

Dear Reader,


Everyone with a sibling knows that sometimes they are the ones who know you the best . . . and the ones who can trip you up the most. Older siblings have lots of advice for younger siblings on how to do things right—but younger siblings just don't always listen.

*Figure It Out, Henri Weldon* draws on the idea that even a younger sibling has their own unique path through the world. No matter how much advice we get from our parents or from our families and friends, in the end, we're the ones who have to earn our grades, choose our friends, and make our own way. Since nobody can live our lives for us, the best things we can do is to assemble a team of good supporters—reinforcements—to have our backs. And then, we have to jump in and just do it.

Henrietta makes the extra tutoring and assistance she requires at school a part of her reinforcement. Because she has dyscalculia, a learning disability that makes numbers challenging to process and understand, math will always be difficult and frustrating. Fortunately, Henri's supporters remind her that it's not the most important thing about her. As she uses her other gifts to balance the equations of friendship, sisterhood, and responsibilities, as she leans into what

she's capable of—and also learns to ask for help when she needs it—Henri Weldon proves she can, in fact, figure it out.

Your challenges aren't the most important thing about you, either. And, like Henri, I hope you discover the ways in which they make you stronger. Traveling your own unique path through the world can be a little messy, but I have faith in you—you'll figure it out.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Henri Weldon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the name.