

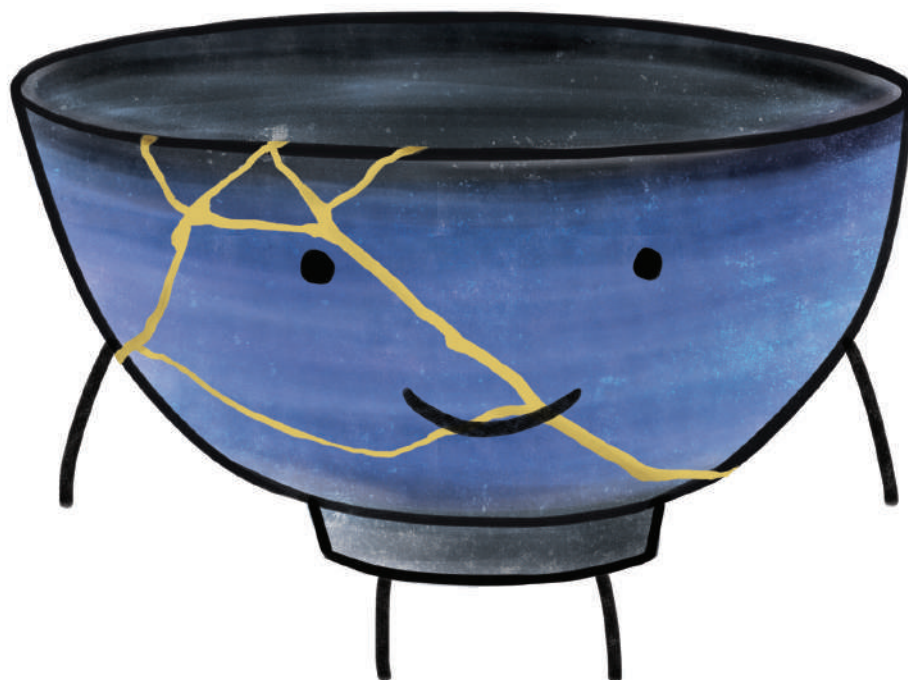
YEW CHUNG COLLEGE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

YCCECE Student Teacher Series

GOLDEN

Written by Tina Wu

Illustrated by Eugene Levi Chan



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Edited by Suzan Stamper

A Word from the Editor

The 2018/2019 academic year was momentous and will forever be remembered in the history of Yew Chung. The **Yew Chung College of Early Childhood Education (YCCECE)** was formally established as the first and only Higher Education institution specialising in Early Childhood Education (ECE) in Hong Kong, and in September 2018, we welcomed 250 students to our new campus in Tin Wan, Aberdeen. Our **new Bachelor of Education (Honours) in ECE** degree programme was also successfully launched, admitting both Year 1 and Year 3 students. In one of our third-year English courses, each Student Teacher was asked to author an original children’s storybook, which resulted in numerous wonderful creations. To commemorate YCCECE’s Inauguration on 31 May 2019, we selected two storybooks for publication, thus launching this new YCCECE Student Teacher Series!

A heartfelt “thank you” to **Dr. Betty CHAN Po-king**, Chairlady of the YCCECE Board of Governors, for her generous contribution to the publication of both storybooks, and for her visionary leadership and unstinting support of our Student Teachers as the next generation of Yew Chung Educators.

Suzan Stamper
(YCCECE Senior Lecturer)

A Word from the Author



I am a third culture kid (TCK) currently living in Hong Kong. My passport says I am from Taiwan, but I grew up in Manila, Philippines. I am now in Hong Kong where I am a third year student at Yew Chung College of Early Childhood Education. I have always had a passion for children, specifically children who are a bit different or who do not necessarily fit in.

My inspiration for this children’s storybook came from reading recent surveys about the high levels of stress, anxiety, and depression among Hong Kong children. I therefore wanted to encourage young children to not be afraid of failing and to keep trying. We live in a society where the value of play can be overshadowed by the pursuit of academic achievements, and the fear of failing can be overwhelming for children’s healthy development. This story’s inspirational message is represented by Kintsugi, a Japanese art that mends broken pieces of pottery with gold. I hope that children can learn to bravely embrace new challenges, and not fear failure or their individual “flaws,” as they are what make each of us unique and special.

To all the children afraid of falling - You are beautiful and strong.

Tina Wu
(YCCECE Year 3 Student Teacher)

