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## **The Slumber Party Secret**

Nancy squeezed her eyes shut and asked herself a question: Who stole the party invitations—and why?

Then Nancy opened her eyes. “You know what I think?” she said.

But her friends Bess and George weren’t paying any attention to her.

George was watching the video. Bess was staring at something behind Nancy. Before Nancy could turn around, Bess opened her mouth as wide as she could and screamed.

Nancy turned around. Framed in the window was a horrible, scary monster!

## **The Nancy Drew Notebooks**

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THE  
NANCY DREW  
NOTEBOOKS

#1

*The Slumber Party Secret*

CAROLYN KEENE

ILLUSTRATED BY ANTHONY ACCARDO



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# 1

## Party Problems

**B**ut how can party invitations just disappear?" Nancy Drew asked. She stopped right in the middle of the sidewalk and looked at her friend.

"Don't ask me," Rebecca Ramirez moaned. "All I know is my birthday party is ruined. Now no one will come!" She stuck out her lower lip and pouted.

Nancy took Rebecca's hand and started walking down the tree-lined street again to Carl Sandburg Elementary School. They were in third grade there.

Both eight-year-old girls lived just a few blocks from school. This was the first year that Nancy's and Rebecca's parents had let them walk to school. For

two weeks now, they had walked together every day.

They lived on different streets. But every morning Nancy stopped to pick Rebecca up. They were starting to be good friends.

"I'll come to your party," Nancy said. Then she put her hand over her mouth. "Oops! I mean, *if* I'm invited."

"Of course you are, silly," Rebecca said. "I'm only allowed to invite eight people, though, because it's a slumber party." She told Nancy whom she was inviting.

"Well, why don't you just *ask* everyone to come?" Nancy said. "Then when you find the invitations, you can give them out."

"No, no, no," Rebecca said. "You don't understand. The invitations aren't lost. They've been stolen!"

"Stolen?" Nancy said.

Rebecca nodded.

"Okay," Nancy said. "Tell me everything."

Rebecca sighed dramatically. "I don't know why I'm even going to school. I

should go back home and spend the rest of my life in bed!”

Nancy brushed her reddish blond bangs out of her eyes and smiled. Rebecca was acting upset. *Acting* was the right word, too. Nancy knew that Rebecca wanted to be an actress when she grew up. She always made a big drama out of everything.

She’s probably acting more upset than she really is, Nancy thought. Still, a party was important. Especially a slumber party! This would be Nancy’s first one.

“Here’s the worst part,” Rebecca went on. “I made the invitations myself. It took three hours! I put a party favor in each one. So the favors are gone, too!”

“Maybe that’s why someone took the invitations,” Nancy said. “For the party favors.”

“You could be right,” Rebecca said. “They were really pretty, too—hair clips made with lots of tiny rainbow ribbons.”

Nancy frowned. “I would love to have a rainbow ribbon hair clip,” she said. “Maybe I can help you get them back.”