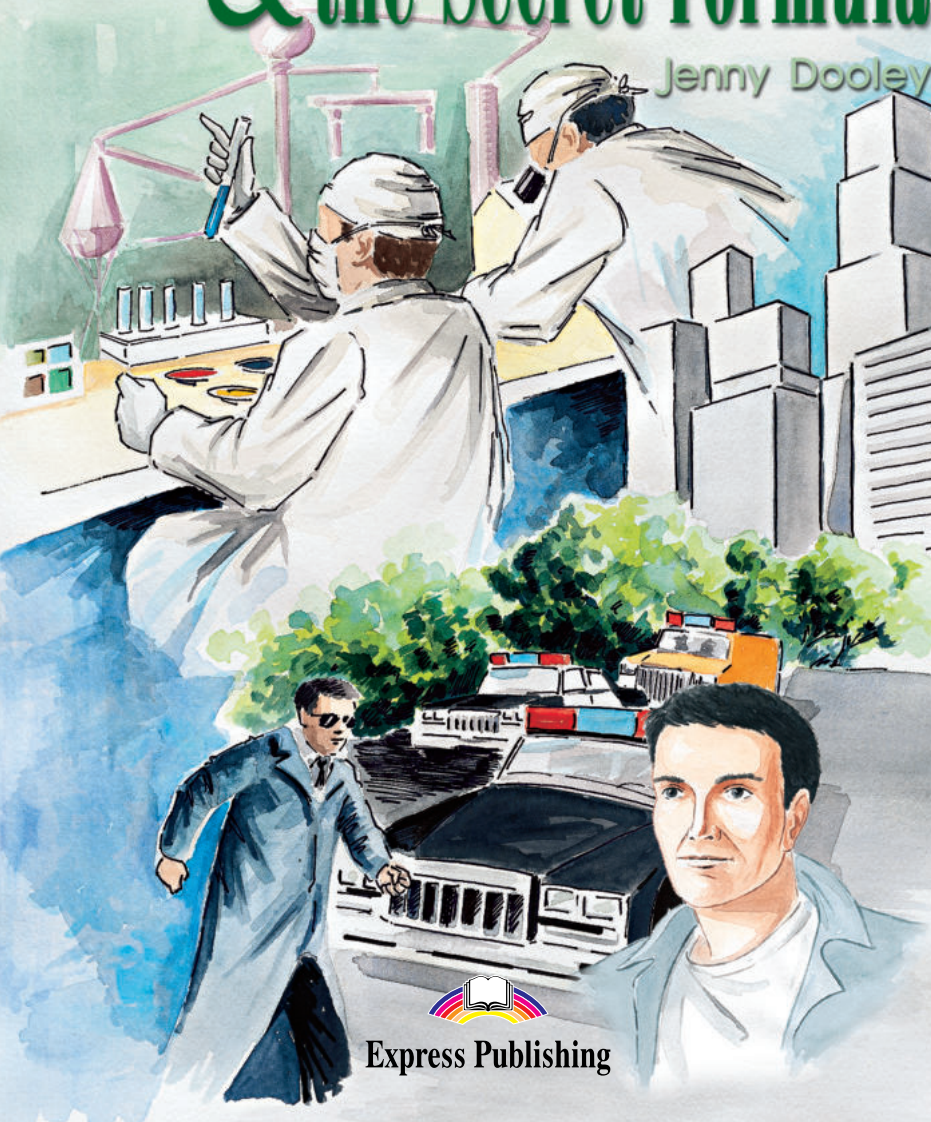


# Simon Decker & the Secret Formula

Jenny Dooley



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## The Formula

The cabin was dark inside as all the windows were covered in black cloth. No one could see in. There was a wood fire burning in a round stove in the middle of the room. They were all sitting around it.

“Beth, what is this formula everyone is looking for?”

“Everyone?”

“Well, I went into Gerald’s after the murder and I ...”

Beth covered her face with her hands. When she pulled her hands away there were tears on her face, but she tried to hold them back.

“I hoped it wouldn’t be true. I never knew, since I jumped through the window, whether he was dead or not. Go on, tell me what you know. Now, it’s even more important that I finish the work he started.”

Simon started from the beginning. He told them about the shots and the scream. He showed them the scarf and the bug.

“I saw the detective looking for the formula in Gerald’s house. He said he wanted you, then he said he wanted to watch my moves, so I thought something must be going on.”

“But why did you go to *Tivoli’s*? Why are you here? How do I know *you* don’t want the formula?”

“I don’t even know what the formula is. Gerald was a friend. When you see someone you know killed, and you think the police had something to do with it, you begin to worry. I’ll leave if you want me to, but I know about people who want to hurt others. I was a bomb expert in the army.”

Beth looked at her uncle.

“He could help with the video. You know I should stay here in case they come looking for you.”

“All right, if you think it’s a good idea. Now, here’s what’s happening. Gerald and I worked on something to help Gerald’s brother, Adam.”

“His brother?”

“Yes, Gerald has a brother in hospital. He’s very ill. He thinks everyone is trying to hurt him.”

“Why would someone be trying to hurt him?”

“Nobody is trying to hurt him. Let me tell you what’s going on. We have found a formula which can make people who are ill think that everything is all right and that nobody can hurt them. Since this happened, the government became interested. They began sending people to ask about our work.”

“But why?”

“The night before Gerald was shot, he found some papers in the office of our boss, Dr Leenam. The government wanted to use the formula as a weapon against their enemies. They thought they could do anything they wished to a person who thought everything was okay.”

“Why did they kill Gerald?”

