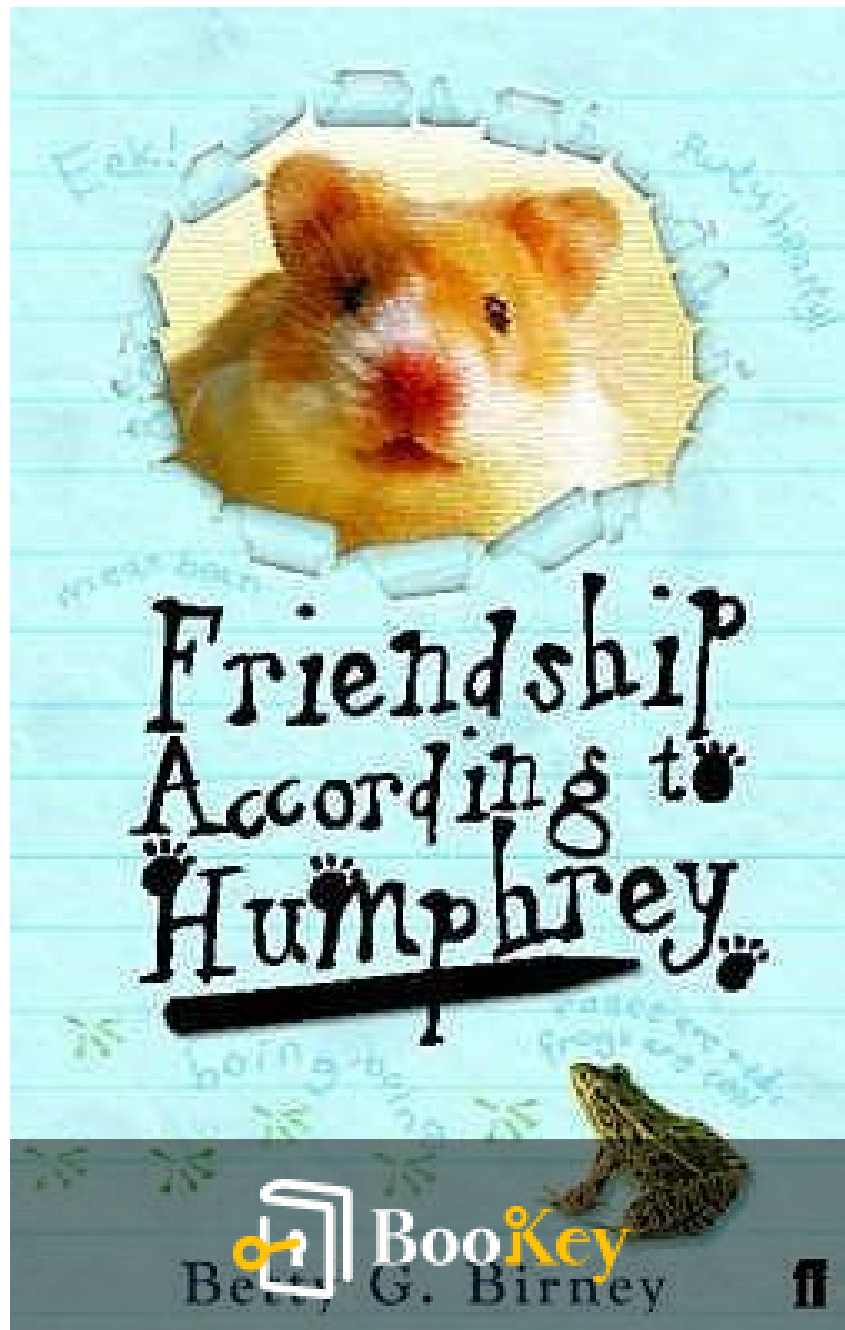


# Friendship According To Humphrey PDF (Limited Copy)

Betty G. Birney



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# Friendship According To Humphrey Summary

Discovering the joy and value of friendships.

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## About the book

In "Friendship According to Humphrey," Betty G. Birney invites readers into the heartwarming world of Humphrey, a curious and insightful classroom hamster, who discovers the profound and often whimsical nature of friendship through his unique perspective. Set in a lively school environment, this charming tale unfolds as Humphrey observes the joys and challenges of his young companions navigating their social circles, revealing both the beauty and complexity of human connections. With themes of empathy, teamwork, and the importance of being a good friend, this delightful story engages readers of all ages, reminding us that true friendship is about understanding, support, and a sprinkle of humor, making it a must-read for anyone who cherishes the bonds that shape our lives.

