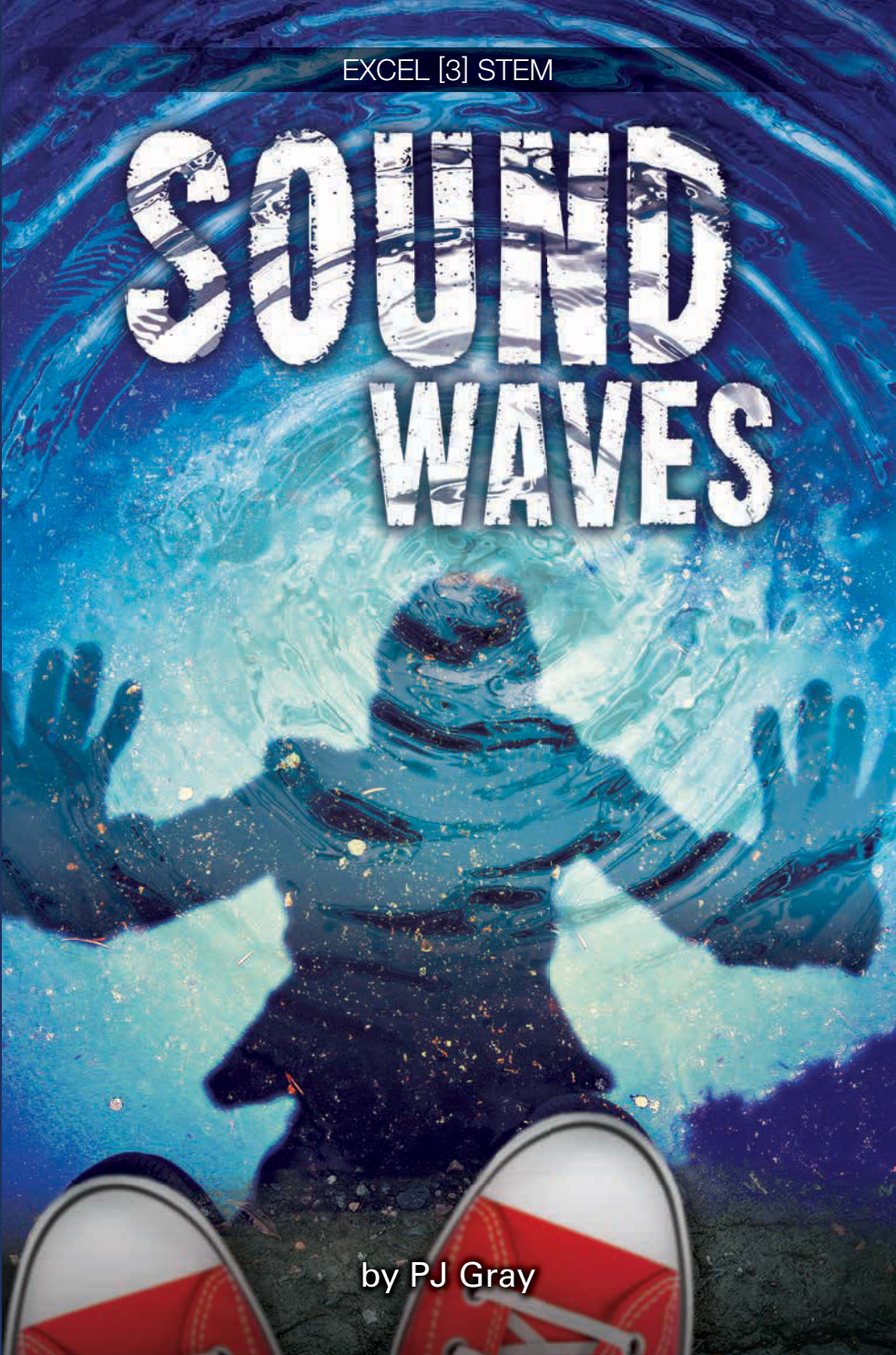



EXCEL [3] STEM

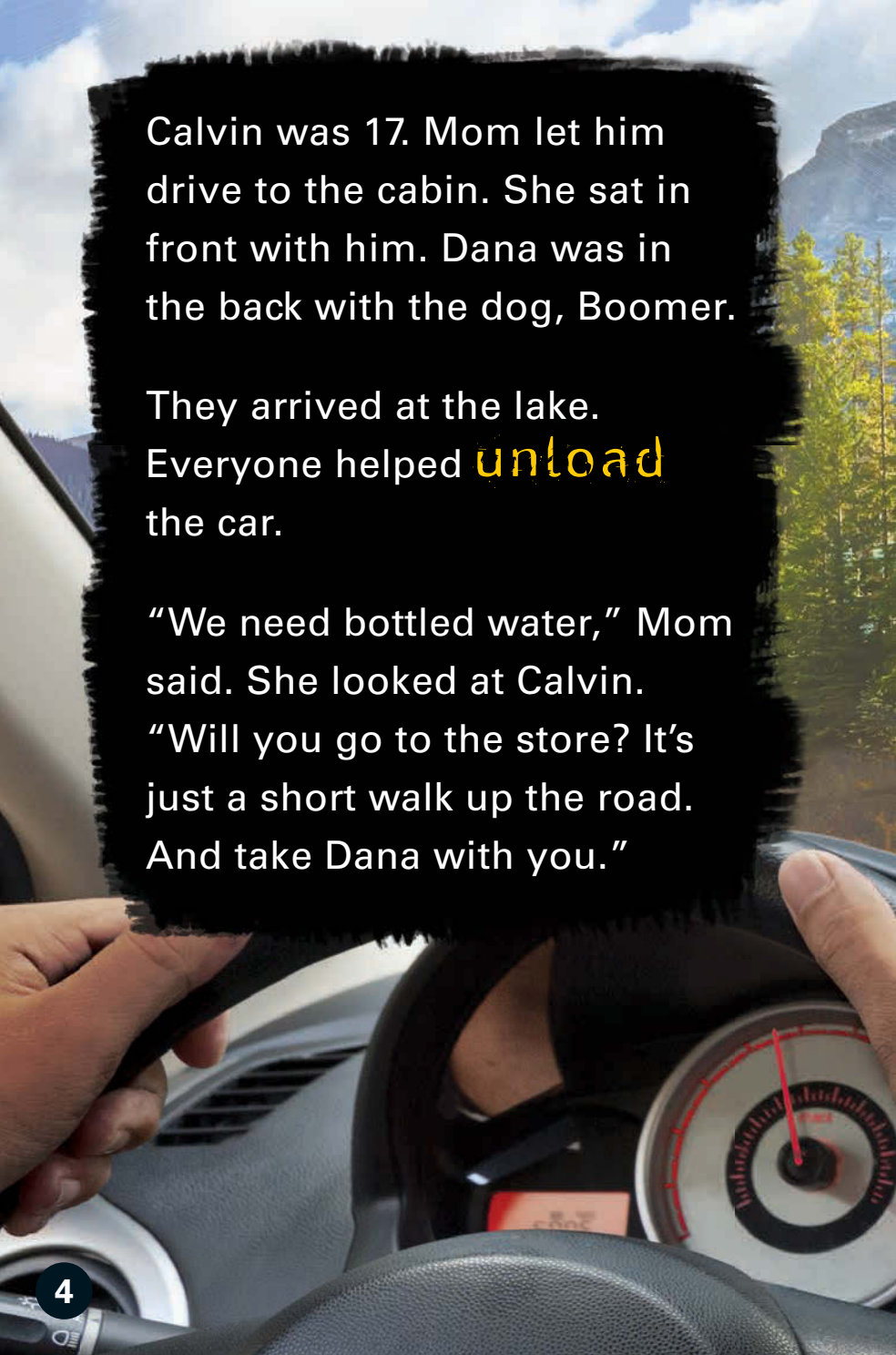
SOUND WAVES



by PJ Gray

A scenic view of a winding road through a forested mountain range. The road is paved and has a yellow dashed line down the center. The forest is dense with evergreen trees, and the mountains in the background are covered in green and brown foliage. A white car is visible in the foreground, showing its rear end, taillight, and side mirror. The sky is blue with some clouds. The overall scene is bright and sunny, suggesting a clear day.

The Cook family headed to the mountains. Their cabin was on a lake. Dana could not wait to get there. Her big brother **promised** they could hang out.




Calvin was 17. Mom let him drive to the cabin. She sat in front with him. Dana was in the back with the dog, Boomer.

They arrived at the lake. Everyone helped **unload** the car.

