



Chrysanthemum



by
Kevin
Henkes





Chrysanthemum grew and grew and grew.
And when she was old enough to appreciate it,
Chrysanthemum loved her name.

"Her name must be everything she is," said her mother.

"Her name must be absolutely perfect," said her father.

And it was.

Chrysanthemum. Her parents named her Chrysanthemum.





The day she was born was the happiest day
in her parents' lives.

"She's perfect," said her mother.

"Absolutely," said her father.

And she was.

She was absolutely perfect.



CHRYSANTHEMUM

Chrysanthemum thinks her name is absolutely perfect, until her first day of school. "You're named after a *flower!*" teases Victoria. "Let's smell her," says Jo. Chrysanthemum wilts. What will it take to make her blossom again?

♦ "Henkes's language and humor are impeccably fresh, his cozy illustrations sensitive and funny, his little asides to adults an unobtrusive delight."

—*Kirkus Reviews* (pointer review)

★ "*Chrysanthemum* exemplifies Henkes's talent for creating true picture stories for young audiences."

—*The Horn Book* (starred review)

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