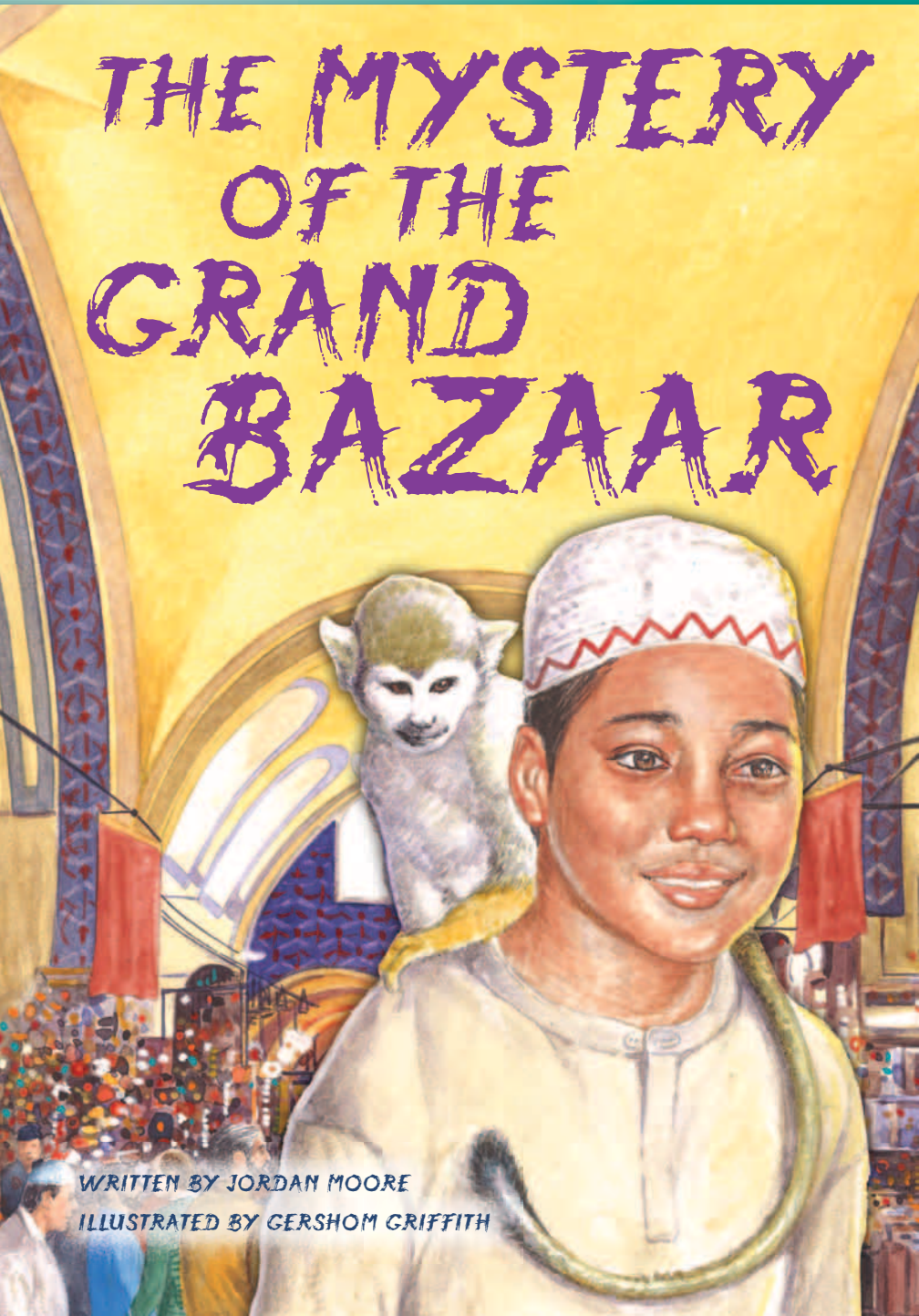
THE MYSTERY OF THE GRAND BAZAAR



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Chapter One

ZEYD FINDS BAHIR

The streets of the Grand Bazaar in Istanbul were packed with colorful stalls and busy people. The air was filled with delicious smells coming from the food stands. The streets were alive with the noise of merchants calling out to passersby.

Among the hustle and bustle, a young man named Zeyd was racing through the Bazaar. He darted nimbly through the crowds at the market. He had a job to do.

Zeyd skipped between pots and jumped over sleeping dogs. He ran through the furniture market. The whole time, he held tightly onto a delivery until he stopped outside a rug stall. "Here you are, Akel," said Zeyd breathlessly. "The delivery from the food market."

"Thank you, Zeyd!" replied Akel. "Come join me for flatbread!"