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## About the author

Betty G. Birney is a celebrated author known for her engaging children's literature, particularly the beloved "Humphrey the Hamster" series. With a rich background in storytelling, Birney has a deep appreciation for the joys and challenges of childhood, which is vividly captured in her writing. She began her career as a school teacher and later moved into writing for children, drawing inspiration from her experiences with young learners. Her works often highlight themes of friendship, adventure, and the importance of empathy, endearing her to audiences of all ages. Through her charming characters and relatable narratives, Birney has created a lasting impact in the world of children's books.

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## Chapter 1 Summary: 1 - Strange Change

In the opening chapter of "Friendship According to Humphrey," we rejoin our beloved classroom hamster, Humphrey, as he returns to Longfellow School after a winter holiday spent with Mrs. Brisbane's husband, Bert. Despite being fond of Bert, Humphrey is eager to be back in the classroom, especially with his friends. However, upon arriving, he discovers that the room has undergone significant changes that leave him feeling disoriented. The tables are rearranged, new decorations have replaced familiar ones, and most startling of all, there's a new student, Tabitha Clark, whose nervousness is palpable as she stands before the class.

Humphrey's observations bring the classroom alive, showcasing the personalities and quirks of his classmates as they greet him and adjust to their new seating arrangement. As Mrs. Brisbane introduces Tabitha, who struggles to engage and seems shy, the reader senses tension surrounding her integration into the group. Mrs. Brisbane encourages the students to welcome her, giving Mandy the responsibility to show Tabitha around.

As the lesson moves to poetry—a subject that initially causes groans among the students—Humphrey is preoccupied with the new changes and his concern over losing his status as the classroom pet. Tension mounts when Mrs. Brisbane reveals that there will be another new addition to Room 26: a frog named Og. The students express excitement, while Humphrey fears he



may be replaced, questioning his value in the classroom.

Mrs. Brisbane's discussions about Og reveal that the new pet is not only meant to be a friend for Humphrey but also reflects a shift in classroom dynamics. During the day, the class buzzes around Og, causing Humphrey to feel overlooked and concerned about sharing the spotlight. Throughout the chaos, the subtlety of Tabitha's loneliness contrasts sharply with the lively banter of the other children.

As the day concludes, with Humphrey feeling somewhat forgotten, Mrs. Brisbane reassures Mandy that adjusting to a new environment takes time, a sentiment echoed around Tabitha's struggles. The chapter closes on a contemplative note, with Humphrey's mix of anxiety and hope for the future in a classroom that's definitely changed, setting the stage for themes of friendship, acceptance, and the challenges of change that will unfold in the story ahead.



## Chapter 2 Summary: 2 - Upset Pet

In Chapter 2 of "Friendship According to Humphrey," titled "Upset Pet," we dive deeper into the life of Humphrey, the charming classroom hamster. Humphrey reflects on his previous challenges, particularly the departure of Ms. Mac, the substitute teacher who rescued him and took him to Room 26. Her move to Brazil left a mark, but he managed to win over Mrs. Brisbane and her husband, Bert, showcasing his resilience and ability to adapt.

This time, however, Humphrey is faced with an unusual challenge: making friends with Og, a new frog in the classroom. Unlike the small mammals he's familiar with, Og looks quite unappealing to Humphrey, who describes him in detail, emphasizing his bright green color and bulging eyes. Humphrey feels a sense of responsibility to befriend Og, recalling Mrs. Brisbane's lesson on the difficulties of being new.

As the school day ends, Mrs. Brisbane leaves the room, leaving Humphrey and Og alone. In an effort to break the ice, Humphrey speaks to Og, but is met with silence. Determined to introduce himself, he ventures out of his cage, only to be startled by a sudden leap from the frog that sends him scurrying back to safety. This interaction showcases Og's peculiar personality and creates a barrier between the two as Humphrey questions Og's rudeness.



Later, as Humphrey processes his thoughts by scribbling in his secret notebook, Aldo, the school custodian and a true friend, arrives with a warm greeting. Their friendship shines as they share a meal together. Aldo reveals that he recently got married, which makes Humphrey happy for him, but also hints at Aldo's desire for a better job to support a family. Humphrey is supportive and eager to help Aldo achieve his dreams.

