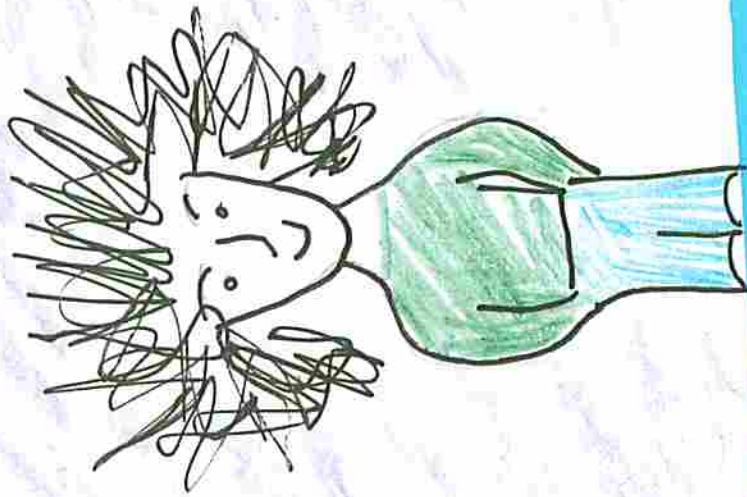


THE  
END!!



"Why?"

"Because all of my friends made fun of me, I hit my head on the ceiling in my moms room, and I cant even fit in my bed."

"Ok, I get it. You want to be yourself again."

"Yes I do. I really want to be able to fit in my bed again and wear my own clothes."

"Are you sure?"

"Yes I'm sure!"

"Well all you have to do is take them off."

"Really?"

"Yep."

Then Maximus reached down and pulled them off. As soon as he took them off he could feel himself shrinking. He grew smaller and smaller until finally he was his old height again. Maximus was the happiest he'd been all day. When he went home and changed back into his regular clothes he was finally happy to be himself.

"Wands Witches and Wizards Oh My?"

"Yea how'd you know?"

"I used to go there when I was your age."

Then Maximus's mom helped him find some clothes that were big enough for him. He could barely wait to get to school. But when he got there none of his friends would play with him. They all said that he was too tall to play basketball with and that he looked funny. He couldn't even fit behind his school desk! On his way home from school Maximus was so upset he began to cry. As he walked by the magic shop he decided to go inside. "Hello...Hellooooo!"

"Hi Maximus."

"Hey, ummm I decided that I want to be short again."

"What is it Max?"

"MOM! LOOK AT ME, IM TALL!"

"What? Oh my goodness Max is that you?"

"Yea mom it's me."

"What happened to you?"

"I bought these magic shoes and now I'm huge!"

"Max slow down what did you say?"

"I said, I bought these magic shoes and now I'm huge!"

"No really Max how did this happen?"

"I told you. I bought magic shoes?"

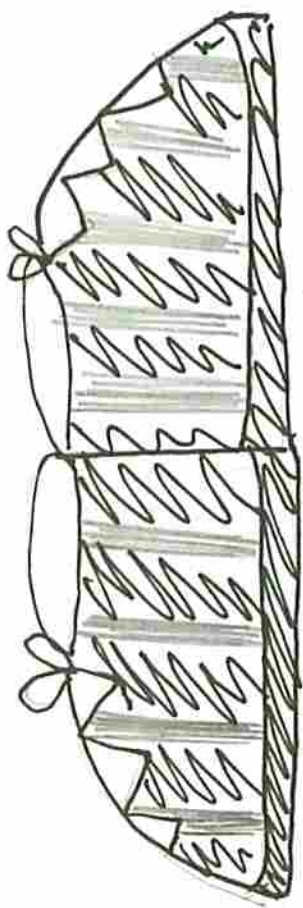
"Where did you get them?"

"This magic store I passed on my way home."



Maximus

When he woke up the next morning he didn't feel any different. He opened his eyes and looked around. He stretched his arms and legs, the only strange thing was that his feet were cold. When he sat up to look he realized that his feet were hanging off of the edge of the bed! "Woah." When he stood up and walked to the bathroom he almost hit his head on the top of the door! Maximus was so happy he ran back to his room to get ready for school. But as he was trying to get dressed he realized that none of his clothes would fit him. He was too tall. When he ran into his mom's room he hit his head on her ceiling. "Mom...Mom wake up!"



