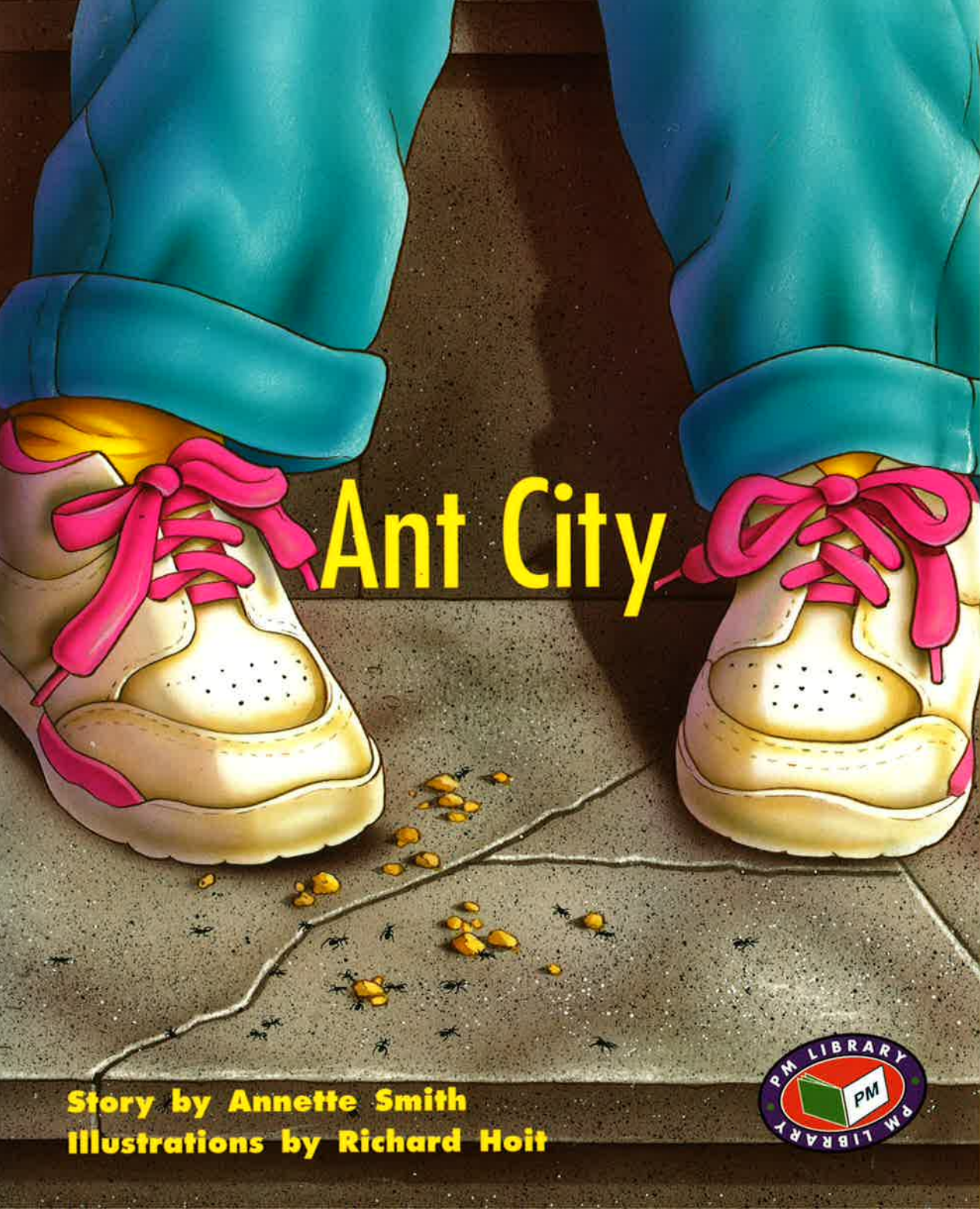

Ant City
Story by Annette Smith
Illustrations by Richard Hoit
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Georgia waited.

