

★ "Give this to . . . anyone looking for a funny book."

—Booklist, starred review

# Just Grace



CAT WHOSE  
NAME IS  
CRINKLES

Charise Mericle Harper

# I Did Not Get To Be

**1** I did not get to be the helper to Mister Magic the Magician at my very own (so it should have been me) sixth birthday party because Sammy Stringer spit purple grape juice all over my special white shirt with a big six on it, and I had to change it right when Mister Magic was starting up.

Mom said she was sure it was an accident, but I just know that spitting is pretty much an on-purpose thing, and it is almost impossible to forgive someone for something

on purpose even if it was almost three years ago, which is a very long time.



Before



After

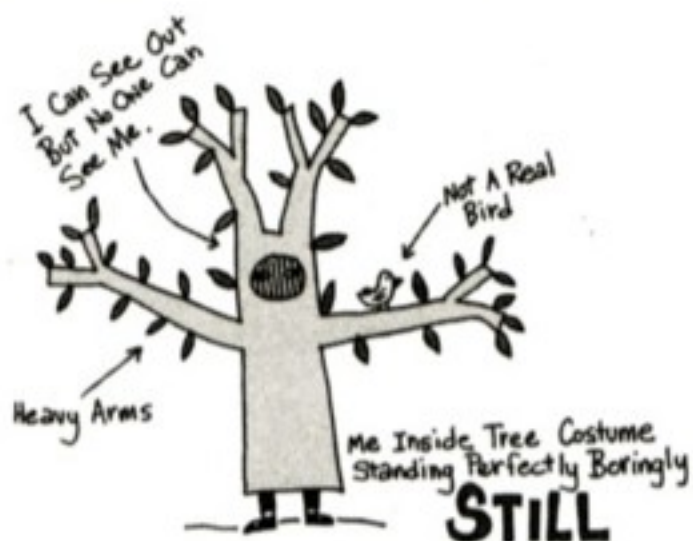
It Doesn't  
even Look Like  
A "6" Anymore.

**2** I did not get to be a singing and dancing corncob in the Thanksgiving play because I was the only girl tall enough to fit into the tree costume who didn't cry real boo-hoo baby tears when she was asked, "Could you please not be a corncob, because what we really, really need is a tree and we already have way more than enough corn-cobs."

I will not say who cried big tears, and is probably a good actress because two seconds

after she found out I was going to be the tree she was all smiles, because I am not a tattletale-type person. But I will say that I do not like her even one tiny bit, and that when she is not doing her acting, her true self is a Big Meanie!

Mom said I was a great tree even though I didn't get to say anything and Mr. Franks kept whispering at me



to stop moving my arm branches around so much—he didn't think it should be a windy day. But if you are a tree it is boring to stand there super still with your arms out on each side doing nothing.



"An appealing chapter book with just a hint of mystery."

—Kirkus Reviews

*Grace loves cats.* She also loves taking pictures of cats and drawing Not So Super comics. She doesn't like Sammy Stringer, a boy in her class. She's got lots and lots of ideas, and when her neighbor's cat goes missing, Grace does her best to make Mrs. Luther feel less lonely. But as the mystery of the missing cat continues, Grace's well-intentioned plan backfires and she finds herself in a bit of trouble. Maybe, just maybe, Sammy Stringer will help her through.

*Just Grace has more adventures.  
You can read about them in*



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