

Messy Blessings

Yessing the Unloved,
the Unremarkable,
and the Uncute

Written by Jeff Williams
Illustrated by Madeline Barber

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For my sister Tracie: Every kind of blessing.

— Jeff

To my parents (and biggest fans), Mitzi and Chuck Barber.

— Madeline

We “No” so much there’s much not blessed



but don't you think it should be stressed
there's more in life that should be yessed?



Hey, let's put blessing to a test!

Bless rotten pumpkins.

Bless some bugs.

Bless awkward people's awkward hugs.



Bless those nettles. Bless this cactus.



Bless a booger just for practice.

Bless snot and phlegm and sneezing fits.



Bless you with all your stinky bits.

Bless smog and soot and ash and dust.
Bless cars dissolving into rust.



Bless ordinary blades of grass.



Bless any piece of broken glass.

Bless hissing brakes and baby wails
and chalkboards under fingernails.



Bless feeling sick and throwing up.
Bless feeling weird



and growing up.

Bless making fun of boring art.

Bless laughing so much that you fart.



Bless grumpy people on the train.



Bless highway traffic in the rain.

Bless snakes that hide beneath the flowers.

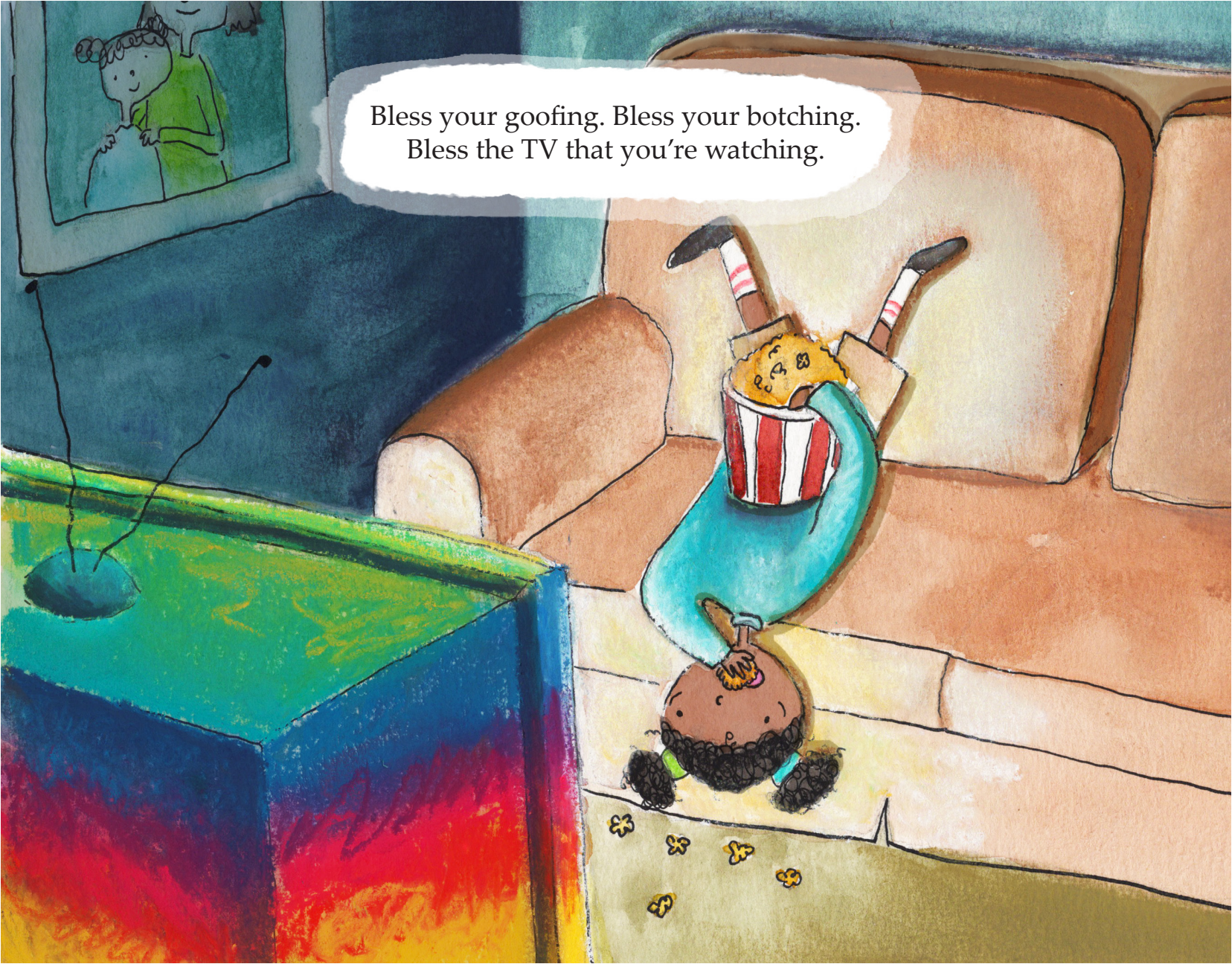


Bless minutes fast becoming hours.

