

Homeschool Helper



Your Questions Answered

with love

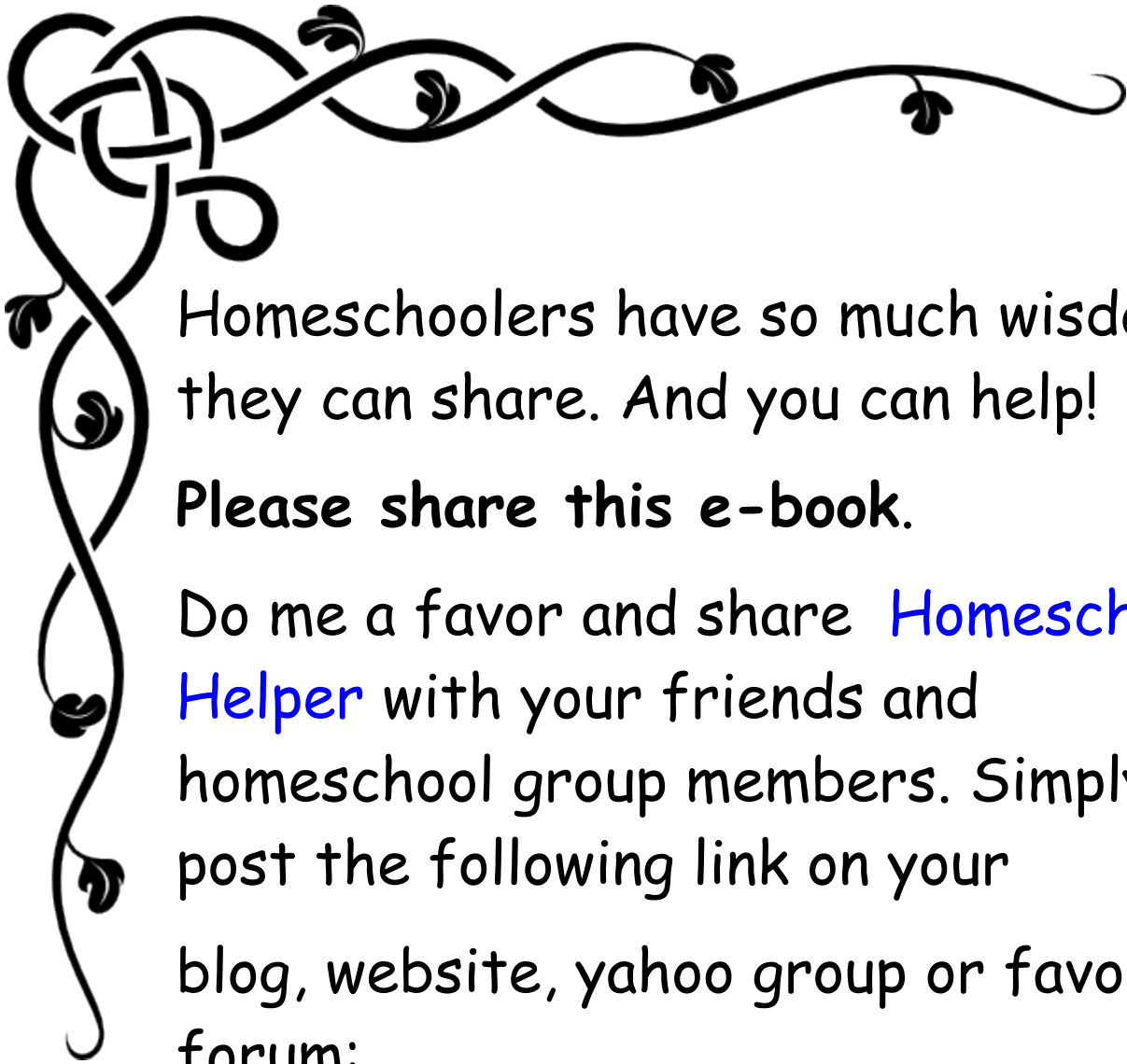
from fellow homeschoolers

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Homeschoolers have so much wisdom they can share. And you can help!

Please share this e-book.

Do me a favor and share [Homeschool Helper](#) with your friends and

homeschool group members. Simply post the following link on your

blog, website, yahoo group or favorite forum:

<http://www.homeschool-activities.com/home-school-help.html>

Or, save this e-book to your computer and attach it to an e-mail.

Thanks and best wishes,
Sonya

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Homeschool Helper

We all need a little help sometimes! And we all need a **friend** to turn to.

I hope that my Homeschool Helper will be that friend. In here are questions about the common homeschool problems we all face, answered by all my Facebook fans. And the one thing you can be sure of is that everyone has tried their very best to do it with **love**.

Perhaps that seems a bit strong, but actually what strikes me most about the answers in here is that each one is **genuine** and written to help you decide what **works best for you**.

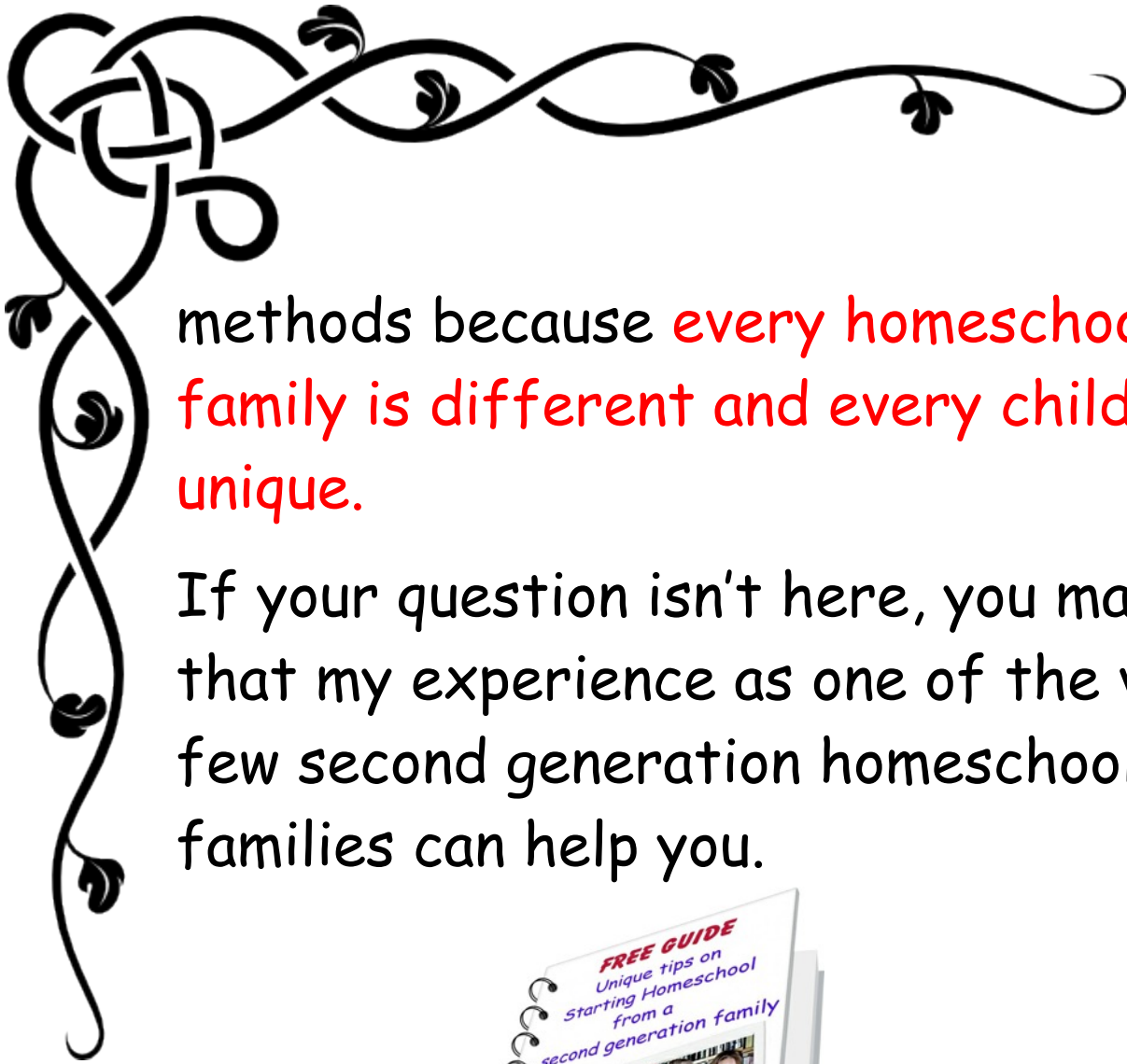
So you'll find here answers to reflect all sorts of different homeschooling

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methods because **every homeschooling family is different and every child is unique.**

If your question isn't here, you may find that my experience as one of the very few second generation homeschooling families can help you.



