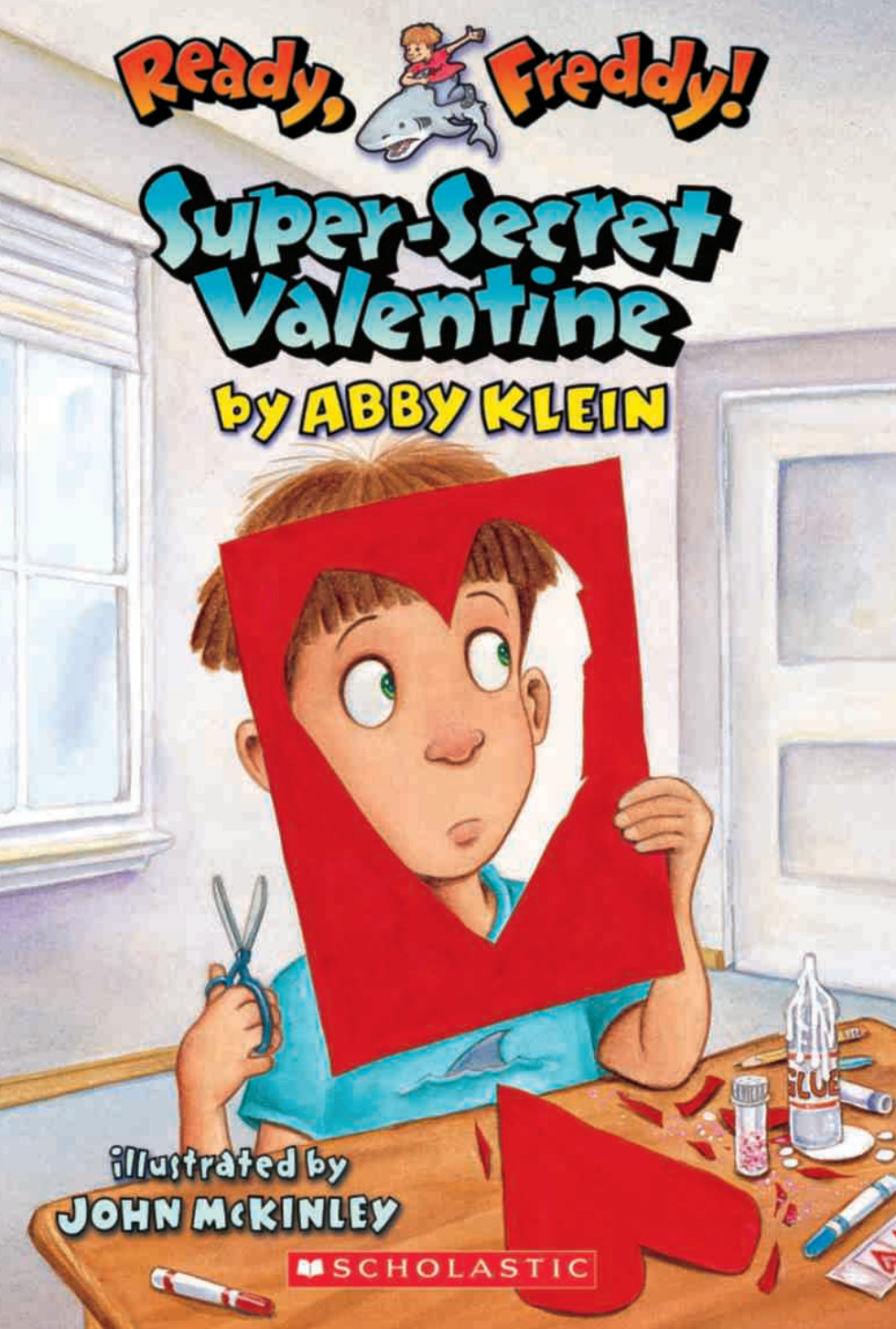
Ready, Freddy!

Super-Secret Valentine

by ABBY KLEIN



illustrated by JOHN McKINLEY

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To my Super-Secret Valentine—J. K.
Love you forever . . . Smoochie,
A. K.

THE BLUE SKY PRESS

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I have a problem.

A really, really, big problem.

I want to give Jessie a special

valentine for Valentine's Day,

but I don't want anyone

else to know.

Let me tell you about it.

CHAPTER 1

The Chase

"AHHHHH! HELP! HELP!" Chloe screamed as she raced around the playground, waving her arms wildly in the air. "He's gonna get me! He's gonna get me!"

As I peeked around the side of the building where I was hiding, I saw Max, the biggest bully in the whole first grade, chasing her. I turned to my best friend, Robbie. "At least he's not chasing us right now," I whispered. "This is a good hiding place."

"Yeah," said Robbie. "He'll never find us back here. We're safe."

Just as he said that, Chloe ran right past us, and Max discovered our secret hiding place. "There you two wimps are," he said, grinning. "I've been looking all over for you."

I gulped. Great. Just great.

"I'd start running if I were you," said Max.

Robbie and I took off like lightning. We ran through the basketball courts, across the grass, and under the slide, with Max right at our heels. "You guys are never going to get away this time!" Max yelled.

It felt as if we had been running forever. My heart was beating so fast, I thought it would explode. Didn't this guy ever get tired? Every recess he chased us all over the playground.

"Hurry up, Freddy," Robbie called. "He's catching up. Don't slow down now."

I could feel Max's hot breath on my neck.