

DREAM BELIEVE ACHIEVE™ SERIES

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# Emily

MARTHA M. SYMINGTON

ILLUSTRATED BY AMANDA M. NOLAN



MARTHA'S MUSINGS INC.

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# **Dedication**

**To Mom and Dad, for your love and support**

**Inspired by my niece, Emily**





## • A Rare Bug •



aves slowly rocked the boat as the last scientist climbed aboard. The scientist was troubled as he looked back at the dried-up farmland and lifeless trees.

“Why, just a few weeks ago, people were happily farming here,” he thought sadly.

All the families had to move to town. They would never be able to live on their farms again.

“A rare bug has destroyed the soil,” the scientist told the families on the shore. “This kind of bug goes away after just three days but the damage they cause lasts forever. Nothing will ever grow here again.”

A young farm girl named Emily listened carefully to what the scientist was saying. It sounded hopeless. As she filled a garden pot with farm soil to take with her when they moved, she thought, “I wonder?”





# • A Dream is Born •

One year later

**E**mily stirred when her alarm clock beeped. For a moment, she was still dreaming of being back on their farm. The sun was shining and the scent of lilacs was in the air. As usual, her yellow lab Sam whimpered to be let out to run in the fields. Her new spotted pony was waiting for her in the barn.

Slowly opening her eyes, Emily looked over at the brightly painted plant pot filled with soil she had secretly taken from their farm when they moved into town. For the past year, she has tried to grow every kind of plant she could find. “One day,” she thought, “something will grow!”

Nothing had worked yet, but as her feet hit the floor, Emily yawned her first *Thank You* of the day. She thought, “I have my family, friends and Sam to be thankful for and I get to enter the art contest at school today!” The winner will be picked in a week, the last day of school before summer break. The prize is a huge supply of paints and brushes.

Emily loved to draw and wondered, “What picture will I paint for the contest?”

