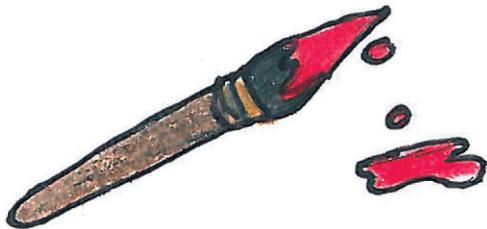
Sadie didn't understand what her mother meant.

As the years passed, Sadie learned about herself and her world.

Sadie had many friends at her school.



Sadie grew and dreamed about her future
just like other girls her age.



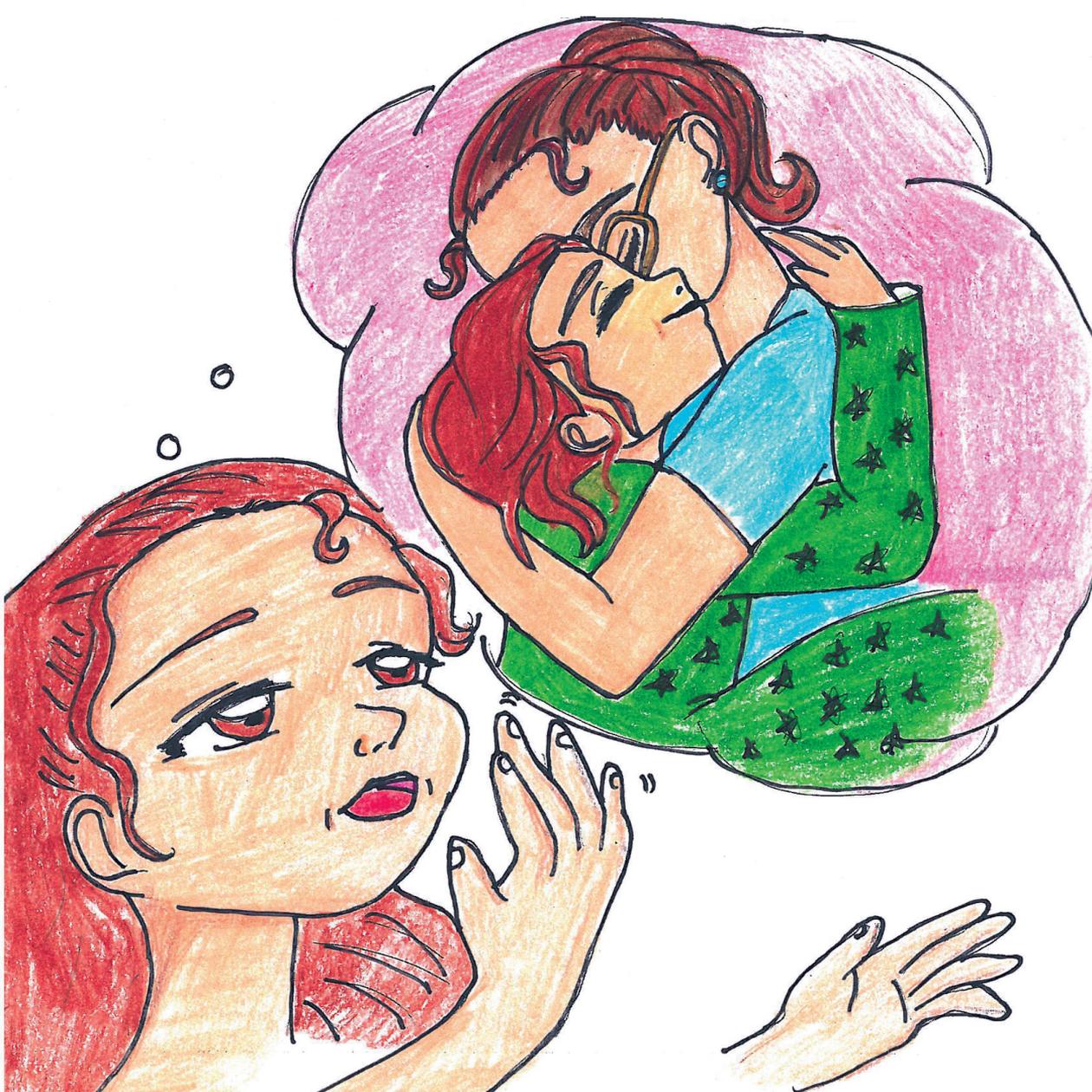


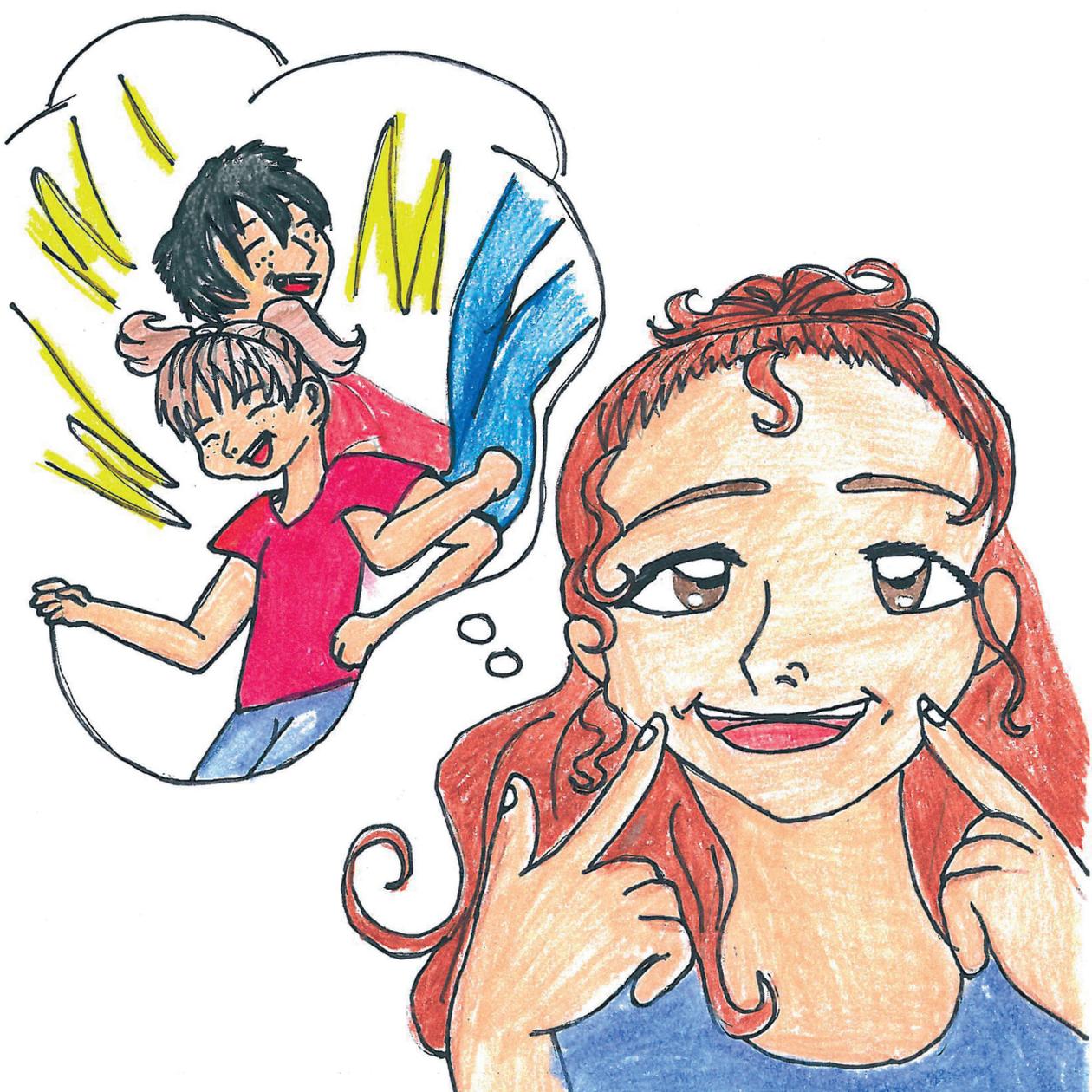


One day, her mother said something again about the doctor “fixing” her ears.

Sadie looked at her mother for a moment and then signed ...

“Even though I can’t hear you say, ‘I love you,’ I can feel your love in the warmth of your arms when you hug me.”





“Even though I can’t hear the laughter of the neighborhood children, I can see their happiness in the smiles on their faces.”

“Even though I may not hear things going
on around me, I am very much aware of
the beauty of creation,

the wonder in life...





... and the possibilities that lie ahead for me.”

“I may not hear the birds sing, but I feel their freedom as I watch them soar.”



