

DIARY

of a Wimpy Kid

②

January – Part 1

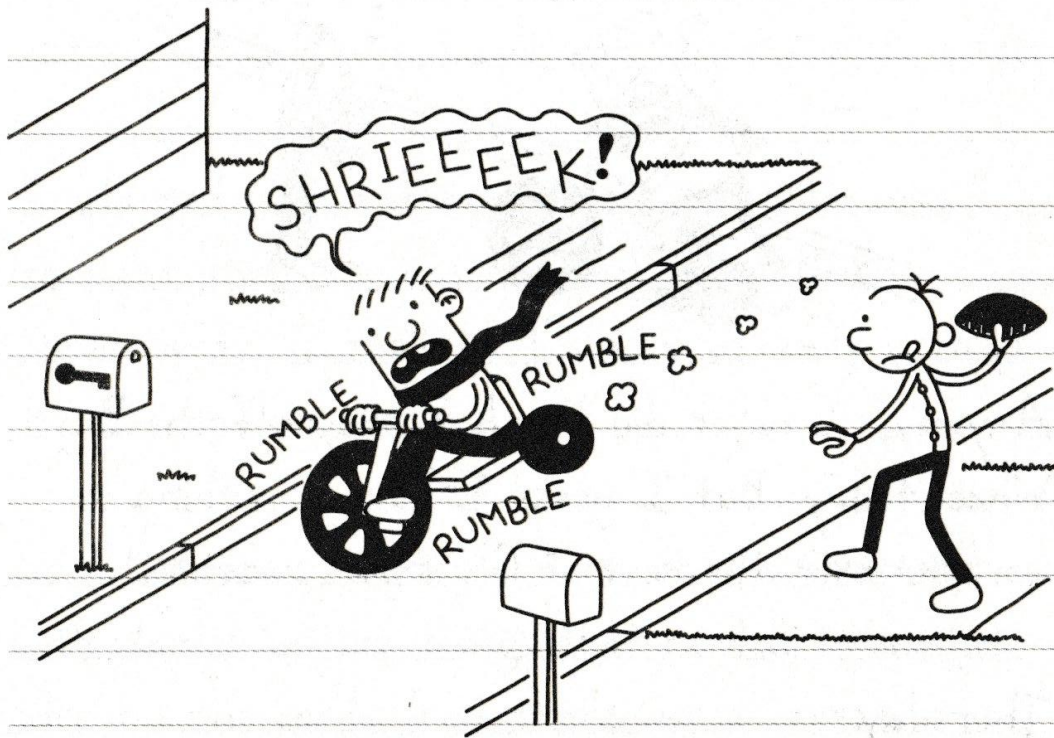


JANUARY

Wednesday

I found a way to have some fun with the Big Wheel Rowley got me for Christmas. I came up with this game where one guy rides down the hill and the other guy tries to knock him off with a football.

Rowley was the first one down the hill, and I was the thrower.



It's a lot harder to hit a moving target than I thought. Plus, I didn't get a lot of practice. It took Rowley like ten minutes to walk the Big Wheel back up the hill after every trip down.

Rowley kept asking to switch places and have me be the one who rides the Big Wheel, but I'm no fool. That thing was hitting thirty-five miles an hour, and it didn't have any brakes.

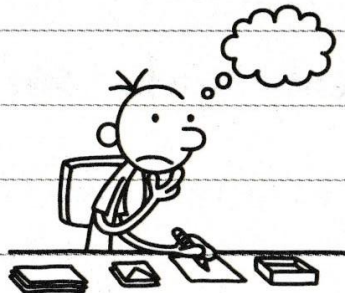


Anyway, I never did knock Rowley off the Big Wheel today. But I guess I have something to work at over the rest of Christmas vacation.

Thursday

I was heading up to Rowley's today to play our Big Wheel game again, but Mom said I had to finish my Christmas thank-yous before I went out anywhere.

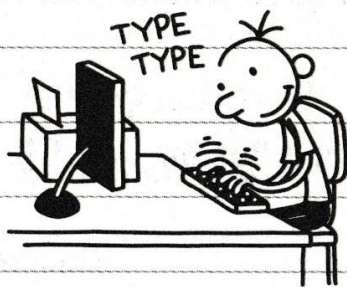
I thought I could just crank out my thank-you cards in a half hour, but when it came to actually writing them, my mind went blank.



Let me tell you, it's not easy writing thank-you notes for stuff you didn't want in the first place.

I started with the nonclothes items, because I thought they'd be easiest. But after two or three cards, I realized I was practically writing the same thing every time.

So I wrote up a general form on the computer with blanks for the things that needed to change. Writing the cards from there was a breeze.



Dear Aunt Lydia,

Thank you so much for the awesome encyclopedia !
How did you know I wanted that for Christmas?

I love the way the encyclopedia looks on my shelf !

All my friends will be so jealous that I have my very own encyclopedia .

Thank you for making this the best Christmas ever!

Sincerely, Greg

My system worked out pretty well for the first couple of gifts, but after that, not so much.

Dear Aunt Loretta,

Thank you so much for the awesome pants !
How did you know I wanted that for Christmas?

I love the way the pants looks on my legs !

