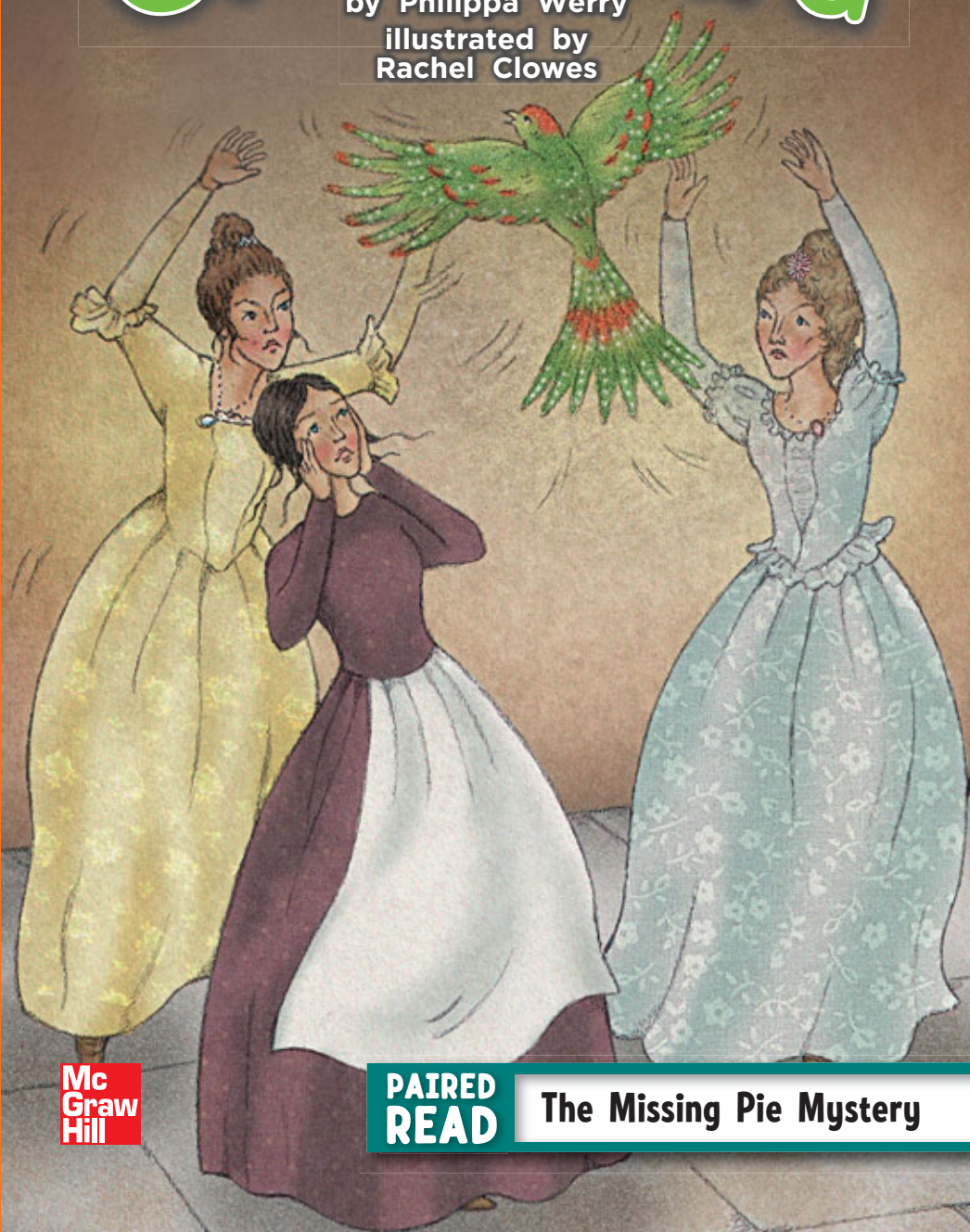


Drama

Saving the Green Bird

by Philippa Werry
illustrated by
Rachel Clowes



Mc
Graw
Hill

PAIRED
READ

The Missing Pie Mystery

STRATEGIES & SKILLS

Comprehension

Strategy: Ask and Answer
Questions

Skill: Theme

Vocabulary

annoyed, attitude, commotion,
cranky, familiar, frustrated,
selfish, specialty

Vocabulary Strategy

Synonyms and Antonyms

Word Count: 1,258



Essential Question

How do animal characters change familiar stories?

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Scene 1

An Enchanted Visitor 2

Scene 2

Cruel Hearts 6

Scene 3

Ally to the Rescue 11

Respond to Reading 16

PAIRED READ

The Missing Pie Mystery 17

Focus on Genre 20

Scene 1

An Enchanted Visitor

Characters:

EVE, MICHELE, ALLY,
GREEN BIRD/PRINCE, SUN, MOON,
WIND, EAGLE, COOK

Scene: *Inside a large stone mansion. ALLY is sweeping, EVE and MICHELE are dressed up.*

EVE: Don't forget to do the laundry while we're out, little sister.

