

Fountas & Pinnell

Leveled Literacy Intervention



Fiction

Heinemann

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ISBN-13: 978-0-325-01655-9
ISBN-10: 0-325-01655-0

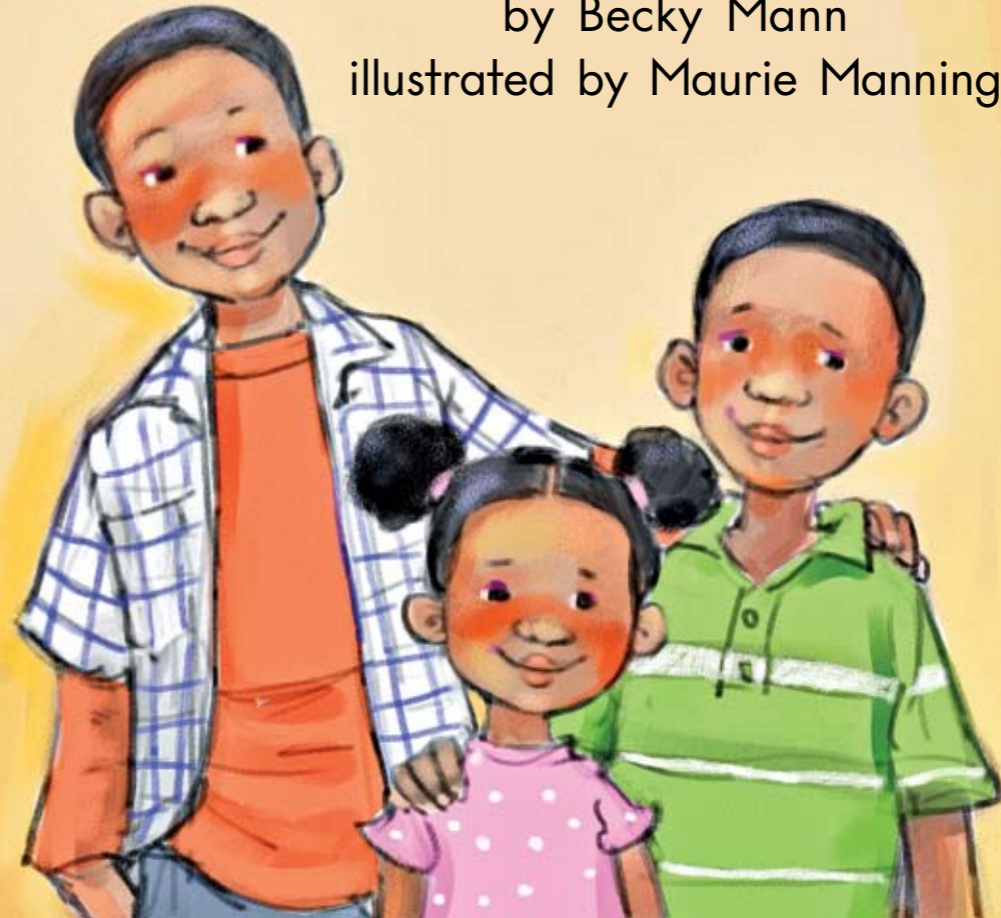


Book 80

Level H

The Boss

by Becky Mann
illustrated by Maurie Manning



The Boss

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Heinemann

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www.heinemann.com

Offices and agents throughout the world

Fountas and Pinnell Leveled Literacy Intervention Books
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ISBN-13: 978-0-325-01655-9 ISBN-10: 0-325-01655-0

Editorial Development, Design, and Production by Brown Publishing Network

Credits

Illustrations: Maurie Manning

Printed in China

09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 RRD 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

