

A STORYBOOK COLLECTION



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CHILDREN'S LITERATURE
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Title: *Where's My Mummy?*

Author: Carolyn Crimi/Illustrations by John Manders

Copyright year: 2008

High Quality: Yes

A book to be read to a child

- **Style & Language:** A young reader would not have much trouble reading this book. A few words may not be included in the reader's vocabulary, but still very doable.

EXAMPLE 1: "Just one more game of Hide and Shriek?" he pleaded to Big Mama Mummy."

EXAMPLE 2: "Little baby mummy and Big Mama Mummy troped back home, where they brushed and combed and gargled and scrubbed."

- **Characters:** Baby Mummy is a very believable character, along with Maa Mummy. They promote actions of those of a young child and their mother.

EXAMPLE 1: "HELP, Mama Mummy, I'm scared!"

EXAMPLE 2: "I'm here!" cried big Mama Mummy."

- **Plot:** The plot moves very smoothly. Any little kid could be put in a situation like this and look towards their parent/guardian for support and help.

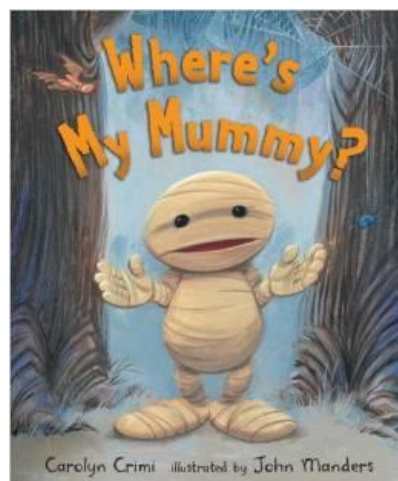
Outline: Little baby mummy has to go to bed but wants to play Hide-n-seek; he goes to hide; he waits but his mom never finds him; he goes to look for her; he gets scared when he finds a mouse; she takes him home and they wash up; Mama puts baby mummy to bed.

- **MDQ (Major Dramatic Question):** Will little baby mummy find his mom? Yes.
- **Illustrations:** The illustrations in this book are very detailed. They help with telling the story and describing the character's emotions.

EXAMPLE 1: Baby mummy is looking for his mom and looks very confused. The illustrations help show how confused baby mummy is when looking for his mom.

EXAMPLE 2: When baby mummy is frightened by a mouse, the illustrations show how scared he is and his reaction to the mouse.

- **Opinion/Recommendation:** I thought the book was very cute. It is most likely a Halloween book to read to a child during October. I think children will love the story and find it to be quite funny. The will love the thrill throughout the story and cannot wait for the big question to be answered; Where's My Mummy?



Title: The Cheat

Author: Amy Goldman Koss

Copyright year: 2003

High Quality: Yes

- **Style & Language:** The style and language is typical of a teenage character. There are short phrases and things said that any teenager would say.

EXAMPLE 1: "That blows anyway. And I'm, like, totally, "Excuse me?" So he says that I kept him so busy helping set up my sister's party that he never got a chance to study. Yeah, right." pg. 59

EXAMPLE 2: "I couldn't believe Sarah thought I'd betrayed her. HOW could she think that? I consider her my very close friend." pg. 53

- **Characters:** The characters act like normal teenagers. They go through the same reactions that a normal teenager would.

EXAMPLE 1: "How could Danny break up with ME? I mean, ME! I'm the best he'll ever have!" pg 63

EXAMPLE 2: "If my mom and dad find out I cheated, they'll NEVER let me have friends over again! Dude, I am in so much trouble." pg 95

- **Plot:** The plot is very believable along with the characters. This would be atypical middle school situation and how the characters would react.

Outline: Jake tells Sarah he has the midterm answers; she cheats off the answers; Rob and Dan cheat too; the three of them get caught; Katie gets accused for ratting them out; Rob runs away; Ruby breaks up with Dan.

Explain the main conflict: The main conflict is that Sarah was given the midterm answers from Jake, and other people cheated on the test..

- **Summarize any subplots, including their central conflict:** Everyone has their own story, all relating to how they cheated on the midterm. Sarah has a problem with her mother, Snä's parents tell him to do better, Ruby breaks up with Dan, Rob runs away and is terrified to tell his parents he got caught cheating, Katie is accused of ratting out Sarah for cheating, and Jake gives Sarah the midterm answers from his sister's old midterm.
- **Opinion/Recommendation:** I would highly recommend this book to kids in this age group. They can relate to the actions and the emotions taken on by the characters. I found it quite humorous now that I'm older, but I think a Middle schooler would take this quite serious. I found it enjoyable and not many dull moments.

