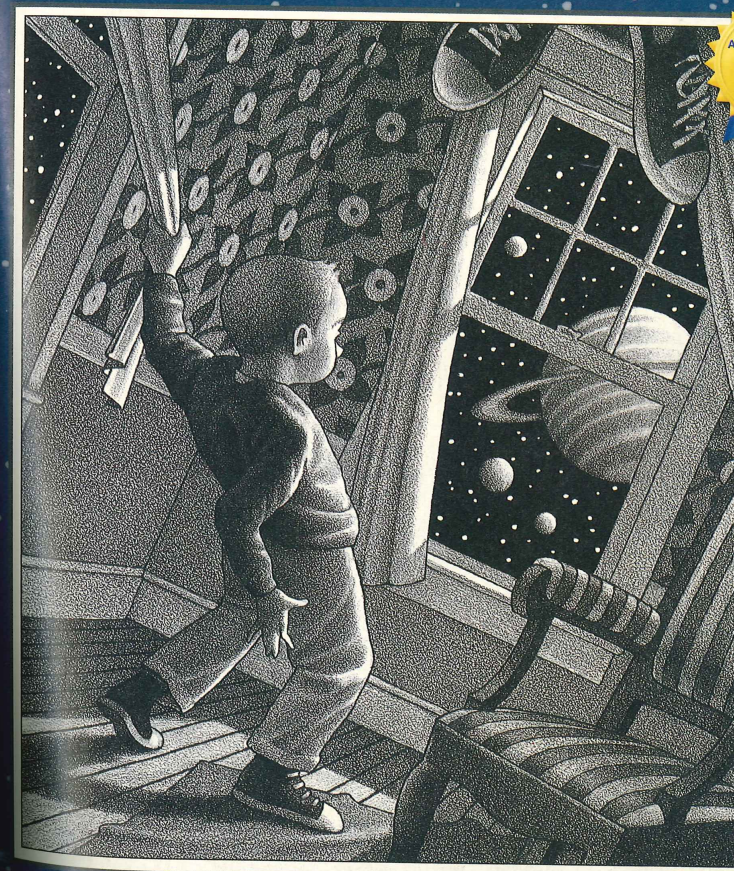


ZATHURA

A SPACE ADVENTURE



Comprehension

Genre

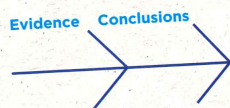
Science Fiction tells a story of imagined events usually set in the future and based on science or technology.



Make Inferences and Analyze

Draw Conclusions

As you read, use your Conclusions Diagram.



Read to Find Out

What can you conclude about the relationship of the two brothers at the end of the story?

"Mom!" Danny Budwing yelled. "Mom!"

Walter and Danny's mother stopped at her son's bedroom door.

"Walter!" she said. "Get off your brother. Honestly, if you don't stop pulling on his nose like that, it'll end up looking like an elephant's trunk."

"Oh yeah?" said Walter. "Then he'll need the ears to match." He let go of Danny's nose and grabbed his ears.

"Enough!" Mrs. Budwing shouted.

"Danny started it. Look what he did," Walter yelled, picking up his walkie-talkie. The antenna was **dangling** by a wire. "See? He breaks everything."

