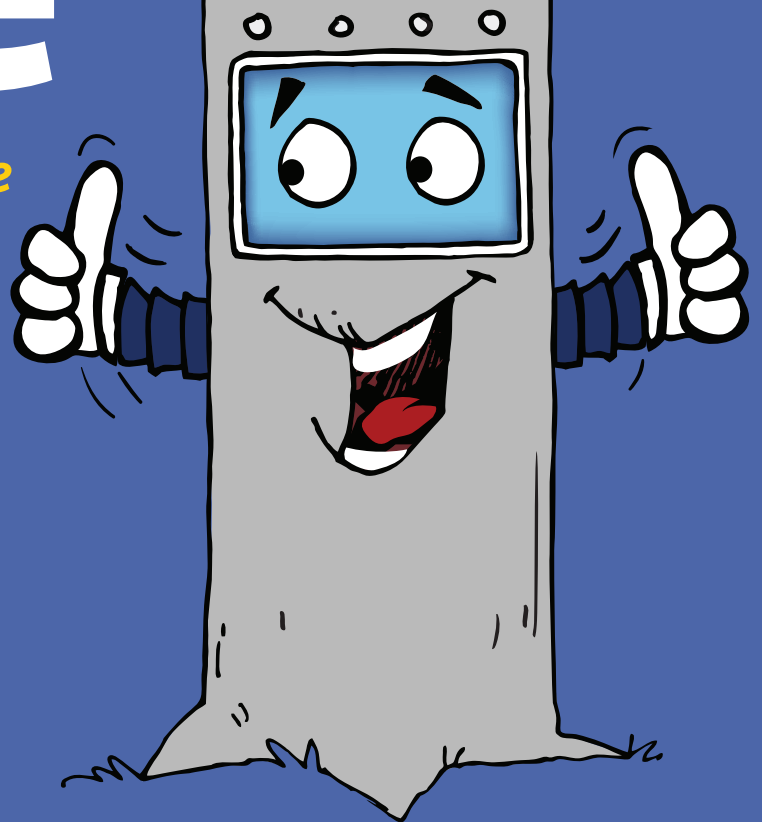


the Liking tree

an antisocial media fable



UNAUTHORIZED
CHILDREN'S
PARODY

JOHN ALLEN WOODEN
ILLUSTRATED BY MIKE FERRIN

THE LIKING TREE
An Antisocial Media Fable
[Unauthorized Children's Parody]
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www.thelikingtree.com