Despite the chaotic presence of Og and his annoying splashing, Humphrey attempts to reach out again, hoping for a friendlier rapport. The chapter wraps up with Humphrey feeling frustrated and isolated, ruminating about friendship and the importance of being one. He learns that forming connections can be challenging and emphasizes the theme of understanding and companionship, even with those who might seem different. Overall, this chapter poignantly illustrates Humphrey's longing for friendship while navigating new dynamics in his classroom environment.



## Chapter 3: 3 - Sad-Mad-Bad

Chapter 3 of "Friendship According to Humphrey" opens with a week that Humphrey, the classroom hamster, describes as "TERRIBLE-TERRIBLE-TERRIBLE!" The excitement in Room 26 revolves around Og, the new frog class pet, leading to amusing and chaotic moments in the classroom. Mrs. Brisbane tries to teach the students about frog care, but things take a turn when Mandy, eager to pet Og, gets startled when the frog pees on her, causing a mix of laughter and squeamish reactions from the classmates.

As the lesson progresses, the focus shifts to poetry, and Mrs. Brisbane announces an upcoming Poetry Festival for Valentine's Day, where each student will present a poem. The task is to write a rhyming poem about an animal. While the class is initially resistant, interest perks up when they discuss rhyming words. Amid the chaos, Humphrey feels left out and worried about finding a rhyme for "hamster," especially since he feels overshadowed by Og the frog, who gets all the attention.

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## Chapter 4 Summary: 4 - Mean Bean

In Chapter 4 of "Friendship According to Humphrey," titled "Mean Bean," we dive into Garth's world as he brings Humphrey, the hamster, home for the weekend. Garth's bus ride is tense due to the presence of a bully named Martin Bean, who has been mean to everyone, including Garth. After school, Garth discusses Bean's rude behavior with his mother, but she suggests that Garth might need to be more friendly for things to improve, sparking a little frustration for Garth.

At home, Garth's younger brother Andy and their babysitter Natalie enter the scene. Natalie, who studies psychology, explains how it works—using "reverse psychology" to encourage the boys to go to bed by telling them the opposite. The boys enjoy her unconventional approach, showcasing their playful dynamic.

As Saturday passes, Garth and his friend A.J. talk about their nemesis, Bean, while cleaning Humphrey's cage, engaging in playful laughter over Bean's name and the ways he bullies others. Garth reveals his experiences with Bean, indicating that this bully tends to dodge the consequences of his actions by shifting blame.

When Monday arrives and Garth rides the bus with A.J. and Humphrey, the anxiety returns. Garth faces Bean, who verbally torments him. In a



surprising twist, and driven by bravery, Humphrey leaps from his cage onto Bean's leg, causing chaos on the bus. As Bean screams in panic at the sight of the "mouse," the other kids erupt in laughter, turning the tables on the bully. The situation reaches a crescendo when the bus driver decides to move Bean permanently to the front seat as a consequence of his behavior.

The chapter wraps up on a joyful note, with Garth expressing gratitude to Humphrey for standing up to Bean. The story sheds light on themes of friendship, bullying, and the value of standing up for oneself and others. Ultimately, Humphrey's courageous act reinforces the idea that friends help one another, showcasing bravery in the face of adversity.

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## Chapter 5 Summary: 5 - Rhyme Time

In Chapter 5, titled "Rhyme Time," we dive back into the lively atmosphere of Room 26 where Humphrey the hamster feels a mix of pride and curiosity after his weekend. As he observes his classmates, there's a playful energy sparked by a funny note taped to Og's cage, which claims he's a frog cursed to be kissed. The students erupt in laughter, showcasing their camaraderie, while Mrs. Brisbane attempts to steer the class back to learning with a spelling quiz. Humphrey, who secretly participates in the quiz at night, struggles with tricky words like "accommodate," highlighting his desire to excel.

Once the quiz wraps up, it's time for poetry, a key theme in this chapter. Kirk eagerly reads his amusing poem about Og, and the class engages in lively banter, suggesting new words. The back-and-forth among students displays their friendships and playful teasing, vibrant elements characteristic of this age. Heidi shares a creative poem featuring her own name while Tabitha shyly presents a heartfelt poem about her beloved stuffed bear, Smiley, drawing mixed reactions from her classmates.

