

Chapter 1 FEAR STRIKES

Ben lives in a small town.

It is in California.

His mom goes to the store.

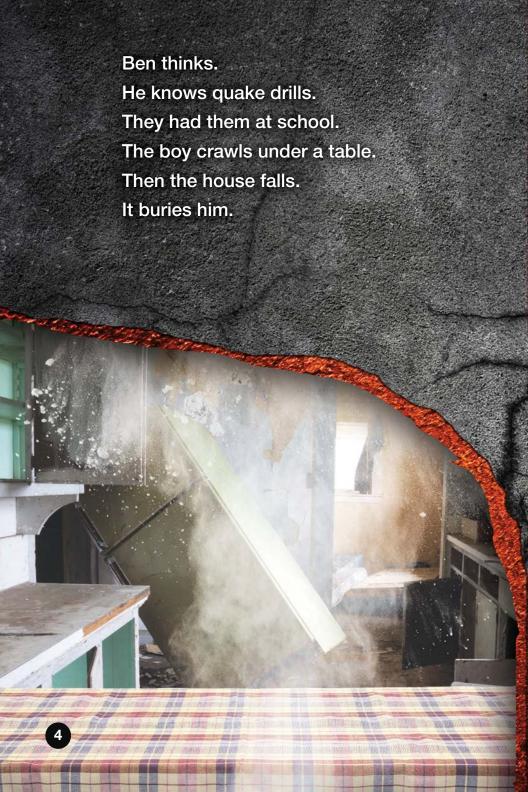
He stays at home alone.

Soon Ben feels a rumble.
The house shakes.
It moves a little at first.
Then it rocks.

Dishes break.

Pieces of the ceiling fall.

It is an earthquake.





Soon the shaking stops.
Ben is alive.
But he is trapped.
He calls out.

People hear him and rush to help.
They start to dig.
Some move bricks.
Others shift wood.
Helpers work through the night.



