Ethical riddles inspired by

Me and Rolly Maloo

Janet S. Wong · Illustrated by Elizabeth Buttler

And remember: National Honesty Day is celebrated every year on April 30th.

Start a discussion in your classroom or reading group about ethics and honesty with Rolly, Jenna, Hugo, Shorn L., and their friends.

Stealing from School

Hugo is hiding paint in his jacket pocket, a handful of shiny little tubes and a couple of the art teacher's best brushes.

He whispers:

"Shhh . . . Shorn L, don't tell."

Shorn L knows this stuff would cost forty dollars, maybe more.

Hugo loves art but his family is poor and they can't afford things like paint.

Shorn L is torn. Should she tell? What kind of friend turns in a friend?

But if everyone started to steal from school— would there still be enough left for you?



Extra Change

Jenna's mom sent Jenna to buy milk, eggs and cocoa for their pie.

Jenna gave the cashier a ten, and almost started to say something when the cashier handed her \$12 back—but suddenly Jenna had an attack of . . . Well, is it really dishonest to keep extra change?

Wouldn't giving it back seem extra-strange?



Show it to Mrs. Pie. Why should I? You'd better not dare... if you want to be my friend!

Spelling Test

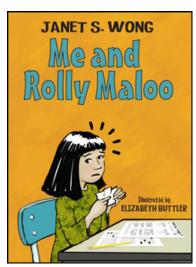
Rolly's test says 100, which she always has gotten since 2nd grade when she missed that rotten word "tomatoes"— one tomato's plenty, anyway!

It's always 100% for Rolly, and that's the case again today. Except while all the kids are checking how to spell their wrong words right, Patty sees—can it be—Rolly misspelled the word "excite"! Patty's excited. She can't believe it. Rolly Maloo made a spelling mistake? How did Mrs. Pie miss it? Patty says: "You'd better take your test and show it to Mrs. Pie." Rolly says: "Why should I? Mrs. Pie doesn't care. And Patty Parker, you'd better not dare tell her, that's what I recommend, if you want to stay my friend!"



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Would you cheat to be popular?

Rolly Maloo is the most popular girl in school. So when she asks Jenna over to her house, Jenna is thrilled—she dreams of sitting at Rolly's lunch table every day, and having an audience full of cool kids who will listen to what she has to say. But when Rolly asks Jenna to help her cheat on a math test, Jenna doesn't know what to do. Cheating is wrong—her mother taught her that. But it can't be called cheating when you help someone who really needs it . . . can it?

Uniquely designed, *Me and Rolly Maloo* combines a traditional novel format with elements of a graphic novel. Janet Wong thoughtfully explores the issues of cheating, popularity, and integrity, while Elizabeth Buttler's illustrations skillfully depict the inner lives of the characters. A thorough examination of several prevalent issues, this book is a must for all schoolaged children.



Janet S. Wong is the acclaimed author of dozens of books for young readers, including Dumpster Diver (Candlewick), Apple Pie 4th of July (Harcourt), and the Minn & Jake series (Farrar Straus & Giroux). She lives near Princeton, New Jersey, with her husband and son. Visit Janet at www.janetwong.com.

Elizabeth Buttler is a freelance illustrator, character and set designer, and fabricator for stop-motion animation. She lives with her husband and son in the Berkshire Hills in western Massachusetts. Visit her at www.elizabethbuttler.com.