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BYSCHOOL by Susannah McFarlane Illustrated by Dyani Staga **■** SCHOLASTIC

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Emma Jacks did not want to get out of bed. She did not want to go to school.

'Come on, up you get, Emma!' cried her Mum. 'It's time to get dressed.

You don't want to be late for school.'

But Emma did want to be late. Maybe she could say she was sick. It wouldn't be a lie. She did feel sick in her tummy.

'I feel sick, Mum,' said Emma.



You don't look sick,'
said Bob, walking past her
room. Emma poked her
tongue out at Bob. Brothers
were not very helpful.

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'Ah!' said Emma's mum.
'You have swimming today.
Is that the problem?'

'Hmmm, maybe,' Emma said softly. How did mums know things like that?

Swimming was the problem. Emma liked swimming. She liked being in the water. She didn't like

the deep end. Emma was scared of deep water.



'Come on, Emma!'
cried her mum again.
'We'll be late!'

'But Mum' she began.

'No buts! You're going to school and you're going to swimming,' said her mum. 'You'll see there's nothing to worry about.'

Emma knew her mum was not going to change her mind. She started to get out of bed.

Emma slowly got dressed. As she did, worry butterflies flew into her tummy.

'How silly!' said Emma.
'I go to **SHINE** Spy School.

I can't keep getting scared of things!'

Spy School was Emma's secret. Emma

was learning to be a spy.

It was fun. Emma went to

normal school with her

friends as well. No one at

school knew about Spy

School.



Emma loved going to Spy School. But can I still go if I'm a scaredy-cat? wondered Emma.





Emma walked into school.

She dragged her swim

bag behind her.

`Emma Jacks! Can I please see you?'