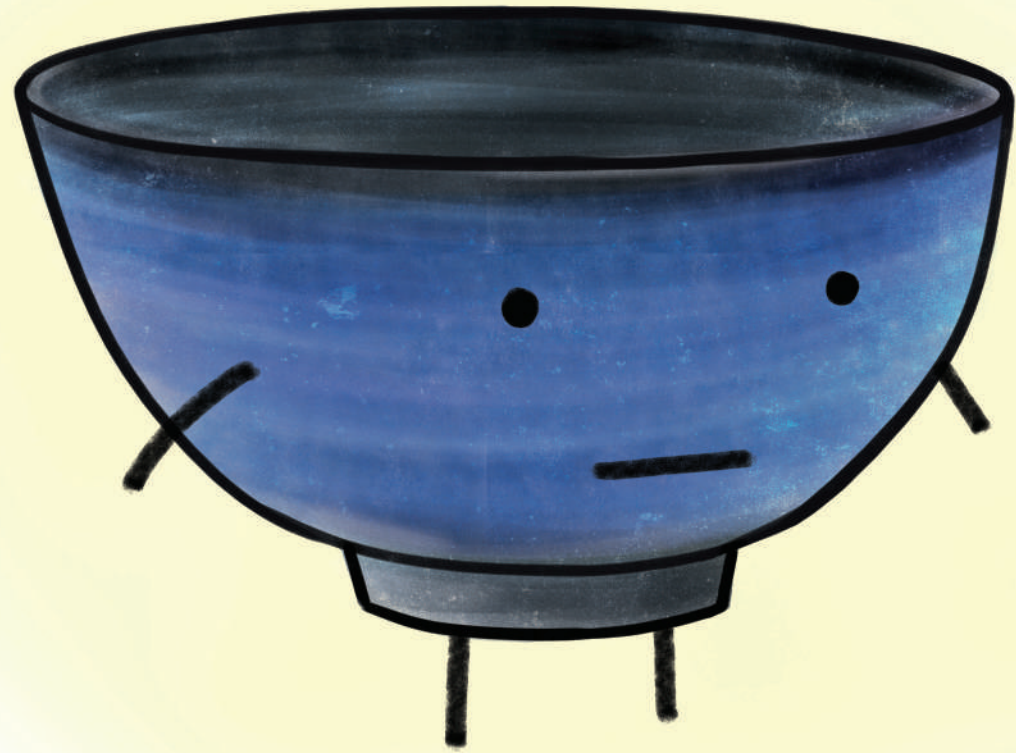


**Once upon a time there was a bowl.
He was a friendly bowl.
A happy bowl.**



**He wanted to play with
the other bowls.
Climb with the other bowls.
Run and jump with the other bowls.**





**But he was a scared little bowl.
Afraid of messing up.
Afraid of making mistakes.**



He was afraid of falling.



**One day, he decided to
muster up all of his courage.
A fiery courage.
An adventurous courage.**



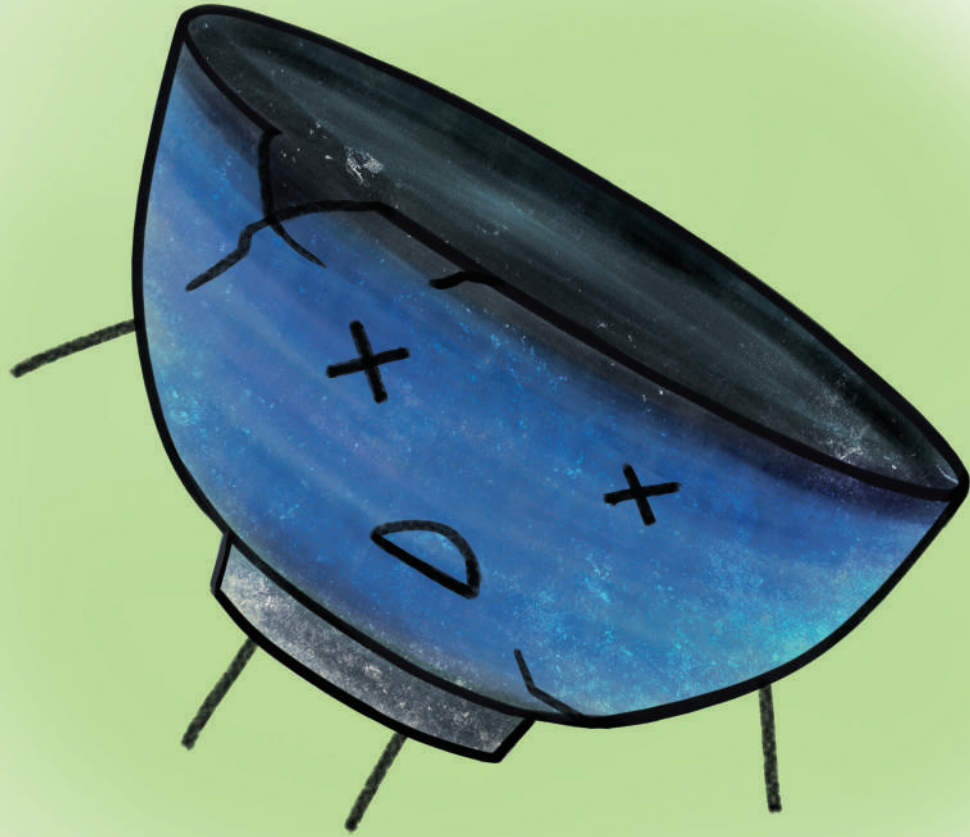


He ran.
He jumped.
He climbed up high.



**He climbed up high.
Then suddenly, he slipped
and tumbled down,
down to the ground.**





Crack!



