



DEEDEE AND BIRD



By Edy Hansen
Illustrated by MonnieBiloney



To my daughters:
Mikaela, Simone, and Bethany
for being the best friends a Mom
could have. And to Bird, my very
first best friend.

-E.H.

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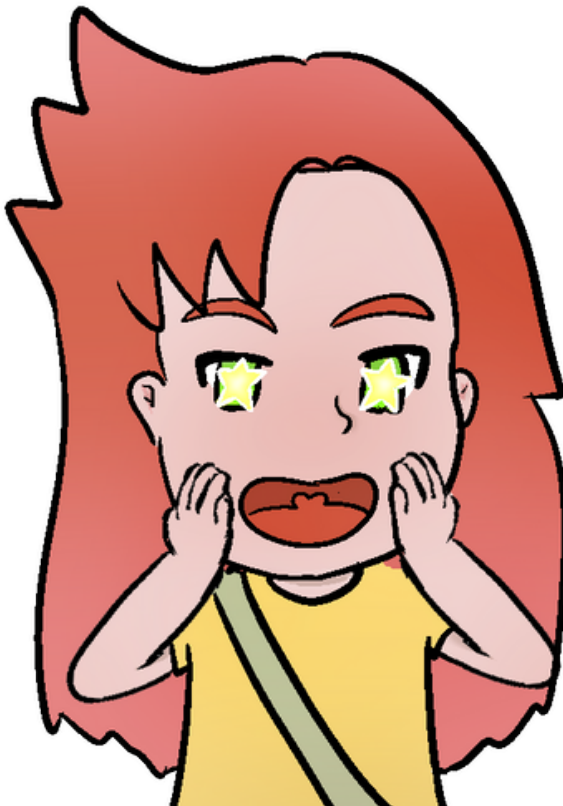
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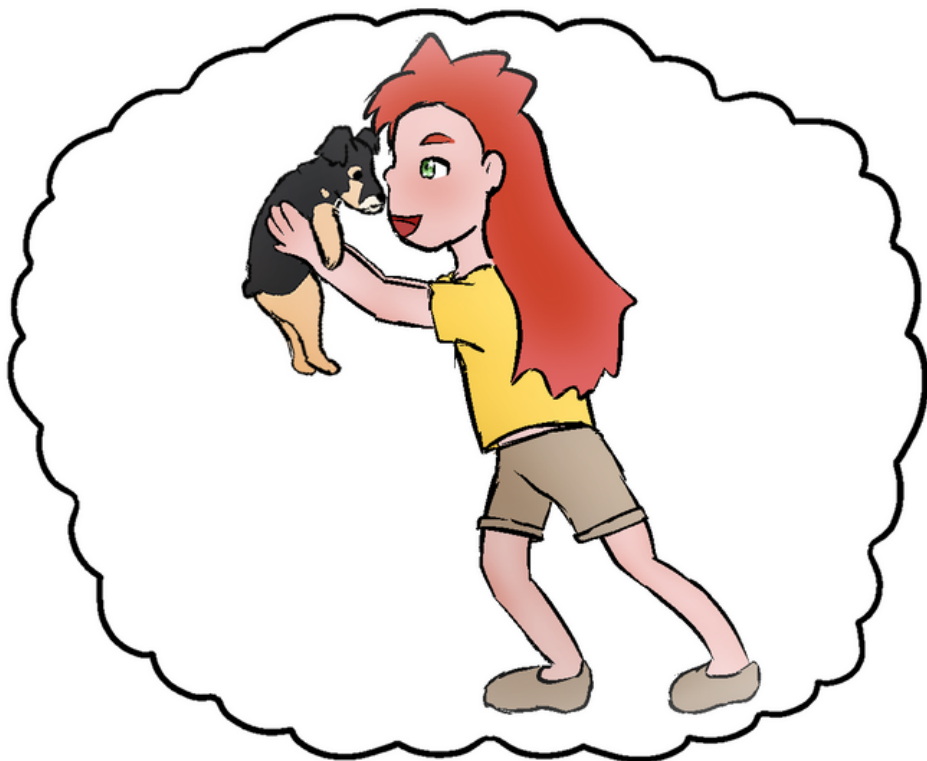


