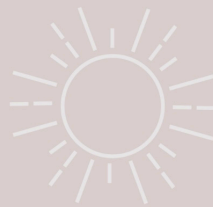




## **Finding My Way: A Visual Impairment Journey**

**Written by: Elias Anderson**



**This book is dedicated  
to Chappie and all of  
the students with  
visual impairments  
who are finding their  
way.**



The picture features a young boy with brown hair smiling.

Once upon a time in a small village in Massachusetts, there lived a young boy named Chappie. He was born with a visual impairment. He still uses his eyes to see, but some things are harder for him to see than others.



The picture shows a white cane with a black handle, white and red coloring along the base, and a white ball tip at the bottom.

In preschool, Chappie got an awesome teacher to help him move around by himself. A teacher who helps students with visual impairments walk around is called an Orientation and Mobility teacher. This O&M teacher gave Chappie a new tool to help him walk around the school independently. It's called a cane!



A young boy with a Red Sox baseball cap holding a white cane on the sidewalk.

Chappie was nervous about getting this new tool. So an older student named Elias decided to help him learn to use it by making a book for him.



Picture of a young man smiling while holding a white cane in one hand and giving a thumbs up with the other hand.

Elias was also born with a visual impairment and has been using a cane for most of his life.



A young man with a white cane detects an obstacle on the ground in the school hallway.

The cane helps Elias find obstacles in front of him. It helps to sweep the cane left and right.



A young man walking down a hallway with his white cane touching the wall.

When Elias uses a cane, he does this thing called shorelining. It's when you sweep your cane to the right to find the edge of the path you're walking on. This helps him walk in a straight line.



A young man runs across the school gym using his white cane.

Elias uses a cane to keep himself from danger and obstacles ahead of him. His cane gives him the confidence to go faster.



A young man tries to hit a basketball hoop with his cane.

Should the cane be used as a toy?  
N0000000!  
The cane should only be used as a tool!



An image of Elias and Chappie high-fiving.

Elias told Chappie, "Using a cane is an advantage. I've been told by many people that because I have a visual impairment I can't do everything. But thanks to the cane I can do anything I want."

# The End



A headshot of a young man wearing a red baseball cap and glasses.

## Meet the Author

Elias Anderson is a sophomore at Westwood High School in Westwood, MA. In his free time he enjoys listening to music and playing the drums. He plans on changing the world for visually impaired kids when he is an adult. Elias lives at home with his parents and his dog Dorado. He would like to thank everyone for reading his book. He would also like to thank Chappie for the inspiration, and thank Lily McDonagh and Melissa Mabee for being amazing teachers.