

BOYS TOWN
Press

Boys Town, Nebraska



Parker Plum & the

INTERGALACTIC

SPACE DETECTIVE



A story about
acceptance,
compassion, and
uncommon
behaviors

Illustrated by
MADLINE TIMM

Written by
BILLIE PAVICIC

Parker Plum & the Intergalactic Space Detective

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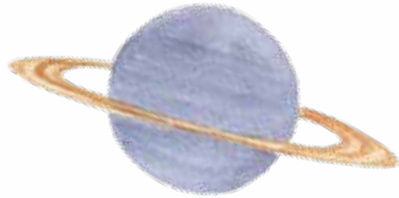
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Boys Town Press is the publishing division of Boys Town,
a national organization serving children and families.

Parker Plum hurried off the bus and headed straight for his mailbox. The latest edition of his favorite comic, *Max Mayhem*, **INTERGALACTIC SPACE DETECTIVE**, had arrived.





Parker ripped open the plastic cover and flipped through the pages. In this issue, Max Mayhem was battling metallic spider droids. Parker couldn't wait to read it.

Parker Plum had read every Max Mayhem comic. He even knew Max's motto by heart:

"A good detective notices the things others might miss. But a GREAT detective sees the bigger picture and understands the best way to help."

Parker wanted to be a GREAT **InterGalactic SPACE DETECTIVE**, just like Max. So he began looking for ways to help. He started at home.





Parker noticed that there were many bottles in Dad's bathroom: shampoo, conditioner, and shaving cream. Parker wondered why. Then he remembered that Dad was always rushing in the morning.

"Maybe it would help Dad save time if he didn't have so many bottles," Parker thought. So he combined the contents of each bottle into one big bottle of goop.





Parker's dad was not amused.
"I was only trying to help," said Parker.



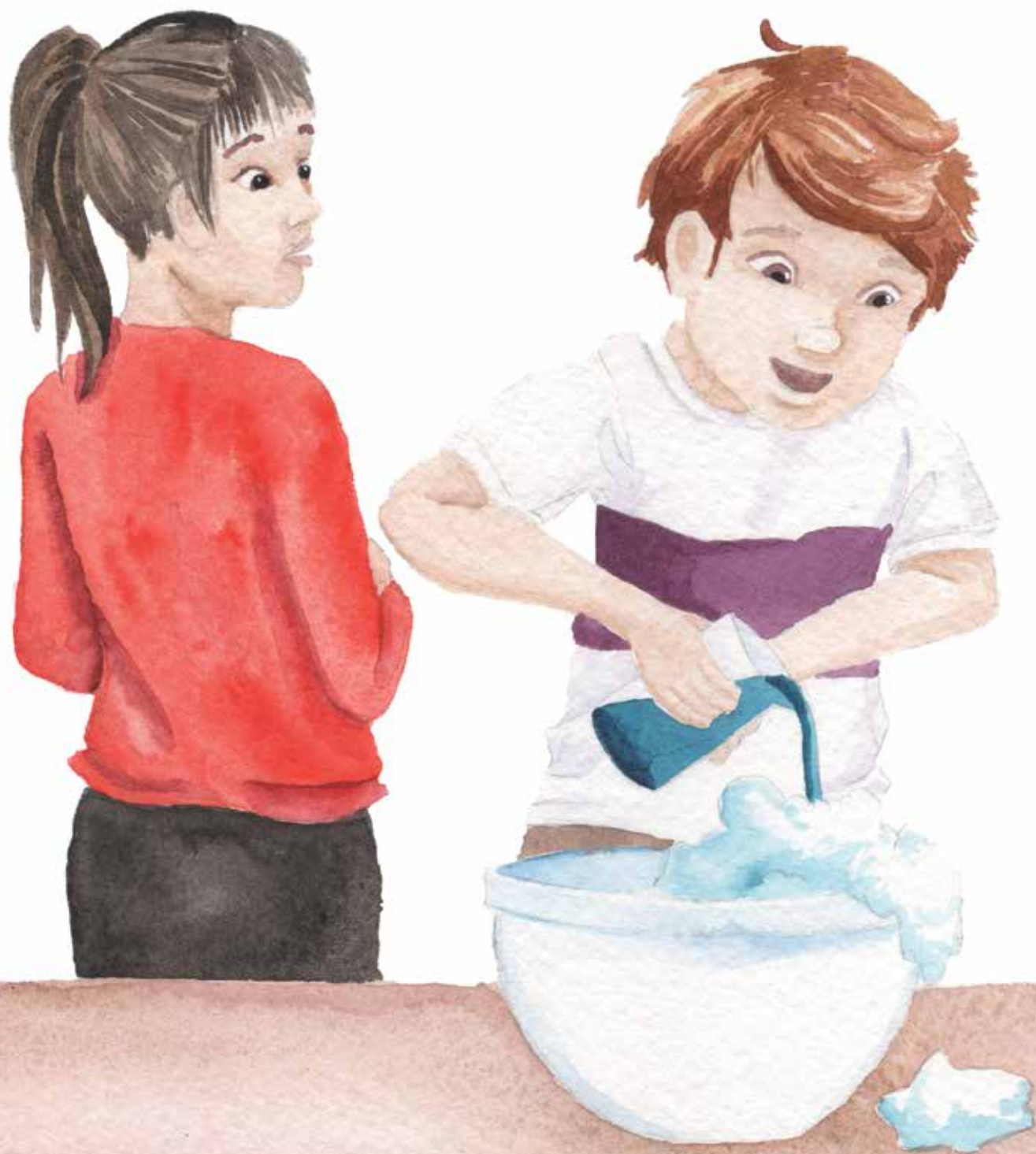
The next day at school, Parker was very excited that Ms. Poppy had a science experiment planned. Parker had a beaker of liquid and a bowl with some powder inside.