"We need bottled water," Mom said. She looked at Calvin. "Will you go to the store? It's just a short walk up the road. And take Dana with you."






“Really?” Calvin said. “Do I have to?”

Mom gave him a **look**. Calvin rolled his eyes but obeyed.

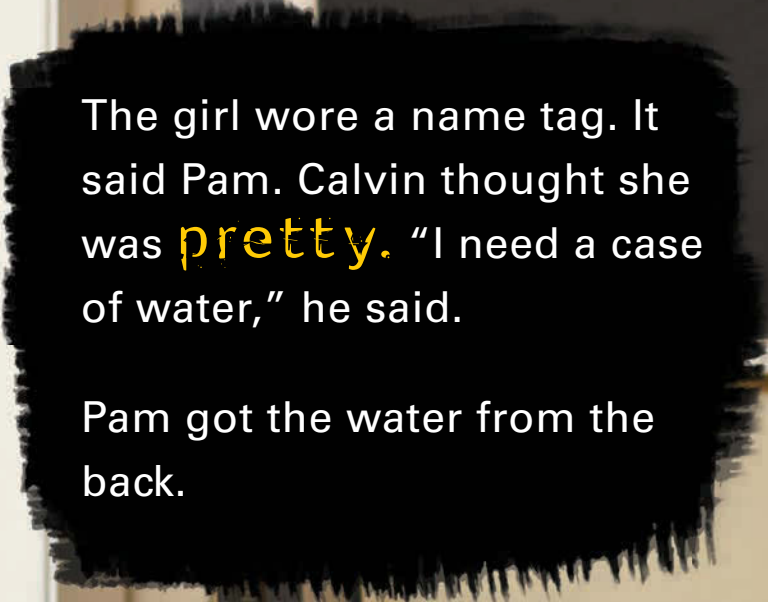


A person wearing a yellow and black patterned sweater is standing in a grocery store. The sweater has a complex geometric pattern of triangles and diamonds. In the background, there are shelves with various fruits like apples and oranges, and a red sign. A black rectangular box with a frayed edge is overlaid on the image, containing text.

Calvin and Dana walked to
the store. A bell tinkled
when they went inside.
Someone came out from
the back.

“Can I help you?”





The girl wore a name tag. It said Pam. Calvin thought she was **pretty**. "I need a case of water," he said.

Pam got the water from the back.

