



CARTER HIGH  
MYSTERIES

# THE FIELD TRIP *Mystery*



SADDLEBACK  
EDUCATIONAL PUBLISHING



# Chapter 1

Drake was at school. He was in the hall. He was on his way to his science class. His friend, Jack, was with him.

Drake said, “I didn’t have time to do my science homework. So I hope Mr. Zane doesn’t give us a surprise test today, dude.”

“I hope the same. That’s for sure,” Jack said.

Both boys had Mr. Zane for science. But not at the same time.

“But Mr. Zane might give us a surprise test. He hasn’t given us one in a while. And it’s about time for him to do that,” Drake said.

Drake got to Mr. Zane's room.

He said, "See you later, Jack."

"Bye," Jack said.

Jack went on down the hall. And Drake went into his classroom.

The bell rang to start class.

Mr. Zane called the roll.

Then Mr. Zane said, "Now we'll talk about our field trip."

"What field trip?" Noah asked. Noah sat next to Drake.

"You should raise your hand when you wish to speak," Mr. Zane said.

Noah raised his hand.

"What field trip?" Noah asked again.

Drake hoped it was to somewhere he wanted to go. But he had a feeling it wouldn't be.

"We'll go on a trip to Bartow Gardens," Mr. Zane said.

"When are we going?" Drake asked.

Drake was on the football team. He hoped the trip wasn't on a day when he had a game.

Mr. Zane said, "We'll go next Friday. Tomorrow I'll give you a permission slip to take home. You must have a parent sign it. And you must return it to me by this Friday."

"What if we don't want to go?" Noah asked.

Drake had a game that night. And he didn't want to go on the trip. But he would never tell Mr. Zane that.

Mr. Zane didn't seem pleased.

"All students will go on the field trip," Mr. Zane said.

"But what if a student isn't here that day?" Noah asked.

"Then the student must bring a note from a doctor," Mr. Zane said.

Noah said, "My parents don't have a



lot of money. So I can't pay to go on the field trip. So I guess I can't go."

That surprised Drake. Noah always had a lot of money. Drake was sure Noah could pay to go on the field trip. So why did Noah say that?

Mr. Zane said, "Students don't need to worry about money. The school will pay for the field trip. Students won't have to pay anything."

Noah didn't seem happy to hear that. But Drake was glad to hear it.

Drake was sure Noah didn't want to go on the trip. And Drake didn't want to go on the day of a game.

But Drake knew that didn't matter. Mr. Zane wanted them to go. So they would have to go.

Mr. Zane didn't give them a surprise test. But Drake was still glad when his science class was over.

Drake hurried out into the hall. Jack came over to him. So did their friend, Logan. All three boys lived at Grayson Apartments.

Jack asked, "What did you do in science class today? Did you have a surprise test?"

"Yeah. Did you have a surprise test?" Logan asked.

Jack and Logan had Mr. Zane for science, too.

"No. Mr. Zane said all of his classes are going on a field trip. And he talked a lot about the field trip," Drake said.

"Where are we going?" Logan asked.

"We're going to Bartow Gardens. Some people will talk to us about the flowers," Drake said.

"That doesn't sound like much fun. Do we all have to go?" Logan asked.

"Yeah, Mr. Zane said all students

have to go. Or we need a doctor's note," Drake said.

Logan said, "It had better be a note from a real doctor. Because Mr. Zane will call. And he'll find the truth."

"That's for sure," Jack said.

Drake was sure Mr. Zane would do that, too.

"Maybe the trip won't be so bad," Logan said.

Drake said, "But I have a game that night. And I don't want to go on a field trip that day."

Jack said, "I need to go to class. I'll see you at lunch. But I'll be late. I have to stop by the library."

Jack hurried down the hall.

The first bell rang.

Logan said, "I need to get to class. I have Mr. Zane next. And you know I can't be late to his class."

“Yeah. See you at lunch,” Drake said.

“I won’t see you at lunch. I’m eating with someone,” Logan said.

