

Quackbert's Party Planning **QUACKTASTROPHE**

Written by **Noah Towbin**
Illustrated by **Laura Pellini**





To Charli,

For helping me create Quackbert and always
finding solutions to my quacktastrophes

Quackbert's Party Planning Quacktastrophe
Written by Noah Towbin
Illustrated by Laura Pellini

2024
All rights reserved.

Today was a very exciting day for Quackbert the Duck. When his alarm started quacking, he jumped out of bed, stretched his toes, and flapped his wings.



Quackbert ran to the bathroom to rinse off in his yellow bird bath. When he got out of his bath, he combed his feathers and brushed his beak. He wanted to look good today.

After finishing his morning routine, Quackbert sat down at his desk and reviewed his to-do list for the day.



It was Petunia the Opossum's birthday, and everything had to be **PERFECT**.



Before the party, he had to invite Petunia to his house, pick up the cake, set up the decorations, and plan a huge surprise. Quackbert looked at his list one more time and set out to prepare for the big night.

First up on his list was picking up the cake. Quackbert had ordered a special cake covered in worms and crickets from Ernesto the Rabbit. As he landed in front of Ernesto's bakery, the smell of fresh bread and sweets filled the air.

As Quackbert entered the shop, a small bell jingled above the door to let Ernesto know he was there.



With a big smile on his face, the baking rabbit hopped out of the kitchen to greet his feathered friend.

“Hi, Quackbert! I’m so excited about Petunia’s birthday party tonight. I got the cake right here.”
Quackbert gave Ernesto a big hug and walked over to the large box on the counter to take a peek at the cake.



“Oh no, Ernesto! What a **QUACKTASTROPHE!**” cried Quackbert. He had ordered one of Ernesto’s famous cricket, worm, and chocolate cakes, but the cake was covered in berries.



“I’m sorry, Quackbert. I must have misread the order. I can make you another, but I don’t think it will be ready by the party,”
said Ernesto with a sad look on his face.



“It’s ok, Ernesto. Hopefully, Petunia will like the berries because we don’t have time to make another one. I’ll see you at the party later!” said Quackbert as he grabbed the cake and walked off to his next stop.

After landing in front of Henry the Dog's party shop, Quackbert gently removed the cake from his cart and walked towards the entrance. The door to the shop was covered in colorful confetti and balloons, and Quackbert was excited to see what Henry had put together for Petunia's party.



"Hey there, Quackbert! I can't wait for the party tonight. I got your decorations set aside for you on the table over there," said Henry as Quackbert walked in.

Quackbert walked over to the rainbow-colored table that the corgi had pointed at and looked inside the big, neon-pink bag.



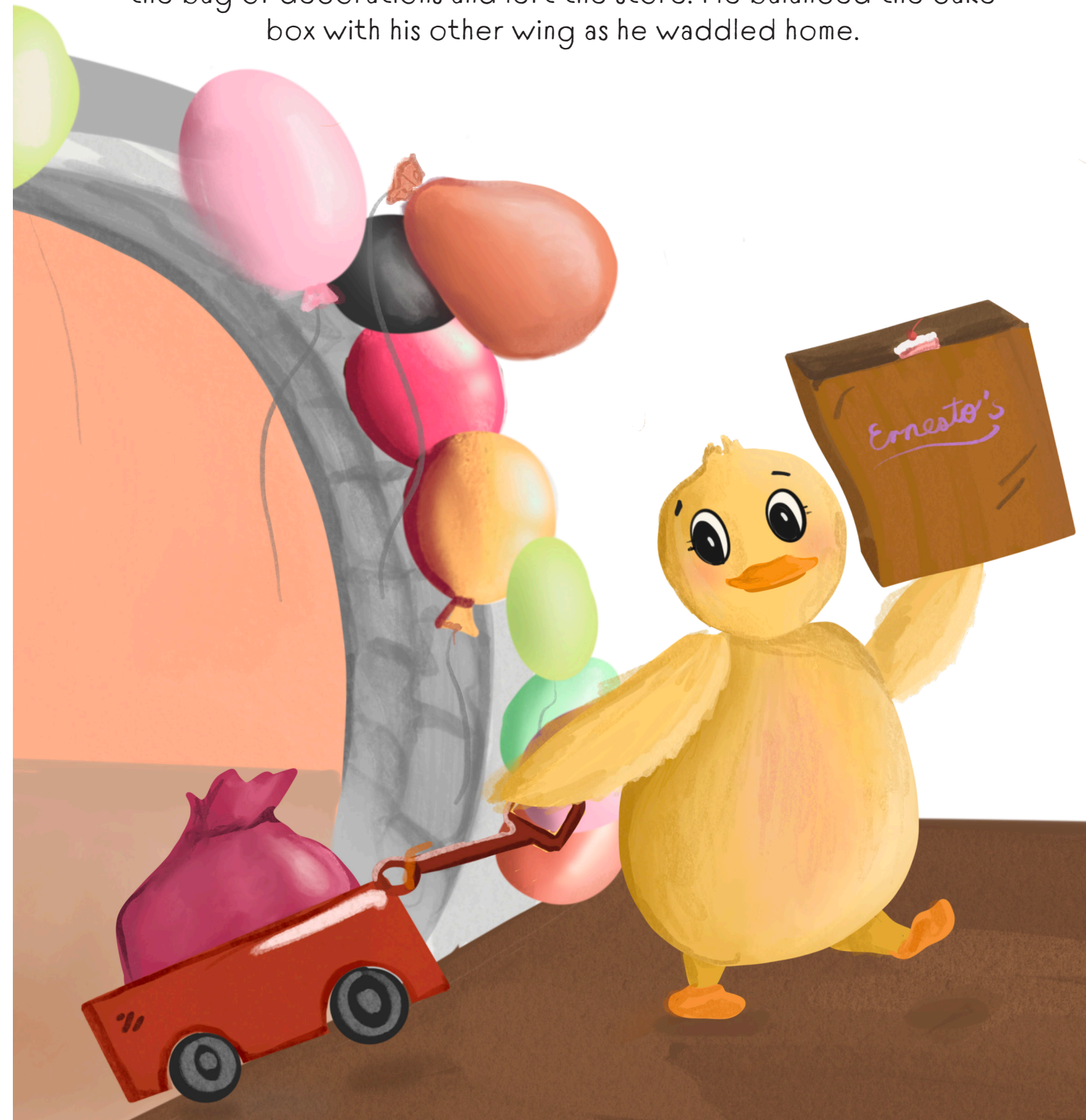
“Oh no, Henry! What a **QUACKTASTROPHE!**” yelled Quackbert. He had asked Henry for a set of brightly colored decorations, but the bag was full of dark black streamers and balloons.