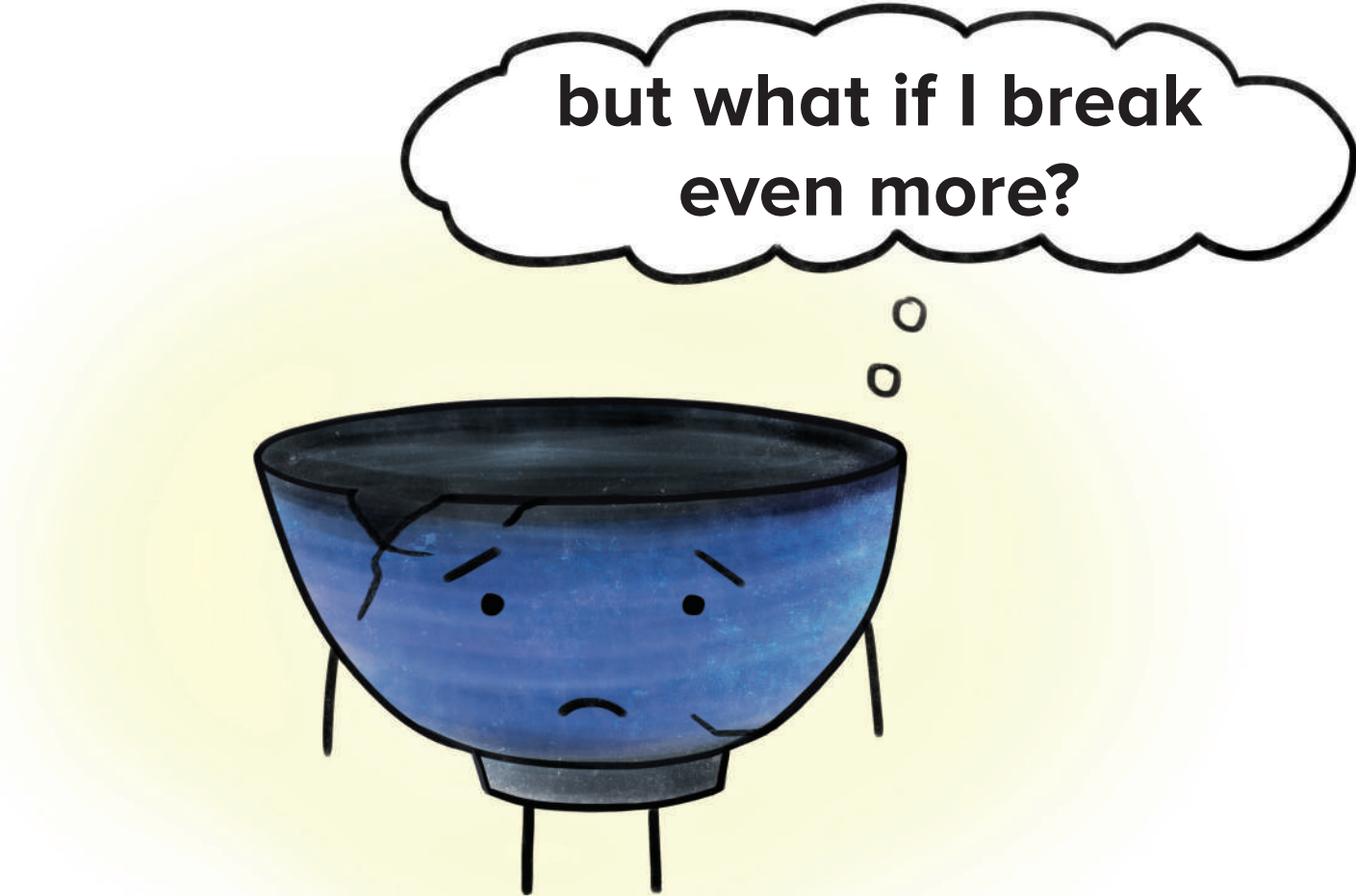
**When he looked around,
he saw his broken pieces.
He did not want to try again.**

