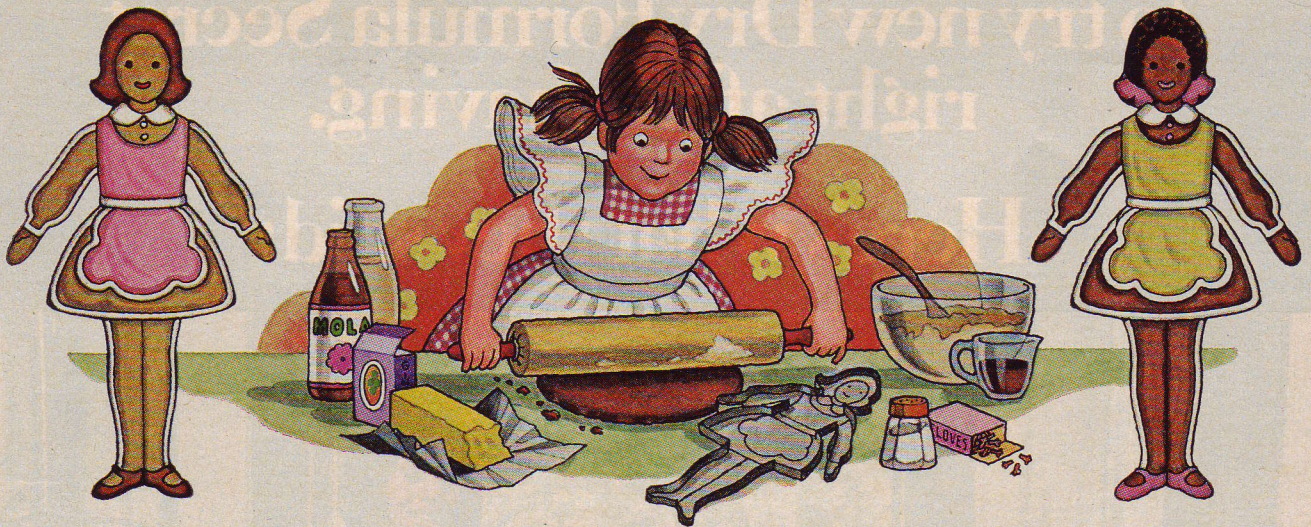


BETSY McCALL IS A COOKIE CUTTER



It was all Daddy's idea! You see, one of his nicknames for me is "Cookie," so what did he do but ask a friend of his who manufactures metal pans and things to design this huge eight-inch cookie cutter to look like a photograph that Mommy took of me. And it does, EXACTLY! I was so crazy about it that I wanted to hang it up on my wall, but Mommy said, "Cookie cutters are for cutting cookies. Period! Besides, cookies make marvelous gifts, especially when they're iced." She made dozens, some vanilla, some chocolate—thin, crisp, and just *delicious*. Then she said, "Why don't you invite Drusilla and Sukey (they're my two best friends, you know) for a cookie-trimming party?" WHY NOT!!! Mommy gave us those new icing-filled tubes with tips thin as pencils, and the greatest colors—red, brown,

yellow, pink, even GREEN. It was fun and easy to fill in the grooves on the cookies around pinafores, collars, and stuff. And you know something *fascinating*? You can make the cookies

resemble other children, as well as me. For instance, just by changing the hair-do, I made one that looked like Sukey. And Dru decorated a chocolate cookie to look like herself, with tiny swirls of chocolate to make an adorable Afro hairdo. I know it sounds magical, but wait till *you* try it! Daddy dared me to make one that looked like HIM. Honestly, *fathers!* Anyway, if you will turn the next page, you'll find out how to get the cookie cutter for yourself. Mommy is baking another batch that she's letting me decorate. And guess what! She's promised I can make and bake the cookies myself, when she is sure that I can handle the oven properly. And we're going to find a way to hang them on our tree! Gosh, I nearly forgot! Mommy, Daddy, Merry, Kerry, and I say "Happy holidays from all of us to all of you!"



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