



Lori Withrow

Never had chickens growing but has always loved animals. She grew up in and still resides in Michigan where she shares her home with her family, a cool blue eyed dog Sam and three chirpy birds, Boo, Lemon and Lime. This is her first book so look out.



Pictured: The chicken tree. Bawk bawk baaagok!

Henrietta and I



Henrietta and I

WRITTEN BY LORI WITHROW



15 SOFT CUDDLY CHICKS, OH MY!

Something amazing has come in the mail! What could it be? Open the lid carefully! Look inside and what do you see? Tiny yellow bodies all snuggled together. Cute little peeps and pointy beaks. Join Sophia on her Journey to making new chicken friends and learning how to take care of them along the way.



Pictured: The chicken tree. Bawk bawk baaagok!

Henrietta and I



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WRITTEN BY LORI WITHROW

To my wonderful daughters Sophia and Scarlett.
You are my source of inspiration. All my love.

Henrietta and I

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Henrietta and I are friends. She's my pet chicken too.

Henrietta is an egg laying **hen**.

She lays the prettiest

and yummiest brown eggs.



Henrietta came to us in the mail when she was just 1 day old.

When the box came it was so tiny. I could hardly believe there was a chicken inside!

Even more amazing was that when mom opened the lid, there wasn't just 1 soft yellow chick inside.

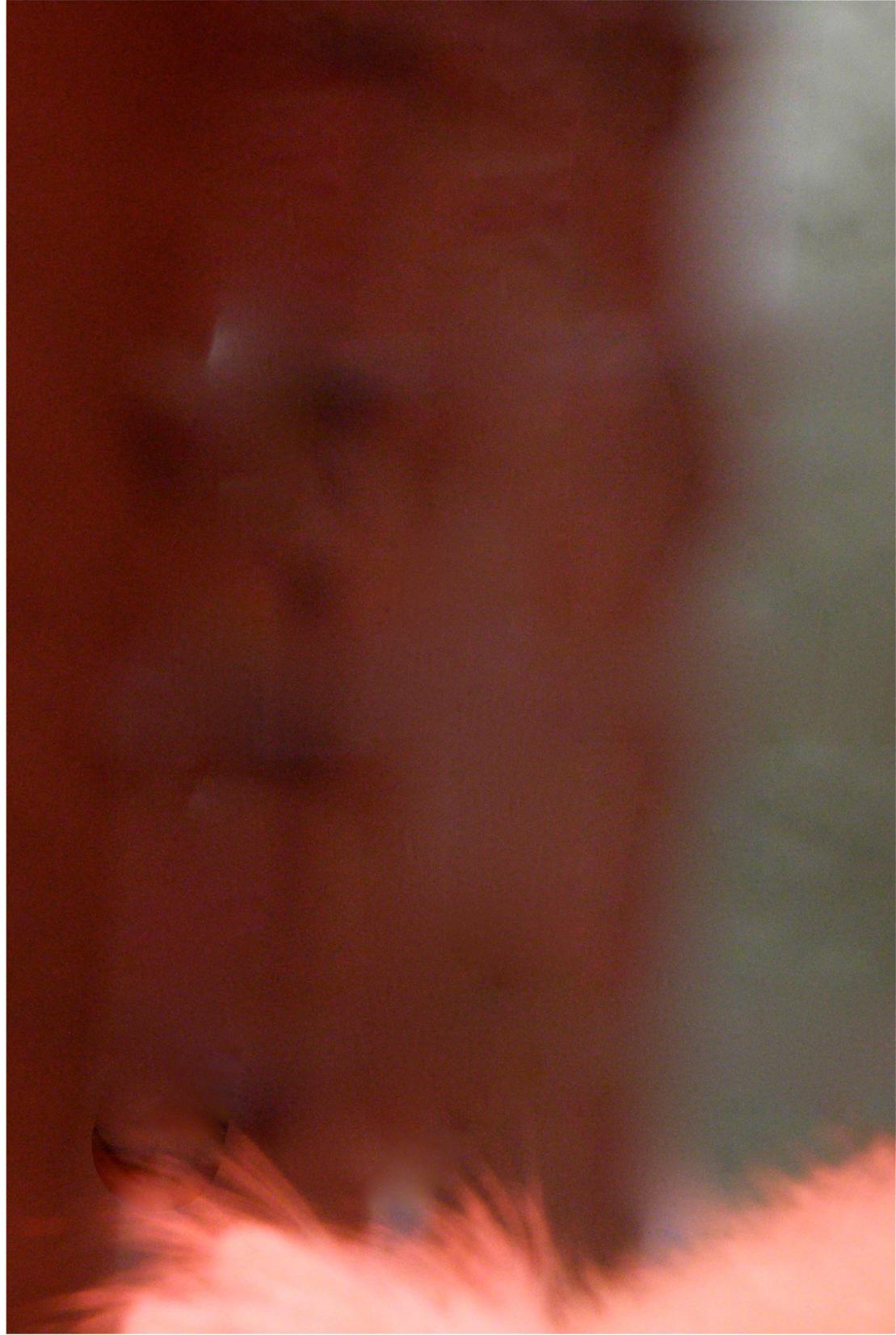
There were 15!