**He picked up his pieces and
went back home.**

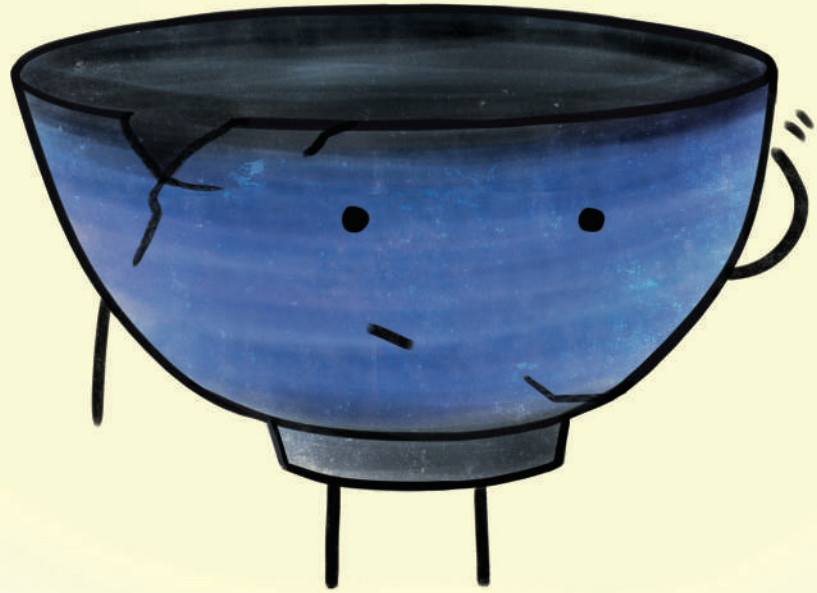




**The next day he saw his
friends again.**



**The little bowl was scared.
But he wanted to play.**



**He watched as his friends played.
He saw them having fun.
He thought he'd try again.**

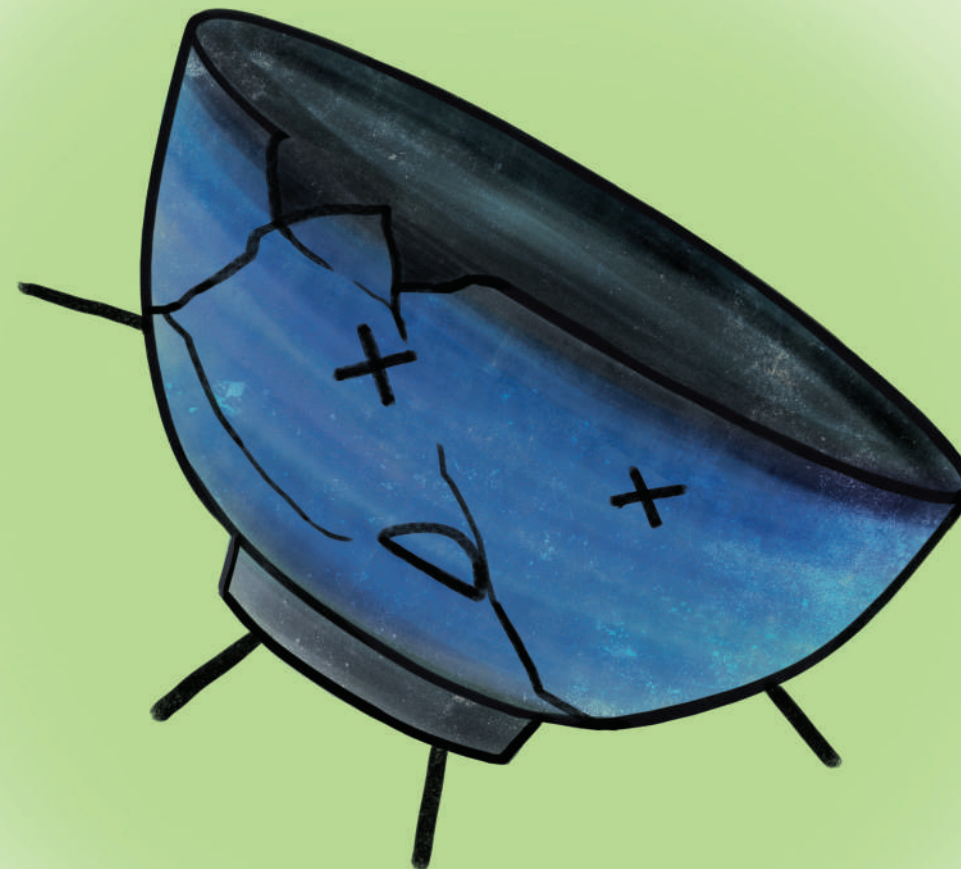


**So the little bowl decided to
try one more time,
to have fun, to play.**

**He climbed.
He jumped.
And he ran so fast...**



... Then the little bowl fell again.



Crack!

