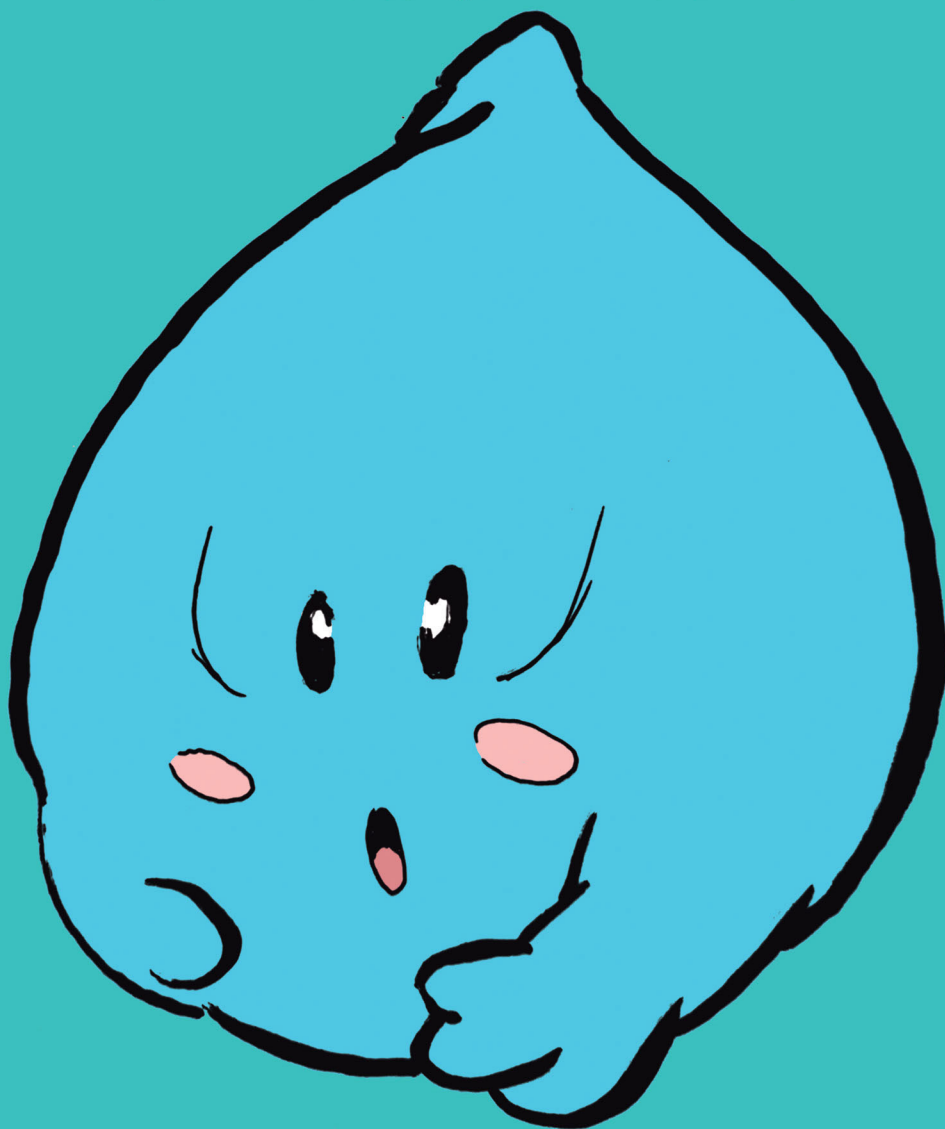


MICHAEL LACEY FREEMAN

# THE STORY OF DRIPPY THE RAINDROP



An English Charm Story

Part of The Garden Series



Drippy is very small. He likes living in the cloud. It is soft and warm. He wants to stay there all day and do nothing.

Around him, there are many other raindrops. They are always so busy, moving around and talking.



They are excited as they wait to fall out of the cloud.



Where  
are we  
going  
to go?

Where  
do you  
want  
to go?

I want to go  
somewhere sunny.  
I'm going to fall  
faster than you.  
It's so exciting!



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as they wait to  
fall out of the cloud.

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I want to go  
somewhere sunny.  
I'm going to fall  
faster than you.  
It's so exciting!

The other raindrops  
never stop talking  
and asking  
questions.



Why do they want to fall? thinks  
Drippy. It looks dangerous. I  
don't want to fall. I like it here. I  
think I'll go to sleep again while  
the others do their silly things.



One by one, the other raindrops  
jump out of the cloud.





