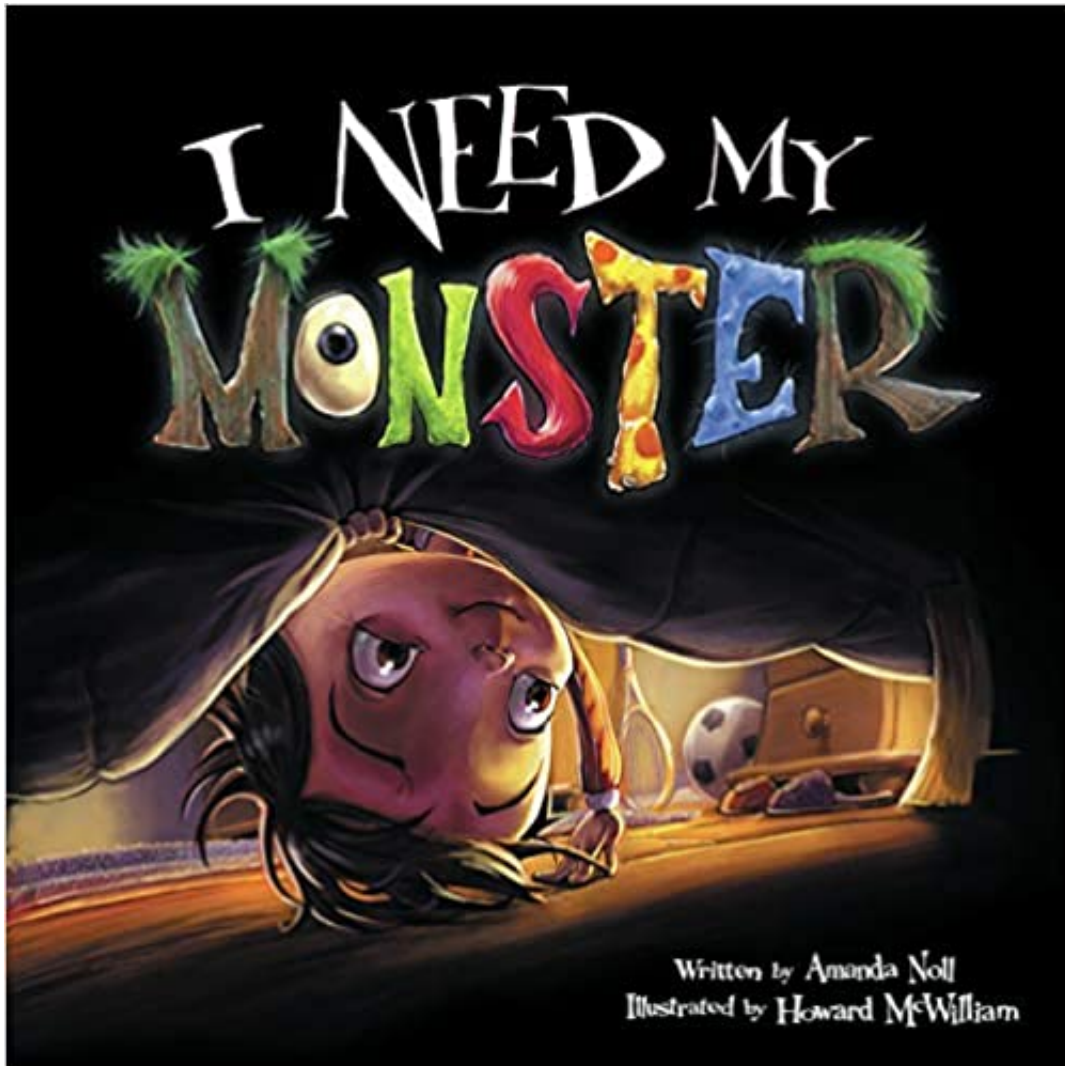


# I Need My Monster

by

Anna Dewdney



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## Synopsis

A unique monster-under-the-bed story with the perfect balance of giggles and shivers, this picture book relies on the power of humor over fear, appeals to a child's love for creatures both alarming and absurd, and glorifies the scope of a child's imagination. One night, when Ethan checks under his bed for his monster, Gabe, he finds a note from him instead: "Gone fishing. Back in a week." Ethan knows that without Gabe's familiar nightly scares he doesn't stand a chance of getting to sleep, so Ethan interviews potential substitutes to see if they've got the right equipment for the job—pointy teeth, sharp claws, and a long tail—but none of them proves scary enough for Ethan. When Gabe returns sooner than expected from his fishing trip, Ethan is thrilled. It turns out that Gabe didn't enjoy fishing because the fish scared too easily.