"I'm sorry, Quackbert. I must have written down the order wrong. I can put together a new batch of decorations, but it might take too long to be ready by tonight," said Henry, with his ears drooping.



"No worries, Henry. Let's hope that Petunia likes black decorations. I'll see you tonight!" said Quackbert as he picked up the bag of decorations and left the store. He balanced the cake box with his other wing as he waddled home.



Finally, Quackbert made it back to his treehouse near the lake. After walking inside, he started setting up for the surprise party.



He placed the berry cake on his nicest wooden plate and threw the black decorations around the room.
“Oh dear, Petunia isn’t going to like this at all,” groaned Quackbert as he continued decorating.

Soon, all of Petunia's friends began to show up at his house. When Ernesto and Henry arrived, Quackbert gave them big hugs and asked for help cutting the cake and finishing up with the streamers.



A short time later, everything was ready for the surprise party. As Quackbert handed out black party hats, they heard a knock at the front door. "Everyone be quiet and hide. Petunia is here," whispered Quackbert. As everyone else hid, he walked to the door to let the birthday girl into her party.



Much to Quackbert's surprise, it was not Petunia at the door. It was Murphy the Brown Bear, arriving fashionably late as always. "Hi guys, did I miss the big surprise?"

Quackbert paused for a second in the doorway. He went through his to-do list again in his mind: invite Petunia to his house, pick up the cake and decorations, and plan the surprise.