Then Logan hurried into his classroom.

Drake knew that Logan was eating lunch with a girl. Logan liked to date many girls. And some days Logan ate lunch with one of his girlfriends.



## Chapter 2

Later that day, Drake walked into the lunchroom. Logan hurried over to him.

Logan said, “Don’t forget, Drake. I’m eating with someone. So don’t come over to my table.”

“I won’t forget,” Drake said.

Logan quickly got his lunch. Then he went to a table and sat down.

Drake got his lunch. Then he looked for Jack. He didn’t see Jack. But Jack said he would be late.

Then Drake saw Paige, Lin, and Willow. Drake went over to their table. He sat down.

Paige asked, "Is Logan eating by himself today?"

"No. A girl is going to eat with him," Drake said.

"Who?" Paige asked.

"I don't know. He didn't say," Drake said.

"Where's Jack? Is he eating with a girl, too?" Paige asked.

Drake said, "No, he's just late to lunch. He had to go to the library before lunch."

"Why?" Paige asked.

"I don't know. He didn't say why," Drake said.

Drake thought Paige asked too many questions about Logan and Jack. And he was glad when Willow said something.

Willow said, "I heard Mr. Zane's classes are going on a field trip."

Willow had Mr. Zane, too. But she had Mr. Zane after lunch.

“Yeah, we’re going on a field trip,” Drake said. But he didn’t sound happy about it.

“Where are you going?” Lin asked.

“Yes. Tell us about it,” Paige said.

“We’re going to Bartow Gardens. We’re going to learn about flowers,” Drake said.

“That sounds like fun,” Lin said.

“I think it does, too,” Paige said.

“I wish I could go,” Lin said.

“So do I,” Paige said.

Lin and Paige didn’t have Mr. Zane for science. So they wouldn’t go.

“I wish you could go. And I could stay here,” Drake said.

“Why?” Paige asked.

“Yes, why? I want to go,” Willow said.

“I don’t want to listen to someone talk about flowers,” Drake said.

“I would like to hear about flowers,” Lin said.



CARTER HIGH  
MYSTERIES

Dear Paige,

I want to ask you to  
dance. But I'm not sure  
you'll say yes. That's why  
haven't asked you.

Your Secret Admirer

# THE SECRET ADMIRER *Mystery*



SADDLEBACK  
EDUCATIONAL PUBLISHING





# *Chapter 1*

It was Friday. Paige was at school. She was in the lunchroom.

Paige was sitting at a table. Lin and Willow were with her. Willow was in her wheelchair.

All three girls were good friends. And all three lived at Grayson Apartments.

Lin seemed very happy. She said, “I can hardly wait until next Friday.”

The Carter High school dance was next Friday night.

A boy had called Lin last night. He’d asked her to the dance.

Paige wished someone would ask her, too. But no one had yet.

Paige didn't want to talk about the dance. But she knew Lin wanted to talk about it.

"What are you going to wear, Lin?" Paige asked.

"I don't know yet. My mom said I can buy a new dress. And I'm going to look for one tomorrow," Lin said.

"I hope you find something you like," Paige said.

"I hope so, too, Paige. I'm sure I will," Lin said.

"I'm sure you will, too," Willow said.

Paige wanted a new dress to wear to the dance. But most of all she wanted a date to the dance. And she didn't have that yet.

"Are you and Emmett going to the dance, Willow?" Lin asked.

Emmett was Willow's boyfriend. He went to Newton High. And he was on the football team.

"No. We aren't going to the dance," Willow said.

That surprised Paige. "Why?" she asked.

"Emmett has to work that night. And he can't go to the dance. But that's okay. His school dance is the next weekend. And we're going to it," Willow said.

"What about you, Paige? Are you going to the dance? I hope you are," Lin said.

"I don't know," Paige said.

"Why, Paige? Don't you want to go?" Lin asked.

"Yes. But no one has asked me yet," Paige said.