Bless all the people you forgot.

Bless nada, zilch, and diddly squat.

Bless your goofing. Bless your botching.
Bless the TV that you're watching.



Bless mischief that you instigate.



And bless too little done too

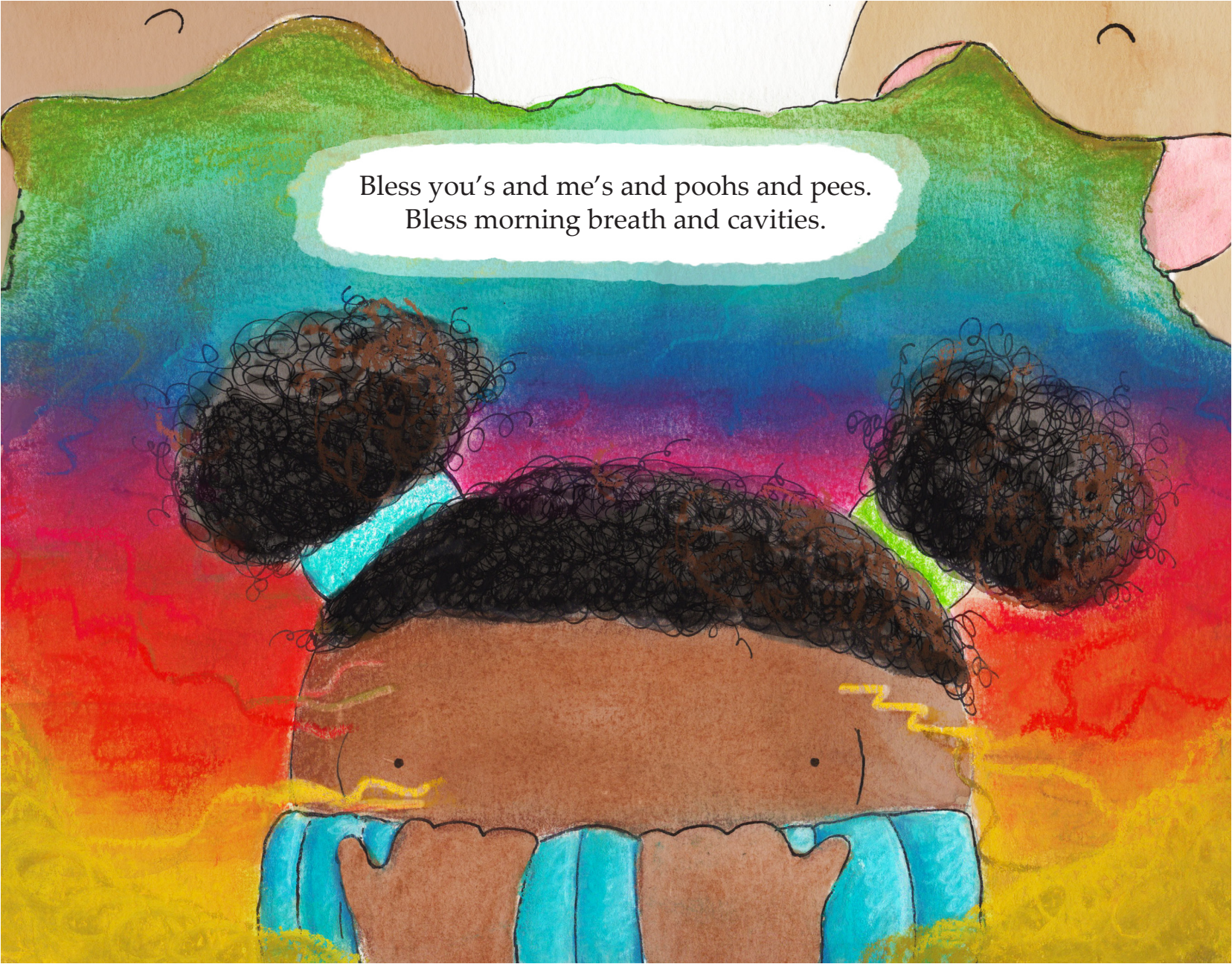


late.

Bless U-less words that start with Q.
Bless chicken pox



and bless the flu.



Bless you's and me's and poohs and pees.
Bless morning breath and cavities.

Bless good and bad and all the rest.



'Cause good or bad, life's better blessed.

Now, look around at all you've yessed



and count your blessings, kid.

And rest.



The End.

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