

\$17.99/Higher in Canada



**YOU CAN'T PICK KICKS  
THE WAY YOU PICK STICKS,  
OR STONES,  
OR DINOSAUR BONES**

*Kicks* is a love letter to sneakers. But not just any sneakers. Only the flyest, floatiest, you-est kicks you can get—the ones that let you soar! This colorful, rhythmic adventure has something to offer anyone who prizes a great pair of shoes and any reader who loves to play with their words.

With bold, kid-friendly art and fun, lyrical language, *Kicks* is the perfect read for sneaker fans of all ages!

ILLUSTRATED BY  
**REGGIE BROWN**

**VAN G. GARRETT**



UNCORRECTED PRESS PROOF

**KICKS**

GARRETT  
BROWN

KICKS

VERSIFY

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**VAN G. GARRETT** is the winner of the 2020 The Poetry Question National Chapbook Contest for his book *Scrap*. He is also the winner of the 2017 Best Book of African American Poetry for his book *49: Wings and Prayers*, as announced by the Texas Association of Authors. He writes poetry, picture books, and fiction, and (in his spare time) he is also a musician and a visual artist.

**REGGIE BROWN** is an artist and children's illustrator. He has a background in corporate graphic design and is now focusing on illustrating for children. His multicultural upbringing as an African American and Filipino man is what drives his true passion of illustrating children's stories and bringing underrepresented voices alive through his art. Reggie is a member of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators and lives in San Diego, California, where he enjoys eating burritos, watching Star Wars, and spending time with his wife.

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Jacket design by David Hastings

**VERSIFY**  
Change the world, one word at a time.  
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Kicks



BY  
**VAN G. GARRETT**

ILLUSTRATED BY  
**REGGIE BROWN**

**VERSIFY**

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For Mom, Dad, Mel, and Joshua  
— V.G.G.

To a boy who walked tall through life, and once gave his  
kicks (Jordans!) to another kid in need.  
Trevon D. Harris spent his thirteen years of life bringing  
laughter and joy to everyone he encountered.

May his memory be eternal.  
— R.B.







You can't pick **KICKS**  
the way you pick sticks,  
or stones, or dinosaur bones.



New kicks should be legit.  
Not busted, hard, or old.

Magic for your soles  
and soul.

# ELECTRIC.





A feeling of **WOW**—the way fireworks work clouds.



Like pizza with the right ingredients:  
**CRISPY. ASTOUNDING.**

Smooth like hot-buttered  
garlic bread.