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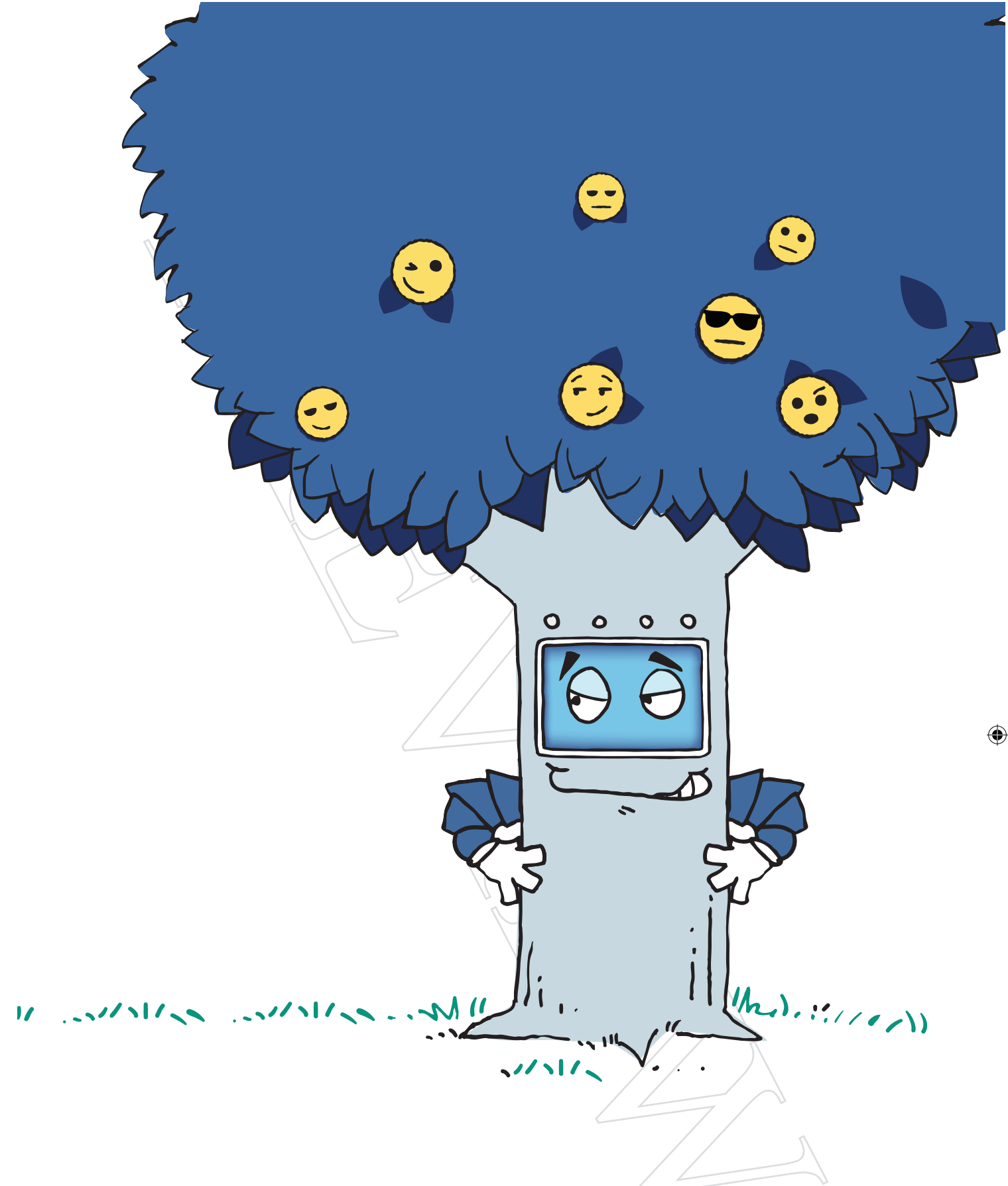
DISCLAIMER: This book is a work of parody and as such has not been prepared, approved, authorized, or lavishly praised by the utterly genius late creator of *The Giving Tree* or his heirs or representatives. Any pointed resemblance to actual social media corporations, multimedia communications platforms, or similar digital cesspools of human bile, rancor, and narcissism is wholly intentional, for purposes of satiric criticism and comment.