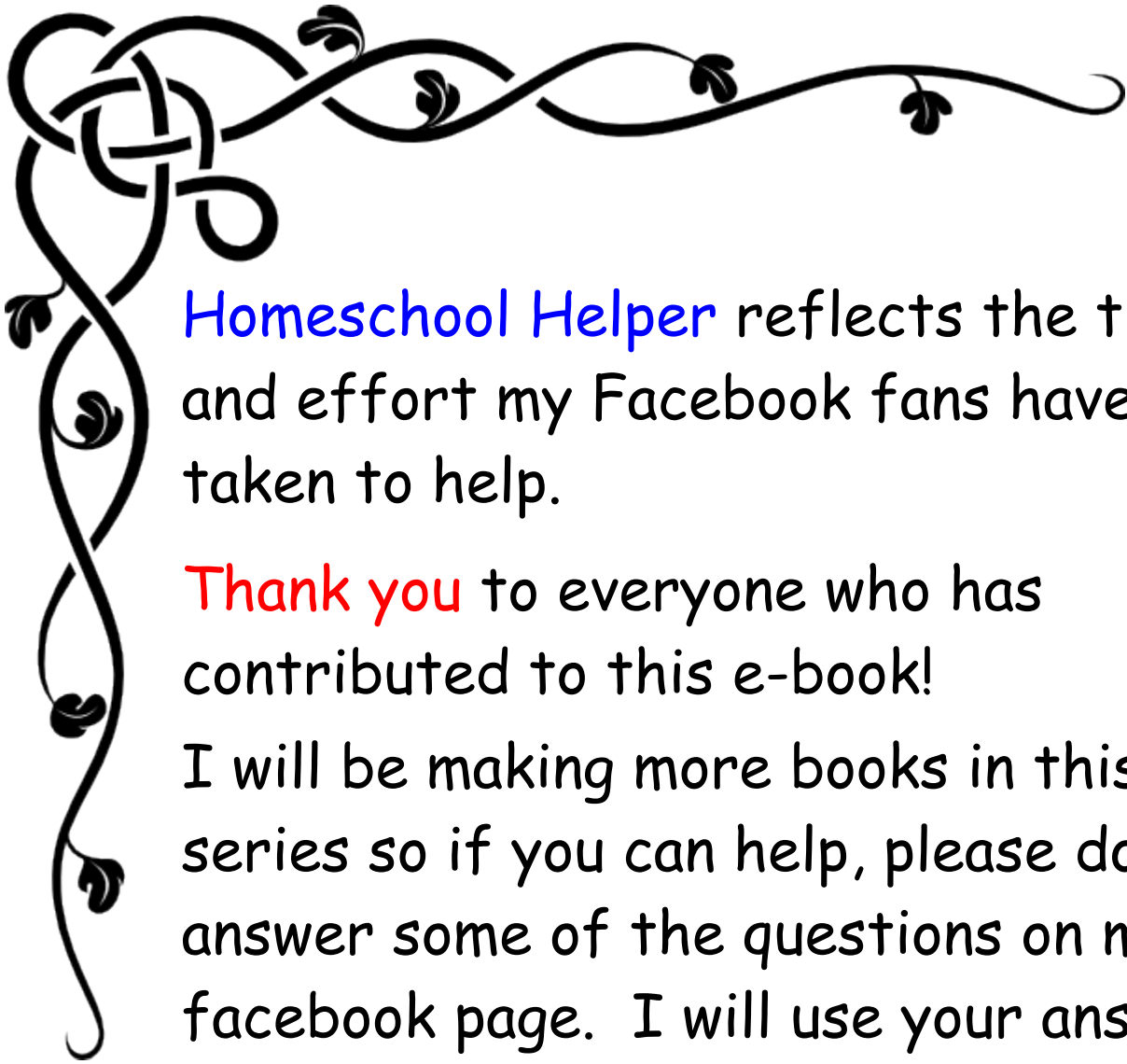
You can get my [free Guide to Start Homeschooling](#) which will give you living proof that your children will thrive without school.

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Homeschool Helper reflects the time and effort my Facebook fans have taken to help.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this e-book!

I will be making more books in this series so if you can help, please do answer some of the questions on my facebook page. I will use your answer (first name only) in future Homeschool Helpers.

If your particular problem isn't in this book, or you'd like to ask another question, do come and ask on my [Facebook](#) page.

Best wishes, Sonya

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Question:

What do you do in your homeschool when your child won't do any school work?

Homeschool-Activities Facebook fans reply:

"Go out together and have a day off. Be flexible and patient." ~ Haidar

"I've learned over the years, that the work will get done. I don't stress about it. Everyone has bad days. You have to choose your battles. Some of our bad days have turned out to be our best."
~ Sharon

