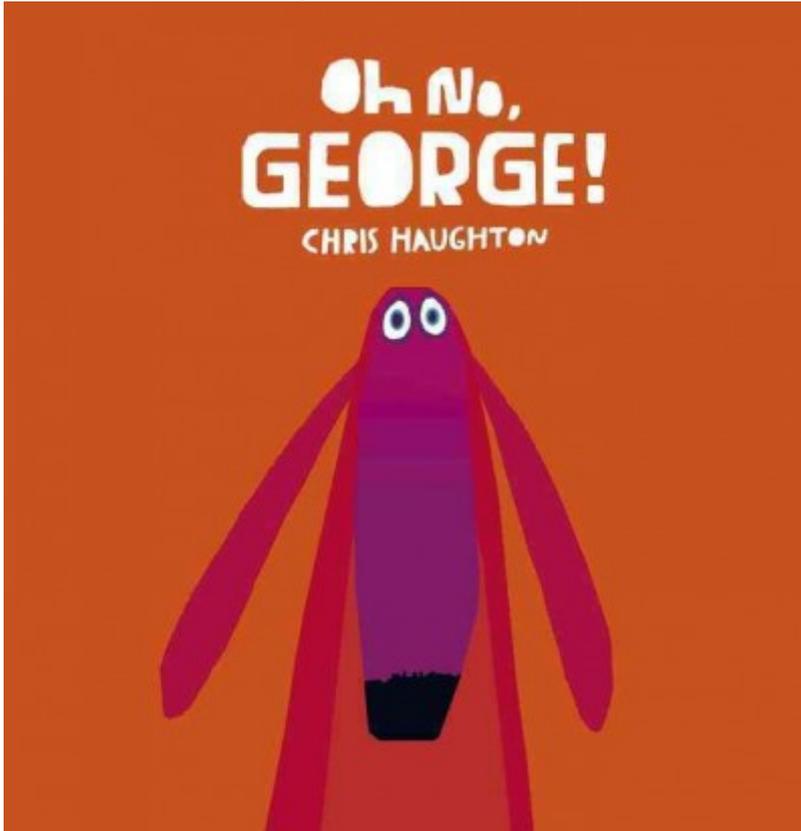


## Oh, the Thinks You Can Think

### [Oh No, George!](#)



[view in catalog](#)

**ISBN:**

0763655465

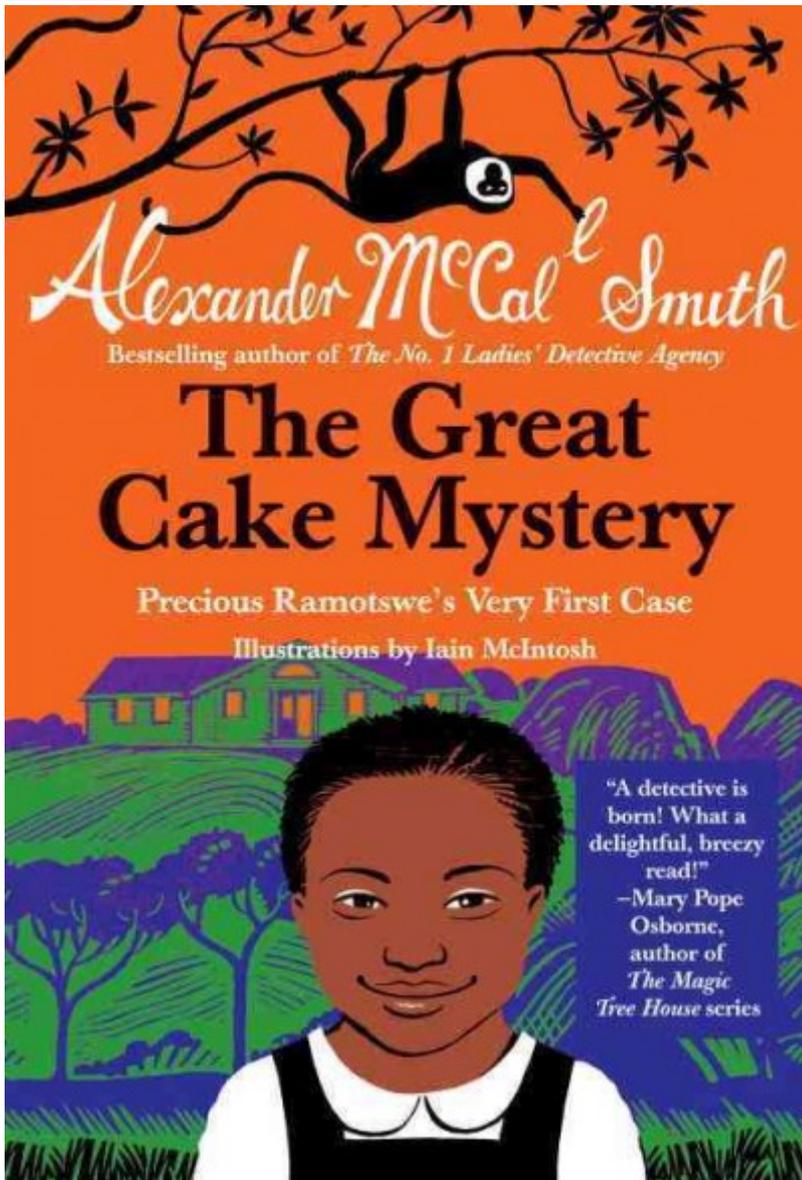
Some of us are cat people and some of us are dog people. I am a cat person. I am not a dog person. That's not to say I don't like dogs. I do. Really. Long ago, I even shared a home with a sweet beagle for a time. It's just that after that experience, I prefer to enjoy other people's dogs in their homes or parks or even at the library where we have some wonderful dogs come in and visit. But even though I am not a dog person, I still appreciate a good dog story, and recently have enjoyed some delightful stories about dogs. [Read more »](#)

