

To Cora June Bug
with all my love, Yuppie

THE JUDGMENTAL FLOWER



BOYS TOWN
Press

Boys Town, Nebraska

Written by **Julia Cook** Illustrated by **Anita DuFalla**

I am a **BLUE**.

I live in a flower patch, in a yard, on a street, in a neighborhood,
in a town, that's part of a city.

I have a **GREAT BIG FAMILY** and **LOTS** of friends. My roots run deep.



A few weeks ago, a purple started to grow by me.
I'd never seen a purple up close. He was so different.

I kept my **DISTANCE**.

“Purples don’t belong here!” At least that’s what the other blues say.



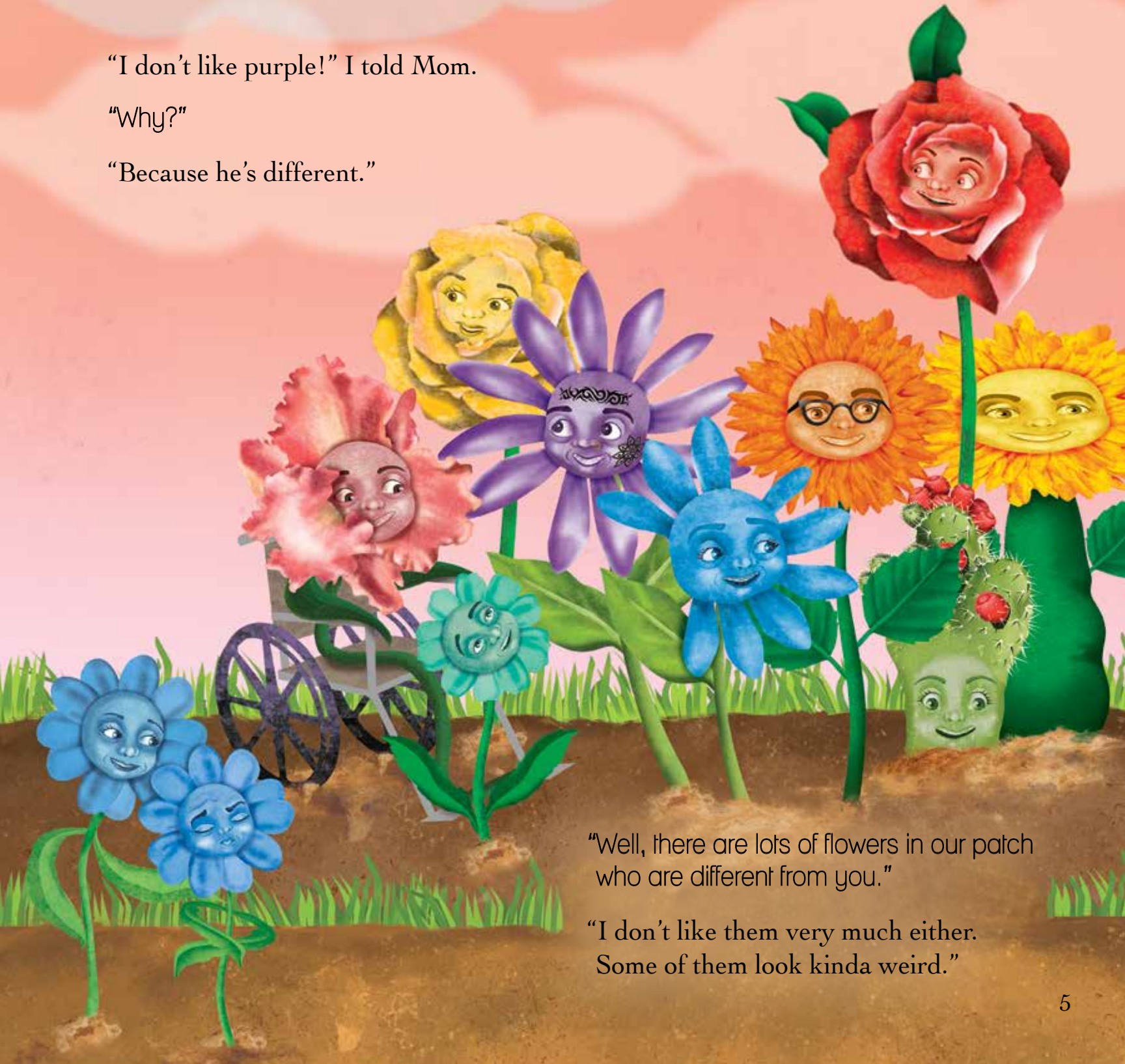
“This is
supposed to be a
**blue flower
patch.**”



“I don’t like purple!” I told Mom.

“Why?”

“Because he’s different.”