Scholastic Book Club Selection  
Winner of 6 state awards: Alabama Camellia Award (2010-2011), Arizona Grand Canyon Reader Award (2011), California Young Readers Medal (2011-12), Georgia Picture Storybook Award (2011-12), Nevada Young Reader Award (2011-12), Virginia Reader's Choice Primary Award (2012-13)  
Included on 5 other state award lists: Mississippi Magnolia Children's Choice Award list (2012-13), Nebraska Golden Sower Award list (2011-12), South Dakota Prairie Bud Award list (2011-12), Washington Children's Choice Book Award list (2010-2011), Wyoming Buckaroo Award list (2011-12)  
Additionally, these regional awards lists: Connecticut Charter Oak Children's Book Award list (2011-12), Iowa Regional Goldfinch Award Winner (2009-10)  
Storytelling World Award Honor Book 2010

## Sort review

You make my kid smarter, while giving me some time to myself, and I thank you! We first discovered School Zone through their Hidden Pictures, which my 2.5 yr old loves. We stuck around because they offer products my kid likes at a great price. Thanks! --School Zone Website  
School Zone really makes a great product. We've used these a lot when working with my five-year old on his letters. --Mommy Snippets  
About the Author  
For nearly 40 years, School Zone has helped make learning fun! Our research-based content, developed by leading educators, delivers award-winning, state-of-the-art products digital and print for individual learning styles and goals. Every product placed in a child's hands is brimming with color, content, and creativity. In every detail, innovation meets imagination and timeless tradition. In that same spirit, School Zone both embodies success and embraces possibility, stepping boldly into new media and platforms to connect with kids where they are. Parents appreciate the quality and attention to detail. The company continually updates materials with new features and content, reflective of changing standards, evolving teaching methods, and overall best practices. The result? Great learning at home and in the classroom.  
Joan Hoffman, M.A., is the author and co-author of hundreds popular storybooks and workbooks for children. Among the titles are Peter's Dream, I Don't Like Peas, and The New Bike (the latter two published under the pen name Marie Vinje),

the Get Ready for Preschool, Kindergarten, and First Grade workbook trio, along with the entire Get Ready, Little Thinker, I Know It!, Try-n-Spy, and Little Busy Book workbook series. She is also co-founder, along with her late husband James Hoffman, Ph.D., of School Zone Publishing. Visionary in business, she has long looked at the world through a child's eyes, infusing her stories and lessons with joy and relatability. As a mother of 4 back in the '70s, like moms the world over throughout history, she wanted what was best for her children. And she knew that teachers didn't have the time to give her kids everything they needed. As an elementary school teacher, Hoffman worked hard to give her students what they needed to learn. And parents would ask her what they could do to help. That's why she started School Zone—to help give children every possible chance to reach their potential. She brought retail experience gleaned from previously founding and managing two regional educational book and supply stores for teachers and parents. Her husband lent his blended talents of educator and entrepreneur. A professor of education who also had first-hand experience as an elementary teacher, he was involved in teacher education programs at several colleges and had served at the helm of a company that published classroom materials. Combining rock-solid editorial judgment and creative instincts with a thorough understanding of early education, Joan Hoffman was an exemplary proponent of design thinking long before it became a conceptual label. An innovative problem-solver, she has always sought to reach out to end users and challenge convention. Separating fleeting trends from legitimate advances has been essential to her company's longevity. The results speak for themselves. With the next generation—both son Jonathan and daughter Jennifer—taking on creative and strategic leadership roles in the company their parents started, School Zone seamlessly integrated digital learning platforms. The company received Apple's exclusive Human Interface Design Excellence Award for software development, and its apps were part of the first-generation iPad launch in 2010. School Zone's flagship product, the Little Scholar Learning Tablet, has earned industry-wide recognition and awards, as has its online learning destination Anywhere Teacher. Inspired by mom's story-telling excellence, son Jonathan continued that legacy with Charlie & Company, an original series for ages 3-7, available on Oznoz, Kidoodle.tv, ToonGoggles, BatteryPop, Ameba, and Highbrow. Joan Hoffman says, "It is incredibly rewarding to see the children and grandchildren of some of our original customers enjoying our ever-evolving books, apps, flash cards, games, music, and other products—both print and digital." In 2019 School Zone celebrates its 40th anniversary, spanning portions of five decades and having sold more than 370 million educational products. Hoffman continues to be hands-on in the company, still writing, still envisioning, and still putting kids, parents, and teachers first.

