



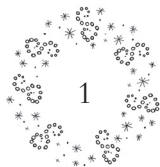
Winter Chaos



“The Winter Fair opens in five minutes,” said Rachel Walker, her eyes dancing with excitement. “Are we ready to turn on the twinkle lights?”

“Definitely!” exclaimed her best friend, Kirsty Tate.

Kirsty was staying at Rachel’s house for a few days of vacation. The pair





had enjoyed a wonderful week ice-skating, drinking hot chocolates, and baking cookies. Time always seemed to fly by when Kirsty and Rachel were together!

Now it was Saturday afternoon and the friends were dressed in their Brownie uniforms. The girls in Rachel's troop had been working hard all morning — today was the day of the Tippington Brownies' Winter Fair! Kirsty and Rachel had volunteered to run the “winter woolies” stall, a tabletop stacked high with mittens, socks, and scarves knitted in rich, festive colors.

Rachel ran to the back of the hall. When one of the leaders gave the signal, she dimmed the main lights.

Everyone closed their eyes in the



darkness and counted down together. “Three, two, one . . . go!”

Flash!

There was a thrilled gasp, then an explosion of clapping and cheering. The Brownies had transformed Tippington’s plain old town hall into a magical winter wonderland! Stalls lined every wall, each one decorated with fake snow, gold balls, and shiny bows. Strings of glittery lights twinkled from the ceiling. In the kitchen, Mrs. Walker and the other Brownie moms had been busy making hot chocolate and arranging treats, filling the air with the smell of warm cookies.