**Again, he picked up his pieces and
went back home.**

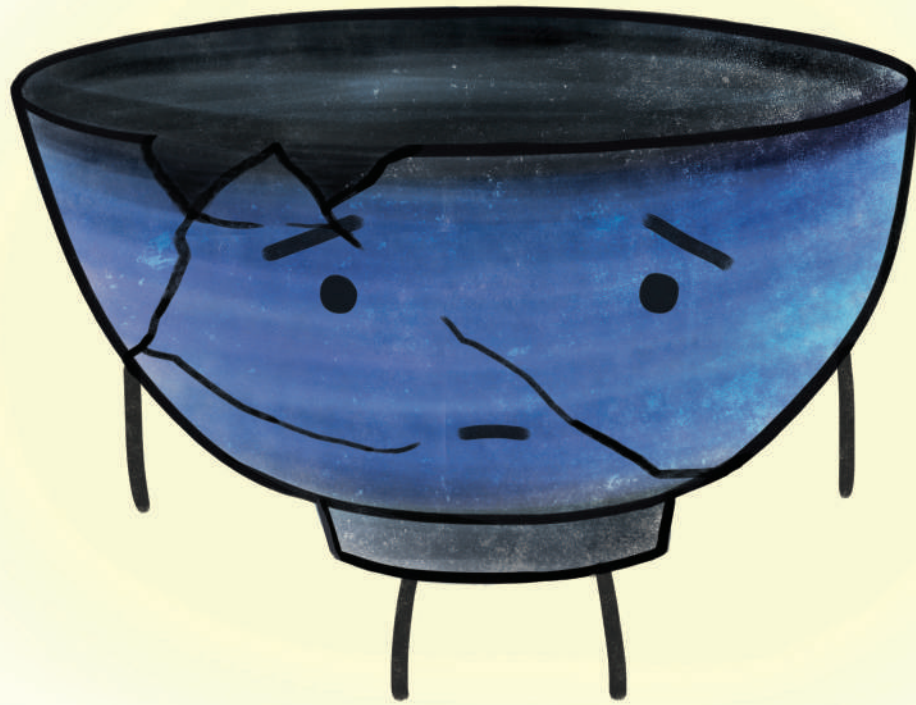




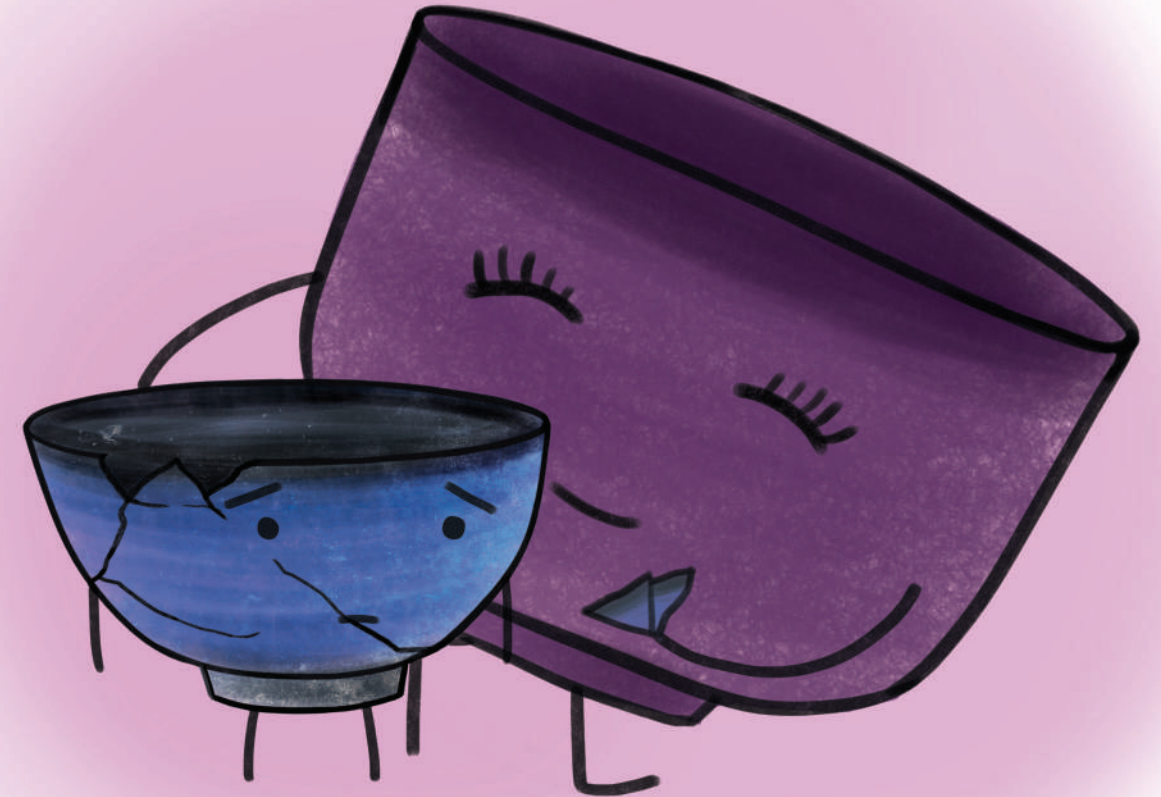
**The next day he watched
his friends again.**



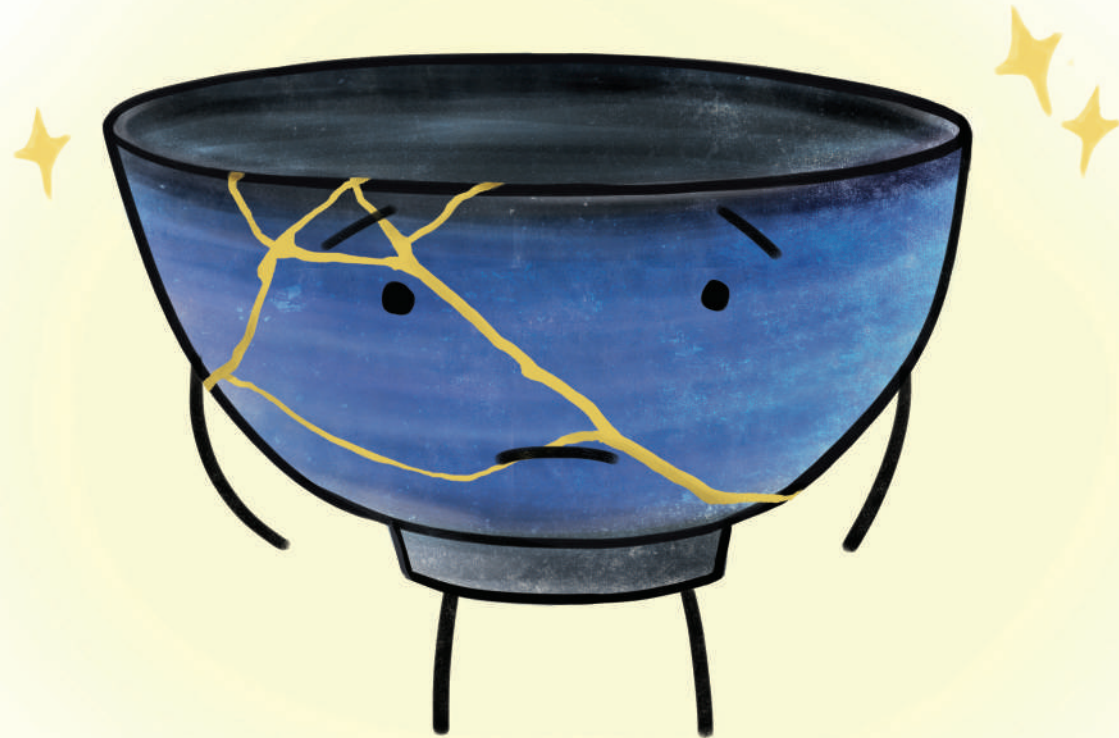
**They ran.
They jumped.
They climbed up high.**



