

# PRETTY UGLY

A hilariously quirky monster tale about appreciating beauty—in all its weird and wonderful forms!—by Ian Falconer, the creator of the iconic Olivia books, and bestselling humorist David Sedaris.

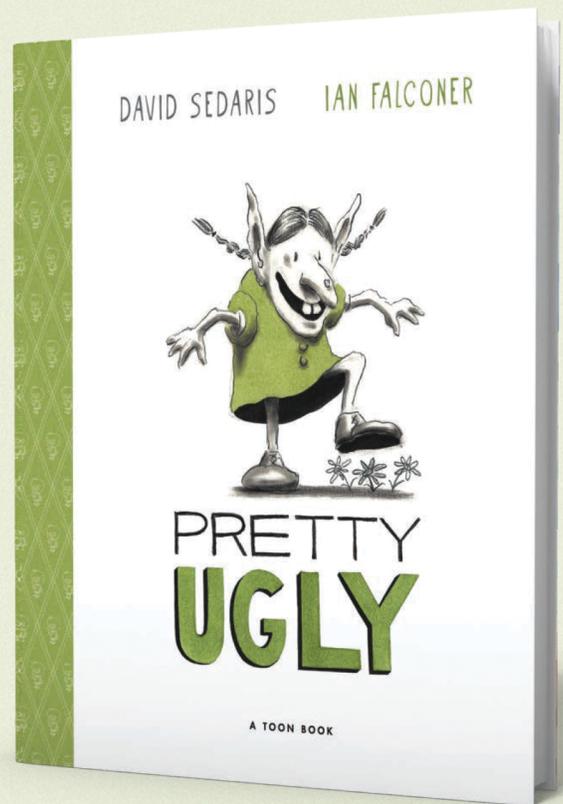


Illustration © Laura Rosenwald



**DAVID SEDARIS**, a regular contributor to *The New Yorker*, says this story was inspired by his sister Amy, who makes the world's scariest faces. Amy Sedaris adds: "All my life I've been making faces. I think maybe some of my head bones are missing. It's like I'm a sock puppet. As I get older, I'm finding it even easier. Whatever the reason, I'm grateful."



**IAN FALCONER**'s first children's book, *Olivia*, became a bestseller and an instant classic, won a Caldecott Honor, and was followed by eight more *Olivia* books and a TV series. Falconer passed away in 2023, at the young age of sixty-three, right after helping put this book together.

