



Cam Jansen

The Mystery of the Stolen Diamonds

David A. Adler



Chapter One

It was the first morning of spring vacation. Cam Jansen and her friend Eric Shelton were sitting on a bench in the middle of a busy shopping mall. While Eric's mother was shopping, they were watching Eric's baby brother, Howie. And they were playing a memory game.

Eric's eyes were closed.

"What color jacket am I wearing?" Cam asked.

"Blue."

"Wrong. I'm not wearing a jacket."

Eric opened his eyes. "It's no use," he said. "I'll never have a memory like yours."

"You have to keep practicing," Cam told him. "Now try me."

Cam looked straight ahead. She said, "*Click*," and then closed her eyes. Cam always said, "*Click*," when she wanted to remember something. She said it was the sound her mental camera made when it took a picture.

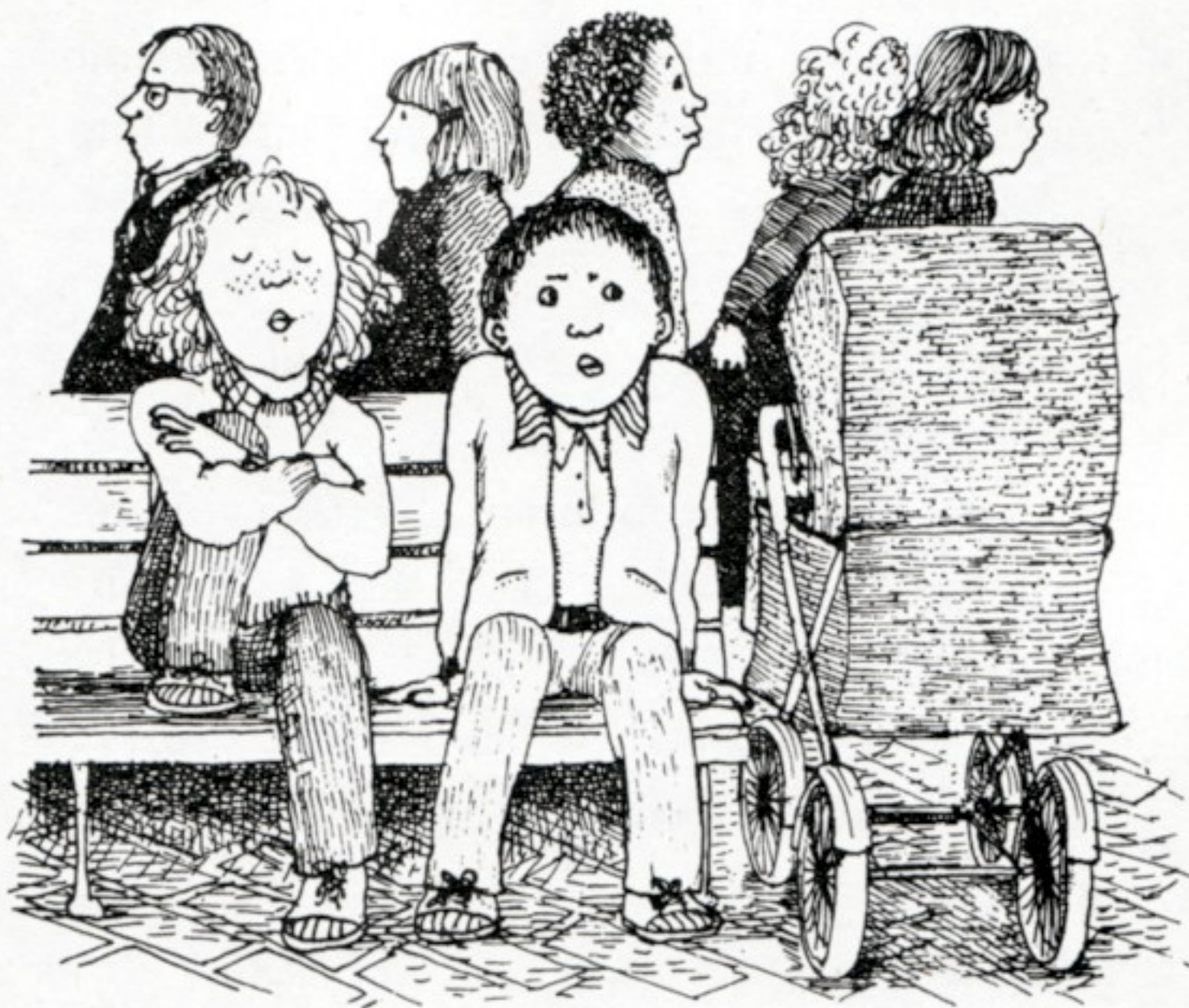
Eric looked for something he could be sure Cam hadn't noticed. Then he asked, "What does the sign in the card store window say?"

"That's easy. 'Mother's Day Sunday May 11. Remember your mother and she'll remember you.' "

"You win," Eric said.

Cam still had her eyes closed. "Come on, ask me something else."

Cam had what people called a photographic memory. Her mind took a picture



of whatever she saw. Once, she forgot her notebook in school. She did her homework—ten math problems—all from the picture of the assignment she had stored in her brain.

When Cam was younger, people called her Jennifer. That's her real name. But



click!

click!

Can **Cam** use her
photographic memory
to crack the **case**?

Stop, thief!

Cam and Eric are sitting in the mall when an alarm goes off. Cam jumps onto a bench to get a better view and sees a man race out of the jewelry store. Cam knows that she has to act fast, especially after the police arrest the wrong person. It's up to Cam and Eric to catch the real thief.

"A touch of humor, a breezy writing style, and some very enjoyable pen-and-ink drawings add up to a successful first in a series." —*Booklist*

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