CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge Discovery Readers

Gone!

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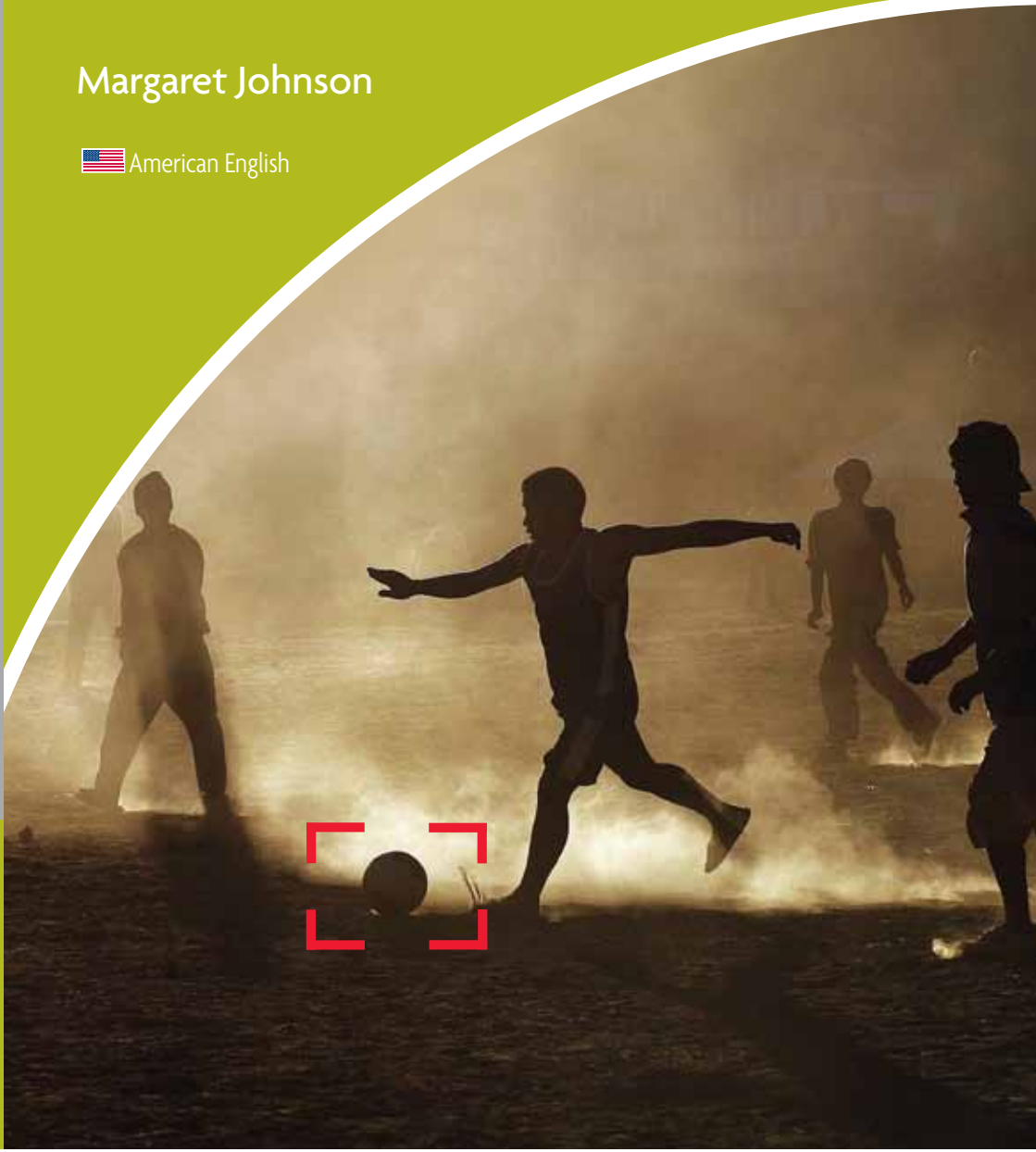
American English



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People in the story

Jamie: a boy with a birthday
Mom: Jamie's mother
Angie: Jamie's sister
Dad: Jamie's father
Blake: Jamie's friend

BEFORE YOU READ

1 Look at the pictures in Chapter 1. What do you think? Answer the questions.

1 How old is Jamie?

.....

2 Does Jamie have a big sister?

.....

3 Does Jamie's mother work?

.....

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Chapter 1

Birthday boy

"I'm sorry I'm working on your birthday, Jamie."

Jamie's mother is leaving the house. She isn't looking at Jamie. She's thinking about work.

"Have a nice day, honey. See you tonight," she says.

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"Good-bye, Mom," Jamie says. He feels sad. He doesn't want her to go.

Jamie's sister, Angie, comes down from her room. "Happy birthday, little brother!" she says. "Twelve today!"