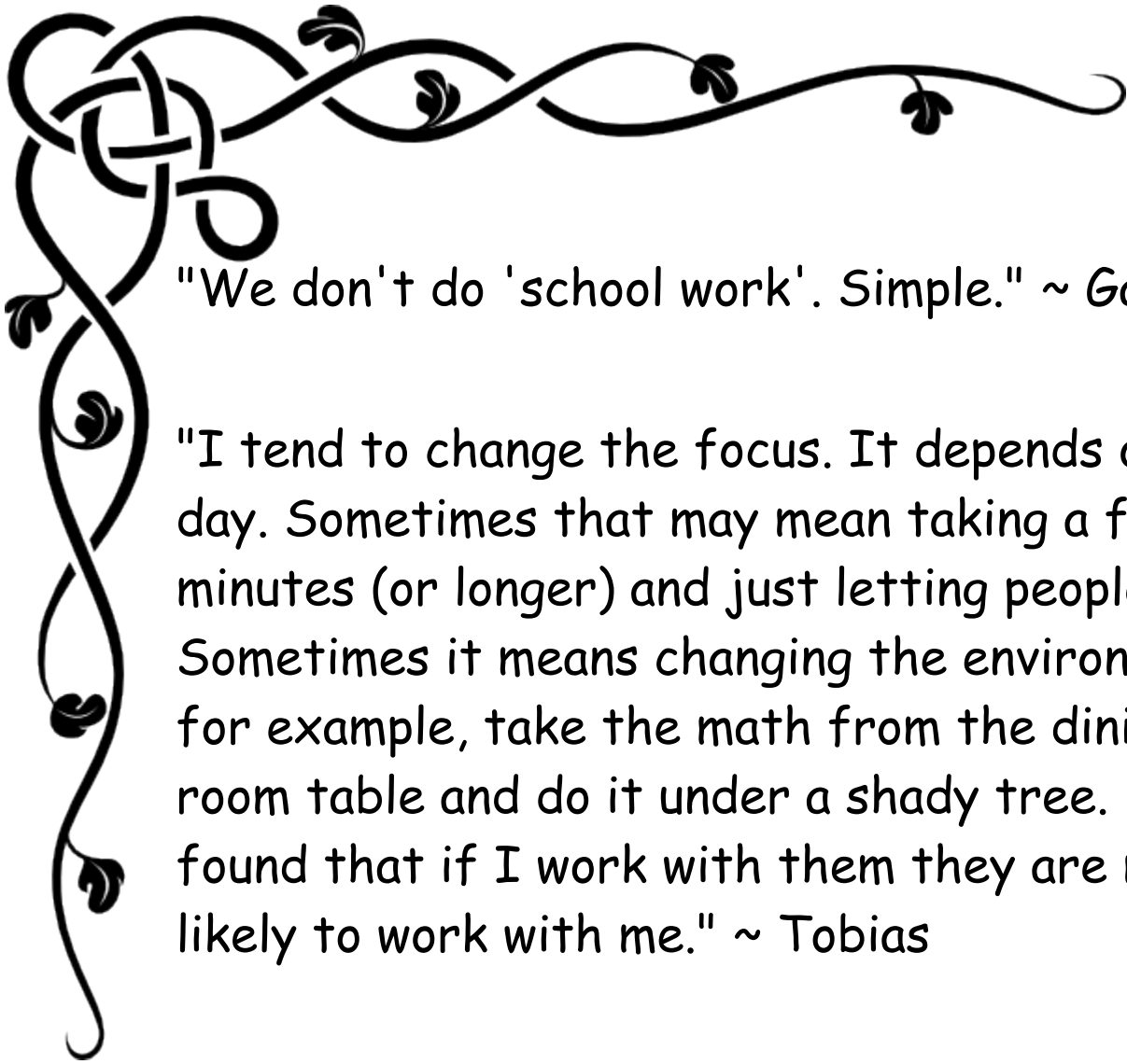
"All work must be complete or no privileges are given (computer, phone, games). It's always their choice to finish their work or not, but they know the consequence. Of course we school year around and some days require more time and diligence than others, but we have plenty of off time to play!" ~ Denise

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"We don't do 'school work'. Simple." ~ Gail

"I tend to change the focus. It depends on the day. Sometimes that may mean taking a few minutes (or longer) and just letting people play. Sometimes it means changing the environment; for example, take the math from the dining room table and do it under a shady tree. I have found that if I work with them they are more likely to work with me." ~ Tobias

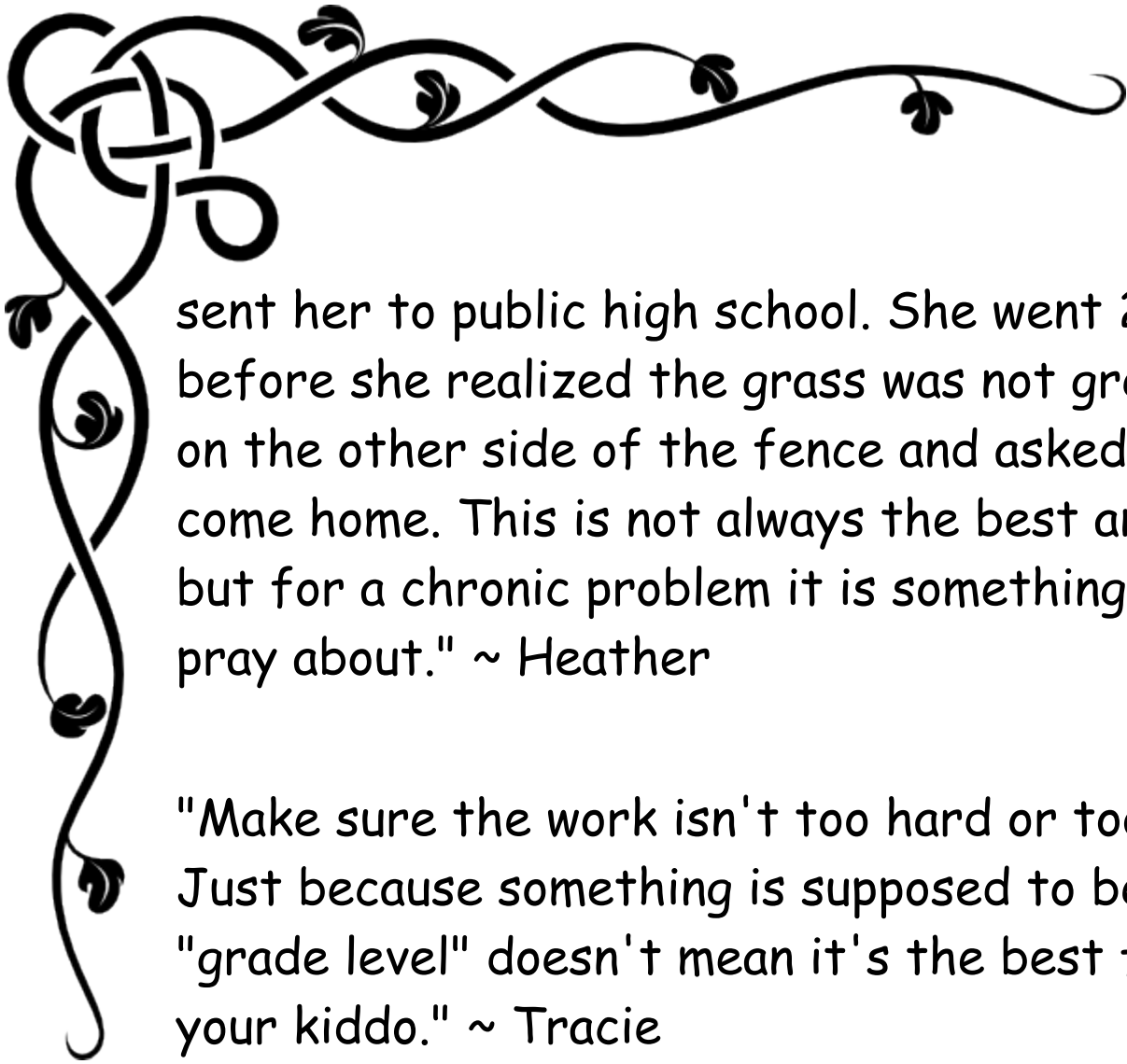
"My oldest daughter...is extremely stubborn and unfortunately she has learned most of her lessons about having to do school work in the school of hard knocks. Her refusal to do her work was not just an occasional thing, it was everyday. I tried numerous different curriculums, teaching styles, etc without success. Finally, when it came to high school and and grades would really count for college, we

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sent her to public high school. She went 2 yrs before she realized the grass was not greener on the other side of the fence and asked to come home. This is not always the best answer but for a chronic problem it is something to pray about." ~ Heather

"Make sure the work isn't too hard or too easy. Just because something is supposed to be their "grade level" doesn't mean it's the best fit for your kiddo." ~ Tracie