# HOEMART

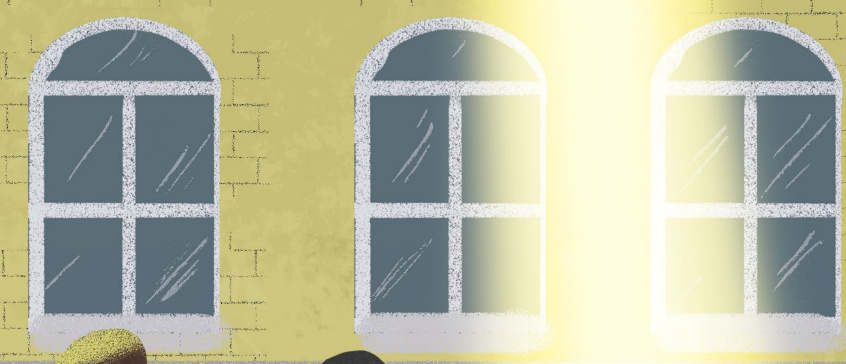
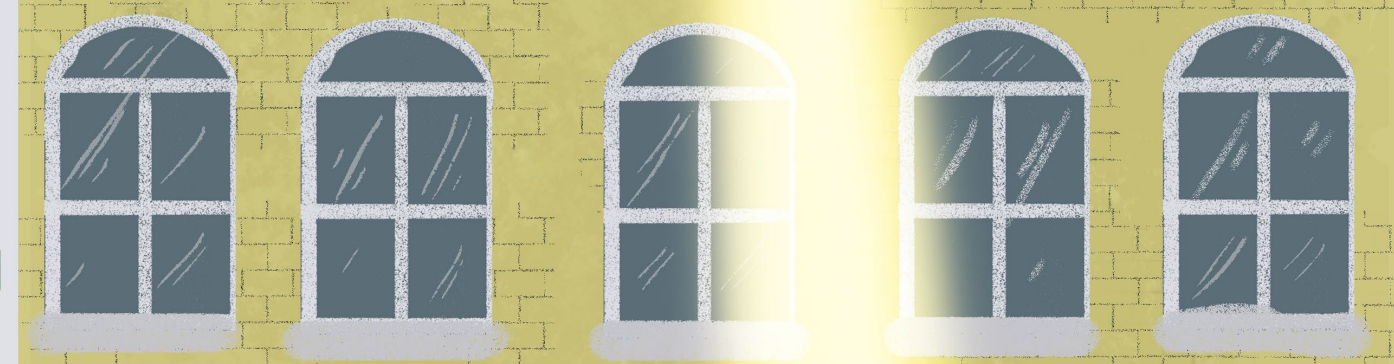
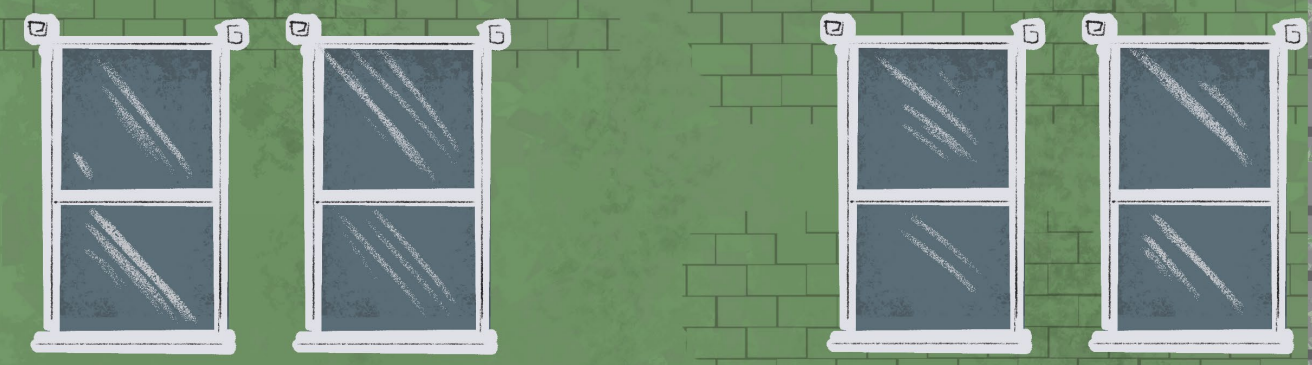


**SALE**

**LINE STARTS HERE**



You can't wait to try them on.  
Eyes alert,  
that fresh scent of a new release,  
live out of the box,





soon to be paired with multicolored  
or icy-white ankle or tube socks.



A confident, snug feeling  
making your insides smile.





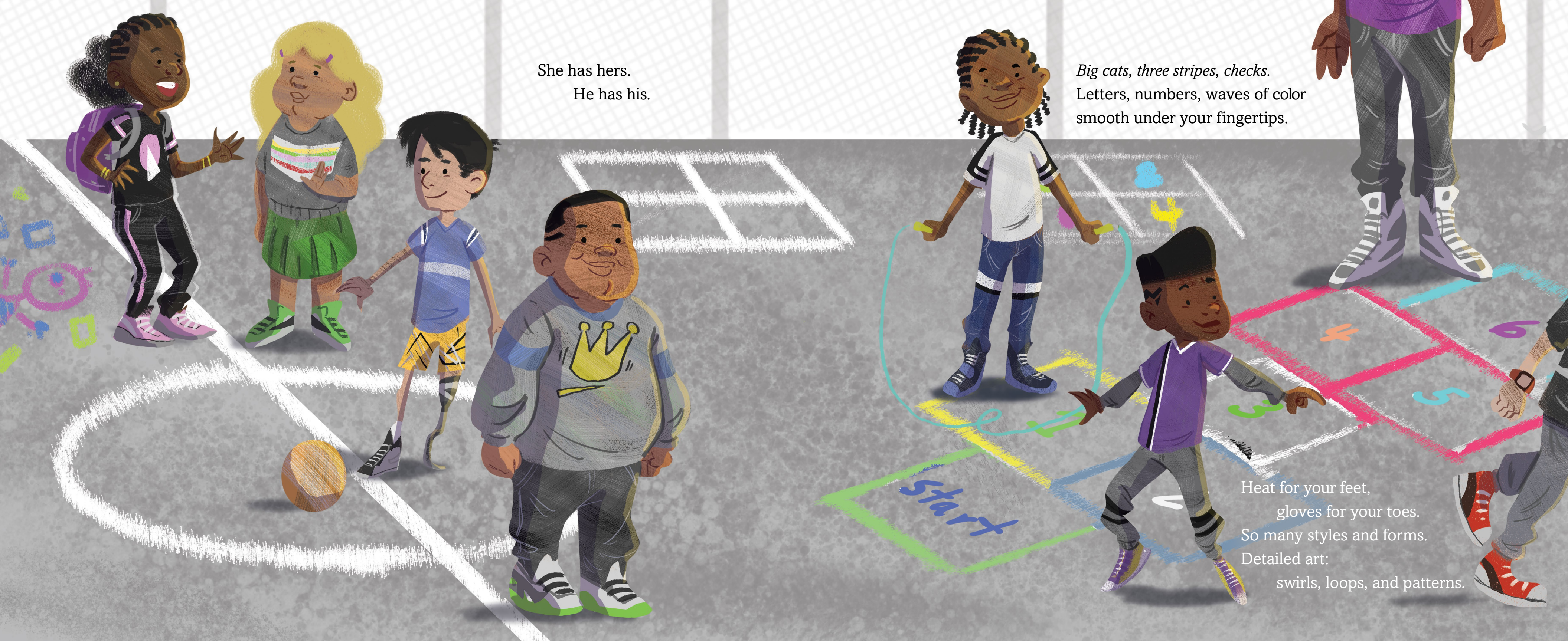
**NEW KICKS** feel like  
treats for your feet.  
Cereal in your biggest bowl.