MICHELE: And do the ironing.

EVE: And make us something good for dinner. We'll be hungry after a day of shopping.

ALLY: Please can I come with you this time?



EVE: Of course not, little sister. There's too much work to do around here.

MICHELE: Don't be so selfish, little sister. If you come, who's going to do all the work while we're gone?

EVE and MICHELE leave.

ALLY: (*sighing*) I wish I could go shopping, too. All I ever do is work.

GREEN BIRD *flies in the open window.*

ALLY: What a beautiful bird! It's an amazing color!

GREEN BIRD: Hello.

ALLY: (*looking startled*) Did I hear you say something?

GREEN BIRD: Don't be scared. I'm not really a bird. I'm a prince. My name is Luke. I noticed you looking sad, so I decided to visit you.

ALLY: My name is Ally, and I *am* sad. My older sisters make me do all the work while they go out and enjoy themselves.

GREEN BIRD: Your sisters sound really mean. I know I'd be sad and frustrated if I was stuck inside all the time. Can I keep you company while you work?

ALLY: Yes, but don't let my sisters see you.

ALLY starts sweeping the floor.



ALLY: Listen, I can hear my sisters coming.
You'd better go!

GREEN BIRD: All right, but I'll visit you again
as soon as I can.

ALLY: Quick! Don't let them see you!

GREEN BIRD: Here, take this green feather as a
symbol of my friendship.

ALLY: Thank you. Now, go!



STOP AND CHECK

Why is Ally sad?

Scene 2

Cruel Hearts

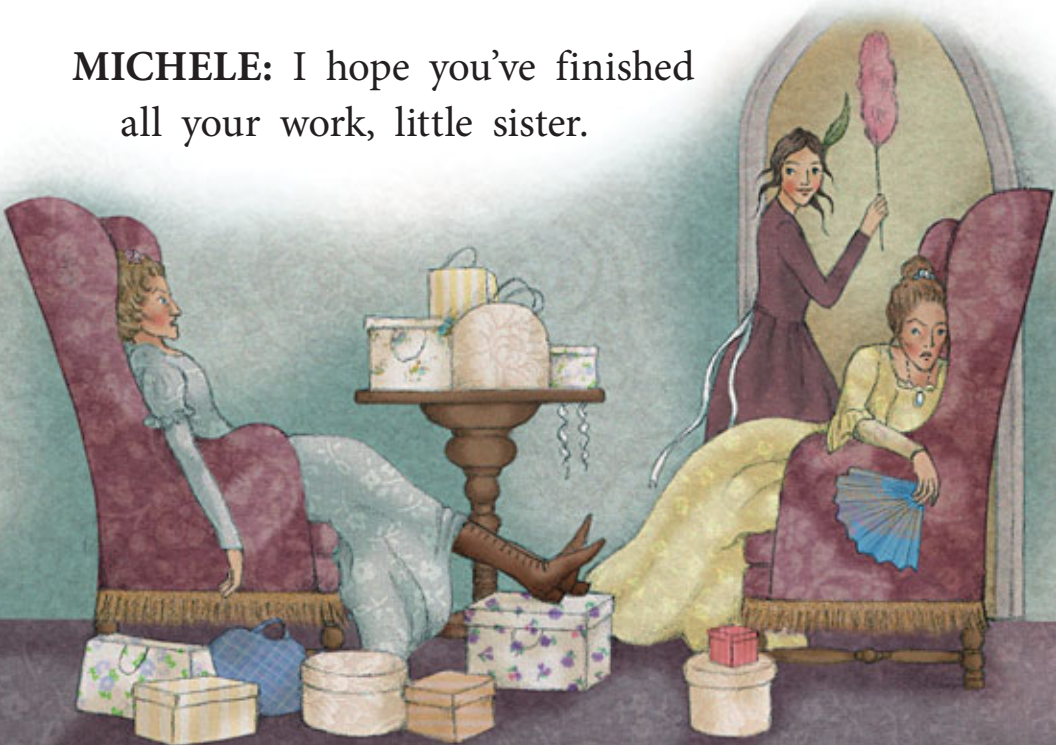
Scene: *Inside the large stone mansion. ALLY is dusting. EVE and MICHELE are flopped on chairs, surrounded by their shopping.*

EVE: I'm worn out. It was so busy in town. Shopping is such hard work, especially when you can't find the right pair of shoes.

MICHELE: Is that why you're so cranky?

EVE: I'm hot and tired. Little sister, get us some cold drinks.

MICHELE: I hope you've finished all your work, little sister.



ALLY: (*bringing cold drinks*) Yes, I've done all the laundry, ironing, and cooking.

