

KID FRANKY

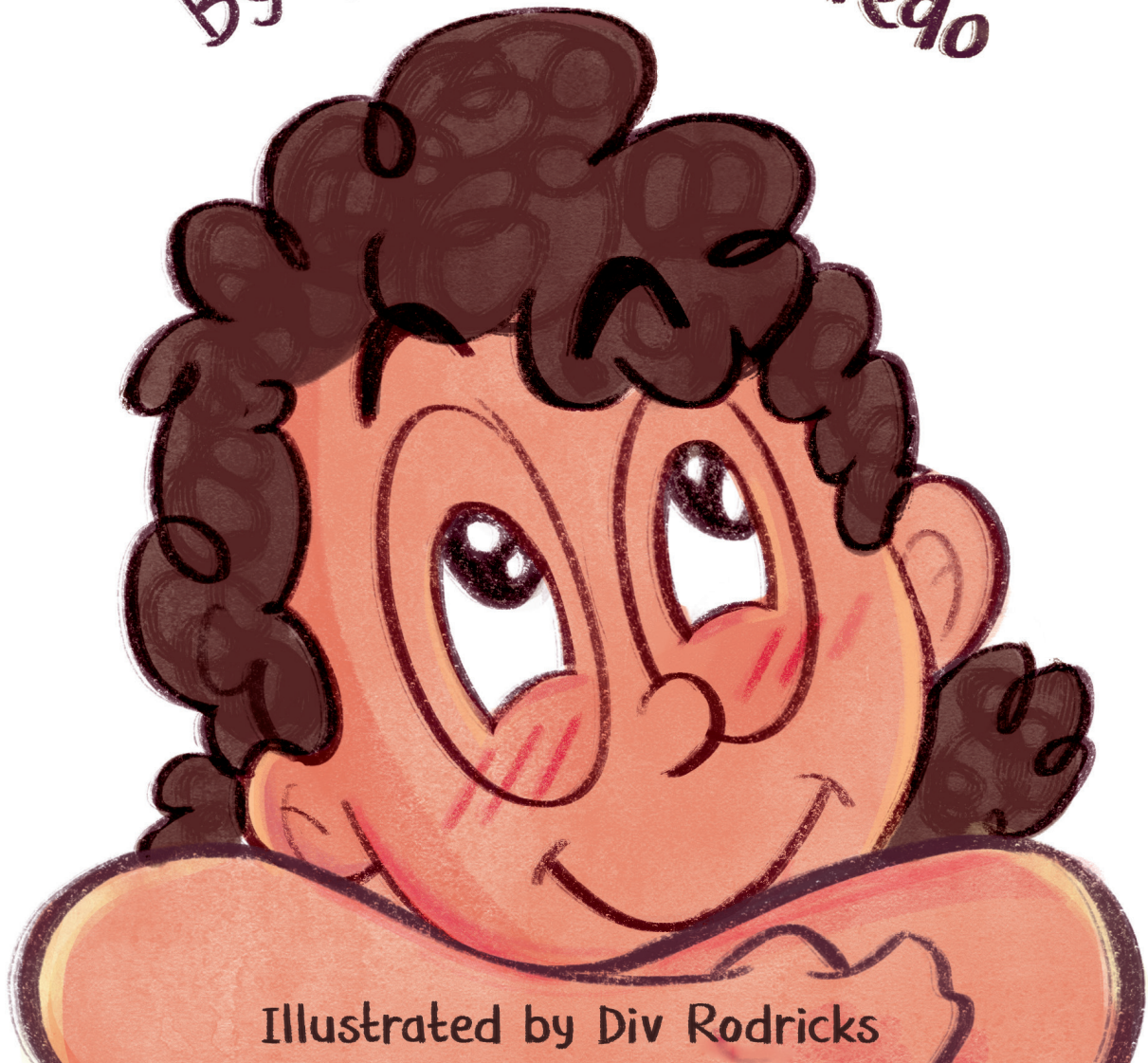
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Illustrated by Div Rodricks

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I want to tell you a story...
About several small kids.