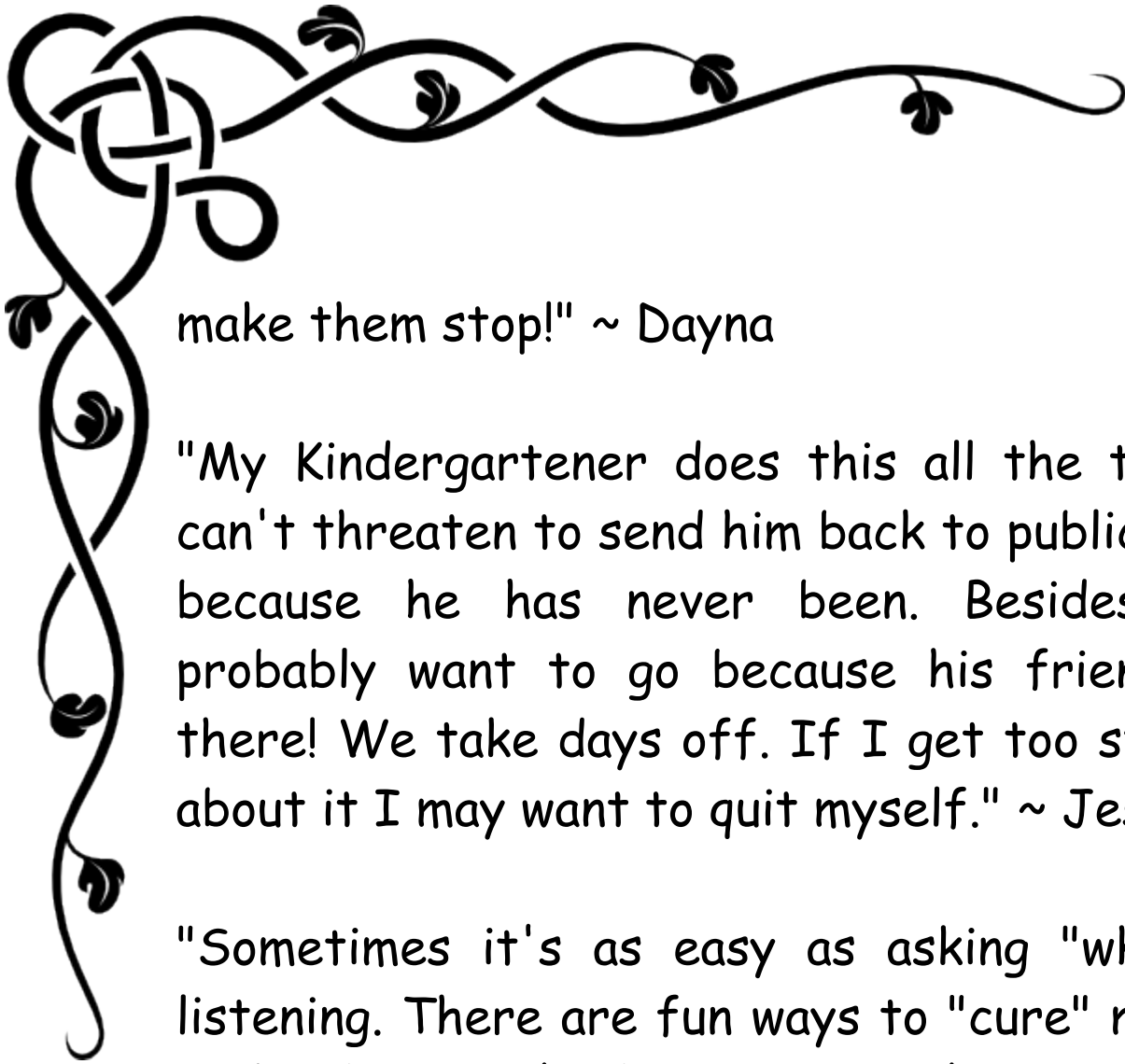
"Change the way I'm teaching. I want my children to love to learn. Learning shouldn't be torture and painful. If you want them to be life-time learners, you've got to let them do what interests them. When they want to learn, they will learn, and you won't have to make them do anything. They'll be inspired and excited. Find their passion and talents, then you'll have to

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make them stop!" ~ Dayna

"My Kindergartener does this all the time... I can't threaten to send him back to public school because he has never been. Besides, he'd probably want to go because his friends are there! We take days off. If I get too stressed about it I may want to quit myself." ~ Jessica

"Sometimes it's as easy as asking "why" and listening. There are fun ways to "cure" my hand or leg hurts, I'm hungry, I can't sit anymore. Sometimes their brains are focused on a much bigger issue." ~ Tanya

"Mine are 15, and 17 year old boys. I have a "make a Deposit" jar in our classroom. When they don't do their work, or talk back to me, they put \$1 in the jar. So far I have \$50. " ~ Sharon

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Question:

"Hello, myself A. (name withheld) i n i m a homeschooler. I need ur help plz plz help....my son is four years old but he is unable to write.. He can not take interest in writing. I applied each n every way but failed. He can read but not write."

Homeschool-Activities Facebook fans reply:

"He's 4, he doesn't need to know how to write at this age. As long as he's practicing his fine motor skills through other means he should be fine. My son hated reading until a year ago. He's 9 now. When they see us or other children doing something they don't like, they become curious and get interested ...Give him time. Leave pencils and paper out and he might just pick up and start writing on his own." ~ Sadaf

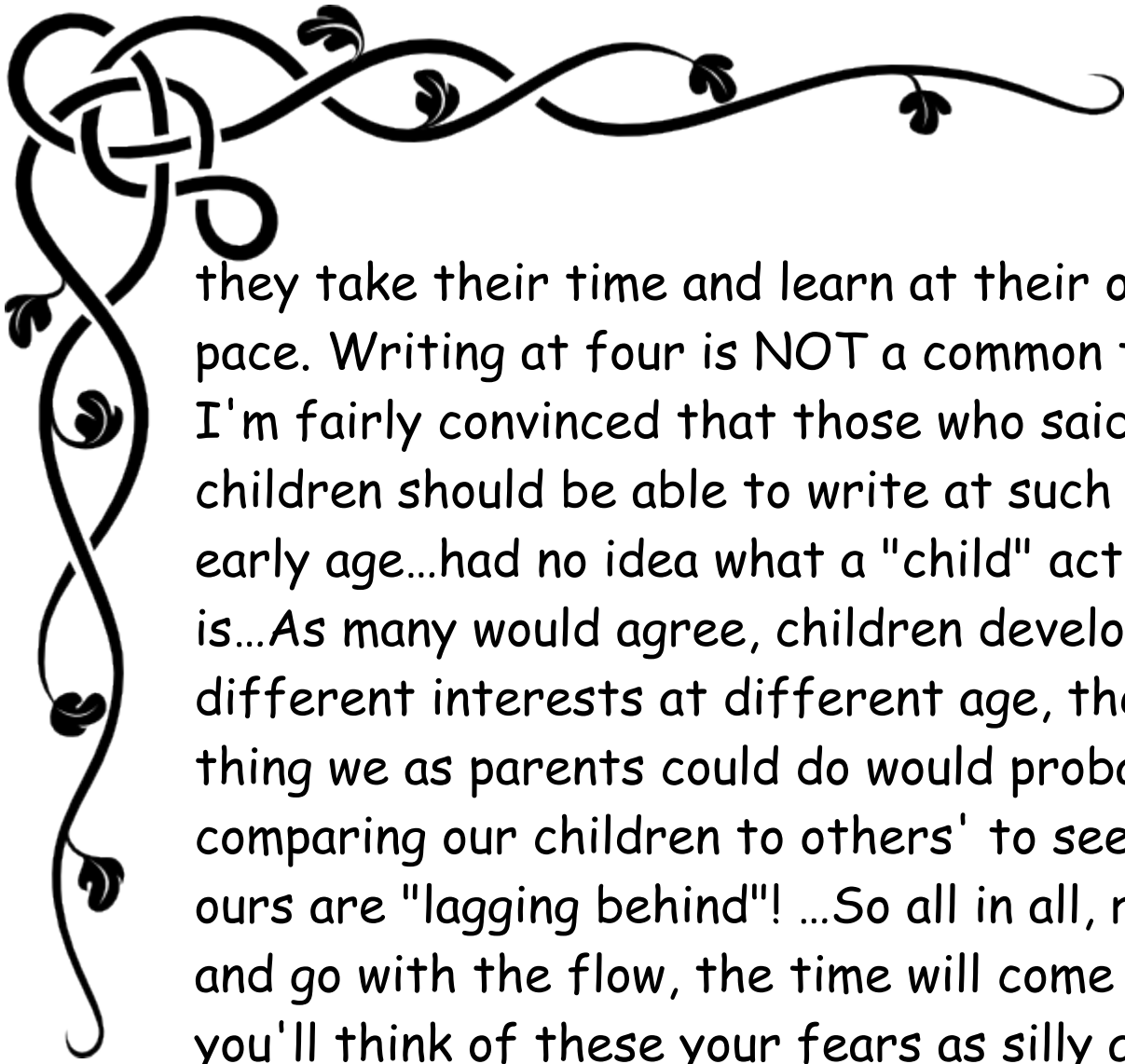
"That's the beauty of home education - children DON'T HAVE to do anything, no-one tells them what they should be doing at any point in time so