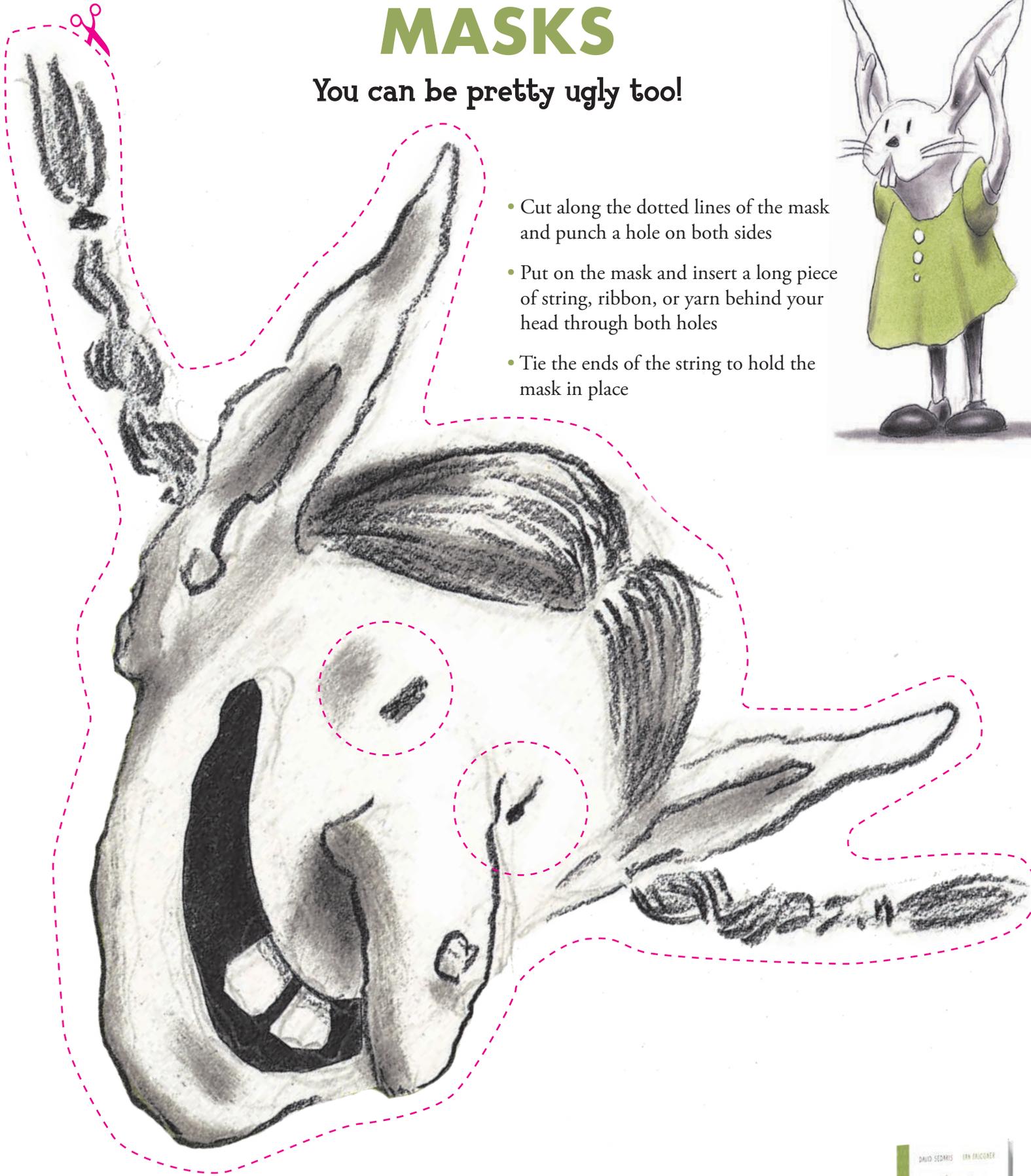
## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do all people think the same things are beautiful? Who decides what is beautiful and what is ugly?
2. Sometimes people think that others who don't look like them are ugly. Why do you think this is so?
3. Do you think different cultures have different standards for beauty?
4. Do people treat others who are "beautiful" and others who are not differently? Can you give examples? Why do you think so?
5. Should you make your own decisions about what is beautiful or go along with what other people think? Why?
6. What makes this book funny?
7. What did you learn from this book?

# MASKS

You can be pretty ugly too!

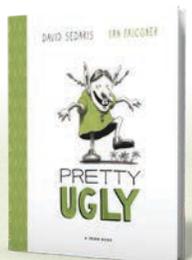
- Cut along the dotted lines of the mask and punch a hole on both sides
- Put on the mask and insert a long piece of string, ribbon, or yarn behind your head through both holes
- Tie the ends of the string to hold the mask in place



