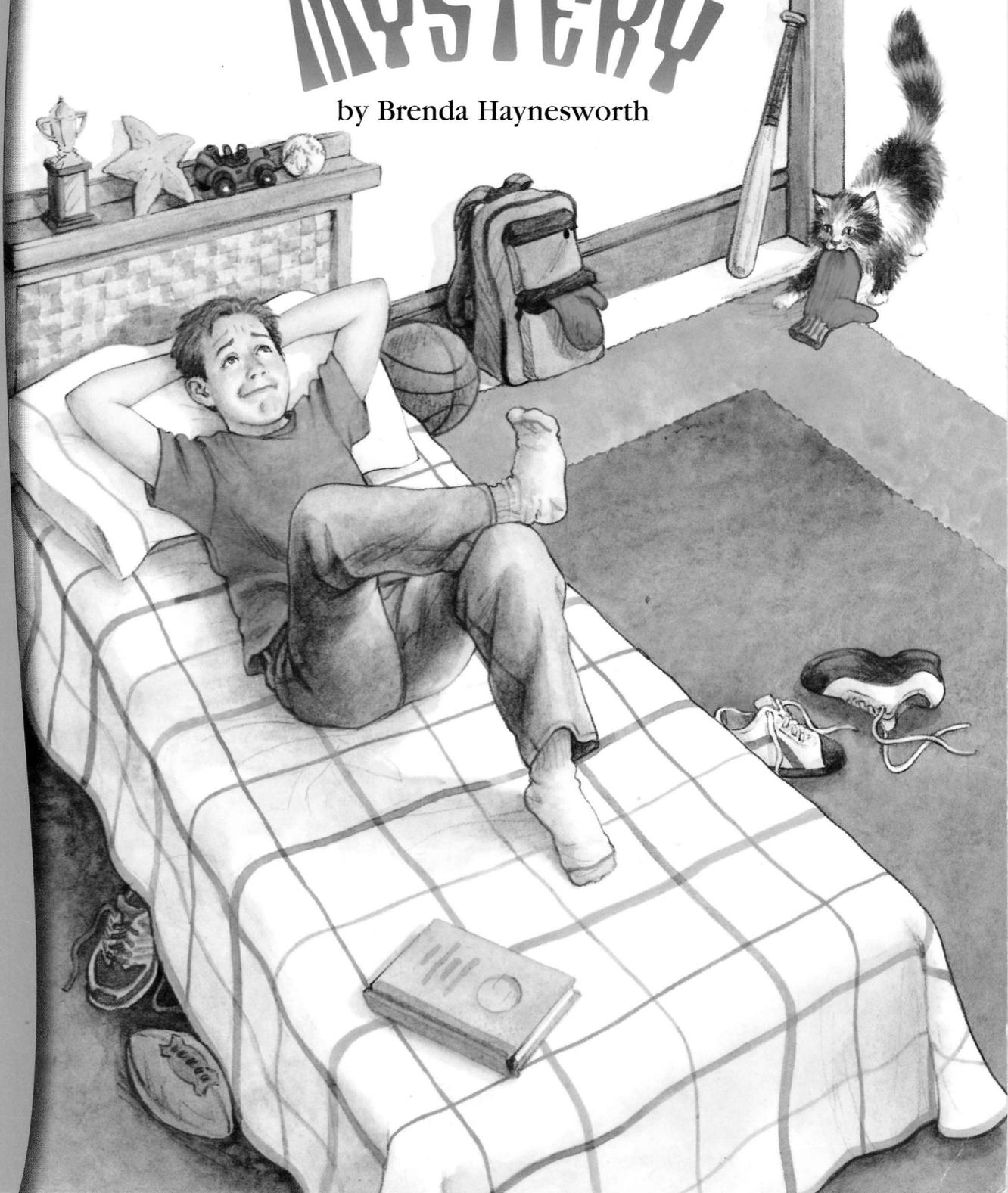


# Nate's MYSTERY

by Brenda Haynesworth



Nate had looked everywhere and still could not find his sock. “Nicholas,” Nate yelled, “what did you do with my sock?”

“I don’t have it,” Nick said. “But I’ll help you look for it.”

Nate was puzzled. This was the fourth thing that had disappeared this week. First there was his winter scarf. Then there was a stuffed dog and a knit hat. Was Nick playing a trick?

Nate lay down on his bed and was trying to figure out what was happening. Out of the corner of his eye, he saw a movement and thought it must be Nick. He turned his head just in time to see Callie walking out of his room. She had a mitten in her mouth! Nate followed the cat. The mystery was solved. All his missing things were in Callie’s bed.



## COMPREHENSION

**A** Read each question. Write *a* or *b*.

- 1 What is this story about?
  - a Nate's missing things
  - b Nate, Nick, and Callie
- 2 Where does this story take place?
  - a At Nate's school
  - b In Nate's house
- 3 Who is Callie?
  - a Nate and Nick's sister
  - b A cat
- 4 Why did Nate follow Callie?
  - a She was taking something out of his room.
  - b He did not like Callie.
- 5 What kinds of things was Callie taking?
  - a Warm things
  - b Soft things

## LEARN ABOUT WORDS

**B** *st* + **ing** = **sting**

Look at each row of letters. Add one letter or group of letters from each row to *ing* to make a word. Write the word.

- |   |              |              |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| 1 | n, r, j      |              |
| 2 | s, b, y      |              |
| 3 | br, bl, tr   | + <b>ing</b> |
| 4 | str, cr, thr |              |
| 5 | th, ch, sh   |              |



## LEARN ABOUT WORDS *(continued)*

**C** Read the words you wrote. Which one best fits in each sentence? Write the word.

- 6 Callie took one \_\_\_\_\_ after another.
- 7 Callie did not take a \_\_\_\_\_ because it is not soft.
- 8 Will Callie \_\_\_\_\_ the things back to Nate?
- 9 Callie may get tangled up in a ball of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 10 Callie likes music so Nate will \_\_\_\_\_ to her.

## THINK ABOUT IT

**D** A contraction is a short way of writing words. An apostrophe (') shows where letters are left out.

*she'll* is made from *she will*

*you'll* is made from *you will*

Read the two words. Which word in the box is the contraction of the two words? Write the letter.

- 1 who will
- 2 I will
- 3 they will
- 4 he will
- 5 it will

- |   |
|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a I'll</li><li>b they'll</li><li>c it'll</li><li>d who'll</li><li>e he'll</li></ol> |
|---|