

Beaver Creek Elementary
Johnston, Iowa

Dear Terry Pratchett,

Your book, The Wee Free Men, opened the right doors for me and showed me the helpful path. It altered my thinking about me, and the world in a way that I just can't explain. It taught me that it's not always bad to show your emotions. One saying your book taught me is one that I'll keep in my heart forever, something small can take on something big.

While I was reading the book I started thinking what I would do if I was in Tiffany's shoes (or in this case boots). I probably wouldn't have gone on the journey; I would have waited for help. But I might have gone if instead of Wentworth being kidnapped my little brother. I also wouldn't want to become a witch (or in my case a wizard) in those days because it would bring risks.

S. H. O. R. T. Those five letters have troubled me since kindergarten. Even though nobody laughed or called me names, I sometimes put myself down. I keep thinking I was so bad at P.E. because I'm too short, I can't shoot hoops as well as these tall guys, and lots of other negative things. The Wee Free Men taught me to deal with it, to let things that I'm good at and let it help overcome my bad parts. So even though I know I'm still the shortest boy in my class, when I think about being short it isn't as negative as before.

If the odds are against me I would always give up. I thought it wasn't worth the effort to try to do the impossible, so if death looked me straight in the eyes I would probably give up and let death take me in open arms. Now though I've learned to try to fight, because I learned there is no harm in trying.

Thank you Terry Pratchett for writing a book that sparked my imagination, gave me better instincts, and made me more aware of what's happening. (Your sequel was also really good.)

Sincerely,

Edwin Wu