[\*Download to continue reading...\*](#)

When I Was Young in the Mountains (Reading Rainbow Books)

## What people say about this book

Samantha, "Super cute.. My kids love this book!"

Pony mom, "Grandson loved it. My grandson loves all the monster books, I have to read it to him every night I'm with him"

AmJ, "Fun story!. When I was a nanny, the kids that I cared for loved this story. Now I picked it up for my 4 year old son and gave it to him on Halloween. There's a great Storyline Online reading of it on YouTube that I like to pair the book up with for a special story time. My son now has discovered the other books in this little series, so it looks like I'll be picking up those monster books for him too. They're really cute books and I'm glad he likes this book so much. He likes to read it every day 😊"

Leilani, "Classic. My little one has loved this book since he could first read it. He was so upset when our dog chewed it up. This seller has a quick one day delivery for an amazing price. My son's sadness was short lived thankfully."

Sandra K, "Fun book. My grandson needed to read this book for a homework assignment. He was suppose to be able to read it from his Chrome book from school but for some reason the program would only let us read part of the book. So I came to Amazon to find the book and I am glad I did because my grandson really likes this book. I have also purchased the next book "Hey That is My Monster" and he likes that book too."

E. LeVan, "Cute book, maybe even therapeutic for Night-Fears. Read this book with my 2-year old, and I'm not sure if I should have.... I did not review all of the illustrations before doing so and when I got to the scary-monster page, it was too late. Most of the monsters are funny, weird or just a little gross (wonderful and unique illustrations). But "Gabe" the monster has scary red eyes and he's a bit much for a toddler! The scare-factor of this book is TOTALLY subjective.... I made it less-scary but saying "look at the silly monster friend" when we got to that page, then I quickly turned it. I think we can read the book, skipping that page until she gets a little older and I can gauge her fearlessness (or fearfulness). Some children who are accustomed to watching the shows and movies that have monsters will find this book to be clever and interesting. Children who are a little scared of the dark may find relief some relief with this book. Totally petrified kids should NOT be read this book at night, or maybe ever. I also found the part with the female monster (with painted nails and bow) to be gender-typical: the boy rejects her because she is a girl, stating that boys need BOY monsters only and girls need girl monsters. BUT WHATEVER, it's ONE line in ONE book..most people still dress their boys strictly in blue, green and brown with trucks and robots plastered everywhere and their girls wear putrid pink and purple glitterfied princess garb 24/7. We will keep this and just skip the scary page for now, because I am a sucker

for good illustrations! I love it when you can stare at a page in a children's book for 2 minutes and still be intrigued.”

Paul j Nysse, “So cute. My kids love this book. It’s super cute and not scary but my kids do love monsters. Think Monsters Inc. it is long though so keep that in mind if your kid has a short attention span.”

Cybil McMurtrey, “A Couple of Concerns - gender bias. Overall this book is pretty good. The pictures are great and the idea of the story is compelling but not very well executed. First, this book has a slight gender bias in it- this may not bother most people but had I known this I would not have purchased this for my 4 year old daughter. The part I'm referring to is when Ethan rejects a monster based purely on the fact that she is a girl and states boy monsters are for boys and girl monsters are for girls. It's subtle but never-the-less it is a bias that perpetuates a gender stereotype (For the record my daughter's monster is a boy, and that's okay because gender shouldn't be important when deciding on a friend or in this case a monster.) Like I said this will probably seem like over analyzing to most but had I known this was in here I would have searched for another monster book, so for anyone else who this might be an issue for (such as teachers of an anti-bias curriculum) you should know it's in there. Second, as one reviewer mentioned already, the idea of having a monster under your bed to keep you scared enough to stay in bed rings of authoritarianism. In my opinion a better approach would have been to have the monsters be a protective totem. These "problems" with the book are some what minor and again overall I and my daughter like this book. Just some things to consider before making an informed buying decision.”

LeglessLegoLegolas, “Absolutely gorgeous. A real gem of a book. Playing on the age-old tale of the monster under the bed, "I Need My Monster" subverts the classic story of fear, and shows the monster in a different light - needed by the one they are supposed to scare, offering comfort, security and a feeling of rightfulness. The monster in the story goes on holiday, leaving the child in need of a replacement as he is unable to get to sleep without the comforting sounds of his monster's breathing, amongst other things. Other monsters come along, and are immediately rejected by the boy. The different characters of the monsters offer the reader a fantastic opportunity to really get into character, putting on voices - making this a book that begs to be read at bedtime. The drawings are amazing, bringing to mind the details seen in the Pixar movies, and as such offering another piece of comfort to any child to whom this is being read - the cartoon "scariness" is evocative of 'Monsters Inc.' and as such keeps the fear factor down. One to read again and again over the years - and not just for the enjoyment of the children!”

