



The Girl Who Loved Tom Gordon

Stephen King



MACMILLAN READERS

MACMILLAN READERS
INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

STEPHEN KING

The Girl Who Loved Tom Gordon

Retold by John Escott



MACMILLAN

Founding Editor: John Milne

The Macmillan Readers provide a choice of enjoyable reading materials for learners of English. The series is published at six levels – Starter, Beginner, Elementary, Pre-intermediate, Intermediate and Upper.

Level control

Information, structure and vocabulary are controlled to suit the students' ability at each level.

The number of words at each level:

Starter	about 300 basic words
Beginner	about 600 basic words
Elementary	about 1100 basic words
Pre-intermediate	about 1400 basic words
Intermediate	about 1600 basic words
Upper	about 2200 basic words

Vocabulary

Some difficult words and phrases in this book are important for understanding the story. Some of these words are explained in the story and some are shown in the pictures. From Pre-intermediate level upwards, words are marked with a number like this: ...³. These words are explained in the Glossary at the end of the book.

Contents

<i>A Note About the Author</i>	4
<i>A Note About This Story</i>	5
1 Trisha	9
2 Lost!	14
3 The Radio	18
4 The Red Sox and the Yankees	24
5 The Thing in the Woods	33
6 Fiddlehead Island	38
7 Something Bad in the Water	47
8 The Three Robes	53
9 "I Want to Go Home!"	61
10 The Late Innings	67
11 Something in the Night	76
12 Time to Close	82
<i>Points for Understanding</i>	89
<i>A Guide to Pronunciation</i>	91
<i>Glossary</i>	92

A Note About the Author

Stephen Edwin King is a famous American writer of stories of horror and suspense. He was born in 1947, in Portland, in the state of Maine. His ancestors came to the U.S.A. from Scotland and Ireland.

Stephen King attended several schools in Maine, and then completed his education at the University of Maine at Orono. Stephen began his career as a writer at the university, contributing a weekly article to the student newspaper. He also met his wife, Tabitha, at Orono, where she was a student. Stephen and Tabitha were married in 1971. They have three children.

When he finished college, Stephen King became a teacher, but he wrote stories in the evenings and on weekends. Many of these stories were published in well-known magazines.

Stephen King finished his first novel, *Carrie*, in 1973, and it was published the following year. The book became very popular, and Stephen was soon able to stop teaching and start writing full-time. His next two novels, *Salem's Lot* (1975) and *The Shining* (1978), also became very popular and, like *Carrie* and many of his later stories such as *Christine* (1983), *Misery* (1987) and *The Green Mile* (1996), they were made into successful films. Stephen King is now one of the world's best known writers.

The Girl Who Loved Tom Gordon was first published in 1999.

A Note About This Story

The main character in the story, Trisha McFarland, is a nine-year-old girl who loves watching the game of baseball. Baseball is one of the most popular sports in North America. Trisha is a fan of a famous baseball team, the Boston Red Sox, and her favorite player is Tom Gordon. Although the story is not a true one, the Boston Red Sox is a real team and Tom Gordon played for this team between 1996 and 1999.

The reader does not need to know all the rules of baseball to understand the story. But some special baseball words are used, so here is a short description of the game. Two teams compete in a game of baseball. They *bat* and *field* alternately. A game is divided into nine sections—*innings*. Each team both bats and fields during an inning. A player from the fielding team throws—*pitches*—the ball at a *batter* from the other team. The batter tries to hit the ball with his bat. The *pitcher* stands on a slightly raised area of the ground called the *mound*. The batter stands beside a flat piece of rubber called the *home plate*. The batter can score *runs* by hitting the ball and running between a number of places on the field called *bases*. If the batter does not hit a ball which passes over the home plate, this is called a *strike*. After three strikes, the batter is *out*, and is replaced by another batting player from his team. After three batters are out, half an inning is over and the batting team becomes the fielding team. The team which has scored the most runs by the end of the ninth inning wins the game. Each year, the best teams in the U.S.—the major leagues—compete in the World Series.

Published by Macmillan Heinemann ELT
Between Towns Road, Oxford OX4 3PP
Macmillan Heinemann ELT is an imprint of
Macmillan Publishers Limited
Companies and representatives throughout the world
Heinemann is a registered trademark of Harcourt Education, used under licence.

ISBN 1-405072-94-6
EAN 978-1-405072-94-6

The Girl Who Loved Tom Gordon © Stephen King 1999
First published in the United States by Scribner 1999

This retold version by John Escott for Macmillan Readers
First published 2002
Text © Macmillan Publishers Limited 2002, 2005
Design and illustration © Macmillan Publishers Limited 2002, 2005

This edition first published 2005

All rights reserved; no part of this publication may be reproduced,
stored in a retrieval system, transmitted in any form, or by any means,
electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without
the prior written permission of the publishers.

Illustrated by Annabel Large
Original cover template design by Jackie Hill
Cover photography by Corbis

Printed in Thailand

2009 2008 2007 2006 2005
10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1