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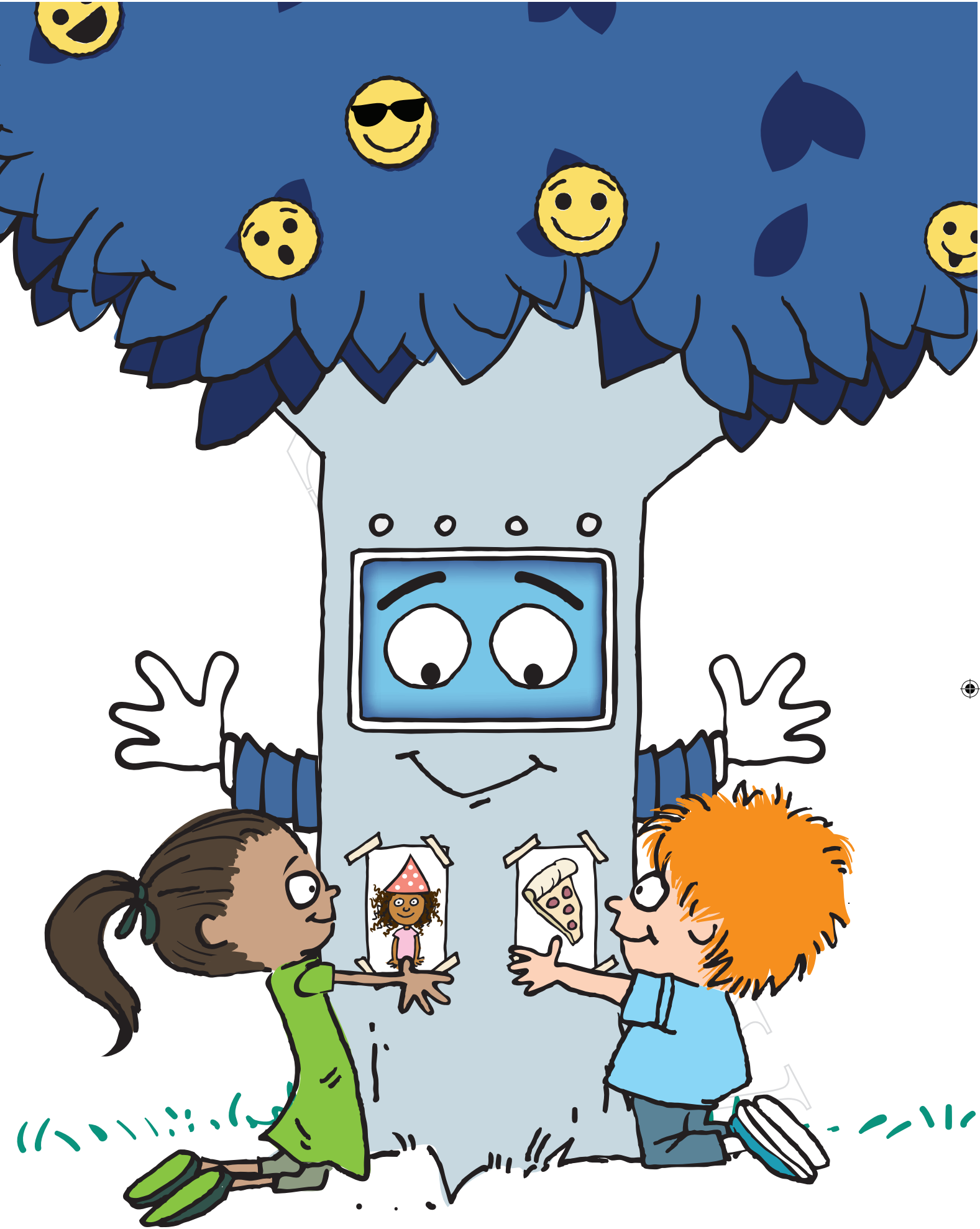
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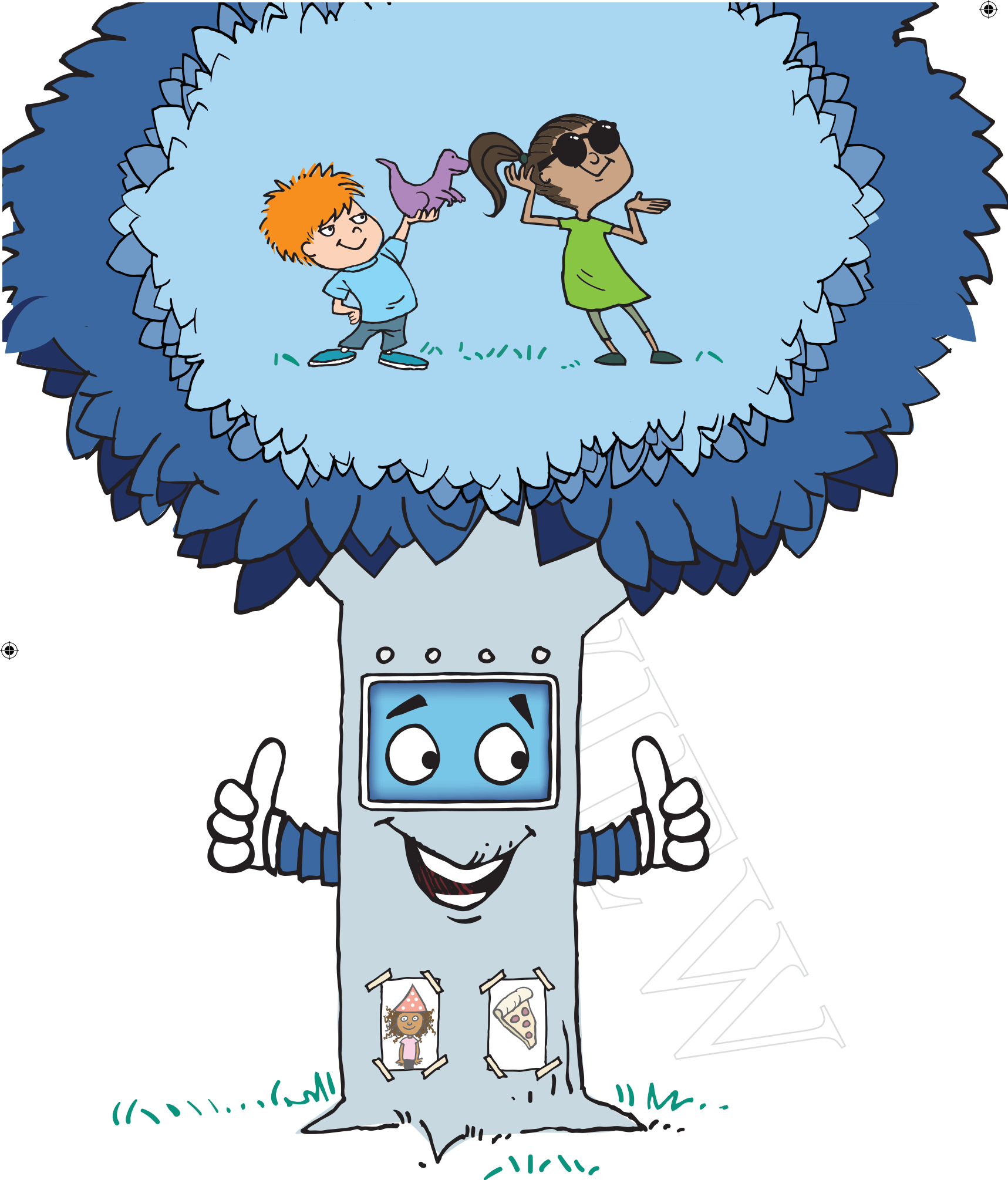
Once there were some children...



