Robin Hoodie



By Vickie An
Illustrated by Brian Martin

TCM Teacher Created Materials

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CHAPTER ONE



I Am Robin Hoodie

Just so you know, I wasn't always a thief. It just kind of…happened. Let me explain.

My name is Zoe Zhang, but my friends call me Zo. We live in a big metropolis called New Hope City, in the colorful Hopping Heights

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neighborhood on the east side. My family's burrow is snug. Just imagine six cottontail bunnies sharing one bathroom! Still, we love our home.

I spend my days like any ordinary fourth grader. I go to school, do my homework, and help my parents at their bakery. On weekends, I practice soccer and take my three younger siblings to the library. They enjoy adventure stories, just like me.

But when the moon rises and everyone is asleep, I put on my green hood and transform into Robin Hoodie. With my band of Merry Mates, I steal from the greedy and give back to the poor. Like I said, I wasn't always a thief. This is the tale of how I became one.

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CHAPTER TWO



Hopping Heights

My life as an outlaw began on a Monday afternoon, about four weeks ago. I took the subway back from school with my five best friends, Bella, Kate, Ary, Kajal, and Maya. We all grew up in Hopping Heights. That day, we headed to my family's bakery, as we normally do. Mom always gives

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us Chinese pastries to eat while we do our homework.

We passed the corner bodega and waved to Mr. Garcia. He's Maya's dad. He waved back and added more apples to the bin. Ary and Kajal's mom, Mrs. Patel, arranged red roses outside her flower shop across the street. She smiled at us. Bella's grandpa, Mr. Johnson, sat reading on the stoop next door. "Hi, girls!" he called out.

As you can see, people from all backgrounds and cultures live here. It's what makes this place special.

Zhang's Bakery sits near the end of the block. My parents opened it when they first immigrated here. They came to New Hope City with practically nothing and built everything from scratch.

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We strolled in, and the heavenly aroma of baked goods instantly filled our noses.

"How was your day, girls?" Mom greeted us. We plopped down at our favorite table by the bay window. A tray of warm taro buns magically appeared before us. They were fresh from the oven.

"Good!" we replied hungrily, each grabbing a golden bun. "Thank you!"

As I chewed, my gaze wandered outside. Mrs. Patel was talking with two guys I hadn't seen before. She seemed nervous, and I saw her hand them a small pouch. *What was in it?* I wondered.

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I was about to find out. The larger guy stuffed the pouch into his pocket.



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Book Club Questions

1. Which character do you relate to the most in the book, and why?
2. This book is told from Zoe's point of view. If you could hear the story from a different character's point of view, whom would you choose, and why?
3. Would you like to live in Hopping Heights? Why or why not?
4. Do you think Zoe and her friends were right to steal from Hornsby? Why or why not?
5. If you could change anything about the ending, what would it be?
6. What is the most important lesson you will take away from this book?

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