"Someone will, Paige. The dance isn't until next week," Willow said.

“I know that someone could still ask me. But I don’t think anyone will,” Paige said.

Lin and Willow seemed very surprised.

“Why do you think that, Paige?” Willow asked.

Paige said, “I haven’t had a date in three weeks. That’s why I don’t think anyone will ask me to the dance.”

“Don’t worry, Paige. Someone will ask you,” Willow said.

“Yes, Paige. Someone will ask you,” Lin said.

Paige thought Willow and Lin spoke too quickly. And she wasn’t sure they really thought that someone would ask her to the dance.



## *Chapter 2*

It was the next morning. Paige sat in front of her apartment building. Willow was there, too.

The girls were talking about school. But they weren't talking about the school dance.

Paige didn't want to talk about the dance. And she didn't want to hear about it either.

Paige saw Logan, Drake, and Jack. The three boys lived at Grayson Apartments. They were good friends. And they were good friends with Paige and Willow, too.

The boys came over to talk to Paige and Willow.

Logan said, "I know what you two girls were talking about." Then he laughed.

Paige knew Logan didn't know anything. But she wanted to know what he thought they were talking about anyway.

"What were we talking about?" Paige asked.

"The school dance. What else?" Logan asked.

"Yeah," Drake said.

"That's for sure," Jack said.

Paige said, "You're wrong. We weren't talking about the dance."

"Well we were," Logan said.

"Who are you taking to the dance?" Willow asked.

Drake and Jack quickly told Willow. But Logan didn't say anything.

Willow asked, "What about you, Logan? Who are you taking to the dance?"

"I don't know yet," Logan said.

Logan liked to date many girls. And he never dated one girl for very long.

Willow said, "You should ask someone soon, Logan."

"Yes, Logan. You should ask someone soon," Jack said.

"I still have a lot of time. The dance isn't until next week," Logan said.

"You need to ask someone now, Logan. Girls don't like to be asked at the last minute," Willow said.

"That's right, Logan. I wouldn't want to be asked at the last minute," Paige said.

"Maybe. But you would still go with the guy," Logan said. Then he laughed.

Paige looked at Logan. And she didn't say anything. But she didn't like what

Logan just said.

Willow said, "That wasn't a nice thing to say to Paige, Logan."

"No. That wasn't nice," Paige said.

"I was only joking," Logan said.

But Paige wasn't sure that he was.

"Do you have a date to the school dance, Paige?" Logan asked.

"No," Paige said.

"But you'll have a date, Paige. The dance isn't until next Friday," Willow said.

Logan said, "Let me see if I get this right. I should ask a girl for a date now. But it's okay for some other guy to ask Paige next week."

That made Paige mad.

"Don't worry about me. And don't worry about who I go to the dance with," Paige said.

And she didn't say that in a nice way.



Logan said, "Don't get mad at me, Paige. It isn't my fault you can't get a date to the dance."

That made Paige even more upset. But she was too upset to say anything to Logan.

"That wasn't nice, Logan," Willow said.

"That's for sure," Jack said.

"I'm sorry, Paige. I was only joking. I tell you what I'll do. I'll ask around. And I'll find a date for you," Logan said.

"I can get my own date. I don't need your help," Paige said.

"Don't say anything else, Logan," Willow said.

"Yeah, Logan," Drake said.

"That's for sure," Jack said.

Logan liked to joke. But much of the time Paige didn't think he was funny.

For a few minutes the five didn't talk. But Paige was thinking about the school dance.

The three guys were her friends. So maybe she should tell them why she was so upset.

Paige said, "I haven't had a date in three weeks. And I don't think anyone will ask me to the dance."

The three guys seemed surprised.

At first no one said anything. But then Logan asked, "What about Brett? Some days he talks to you after science class. Maybe he'll ask you."

"Brett just wants to know what my class did in English. We have the same teacher," Paige said.

"I can hint to him that you need a date to the dance. Do you want me to do that?" Logan asked.