EVE: (*whispering to MICHELE*) Why is little sister looking so happy?

MICHELE: And look at that feather in her hair. Where did she get that?

EVE: I'll be annoyed if she's having visitors over when she should be working.

MICHELE: Let's hide and see what she does.

EVE: (*yawning*) I'm soooooo tired. I'm going to go to my room and lie down.

MICHELE: Me too.

EVE and MICHELE hide and spy on ALLY.



ALLY: (*hurrying to window*) Green Bird! Green Bird! Where are you?

GREEN BIRD *flies in. EVE and MICHELE rush out of their hiding places. They begin to swat at the bird.*

EVE: Shoo! Shoo! Go away!

MICHELE: Get out of here, bird!

ALLY: (*to her sisters*) Stop, stop! What are you doing? You'll hurt him!

GREEN BIRD: (*whispering to ALLY*) I live in the Crystal Palace. You can find me there.

GREEN BIRD *flies away.*



ALLY: (*looking out window*) Oh, no, what have you done to the bird? He's gone.

EVE: Who cares? We can't have birds in the house.

ALLY: I've got to go and find him.

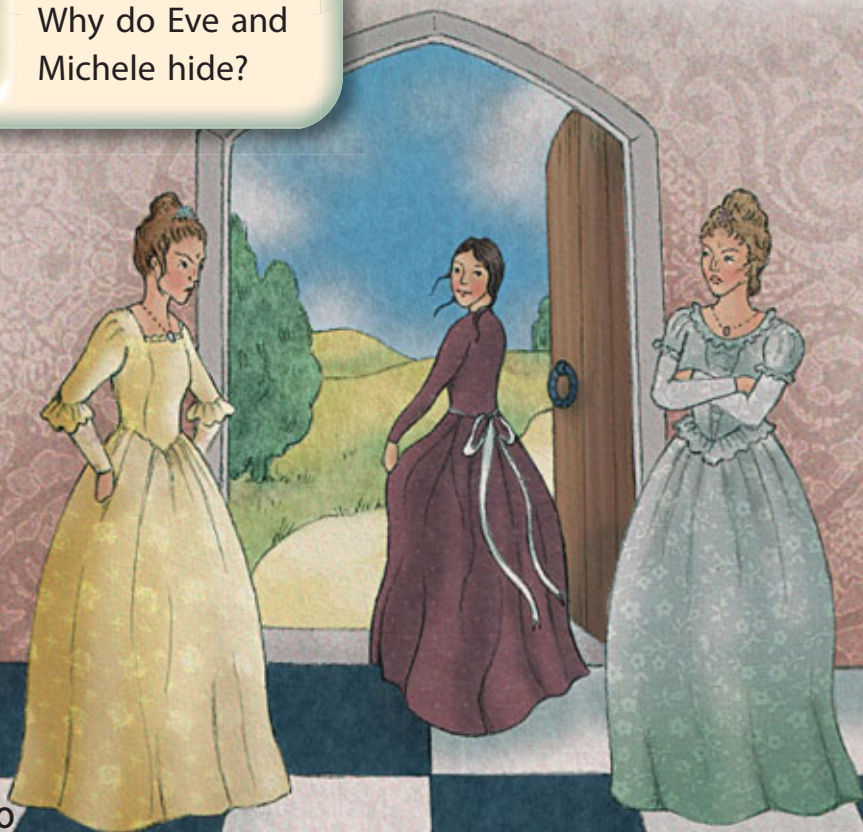
EVE: Don't be silly. You can't go anywhere.

MICHELE: There's too much work to do!

ALLY: Well then, you'll have to do it! I'm going to look for the green bird.

STOP AND CHECK

Why do Eve and Michele hide?



Scene 3

Ally to the Rescue

Scene: *The countryside. ALLY is walking along, carrying her bag. SUN is nearby, watching.*

ALLY: How will I find the beautiful bird?
Who can help me?

SUN: Hello, I'm the Sun.
Do you need some help?

ALLY: Yes, please.
I'm looking for
the Crystal Palace.
Do you know
where it is?

SUN: Yes, but I can't
take you there. I
have to cross the
sky from sunrise
to sunset every
day. Perhaps Moon
can help you. She'll
be arriving soon.

*ALLY sits down to wait
for the moon.*



SUN leaves. **MOON**, **WIND**, and **EAGLE** arrive.

ALLY: Moon, do you know where the Crystal Palace is?

MOON: Yes, but I can't take you. I have to stay up here all night. Perhaps Wind can help.

WIND: Crystal Palace is in the east, but today I have to blow to the west. Perhaps Eagle can help.

ALLY: Eagle, can you help me find the Crystal Palace?

EAGLE: Yes, of course. I know it well. Climb on my back, and we'll leave right away.



ALLY hops onto **EAGLE'S** back.

EAGLE flies to the Crystal Palace.

