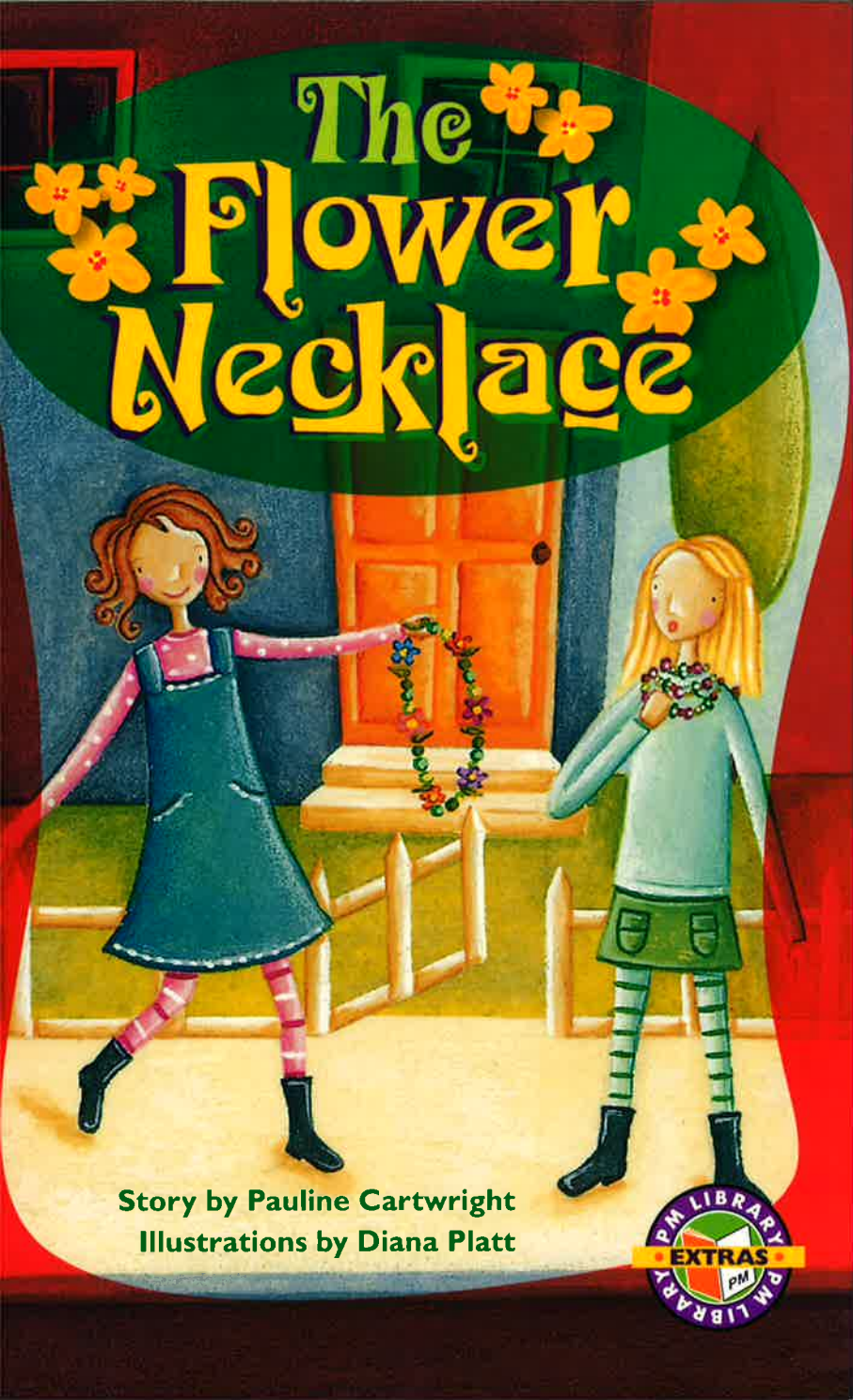
# The Flower Necklace



Story by Pauline Cartwright
Illustrations by Diana Platt

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# The Flower Necklace

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## Key vocabulary

beads, necklace, special, lovely, loveliest, boarder, jealous, trust, jewellery, friend, beautiful, forgiving, forgetting

