

My Name's Sammy,

and I'm NO Snitch



*To Charlotte, for showing me
that books change lives*

Written by **Jeff Tucker**

Illustrated by **Miranda Morrissey**

BOYS TOWN
Press

Boys Town, Nebraska

My Name's Sammy, and I'm No Snitch

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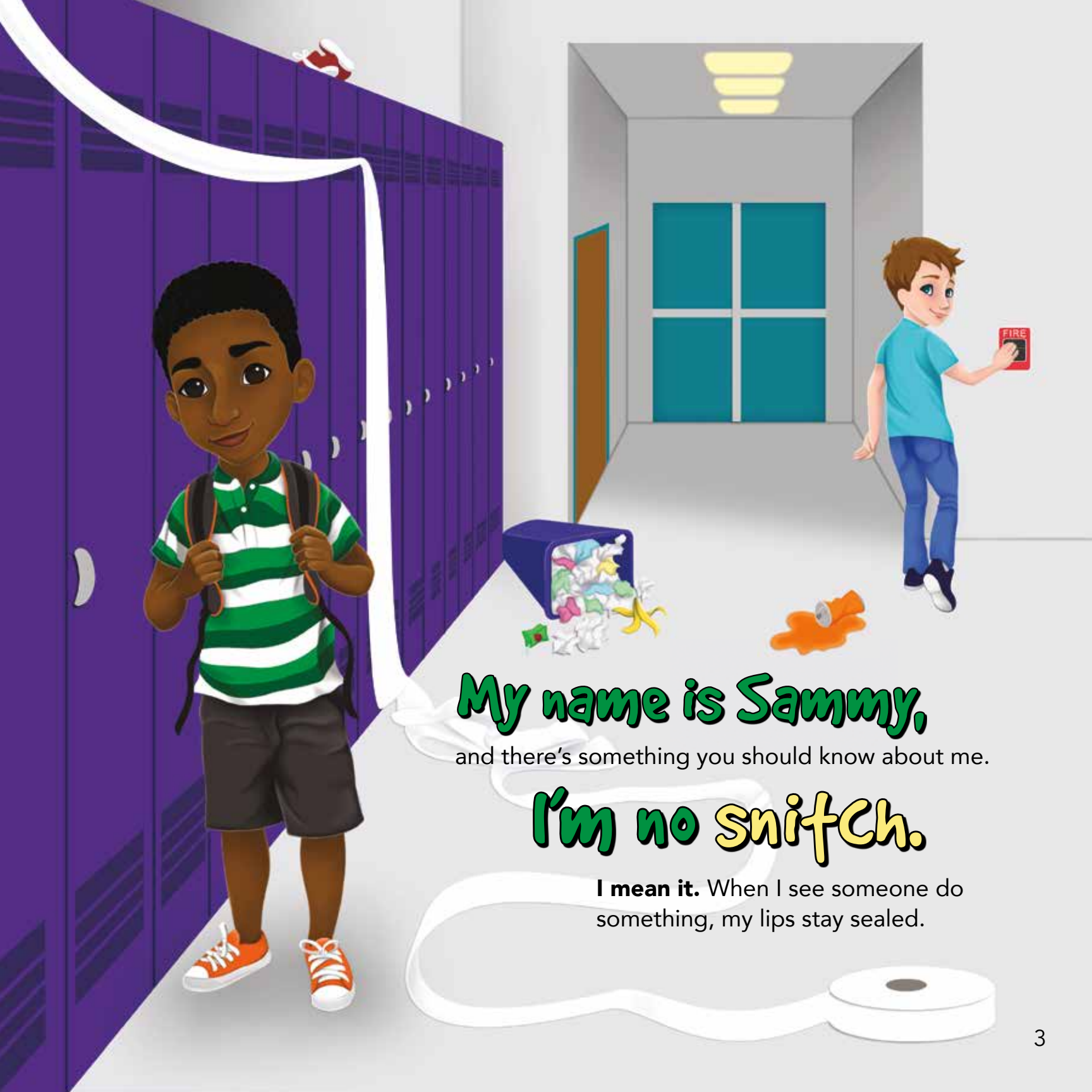
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My name is Sammy,

and there's something you should know about me.

I'm no snitch.

I mean it. When I see someone do something, my lips stay sealed.

Everyone at Chicorée Elementary knows it, too. They know that Sammy Simons is a boy that can be trusted. They do whatever they want when I'm around, and never worry if I'll tell because they know that *I'm no snitch.*



One day my best buddy, Carlos, put a piece of chewing gum underneath his desk, but did I tattle? No way. ***I'm no snitch.***

Another day I saw the school counselor, Mr. Collins, show up 10 minutes late to work, but do you think I squealed? Not a chance. ***I'm no snitch.***



I even saw William, the meanest kid in school, sneak an extra cupcake when the teacher, Miss Hall, wasn't looking. I bet you think I ratted him out, don't you? Nope. ***I'm no snitch.***



One morning on the school bus, my buddy Carlos and I were looking for a seat, and the only one left was the one in front of William. William always picked on Carlos. Carlos pretended like it didn't bother him, but I knew it did.



Sometimes I wondered if I should tell an adult about how William treated Carlos, but I didn't. I didn't want to be a snitch.

After we sat down and started talking about the basketball game we were planning to go to, William tapped Carlos on the shoulder. When Carlos turned around, William smiled and said he didn't do it. A few seconds later, he did it again. Carlos ignored him, but it didn't stop. He asked William to stop.

It didn't stop.





I thought about telling the bus driver that William was messing with Carlos.

Mr. Collins, the school counselor, kept telling us that if we see someone being mean, we should say something. He even put up “see something, say something” posters around the school.

I never did though because, as you know, ***I’m no snitch.***



Pages 10-31 are not included in this excerpt.

SAMMY IS A STUDENT WITH ONE GOLDEN RULE: he never snitches.

When he sees his friend put gum under a table, or a counselor show up late to school, or even a kid stealing an extra cupcake, he doesn't snitch. Because **Sammy NEVER snitches.** But Sammy becomes concerned when his friend Carlos is bullied by another student. As things escalate, Sammy is left wondering what to do.

Sammy's not the only one who's worried. He sees anxiety building in Carlos, too. Recalling the lessons of his school counselor, Sammy decides that he needs to do something to save his friend. The caring school counselor is there to help Sammy and his classmates understand the difference between snitching and reporting, as well as the why's and ways to safely report!

Join Sammy and the other students at Chicorée Elementary as they learn the importance of looking out for others, and how and when to report real danger to an adult.

"It is so important for children to learn the difference between 'snitching' and 'reporting,' and to feel comfortable talking with adults about what they see others dealing with and what they are challenged with personally. This book is relevant, gives practical scenarios, and holds the reader's attention."

–Rebecca Stutzman, Certified School Social Work Specialist

JEFF TUCKER is a licensed professional counselor who provides mental health services to students of all ages. Jeff is passionate about education, promoting mental health in children, and social justice issues. He is an avid reader and writer and believes in the power of books to help children thrive. Jeff lives in Louisiana with his spouse and their spoiled dog, Dixie. *My Name's Sammy, and I'm No Snitch* is Jeff's debut picture book, with more *Chicorée Elementary Stories for Success* to follow!

MIRANDA MORRISSEY holds a bachelor's degree in both fine arts and graphic design. She lives in Wisconsin.



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