Leather not creased, tight laces,  
honeycomb bottoms sweet on the floor.  
Allowing you to **ZOOM** like a racecar.







She has hers.  
He has his.

*Big cats, three stripes, checks.*  
Letters, numbers, waves of color  
smooth under your fingertips.

Heat for your feet,  
gloves for your toes.  
So many styles and forms.  
Detailed art:  
swirls, loops, and patterns.



Legendary.  
Like LeBron and Jordan.



Danica, Serena, and Simone.





Relax your shoulders,  
do your too-cool walk,  
enjoying leather, suede, or canvas  
on a magic carpet ride.

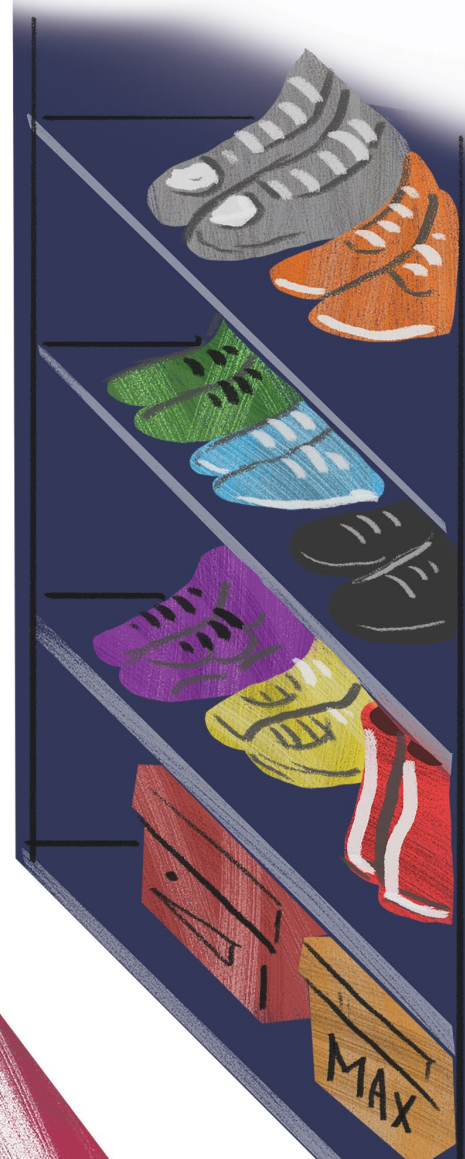


Tongues upright as soldiers.  
Fat strings pulled and tied.





The perfect look.  
The perfect feel  
for your everyday wardrobe,



or basketball games,



skateboarding,  
and hopscotching.



Moonwalking.



Tiptoeing.  
Soft-shoeing.





Hanging out with your family  
and friends at cookouts,  
movies, school, and  
everywhere else you can imagine.