**He went home that night.
He was discouraged.
He was sad.**



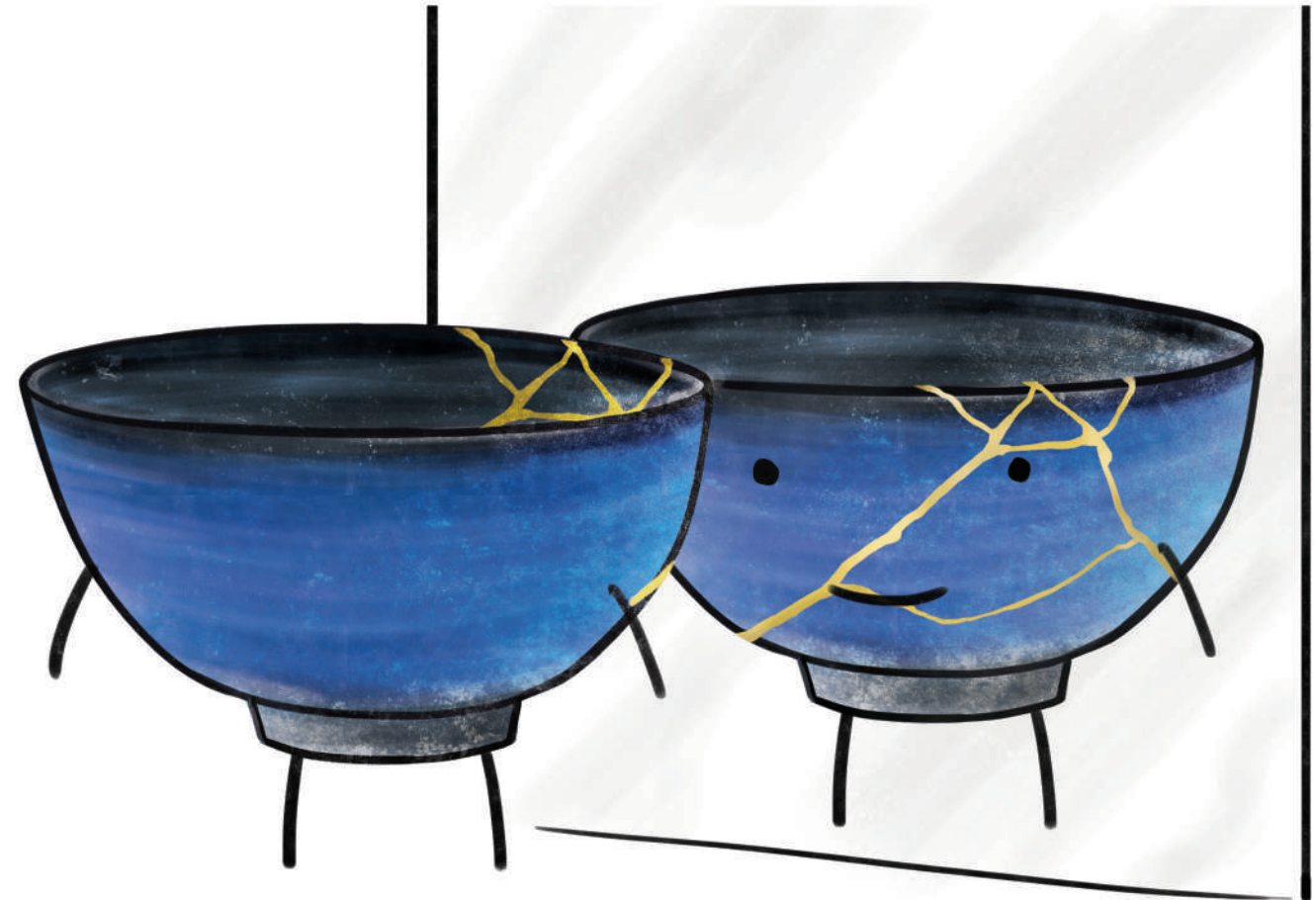
**His mother scooped him up.
She showed him his pieces.
And she glued them back on.**



Still sad.