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they take their time and learn at their own pace. Writing at four is NOT a common thing. I'm fairly convinced that those who said children should be able to write at such an early age...had no idea what a "child" actually is...As many would agree, children develop different interests at different age, the worst thing we as parents could do would probably be comparing our children to others' to see where ours are "lagging behind"! ...So all in all, relax and go with the flow, the time will come and you'll think of these your fears as silly and absolutely groundless! And good luck!" ~ Leyli

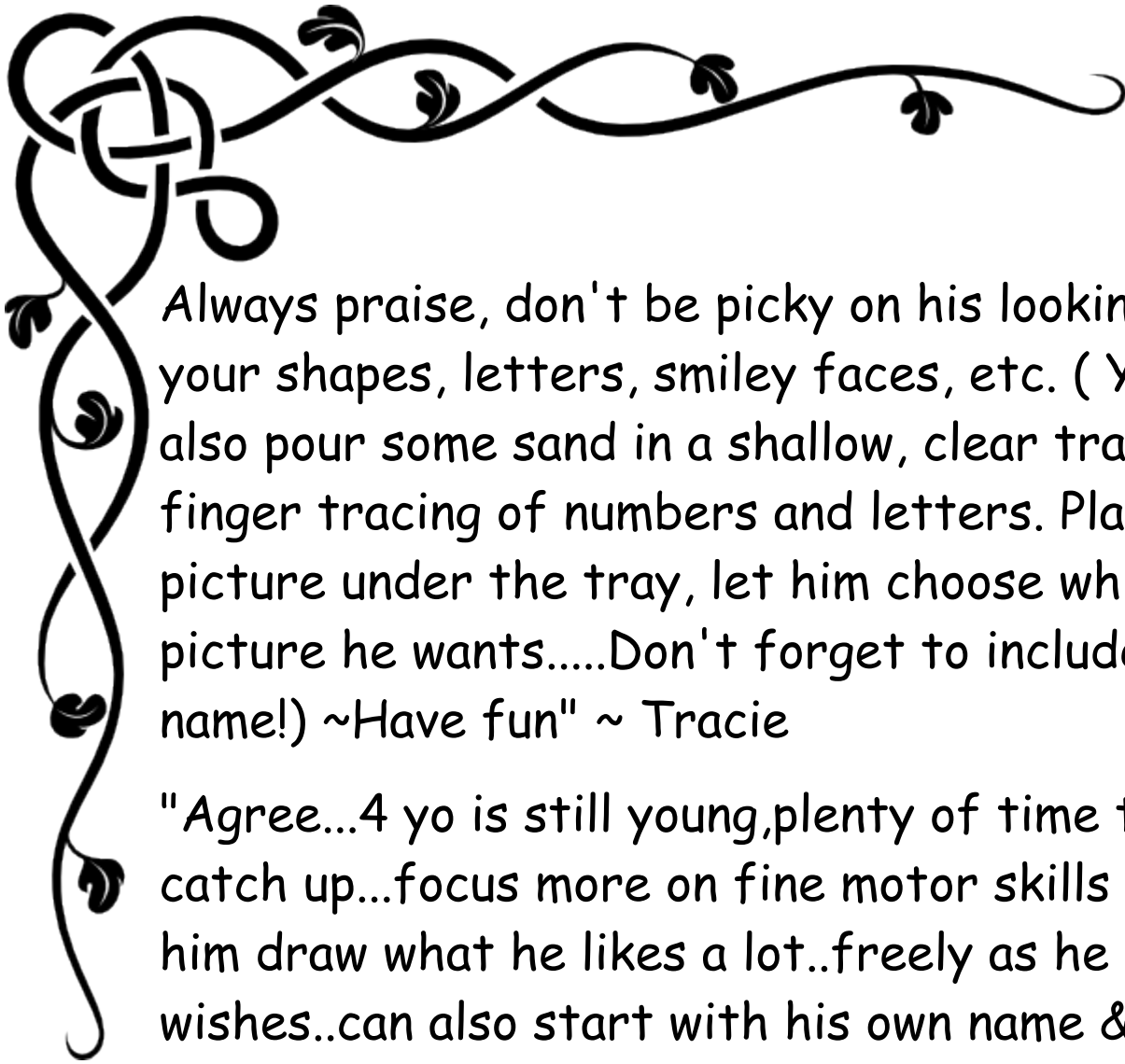
"Let him fingerpaint, "Paint" with shaving foam on mirrors, use an etch-a-sketch, and do arts and crafts (cutting and drawing) to help with eye hand coordination. After a while , make a game by seeing if he can copy what you draw or paint with your finger in the foam or paint.

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Always praise, don't be picky on his looking like your shapes, letters, smiley faces, etc. (You can also pour some sand in a shallow, clear tray for finger tracing of numbers and letters. Place a picture under the tray, let him choose which picture he wants....Don't forget to include his name!) ~Have fun" ~ Tracie

"Agree...4 yo is still young, plenty of time to catch up...focus more on fine motor skills and get him draw what he likes a lot..freely as he wishes..can also start with his own name & writing for a purpose eg. write ingredients before cooking, things he wants to buy at shop etc.... not just typical writing worksheets..which my 4yo also refused to do." ~ Ummuaunyadny

"The beauty of home schooling is letting your child do it when they are ready not when government say he will - so do it when he's ready." ~ Jaymie

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Question:

"I worry I am not teaching my daughter everything she needs and she's missing out on what she'd be getting at school."

Homeschool-Activities Facebook fans reply:

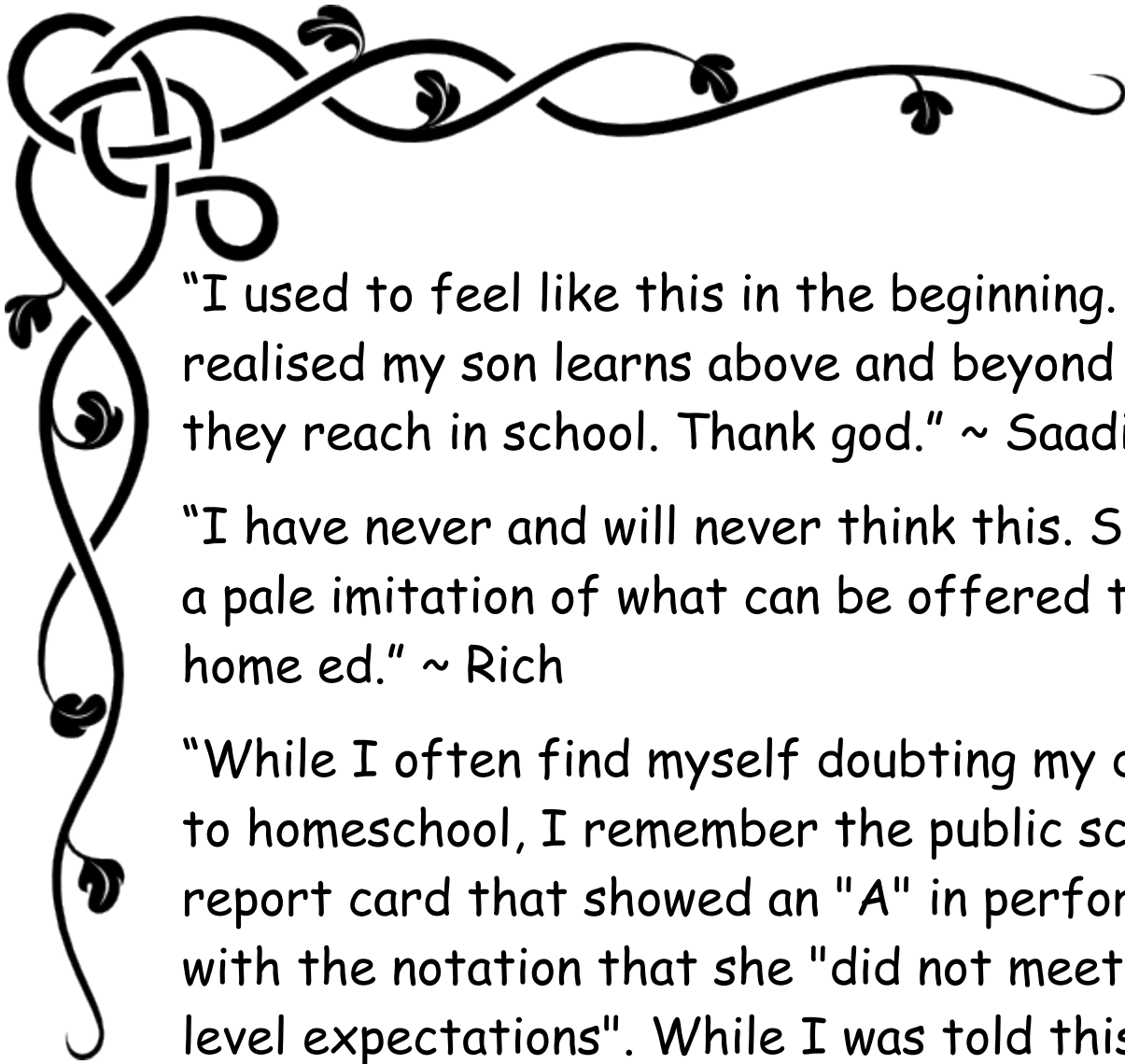
"I used to feel this way but not anymore. In public school my daughter...was always behind...When it came to actual lessons, she either didn't remember, or she didn't want to talk about it. Now, she lights up when she learns something new and isn't shy about it. She knows if she needs help she can ask without feeling embarrassed. ..She was always scared to ask questions on any work at school because she feared being laughed at by the kids or getting in trouble by the teacher. Now she reads everyday, is already leaps and bounds beyond where she left off in public school last year, and everything else is better, including her attitude!!" ~ Cecily

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"I used to feel like this in the beginning. Then I realised my son learns above and beyond what they reach in school. Thank god." ~ Saadiya

"I have never and will never think this. School is a pale imitation of what can be offered through home ed." ~ Rich

"While I often find myself doubting my decision to homeschool, I remember the public school report card that showed an "A" in performance with the notation that she "did not meet grade level expectations". While I was told this grading was to help my child's self-esteem, no interventions were offered to assist her. I realized she was just sitting in a classroom and was being given the grades necessary to pass her from grade to grade with little concern as to how prepared she was to do so, neither academically or socially, since she was clearly not on the performance level expected." ~ Denise

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Question:

"How do I persuade someone that homeschooling is a good choice?"

Homeschool-Activities Facebook fans reply:

"Homeschooling gives you the freedom to teach your children according to their individual learning styles. In a traditional school setting, you don't get that. They have to teach many students, and sadly, many children are unable to thrive in that environment." ~ Sharon

"The thing I like most is that we are free to work along our own schedules. I really disliked having to take my child in 5 days a week at set times. Some days I just wanted us to do something else and enjoy each others company when he was not tired from a whole day at school! Life is too short to give your children up to others to be raised!" ~ Saadiya

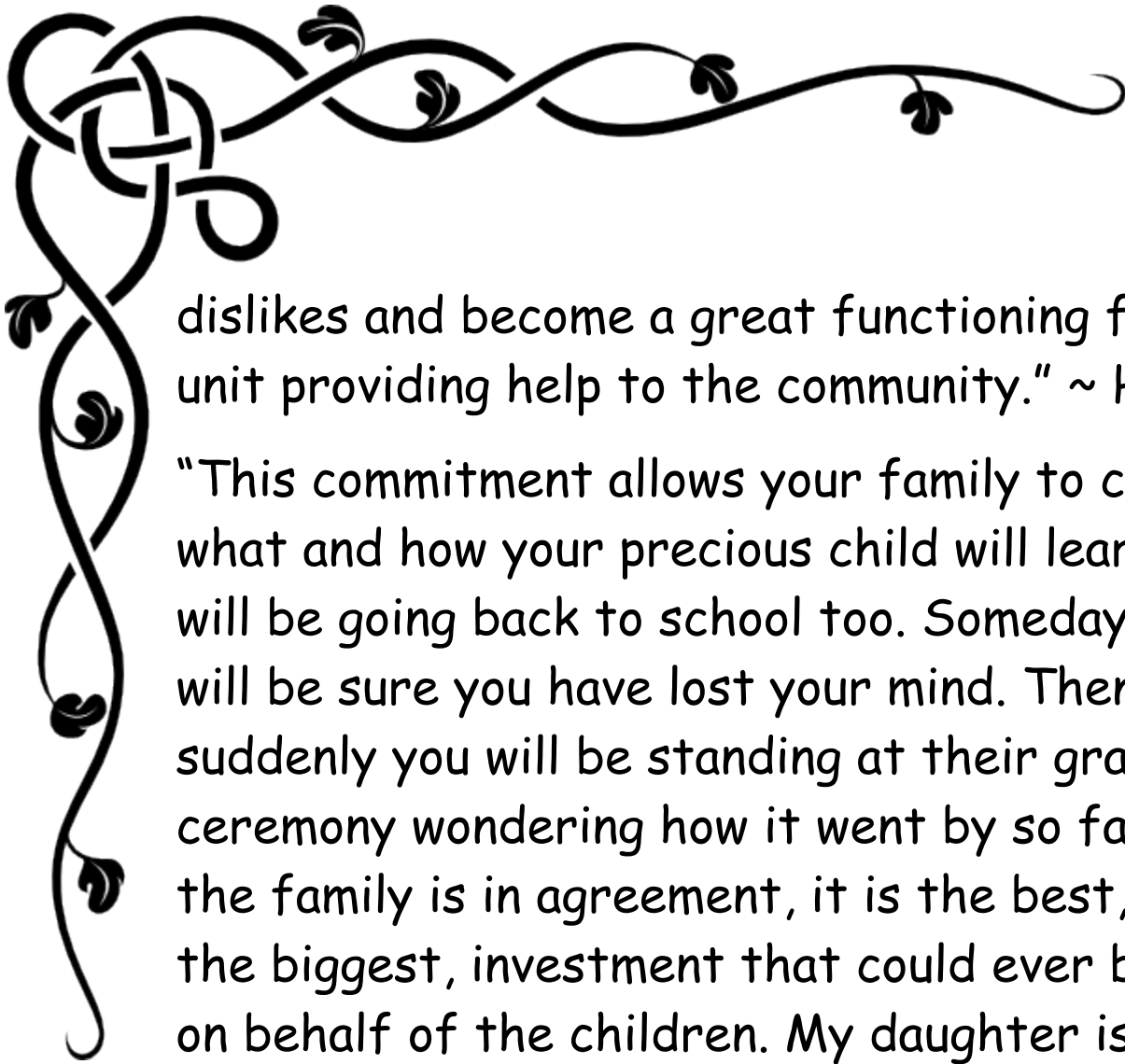
"You develop a deeper relationship with your child, u know their needs and wants, likes and

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dislikes and become a great functioning family unit providing help to the community." ~ Haidar

"This commitment allows your family to choose what and how your precious child will learn. You will be going back to school too. Somedays you will be sure you have lost your mind. Then, suddenly you will be standing at their graduation ceremony wondering how it went by so fast. If the family is in agreement, it is the best, if not the biggest, investment that could ever be made on behalf of the children. My daughter is now in her 1st year of college...going great. Everyone wants to ask about the empty nest? What about the quiet "school house?" I am so thankful we are a homeschool family...my daughter talks about her children's...homeschooling! PRAISE the LORD." ~ Tes

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Question:

"This is my first year homeschooling. My son is 4 yrs old and I am not sure how long I should be doing a day. What should he know how to do by 5 yrs old or Kindergarten? Should I just focus on socialization? Please help."