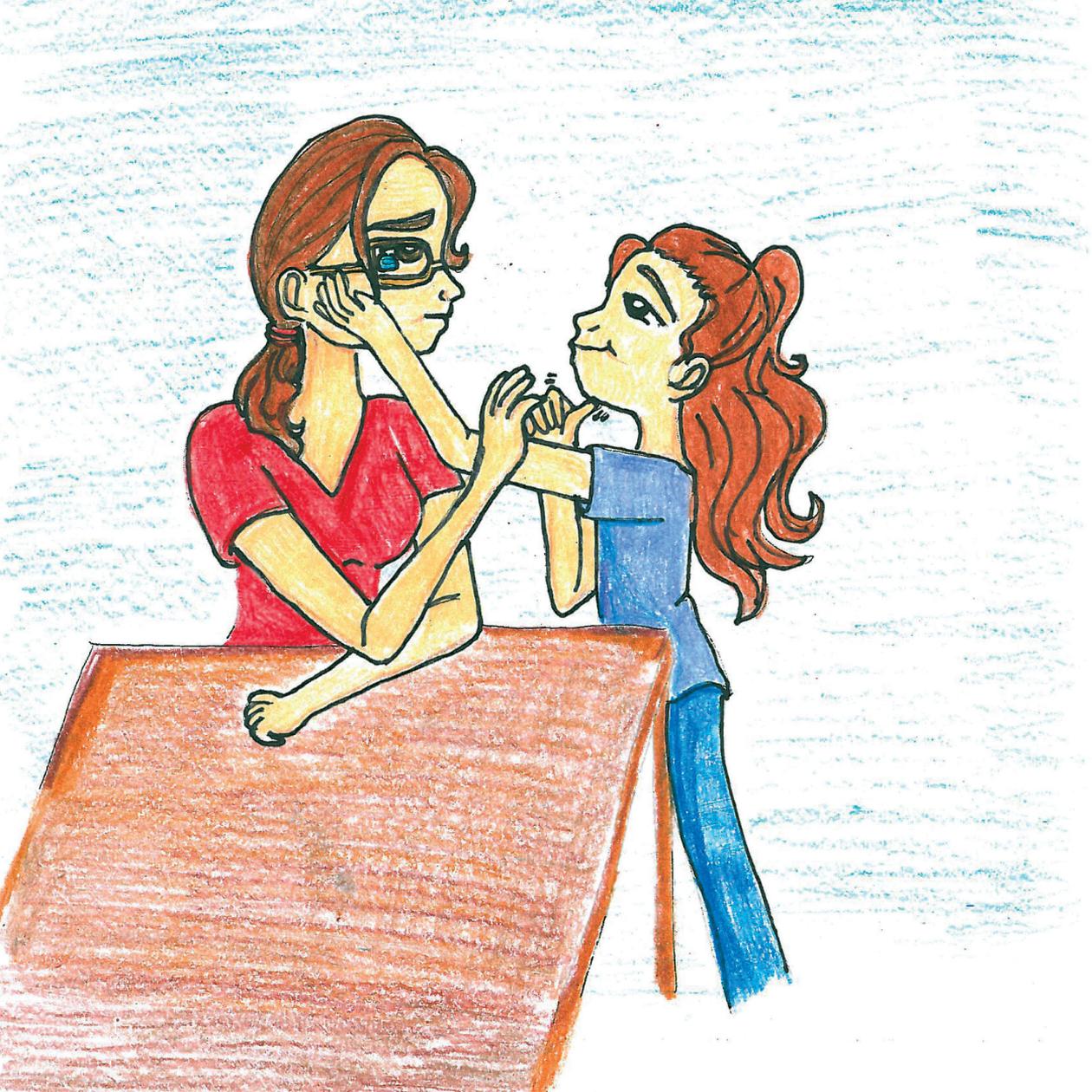
“I am not ‘missing’ anything,

nor am I broken...



...I am fearfully and wonderfully made,
just as God planned.”





“So do not be sad for me...instead cry for those who don't have love, joy and happiness in their lives.

I am not missing anything.”

With a tear in her eye, Sadie's mother looked at her beautiful daughter and was amazed at her wisdom.

It was then that she finally realized her baby was not "broken."

In fact, she was more whole than most people.



She simply held Sadie in her arms
and signed, "I love you."



About the Author:



Holly Dainton taught at St. Rita School for the Deaf in Cincinnati, Ohio, for 11 years. This story was inspired by artist Tara Trimble and the other students in her second-grade class during her first year of teaching.