As the day progresses, Humphrey notices some of his friends struggling with shyness and social acceptance, particularly Tabitha's treatment of Sayeh. Despite their camaraderie, moments of exclusion rear their heads, raising themes of friendship dynamics and empathy. With the recess bell ringing,



opportunities for connection emerge, but Tabitha's hesitation to socialize leaves Humphrey feeling frustrated.

At the end of the day, Aldo, the caretaker, arrives with a personal dilemma about returning to school. Humphrey supports him in spirit, sensing the importance of education and dreams. Aldo's aspirations resonate with the overarching theme of growth and self-improvement that threads through the chapter. In this melting pot of youthful energy, silly antics, and deeper emotional currents, Humphrey reflects on what true friendship means, anchored in understanding one another amidst the chaos of childhood life. The chapter crafts a vivid tapestry of classroom camaraderie, personal struggles, and the quiet hopes for connection as characters continue to grow.

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## Critical Thinking

**Key Point:** Empathy and Understanding in Friendship

**Critical Interpretation:** As you journey through life, the key point about empathy and understanding in friendship from this chapter resonates deeply. Just like Humphrey witnesses Tabitha's struggle with social acceptance, you too may encounter moments where friends feel excluded or shy. This chapter inspires you to step into their shoes, offering support and kindness. Recognizing the silent battles that those around you face can deepen your connections, fostering a sense of belonging that enriches your friendships. Through understanding and empathy, you not only uplift others but also cultivate a more compassionate and inclusive environment for all.

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## Chapter 6: 6 - Crabby Abby

In Chapter 6 of "Friendship According to Humphrey," the story picks up with Kirk playfully announcing a sign that humorously claims Humphrey is a prisoner in Room 26. The classroom is filled with animal-themed poetry, but none of it features hamsters, which makes Humphrey feel a bit left out. As Friday rolls around, Mrs. Brisbane announces that Miranda can take Humphrey home for the weekend, igniting a mix of excitement and fear in him, especially at the thought of encountering her dog, Clem.

When the group arrives at Mr. Golden's house, Humphrey discovers a new environment: Miranda's room is replaced by a larger but overwhelmingly pink space shared with her stepsister, Abby, who is less than welcoming. Abby's crabby demeanor reveals her frustrations about having to share her room and her life with her new family members, including a baby brother and the ongoing noise that comes with it. Despite her hostility, Humphrey tries to cheer Miranda up, recognizing that she's struggling with her relationship with Abby.

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## Chapter 7 Summary: 7 - Fright Night

In Chapter 7, titled "Fright Night," the story unfolds in Abby and Miranda's shared room after a day full of fun, including a humorous incident with a baby. The girls stumble upon each other's belongings mixed up on their beds, sparking a heated argument over who took what. Their tension escalates as they accuse one another, but the situation begins to shift when they consider the possibility that someone—or perhaps something—else is to blame.

As they work through their frustration, they come up with the wild idea that a ghost might be involved, which turns their arguing into a bonding moment filled with curiosity and a hint of fear. Despite their initial skepticism, the thought of the supernatural gets under their skin, leading them to agree on the idea of staying up all night to see if anything happens.

Later, as Mr. Golden wishes them goodnight, the room sinks into darkness. The girls, still wide awake, exchange spooky stories that heighten the tension and excitement, momentarily forgetting their earlier disputes. However, the eerie atmosphere is disrupted when a loud screech from Humphrey's wheel sends them both into a panic.

Their fear turns to laughter when Mr. Golden arrives to investigate the noise and discovers that it was just Humphrey. The shared experience seems to



break down barriers between Abby and Miranda, and they end up huddled together for comfort, signaling a significant development in their friendship. They even start sharing ghost stories, further bonding over their fright.

By Sunday morning, the earlier conflict over the misplaced items is forgotten, and the girls interact seamlessly, helping each other and preparing for their day. Their friendship deepens, as they now show mutual trust and support. The chapter effortlessly blends themes of friendship, miscommunication, and the comfort of shared fears, ultimately showcasing the power of collaboration and understanding in overcoming differences.

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## Chapter 8 Summary: 8 - Ill Will

In Chapter 8 of "Friendship According to Humphrey," we delve into a world of friendships and conflicts at school, all narrated through the eyes of Humphrey, the curious hamster. Returning to class after a weekend of thoughts about Og, his bullfrog neighbor, Humphrey feels both accomplished and distracted. The chilly weather indoors stirs up a lively classroom atmosphere, filled with games and the peculiar sounds of classmates, while the warm air wakes the crickets. Among the students, tensions rise between Gail and her best friend, Heidi, when a game turns sour. Gail accuses Heidi of cheating, leading to a heated argument. This conflict takes a toll, not just on their friendship but also on the dynamics in the classroom, as both girls find themselves separated to cool down.

