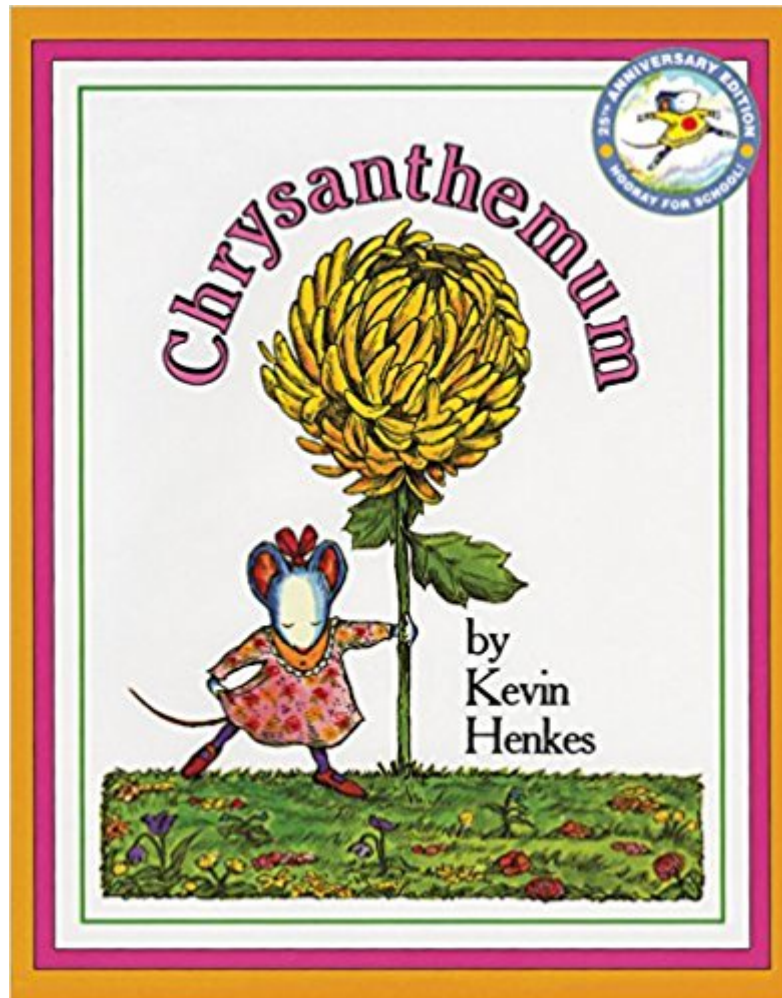




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# Chrysanthemum



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## Synopsis

Written and illustrated by Kevin Henkes, the nationally bestselling and celebrated creator of Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse, Owen, and Kitten's First Full Moon, *Chrysanthemum* is a funny and honest school story about teasing, self-esteem, and acceptance to share all year round. Chrysanthemum thinks her name is absolutely perfectâuntil her first day of school. "You're named after a flower!" teases Victoria. "Let's smell her," says Jo. Chrysanthemum wilts. What will it take to make her blossom again? This popular picture book has sold more than a million copies and was named a Notable Book for Children by the American Library Association. "Perfectly executed in words and illustration, *Chrysanthemum* exemplifies Henkes's talent for creating true picture stories for young audiences."âThe Horn Book Supports the Common Core State Standards

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 460L (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Mulberry Books; unknown edition (December 30, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0688147321

ISBN-13: 978-0688147327

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 7.8 x 9.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 344 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #201 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in Books > Children's Books >

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Skills #4 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills &

School Life > Friendship

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

Until Chrysanthemum started kindergarten, she believed her parents when they said her name was perfect. But on the first day of school, Chrysanthemum begins to suspect that her name is far less than perfect, especially when her class dissolves into giggles upon hearing her name read aloud. That evening, Chrysanthemum's parents try to piece her self-esteem back together again with

comfort food and a night filled "with hugs, kisses, and Parcheesi." But the next day Victoria, a particularly observant and mean-spirited classmate, announces that Chrysanthemum's name takes up 13 letters. "That's half the letters in the alphabet!" she adds. Chrysanthemum wilts. Pretty soon the girls are making playground threats to "pluck" Chrysanthemum and "smell her." Kevin Henkes has great compassion for the victims of childhood teasing and cruelties--using fresh language, endearing pen-and-ink mouse characters, and realistic dialogue to portray real-life vulnerability. He also has great compassion for parents, offering several adult-humor jokes for anxious mommies and daddies. On the surface, the finale is overly tidy and the coincidences unbelievable. But in the end, what sustains Chrysanthemum, as well as this story, is the steadfast love and support of her family. And because of this, the closure is ultimately convincing and utterly comforting. ALA Notable Book, School Library Journal Best Book of the Year, Horn Book Fanfare Honor List. (Ages 4 to 8) --Gail Hudson --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

PreSchool-Grade 2-- She was a perfect baby, and her doting parents chose a name to match, Chrysanthemum. She is proud of her musical name until kindergarten, when she finds herself in a world of strange new names such as Sue, Bill, Max, Sam, and Joe--in short ( really short) a world of ordinary monikers. That wouldn't be so bad if the others--like Victoria--hadn't made a mean-spirited game of tormenting her, sending her home in tears to be comforted with cuddles and Parcheesi. Wisely, Chrysanthemum's concerned and loving parents try not to interfere, but what can't be put right by them is dealt with by lucky chance. The class learns that their popular music teacher not only has a whopper of a name herself--Delphinium--but also plans to name her expected baby by the prettiest name she has heard, Chrysanthemum. The charming mouse with her delicate little face seems just right for her name. The range of expression and emotion Henkes conveys in his pen-and-ink and watercolor illustrations are "absolutely perfect." The impressionistic floral backdrops and patterning reinforce the story's lighthearted, yet tender theme. This sensitive story will strike a chord with young children, particularly those who also have difficult or unfamiliar names. --Joan McGrath, Education Centre Library, Toronto, Ontario, CanadaCopyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Kevin Henkes' classic school story Chrysanthemum is a must for all ages! Chrysanthemum grows up believing that her name is absolutely perfect, and it is... until she gets to school and some of the students in her class giggle at her name. Chrysanthemum has to come back to the realization that her name IS absolutely perfect and she finds the opportunity to bloom in her own way at school. As

a teacher I wish it were as easy to build up the confidence of our students as it is in this story, but the lesson is still there for our children to learn: be yourself and be proud of who you are; bloom where you're planted!! I have had the paperback copy in my classroom for several years and it is starting to get worn. I decided to replace it with the digital copy since my students enjoy reading on the Kindle. I was pleased with the formatting of the book, some other picture books have not turned out well on the Kindle or the iPad reading app. This book provided the actual pages of the story and the text can be enlarged if you tap it on the iPad app. I do wish that the iPad app would also include the text to speech feature that is available on Kindles, since our school has several iPads and my students with special needs are able to read more successfully using books on the Kindle app. Overall, I am very pleased with this version and I heartily recommend the story to readers of all ages and names.

Favorite author and illustrator. I used this book in a preschool unit about names and counting the letters in our names. FUN!

Absolutely adore this story. Read it in a doctor's office and it actually hurt me to leave it behind. Our family loves this story and you will too. Buy this for a child with an unusual name, it will make them feel very proud.

Gift for a 4 year old's birthday. Purchased 3 books and all were well-received by this little girl.

This is such a great, encouraging book for children who might feel like outcasts and to help parents start the conversation.

Just as described. Great service.

Love it....a great book addressing mean people.

Kids love this book

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