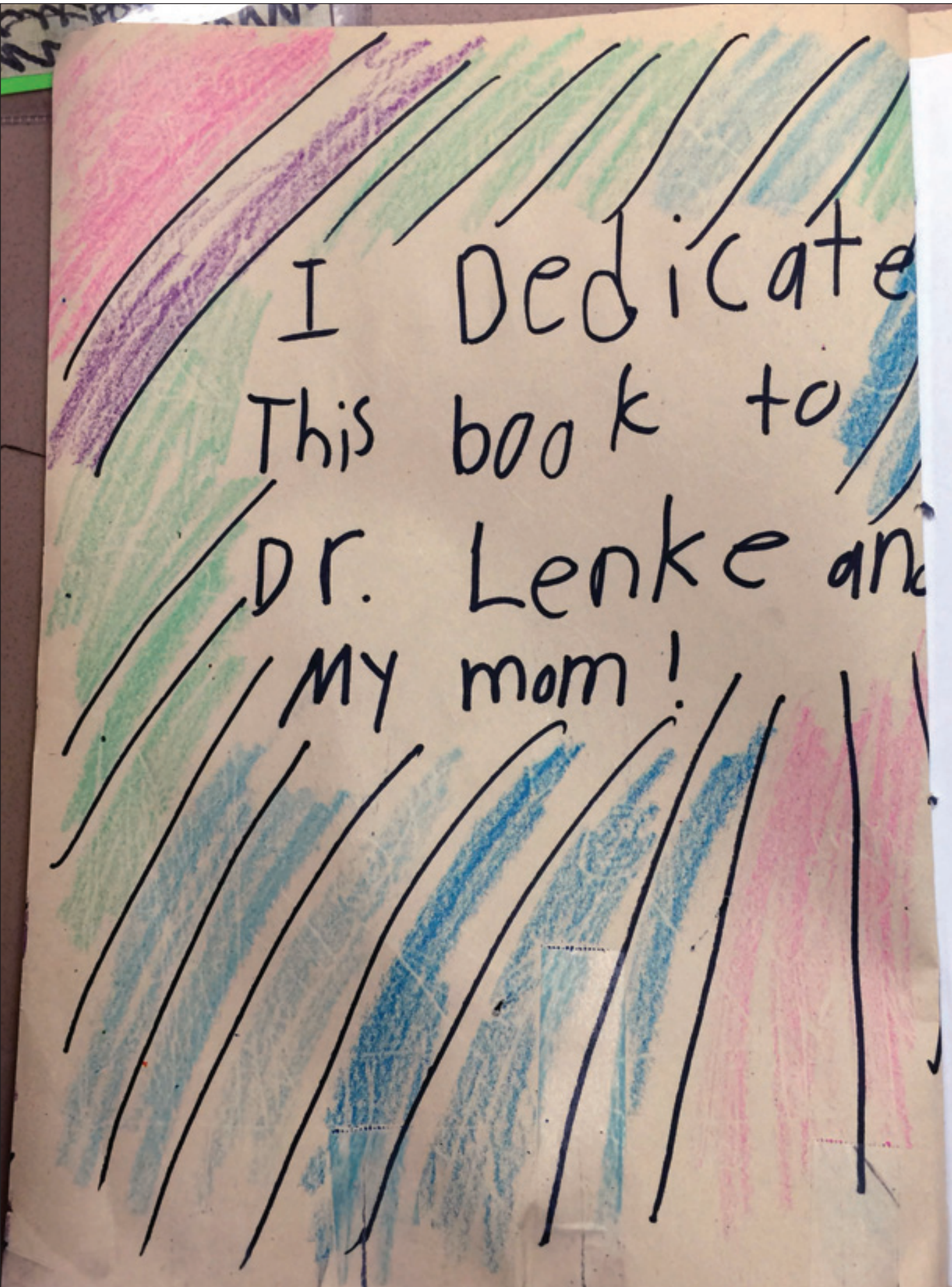


HE SAVED MY MOM
AND CHANGED

OUR LIFE
BY: ABBIE
MICROZ





I Dedicate
This book to
Dr. Lenke and
my mom!

He Saved my Mom, and Changed Our Lives

For my mom's 30th birthday her mom, dad, and one of her sisters went to Paris. When she came home, she did not think this would happen.

It was a beautiful fall morning and my mom was eager to unpack from her trip. she wanted to put her French wine away. Immediately she felt a BIG pain in her lower back. She did not know how bad she hurt her back .

My mom's back continued to get worse. She needed to have a spinal fusion. She eventually had three fusions with a doctor in Pittsburgh. Her back continued to get worse. Eventually, my mom had to choose between walking and breathing. When my mom found Dr. Lenke in ST Louis, he said "I can help you walk again". He undid the first three operations, rebuilt her spine and put 22 screws and 2 medal rods in her back. If he did not fix her back, she would be in a wheelchair

About a year ago my mom, grandma, Jacob ,simon ,and I went to St. Louis to shoot a commercial for Barnes Jewish Hospital. That was SO FUN! We had our own movie trailer! The commercial airs in a 500 miles radius of St. Louis plus its on the internet and in magazines worldwide.

Last April my mom and my grandma went back to St. Louis. It was my mom's fifth surgery, and hopefully last. Dr. Lenke wanted to remove

twos crews. Now she can move her hips and has more freedom of what she can do.

After my mom's surgery, Jacob, Simon, my dad and I went to the airport to meet my mom. It was so hard. It felt like hours but was just a few minutes. Every time the elevator clicked, I hoped it was her. After about twenty elevator clicks, it was finally her. I was so happy to see her. And proud at the same moment. I don't know why. The first time I saw the commercial, I burst into tears. Seeing Dr. Lenke talk about how lucky my mom is and how amazing her recovery story was, and what she put up with and what she can do. She can ski, ride a bike, "jog." I think to myself how lucky I am to have my mom the way she is and how thankful I am for Dr. Lenke.

Dr. Lenke should keep traveling the world, teaching doctors how to do it a better way, a safer way, and a smarter way. What Dr. Lenke does is amazing. My mom still goes back to St Louis every year or so for follow up checkups. She still cant do everything she used to which means some times when we go places, Jacob, Simon and I cant do everything we want. My mom tries her hardest to accommodate us, like horse backing riding this summer, but there are times we don't do stuff because of her back.

Dr. Lenke is one of the most important people in my life. But it is weird to think that I have only met him two or three times. But I feel like I know him just like a family member.

I am so lucky and happy to have my mom the way she is, all because of one person, Dr. Lenke. I love my mom so much. He saved my mom.

Abigail E. M.
is a happy, joyful,
young girl. She wrote
this because she is
really thankful for Dr.
Lenke. Abbie has
two young brothers
Jacob who is 7 years
old and Simon who
is 5 years old. She
lives in Pittsburgh
PA.
AEM