Ms. Poppy told the students to pour the liquid very slowly into the bowl. As Parker began pouring, he wondered why nothing was happening. So he decided to help Ms. Poppy with the experiment.

He dumped all of his liquid into the bowl!

The powder in the bowl started to fizz and soon a sudsy substance began to ooze out, covering everything around Parker in blue foam.

Ms. Poppy was not amused. “I was only trying to help,” said Parker.



Pages 10-31 are not included in this excerpt.

Parker Plum is really excited that the latest edition of his favorite comic - Max Mayhem, **INTERGALACTIC** Space Detective - has arrived! Max's motto is "A good detective notices the things others might miss. But a GREAT detective sees the bigger picture and understands the best way to help."

As he reads about Max's adventures, Parker starts to think about some of the curious behaviors that he sees at Fish Creek Elementary, and wonders if he can use his OWN detective skills to figure out a way to help. But when Parker's curiosity leads to creating messes and snooping about things that just aren't his business, Max Mayhem steps in to help Parker see the big picture!

Max teaches Parker that sometimes the best way to help others is just to be understanding that their behaviors serve a purpose for them. And as long as no one is in danger, Parker really doesn't need to know why they behave the way they do!

Author Billie Pavicic offers another fantastical – but educational – tale for Parker Plum fans! Adults and children alike will enjoy Parker's adventure as he learns that being helpful sometimes just means understanding that there are things you don't need to know. And that is enough.

*She's done it again!
Billie Pavicic has written
a wonderful story about what
children can do when they encounter
uncommon behaviors. Children will
enjoy becoming an intergalactic space
detective by learning how to "Ask the right
questions" and "See the bigger picture"
when it comes to showing compassion for
others. The tips for teaching compassion
are a valuable bonus teachers can use for
discussions in class. This book is perfect
for the elementary classroom!*

– Joy Jackson, M.A.
Professional School Counselor



BILLIE PAVICIC earned her MA in counseling from Marymount University. Billie leverages her experience as an elementary school counselor in the lessons she incorporates in her children's books and activities. This busy mother of two enjoys writing and all things strange and unusual.

MADLINE TIMM has worked as a freelance illustrator and graphic designer since 2012. She lives in Enumclaw, Washington, with her husband, Keith, and their daughter, Scout.