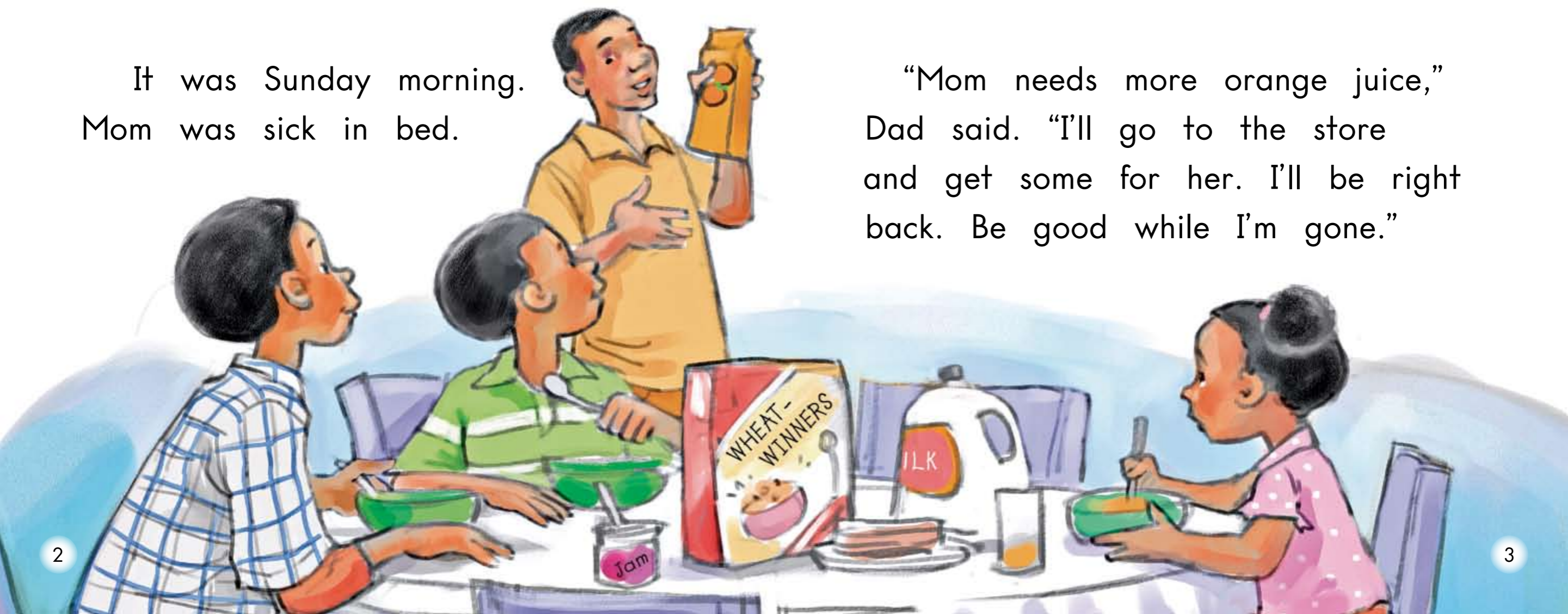
The Boss

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It was Sunday morning.
Mom was sick in bed.

“Mom needs more orange juice,”
Dad said. “I’ll go to the store
and get some for her. I’ll be right
back. Be good while I’m gone.”



“Dad is gone,” said my big brother. “Now **I’m** the boss.”

“I want to be the boss,” said my little sister.

“We can take turns. You go first,” I told my big brother.



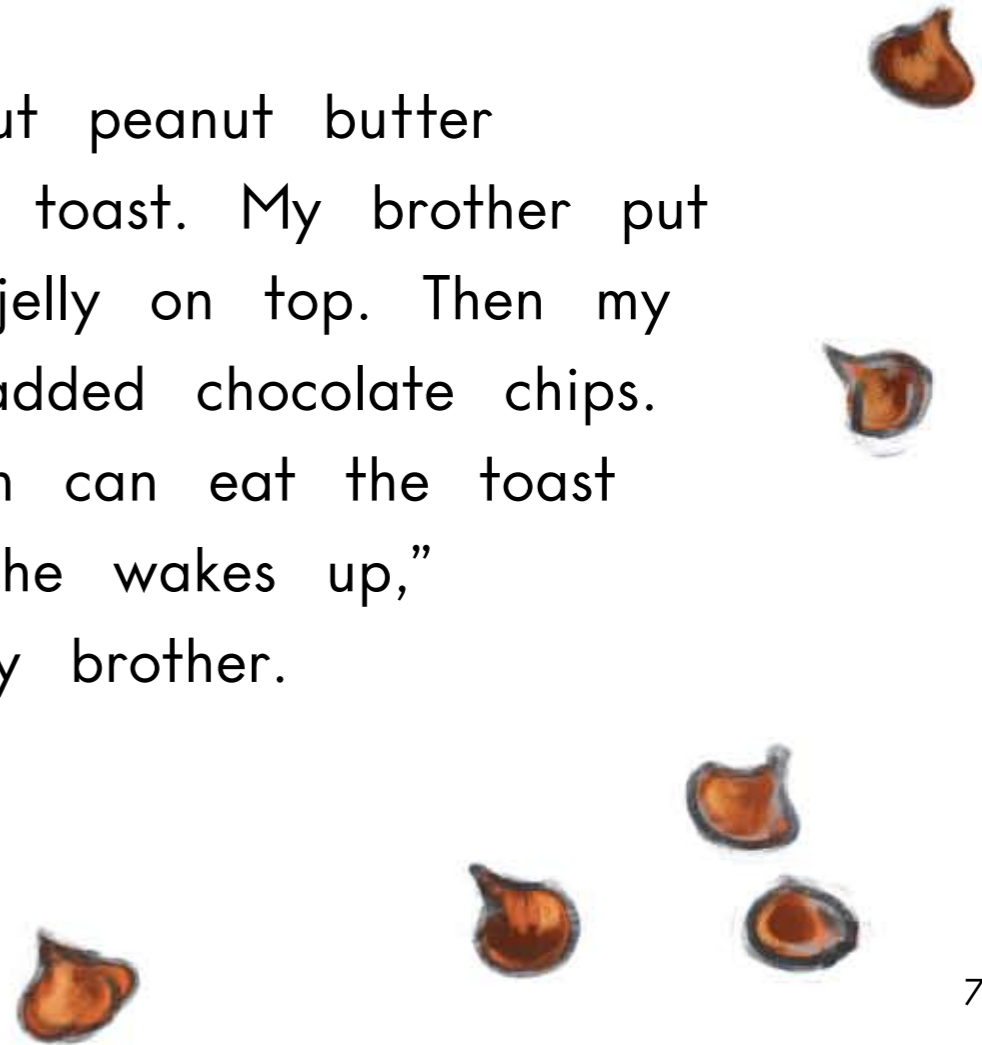
“OK,” he said.

