



LIBRARY BOOK

Mystery





Chapter 1

It was Monday. Lin was in science class. Miss Trent was her teacher.

Miss Trent said, “I graded your science tests. And I’ll give them back to you now. So you can find out what grade you got.”

Lin thought she did well on her test.

Miss Trent gave Lin her paper.

Lin looked at her grade. She was right. She did do well on it.

Miss Trent gave Chandra her paper.

Chandra sat next to Lin. Chandra looked at her grade.

Then Chandra looked at Lin. She said,

“I got a ninety-five on my test. What did you get?”

“I got a ninety-eight,” Lin said.

Lin always made the best grade in the class. And Chandra always made the second-best grade.

Miss Trent passed out the rest of the tests.

Then Miss Trent said, “You have to write a paper for this class. It should be five pages long. And it should be about a science topic.”

“When’s the paper due?” Lin asked.

“Friday of next week, Lin,” Miss Trent said.

Chandra said, “That doesn’t give us much time.”

Miss Trent looked at Chandra. But she didn’t say anything to her.

Miss Trent went to her desk. She picked up some papers. Then she said,

“This is a list of topics. Pick one on the list. But only one student can write about each topic.”

Miss Trent quickly passed out copies of the list.

Then she said, “Read the topics. I’ll give you a few minutes to do that. Then I’ll call the roll. And you can tell me the topic you picked.”

Lin looked at the topics. She knew about some of them. But she didn’t know all of them.

Chandra looked at the list, too. Then she looked at Lin.

Chandra asked, “Which will you pick?”

Lin said, “I don’t know yet. But it will be something I want to learn more about.”

Lin looked at the topics for a few more minutes. Then she picked one she liked.

Miss Trent called the roll. And the students told her which topic they had picked for their papers.

Miss Trent said, "Lin, your turn."

Lin told Miss Trent what she'd picked.

Miss Trent laughed.

Then Miss Trent said, "I should've known you would pick that, Lin. That's a hard one. It won't be easy to find books about that. But I know you can do it. You always like to do hard work."

That made Lin feel very good.

Then Miss Trent said, "Chandra, it's your turn."

Chandra said, "I was going to write about that, too. But Lin got to pick first. Now I'll have to pick something else."

"That doesn't matter. Just do a good job on your paper," Miss Trent said.

Chandra looked at the list. Then she picked a different topic.

Lin thought Chandra picked a good topic. But Miss Trent didn't say anything about it.

Miss Trent called the names of the rest of the students. And they told her what they'd picked.

Miss Trent said, "You might not find out a lot about your topic. So you might have to pick another one."

Lin hoped she could find a lot.

"You have only two days to pick a different topic. You can't change after that," Miss Trent said.

The bell rang.

Miss Trent said, "See you tomorrow. And don't forget to start to work on your papers."

All of the students had lunch next. They could leave their books on their desks until after lunch. It was okay with Miss Trent for them to do that.

Lin left her books on her desk. She started to walk to the door.

Lin wasn't in a hurry to leave. But Chandra was. And Chandra bumped into Lin.

Chandra said, "Lin, watch where you're going."

Chandra sounded mad. And she seemed mad, too.

Lin hoped Chandra wasn't mad at her. But why would Chandra be?



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Where Is Mr. Zane?

Competitiveness becomes something more sinister as Lin and Chandra compete for the best grade on their science papers. Did Lin lose her library book or did someone take it? Can Willow help Lin find her library book in time to complete her paper?



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