[Oh, the Thinks You Can Think](#)[Dog](#)[Oh no, George!](#)[Pets](#)[Picture Book](#)

Posted by Lisa C. on May 24, 2012 [Lisa C.'s blog](#) [Add new comment](#)

- 
- 
- 

## The Great Cake Mystery: Precious Ramotswe's Very First Case



[view in catalog](#)

**ISBN:**

0307949451

Five words on the cover of a new children's book caught my attention, and I knew I had to read it. One was Mystery (I really like mysteries), one was Cake (I adore cake!), and the other three were [Alexander McCall Smith](#) - a favorite author of mine! McCall Smith explains in an afterword that he felt compelled to explore the childhood of Precious Ramotswe, the heroine of the [No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency](#) mystery series for adults. He found that many adult readers were sharing that series between generations, and thought it would be nice for children under age 10 to have books about Precious they could perhaps read themselves. In [The Great Cake Mystery](#) (and oddly enough, we have the same book under the U.K. title [-Precious and the Monkeys](#)), the young Precious realizes that an overweight classmate is being unfairly blamed for stealing pastries. She helps the others at her school identify the true culprits, while also imparting a gentle lesson about not judging people by their appearance. The text is interspersed with lovely illustrations in shades of red, black, and gray, by [Iain McIntosh](#). Extras include information about the characters and about the geography of [Botswana](#), a reader's guide with discussion questions, and even a recipe for [Precious's Sponge Cake Worth Stealing](#). Recommended for grades 1-3.

[Oh, the Thinks You Can Think Mystery The great cake mystery : Precious Ramotswe's very first case](#)

Posted by Ellen A. on May 12, 2012

[Ellen A.'s blog](#) [Add new comment](#)



## [What Are You Reading Today?](#)

**BLOOMINGTON  
READS!**  
What are YOU?  
reading today?

Help us call attention to the importance of literacy as we celebrate Bloomington Reads! week, May 6-12. The second annual event, sponsored by the Foundation of Monroe County Community Schools, features a week of reading and literacy-related activities in our community to spotlight the importance of literacy. (See the [mccsfoundation website](#) for a listing of upcoming events.) Just 20 minutes of reading a day can build a community of readers.

While many of us get in the habit of reading aloud to our pre-readers, children who have begun reading on their own still benefit from having an adult read aloud to them. Reading aloud a story to an independent reader can be a chance to share new vocabulary. Reading aloud also provides an independent reader with an opportunity to hear fluent reading, which helps them build their own fluency and ability to read with proper pacing and expression.

My preschooler and I have been enjoying some new picture books, including: [Betty Bunny Wants Everything](#) and the [Princess and the Packet of Frozen Peas](#). And in between re-reading some of his favorite [Diary of a Wimpy Kid](#) books, my 3rd grader looks forward to listening to his dad read aloud from Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings* trilogy.

It's important to remember, too, that children learn to value reading, not only by having someone read to them, but by seeing the adults in their lives spending time reading. No matter whether it's a hardcover or paperback book, e-book, magazine or newspaper ? what do your children see you reading? What are *you* reading today?

---

[Oh, the Thinks You Can ThinkRead-aloudReading](#)

Posted by Lisa C. on May 2, 2012 [Lisa C.'s blog](#) [Add new comment](#)



[About the Library](#) | [Hours & Locations](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Jobs](#) | [Wireless Printing](#) | [Site Map](#)  
[Monroe County Public Library](#) | 303 E. Kirkwood Ave., Bloomington, IN 47408 | (812) 349-3050

---