and they liked a strange and friendly tree.

And every day
the children
would come
and decorate
its trunk
with pictures
of happy times
with funny friends
and yummy foods.





And the children would gaze
into the tree's shiny leaves
to *oooooh!* and *abbbh!* at their
own super-cute reflections,
and show off their
clever tricks and neato toys.

And the tree would whisper,
“I  you.”



And when the children felt liked, they would feed the tree's hungry knothole tasty treats of all their thoughts, ideas, and dreams—plus *oodles* and *oodles* of their belly button lint, which was the tree's most favorite treat ever!

And the tree would gush, “OMG—you are so 😎, and now I 👍 you *even more!*”



And when the children felt small,
the tree would lift them high in its
sturdy branches, and they would
cry out at the top of their lungs,
“Look at me! Everybody LOOK
AT MEEEEEE!”

And far away someone might hear
their cries, and glance towards
them...

if only for a moment.

And the tree would clap, and
cheer, “You are the all-time 🏆,
and *EVERYBODY* 👍👍 you!”



Continued in the full book...



Thank you for previewing
The Liking Tree.

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AMAZON.COM

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On Social Media

When two children befriend a strange tree, they quickly become enchanted by its flattery and dazzling distractions. But time goes by, and as the tree's true nature is revealed, the children must decide whether they will live by its lonely rules, or walk away to rediscover the joys of real life and true friendship.

“Bravo! Finally an entertaining and witty children's book that brilliantly conveys the dark side of social media to young readers.”

- Dr. Nicholas Kardaras, author of *Glow Kids*



“An inoculation against social media's seductive pull—and a great conversation starter for people of all ages.”

- Catherine Price, author of *How to Break Up With Your Phone*



“A perfect illustration of the toxic fruit that is social media. A powerful message for children and an eye-opener for parents.”

- Thomas Kersting, author of *Disconnected: How To Reconnect Our Digitally Distracted Kids*



Instagram, Snapchat, Facebook, TikTok, Twitter... They were supposed to change the world, and they have—for the worse! Experts agree: social media leaves us feeling alienated, depressed and misinformed. If only there were a subversive *anti-social media* book that employs sly metaphor to help vaccinate kids from its numbing stupor. Enter *The Liking Tree*, the unauthorized parody that turns Shel Silverstein's beloved parable of selflessness on its head to caution kids of all ages about the sad, empty existence that is life lived via social media.



John Allen Wooden is an Emmy® and Webby® winning producer, writer, and 20-year veteran of online media. His writing has been described as “remarkable” by *Esquire*, “hilarious” by the New York Times, and featured on the *Vanity Fair* “In” list. He's no longer on social media, but keeps a small e-candle burning at www.johnwooden.com.