Mom found a bigger box to put the chicks in and I helped her set them in 1 by 1.

That's when I found Henrietta. I knew she was special from the moment I saw her.

She wasn't yellow like the rest.

She was brown with black speckles on her tiny chick wings, and pretty black lined eyes. Mom thought they made a mistake and sent the wrong one, but I didn't care. I decided she was my favorite chicken







Once the chicks were settled, we put a heat lamp in the box to help **regulate** their body temperature. Kind of like how we wrapped my baby sister in blankets to keep her warm and comfy after she was born. Some of the chickens liked to lay right under the light, and some liked the cooler shady spots.



Each day I helped mom feed and water the baby chicks. We put a special vitamin in their water to help make sure they stayed healthy, and gave them plenty to eat. Chicken food is made up of different grains like corn and oats ground up really fine. We also gave them grit to help with **digestion**.

Holding the chicks was my very favorite part. Except I didn't handle them much. Mom said it wasn't so good for them. When I did I always washed my hands with soap and water.



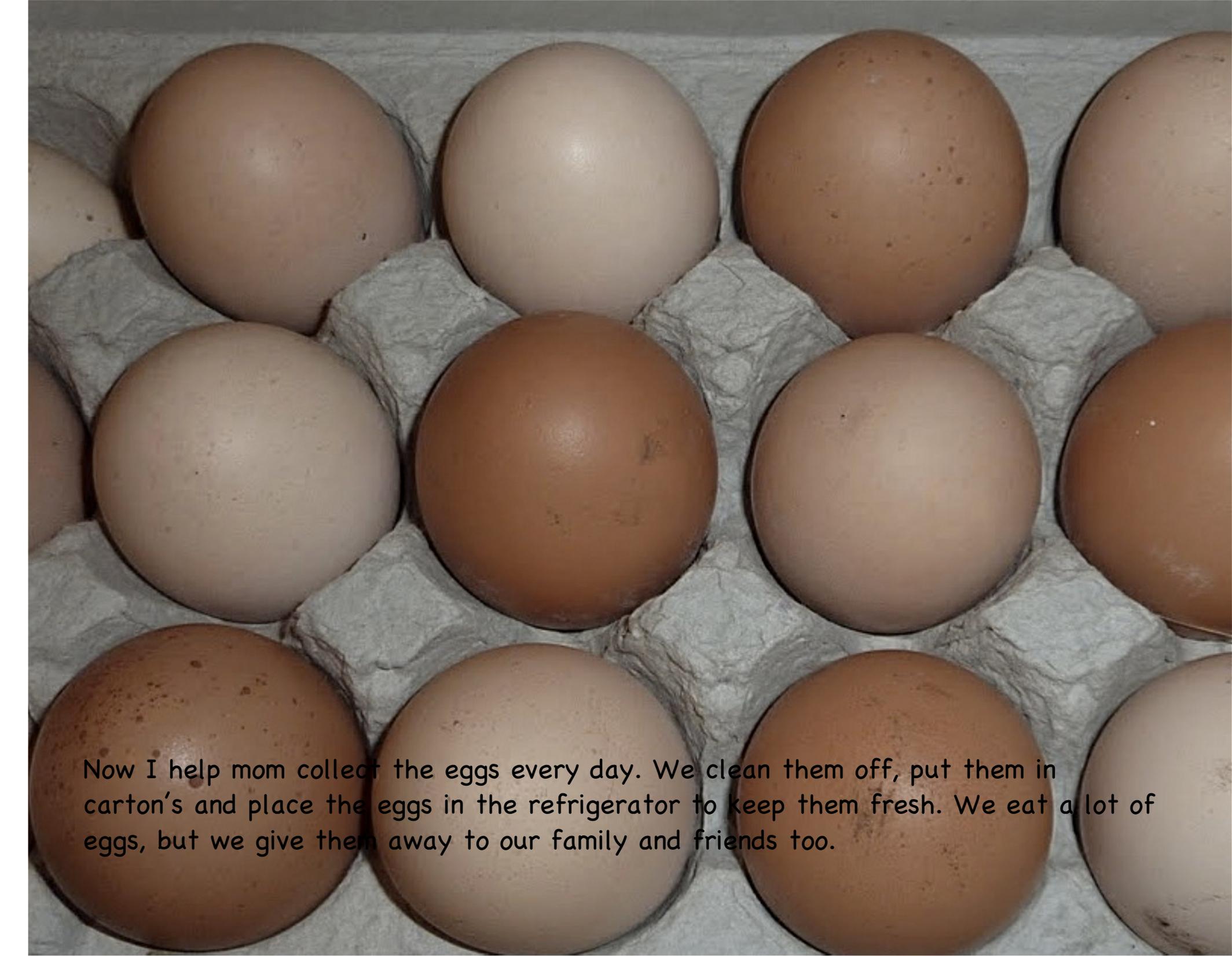


Henrietta and her 15 sisters stayed in the big box until most of their adult feathers grew in. Then they moved to their new home. A pretty green coop my daddy built just for them.

