

# MANUSCRIPT MAGIC™

## Practice Picture Book Manuscript

copyright © 2018 Bonnie Johnston

**Before the webinar:** Read this rough draft and circle and identify any problems you see (for example, “telling instead of showing”). Then count how many different types of problems you found (if you found 5 instances of telling, that counts as one *type* of problem). If you can't identify the problem, don't circle it!

### Rough Draft of *Jake and the Monster in the Closet*

<b>Page 1</b>	Jake loved to imagine things. He imagined dinosaurs in the clouds. He imagined that he was a giant. He imagined that his bike was a spaceship.
<b>Page 2</b>	Jake's parents didn't understand. They would shake their heads and say, “You have such an imagination.”
<b>Page 3</b>	The thing Jake hated most was bedtime. Mother and Father never believed him when he told them about the monster in his closet.
<b>Page 4</b>	“You have such an imagination,” they would say. “Go to sleep, Jake.”
<b>Page 5</b>	As soon as Father turned the light out, Jake heard a creak. Or a click. Or a scrape. He knew it was the monster in the closet.
<b>Page 6</b>	He didn't want to look, but he couldn't help it. Jake peeked out from under his blanket.
<b>Page 7</b>	There at the foot of his bed was a pair of glowing green eyes, big as baseballs! “Mother! Father!” he yelled. “The monster is back!”
<b>Page 8</b>	The eyes disappeared as soon as the lights came on. Mother and Father stood at the foot of Jake's bed, frowning.
<b>Page 9</b>	“The monster was there.” Jake pointed at his closet. “Monsters aren't real, Jake.” said Father sharply. “You were dreaming, Jake.” said Mother softly.
<b>Page 10</b>	Mother and Father kissed Jake goodnight again, and turned out the light. As soon as they were gone, Jake heard another creak.
<b>Page 11</b>	If he blocked the closet door, the monster would be trapped in the closet, Jake decided. He pushed his chest of toys in front of the closet door.
<b>Page 12</b>	But as he climbed back into bed, he heard the chest sliding across the carpet as the closet door creaked open.

<b>Page 13</b>	<p>“Mother! Father!” Jake yelled.</p> <p>But Mother and Father didn’t answer.</p>
<b>Page 14</b>	<p>Jake held his breath and watched the closet door open the rest of the way. A dark shape emerged.</p>
<b>Page 15</b>	<p>Whenever Mother and Father turned on the lights, the monster disappeared. Jake jumps out of bed and runs for the light switch. But when the lights come on, the monster looks different.</p>
<b>Page 16</b>	<p>Before, the monster had green eyes and a horn on the top of its head. Now it had yellow scales all over, and purple eyes.</p>
<b>Page 17</b>	<p>As Jake watched, the monster’s eyes changed from purple to green, and its horn melted back into its head. Now it looked just like Jake had imagined it would, when all he could see were its eyes.</p>
<b>Page 18</b>	<p>Jake wished the monster would go back into the closet. He couldn’t help imagining it opening its mouth. He knew it would have big pointy teeth.</p>
<b>Page 19</b>	<p>The monster smiled. Its teeth were just as big and pointy as Jake had imagined, and there were lots of them.</p>
<b>Page 20</b>	<p>“Why do you have to be so scary?” Jake asked.</p> <p>“Why do you imagine me so scary?” the monster asked. He was confused</p>
<b>Page 21</b>	<p>Jake realized that the monster always looked exactly like he imagined it. Was it his fault that the monster was scary? He imagined the monster turning into a dog.</p>
<b>Page 22</b>	<p>The monster turned into a dog! It wagged its tail and licked Jake’s face. “Thank you,” it said. “I’ve never gotten to be a dog before.”</p>
<b>Page 23</b>	<p>“Do you like being a dog?” Jake asked. He’d always wanted a dog.</p> <p>“I’ve always wanted to be a dragon,” the dog said sadly. “But no one’s ever imagined me like that.”</p>
<b>Page 24</b>	<p>The next night, Jake could hardly wait for bedtime. He could hardly wait to play with the dragon in his closet.</p>