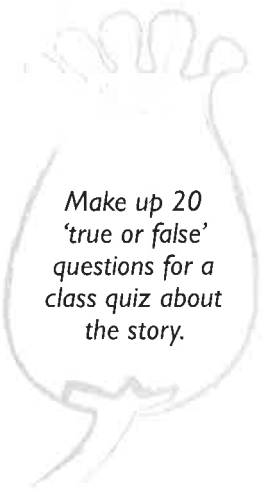
## Grammatical conventions

- Simile: '... shone like the jewels ... of a pirate chest filled with treasure'.
- Using exclamation marks in dialogue

## Spelling

- Adding the suffix 'ing': staying, meetings, glowing, practising, saving, forgetting
- Homophones: boarder/border, week/weak, hair/hare, know/no, see/sea
- Plurals of words ending in 'e': excuses, magazines, times
- Compound words: weekday, sometimes, around, homework, weekends, overseas

## Creative thinking task – Knowledge



*Make up 20 'true or false' questions for a class quiz about the story.*

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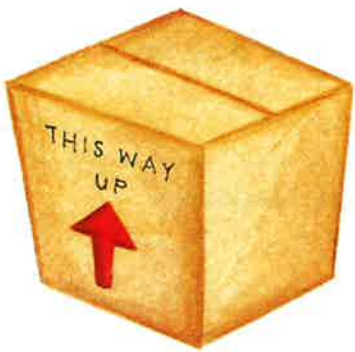
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CHAPTER 1

# A New Boarder




Sometimes, when they needed extra money, Ruth and her mother took in a weekday boarder.

Once they had a businessman staying with them. He had come from the city to work in their town for just six months. Each weekend he went home to his wife and family. During the week he went to a lot of night meetings, so Ruth and her mother didn't see much of him.

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Another time, when Ruth was younger, they had a high school boy stay with them while his parents were away overseas. He spent all his spare time doing homework or practising cricket. Ruth thought he was very uninteresting.

A new boarder had just arrived.

'Mum's saving up for a holiday,' Ruth explained to her best friend, Carmen. 'Our new boarder's name is Tonya and she is *so* nice.'

Tonya was by far the most interesting boarder they had had in the house for ages.



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'She works at the pharmacy,' Ruth told Carmen as they walked home from school together.

Ruth stroked her hair, remembering the shampoo that Tonya had brought home especially for her.

'It will bring out your natural auburn highlights,' Tonya had said to Ruth. Ruth thought it was marvellous that someone thought of her hair as having auburn highlights. No one had ever said such a thing to her before.

'Tonya has seven different sorts of lipstick!' Ruth continued. 'And she lets me try on her nail polish. She's got lots of those, too. Her favourite colour at the moment is Peach Waltz.'

'What a silly name for a colour,' said Carmen.

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Ruth ignored her comment and kept talking. 'The other night Tonya blow-waved my hair.'

Now Carmen ignored Ruth's comment. 'Has she got a boyfriend?' she asked.

Ruth made a face. She sometimes got tired of Carmen talking about boys. 'I don't know,' she said. But she did know.

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Tonya's boyfriend lived two farms up the road from her own family's farm. Tonya saw him when she went home on the weekends. Ruth sometimes felt a little jealous of the way Tonya's face softened and her eyes sparkled when she talked about Dean, but still she thought he sounded okay. In fact, for Tonya to like him so much, Ruth had decided that he must be more than okay. So she didn't want to hear Carmen making smart comments about him.

Ruth told Carmen it was time for her to go. 'See you tomorrow, Carmen,' she said as she waved and headed home.

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CHAPTER 2

# The Necklace



Tonya was usually home for at least two of the four weekday evenings, and both Ruth and her mother enjoyed having her in the house with them. They all got on very well together.

Sometimes Ruth found excuses to visit Tonya in her room. Tonya let Ruth try on her clothes, and the jewellery that she kept in a small wooden jewellery box, padded inside with blue velvet and divided into compartments.