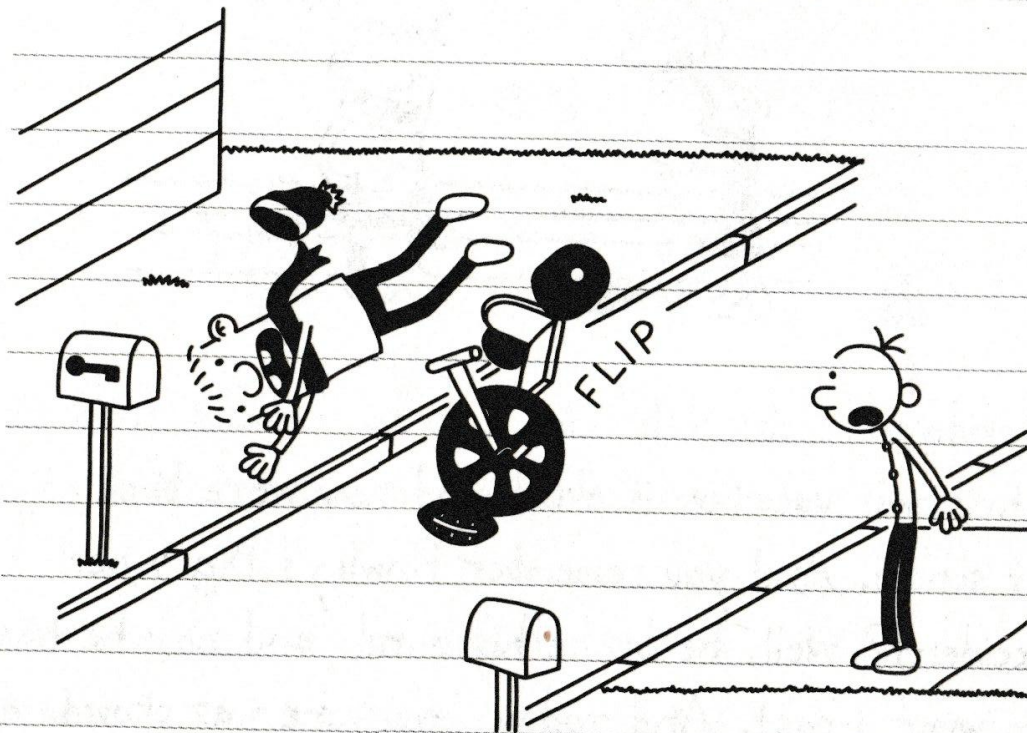
All my friends will be so jealous that I have my very own pants .

Thank you for making this the best Christmas ever!

Sincerely, Greg

Friday

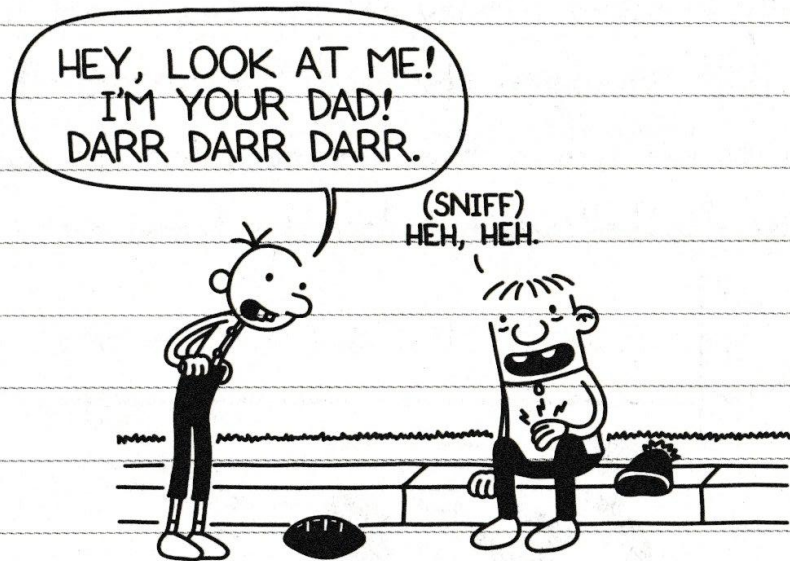
I finally knocked Rowley off the Big Wheel today, but it didn't happen the way I expected. I was trying to hit him in the shoulder, but I missed, and the football went under the front tire.



Rowley tried to break his fall by sticking out his arms, but he landed pretty hard on his left hand. I figured he'd just shake it off and get right back on the bike, but he didn't.

I tried to cheer him up, but all the jokes that usually crack him up weren't working.

So I knew he must be hurt pretty bad.



New Words / Expressions

Come up with: create or discover

Knock ____ off: to hit and make fall off of something.

Plus: (slang) used to mean "and"

Switch places: trade jobs, or things to do.

35 miles an hour: about 56 km/ hour. (Greg does not know exactly, so he guesses this, it is fast for a toy).

brakes: a part that can stop the Big Wheel. (Or any Vehicle)

head to: (slang) go to.

Thank yous: letters to the people who gave you gifts, to say "Thank you."

Crank out: (slang) do a lot of work in a very short time with no thought about the quality.

nonclothes: not-clothes.

(be) a breeze: (slang) be very easy..

Shake it off: (slang) be not hurt after a short time.

Crack someone up: make someone laugh.

Questions

1) What type of friend do you think Greg is? Why? Use examples from the books (Book 1 &2) to explain.

2) What type of brother is Greg? Why? Use examples from the books (book 1 &2)to explain your answer.

3) If you could give Greg any advice, what would you say? Why do you think he needs this advice?

4) Who gets hurt? how did it happen?

5) Do you think they knew someone would get hurt? Was this a good game for them to play? Why?

6) Have you ever hurt your friend before? How did it happen? How did you feel?