Meanwhile, the lessons on teamwork and cooperation come to light during a group quiz that Mrs. Brisbane leads, designed to test the students' knowledge across various topics. Surprisingly, Tabitha shines in sports trivia, leading her team to victory and earning applause from her classmates. Yet, amidst celebrations, the rift between Gail and Heidi remains unaddressed, highlighting the fragility of friendships. Even as they return to their seats, they exchange looks of disdain, reinforcing the idea that friendships can sometimes be more complicated than they appear.

As Humphrey observes the discord, he finds himself pondering the nature of



friendship and how to mend the rift between the two girls. Reflecting on Og's responses, he muses on how important it is for friends to reconcile, yet his attempts to understand Og's spirited "boing" leave him puzzled. Later, Aldo, the custodian, adds another layer to the theme of self-discovery, as he grapples with his uncertain future and whether he's suited for teaching, revealing insecurities that resonate with anyone contemplating their own path.

Through playful interactions, intense conflicts, and moments of reflection, this chapter captures the essence of childhood friendships—filled with joy, misunderstanding, and the desire for connection. In the end, Humphrey's determination to help his classmates navigate their feelings reminds us of the importance of kindness and the complexities that come with relationships. It concludes with the inspirational idea that action and initiative are vital when it comes to healing rifts and fostering understanding among friends.

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## Chapter 9: 9 - Mrs. Brisbane Explains

In Chapter 9 of "Friendship According to Humphrey," we dive into the adventures of Humphrey the hamster as he tries to help his friend Aldo, the custodian, who has left his college application behind. Despite being just a classroom hamster, Humphrey's determination shines through as he navigates the challenges of getting Mrs. Brisbane's attention to ensure Aldo gets the support he needs.

The chapter begins with Humphrey discovering Aldo's application tucked beside his cage. He reads that Aldo initially wanted to study "Teaching" but crossed it out, revealing his uncertainty and fear about pursuing a career in education. Humphrey's thoughts race as he contemplates how to help Aldo, realizing that he needs the help of Mrs. Brisbane, who he considers a vital ally.

When Mrs. Brisbane arrives, her casual demeanor makes Humphrey anxious, especially since he can't directly communicate his concerns. However, he can't contain his excitement and jumps around to grab her

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## Chapter 10 Summary: 10 - Test Distress

In Chapter 10 of "Friendship According to Humphrey," titled "Test Distress," we see a mix of humor and tension as Aldo, the custodian, ponders a new teaching opportunity. He talks excitedly to Humphrey, the hamster, about how he could share his knowledge with students. Aldo's insecurity makes him question his teaching skills, though Humphrey knows Aldo has a lot to offer. There's a sweet moment when Aldo brings a piece of broccoli for Humphrey, highlighting their friendship and Aldo's unique perspective on the world.

Meanwhile, in Room 26, the students are facing challenges of their own. There's a looming math test and a recent pop quiz that left many classmates feeling frustrated and unprepared. The stress levels rise as Mrs. Brisbane assigns a study guide, which almost everyone groans about.

Humphrey, ever aware of his friends' struggles, devises a plan to help Tabitha, who is absorbed in her teddy bear, Smiley. During recess, while the teacher steps out, Humphrey takes a daring leap from his cage to retrieve Seth's study guide in an attempt to ensure Tabitha studies for the test. His daring adventure is filled with tension as he navigates the classroom floor, but just as he successfully makes a move toward Tabitha's backpack, the bell rings, sending him scurrying back to safety.



Humphrey's escapade doesn't go entirely to plan, yet he feels a sense of accomplishment when Mrs. Brisbane notices Tabitha's study guide on the floor, allowing his friend to take it with her. The chapter ends on a poignant note as Humphrey feels a pang of sadness at the thought of leaving Og, the frog, alone all weekend. It underscores the theme of friendship—showing that both creatures have their own challenges and emotions, and highlighting the need for companionship.

Overall, this chapter deftly weaves together Aldo's aspirations, the students' fears about tests, and the bond between Humphrey and Og, creating a rich tapestry of emotions and experiences in the classroom and beyond.

