



The Tallest DWER



by Blaise Terrapin illustrated by Cheryl Kirk Noll



HOUGHTON MIFFLIN

BOSTON

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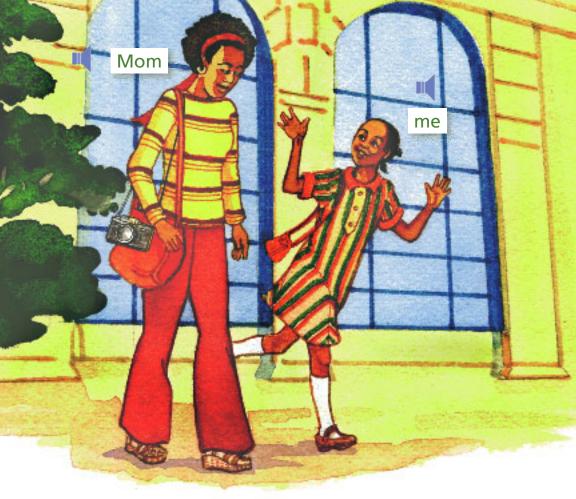
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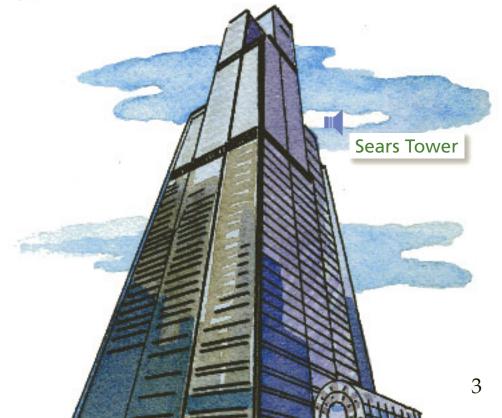
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- I walk with Mom to see Dad.
- Today I am bursting with excitement.
 I'm going to visit the tallest tower in the whole world!

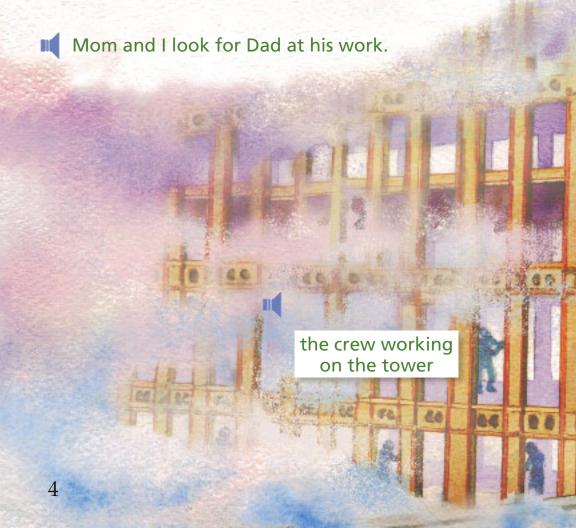
- Well, it will be the tallest tower, someday. The newspaper says it will be called the Sears Tower, and it will soar 1,454 feet into the sky. It will be 110 stories high!
 - And guess who is building it? My dad, that's who!

Dad works building this tall tower.



Well, Dad isn't building it alone. He works with a big crew. But to me, Dad is the most important worker of all.

Where *is* Dad, anyway? Mom and I can't see him because it's so foggy out!





- Suddenly, the sun comes out and the day turns bright. The tower gleams.

 I see Dad, standing way up high.

 "Hi, Dad!" I yell.
- Dad waves back to us. He is balancing on the tower's beams.

Dad waves to Mom and me!







- Dad is high up on a beam.
- He sways as if he's about to fall. I grab Mom's arm, but I know Dad is just playing. He isn't afraid to be up high. He can balance on anything! Not me. I don't even like standing on a log.

Dad says when the Sears Tower is done in 1973, we will be able to stand on top and see the Atlantic Ocean.

But he's just joking. The Atlantic is too far away.

We are in Chicago, Illinois!



I'd rather have a job down here. I could be the boss.

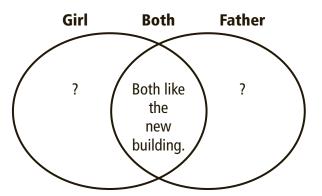
"Build higher! Higher!" I'd shout, with my feet on the ground.



Responding

TARGET SKILL Compare and Contrast

Copy the Venn diagram below. Then fill it in. Tell how the father and the daughter in the story are alike and how they are different.



Write About It

Text to World Is there a building where you live that you like? Write a paragraph that tells how this building is like the Sears Tower. Also tell how it is different.

TARGET VOCABULARY

balancing excitement

cling foggy crew stretch

disappears tide

TARGET SKILL Compare and Contrast Tell how details or ideas are alike and different.

- TARGET STRATEGY Infer/Predict Use clues to figure out more about the selection.
- **GENRE Historical fiction** is a story that takes place in a real period of history.

Level: J

DRA: 18

Genre:

Historical Fiction

Strategy: Infer/Predict

Skill:

Compare and Contrast

Word Count: 304



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