DEEDEE AND BIRD

The Best Day Ever



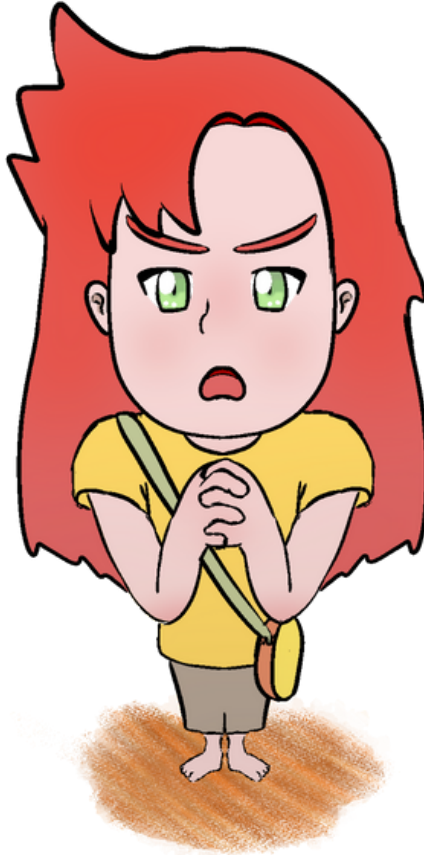
Deedee was an only child and
sometimes she felt a little lonely.



Deedee wished she had a brother,
sister, or a dog to play with.

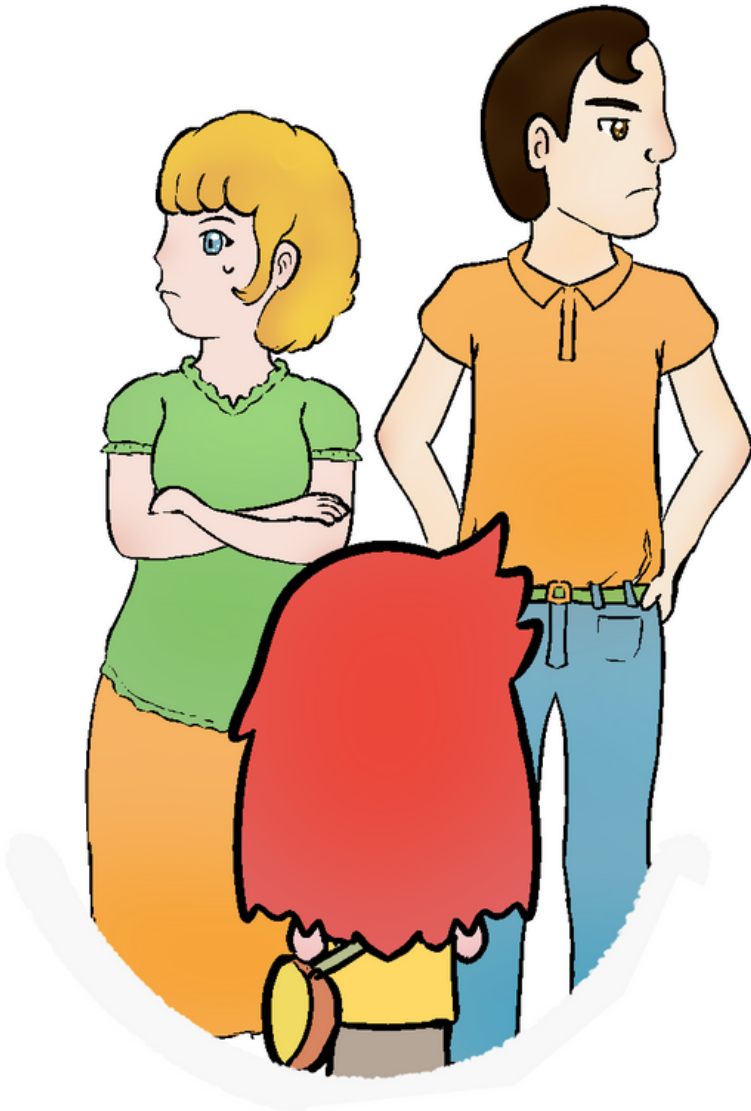
"Please," begged Deedee.