“Let’s make breakfast for Mom.
Let’s make her some toast.”



I put peanut butter
on the toast. My brother put
grape jelly on top. Then my
sister added chocolate chips.

“Mom can eat the toast
when she wakes up,”
said my brother.



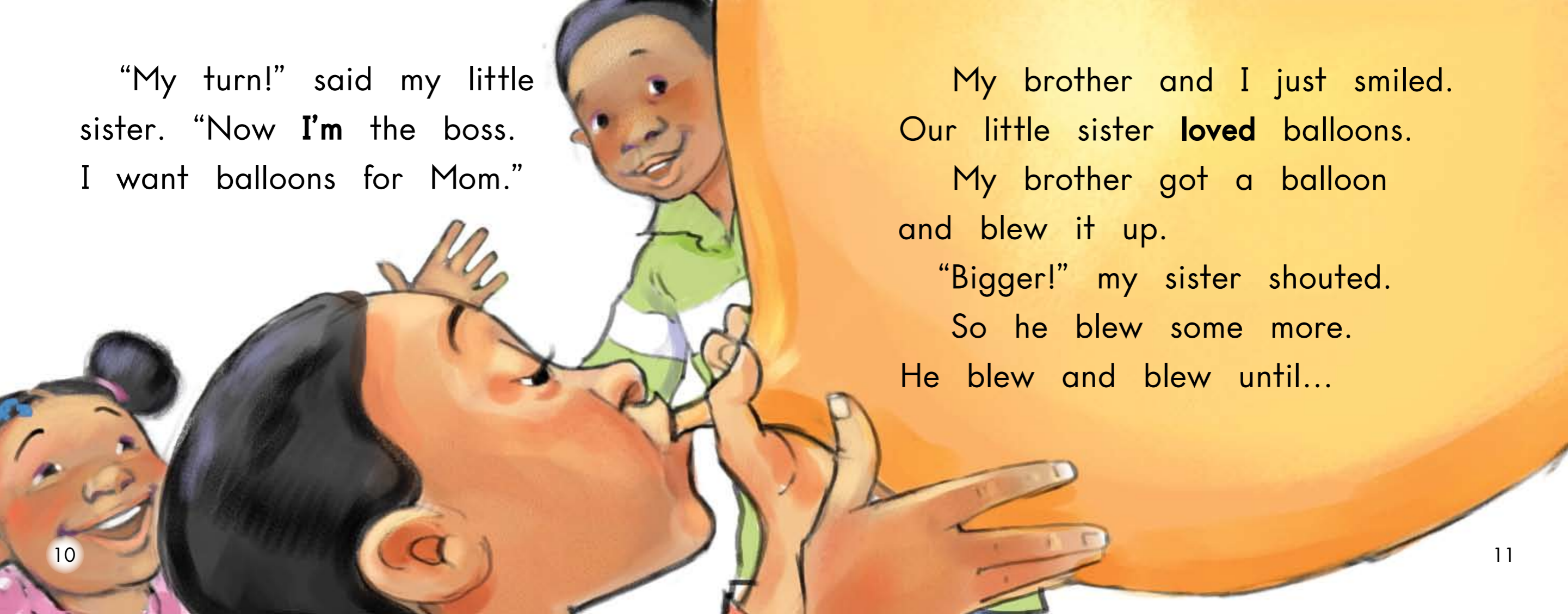
“Now it’s **my** turn to be the boss,” I said. “Let’s make a card for Mom.”

My brother got some paper, and I got the paint. We wrote, “Get Well, Mom.”