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And each time a raindrop  
jumps it says  
"Goodbye!!!"  
Drippy doesn't answer.

The cloud becomes dark and heavy. It starts to make a noise.

Boom!!!

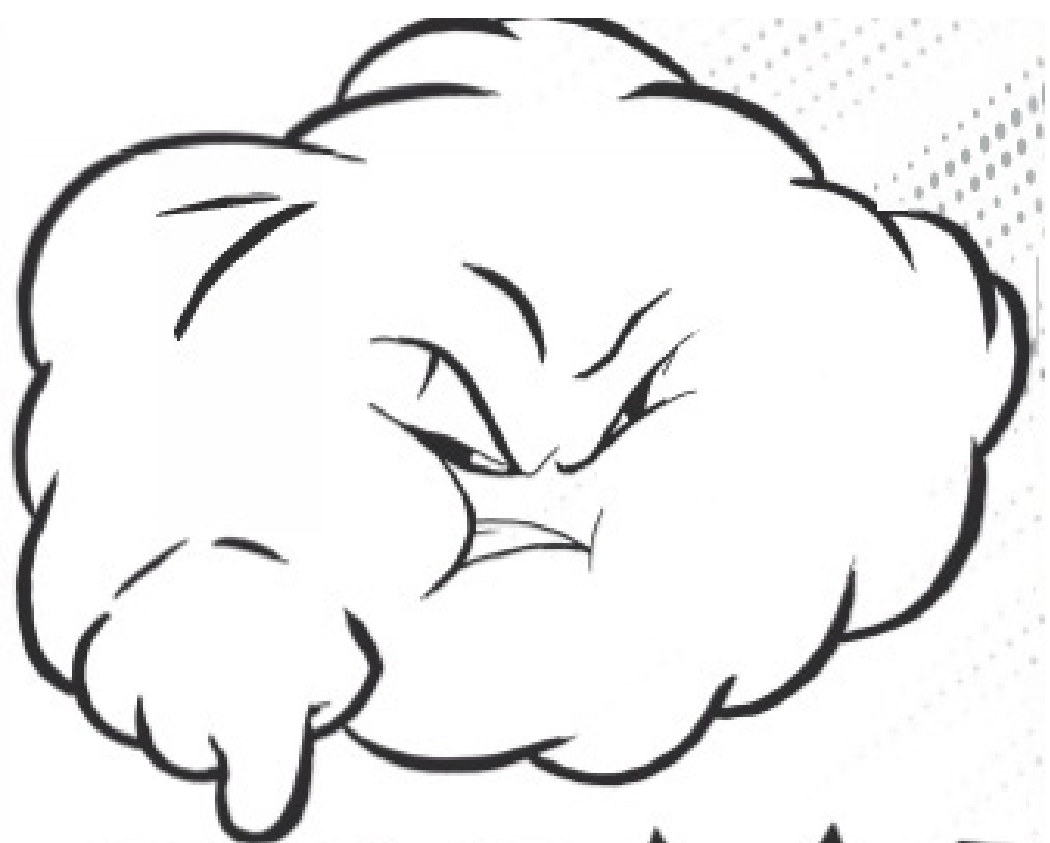
The cloud is not happy.



You have to leave  
too, Drippy.

It's your job.  
says the  
cloud.

You can't stay  
here forever.



**BOOM!**

The cloud makes  
an even louder  
noise. BOOM!!!  
Go now! it says.

Drippy still doesn't move.  
Then the cloud starts  
to push, push, push.  
And it pushes Drippy out.





At first, Drippy is frightened.  
But as he falls, he goes through the air.  
The wind blows around him. He sees  
trees, houses and people. Everything  
looks beautiful.



It is not so frightening after all.

And then, PLOP!  
He lands on something small  
and brown. It's a seed on the  
ground.



What is that?  
I'm sorry.  
I hurt you. Says Drippy.





Oh!  
You don't hurt me.  
You help me.  
I need water.  
Now I can grow.  
says the seed.



Yes! Thank you so much.  
Without you, I can not  
become a plant, says the  
seed.





Drippy smiles.  
For the first time,  
he feels happy to  
leave the cloud.  
Now I know what  
I am for, he thinks.





The sun comes out and the  
seed starts to grow. A  
small green leaf comes out  
of the ground.

And Drippy?

He is still there on the ground.  
He is not lazy any more. I'm  
happy, he says to himself. I  
know what I am for.

Drippy looks up at the sky  
and smiles at the cloud.  
Goodbye and thank you!  
Thank you for pushing me  
down here!