“I don’t think they wanted to. Gerald called me and told me to come to his house and to bring a bag of clothes because we had to leave the country. When I got to his house, a short man in a dark suit arrived. When he said he wanted the formula, Gerald fought with him. The man had a gun. It went off, and I saw Gerald fall to the ground. Then he aimed the gun at me. I screamed. I was near an open window so I jumped through it. He fired at me but he missed. You know the rest.”





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*Simon heard a woman scream, then a gunshot. There was another shot and the sound of glass breaking. Simon fell to the floor and crawled towards the kitchen. Rocky was in there barking and jumping at the kitchen door. Simon held Rocky in his arms to keep him quiet, then he listened. A car door opened and closed, then drove quickly away.*

## COMPONENTS:

- ◆ Reader
- ◆ Activity Book
- ◆ Teacher's Book
- ◆ Audio CD



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# Activity Book

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# Lesson 8

## Chapter 8

### Lou has Visitors

#### I. Listening



*Listen to the recording and tick (✓) the correct box.*

- 1 The four men are wearing dark suits and

A	hats.	<input type="checkbox"/>
B	sunglasses.	<input type="checkbox"/>
C	shoes	<input type="checkbox"/>

- 2 Lou says that Beth is on holiday in the

A	Carribean.	<input type="checkbox"/>
B	Hawaii.	<input type="checkbox"/>
C	Bahamas.	<input type="checkbox"/>

- 3 Rocky bites Frieze on his

A	foot.	<input type="checkbox"/>
B	hand.	<input type="checkbox"/>
C	leg.	<input type="checkbox"/>

- 4 Frieze doesn't find anything important in the

A	sack.	<input type="checkbox"/>
B	car.	<input type="checkbox"/>
C	bag.	<input type="checkbox"/>

- 5 Connors makes Mrs Morgan get into the

A	cabin.	<input type="checkbox"/>
B	truck.	<input type="checkbox"/>
C	car.	<input type="checkbox"/>

**II. Comprehension questions**

- 1 How many cars drove up to the cabin?
- 2 What was Beth's mother's name?
- 3 What did Beth leave behind?
- 4 What did Detective Frieze want to do?
- 5 What was inside Beth's bag?
- 6 What did Detective Frieze tell his men to do?
- 7 Why didn't Frieze want Mrs Morgan to stay with Lou?
- 8 What did Frieze do to Lou?

**III. Topics for discussion**

- 1 What do you think Frieze will do next?
- 2 How do you treat visitors in your country?
- 3 If you could go anywhere in the world on holiday, where would you go?
- 4 Have you ever stood up for anyone? What happened?

**IV. Activities**

**A** *Using your own words, write a short paragraph guessing the end of the story. Then, report back to the class.*

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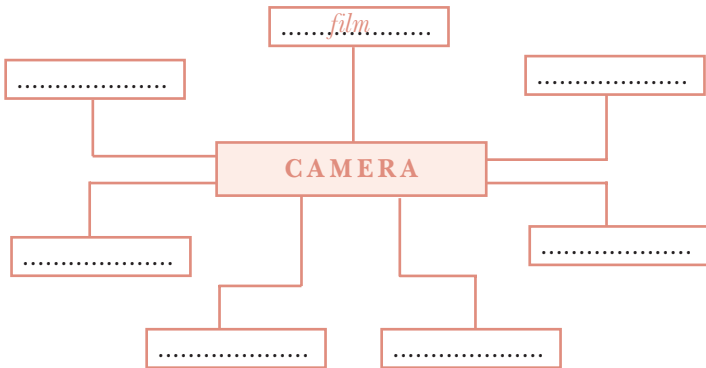
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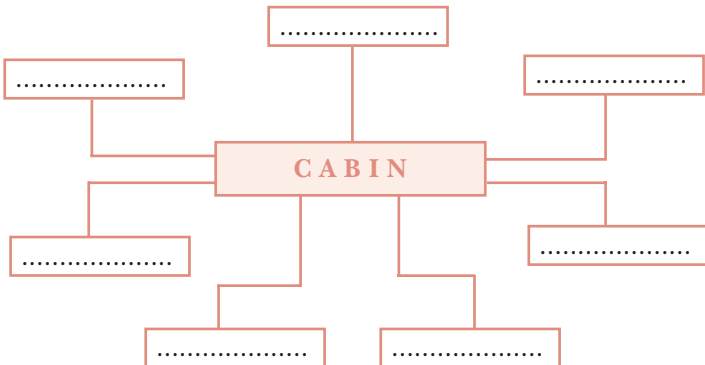
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**B SPIDERGRAM**

(i) Write as many words as you can think of on the theme “Camera”. There is one example:



(ii) Now do the same on the theme “Cabin”.





## Vocabulary Exercises

### I. Underline the correct word.

- 1 It was sunny, so she put on her **microphones/sunglasses**.
- 2 The children got very **excited/smart** about going to the party.
- 3 Wear warm **shadows/clothing** if you're going to the mountains.
- 4 If you go out **make sure/leave behind** you lock the door.
- 5 I don't want anyone to know my **city fellow/personal business**.

### II. Fill in the gaps with the correct prepositions from the box.

up      out      away

- 1 Can you clear ..... your books? We're going to have lunch now.
- 2 Hurry up! The bus is coming ..... the street.
- 3 I'll phone the station to find ..... what time the train leaves.
- 4 Please pick ..... your clothes from the floor, and put them in the wardrobe.
- 5 Open the door and let the dog go ..... for a while.

### III. Fill in the gaps with the correct word from the box.

work      call      let  
give      make      turn

- 1 to ..... sb inside
- 2 to ..... sure
- 3 to ..... security
- 4 to ..... a place upside-down
- 5 to ..... on a project
- 6 to ..... sb a ride



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