



# CALEB and KIT

He's her only friend.  
She's his biggest secret.

**Beth Vrabel**

Author of the Pack of Dorks series



PRAISE FOR  
**CALEB** and **KIT**

"A realistic story with strong, recognizable characters that doesn't reduce cystic fibrosis to a tragedy."

—*Kirkus Reviews*

"A can't-put-it-down tale. Caleb's discoveries about his own strength and resilience during his friendship with free-spirited, imaginative Kit will expand your heart and fill your soul. From the beautiful cover to the last sentence, this book is a favorite to savor and share."

—**Bibi Belford**,  
author of *Canned and Crushed*

"You can't help but fall in love with twelve-year-old Caleb, his humor, his determination, and his wonder as he navigates his friendship with the mysterious Kit, his changing school relationships, his divorced parents' issues, and his comparisons to his big brother. You cry and cheer as he learns how hard it can be to do the right thing."

—**Tricia Clasen**,  
author of *The Haunted House Project*

"Having a disability myself, my heart broke for Caleb, who wants nothing more than to feel like a normal twelve-year-old kid—at any cost. Caleb and Kit will forever be entwined, the roots of their friendship solid, rich, and strong, just like this beautiful story."

—**Kerry O'Malley Cerra**,  
author of *Just a Drop of Water*

"In the midst of Kit's self-constructed fantasy world, Caleb's heroism is the real deal. He's determined, courageous, and witty despite his unusual physical challenges. Beth Vrabel doesn't shy away from the tough stuff that can complicate the lives of tweens. Readers young and old will find this a unique novel well-deserving of a permanent place on the family bookshelf."

—**Melissa Hart**,  
author of *Avenging the Owl*

PRAISE FOR  
**BETH VRABEL**

“Vrabel takes three knotty, seemingly disparate problems—bullying, the plight of wolves, and coping with disability—and with tact and grace knits them into an engrossing whole of despair and redemption.”

—*Kirkus Reviews*, starred review

“Vrabel displays a canny understanding of middle-school vulnerability.”

—*Booklist*

“[Vrabel’s] challenging subject matter is handled in a gentle, age-appropriate way with humor and genuine affection.”

—*School Library Journal*

“Vrabel tackles some tough issues, including albinism, depression, and loneliness, with a compassionate perspective and a charming voice.”

—Amanda Flower,  
author of Agatha Award-winning Andi Boggs series

“Beth Vrabel’s stellar writing captivates readers from the start as she weaves a powerful story of friendship and hardship.”

—Buffy Andrews,  
author of *The Lion Awakens* and *Freaky Frank*

CALEB  
and KIT



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RP|KIDS  
PHILADELPHIA

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**FOR**

**WILL, JACK, AND JOEY**



## CHAPTER ONE

Kit said we were destined to meet, but I really was just going for a walk.

I had to get out of the house and away from my brother, who was sawing on his violin so hard that the noise seemed to vibrate up through my chest and out of my ears. Maybe he was just practicing, but then again, maybe my perfect brother was showcasing yet another way he was better than me. Back went the bow. *Look at what I'm doing while you just sit there!* Forward. *When I was twelve, I'd already performed concertos.* Back. *I'm captain of the cross-country team, but you can't even run a mile.* Forward, entering the cadenza. *Pathetic!* Back. *Loser!* Forward. *Lazy!*

Not that Patrick would actually say any of those things. He was too polite, too considerate, too *perfect* for that.



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