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## Critical Thinking

**Key Point:** The Importance of Friendship and Support

**Critical Interpretation:** In Chapter 10 of 'Friendship According to Humphrey,' we learn the invaluable lesson that friendship has the power to uplift and inspire us, especially during challenging times. Just as Aldo finds hope in his ability to teach and Humphrey takes a brave leap to support his friends, we are reminded that genuine connections and acts of kindness can help us face our own insecurities and fears. Embracing the spirit of friendship encourages us to reach out to others, share our strengths, and offer support in moments of distress, highlighting how collective efforts can lead to triumph over adversity.

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## Chapter 11 Summary: 11 - Study Buddies

In Chapter 11, titled "Study Buddies," the story focuses on the budding friendship between Tabitha and Seth as they navigate school life and personal challenges. Tabitha introduces her mom, Carol, who is enthusiastic and eager to learn how to care for Humphrey, the classroom hamster. This warmth sets a positive tone as they settle in at home.

An interesting twist emerges when Tabitha accidentally swaps math homework with Seth, which leads to an important realization and a connection between their families. Carol contacts Seth's mom, June, and they meet at their home over hot chocolate, fostering community and communication that has been lacking since Tabitha's arrival. Through this gathering, we see Tabitha and Seth beginning to bond, especially when they discuss an upcoming birthday party, and Seth suggests that Tabitha should leave behind her stuffed bear, Smiley, to fit in better with the other kids.

As the narrative progresses, we witness a significant shift. The chapter captures the tension surrounding a big math test, with students focused and serious, except for some light-hearted moments. After the test, Mrs. Brisbane announces an unexpected guest teacher—Aldo, who has transitioned from janitor to teacher. His arrival is marked by nervousness but quickly shifts to excitement as he engages the class in a unique experiment that encourages them to look at the world from different perspectives,



including what everyday objects look like to a small hamster like Humphrey.

Aldo's activity empowers the students to explore, observe, and share their discoveries, teaching them a valuable lesson about observation and scientific inquiry. The chapter concludes with Aldo's successful lesson and positive recognition from Mrs. Brisbane and Principal Morales, who encourage him to apply for a teaching position. This marks a moment of hope and new beginnings, solidifying Aldo's role in the classroom, and fostering a sense of belonging among the children.

Overall, this chapter emphasizes the themes of friendship, community, and the importance of looking at life from different perspectives, all while creating a warm and engaging atmosphere that draws readers into the lives of the characters.

| Chapter Title | Summary                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Study Buddies | <p>The chapter focuses on the friendship between Tabitha and Seth as they navigate school life. Tabitha introduces her mom, Carol, who is eager to help care for Humphrey. An accidental math homework swap leads to a bonding moment between their families, fostering community. Carol meets Seth's mom, June, over hot chocolate.</p> <p>As the chapter progresses, students prepare for a big math test. An unexpected guest teacher, Aldo, engages the class with an experiment that encourages observation from different perspectives, including those of their hamster, Humphrey. The lesson is well-received, leading to encouragement for Aldo to apply for a teaching position.</p> <p>Overall, the chapter highlights themes of friendship, community, and</p> |

| Chapter Title | Summary                                                       |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
|               | perspective, creating a warm atmosphere throughout the story. |

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# Critical Thinking

**Key Point:** The Importance of Perspective

**Critical Interpretation:** Imagine standing in the shoes of someone else, perhaps even a small hamster like Humphrey, and realizing that your view of the world is just one among many. This chapter teaches us that embracing diverse perspectives enriches our understanding and fosters deeper connections with others. When you take a moment to listen and consider the thoughts and feelings of those around you, like Tabitha and Seth did during their interaction, you create a stronger sense of community. This powerful lesson inspires you to nurture empathy in your own life, encouraging you to build genuine relationships and cultivate kindness, ultimately making the world a more compassionate place.

