

Dear Reader,

You may remember Chloe Bunny, who first appeared as Henry's crush in my last picture book, *Henry in Love*. I liked drawing her so much that I decided my next book would be about her.

Whenever I begin a new story, I tap into my experiences and emotional memories from my own childhood. *Henry in Love* was inspired by the powerful feelings I had for the girls I adored in elementary school but was too shy to talk to. With *Chloe*, I knew right away that she would be the middle child in a big family, just like me. Plus I thought it would be great fun to draw lots of bunnies! The first words I jotted down were:

*Chloe had a father and a mother.*

*She had ten older brothers and sisters and ten younger brothers and sisters.*

*Chloe was in the middle.*

Showing Chloe surrounded by her whole family was very important to me, but it took a long time to draw twenty-three bunnies on most spreads. I did love creating a different look and personality for each bunny, though. And of course, the fact that Chloe and her family are bunnies was lucky—when Chloe starts popping bubble wrap, it was fun to show all those long ears listening.

I hope you will enjoy—and share—Chloe!

Peter McCarty