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JOSIE O'MALLEY does a lot to help out Mam after her father goes off to fight the Nazis, but she wishes she could do more—like all those caped heroes who now seem to have disappeared. If Josie can't fly and control weather like her idol, Zenobia, maybe she can put her math smarts to use cracking puzzles for the government.

After an official tosses out her puzzler test because she's a girl, it soon becomes clear that an even more top-secret agency has its eye on Josie, along with two other applicants: Akiko and Mae. The trio bonds over their shared love of female superhero celebrities. But during one extraordinary afternoon, they find themselves transformed into the newest (and youngest!) superheroes in town. As the girls' abilities slowly begin to emerge, they learn that their skills will be crucial in thwarting a shapeshifting henchman of Hitler, and, just maybe, in solving an even larger mystery about the superheroes who've recently gone missing.

Inspired by remarkable real-life women from World War II—the human computers and earliest programmers called “the ENIAC Six”—and told in alternating prose and graphic novel panels, this pulse-pounding adventure features bold action, brave thinking, and an empowering belief that each one of us has the stuff it takes to be a superhero.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

KATE HANNIGAN is a noted author with a special passion for stories that empower girls and women. Her just-released picture book biography, *A Lady Has The Floor* (Calkins Creek, January 2018), has received four starred reviews, was named a Junior Library Guild Selection, and was praised by Kirkus as “an excellent, well-researched model of its genre, which will inspire children to do whatever they desire in life, no matter what immediate restrictions exist.”

In-between her active presence on social media (@KateChicago), her work as founder of the Hyde Park/South Side Chicago chapter of SCBWI, and as an active conference speaker, Kate is an involved, vocal, and respected member of the kidlit community.

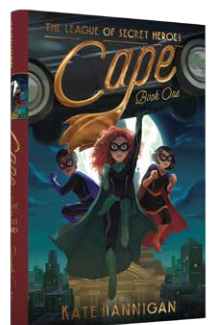


A SUPERHERO WORD SEARCH

Directions: Use your puzzling powers to find the following words below!
Some words may be diagonal and backwards, so look out!

ZENOBIA	MYSTERY
BOOTS	JOSIE
CAPE	AKIKO
CIPHER	MAE
SHAPESHIFTING	PUZZLES

S	I	G	K	A	I	N	E	S	P	Q	Z	F
C	H	S	E	L	Z	Z	U	P	K	D	E	M
T	A	A	Y	M	E	W	E	H	N	T	N	A
K	S	P	P	W	U	I	X	M	E	W	O	T
R	H	M	E	E	S	A	Y	T	I	G	B	X
J	E	U	O	O	S	S	N	M	B	S	I	X
V	K	H	J	R	T	H	C	N	A	T	A	M
J	W	B	P	E	A	K	I	K	O	O	D	A
W	A	W	R	I	I	V	U	F	Z	O	V	E
V	K	Y	P	U	C	W	X	K	T	B	O	A
F	M	Q	F	M	E	L	O	Q	M	I	N	N
G	M	E	R	P	F	Z	Q	Z	O	U	N	C
H	O	X	I	Y	A	S	R	T	C	D	Q	G

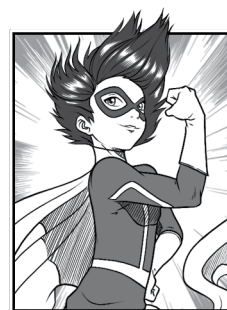
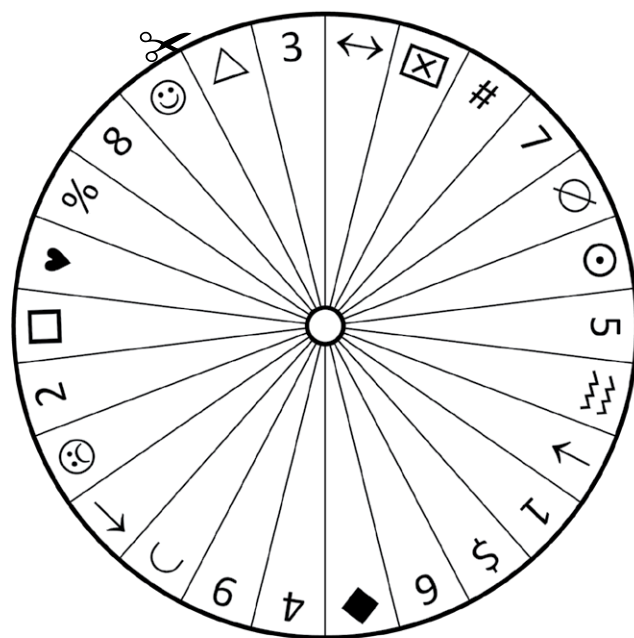


CREATE YOUR OWN CIPHER WHEEL!

Josie and her friends use their puzzling skills to decode secret messages. Cipher wheels are a great way for you to communicate with your friends without worry of interception.

DIRECTIONS: Using the templates below and instructions on the next page, create your own codes by lining up the larger wheel with letters with numbers from the smaller wheel. Here's what you need for supplies:

- Pen or Pencil
- Paper fastener
- Scissors



CRACK THE CODE!

Instructions:

1. Cut out both wheels from the section below.
2. Using a pencil or pen, punch a hole through the centers of both the small and large wheels.
3. Push a paper fastener through the small wheel's center and then through the larger wheel's center.
4. Fasten the paper fastener to the back to keep the two wheels together.

How to use the Cipher Wheel:

- On the smaller Cipher wheel, use "A" as your starting point.
- Moving the smaller wheel, line up "A" with one of the numbers on the larger wheel in order to create a new code. For example, if "A" lines up with 22, then "B" will be "86," "C" will be "59," and so on.
- Note that whatever "A" lines up with is the key to your cipher.
- Write out your secret message using this code.
- Make sure your friends have the same cipher wheel. When you're ready to share your message, make sure to send it along with the key.
- Now you have a secure way of sharing messages only you and your friends can read!

When you're ready, use the cipher you made above to decode a special message from Josie and the other her superheroes friends!

Cipher Key:

A = ♥

△ ∩ △ 6 2 ↑ ≡ △ ☒ ♥ ◆ ← ☒ ♥ 4 # 4 4 ♥ ∅ △ ◆ 4 ↑ % △ ♥

----- !
◆ 9 1 △ 6 ☒ △ 6 ↑ !

Answer:
Everyone
has what it
takes to be a
superhero!

