

“Give me a dollar or I’ll spit on you.”

That’s Bradley Chalkers for you. He’s the oldest kid in the fifth grade. He tells enormous lies. He picks fights with girls, and the teachers say he has “serious behavior problems.” No one likes him—except Carla, the new school counselor. She thinks Bradley is sensitive and generous, and she even enjoys his far-fetched stories. Carla knows that Bradley could change, if only he weren’t afraid to try.

But when you feel like the most hated kid in the whole school, believing in yourself can be the hardest thing in the world. . . .

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YEARLING HUMOR

RL: 5.4 • 8-12

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1. List two things that Bradley Chalkers does which might get him into trouble.
2. How does Carla’s opinion of Bradley contrast with the opinion of his teachers?
3. Why does Bradley find it difficult to believe in himself?



Greg Heffley and his family are getting out of town.

With the cold weather and the

stress of the approaching holiday season, the Heffleys decide to escape to a tropical island resort for some much-needed rest and relaxation. A few days in paradise should do wonders for Greg and his frazzled family.

But the Heffleys soon discover that paradise isn't everything it's cracked up to be. Sun poisoning, stomach troubles and venomous critters all threaten to ruin the family's holiday. Can their trip be saved, or will this island getaway end in disaster?

"HILARIOUS" — *Sunday Telegraph*



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1. Where are the Heffley family planning to go on holiday?
2. List three things that threaten to ruin the family holiday.
3. Why do you think the holiday season can be a stressful time?



Elliot Hooper's life has got worse. To save his mum he must now go beyond the mortal realm on an odyssey of his own.

What of the heroes and monsters he'll meet? Odysseus himself, Poseidon, a Cyclops or three, not to mention the ever-evil Daemon of Death. At least he has cosmic shipmates to help: Zeus, Virgo and Hypnos. Right?

This is no ordinary boat trip and it might just take them to the bottom of the ocean for a potion that may not even exist...

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THIS BOOK IN THREE WORDS

Illustrations by Aleksi Bitkoff
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1. Who is Elliot Hooper trying to save in this book?
2. Who does Elliot have to help him on his odyssey?
3. What do you think the phrase 'no ordinary boat trip' means? Explain.