Dad said, "No."



"Please," begged Deedee.

Mom said, "I'm allergic."



"Please," begged Deedee.

Mom and Dad just gave her that
look and shook their heads.

"How about a cat?" begged Deedee.

"I'd take such good care of a cat."

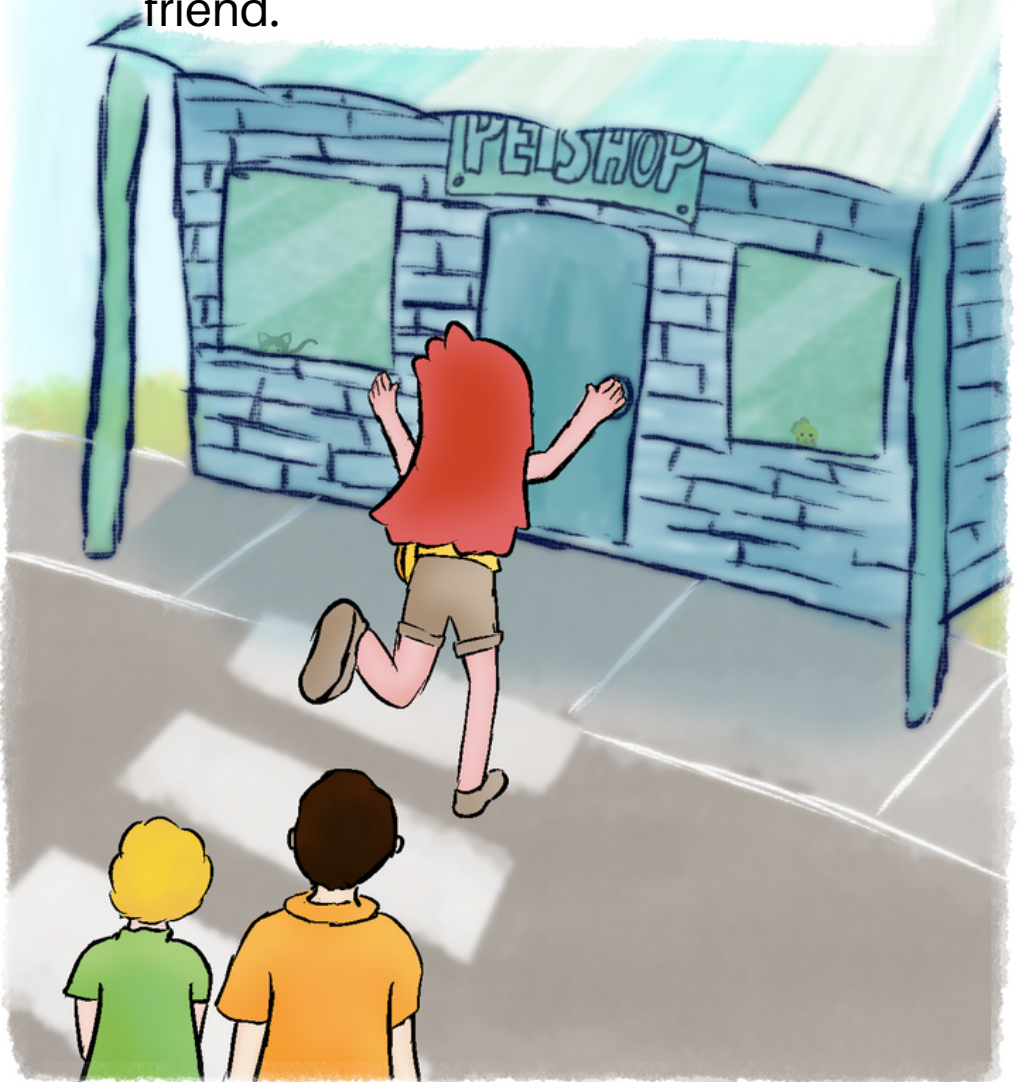


"No," said Dad.

