



## Title: Ruby Lu Star of the Show Author: Lenore Look

Ruby is starting third grade, and that's not the only big thing in store for her this year. Her father loses his job and is takes care of her and Oscar while her mother goes to work. Money gets tight, grades get bad and Ruby must find a way to turn it all around with the help of the 20th Avenue Plum Club's creative money making ideas.

### Let's Talk

Do your parents have certain responsibilities around the house? What if they switched? What might it be like?

On page 35, Ruby makes a list of "How to Survive Hard Times." What would you put on the list?

In order to save money, Ruby has to be creative with her Halloween costume. What have you dressed as for Halloween?

Why do you think Panchito said he hated candy?

What would you do if you found a wallet full of money?

Have you ever tried to hide something from your family? What happened?

Elvis knows lots of tricks. Have you ever tried to teach an animal tricks?

### Try This

Come up with a Halloween costume using only materials you can find in your house right now.

Eat a meal of Chinese food with chopsticks, try a fortune cookie, and look up your Chinese New Year animal.

Try writing haiku poems by yourself or with a partner.

Make a list of ways that you might be able to make some money. What skills do you have? What jobs could you do?

Have a spa party. Creams, cucumbers, nail polish and more. Use fake money to buy services from each other.

### Explore More in the Library

If Not for the Cat : Haiku by Jack Prelutsky (J 811.54)

Paper Crafts for Chinese New Year by Randel McGee (J 745.5941 McGee)

A Smart Girl's Guide to Money : How to Make it, Save it, and Spend it by Nancy Holyoke (J 332.024 Holyoke)

Fetch this Book : Train your Dog to do Almost Anything by Elaine Waldorf Gewirtz (J 636.7088 Gewirtz)

The Essential Elvis Presley CD (Music Rock Presley)

Ruby Lu, Brave and True by Lenore Look (J Paperback Look)

Alvin Ho : Allergic to Babies, Burglars, and Other Bumps in the Night by Lenore Look (J Fiction Look)

The New Year Dragon Dilemma, A to Z Mysteries by Ron Roy (J Paperback Roy)

The Circus Scare (Nancy Drew and the Clue Crew #7) by Carolyn Keene and Macky Pamintuan (J Paperback Keene)

Good Luck Ivy, American Girl Series, by Lisa Yee (J Fiction American Ivy)