From Super Bowl champion and literacy crusader Malcolm Mitchell comes a story that shows all kids there’s a book out there for everyone!

Meet Henley, an all-around good kid, who hates to read. When he’s supposed to be reading, he would rather do anything else. But one day, he gets the scariest homework assignment in the world: find your favorite book to share with the class tomorrow.

What’s a kid to do? How can Henley find a story that speaks to everything inside of him?

Author and Super Bowl Champion Malcolm Mitchell considers a love of reading to be one of his greatest achievements. In 2016, he founded Share the Magic Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the benefits of reading and book ownership, especially among striving and below grade-level readers who are at risk of academic failure. The Foundation’s Read with Malcolm literacy initiatives are aimed at inspiring positive attitudes towards reading through in-school programs and national reading challenges. To date, Share the Magic Foundation has distributed over 50,000 books and served over 213,000 students through its Read with Malcolm literacy programs. To learn more about Malcolm’s vision to change children’s lives through literacy, please visit www.readwithmalcolm.com.

Also Available: The Magician’s Hat by Malcolm Mitchell, illustrated by Joanne Lew-Vriethoff
Hardcover: 9781338114546, $17.99
Ebook: 9781338276978, $10.99
“If you pick up a book and read, your life will never be the same.”
—Malcolm Mitchell

When Malcolm Mitchell was a child, the biggest challenge for him was reading—and finding books that he wanted to read. Every child is on their own path. For some, reading comes naturally; but for others, like Malcolm, reading can be challenging. The key to instilling a love of books in kids, and especially in reluctant readers, is to encourage them to read whatever they want!

The following discussion questions and activities can be used with younger and older children alike. After reading the book, discuss the questions below and have kids share connections they see between Henley’s story and their own life. Then, have readers complete the activities. Younger children, who are just beginning their reading journey, can enjoy the coloring sheet and the drawing activity. Older kids, who may need help building a positive relationship with books, can use the drawing and writing activities. Consider a child’s age and reading level to determine whether they might benefit more by focusing on text or pictures when completing the activities.

**Discussion Questions**

• Henley lets us know that finding your favorite book isn’t as easy as it sounds. Why is it so hard for him?

• On his way home from school, Henley visits the library and bookstore trying to find a special book. What are some of the places you go to find books?

• If Henley was your friend, what advice would you give him?

• In the front of the book, author Malcolm Mitchell shares about his struggles with reading. What is something you’ve struggled with, and how have you been helped?

• Henley’s mom tells him that the best stories can be found within ourselves. What does she mean by this?

**TIPS FOR READING ALOUD**

**R** is for Ritual: Read aloud for a few minutes every day, no matter where you are!

**E** is for enjoy: Find ways to fall in love with reading together with engaging books.

**A** is for affirm: Compliment children for engaging, responding, and helping turn the pages.

**D** is for dialogue: Stop periodically to wonder, exclaim, and ask questions.
Henley’s mom tells him that the best stories can be found within ourselves. What story can be found within you? Write the title and draw a picture for the cover of your book below.
When Henley struggles to find a book he likes, he decides to write his own story. If you were to tell your own story, what would you write about? Use these prompts to write your story. You can add more details and pictures to help tell your story—or tell your story just using pictures!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Beginning</strong></th>
<th><strong>Problem</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(ex: First, I wanted to ride my bike.)</td>
<td>(ex: Then, I saw that my tire was flat.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Solution</strong></th>
<th><strong>Ending</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(ex: Next, I went to a bike shop to get it fixed.)</td>
<td>(ex: I rode my bike.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>