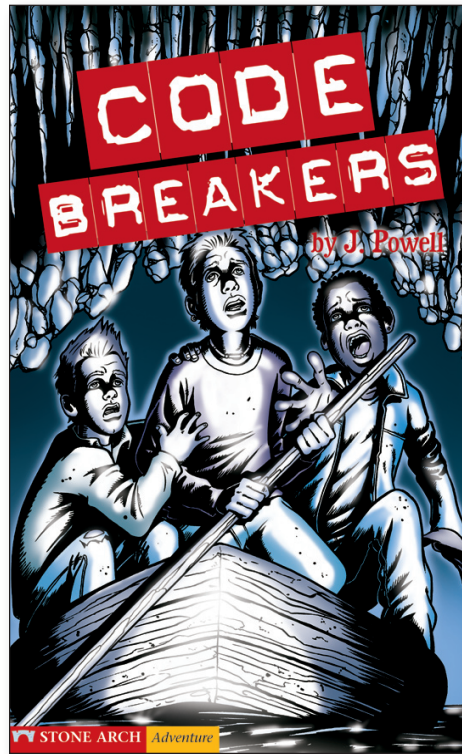




## READER'S THEATER



### Code Breakers by J. Powell

**Characters:**      **Brad**  
                         **Scott**  
                         **Conor**  
                         **Narrator**

**Genre:**              **Science Fiction**  
**Ages:**              **10-15**

## Code Breakers page 1

- Narrator:** Brad, Scott, and Conor were playing in the park. One of them found a mysterious briefcase.
- Brad:** Open it up. It might be stuffed with money!
- Conor:** Don't! It might be a bomb or something.
- Narrator:** The boys opened the case. Inside were a ball of string, a map, a postcard, and a key. There were numbers written on the postcard.
- Brad:** It's a cell phone number.
- Scott:** What are you waiting for? Call the number.
- Narrator:** Brad pulled out his cell phone and called the number. A voice just kept repeating a letter and a number.
- Brad:** I don't get it. It's just saying a letter and a number.
- Scott:** Let me listen to that. Hey! I know what that is. It's coordinates on the map we found. You match the letter with the number, and you can find a spot on the map.
- Narrator:** The boys pulled out the map and found the coordinates.
- Brad:** So, where is it? How far is it from here?
- Scott:** Not that far. We could walk it easy.
- Brad:** Leave the case. Just bring the key and what we found inside.
- Narrator:** The boys walked through the park until they found the spot shown on the map.
- Conor:** Well, we hardly needed the map. Look!
- Narrator:** Conor was pointing to a big circle painted on the ground. It had an X at its center.
- Scott:** That's a landing pad.
- Narrator:** Just then, a helicopter flew by and hovered over the pad.

## Code Breakers page 2

- Brad:** It's going to land! Quick! Hide!
- Conor:** I told you it's a trap!
- Brad:** Look, they're not landing, they're dropping something.
- Narrator:** The helicopter dropped a box and then flew off. Carefully, the boys walked over and picked it up.
- Brad:** It feels warm.
- Narrator:** The strange box was full of hotdogs.
- Scott:** Cool! I'm starving.
- Conor:** Are you crazy? They could be poisoned.
- Scott:** Smells great. I wonder if there's any ketchup. I like ketchup on mine.
- Narrator:** Scott opened up one of the hotdog buns.
- Brad:** What's that?
- Scott:** There's some kind of stamp on the bun. Letters or something.
- Conor:** I know what that is! It's a Dewey number. All books in a library have a Dewey Decimal number. That's how you find them.
- Brad:** Okay, so this hotdog is really a book?
- Conor:** No. It's another code. Just like the number on the map. And our next stop is the library.
- Narrator:** The next day the boys went to the library. They hunted for the book that had the same numbers they found on the hotdog bun.
- Brad:** It's got to be over here. Okay, I found it!
- Narrator:** The boys found the book. It was called *Caves and Caving*.

## Code Breakers page 3

**Conor:**

Look! There's a hole punched in one of the pages.

**Brad:**

That's it. That must be the next clue. What does it say on that page, Conor?

**Conor:**

It's just about this boring old cave. You still got the map?

**Narrator:**

The boys pulled out the map and found the cave on it.

**Brad:**

Okay, what are we waiting for? Better pick up a flashlight on the way.

**Scott:**

But what if the cave is a trap?

**Conor:**

What if it's treasure?

**Narrator:**

What will the boys find? Where do all these strange codes lead them? And who was flying the mysterious helicopter? Find out in *Code Breakers*!

**THE END**