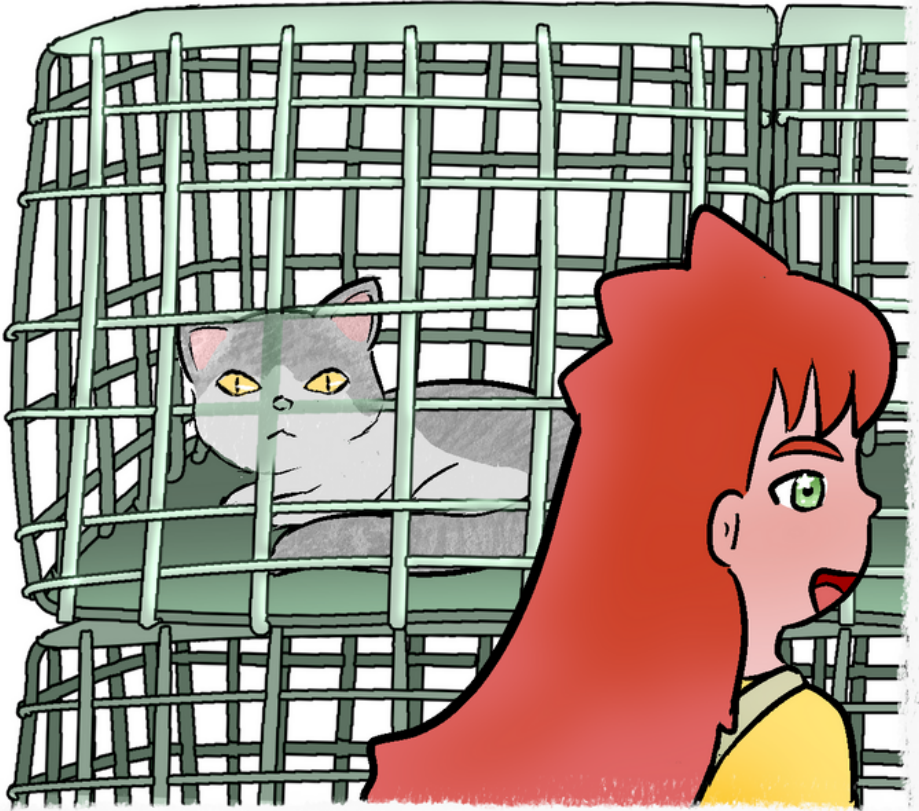
"I'm allergic," said Mom.

"Please!" begged Deedee.

Finally, her parents agreed to let Deedee have a pet. Today was the day she would meet her new best friend.



Deedee bounced with excitement
as she entered the pet store.