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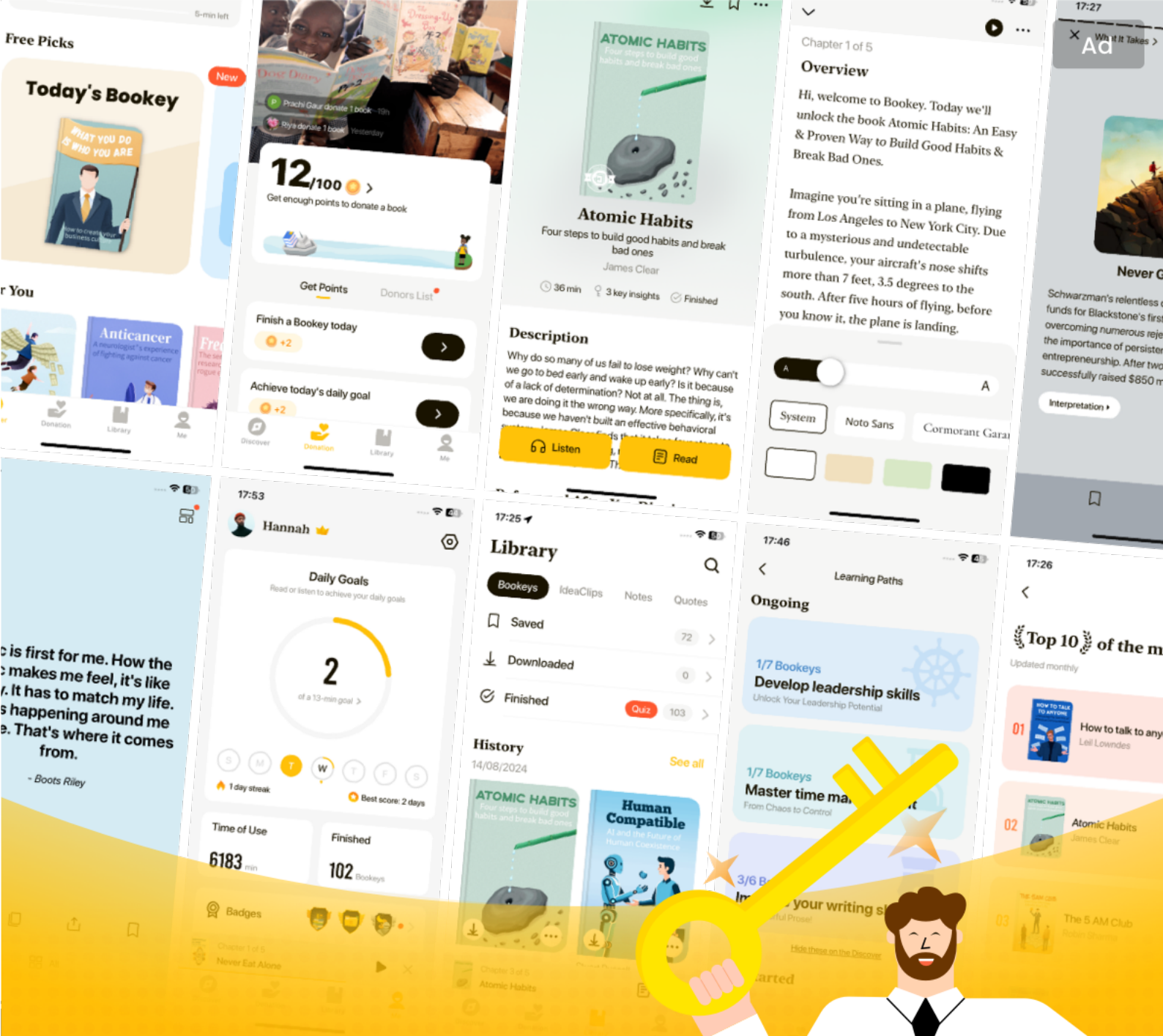
## Chapter 12: 12 - Party Hearty

In Chapter 12 of "Friendship According to Humphrey," the excitement builds around Richie's birthday party, to which Humphrey the hamster is invited for the first time. As the anticipation grows, Richie can hardly contain his enthusiasm, hopping around as his mom picks him up from school. The Rinaldi house is bustling with family members setting up for the party, and even though Og, the classroom frog, is left behind at school, Humphrey feels a bit envious about Og's surprise from Mr. Brisbane.

The party kicks off with carnival games, brightly colored decorations, and tasty smells wafting through the house. Humphrey's cage is set up in a central spot, giving him a perfect view of the festivities. His classmates from Room 26 arrive, bringing gifts and filling the space with chatter and laughter. Everything seems to be going well until Martin Bean, a bully, enters the scene. He starts to intimidate Heidi, blocking her way and refusing to let her pass. Fortunately, Gail steps in to protect Heidi, surprising everyone including Humphrey with her bravery.