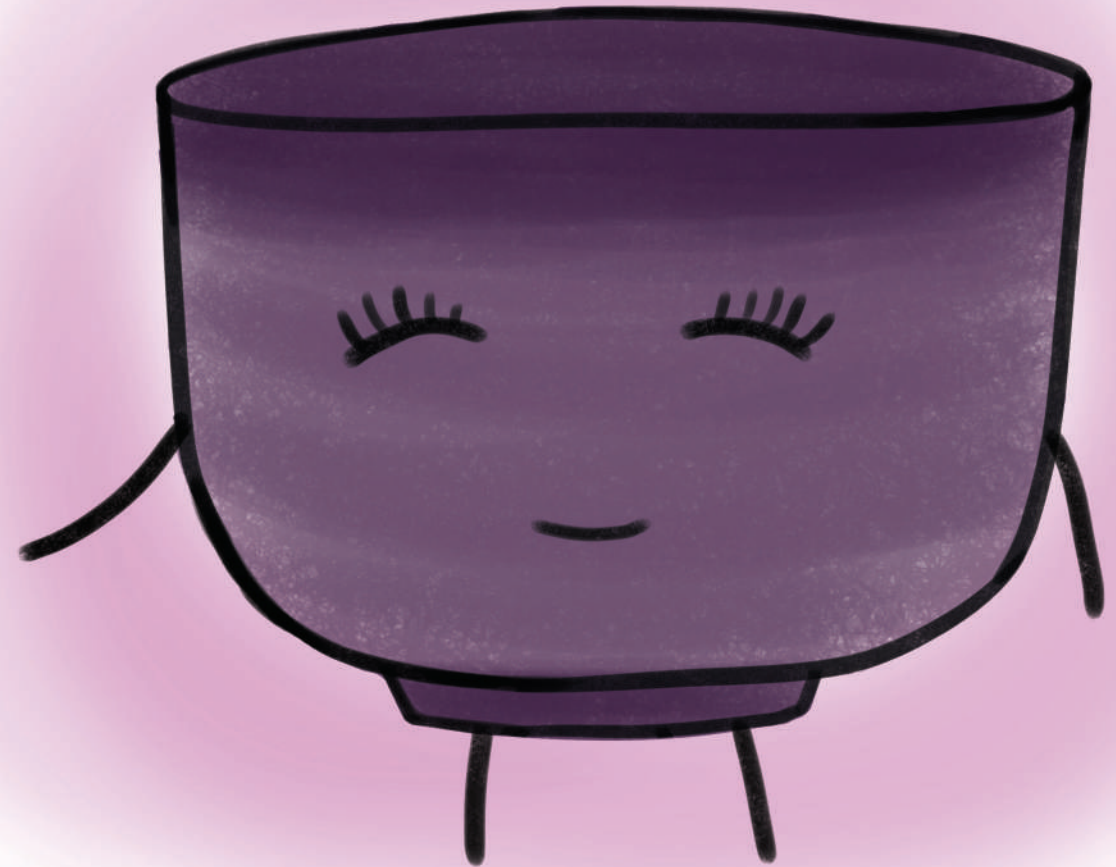
He looked in the mirror.