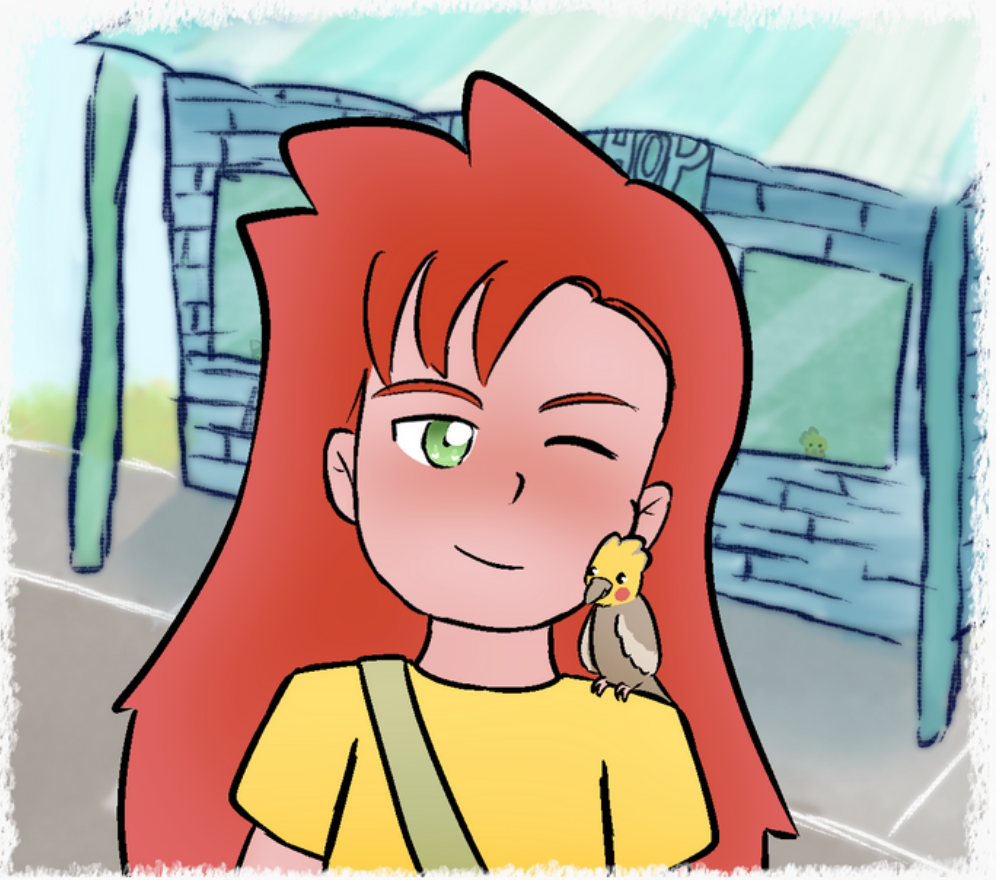


She looked around the store, her
eyes big with wonder, and then she
saw him.

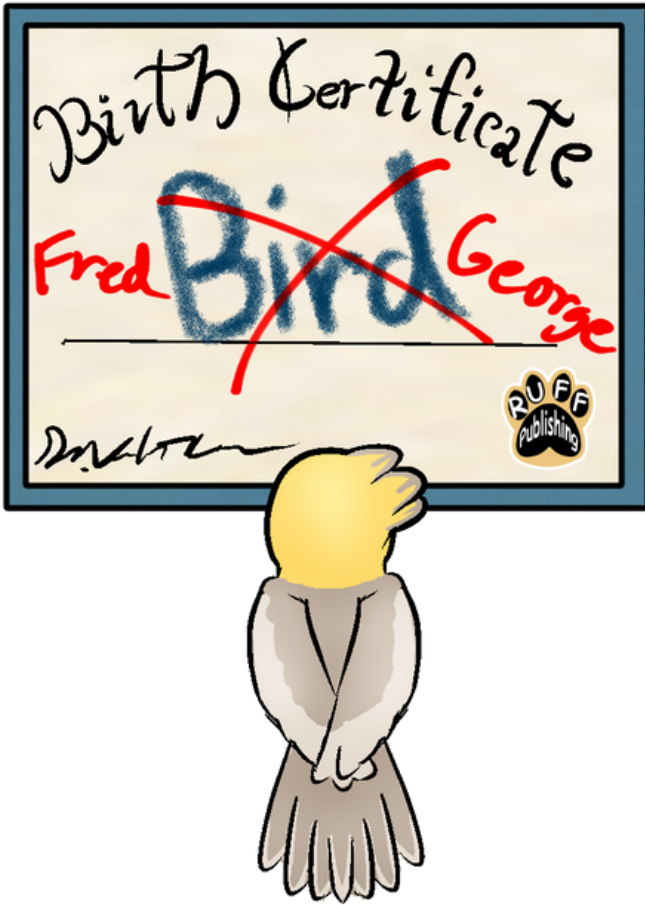
Deedee ran up to his cage. He
looked her right in the eye and said,



"Get me out of here!"

