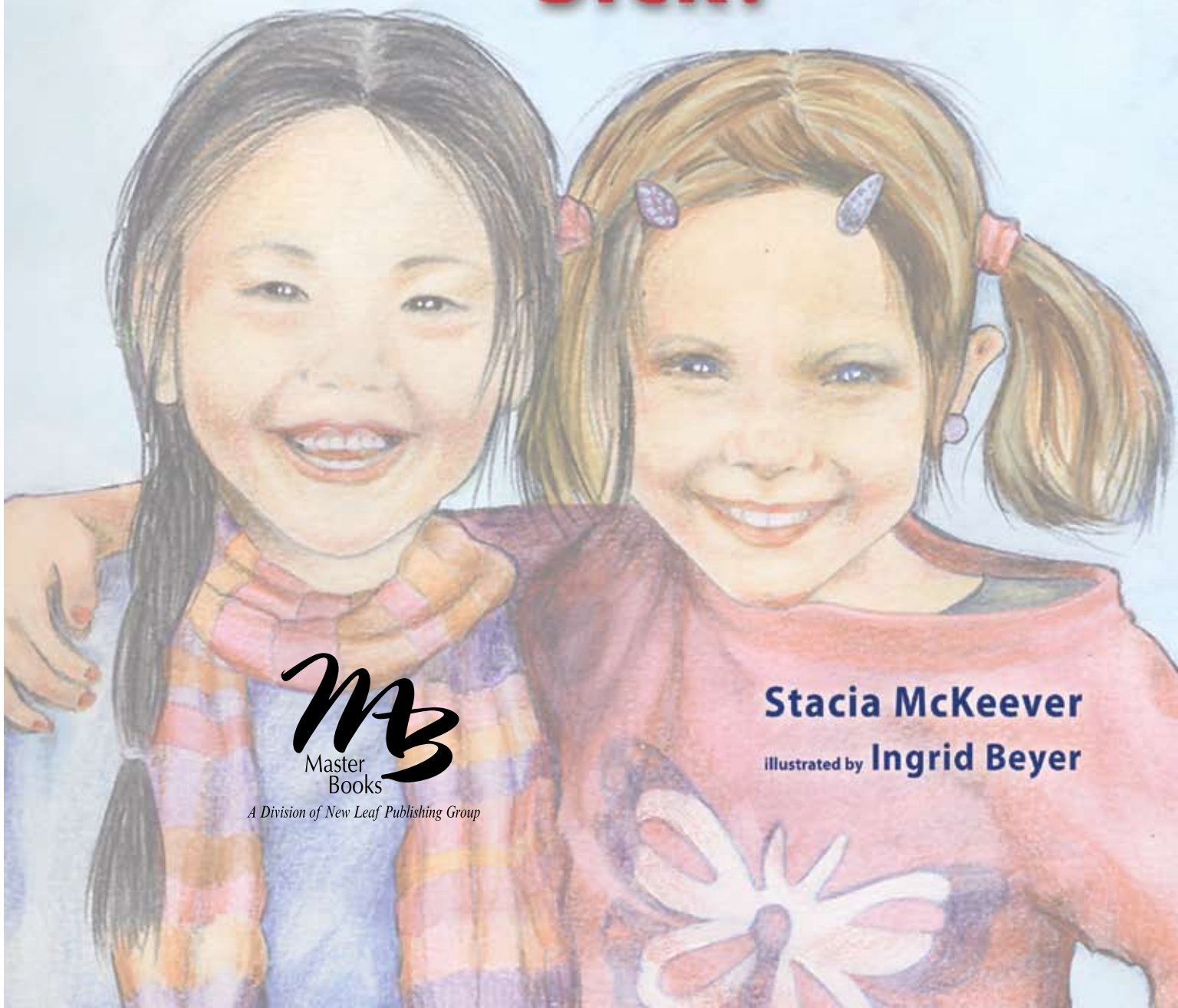


Why is
Keiko
Sick?



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Keiko was born
in Japan



Me, knitting a
scarf for Keiko

My mom and I are knitting a scarf for Keiko. Keiko is my best friend. She was born in Japan, and her family moved to America when she was just a baby.

My mom



We do everything together. We like to ride our bikes up and down the street. Sometimes, Keiko teaches me Japanese words, like “自転車” which means “bike,” and “道路” which means “street.”

On rainy days, we like to curl up on our comfy couch and read books together. Our favorite stories are about dragons.

Keiko’s mom says that a long time ago, the rulers of China used dragons to pull their chariots. Sometimes, Keiko and I wonder if dragons were really dinosaurs!

My best friend Keiko



Keiko and I are learning to play the koto.
The koto is a Japanese instrument that some say is shaped like a dragon. It has 13 strings. The names of the first ten strings are the numbers 1–10: ichi, ni, san, shi, go, roku, shichi/nana, hachi, kyu, and ju. The last three strings are to, i, and kin. Playing the koto helped me learn how to count to ten in Japanese!



The koto