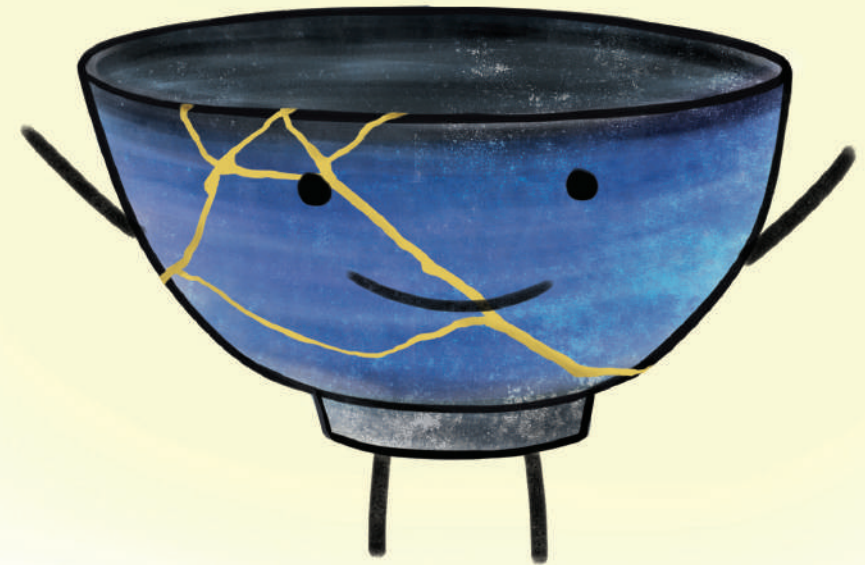
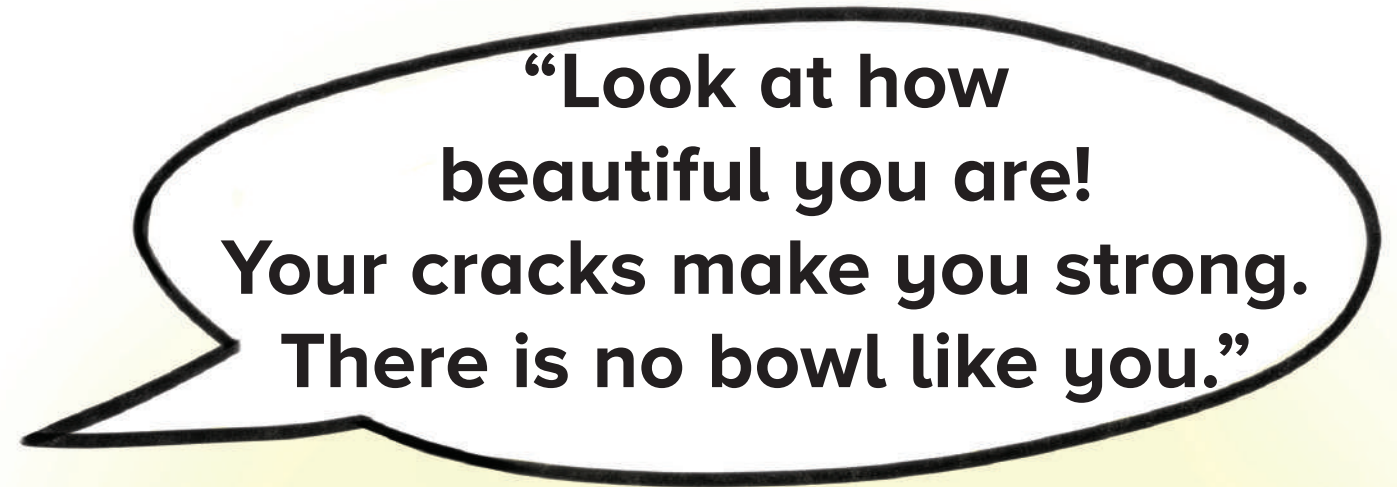
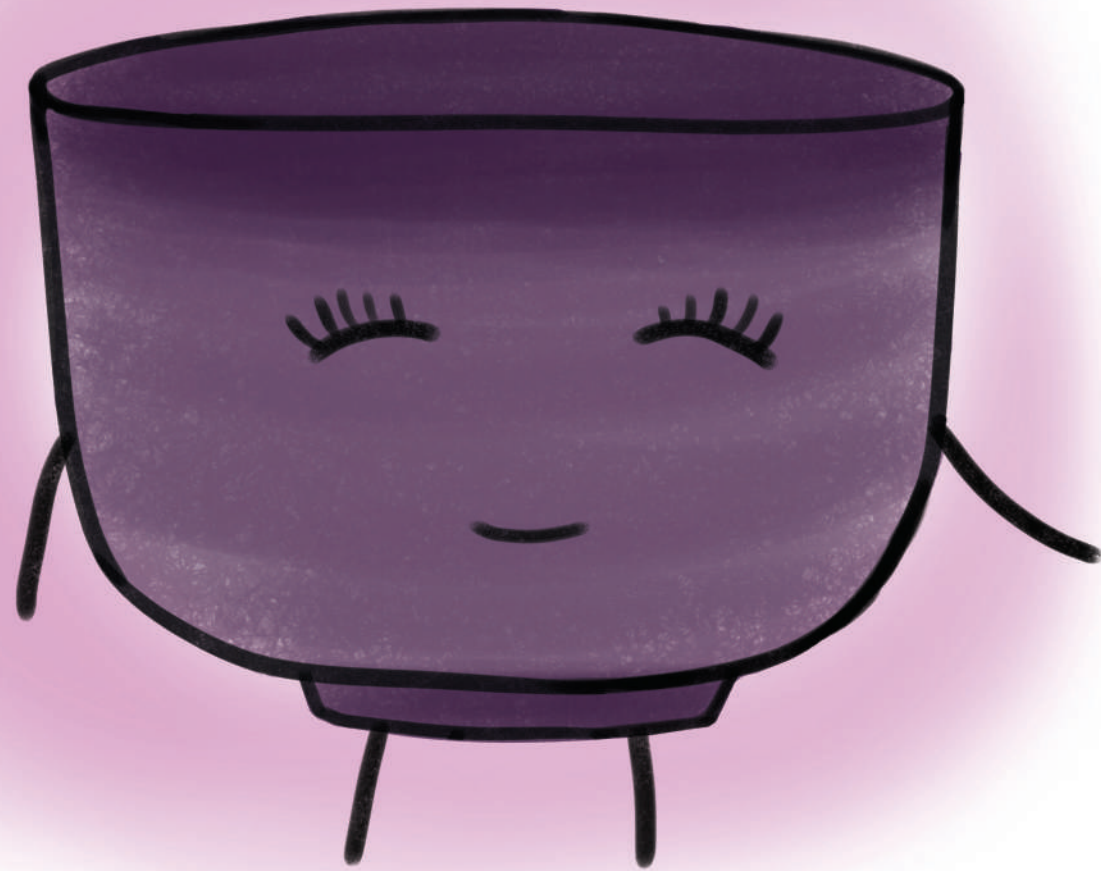
Then a flicker of light caught his eye.



**He looked closer in the mirror.
He saw gold through his cracks.
He saw beauty.**

**“This glue is special
glue made from gold.
It will make you strong and
courageous if you
believe in it.”**





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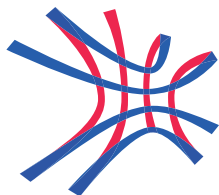
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KINTSUGI



Kintsugi is the Japanese art of repairing broken ceramics with gold. There is a Japanese philosophy that values and celebrates imperfections and flaws. This is artistically demonstrated and seen in the art of Kintsugi. Kintsugi can remind us to embrace life’s imperfections and teach us that the process of healing is more beautiful and stronger than being perfect. It is a beautiful reminder that brokenness can lead to beautiful things.



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