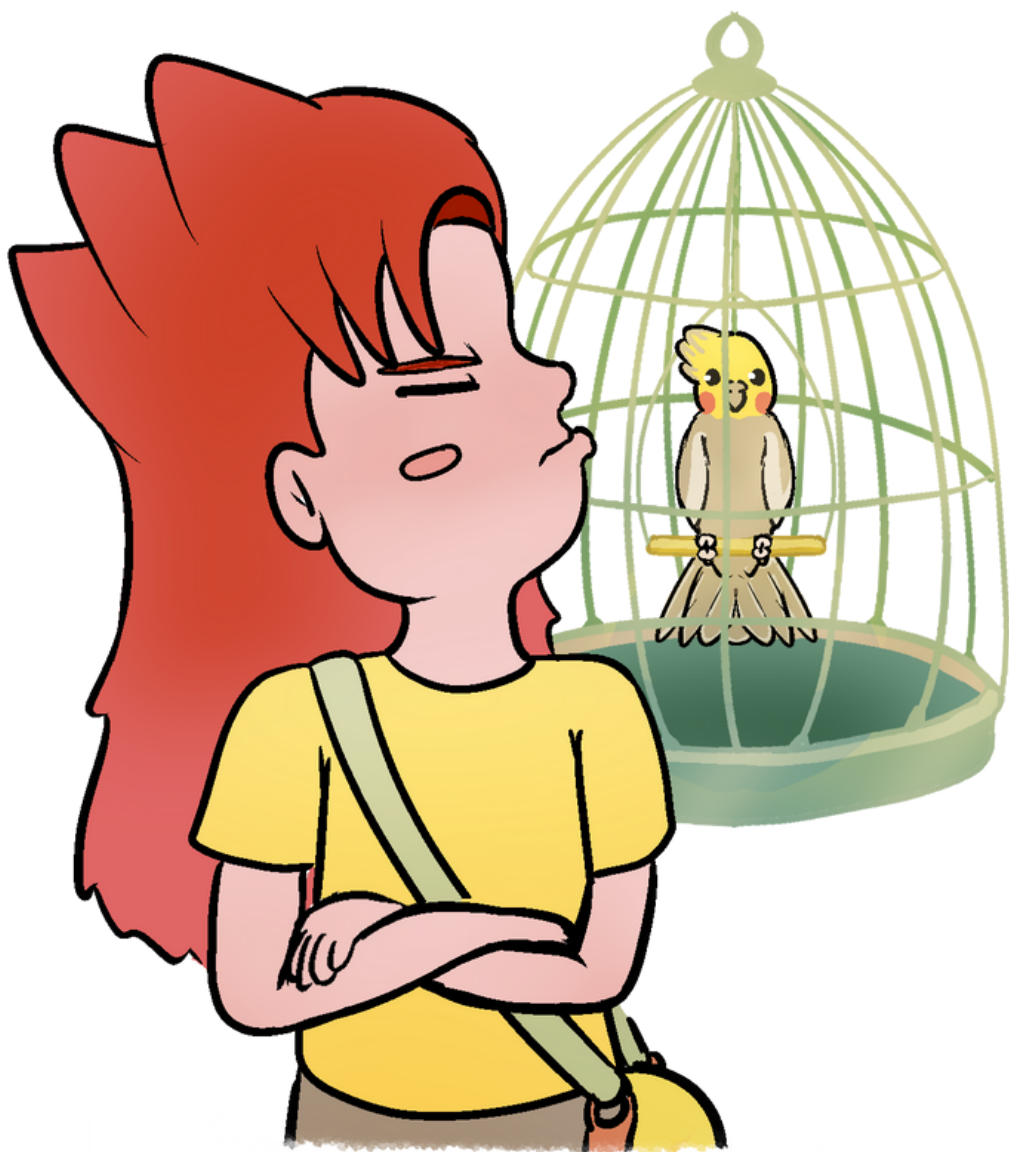


As Deedee was leaving the pet store, she looked up at Mom and Dad and said, "I will name him Bird, and he will be my best friend forever."



Mom and Dad looked at each other.

Dad said, "Don't you want to give him a different name like Fred or George?"



"No," said Deedee stubbornly.

"His name is Bird."