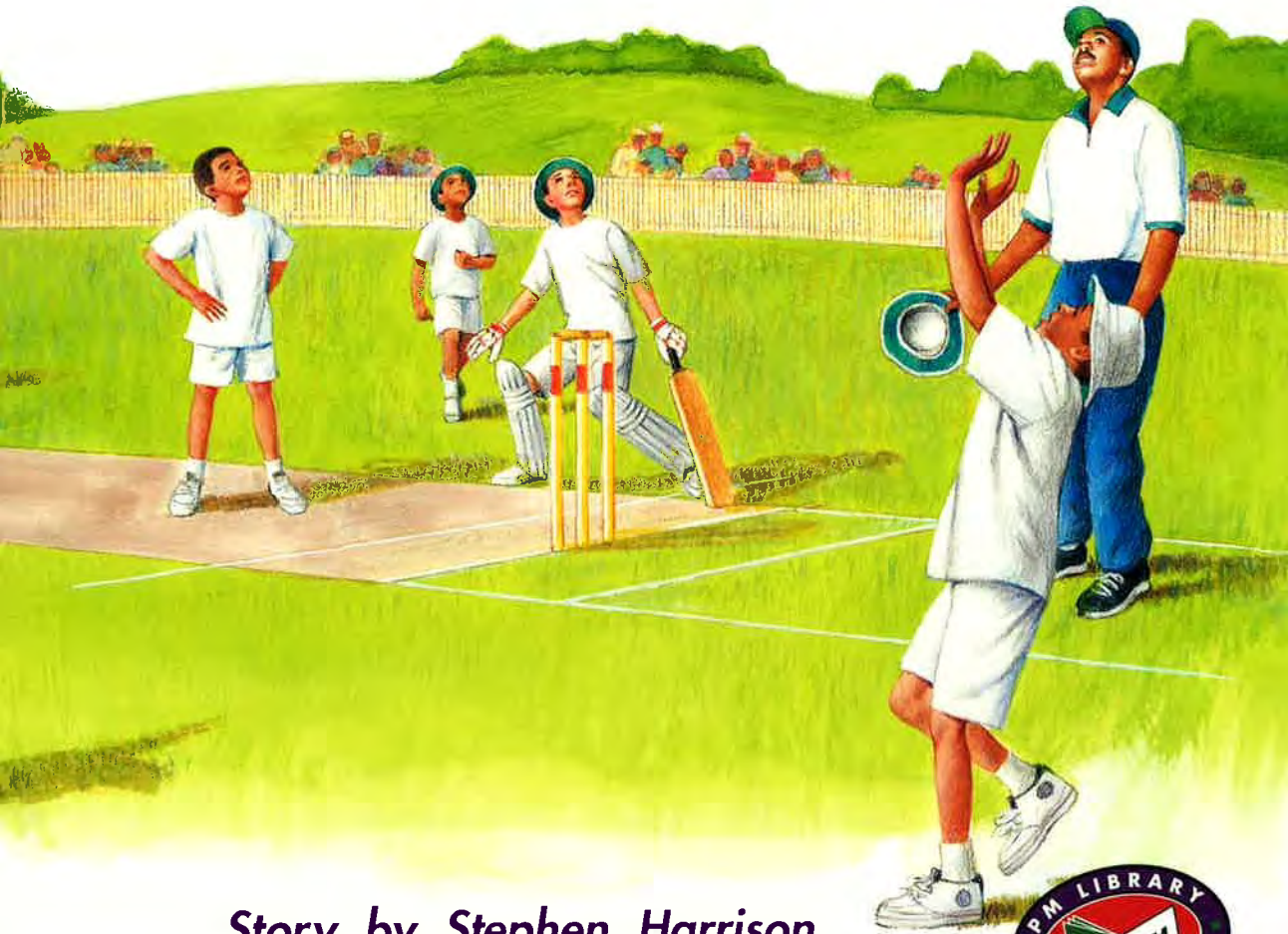
Jordan's Catch



Story by Stephen Harrison
Illustrations by Al Fiorentino

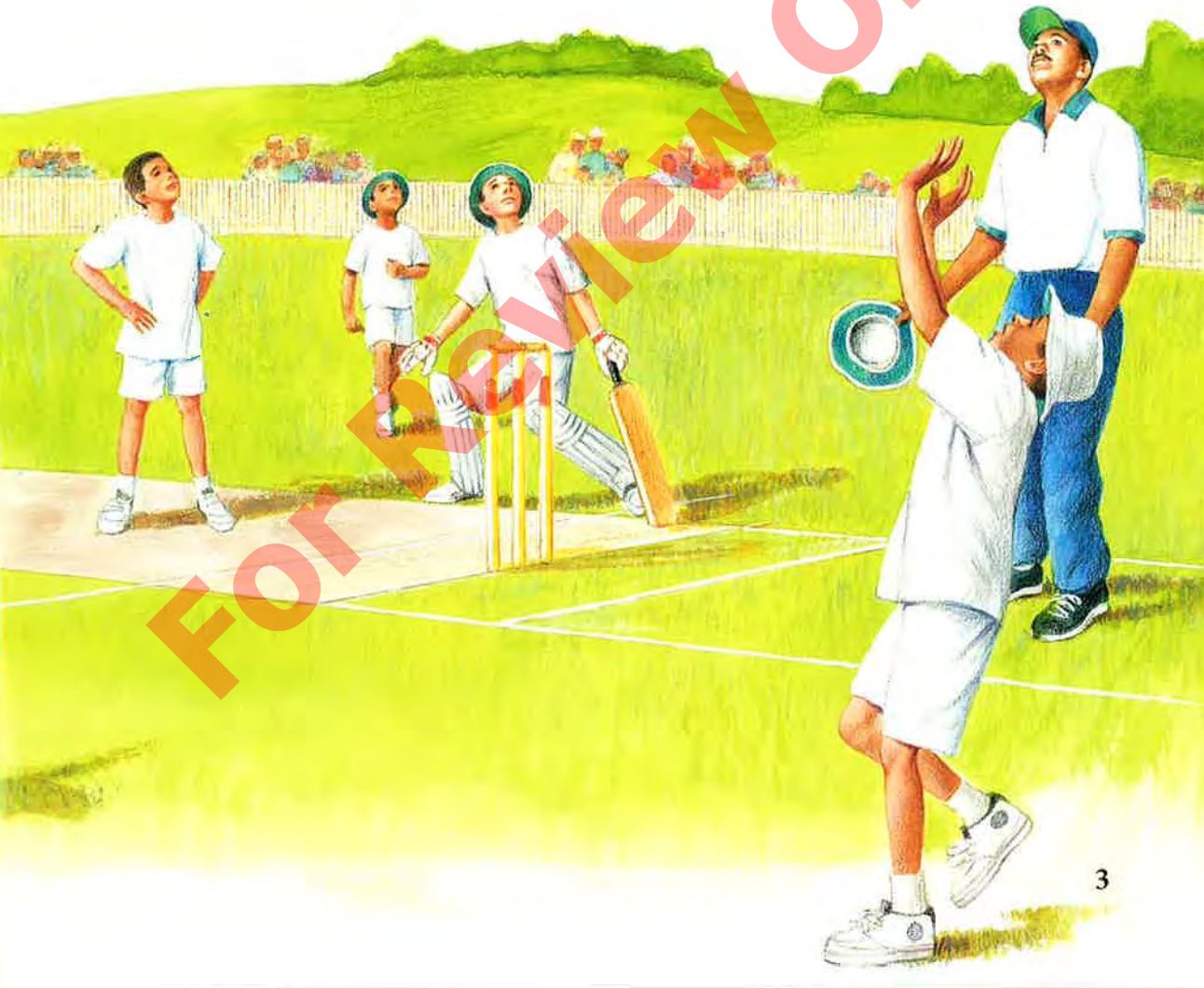
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All the children stood and watched
as the ball flew off the bat
and went high in the air.
"It's coming to you, Jordan," called Kris.
"It's your catch!"



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Jordan looked up
and ran towards the ball.
He watched the ball coming down.
He held up his hands to catch it
as it dropped out of the sky.



