

Mary Reaves Uhles: Author/Illustrator

Picture Book

^in the header, name and title of work

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The Twelve Days of Christmas in Tennessee (Sterling, 2018)

^ Agent info OR most recent traditionally published work

The whole manuscript is in 12 pt Times New Roman and double-spaced (except for the contact info in your heading...that gets awkward if you double-space it! No more than 10 pages.)

Name your manuscript submission like THIS: LASTNAME.TITLE.YEAR.docx
(NO SPACES, ALL CAPS)

UNO, WORLD RECORD UNICORN

Picture Book Manuscript 425 words (*illustration notes in blue italics*)

Everywhere Uno looked he was surrounded by greatness. And not just any greatness. World record level greatness.

His morning paper was delivered by the world record paper pitcher.

His coffee was served by the world record whipped cream artist.

At lunch he had to make room for the world record hot dog eater.

And every evening he muttered thanks when the world record orange juggler bagged up his groceries.

Being average was getting tiresome. Uno wanted some of that world record greatness for himself.

Unfortunately cloven hooves were a bit of a hindrance when it came to sculpting whipped cream . . .

He choked on his own silky beard when he tried to eat more than one hot dog . . .

And when it came to juggling oranges, Uno's horn stopped the show. But not the way he planned. *(Uno tries to juggle fruit but they all stick on his horn like a kebab)*

So Uno tried more unicorn friendly contests.

But he was outclassed for the world record in mane waving...

“Well of course that much hair will win.”

(Speech bubble as Uno loses to an afghan hound covered in frothy fur. The hound wears a badge that says “Mane Waving World Record Holder”)

and neck arching . . .

“Actually that's a pretty awesome arch.”

(speech bubble as Uno loses to a swan with neck greatly arched)

and even the world record for the longest, most amazing horn.

“Really!?”

(speech bubble as Uno loses to a narwhale)

Uno tried learning tuba and tap dancing and thermo-dynamic-astro-physics. He had to be the best at something!

But after weeks of practicing every scale and every stretch and every photonic equation, Uno missed the tuba playing world record by a note . . . *(humming bird plays the tuba and hits the highest note)*

and the tap dancing world record by a couple of feet . . . *(lady bug takes the world record with six feet instead of four)*

and the thermo-dynamic-astro-physics solving world record by a . . .

“Time's up!” *(speech bubble from a judge)*

well, it looked like no one was setting that record.

(Uno, a mouse, and a few other contestants are trying to solve a huge problem on the blackboard. The

other contestants give up, tossing their chalk away. Only Uno and the mouse remain as the judges say "Time's up!")

Uno headed home without a single world record. He was stuck being average. But then he overheard one of the judges . . .

"That was the ONLY unicorn tuba player I've ever seen." *(speech bubble as one of the judges talks to another judge.)*

That gave Uno an idea.

Maybe he wasn't the world record tuba player. But he was the world record UNICORN tuba player!

And the world record UNICORN neck archer.

And the world record UNICORN mane waver.

And the world record UNICORN hot dog eater.

And the world record UNICORN paper-pitching-orange-juggling-tap-dancing-whipped-cream-artist.

He even had the longest, most amazing horn – for a unicorn.

But he decided to leave thermo-dynamic-astro-physics to someone else. *(Uno, covered in his own 'unicorn world records' is now boosting the mouse up on his horn to reach the top of the math equation on the backboard. With the help of Uno's horn, the mouse is now able to solve it as the judges cheer and hand her the world record badge.)*

After all, it was nice to have some company at the top.

(The mouse makes a quick modification on the badge and shares it with Uno. As the two turn toward the reader we see that World Record Holder has been scratched out. The badge now says “Thermodynamic-astro-physics World Record TEAM”)