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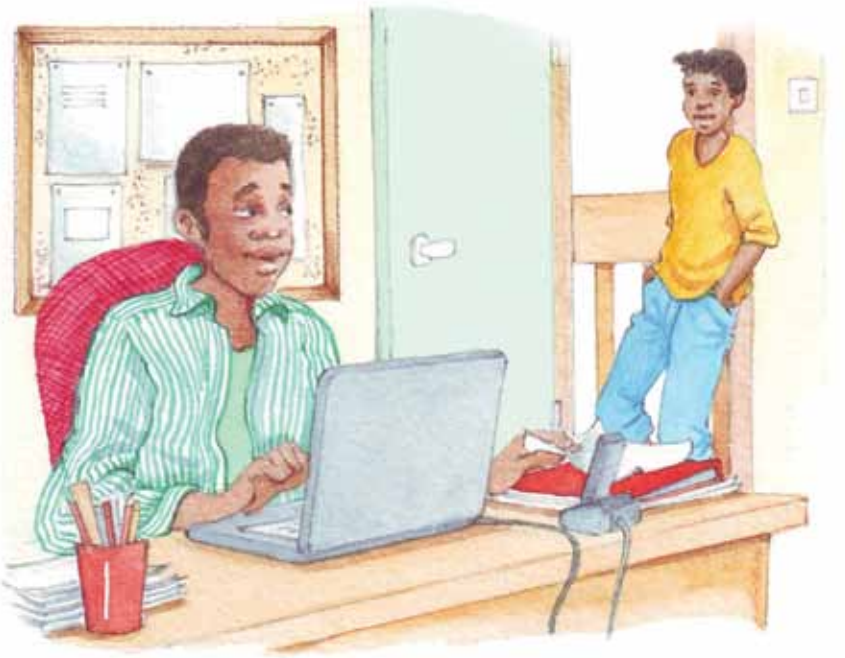
Jamie smiles. He likes being twelve.

"Can I give you your birthday present[1] this afternoon?" Angie asks. "I'm going to the mall with my friends this morning." She goes to the door.

"I want to go to the mall," Jamie starts to say, but Angie doesn't hear.

"Enjoy your birthday," she says. Then she leaves, too.



Now Jamie's father is the only person at home[2]. Jamie finds him at his desk. He's working on his computer. Jamie's father works at home, and he works all the time. Jamie walks into his father's office and his father turns and looks at him. "Hi, Jamie," he says. "What are you going to do with your birthday money?"

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"I don't know, Dad," Jamie says. "Can we go to the mall?"

Jamie's father is looking at his computer again. "Not today, Jamie," he says. "I have to finish this work. Where's Angie?"

"She's at the mall with her friends," Jamie says.

He knows his father isn't listening. He's reading an e-mail on his computer.

"That's nice," he says, but he doesn't look at Jamie. "Have a good time!"

"OK," says Jamie and he leaves the room.

Jamie calls his friend Blake. Blake's mother answers.

"Can I speak to Blake?" Jamie asks.

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"I'm sorry," Blake's mother says. "He's playing soccer in Winston Park[3]. Is this Jamie?"

"Yes," says Jamie.

"Blake tells me it's your birthday today," Blake's mother says. "Happy birthday!"

"Thank you," says Jamie.

"I have to go, but have a good day!" says Blake's mother.

"Thank you," Jamie says again and he puts the phone down.

"No one has any time for me today," he thinks. "It's my birthday and no one has any time for me."

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LOOKING BACK

1 Check your answers to *Before you read* on page 4.

ACTIVITIES

2 Complete the sentences with the names in the box.

Jamie (x3)	Mom	Dad	Angie (x2)	Blake (x2)

1 ....Mom.... leaves the house and goes to work.
2 ..... is Jamie's sister.
3 It's .....'s birthday.
4 ..... is twelve today.
5 ..... is going to the mall.
6 ..... works at home.
7 ..... is Jamie's friend.
8 ..... is at the park.
9 ..... isn't happy.

3 Underline the correct words in each sentence.

1 Mom is thinking about *her work / Jamie's birthday*.
2 Angie *has / doesn't have* a present for Jamie.
3 Jamie's *father / mother* has a computer.
4 Jamie *has some / doesn't have any* birthday money.
5 Jamie's father *can / can't* go to the mall.
6 Dad is *listening to Jamie / reading his e-mail*.
7 Jamie speaks to *Blake / Blake's mother*.
8 Blake *knows / doesn't know* it's Jamie's birthday.

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4 Who do the underlined words refer to in these lines from the text?

Angie (x2)	Jamie	Dad
Mom	Jamie and Dad	Blake

1 "See you tonight." (page 5) Jamie
2 He doesn't want her to go. (page 6) .....
3 She goes to the door. (page 7) .....
4 Jamie finds him at his desk. (page 7) .....
5 "Can we go to the mall?" (page 8) .....
6 "She's at the mall with her friends." (page 8) .....
7 "He's playing soccer in Winston Park." (page 9) .....

5 Match the questions with the answers.

1 Why is today a special day for Jamie? [b]
2 What does Jamie get for his birthday? [ ]
3 What does Jamie's dad do at home? [ ]
4 Who does Jamie talk to on the phone? [ ]
5 Who is playing soccer? [ ]

a He works.
~~b~~ It's his birthday.
c Blake's mother.
d He gets some money.
e Blake.

LOOKING FORWARD

6 Check (✓) what you think happens in Chapter 2.

1 Jamie goes to the park. [ ]
2 Jamie stays at home. [ ]

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