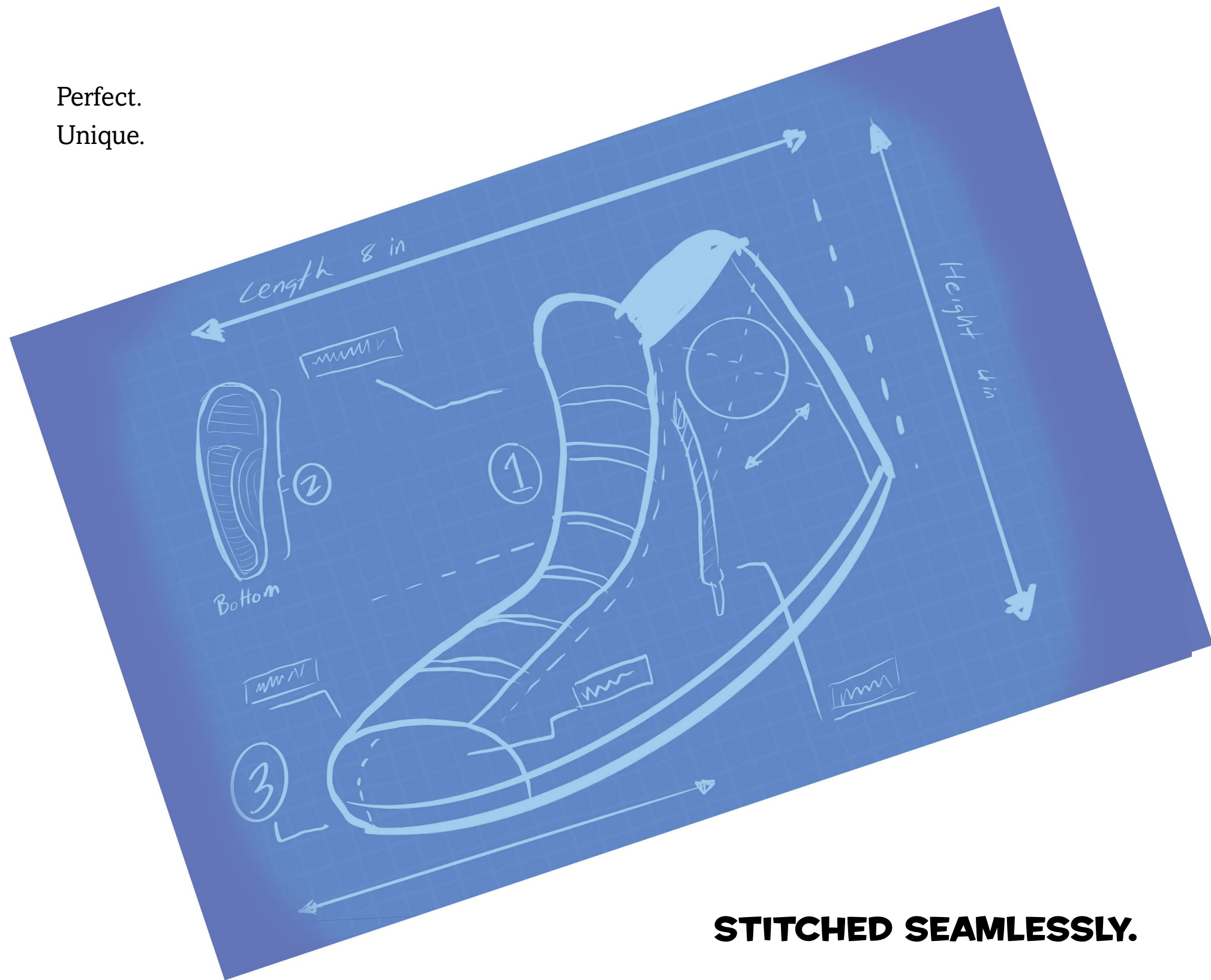
Even on rainy days,  
you sparkle  
in colorways  
under an umbrella.



Soaking up experiences as you float,  
like ice cream in Vanilla Coke.



Perfect.  
Unique.



**STITCHED SEAMLESSLY.**

Kicks help you shine  
like the brightness of sunrays  
and new money, even when you have  
a shoestring-tight allowance.





Giving you hope for days  
when you can **LEAP,**



**SOAR,**



**RUN,**



and **PLAY.**





Sky-touching.  
Feet off the ground,  
head lifted high with a lion's pride.  
Dreaming and feeling

**EXCEPTIONAL.**

