

For Willa and Luther,  
May you always feel free to roam, and to enjoy the beauty that is right in front of you.  
—HI

To Meryl,  
Who I'm incredibly lucky to experience life with.  
—RS

# ***SLOW DOWN, TUMBLEWEED!***

Sounds True  
Boulder, CO 80306

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BOULDER, COLORADO




A desert landscape illustration. In the foreground, a large, dark green cactus with a red flower is on the left. A cluster of yellow, leafy branches is in the center. A dashed black line curves from the center towards a yellow, spiky tumbleweed on the right. The background features brown, rocky cliffs and a blue sky with a distant, light blue mountain peak.

Mabel was a tumbleweed.

Born in a tangle of sticks and dust,  
she came unrooted in a dry desert ravine.





From the moment she rolled out from her  
thicket of weeds, she tumbled.


She **RAMBLED**  
and **RUMBLED**  
and rode the wind.



She screamed across highways.  
Skidded through desert flats.

Always a trail of dirt at her backside.





Life was amazing!  
And to see it all,  
experience it all,  
discover it all,  
you had to

**GO . . .**

**GO . . .**

**GO!**

If you wanted to know life,  
you had to go out and get after it.





Cars honked.  
Bobcats chased.

And varmints of every shape and size  
screeched to a halt as she happily hooted by.

HONK! HONK!