"My son is almost 6 but when he was in school (obviously we pulled him and now HS) the 5 year olds were only expected to be able to count to 30, recognise and be able to write up to 10, know their abc's. I don't know what country you're in but just google learning outcomes for your state/country. Most people agree though at this age learning should be mostly play based learning. " ~ Lucie

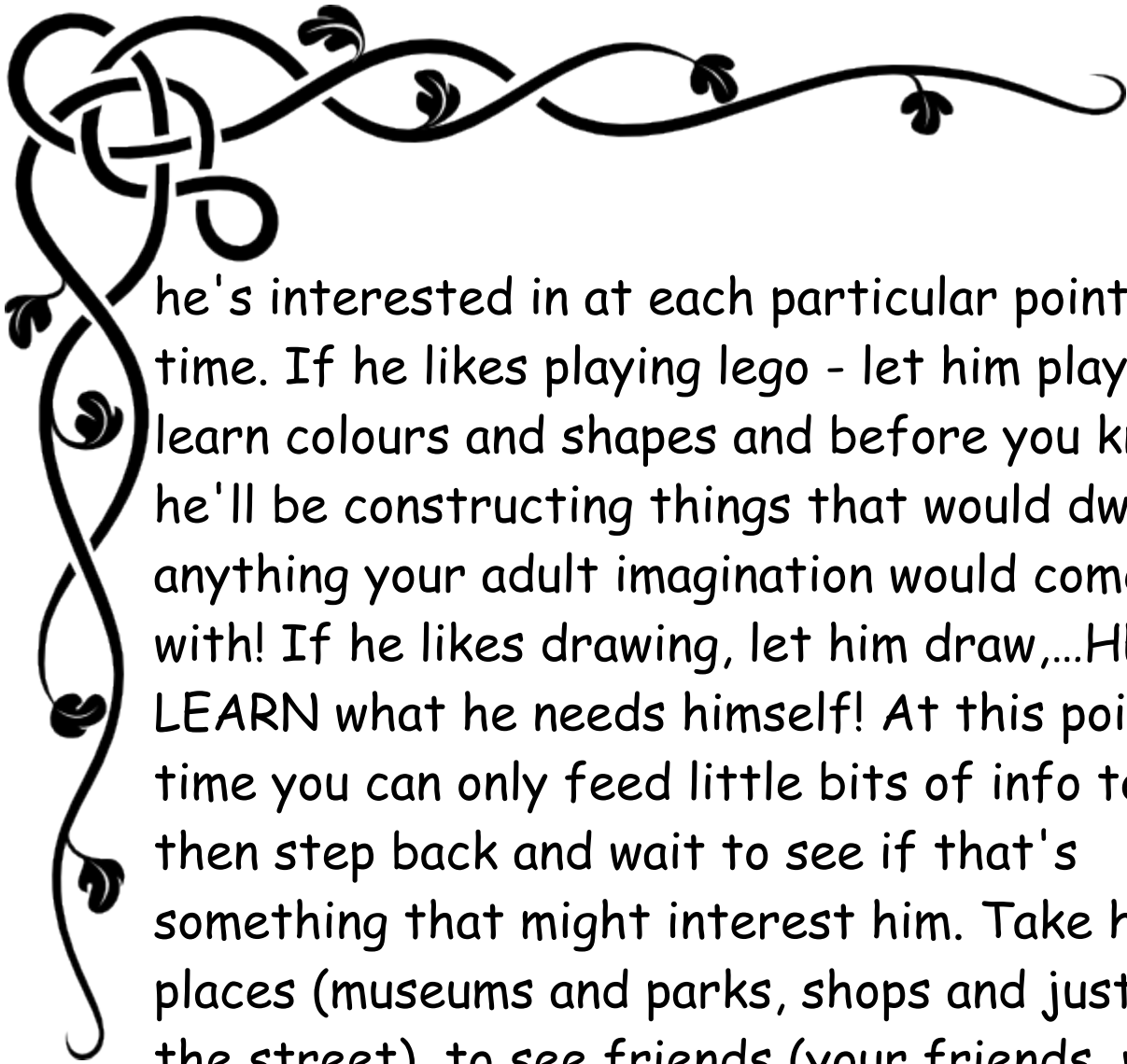
"There is NOTHING kids SHOULD do by any age! ...Your responsibility is to make sure your son is growing healthy and happy, the rest will fit in nicely. Learning is part of their nature, you couldn't take it of them even if you wanted to, so just watch him for now and build on what

