

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Unlucky

By Kelly Hashway



Xander entered the school fair and scanned the booths. There were tons of games, including beanbag toss, ring toss, bowling, and magnetic fishing. After he purchased a few tickets and signed a slip of paper, which he assumed they used for attendance, he headed straight for the booth run by his gym teacher, Mr. Stanford.



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"No thanks. I'm the most unlucky person there is. I'd never win."

Will shrugged. "It's only fifty cents for two tickets. Are you sure?"

Xander shoved his hands in his pockets and nodded. He walked over to the bowling booth.

"Hello, Xander," Mr. Stanford said, handing Xander a bowling ball. "First throw is on the house."

"Thanks." Xander lined up his shot. He knocked down all the pins.

"Nicely done!" Mr. Stanford said. "If you get another strike, you win a prize."

Xander handed Mr. Stanford a ticket and lined up his second shot.

He knocked down all but one pin.

“So close!” Mr. Stanford said.

Xander shrugged. “I knew I wouldn’t get a strike. I have the worst luck ever.”

“Well I hope you still had fun,” Mr. Stanford said.

Xander forced a smile and walked to the beanbag toss. He made the first toss but not the second. He played every game, coming so close to winning each time, but never

get  
big



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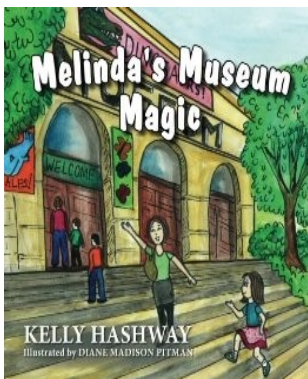
“The raffle. Everyone gets one free entry in the raffle just for coming. You beat out people who bought over twenty tickets a piece.” Will handed Xander the slip of paper with his name on it.

“I won?” Xander asked.

“Yeah. Do you still think you’re unlucky?”

Xander smiled. “No, I guess I’m lucky after all.”

## About the Author



Kelly Hashway's picture book, *Melinda's Museum Magic*, is now available!

Melinda is taking her first trip to the museum, and her mother promises it will be magical. But when the exhibits start coming to life in ways that only Melinda can see, she'll learn the real magic of the museum.

Hashway, Kelly. *Melinda's Museum Magic* ISBN: 978-0615814216

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1. At the beginning of the story, Xander signed a slip of paper, what did he think it was for?

- a. a raffle
- b. attendance
- c. a time sheet
- d. to sign up for games

2. If basketball is Xander's favorite sport, why didn't he enter the raffle for the basketball hoop?

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3.



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4.

How did this make him feel?

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5. At the end of the story did Xander still think he was unlucky? What occurred that changed his opinion?

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Match each vocabulary word on the left with the definition on the right. Write the correct letter on the blank line next to each word.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ scanned

a. to have thought something was true without knowing if it was or not

2. \_\_\_\_\_ mumbled

b. used strength or will power to do something

3. \_\_\_\_\_



4. \_\_\_\_\_

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5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_ purchased

f. looked over something quickly

7. \_\_\_\_\_ display

g. to have said something quietly and unclear

❖ **Now try this:** Find all of the words above in the story and highlight them.



# ANSWER KEY

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1. At the beginning of the story, Xander signed a slip of



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# ANSWER KEY

**Unlucky**

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