She sat on the steps and waited.

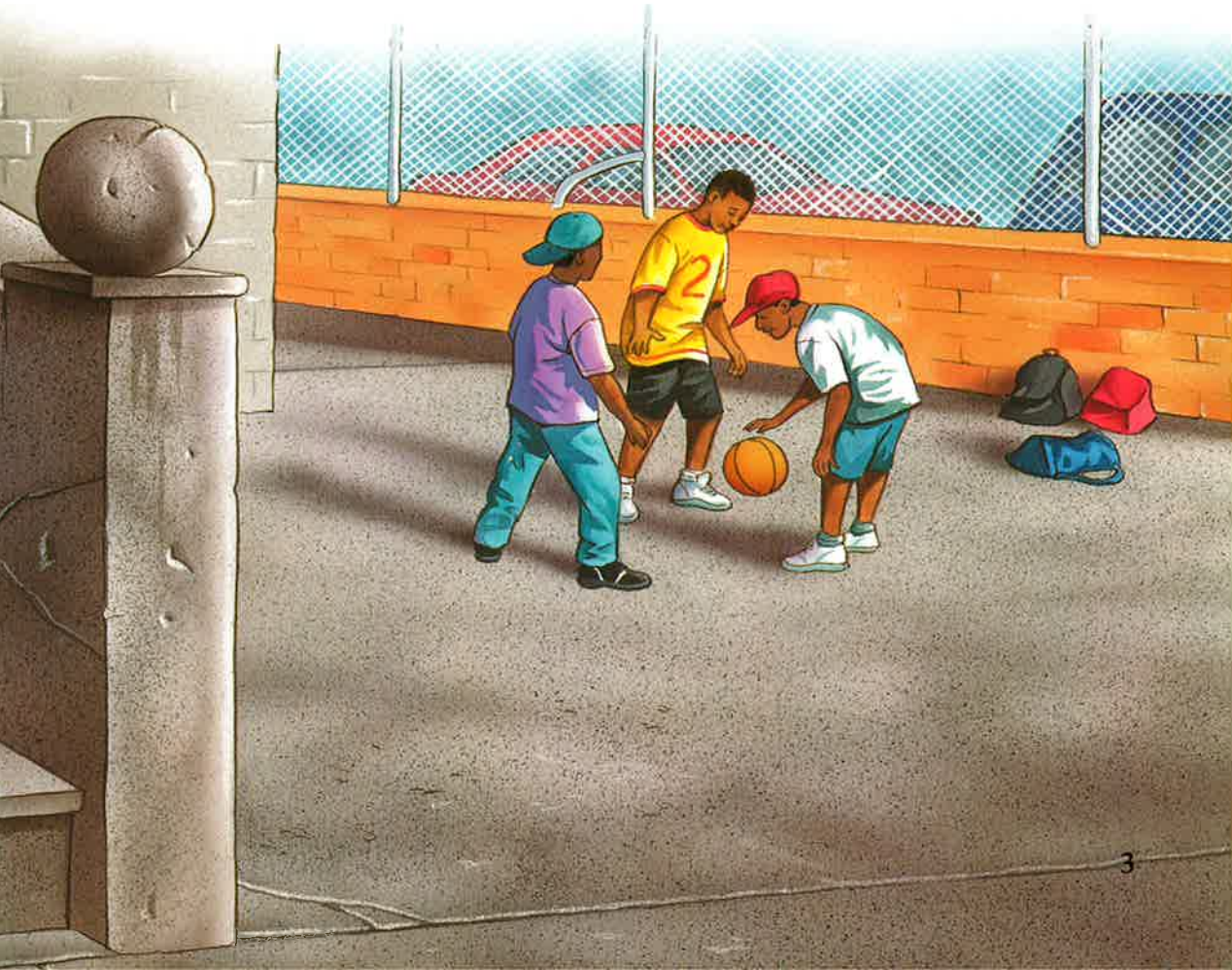
School was out for the day,
and her mom would be home soon.



