

Collette in Kindergarten

story by Collette Divitto illustrations by Katie Mazeika



WHEN COLLETTE, A YOUNG GIRL WITH DOWN SYNDROME, begins her first year of school, her bubbly personality helps her make friends right away. Soon, Collette notices these new friends are not inviting her to playdates—but it’s not because they don’t want to invite her. Collette comes up with a great idea to show her classmates’ parents a new way of thinking.

Based on the real-life experiences of entrepreneur and activist Collette Divitto, Collette in Kindergarten shows us how important it is to practice acceptance throughout our lives, just as children do so freely every day.

About the Author



Collette Divitto was born in 1990 with Down syndrome. She attended Clemson University and finished a three-year LIFE program in just two years. After graduating, Collette moved to Boston, Massachusetts, and founded Colletty’s Cookies. Collette teaches classes on empowerment, leadership, self-awareness, career pathways, and entrepreneurship, and when she’s not at Colletty’s Cookies, you can find her traveling across the US, sharing her inspiring story. Collette has been featured on CNN, Good Morning America, MSNBC, Inside Edition, BBC, and many other print and television media outlets around the world.

About the Illustrator



Katie Mazeika graduated from the Columbus College of Art and Design with a BFA in illustration. She moved to northeast Ohio, where she eventually settled down with her husband, two kids (Lillian and Jack), and two dogs. Katie works primarily in Photoshop on a Wacom Cintiq. When she isn’t in the studio, Katie spends time at the theater or in her garden, getting lost in a good book.

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<i>Genre: Children's Fiction</i>		<i>Distributed by Ingram and Belle Isle Books</i>	
<i>Printed Book Size: 7" x 10"</i>		<i>Printed Page Count: 36</i>	
<i>Format</i>	Hardcover	Paperback	Ebook
<i>ISBN</i>	978-1-947860-64-3	978-1-947860-68-1	978-1-951565-96-1
<i>Price</i>	\$22.95	\$12.95	\$2.99

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