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## Chapter 13 Summary: 13 - Show Business, Snow Business

In Chapter 13 of "Friendship According to Humphrey," classroom chatter revolves around the recent party and a delightful surprise for Og: a beautifully constructed swimming pool complete with rich green plants, curated by Bert Brisbane. Humphrey, the main character and narrator, experiences a twinge of jealousy but is pleased to see Og smiling genuinely. As preparations ramp up for the upcoming Poetry Festival, the classroom buzzes with excitement as students memorize their poems, create artwork, and craft Valentine's Day mailboxes. Mrs. Brisbane ensures that regular subjects like math and science remain part of their routine amidst the creative chaos.

At night, Humphrey feels increasingly lonely despite Og's presence in the adjacent glass house. He grapples with feelings of jealousy and uncertainty about their friendship, prompting him to confront Og. When he bravely approaches Og, he expresses a desire to reconnect, but Og responds by splashing water everywhere, leaving Humphrey drenched and grumpy. Despite his outburst, Humphrey doesn't feel any better afterward.

The weather takes a turn for the worse when a heavy snowfall blankets the town, casting a somber grayness outside. Inside Room 26, however, spirits remain high as friendships among classmates flourish anew. While Humphrey finds beauty in the falling snow, he grows increasingly anxious



when Aldo, the caretaker, doesn't show up, and the school remains empty the following day due to the snowstorm. The silence enveloping them amplifies his feelings of loneliness, culminating in the realization that he is snowed in with Og. The chapter underscores themes of friendship, loneliness, and the impact of external circumstances on emotional well-being, highlighted by Humphrey's reflection on the importance of companionship.

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## Chapter 14 Summary: 14 - Oh No, More Snow!

In Chapter 14 of "Friendship According to Humphrey," we find Humphrey, the hamster, feeling lonely and cold as he navigates a snowy school day with only his friend Og the frog for company. The classroom is eerily quiet, and with no humans around to tend to them, both Humphrey and Og start to feel the pangs of hunger and cold. As the snow blankets everything outside, Humphrey reminisces about what his classmates are likely doing, realizing that he misses them more than he thought, and even the math class he once found boring.

They both struggle with their hunger, and Humphrey's food stash runs low. In a moment of inspiration mixed with desperation, he decides to venture out of his cage to find food, remembering that the larger containers of hamster food are on the table. However, his plan to tip over a bag of Nutri-Nibbles to get to the food backfires when he gets trapped underneath it.

Just when things seem dire, Og leaps into action, trying to rescue his friend by hopping against the bag, successfully creating enough space for Humphrey to escape. This moment highlights their friendship and mutual support, with Humphrey thanking Og for his bravery. Their excitement is interrupted by the arrival of Mrs. Brisbane and Principal Morales, who discover them out of their cages and are relieved to find them safe, albeit hungry.



They learn that the snowstorm had delayed everyone from getting to school, and Aldo, their caretaker, had only just arrived after the streets were cleared. The group of worried classmates soon joins Mrs. Brisbane, revealing that they hadn't forgotten about Humphrey and Og after all. Mrs. Brisbane insists on taking them home with her for the weekend, despite offers from their classmates.

Humphrey ends the chapter reflecting on the essence of true friendship, encapsulated in the quote he shares, emphasizing that real bonds are strengthened during tough times. This chapter beautifully showcases themes of friendship, survival, and the power of community, all underscored by moments of humor and warmth despite the frosty setting.



## Chapter 15: 15 - Poetry Festivity

In Chapter 15 of "Friendship According to Humphrey," the story opens with Bert Brisbane greeting the narrator and the other characters as they return home from the snowstorm, signifying warmth and friendship. Mr. Morales, the principal, and Mrs. Brisbane work together to take care of the pet residents, emphasizing the theme of responsibility that comes with having pets. Both Mrs. Brisbane's nurturing nature and Mr. Morales's hands-on involvement showcase their caring personalities.

As the chapter unfolds, the anticipation for the upcoming Poetry Festival builds, and we see character development among the students. Garth Tugwell faces challenges in selecting and memorizing his poem, while Mrs. Brisbane recognizes Kirk's improvement and enlists his help to keep the festival fun. This indicates a supportive environment where students are encouraged to grow and show their talents.

The preparation for Valentine's Day brings creativity to the forefront as students decorate their mailboxes, reflecting their personalities through art.

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