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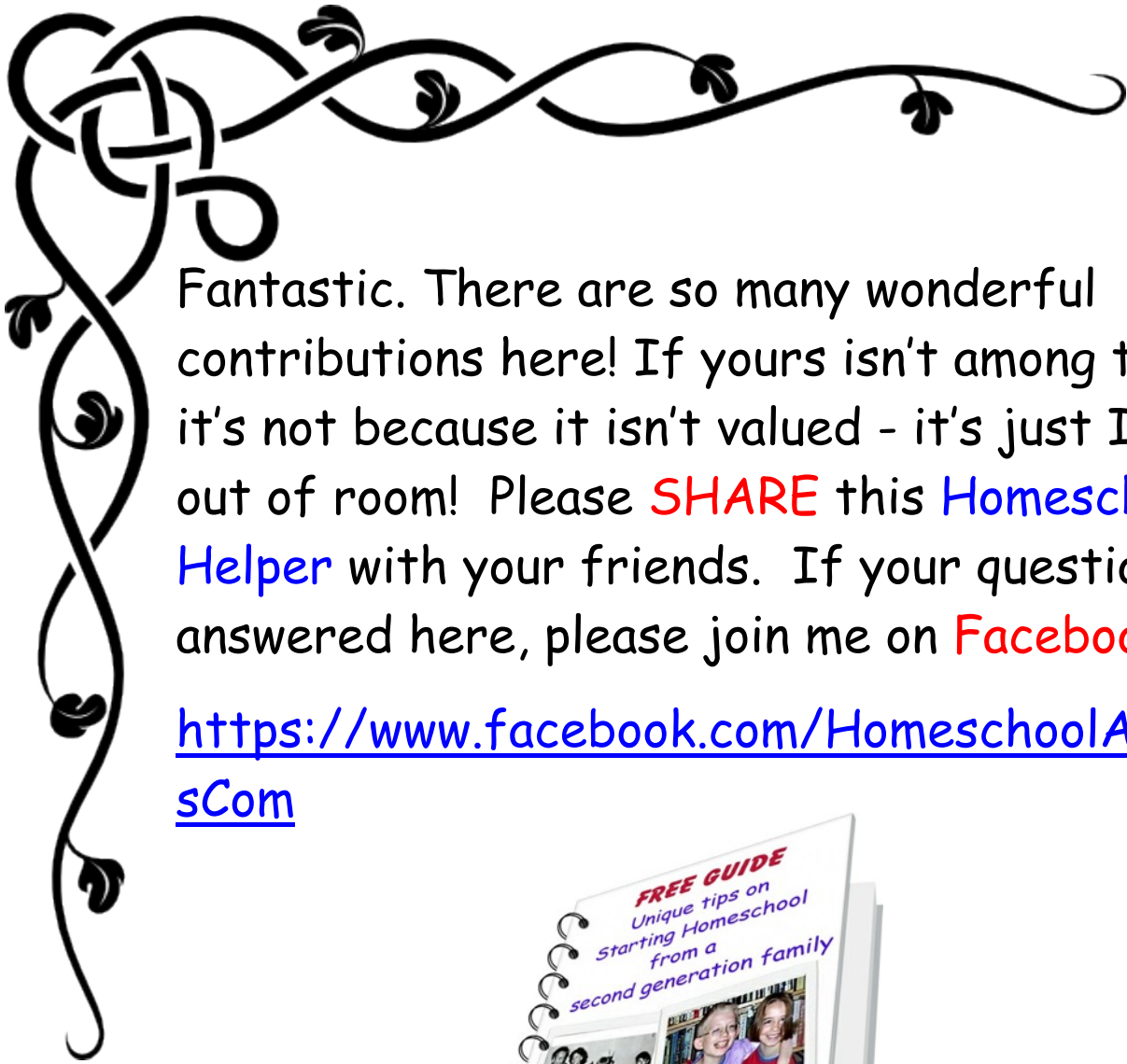
he's interested in at each particular point in time. If he likes playing lego - let him play, he'll learn colours and shapes and before you know it, he'll be constructing things that would dwarf anything your adult imagination would come up with! If he likes drawing, let him draw,...HE WILL LEARN what he needs himself! At this point in time you can only feed little bits of info to him, then step back and wait to see if that's something that might interest him. Take him to places (museums and parks, shops and just out in the street), to see friends (your friends, with or without kids of their own) - these are all socialisation! He doesn't need to see an army of children each day for someone to tick the box! ... And most importantly, don't panic and don't think that you have to do something to prove to the rest of the world that you're actually educating your son. It's the world around you who has to prove to YOU that what they are doing is right and better! :))) ~ Leyli

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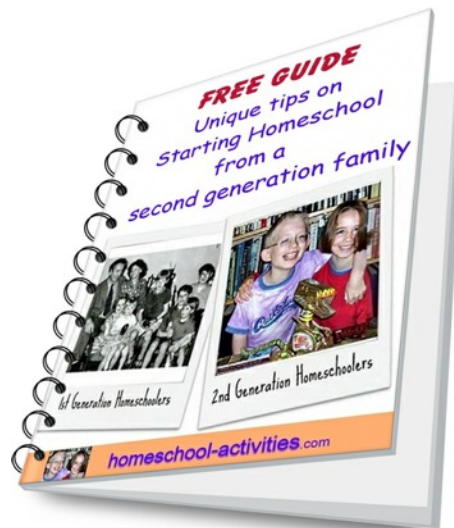


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Fantastic. There are so many wonderful contributions here! If yours isn't among them, it's not because it isn't valued - it's just I ran out of room! Please **SHARE** this **Homeschool Helper** with your friends. If your question isn't answered here, please join me on **Facebook**:

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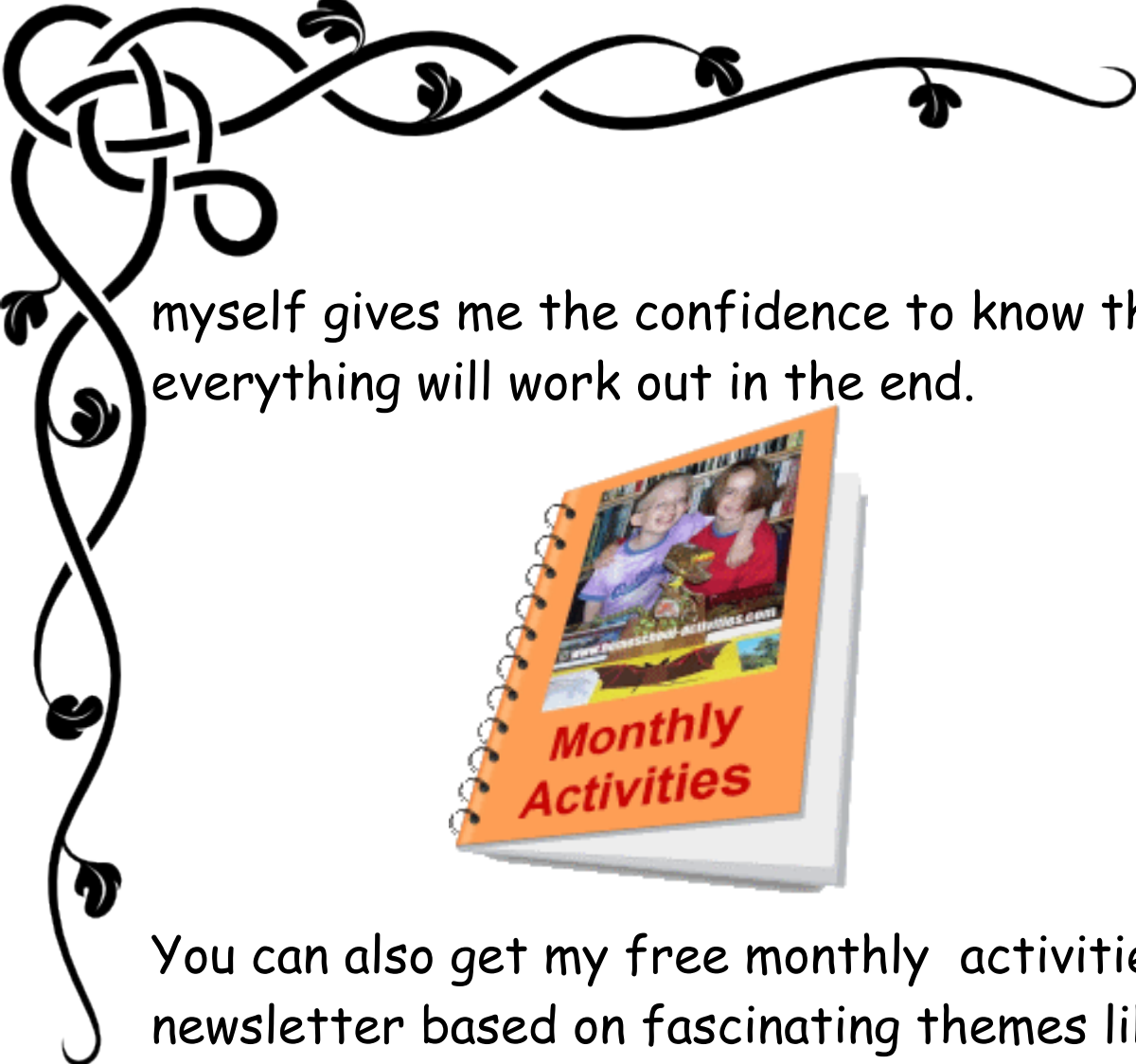
I am certain that homeschooling is made much richer when we share and help each other through the ups and downs. That's why I've written my [Free Guide to Starting homeschool](#) so you can see why having been taught at home

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myself gives me the confidence to know that everything will work out in the end.



You can also get my free monthly activities newsletter based on fascinating themes like Science, Art, Writing and the Rainforest.

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And join me on Pinterest:

<http://pinterest.com/homeschoolsonya/>

Best wishes and good luck on your journey!

Sonya

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