When he got home he went straight to his room and shut the door. He tore off his old shoes and opened the box. There they were. Black with silver stripes, they were the coolest shoes he had ever seen. On the inside of the box was two words. "Shmalumpt Fraggleston" he guessed that they were the magic words. Then he put the shoes on and said the magic words. "SHMALUMPT FRAGGLESTON!" He waited but nothing happened. He said it again "SHMALUMPT FRAGGLESTON!" Again nothing. He said it over and over until he fell asleep.

"Nifty? What does that mean?"

"It means the same thing as cool."

"Really? That's nifty. So how much are the shoes?"

"For you...twenty five cents."

Maximus was shocked. Twenty-five cents was really cheap for a pair of shoes.

"Are you sure?"

"Of course."

Then Maximus took twenty-five cents out of his pocket and bought the shoes. He was so excited, he ran all the way home.

254

"Well these are magical shoes made to make the wearer an inch taller every time he says the magic words."

"Do they really work?"

"Of course, everything in my shop works! From the Crystal balls to the Jackalope Jumping Beans."

"Sorry sir I didn't mean to make you angry."

"Sorry to frighten you. My name is Martin Thropulus Shiggle the fourth and this is my shop. What is your name kiddo?"

"Umm...My name is Maximus, Maximus Gluteus Apples."

"Nice to meet you Maximus. I see you like the shoes."

"Yeah they are super cool! I've always wanted to be taller."

"Hmmm, I see. But why would you want to be taller?"

"All of my friends are taller than me, and they never pass me the ball in basketball class because they say I too short to shoot."



When he got to the

back of the store he saw something that made his mouth fall open. There on the last<sup>4</sup>

shelf of the last row in the last column was a shoe box that had "Super Size You Shoes" printed on the side. "Cool" whispered Maximus.

"Hello may I help you."

"Woah!" Yelped Maximus. For when he turned around he saw the smallest oldest

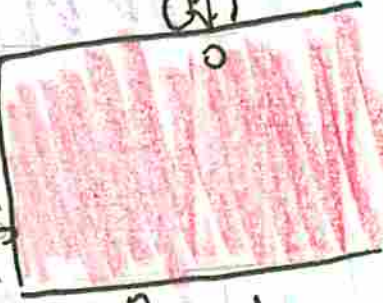
man he had ever seen. Maximus was mostly surprised by the fact that the man

# WANDS WITCHES + WIZARDS OH MY

Magic  
wands!



Magic clothes!

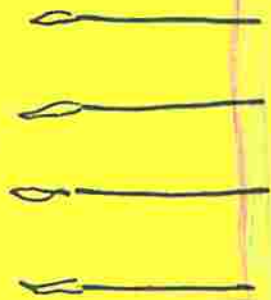


crystal balls



When he went inside he saw the biggest

hugest most ginormous display of magical clothes he had ever seen. There were magic socks for smelly feet, magic jackets that turned whoever was wearing it invisible, magic swimsuits to help you breathe underwater. As he kept looking around he saw many strange things such as stuffed dragonheads and unicorn horns, crystal balls and flying scooters. Maximus didn't really believe that scooters could fly but the box sure looked cool. He kept looking going farther and farther into the store, he thought it was funny that no one else was there but he figured that it was two thirty on a Wednesday and that everyone else was busy.



HAPPY

BIRTHDAY

Maximus



On his birthday

2

when he would blow out his candles he would wish to be taller, for Christmas he would ask for special shoes to make him look bigger but all he ever got were socks and underwear. All of his friends wouldn't pass him the ball in basketball class because they said he was too short to shoot. When he told his mom she just shrugged and said he'd grow. When his grandma would come to visit she would always bring a new sort of "magic growing gum" or the root of the tall tree. One day as Maximus was walking home from school he walked by a Magic store called "Wands, Witches and Wizards Oh My."

2



Maximus Gluteus Apples was small for his age. He could never reach the cupboards to get his favorite snacks. When his mom wasn't there to help him, he had to go all the way upstairs to get a ladder. He didn't like having to do that. He tried everything he could think of, he took his vitamins every day, he ate his vegetables, he sat up straight, but nothing worked. His younger brother Adam Apples was even taller than him and he was three and a half, Maximus was six and a quarter!

1831

THOMAS  
MILLER  
T. A. D. D.