King Alice

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Book Review

King Alice

It's another snow day for Alice and her family, but Alice will make sure it is not boring! With a tired Dad tagging along, Alice declares herself king and orders Dad to write a book. Creatively, Alice patterns her wild chapters after the day they have together at home—a royal knights' tea party with Mom and the baby, dinner time with pirates, and a toy unicorn stampede. King Alice illustrates Dad's pages, taking several breaks to watch TV and—yikes—have a timeout. Thankfully, it is soon time for a bath, and Alice enjoys reading their homemade book for a bedtime story as she dreams about what they'll write in the sequel tomorrow.

While Alice appears to be about four or five years old and will appeal to an audience of young readers, the story also will give parents a laugh as Alice encounters familiar situations. The story remains lighthearted but encourages families to love and help each other even if they are driving each other slightly crazy. Without a narrator detailing the plot, the book allows readers to make inferences about each character through dialogue bubbles, packed illustrations, and Alice's writing and crayon drawings. The story line is purposefully a little wild and hard to follow, other than the fact that it takes place in a day that ends predictably with bedtime.