“Well, there are lots of flowers in our patch who are different from you.”


“I don’t like them very much either. Some of them look kinda weird.”

“And purple... he’s not the same as me.”

“I didn’t know that everybody needed to be the same.”

“Well, he’s not blue... he’s not like we are.

This is a blue flower patch, and he shouldn’t be growing here.”



“Who told
you that?”

“Just about
everyone I know.”

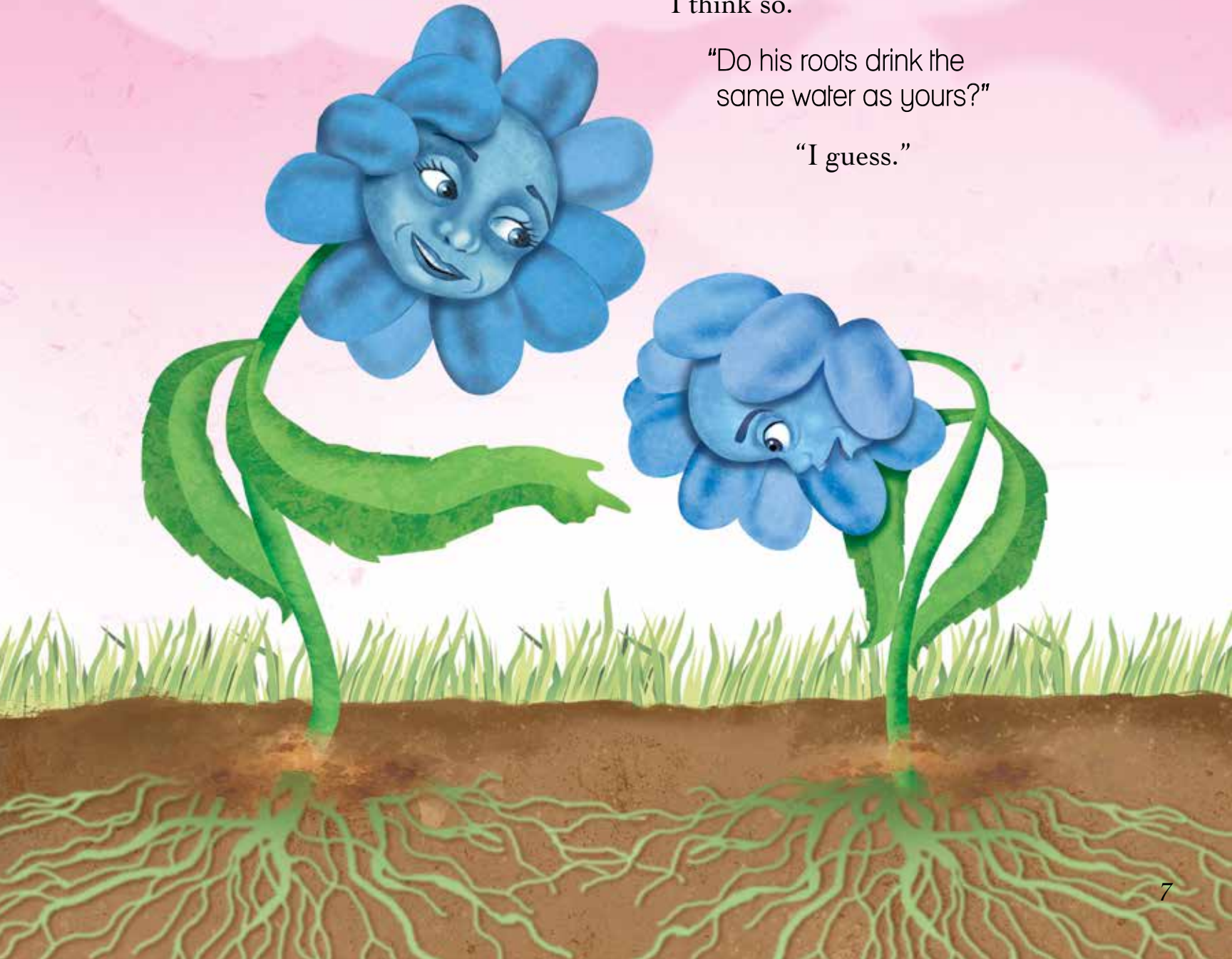
"Well son, there are some flowers whose sole purpose in life is to show the rest of us how **NOT** to grow!"

"Does purple have roots like you?"

"I think so."

"Do his roots drink the same water as yours?"

"I guess."



“Well I still don’t like him.”

“Why not?”

“Because he’s different. He’s purple, and he shouldn’t even be growing in this flower patch!”

“But how can you dislike someone you don’t even know?”

“Hub?”

“Son, I think you are growing in the

WRONG DIRECTION.”