

401 Hillsborough St.  
Raleigh, NC  
27603

Dear Dr. Suess,

As a kid, I always felt different. My parents divorced when I was seven and for a long time I couldn't have regular family events. I also didn't seem to be like the "perfect kids" at school. I didn't have the long straight hair or the cute new shoes. My dad every night would read me The Sneeches, and after any feelings I had during the day, I wouldn't care because I was at home with my family. He would change his voice for each character, making them come to life. Reading the book The Sneeches changed how I felt about being different.

I felt connected to the lonely Sneeches without stars on their bellies. The left out Sneeches tried to change who they were. When they changed into star bellied Sneeches, no one was different or unique; everyone was the same. In the end, it turned out that those Sneeches were still different. They were right back where they began, not the same as the others. The book helped me understand that no matter what, you can't get rid of who you are. You may feel odd or different but you have to find ways to be yourself and love it! I also remember reading the book to myself the same way my dad did. Whichever way I read the book, over and over again, I never once thought of it as just the same story. It was a

piece of life. A story everyone should understand. I would go to that book if I needed a bit of inspiration or just a good smile.

Dr. Seuss, your writing alone showed me that being creative and being who you want to be is the key to being happy. The way you invented words that thoroughly described each utterly different character. The way your words fit together to create one final lesson or meaning, makes your books different from others.

Your writing is a piece of art that shows creativity in ways kids can really relate to. The reader can easily create their own character in the book, change the voices and make it their own. I saw that having fun while being you was nothing to worry about or be ashamed of. Life opens up new and happy ways when you accept who you are and are okay with it. I realized that what you may discover in yourself can be very special, and priceless.

Sincerely,

Brenna Hardy

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to read 'Brenna Hardy', is written over the typed name. The signature is highly stylized and cursive, with large loops and flourishes.