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Georgia's big brother Danny
was supposed to be
looking after her.
But he was playing basketball
with his friends
in the yard around the corner.



Georgia waited.

She looked up at the big clock.
It was going very slowly.
She watched the buses and the cars
rushing along the street.

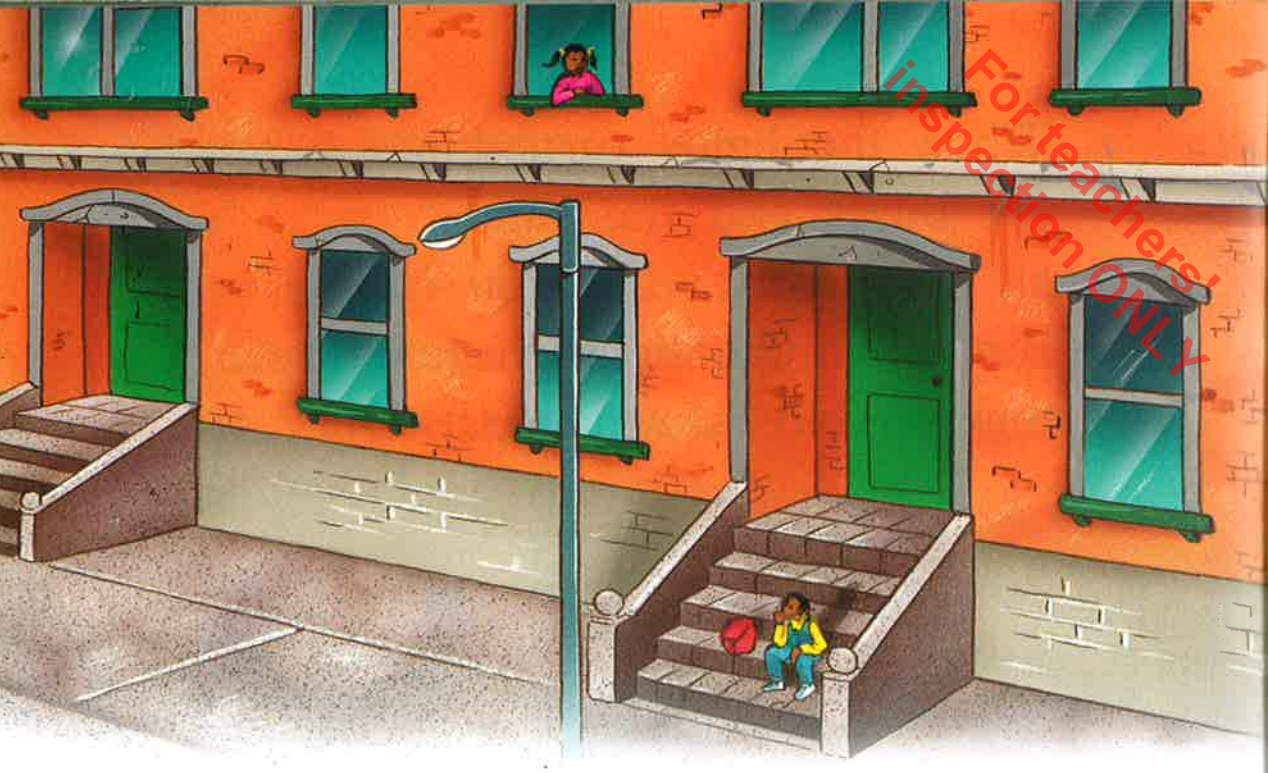


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When the lights turned red,
the buses and the cars
all stopped.
But when the lights turned green,
they roared away again.

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"Hey, Georgia," called Becky
from her window upstairs.
"Isn't your mom home yet?"

Georgia shook her head
and pretended that she didn't care.
But her mom was late today,
and she did care.