

The Secret

by Julie Haydon

illustrated by Kiera Poelsma



oxford
literacy



Stage of reader: Early

Text level: 10

Word count: 161

Text type: Narrative

Theme: Values

***Oxford Wordlist*[®] high frequency words:**

I, the, and, to, a, was, it, he, had, in, they, with, of, there, got, she, said, is, were, home, you, at, mum, for, dad, but, saw, house, that, her, came, up, his, out, all, Saturday, back, him, can, birthday, next, car, didn't, party, about, see, off, morning, what, wanted, bike, come, new, it's, last, yes, look, red, jumped, asked, walking

Key visual communicator: illustrations

Purpose of the visuals: to enrich and support the narrative structure

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Last Saturday morning,
Tess and her mum were walking
past Alex's house.
They saw Alex's mum at her car.

“Hi,” said Tess.



Alex's mum jumped.

"I didn't see you there, Tess," she said.





“Alex isn’t home.
He’s out with his dad.”

Tess saw a shiny red bike
in the back of the car.

“Is that bike for Alex’s birthday?”
she asked.

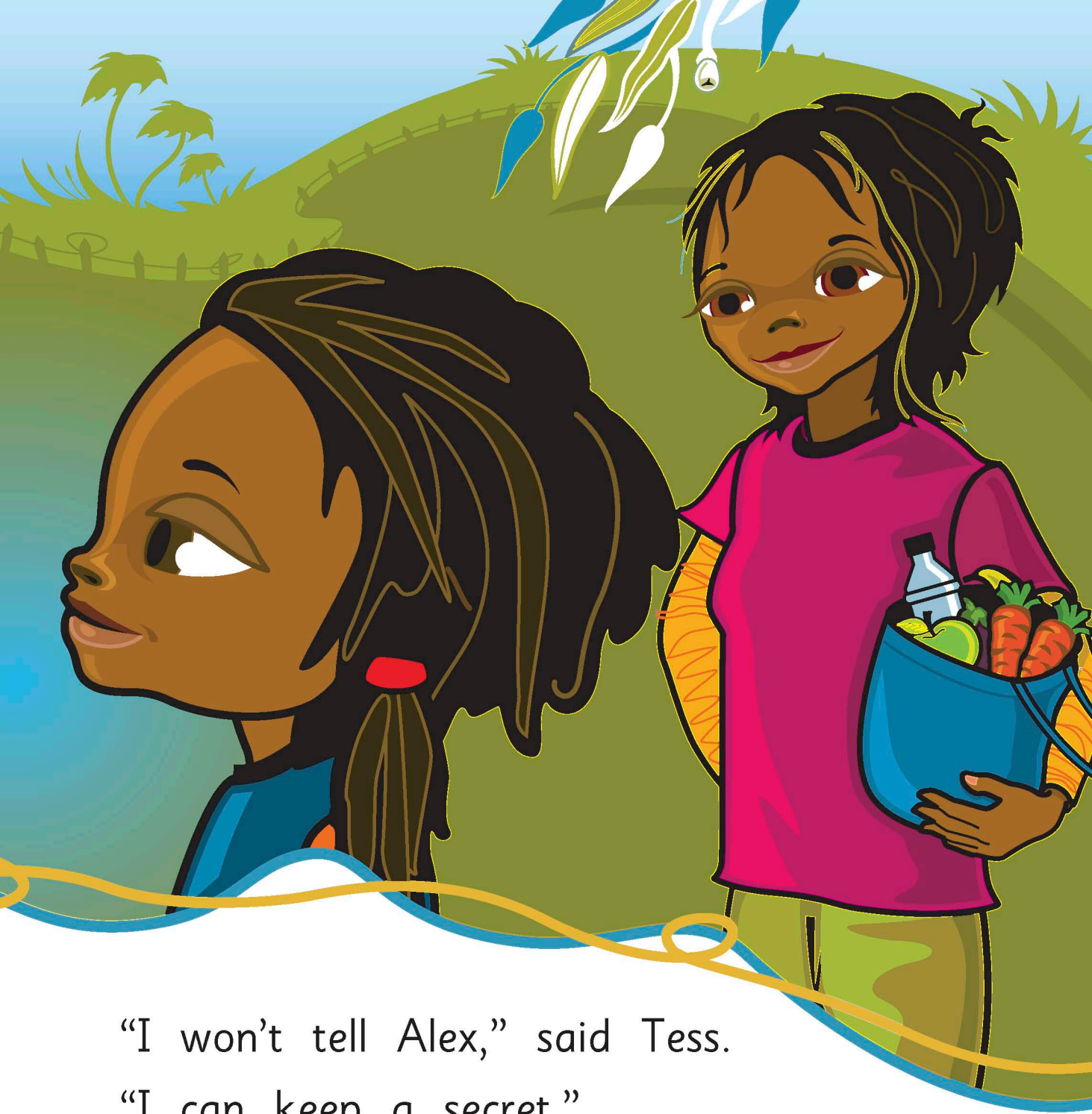






“Yes,” said Alex’s mum.

“But it’s a secret, Tess. You can’t tell Alex.”



“I won’t tell Alex,” said Tess.
“I can keep a secret.”

All week, Alex talked
about his birthday.





Tess wanted to tell him
about the shiny red bike.
But it was a secret!

The next Saturday,
Alex had a birthday
party at his house.



He raced up to Tess.
“Come and look at
what I got!” he said.



Alex showed off his new bike.





Alex's mum came and stood next to Tess. "Thanks for keeping the secret, Tess," she said.



Tess smiled.

“I *can* keep a secret.”

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Oxford **literacy** Guided Reading Levels

Stages of the reader	Guided reading levels
Beginner	1–2
Emergent	3–5
Early	6–8 9–11
Transitional	12–14 15–17
Extending	18–20 21–23
Fluent	24–26 27–30



Tess found out about a surprise for Alex.

Read about what happened in
The Secret.

Early texts

FICTION

- Pink Nails
- Flying Sausages
- The Secret**
- The Dripping Taps

AUSTRALIAN TALES

- The Man from Snowy River

NON-FICTION

- A New Home for an Old Dog *Explanation*
- My School *Description*
- My Neighbours *Description*
- Making Rules *Factual recount*
- Staying Healthy *Exposition*