Inside the coop we built nesting boxes, or places for the ladies to lay their eggs.



We waited and waited, and finally after around 3 months we found our first egg surprise. I was so excited! It was like discovering a real Easter egg.



Now I help mom collect the eggs every day. We clean them off, put them in carton's and place the eggs in the refrigerator to keep them fresh. We eat a lot of eggs, but we give them away to our family and friends too.



Our chickens also get to **free range**. That's when mom and I let them out to play in the yard. They eat bugs and different plants they find. Plus they get plenty of exercise which we all know is important.

Henrietta especially likes our garden. The pretty sunflowers grow there. She likes to eat the seeds. Sometimes mom cuts one down for a special chicken treat.





When the sun is hot the chickens like to lay under the tomato plants to keep cool. They scratch the dirt, lay down and spread their wings, then flop dirt all over their bodies.





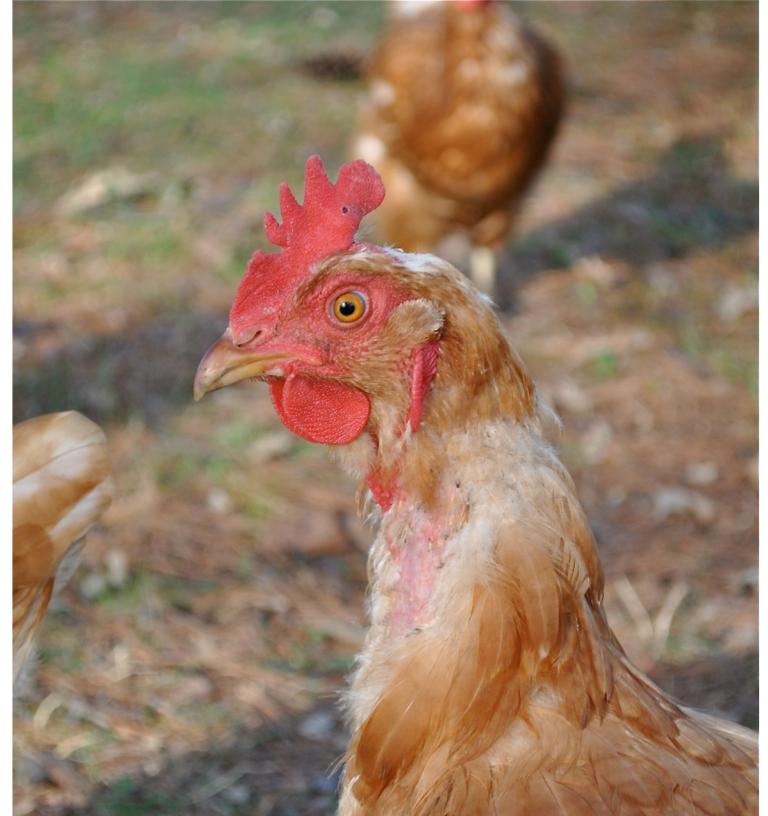
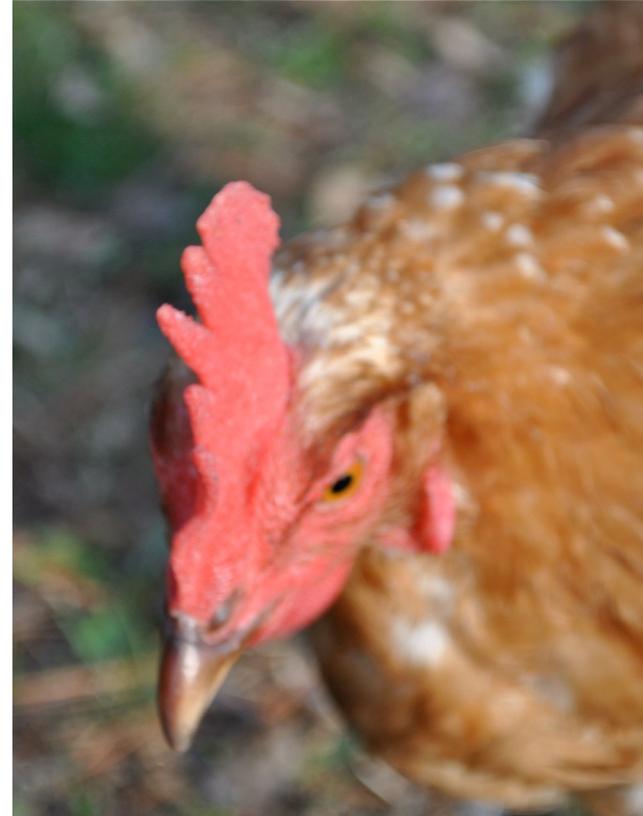
In the winter they like to help us build snowmen.



My favorite is when Henrietta follows me around. I really love to hold her too. She likes her ears rubbed and feathers pet.



Henrietta is my very special chicken. I'm glad she's my friend!



The End



Words to know

Hen- The female of any bird.

Digestion- The process of breaking food down so it can be used by the body.

Regulate- To control, adjust or maintain.

Coop- A cage or pen for chickens.

Free Range- To be kept in natural conditions and free to move around.

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