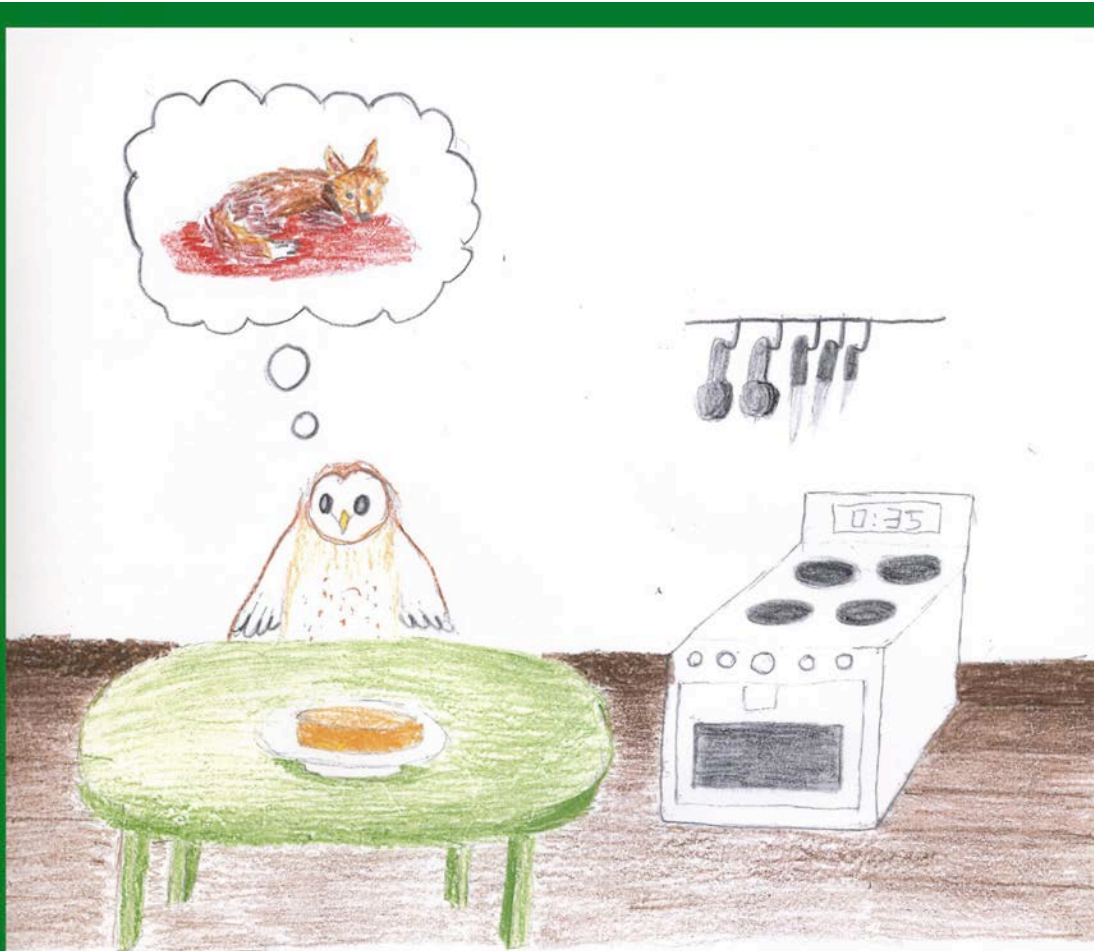


The Cornbread Mystery

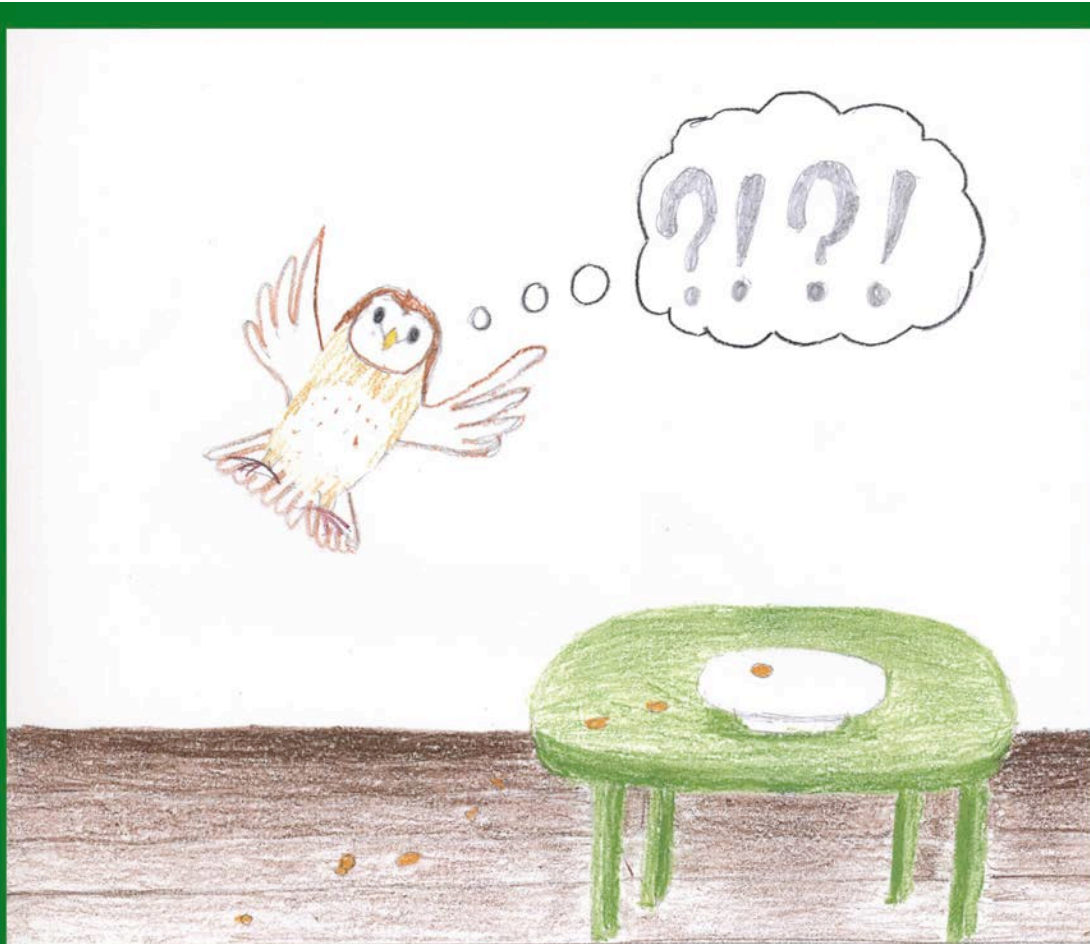
**By
William D.**



Once there was an owl called
Sherlockhoo, who lived in a tree. He
loved to solve mysteries.



One morning, SherlockHoo baked his favorite cornbread. "Uuummm, the golden, sweet cornbread might make my sick friend Mr. Red, feel better." said Sherlockhoo to himself. So he took some cornbread to Mr. Red.



When he came back, he was astonished that all the cornbread was gone. "Somebody stole my food!" He searched for clues, but did not find anything.



The next day SherlockHoo baked cornbread again and sat down to eat. It started to rain. He remembered Mr. Red's roof was leaking and he needed help patching it. He hurried over to Mr. Red's house.



When he got back, his cornbread had disappeared again. He found muddy footprints on the floor and followed them outside, but the heavy rain washed them away. SherlockHoo thought and thought, and then made a plan to catch the thief.



The third day SherlockHoo made another batch of cornbread. Then he installed an alarm in the house and pretended to leave. But he hid in a big tree nearby to watch.



A few minutes later he heard a loud scream and the buzzing from the alarm. He quickly flew back. He saw Mrs. Brown, his neighbor, frightened out of her fur. He turned the alarm off, and accused Mrs. Brown of stealing his cornbread. Mrs. Brown said, "I feel ashamed for stealing. I just had new babies and I do not have enough food to feed them."



SherlockHoo said, " Oh, I'm so sorry. Your family can come to my house and stay until your babies grow up." Mrs. Brown thanked him a million times and she brought her two babies over. From that day on, they lived happily ever after.