Where one had
a dad and another
a mom.

And some kids had
more than one.



How Taylor had her
mom and dad.



How John
had two
moms.

How Mikey was
raised by two dads.



And Franky
had no
one.





And Franky would
always be sad,
because he didn't
have a mom or dad.
And he would see
kids playing around
and wonder if one day
he'd be found.

Because Franky and John
and Taylor and Mikey
all lived in Children's Housing,
Where they grew up and played.



And all the grown-ups there would say,

You'll be adopted
one day



And this meant they would leave housing,
that they would grow in a new place!
Where a mom or a dad or something like that
wanted to build them a home.



This home that
they called
family.

And family is
where we
grow up.



And home is where we feel loved.

So Franky would listen
when grown-ups would say,

oh i like
this one



And one of
them was Kayla
and another one
was Joy.




And Franky would wait until that one day.
When parents would say,

Let's bring Franky

Just like they did
with kid Mikey.






And parents had
homes with magic.
Where everything's
made for you!

And Franky would play with all different
friends and wonder where he would go to.
Then suddenly his name was called.
And he knew that this was it!

*Franky, come
here. I'd like you
to meet your
new parents.*





And Franky thought
they were strange.
They had funny
clothes and
names.

Drawings of rainbows and words written on their skin.
And a grown-up bent down to greet just him.



And Franky screamed,


yes!! This is
what I've been waiting for!



And Franky said
goodbye to the kids.
He said goodbye to
the grown-ups.
And he finally felt
warm to just go home.
Where there is
love and support.
He couldn't wait to
see his new house—
The house that he
would live in!



But one thing he knew that made him
excited was soon his life would begin!
And he hugged his new parents.
And he cried-



I can't
wait!

Aw, we
love you!

WHAT?
You do?...

yes of course
we do! ~




And
Franky felt
warm once more,
and then said,

me
too.

Now Franky has parents like Taylor.
And he has parents like John!
Parents like kid Mikey
and parents like kid Joy.



A vibrant, cartoon-style illustration. In the center, a young child with curly brown hair, wearing blue overalls over a yellow shirt, is being held up by two adults. The child has a joyful expression with rosy cheeks and is holding a yellow cup. The adult on the left is a woman with brown skin, wearing a white top and a pink skirt with heart patterns. The adult on the right is a woman with long, wavy brown hair, wearing a yellow top and a purple skirt. They are all holding hands. The background features a large, multi-colored rainbow arching across the sky, a white cloud, and a ground covered in orange and yellow flowers. Small red hearts and yellow starbursts are scattered around the child. The overall mood is happy and celebratory.

But these parents
were just for kid
Franky.



Natasha Acevedo is a storyteller focused on emotional journeys that often bring a peek into the world in which we live and the love it takes to navigate challenges. Her stories and poetry have been shared widely across her hometown of El Paso, TX where her works have been published and featured in *Love Letters*, a project sponsored by the Museum and Cultural Affairs Division of El Paso, as well as published by independent publishing company Red Sugarcane Press of New York, NY. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Creative Media as well as a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from New Mexico State University.

Kid Franky tells the heartfelt story of a young boy, Franky, who grows up in a children's housing facility, surrounded by other kids like Taylor, John, and Mikey, all with different family backgrounds. While some have parents, Franky has none, and he longs for the day when he'll be adopted and find a place to call home.

As Franky waits, he watches other children get adopted by loving families, wondering when it will be his turn. One day, his name is finally called, and Franky meets his new parents. At first, he finds them strange, with their colorful clothes and tattoos, but when they show him love, Franky feels a sense of warmth and belonging for the first time. The story ends with Franky feeling proud to have his own parents, just like the other kids, as his life with his new family begins.

This touching narrative highlights themes of belonging, love, and the joy of finding a family, no matter what form it takes.



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