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To all my New Orleans and Louisiana family and friends, who understand, appreciate, and strive to preserve our unique culture — K.V.D.

For my daughter, Amelia, to whom everything I do is dedicated — V.S.

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## Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Dawson, Keila V., author.

The King Cake Baby / by Keila V. Dawson; illustrated by Vernon Smith. pages cm

Summary: In this New Orleans version of The Gingerbread Man, the King Cake Baby, a small figure that is traditionally baked inside a king cake during Carnival season, escapes and encounters various local characters as he runs across the French Quarter, heading for the Mississippi River. Includes a recipe for king cake.

ISBN 978-1-4556-2013-5 (pbk: alk. paper) -- ISBN 978-1-4556-2014-2 (e-book) 1. Gingerbread boy--Adaptations--Juvenile fiction. 2. Carnival--Juvenile fiction. 3. King cakes--Juvenile fiction. 4. New Orleans (La.)--Juvenile fiction. [1. Mardi Gras--Fiction. 2. King cakes--Fiction. 3. New Orleans (La.)--Fiction.] I. Smith, Vernon, 1974- illustrator. II. Title.

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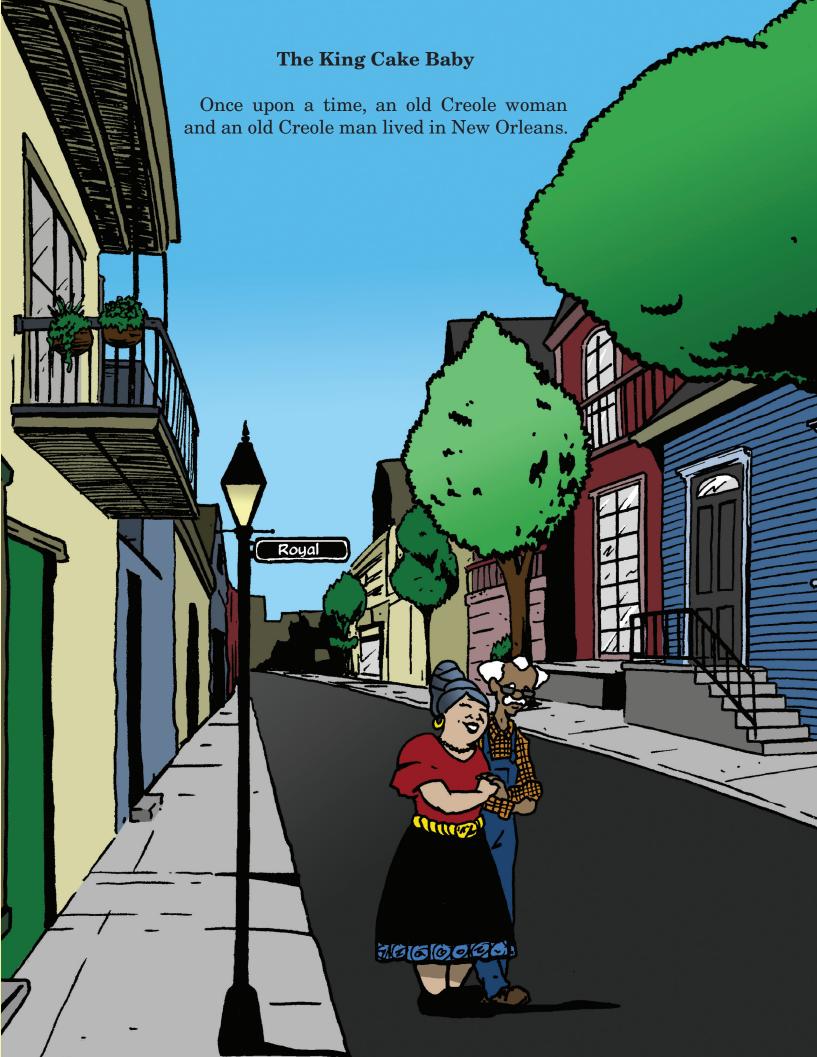
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First, she mixed the sugar, salt, butter, eggs, yeast, milk, and flour to make the dough.





Then she made a cinnamon-sugar filling and a cream-cheese icing.