Ebook Library Reader, “Five Stars. Amazing book”

Blue Bell, "Emocionante, escalofriante, divertido, entretenido y bonitas ilustraciones. A mi hijo de 3 años y medio le FASCINA este cuento. (Cierto es que siempre le han gustado los monstruos, vampiros, lobos, esqueletos etc...) Lo pide a todas horas pero solo lo leemos al acostarnos. Es una historia divertida de un niño que necesita un monstruo bajo su cama para poder dormir- ya que el miedo que le tiene hace que se quede en la cama y pueda conciliar el sueño. Su monstruo se va a pescar un día y no puede dormir sin el, así que prueba a otros monstruos pero ninguno le asusta como el suyo. Una historia que valida el temor de los niños a la oscuridad, la noche, estar solos en su cuarto etc pero le da un vuelco y enseña como realmente no hay nada que temer. Mi hijo lo encuentra escalofriante, emocionante y divertido a la vez. Las imágenes son muy bonitas y creativas y a mi hijo le encantan. El cuento es para edades más avanzadas, yo diría que 6-7+ años, pero eso no ha sido un problema para mi hijo y disfruta de mi lectura, cambiando voces y haciendo los ruidos propios de los monstruos de la historia. Hablamos mucho de los dibujos, los detalles de las imágenes, las sombras las colas con pinchos, las lenguas largas y las garras con zarpas y lo hacemos divertido eliminando cualquier interpretación oscura que se le pueda dar a la historia. Al fin y al cabo es una historia de monstruos y sugiero que los padres tengan precaución al leerlo a sus niños ya que la interpretación del contexto variará mucho dependiendo de la sensibilidad del niño. Leí en los comentarios que a ciertas personas les pareció el cuento algo machista porque el niño descarta un monstruo al darse cuenta que es una chica por llevar un lazo. Porque "los monstruos chicos son para niños y los monstruos chicas son para niñas". Esto es cierto pero yo lo veo como una oportunidad para dialogar con mi pequeño sobre este tema. Hablamos sobre como el niño está perdiendo oportunidades de hacer amistades por solo querer un monstruo chico ... si le cambiáramos el lazo por una gorra de baseball? Dejaría el monstruo de ser igual de divertido, o malefico, cambiaría su manera de hablar y de rasgar con sus uñas, de babear? No. Hay que ver a las personas/monstruos por quien son y no como visten o por su sexo o color. Eso son los gustos de Ethan (el protagonista) y nosotros tenemos los nuestros, y si pudieramos hablar con el, le diríamos que no estamos de acuerdo. Me fascina como estos dialogos hacen que pensar a mi pequeño y que se de cuenta que en la variedad está el gusto. Los niños pueden aprender sobre el rechazo, la aceptación y la definición de exigente que varia según cada uno. También es cierto que hay un monstruo coqueto con nombre masculino "Ralph" que habla con voz aguda, uñas pintadas, pelo peinado y le gusta ir bien arreglado...conotaciones poco tradicionales y me parece fantastico. El libro está escrito en ingles. En resumen, a nosotros nos divierte muchísimo y ya hemos pasado muchas horas entre sus paginas .... y nos quedan muchas más!!"

FD, "IT is not so bad having a monster in your room.. This is a lovely book with fascinated and colourful book. The illustrations are remarkable well done. My 6 years old grandson love it. Sometimes he was frightened by the monster appearance and other time had a good laugh. This book makes us feel that every child has a different perspective on what is their own Needs

to make them comfortable.”

Annie, “Wonderful kid’s book for sure. My daughter adores this book. She makes us read it every night. Multiple times sometimes. It’s a really great read for kids”

The book by Anna Dewdney has a rating of 5 out of 4.8. 1,826 people have provided feedback.



## **Book Information**

Language: English

Item Weight: 12.5 ounces

Dimensions: 7.94 x 0.63 x 10.94 inches

Hardcover: 36 pages

Reading age: 2 - 5 years, from customers

Lexile measure: AD350L

Grade level: Preschool - 2

Board book: 14 pages

Paperback: 224 pages

Cards: 56 pages

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