REPRODUCIBLE

DAVID SEDARIS IAN FALCONER

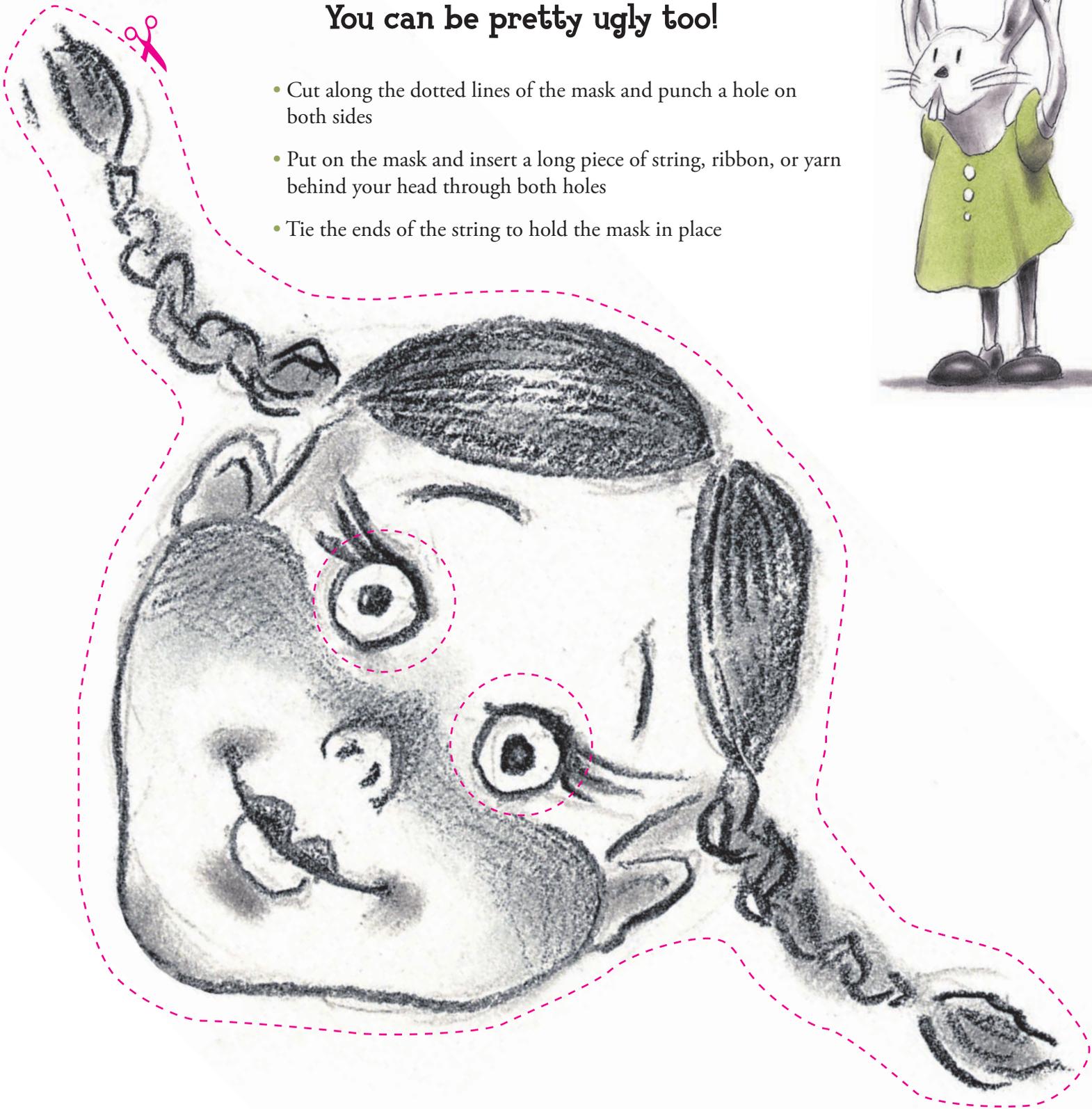
PRETTY  
UGLY



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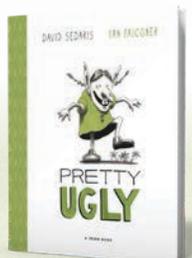
