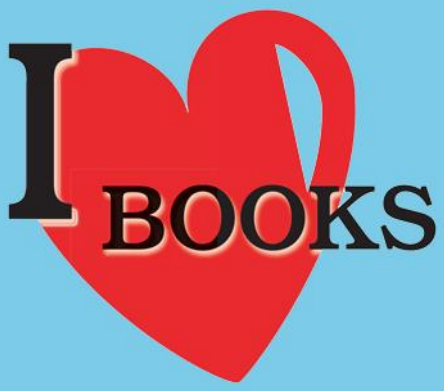


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Written by

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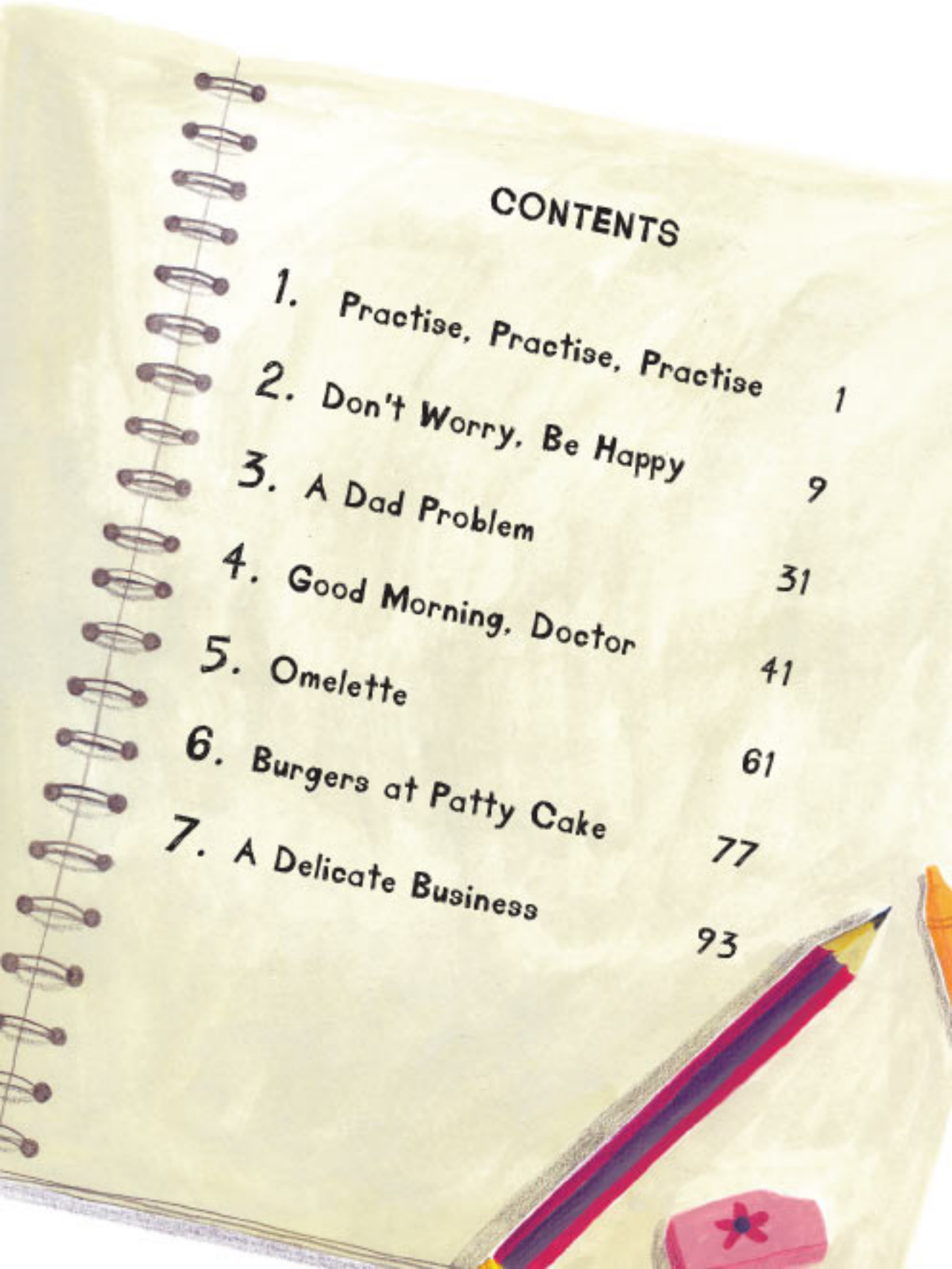
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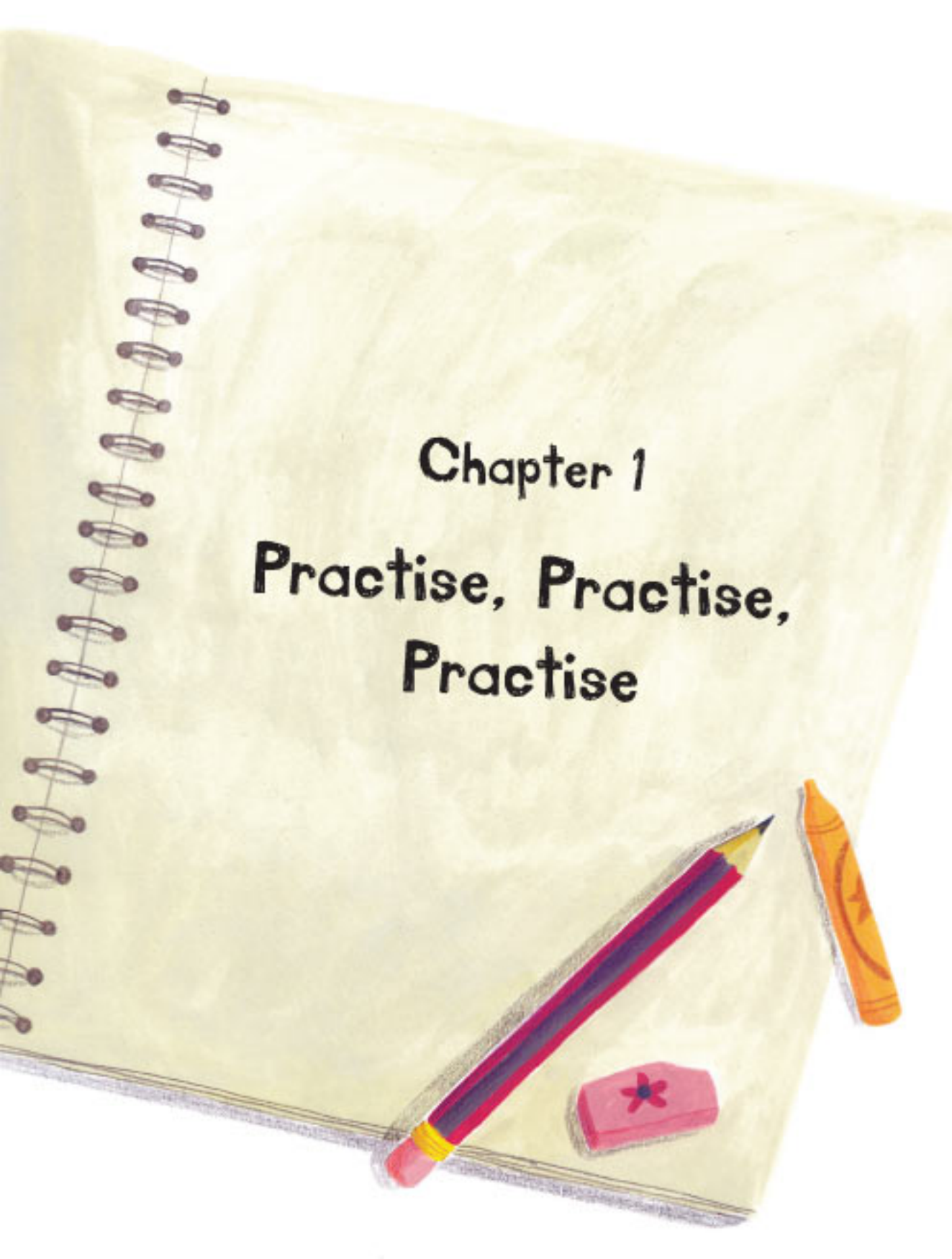
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Chapter 1

Practise, Practise, Practise



There are all kinds of doctors.

Doctors for cuts and bruises.

Doctors for aches and pains.

There are even doctors who can check out the inside of your body with tiny cameras.

My mum is none of the above.



My mum is a brain doctor. She doesn't actually poke around in people's brains even when I've begged her to. What my mum does is talk with people who are really upset or very lonely, until they feel better.

Mum says that it's even more important to listen to her patients than to talk to them.



Doctors like my mum have a really long job title.

Are you ready for this?

It took me a whole week to learn how to spell it.

Doctors like my mum are called **Psychiatrists**. (The P is silent. You say it like sye-kye-a-trist.)



I think that a job where you can make sad people happy again must be the best job in the world and I want to be a psychiatrist too.

I asked Mum if I could be one right now, but she told me that only big people who have practised for years and years can be psychiatrists. So that means that I have to practise for years if I want to make people happy.

And I'm going to start doing that right away by opening my own office.

So that's me. I am Anna Liza Madigan, practising psychiatrist – and in my mother's waiting room is where I operate the Happy Practice.

