

## EmILy's Story- By Ryan Bowles and Jill Britton

Today was a big day for the students in room 6. Ms. Miller told her class that they were getting a new girl from California.

Ms. Miller asked Allison if she would show the new girl her new school. "Her name is Emily," Ms. Miller said. Allison smiled from ear to ear—she liked the name Emily.

After lunch the principal, Mr. Max, brought Emily to room 6.

Everyone stared at her. "She looks funny," Michael whispered to Andrew. Emily looked like she was going to cry, but instead she just looked at the ground.

"Allison, would you please help Emily find a place for her things?" Ms. Miller said.

Allison went over to Emily.

"Hi Emily, I'm Allison. We can put your stuff over here next to mine."

When the bell rang for recess, Emily did not move from her seat.

"Come on Emily, it's time for recess. What do you like to play?" Allison asked.

"Hop—scotch," Emily replied.

"Oh, me too. Let's go," Allison said.

When Emily made it to the seventh square she stopped and looked at Allison.

"I'm thirsty," she said.

"Follow me Emily. I know where the drinking fountain is."

When the two girls got to the drinking fountain Matt and his friends wouldn't let them get a drink.

"Who is your new friend?" Matt asked.

"This is Emily."

"Hi, Emily. I'm glad to meet your face—it makes me laugh," he giggled.

Matt, Michael, and Andrew walked away together pointing and laughing at Emily.

Emily began to cry and ran back to room 6.

Allison ran after Emily and told Ms. Miller about what happened at the drinking fountain.

"I'm sorry those boys were mean to you Emily. I will talk to them. But I am very happy that you are in our class," Ms. Miller said.

It was time for everyone to go home for the weekend.

"Um, Allison do you want to come over and play with me this weekend?" Emily asked.

"Yeah," Allison said, "But I have to ask my mom first."

The next morning Allison's mother dropped her off at Emily's house.

"Come in, Allison. Emily is playing in her room. Follow me," Emily's mother said.

"Oh, I like all these pictures. They are cool. Where did you get them?" Allison asked Emily's mother.

"Emily painted them. She really loves to draw and paint," her mother said.

"Emily, Allison is here. You two have fun and I will bring you girls some snacks," her mother said.

"Hi Emily," Allison giggled.

"I like the pictures you painted—I especially like the one of the fish, and the one of flowers, and I like how you painted the spring flowers. I guess I like them all." Allison said.

"Thank you," Emily said.

"You should bring your pictures to school and show everyone. I know they would like them," Allison said.

The next day Allison met Emily when she got off the bus.

"I have a surprise for you," she giggled "Come on."

When Emily entered the room she saw that Ms. Miller had put up magnets for Emily to display her work.

Emily began to smile and Allison knew that she had done a good thing.

"You want me to put my artwork on the board?" Emily asked.

"Yes, Emily. I think everyone would enjoy seeing your paintings," Ms. Miller said.

Emily, Allison, and Ms. Miller put Emily's pictures on the chalkboard. Each one was signed by the artist—EmILy.

The first morning bell rang. One by one, Emily's classmates entered the room and stopped to look at the pictures on the board.

"Emily, you painted this? It is so bright. I really like this one of the fish," Michael said.

Allison smiled at Emily.

"I painted them all by myself. I like to paint," Emily said.

"Your pictures are cool Emily," Andrew said, "Can I have one?"

"How can you draw like this?" Matt asked.

"Yeah, Emily, how?" Allison also wanted to know.

"I don't know, I just do it. My mom says that we all have special talents. We just have to figure them out," Emily said.

"Emily, would you like to lead the class in a few art lessons during our creative time next week?" Ms. Miller said.

"Puh-lease Emily," her classmates yelled.

A wide smile stretched across Emily's face. For the first time she felt like part of the class.

Ms. Miller let Emily show the students in room 6 how to draw and paint.

The next month Ms. Miller told the class that they were going to get another

new student. His name was Tristan. Allison looked at Emily. Emily looked at Ms. Miller. And all three smiled because they knew that Tristan would be just fine in room 6.