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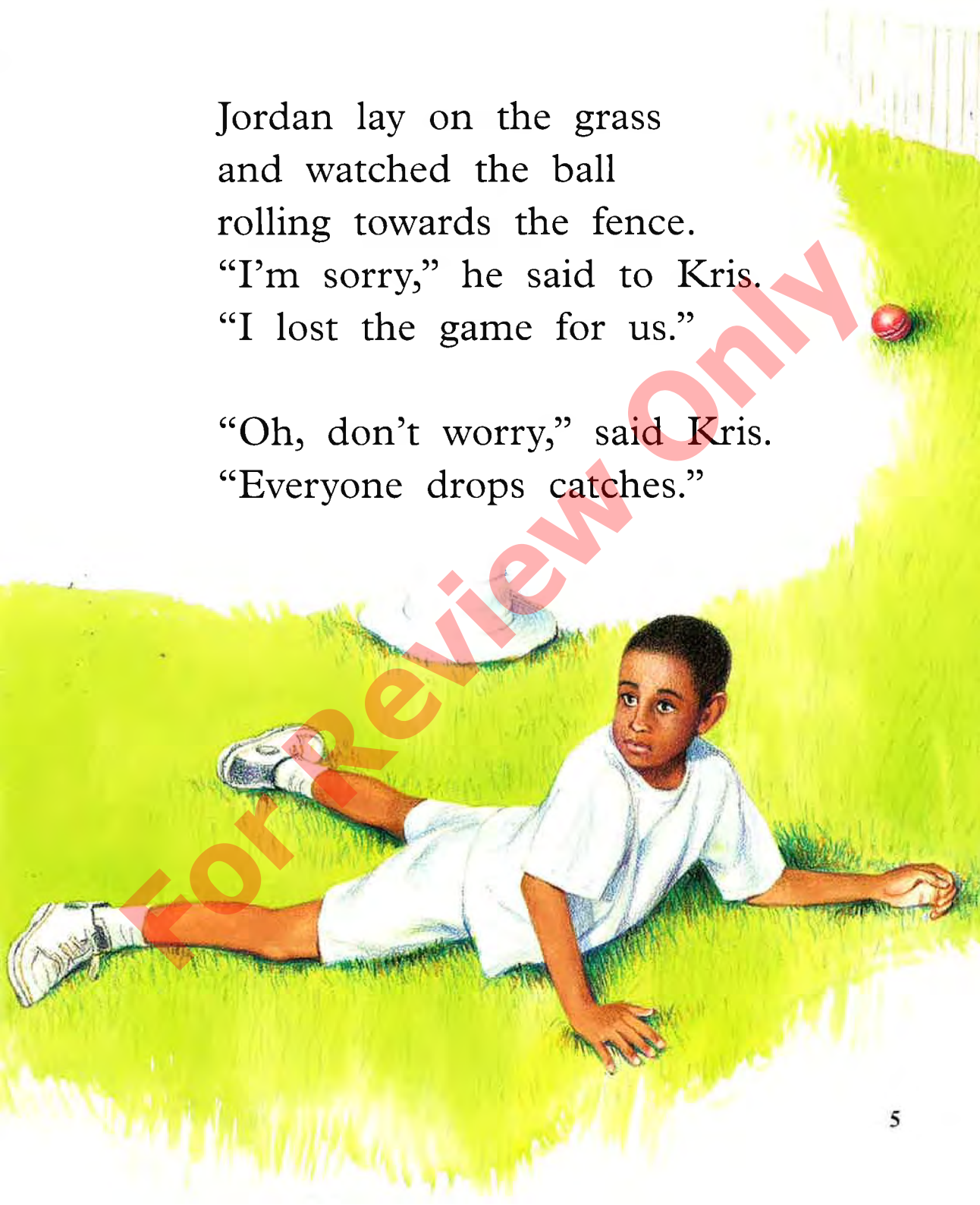
The ball hit Jordan's hands and bounced up. He grabbed at it, but it slipped through his fingers. He lost his balance and fell over.



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Jordan lay on the grass
and watched the ball
rolling towards the fence.
"I'm sorry," he said to Kris.
"I lost the game for us."

"Oh, don't worry," said Kris.
"Everyone drops catches."



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"Cheer up, Jordan," said Dad
as they went home.
"I've got a surprise for you.
Look—I've been given two tickets
for the big match tomorrow."

"Hey, that's great, Dad," said Jordan.
"Our home team is playing
for the cup!"

"I'll watch it later on television,"
said Mum.
"You go with Dad, Jordan,
and forget about dropping that catch.
I'm sure you'll take the next one
that comes to you."

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