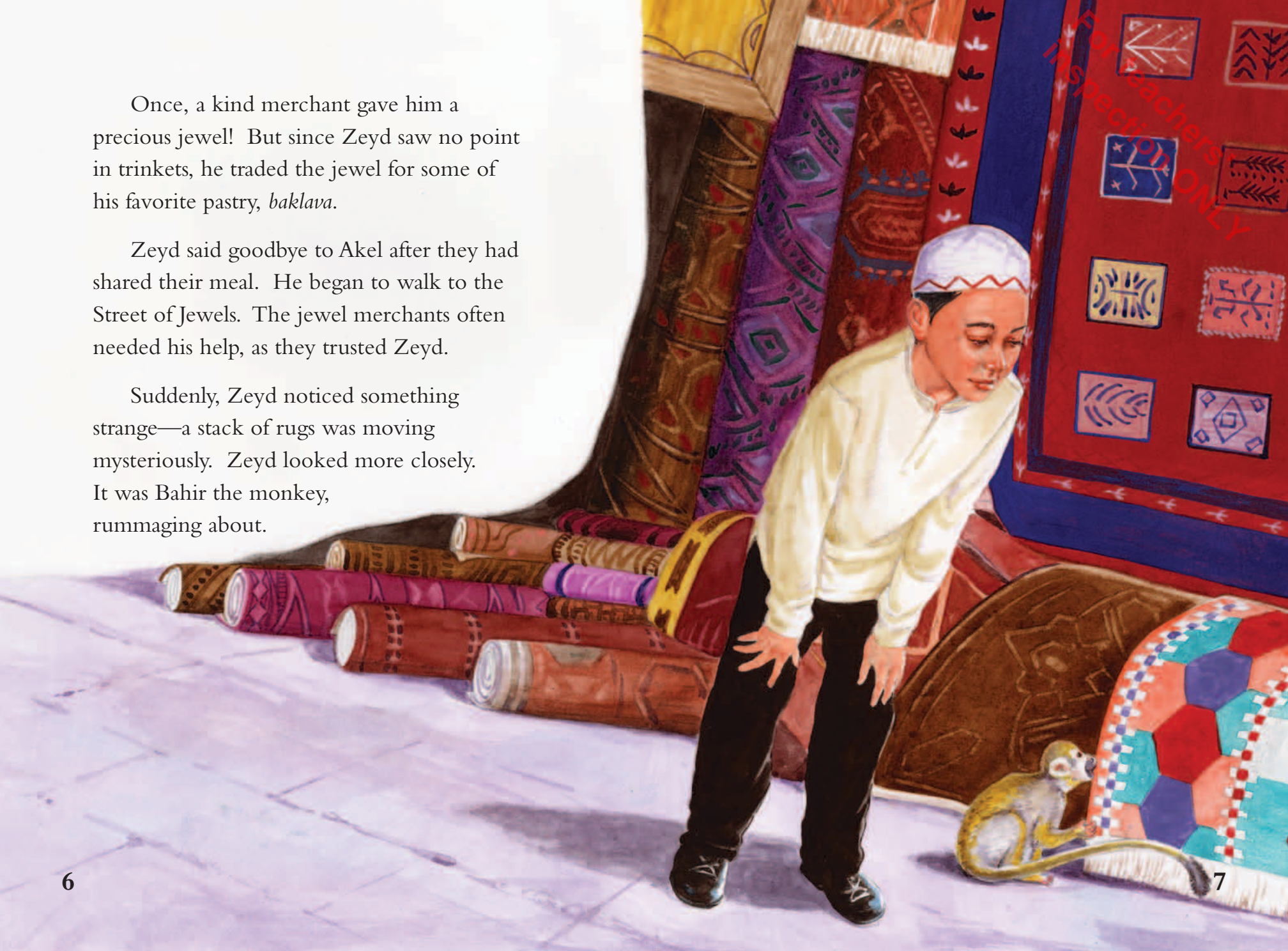
Every day, Zeyd helped the merchants of the Bazaar. He would run from one end to the other, through all sixty-four streets, collecting packages or trading goods. In return, Zeyd would receive breakfast, lunch, and supper. Sometimes, he was even given blankets or clothing.

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Once, a kind merchant gave him a precious jewel! But since Zeyd saw no point in trinkets, he traded the jewel for some of his favorite pastry, *baklava*.

Zeyd said goodbye to Akel after they had shared their meal. He began to walk to the Street of Jewels. The jewel merchants often needed his help, as they trusted Zeyd.

Suddenly, Zeyd noticed something strange—a stack of rugs was moving mysteriously. Zeyd looked more closely. It was Bahir the monkey, rummaging about.



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Chapter Two

SILENCE IN THE STREETS

Bahir belonged to one of the jewelers on the other side of the Bazaar.

"Are you lost, Bahir?" Zeyd bent down, and Bahir leapt onto his shoulder. Together, they walked toward the Street of Jewels.