

# Eva Katherine

and the

## STICKY Bubble Gum



By Amandah Tayler Blackwell

Illustration © 2015, Naomi Romero

# Eva Katherine and the Sticky Bubble Gum

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Acknowledgements

To Eva Katherine with love, from Aunt Amandah.

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.

Hi!

I'm Eva Katherine and I have a little brother, Drew.

He's a daredevil who gets into all sorts of trouble.

One time Drew jumped off the garage roof  
and into our swimming pool.

SPLASH!

Water went everywhere.

I was soaked from head to toe.

“Mommy!” I screamed.

Our mom came out of the house  
in a huff.

“Drew! What were you thinking?”  
she asked.

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Drew shrugged his shoulders.

“Young man, get into the house”

Mommy said.

Drew gave me a mean look and stomped inside.

Ah, the joys of having a little brother.  
There's never a dull moment.  
Anyway ... Tomorrow is my friend  
Rachel's birthday.  
She's having a party.

Mommy and I went shopping for a gift.

I used the money from my  
lemonade stand and bought her  
a stuffed elephant.

Mommy bought me a new dress  
and shoes for the party.

Aren't they pretty?

I love pink!

Thump!

Thump!

Thump!

“Drew, what did Mommy say about  
running down the hallway?”

I ask.

Drew glares at me.

“I don’t know. What did she say?”

he asks.

“You could get hurt.  
I’m going to tell Mommy you’re running  
up and down the hallway again.”

“Pshh! Go ahead!  
I’m Super Drew  
and can’t get into trouble,”  
he says.



I stomp down the stairs and  
shout, “Mommy!”  
Mommy pokes her head out of  
the kitchen.

“Drew was running up and down the hallway.  
He says he doesn’t care if I tell you,”

I say.

Mommy smiles.

“Eva Katherine, thank you for telling me.

I will talk to your brother.

Now it’s time for you to get ready for bed.

Off you go.”

I go to my bedroom, put on my pajamas,  
and crawl into bed with my favorite  
stuffed bunny by my side.

I hear Mommy across the hall.  
“Goodnight Drew. I love you.  
Sweet dreams.  
No running in the hallway.”

Mommy comes into my room.

“Goodnight, Eva Katherine. I love you.

Tomorrow is Rachel’s birthday party.

It’s something to look  
forward to.”

Drew gets up and pulls out  
a box from underneath his bed.  
It's filled with baseball cards,  
toy cars, marbles, and bubble gum.  
He unwraps a piece of gum and  
starts chewing it.

Drew walks quietly across the hall  
to Eva Katherine's room.

He gets really close to her head,  
blows a bubble, and POPS it!

His sister stirs in her sleep  
but doesn't wake up.

“Uh oh!” Drew whispers.  
There is bubble gum  
in Eva Katherine’s hair.  
Drew tip-toes out of her  
bedroom and runs to his room.  
He throws out his bubble gum  
and jumps into his bed.



The next morning I get  
out of bed, walk to the bathroom,  
and look in the mirror.  
“AAAAH! Mommy!”  
I scream.

I stare at the  
bubble gum in my hair.  
Then I see Drew slinking  
by the bathroom.  
“Drew! I know you did this to  
my hair,” I shout.

Mommy dashes upstairs.

“Drew, did you put bubble gum in your sister’s hair?” she asks.

Drew hangs his head and says, “Yes.”

And I begin to cry.

Mommy rushes downstairs and comes back with a bottle that she sets on the bathroom countertop.

“Olive oil?” I ask.

Mommy twists off the top and pours some olive oil into a glass.

She dips a washcloth in it and starts rubbing my hair.

After a few minutes, the bubble gum is out of my hair.

I need to take a bath and clean up for Rachel's birthday party.

I come downstairs dressed in my pretty new dress and shoes.

“See. I knew the sticky bubble gum would come out,” Mommy says.

“Drew, do you have something to say to your sister?”

“I’m sorry,” Drew says.

“I forgive you,” I say.

“Drew, don’t ever put bubble gum  
in your sister’s hair,” Mommy says.  
We laugh and hug and all  
is forgiven.

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