

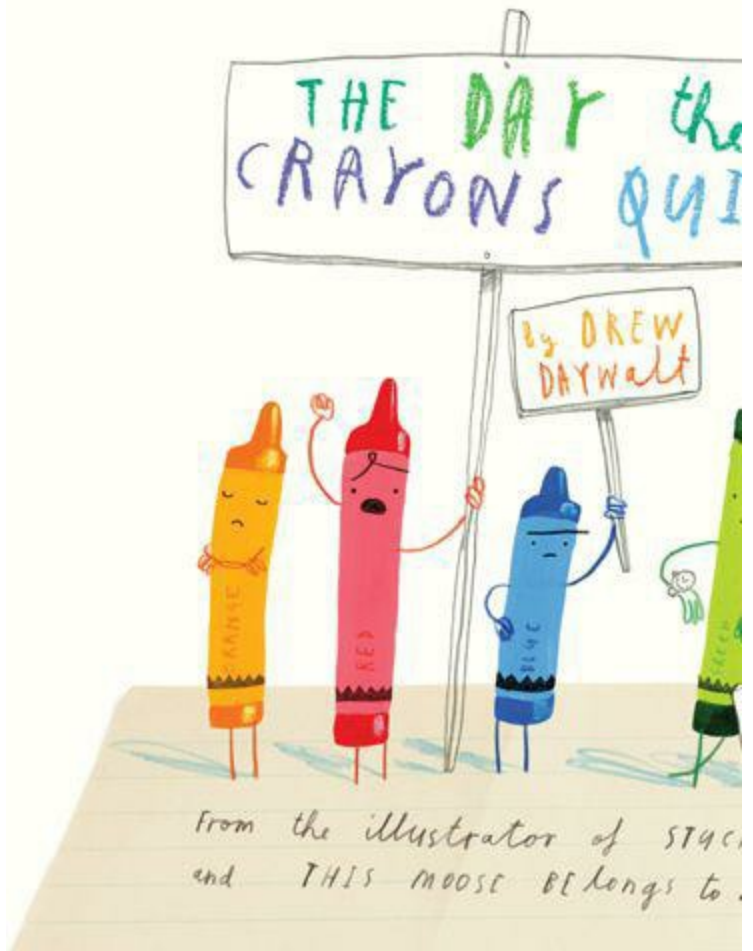
THE DAY the  
CRAYONS QUIT

By DREW  
DAYwalt



PICTURES BY  
OLIVER  
BEFFERS

From the illustrator of STACK  
and THIS MOOSE BELONGS TO ME





To Marichelle, Abigail and  
Reese —D.D.

To Ewan —O.J.



One day in  
class, Duncan  
went  
to take out his  
crayons and  
found  
a stack of  
letters with his



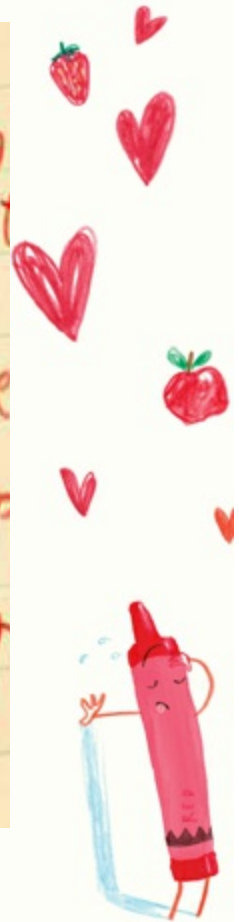
Hey DUNCAN,  
It's me, RED Crayon. WE NEED  
You make me work harder than  
any of your other crayons.  
I have to wear myself

I even work on Holidays!  
I have to color all the SANTAS  
at CHRISTMAS and ALL the  
HEARTS on VALENTINE'S day!

I NEED A REST!

Your overworked friend,

RED Crayon



Dear Duncan,

All right, LISTEN.

I love that I'm your favorite crayon  
for grapes, dragons, and wizards' hats,  
but it makes me crazy that so much  
of my gorgeous color goes outside  
the lines. IF YOU DON'T START  
COLORING INSIDE the lines

soon... I'm going to  
COMPLETELY LOSE IT.

Your very neat friend,

Purple Crayon



Dear Duncan,  
I'm tired of being called  
"light brown" or "Dark tan"  
because I am neither.

I am BEIGE and I am proud.  
I'm also tired of being second  
place to Mr. Brown Crayon.  
It's not fair that Brown gets

all the bears, ponies and puppies  
while the only things I get  
are turkey dinners (if I'm lucky)  
and wheat, and let's be honest -  
when was the last time you  
saw a kid excited about  
coloring wheat?

Your BEIGE Friend,  
Beige Crayon

Duncan,

GRAY CRAYON here. You're KILLING ME!  
I know you love Elephants. And I  
know that elephants are gray...  
but that's a LOT of space to color  
in all by myself.

And don't even get me started on  
your rhinos, hippos and  
HUMPBACK WHALES...

you know how tired I am after  
handling one of those things?  
such **BIG** animals...  
Baby penguins are gray, you know.  
so are very tiny rocks. Pebbles. How about  
one of those once in a while to give  
me a break?

~~FR~~ your very tired friend,  
GRAY CRAYON



Dear Duncan,

You color with me, but why?  
Most of the time I'm the  
same color as the page you  
are using me on - WHITE.  
If I didn't have a black  
outline, you wouldn't even  
know I was THERE!

I'm not even in the rainbow.  
I'm only used to color  
SNOW or to fill in empty  
space between other things.  
And it leaves me feeling...

...well... empty. We need  
to talk.

Your empty friend,  
White Crayon