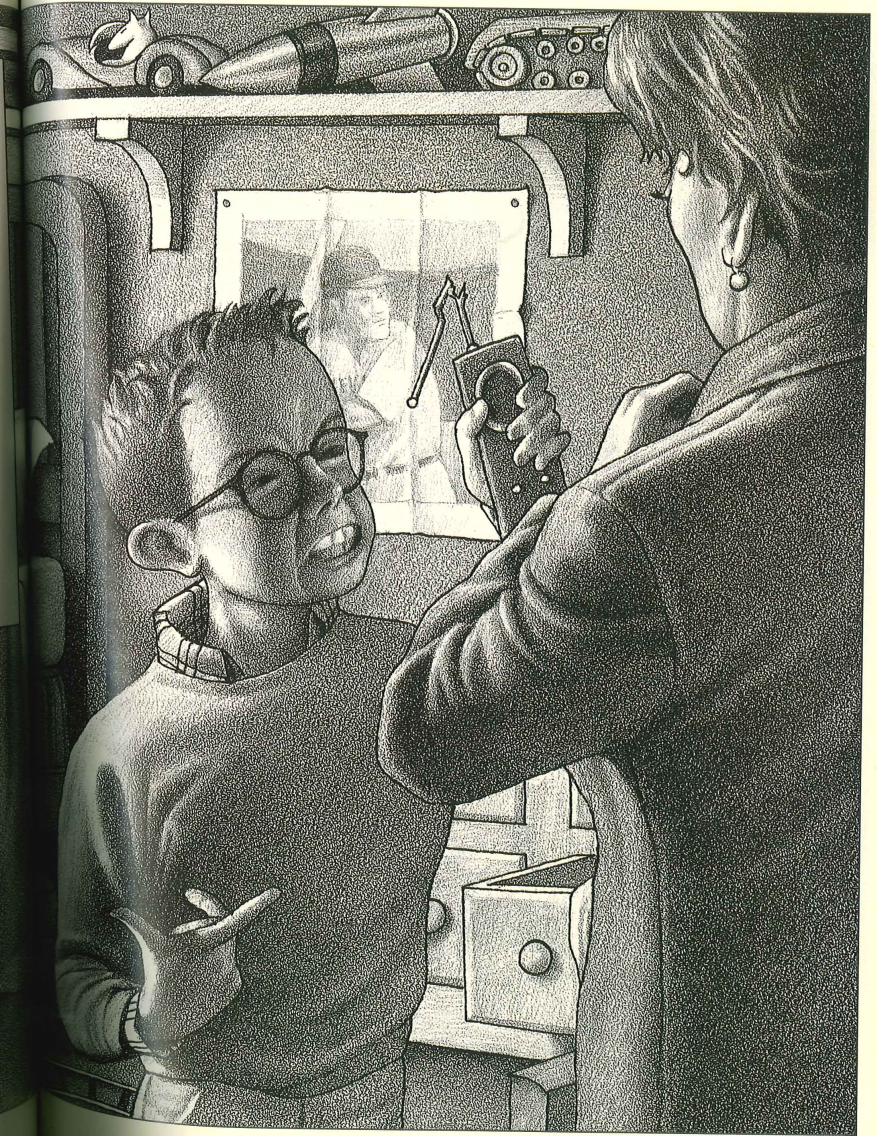
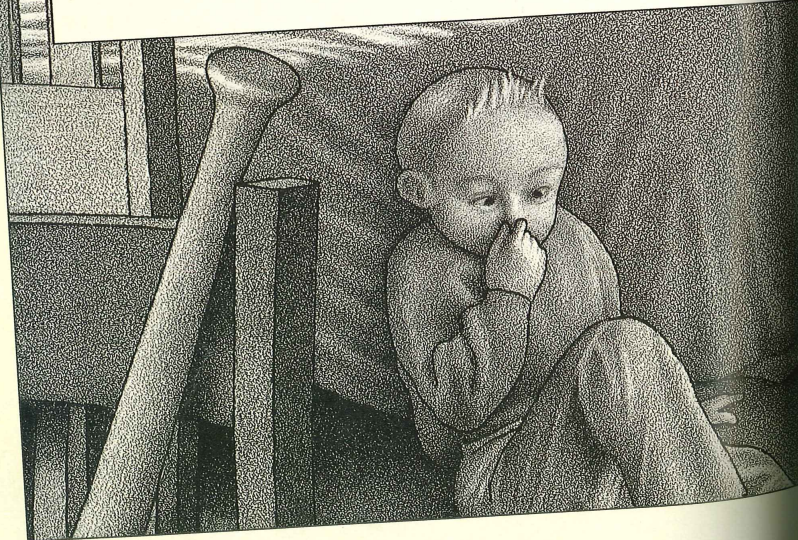
"I'm sure he didn't mean to," Mrs. Budwing said.

"Was an accident," Danny mumbled.

From downstairs, Mr. Budwing called to his wife, "We're going to be late!"

Mrs. Budwing gave her sons a kiss good-bye. "I set some dinner out in the kitchen. Dad and I shouldn't be too late."

"Can't you take him with you?" Walter whined.



After their parents left, Walter sat down in front of the television.

"Can me and you go out and play catch together?" Danny asked.

"It's 'you and I,'" said Walter. "not 'me and you,' and the answer is no."

But Danny really wanted to play. He threw Walter his hat, but Walter just ignored him. Then he tossed him a baseball, and beamed him on the head.

Walter jumped up. "All right, you little fungus, now you're really going to get it." Danny bolted out of the room, down the hall, and out the front door, with Walter close behind. They ran into the park across the street, but Danny couldn't outrun his brother. Walter tackled him.

"I'm telling!" Danny squealed, as Walter got a grip on his nose and pulled. Then he let go.

"Hey, what's that?" he said. Right next to the boys was a long thin box resting against a tree. Walter got off his brother and picked it up.

"Aw, it's just some dumb old game. Here," he said, poking Danny in the stomach with the box, "it's for babies like you." He trotted off as Danny read the words on the box. JUMANJI, A JUNGLE ADVENTURE. Danny stuck the game under his arm and ran home after his brother.

Back inside, Danny looked at the box. It was covered with pictures of jungle animals. He took out dice, some **tokens**, and a very plain game board. Walter was right, it was a babyish game and probably boring, too. Danny started to put it away but discovered, jammed tightly into the bottom of the box, another board. He banged the box on the floor, and out it popped.