EAGLE: We're here.

ALLY: Thanks, Eagle!



ALLY: How will I find the beautiful bird in the palace? Perhaps I'll see him if I get a job here.

ALLY knocks on a door labeled "Kitchen."

COOK opens the door.

ALLY: Hello, I'm looking for a job. Do you need help in the palace kitchen?

COOK: Do you have a good attitude? I need people who can work hard and not complain.

ALLY: I'm used to hard work.

COOK: Can you cook, serve, and clean?

ALLY: Yes, I'm good at all those things.

COOK: Okay, then you're hired. We could use a cheerful face around here.

ALLY: Why do you need cheering up?

COOK: The Prince has turned into a bird. What's worse, he's sick, and no one can cure him.

ALLY: Let me make my special soup. Everyone who eats it feels better.

COOK: (*shrugging*) You can try.

*ALLY makes some soup and takes it upstairs.
GREEN BIRD is lying on a couch looking sick.*

ALLY: Can I come in? I've made some soup.

GREEN BIRD: Your voice sounds familiar. Is it really you, Ally?

ALLY: Yes, it's me. Here, eat this soup. It'll make you feel better.

ALLY gives GREEN BIRD some soup.

GREEN BIRD: (*turns into a prince*) I'm a prince again. Thank you, Ally!

ALLY: You really are a prince!

PRINCE: I am. Stay here and work at the palace. I'll make sure you're always treated well.

ALLY: I'd like that very much, Prince. Thank you!

STOP AND CHECK

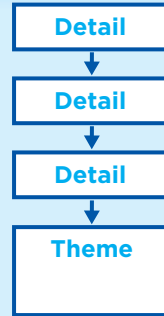
What happens after Ally gets a job at the palace?



Respond to Reading

Summarize

Summarize *Saving the Green Bird*. Use your graphic organizer to record the details and the theme.



Text Evidence

1. How can you tell this is a drama? What text features tell you that? **GENRE**
2. What role do animals play in *Saving the Green Bird*? **THEME**
3. On page 14, what word means the opposite of *sad*? **SYNONYMS AND ANTONYMS**
4. Write about how the bird helps Ally.

WRITE ABOUT READING

Compare Texts

Read a story about an animal who solves a mystery.

The Missing Pie Mystery



Mrs. Marjoram was famous for her pies. Her specialty was blueberry pie. One morning, she got up early and baked some pies for the county fair. She left them cooling by the window.

Soon it was time to go to the fair. She counted the pies.

“Oh, no!” cried Mrs. Marjoram.

The hens began squawking, the piglets began squealing, and the sheep began bleating.

“What’s all the commotion?” asked Detective Dog, stretching and yawning.

“One of Mrs. Marjoram’s pies has vanished!”
said Rooster.

“This is a case for Detective Dog,” said Pig.

Detective Dog went to talk to Mrs. Marjoram.
Soon he came back into the yard.

“The pie disappeared about ten minutes
ago,” he said. “I need to know what each of
you were doing then.”

Illustration: Patrick Girouard



“It wasn’t me,” said Rooster. “I was busy crowing.”

Detective Dog knew that was true because the crowing had woken him up.

“It wasn’t me,” said Pig. “I was busy rolling in the mud.”

“It wasn’t me,” said Tabby Cat. “I don’t like blueberries.”

“That’s very interesting,” said Detective Dog. “Mrs. Marjoram, I know who stole your pie.”

“How did you figure it out?” she asked.

“I didn’t tell the animals which pie had disappeared, but Tabby Cat knew it was the blueberry pie. That’s how I know it was her!”



Make Connections

How does Detective Dog help Mrs. Marjoram?

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

How do animals help people in *Saving the Green Bird* and *The Missing Pie Mystery*? **TEXT TO TEXT**

Focus on Genre

Dramas Dramas are stories that are written so that they can be acted out for an audience. The text is mostly dialogue, with stage directions that describe the setting and the characters' actions. Dramas usually have scenes instead of chapters.

Read and Find In *Saving the Green Bird*, the stage directions are in italics. They tell the actors where the scene is set and what the characters should be doing. The name of the speaker comes first, and a colon separates the name of the character from the words the character speaks.

Your Turn

Turn to page 6. Find the stage directions that tell each character what to do and say.

Turn to page 15. Write a short scene that shows what Ally's sisters do and say when they hear about her job at the palace. Remember to use the text features of a drama to show who is speaking and what each character does.

Literature Circles

Fiction

Thinkmark

Setting

Where did *Saving the Green Bird* take place?

When did it take place?

Characters

Who are the main characters?

How did Ally change during the drama?

Plot

What was Ally's first problem? How was it solved?

What was her next problem? How was it solved?

Conclusions

How was the bird able to help Ally in a way a human character could not?

Make Connections

What other stories have you read about siblings who don't always treat each other with kindness?