

The premise of the story is as follows:

Twelve-year-old David Griffin's goal in life is to be the second person to ever pitch a perfect game in post-season baseball. Unfortunately, he is so distracted by the warm, early March weather that he doesn't realize he has a big test on weather coming up in his sixth-grade science class. He only has the weekend to study and if he fails the test, he will fail science for the term. His parents are doctors at a local hospital and his grandfather is a weather scientist with his lab in the family basement, so if David fails science because of the weather test, he will not get to play baseball. David and his best friend and classmate, Jon, search Grandpa's lab for a solution and discover the Snowmallows. Snowmallows are scientifically engineered marshmallows invented by Grandpa that are shaped like snowflakes. If you put two in your evening hot cocoa, it will snow steadily for two days. However, David and Jon don't read all the writing on the bag, so they end up using too many Snowmallows and the snow continues long after it should have stopped. David and Jon work with David's second grade sister, Emily, and her one-year-old pure white kitten, Snowball, to try to reverse the Snowmallows. Their solution is to create a reversal formula called Lemonthaw. The formula they create works to stop the snow, but it causes a time paradox in which no one except the three children remembers the original snowstorm. The children all end up being grounded for missing school and David has failed the test as a result of skipping school. The children must work with Grandpa and Jon's father, a Catholic Deacon, to correct the Lemonthaw formula and set everything right. David is able to build a relationship with his Grandfather that was shaky for many years and David learns that science and faith are not mutually exclusive - one can support the other.

Some specifics that might help:

David has short blonde hair. Jon is bi-racial. Emily has long, dark hair worn in a ponytail. Emily is also impeccably neat and has clean white sneakers. Snowball is a long haired, white kitten who was born the spring before the story takes place. The children do not have to appear in the cover art.

Snowmallows are made of all the things Grandpa likes about winter. The formula for Snowmallows is:

1 jar	Cold blizzard wind that has just whistled through the trees
1/4 cup	Ashes taken from fireplace after first burnt log of the season
1/8 cup	Ice shavings wiped from skates after ice-skating on Milton's Pond
1 jar	Christmas Carols sung door to door
1 tsp	Charcoal dust from snowman's eyes
1 12oz bag	Marshmallows

Lemonthaw contains things that the children like about spring weather. Lemonthaw is made with:

Dr. Sunshine's All Natural Lemonade

Chili Pepper seeds

A handful of Snowball the cat's fur

Shavings of "Spring in Your Step" spring scented soap

Pieces of a sponge used to wash cars

Wind from Griffin's Greatest Fastball - the type of fastball David throws that strikes the batter out every time

The sound of a mourning dove cooing - first from a clock, then from the natural sound of the birds

"Bunny's Best" marshmallow rabbits

The cover art can contain any of the above elements. The children do not have to be in the artwork.