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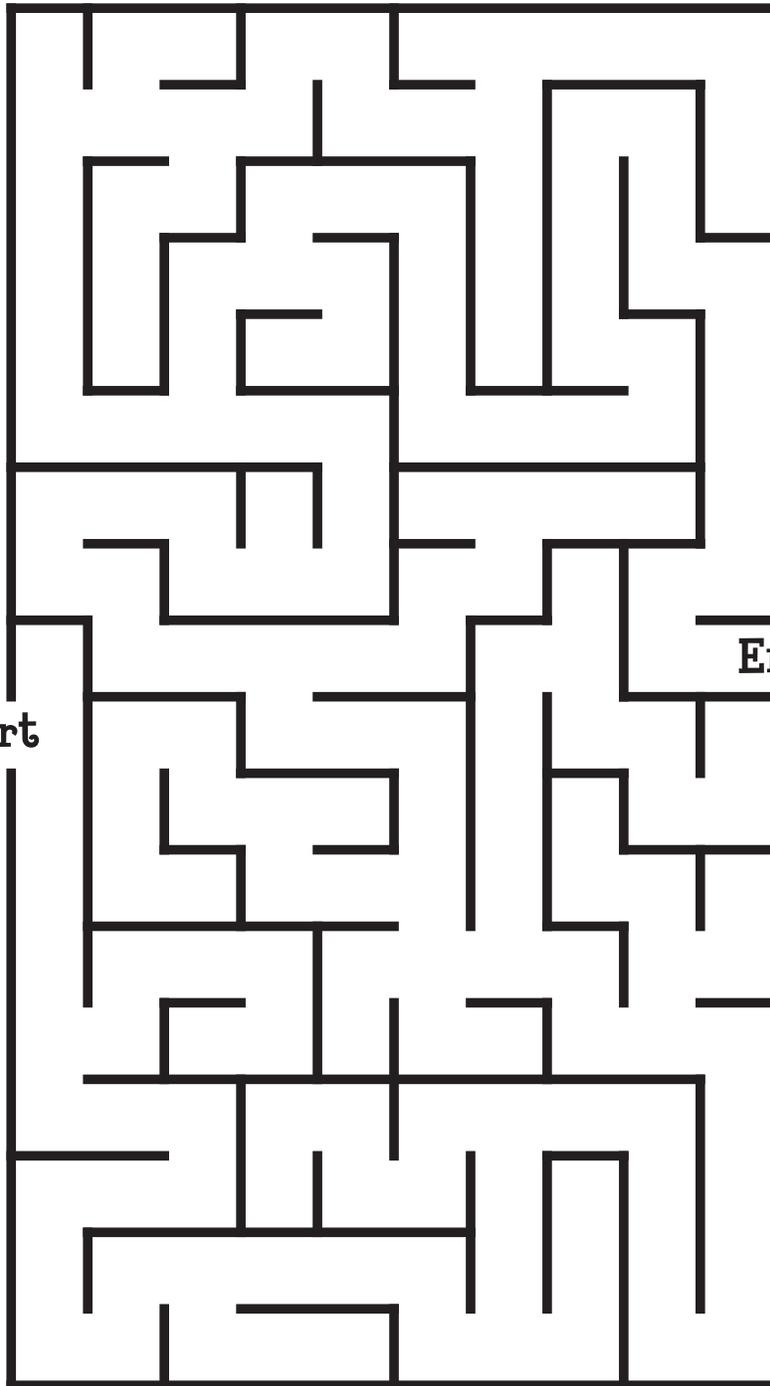


# MAZE

Help Anna Van Ogre find her way back home.



