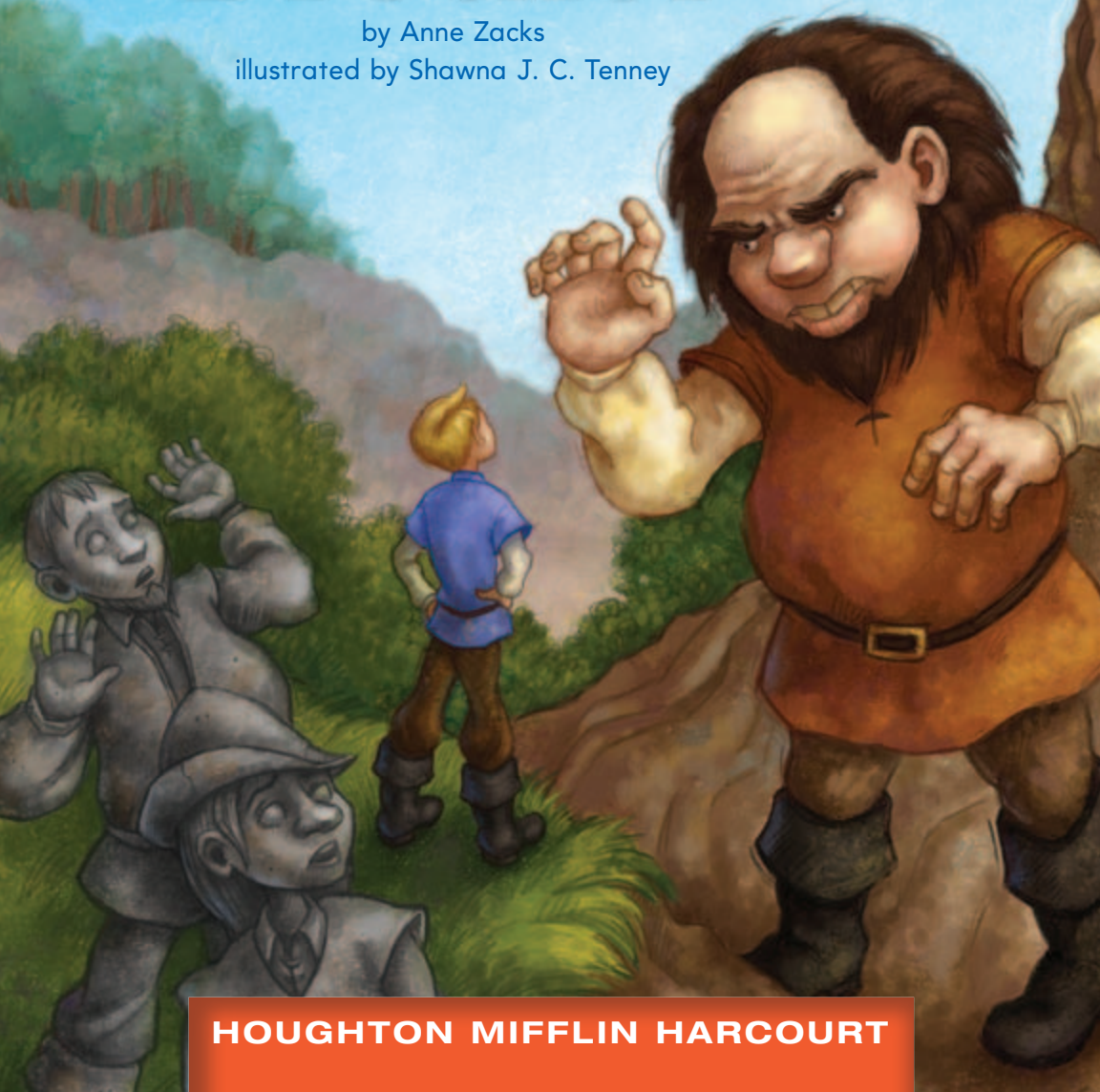




The Youngest Brother

by Anne Zacks
illustrated by Shawna J. C. Tenney



HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT

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🔊 One day, three brothers went on a trip.

First the brothers found an anthill. “Let’s kick it down!” said the oldest brother.

🔊 “No, leave the poor ants alone!” said the youngest brother.

“You’re too kind!” the middle brother said.



- ▶ Next the brothers found a beehive.
“Let’s steal their honey!” said the oldest brother.
- ▶ “No, leave the poor bees alone!”
said the youngest brother.
“You’re too kind!” the middle
brother said.



🔊 Then the brothers found a table filled with food.

The three brothers ate every bite. Suddenly an Ogre appeared!

🔊 “You stole the food that was served to ME!” he yelled.

“Please let us go,” the brothers cried.



🔊 The Ogre had a mean look in his **glimmering** eyes.

“Do what I ask,” the Ogre said.

“Then I’ll let you go!

But if you don’t do the **task**,
I will turn you into stone!”



🔊 “My daughter spilled one thousand pearls in the forest,” the Ogre said. “You need to pick them ALL up!”
The oldest brother tried first.



It was impossible to pick up all the pearls.

The oldest brother soon gave up. So the Ogre turned him into stone.

The middle brother tried, but he gave up, too.

He was also turned into stone.



Then it was the youngest brother's turn.

He tried to pick up the pearls as fast as he could.

But there were too many!

Then hundreds of ants came out of their anthills.

The ants helped him pick up all the pearls.



- ▶ “I picked up your pearls,” the youngest brother told the Ogre.
“Now turn my brothers back to men.”
“NEVER!” screamed the Ogre.
- ▶ But before the Ogre could grab the pearls, one hundred bees flew all around him.



▶ “You better do what I ask,” said the youngest brother.

“Or these bees will sting you!”

So the Ogre changed the two brothers back into men.

▶ They were **overjoyed** to be with their youngest brother again.

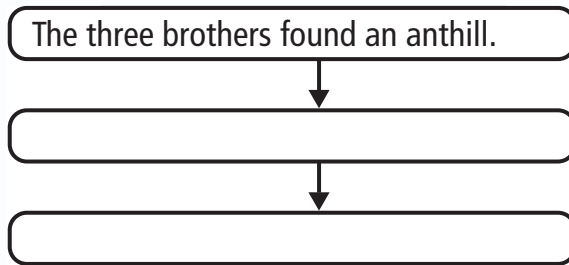
“Your kindness saved us all!” the brothers said.

Responding



TARGET SKILL Sequence of Events

What happens first, next, and last in this story? Copy the chart below. Then fill in the story events. Write them in the order they take place. Add more boxes if needed.



Write About It

Text to Text What other fairy tales have you read about an ogre or someone else mean and scary? Write a few sentences comparing this story to the other story you read.



TARGET VOCABULARY

concealed

content

glimmering

overjoyed

served

task

valuable

worn



TARGET SKILL

Sequence of Events

Tell the order in which things happen.



TARGET STRATEGY

Analyze/Evaluate

Tell how you feel about the text, and why.



GENRE

A **fantasy** is a story that could not happen in real life.

Level: M

DRA: 28

Genre:

Fantasy

Strategy:

Analyze/Evaluate

Skill:

Sequence of Events

Word Count: 326

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