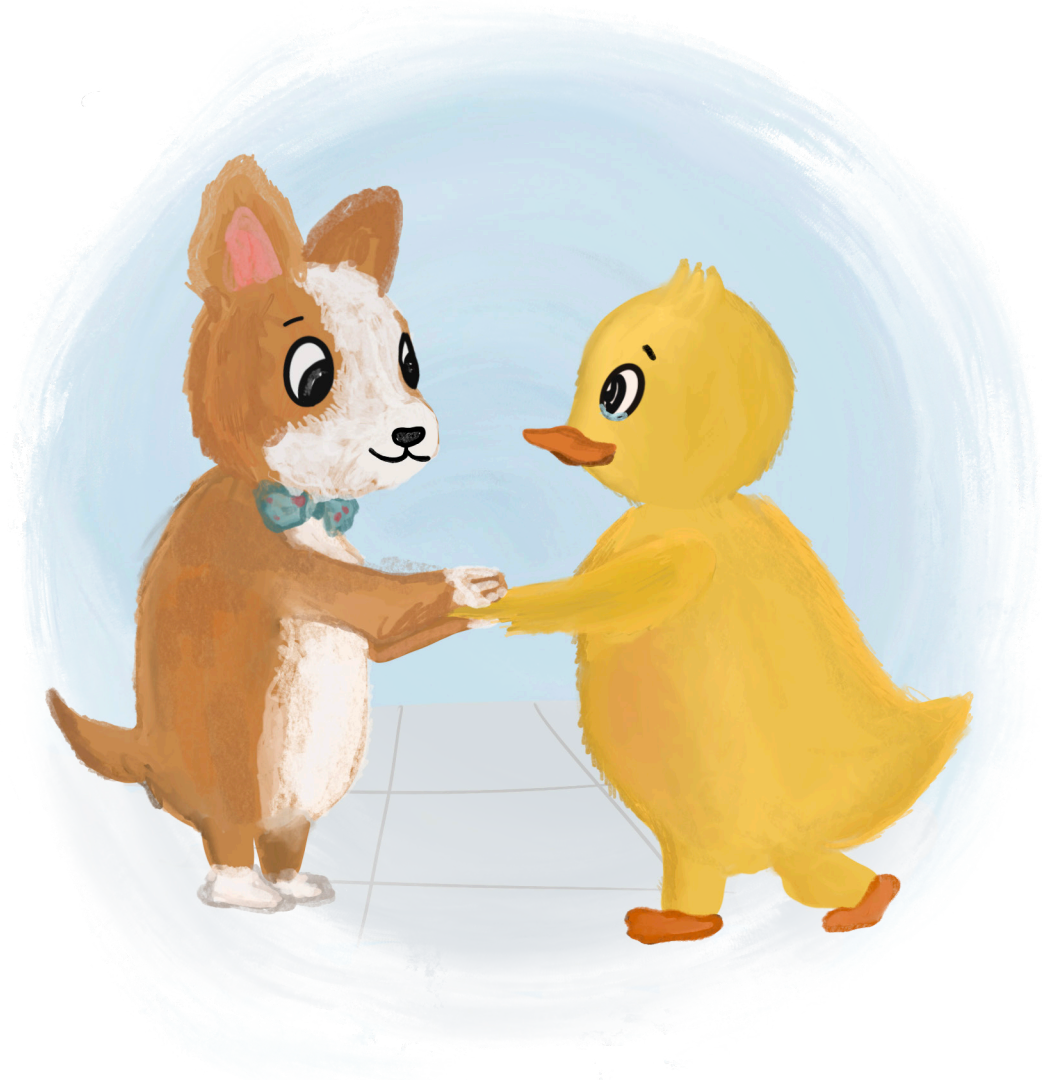


His face turned a pale shade of yellow when he realized that he had forgotten to complete the first task on his list. In his excitement earlier that morning, he had rushed out of his house before calling Petunia to invite her to his house.



“Oh no! What a **QUACKTASTROPHE!**” cried Quackbert as he realized that he had ruined his best friend’s birthday. With tears in his eyes, he sat down on the floor of his house in despair.

For a moment, nobody said anything. Then, quietly, Henry walked over and helped the sad duck stand up.



“It’s ok, Quackbert. We can fix this,” he said confidently.

Wiping the tears from his eyes and beak, Quackbert realized that Henry was right. He stood up, a plan forming in his mind.

A little while later, Petunia heard a loud knock on her door. After putting down her book and her cup of tea, she walked over and curiously opened it up.



“SURPRISE! HAPPY BIRTHDAY!” screamed Quackbert, Ernesto, Henry, and Murphy from her doorstep. They had taken the party to Petunia’s house.

Ernesto was carrying the cake, Henry was gripping the balloons, Murphy was holding the streamers, and Quackbert had a big, handwritten “Happy Birthday” sign between his wings.





"I thought everyone had forgotten! This is so nice," said Petunia with a shocked smile as she let her friends into her home.

After giving her a hug, Quackbert quickly began to apologize: "I'm so sorry that today was such a quacktastrophe. The cake didn't come with bugs, the decorations aren't bright colors, and I even forgot to invite you to my house for your surprise party."



Everyone was quiet for a second while Petunia looked at the cake, the decorations, and her friends.



Then, all of a sudden, she started laughing.
“Oh Quackbert,” she giggled, “Everything worked out perfectly!
I love berries even more than bugs, so the cake is going to be delicious. I am nocturnal and love dark colors, so the decorations will look fantastic. I was so shocked when I opened the door to see all of you, so the surprise was a success.
This is the best birthday ever!”

Petunia gave Quackbert and the rest of their friends a big hug, and they spent the rest of the night eating cake with berries, hanging black streamers and balloons around her house, and laughing about the quacktastrophes of the day.



Planning a party is easy... unless you're Quackbert the duck.

When everything goes wrong, Quackbert must remain brave in the face of Quacktastrophe to plan his best friend's surprise party and save the day.