My sister painted flowers. She got some blue paint on the card. She got some blue paint in her hair!



“My turn!” said my little sister. “Now **I’m** the boss. I want balloons for Mom.”



My brother and I just smiled. Our little sister **loved** balloons.

My brother got a balloon and blew it up.

“Bigger!” my sister shouted.

So he blew some more.

He blew and blew until...

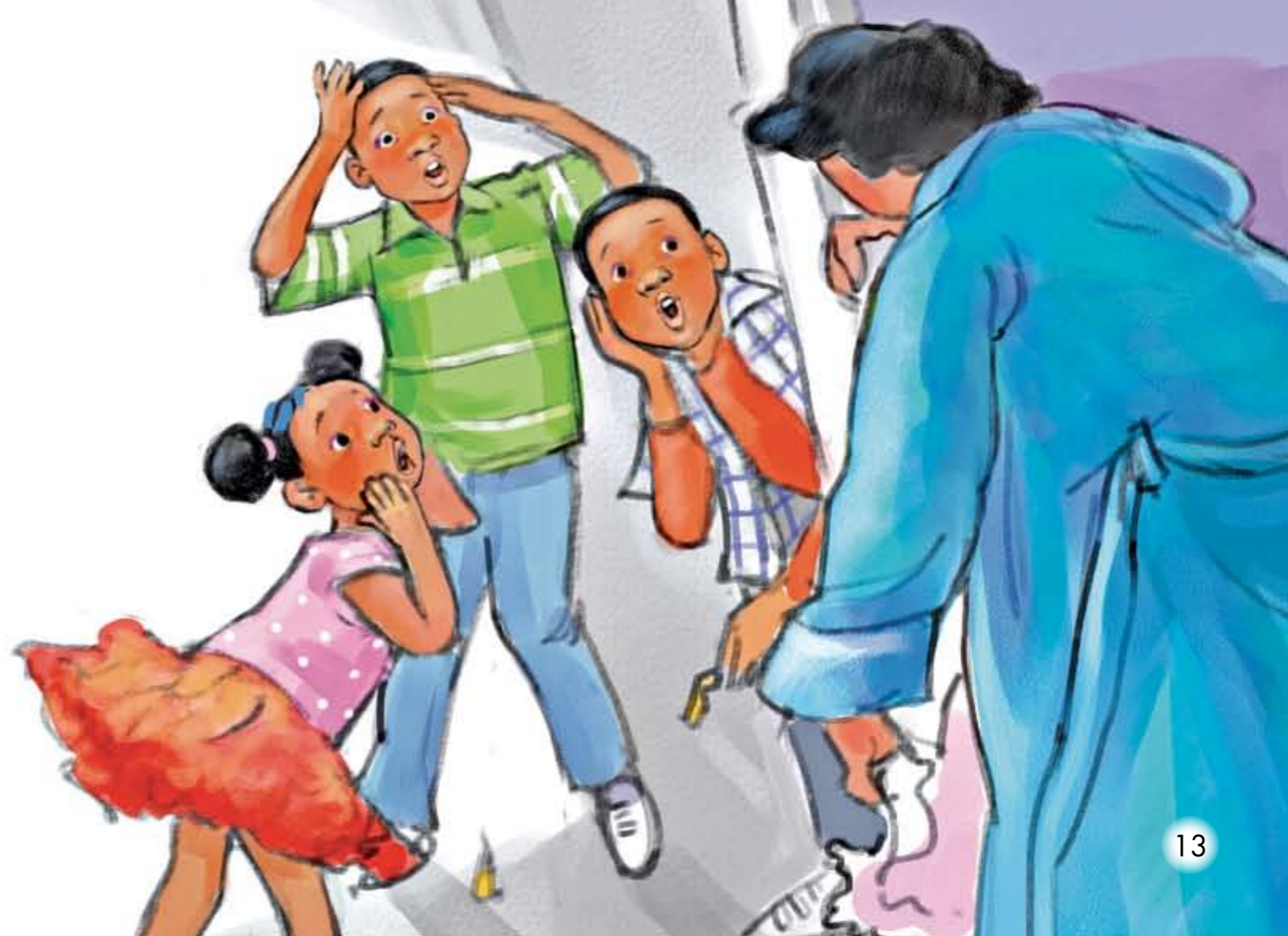
POP!

My sister screamed.

“Oh, no!” I said.

Mom woke up. She came running into the room.

“What’s going on?” Mom asked.



“We took turns being the boss,”
I said.

“I **see**,” said Mom.

Mom saw the toast
and the card. She saw the
popped balloon. Then Mom saw
my sister’s blue hair.





Mom laughed and laughed.
“Now **I’m** the boss,” she said.
“Let’s clean up this mess!”