

## To Andie, Ali, Cam, and Nina, for always helping me find my Sparkle

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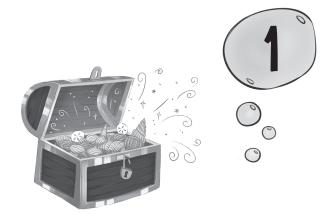
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## BEST FRIENDS AND BIRTHDAYS

I woke up feeling **mer-mazing**. That's pretty much how I always feel because I'm a mermicorn: part unicorn, part mermaid, and all awesome!

I swam out of bed and over to my mirror to do my Morning Mermicorn Mirror Check. My unicorn horn shined



like a pearl. My mane had just the right swirl. My purple mermaid tail glittered in the morning light.

Yep. Everything was **fin-tastic**. And the day was only going to get better because my best friend Flash was finally back from his vacation in Atlantis.

I floated over to my desk to put the finishing touches on Flash's birthday card. Not to brag, but I'm pretty great at drawing. My other best friend Ruby says my art might be even more famous than Leonardo da Fishy's someday. I have a poster of da Fishy's most popular painting, the *Manta Lisa*, on my wall for Fin-SpiRatien.





Today I needed extra Fin-SPiRati®n for Flash's card. I was going to add a picture of him winning the Mermicorn Island Marathon. Flash is the fastest seahorse I know. When he's old enough to enter, I know he'll win the race fins down!

