

Name: _____

The Case of Missing Manny

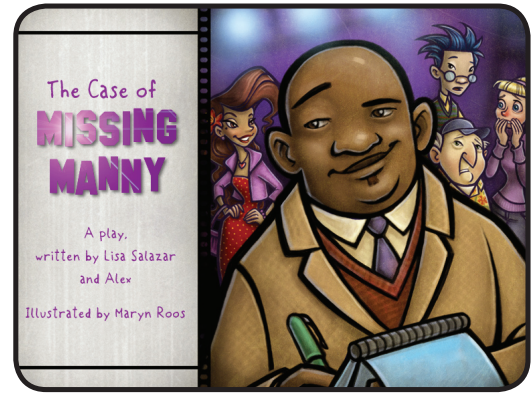
Lesson 74

Paired with *Curtains Up*

Written by Lisa Salazar and Alex

Illustrated by Maryn Roos

Lexile®: n/a, 712 words



Cast of Characters

Detective Ace, a smart detective

Carmen Starr, a beautiful actress

Bob, a stylish costumer

Bonnie, a sneezing supporting actress

Barney, a grumpy cameraman

Scene 1: Detective Ace's office. He is working on the Case of the Bottle Bandit, someone who steals bottles of expensive perfume. The phone rings.

ACE: Hello?

VOICE: Ace! Ace! Come quick! He's gone!

ACE: Who's gone? Come where?

VOICE: To the movie set. Manny's missing!

Scene 2: The set of a pirate movie. Detective Ace enters.

CARMEN: I'm so glad you're here. It's just terrible. My own costar—missing! Maybe I'll be next.

ACE: So Manny is your costar. Can you describe him for me, Miss—?

CARMEN: Carmen. Carmen Starr. Well, he has nice green eyes, a loud voice, and stands about 2 feet tall.

Ace looks surprised.

CARMEN: Oh, I didn't tell you? He's a parrot.

CARMEN: He was taken last night. The good news is the movie camera was left on by mistake, so we caught his kidnapper on tape.

ACE: So who did it?

Name: _____

CARMEN: That's the bad news. The camera ran out when Manny was naming his kidnapper!

Carmen plays the film, and we see Manny say, "I should have known it would be you, Bah--!"

ACE: Bah, huh? Get me a list of everybody on the set whose name begins with the sound "bah." We'll find that bird bandit!

Scene 3: Costume shop. There are costume pieces everywhere. Ace interviews Bob.

ACE: So, Bob, you made all the costumes for this movie, right?

BOB: Yeah. Another pirate movie. Big deal.

Ace raises his eyebrows.

BOB: Don't get me wrong. I love Manny. But I hate pirate movies! I'd do anything to make some cool alien costumes!

Scene 4: Bonnie's dressing room. Bonnie, the supporting actress, is allergic to everything.

BONNIE: I didn't do it! Manny and I were almost costars! Until I found out I was...
ACHOO!

ACE: Allergic to feathers? Seems like a good reason to get rid of a parrot.

BONNIE: But it couldn't have been me. I was on vacation all week. I just got back today!

Scene 5: Backstage. Ace interviews Barney, the short, stubby cameraman.

ACE: So, Barney. Have you always wanted to be a cameraman?

BARNEY: No way! I wanted to be the director, but they hired me as a cameraman instead. They were headed for trouble.

ACE: So for revenge you got rid of the main character?

BARNEY: Hey! That ain't fair. It wasn't me. Besides, why would I have left the camera on if I was planning to steal the bird? It just don't make sense.

Just then, Carmen walks by. Both men nearly fall over.

BARNEY: calling out behind her, Nice perfume, Miss Starr.

Ace laughs, and then stops. He thinks for a minute and then...

Name: _____

ACE: That's it! I know who did it! Barney, gather everybody together and meet me back here in five minutes!

Scene 6: Backstage, five minutes later. Bob, Bonnie, and Barney are nervous. Carmen is excited.

CARMEN: So, Ace! Did you figure out which one of these crooks took Manny?

ACE: Yes. It wasn't Bob. Or Bonnie. Or Barney. No, someone else had an even better reason to keep Manny quiet.

The three suspects are relieved. Carmen is confused.

CARMEN: Well, then who took Manny?

ACE: You did, Miss Starr. Or should we call you ... the Bottle Bandit?

Bob, Bonnie, and Barney gasp.

BONNIE: She's the Bottle Bandit? The one who keeps stealing expensive per-per-per-CHOO! Perfumes?

Carmen tries to escape, but they catch her first.

CARMEN: Let go! You can't do this to me!

ACE: I found this article about the Bottle Bandit under Manny's cage. He discovered her identity, so Carmen had to get rid of him before he told the police.

CARMEN: You have no proof!

ACE: No?

Ace empties out Carmen's purse, and perfume bottles and parrot feathers fall out.

ACE: Manny wasn't saying Bob, Bonnie, or Barney. He was calling you the "Bottle Bandit."

BARNEY: So, Bottle Bandit, where's the bird?

CARMEN: *defeated*, At the city zoo. I told them he went crazy, so they'd ignore everything he said. They were happy to get a talking parrot. I was happy to put him behind bars.

ACE: And now, you'll be the only one behind bars. Now that we know where to find Manny, the Case of the Missing Manny—and the Bottle Bandit—is closed.

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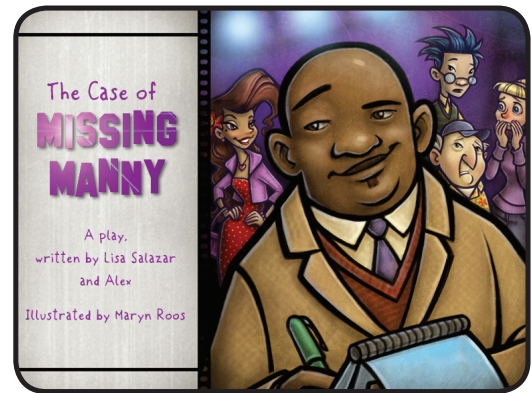
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ACCURACY: # of reading errors: _____ (Indep. = 0–14, Instr. = 15–36, Frust. = 37+)
SPEED: To calculate: $42720 \div$ _____ (Reading time in seconds) = _____ WPM

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The Case of Missing Manny

Lesson 74 (non-standard prose: play)

Paired with *Curtains Up*

Discover Story Vocabulary	perfume, scene, mystery
Glossary Words	bandit, perfume, scene, suspects, expensive

Question Type	Question
Inferential	<p>Why does Ace suspect Bob, Barney, and Bonnie of taking Manny?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. They each needed the money they could get from selling Manny.b. They each had a reason to want Manny gone.c. They each had read the article about the Bottle Bandit.
Intertextual	<p>When you read the play <i>The Case of Missing Manny</i>, what shows you that a character is speaking?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. capital lettersb. bolded lettersc. lowercase letters
Inferential	<p>What clues did Ace find in Carmen's purse?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. a newspaper article about the Bottle Banditb. feathers and perfume bottlesc. bird seed and a zoo ticket

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Story Map: The Case of Missing Manny

* **Directions:** Fill in the empty boxes, and then write a summary of the story.

Characters:	Setting:
Problem: Detective Ace needs to find out who might have taken Manny, a parrot in a movie.	
Plot:	
Solution:	

My summary of the story