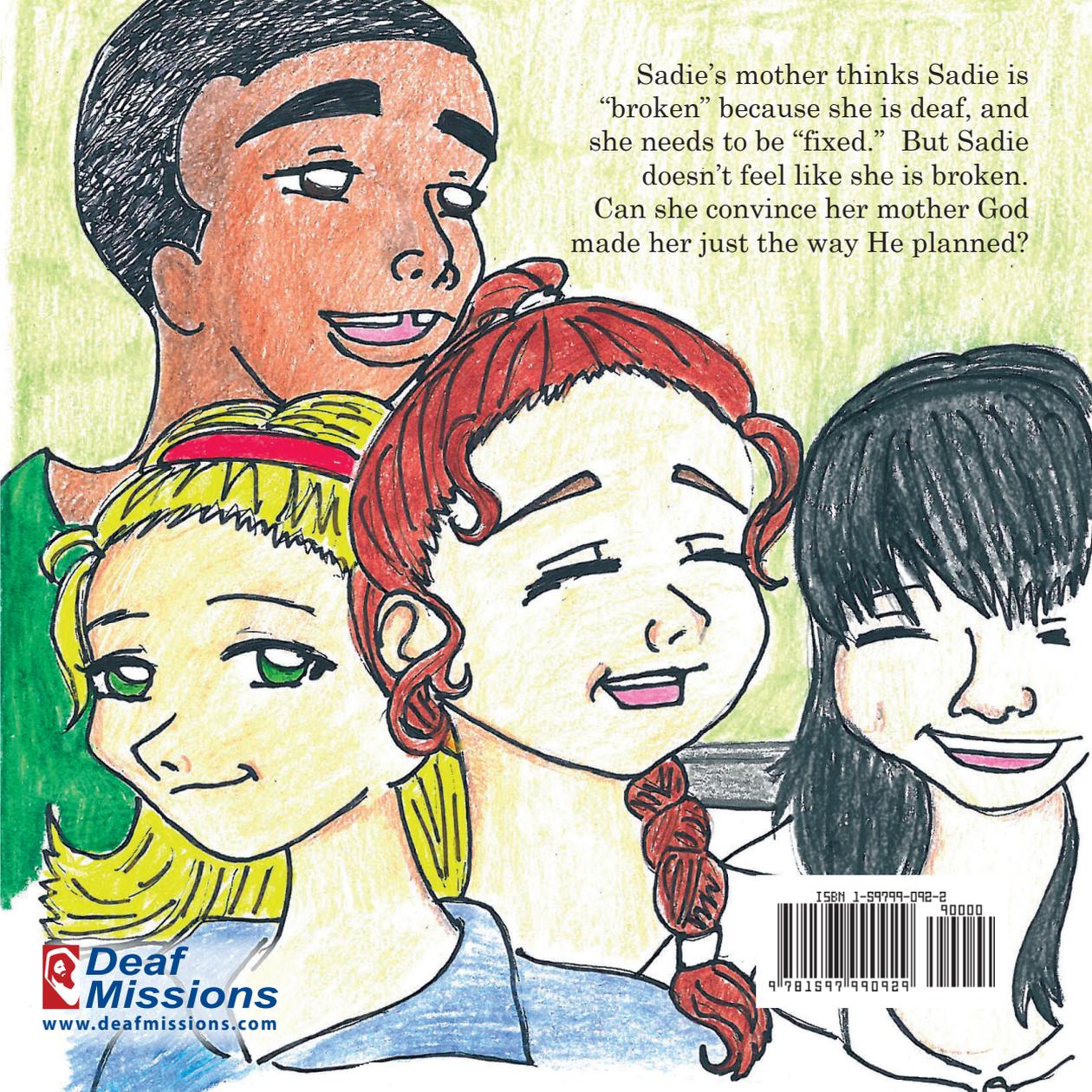
Holly currently resides in Hamilton, Ohio, with her husband and two children. She teaches special education in a nearby public school district and is involved in the Deaf ministry at her church.

About the Illustrator:



Tara Trimble graduated from high school at St. Rita School for the Deaf in 2008. Her love for the anime art style began when she saw the classic anime show, “Sailor Moon,” when she was eight years old. She is grateful for art teachers at St. Rita who helped her develop her artistic skills, including Catherine Wharton, Kathy Ferraro and Krishna Murvin. She is also thankful for the opportunity to express herself through art and help Holly share this wonderful story.

Tara currently lives in Texas and is pursuing her dream to become a graphic novel artist and an art therapist.



Sadie's mother thinks Sadie is "broken" because she is deaf, and she needs to be "fixed." But Sadie doesn't feel like she is broken. Can she convince her mother God made her just the way He planned?