Start



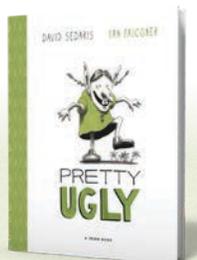
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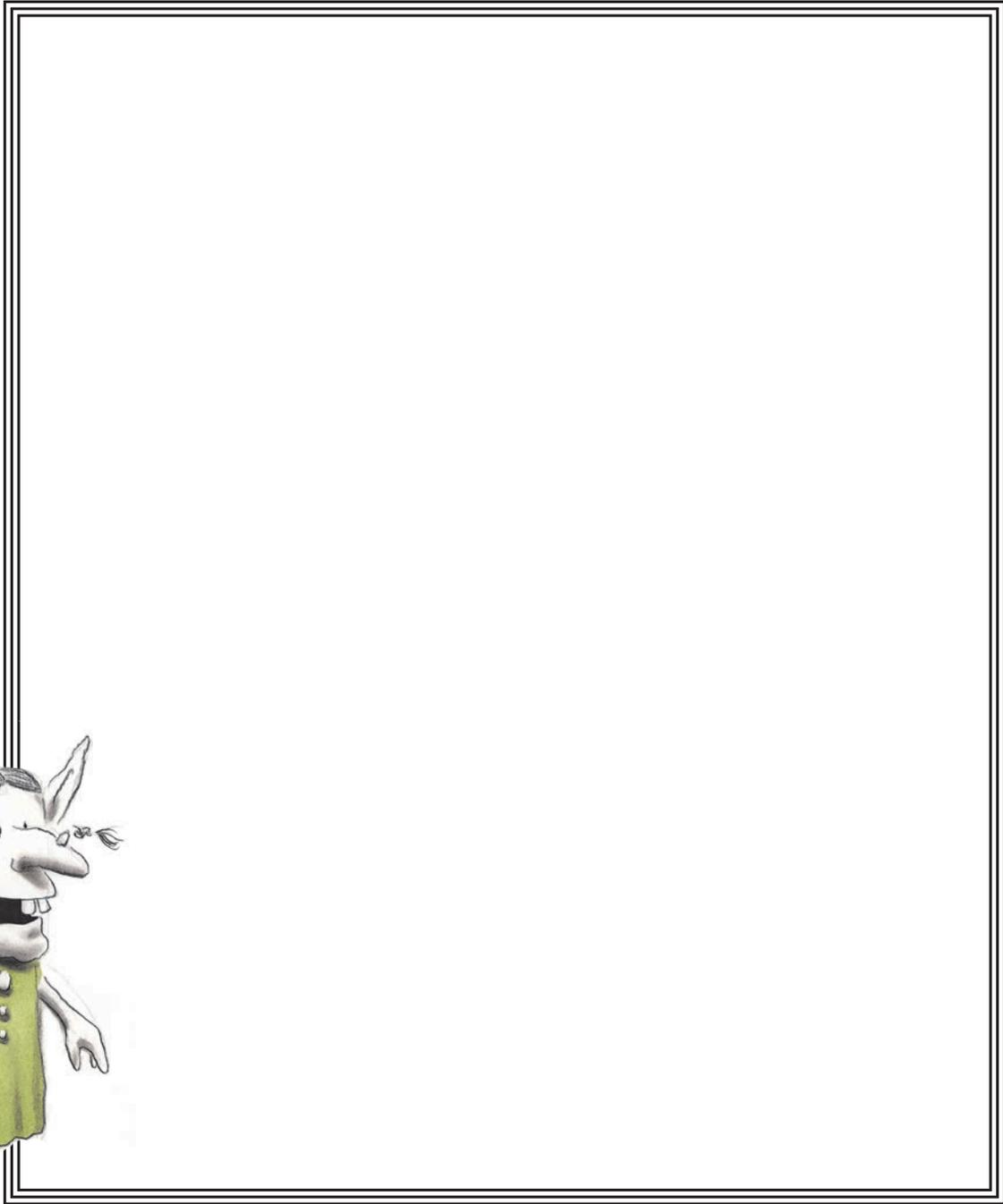
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# PRETTY UGLY GALLERY

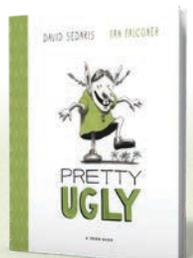
Think of something you like, or that you think is loveable, but that others might not feel the same way about. Now draw it in the picture frame for others to admire too!



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# PRETTY UGLY SWEATER PARTY

Why wait until the holidays? You can throw a pretty ugly sweater party any time of year. The best part: recycle items you already have around the house, or pick up a few knickknacks from your local charity thrift store.

Invite your friends to bring a sweater or sweatshirt (or even a tee-shirt in warmer months) and a handful of things they have lying around the house. On the day of your party, set up a decorating station with supplies and everyone's embellishments.

## Helpful things to have on hand:

- Safety pins
- Hot/Fabric Glue
- Fabric tape or strong tape
- A grown-up

## Some sweater decoration ideas (be sure to get permission):

- Gramp's necktie
- A pair of old sunglasses, or glasses frames
- Plastic necklaces you can cut up for their beads - or use them whole for collars or sleeves
- Little toy figures, like those plastic army men because are you really doing anything with those?
- Your sister's old hairpins
- Your favorite (or not-so-favorite) patches and pins
- The plushie your dog tore apart

## Bonus ideas

Give your ugly sweater party a theme. Can't think of one? Find a complete list of Taylor Swift songs, close your eyes, and point. Voila! Instant party theme.

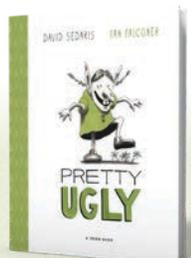
Create a pretty ugly catwalk and have everyone sashay down the runway to the song "You're Unbelievable" by EMF. Or just throw a pretty ugly dance party. Bonus points to anyone whose sweater decorations don't fall off.



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# COLOR OR COLLAGE

Color in or collage an ugly sweater dress for Anna.



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