

QUIT CALLING ME A

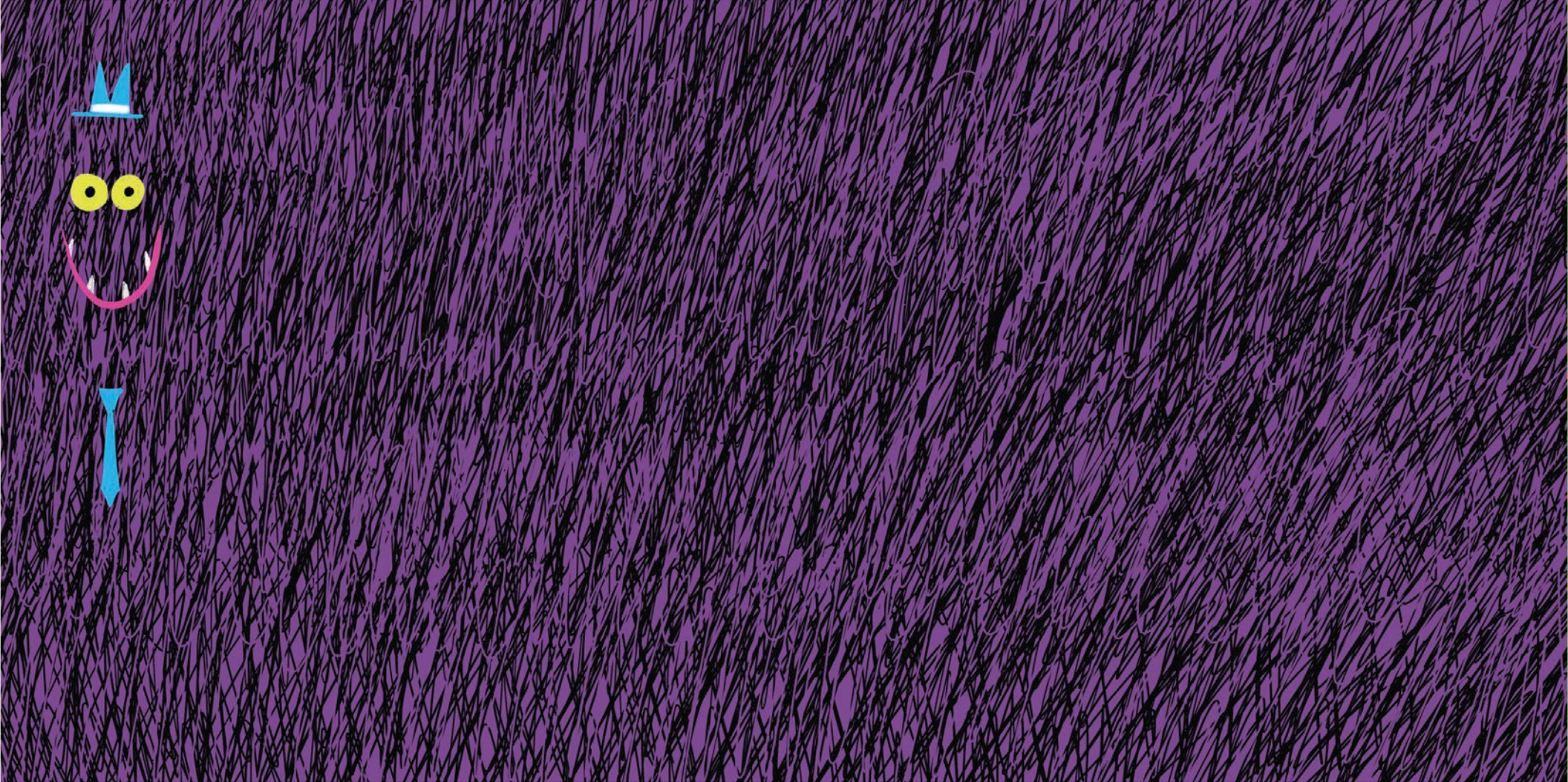


MONSTER!

**JORY JOHN** wrote the words    **BOB SHEA** drew the pictures

Creators of *I WILL CHOMP YOU!*









# QUIT CALLING ME A **MONSTER!**

To Nathan, Nicole, and Gwen  
—J.J.

For Maguire and Carter  
—B.S.

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**JORY JOHN**  
wrote the words

**BOB SHEA**  
drew the pictures



**Quit calling me a monster!  
Just . . . stop it, right this minute!**



I'm being totally and completely serious here.  
It really hurts my feelings.  
*I'm no monster!*

Just because  
I have horns.

And wild eyes.

And clompy feet.

And long  
toenails.

And fangs.

And crazy hair.



Just because I have a huge,  
toothy smile that  
glows in the dark.





Just because  
I roar.

And  
holler.

And  
scream.

And cackle.



And howl at the moon.



And howl at the sun.





**Just because I hide under the bed . . .**



**. . . or behind the shower curtain . . .**



**. . . or at the back of the closet . . .**



**. . . or in the glove compartment.**



It really bothers me when you call me  
a monster without even thinking about it.

"There goes a monster!"  
you exclaim when  
I pass by.



"Mommy, save me from that monster!"  
you holler when I'm just trying  
to get some groceries.







It's all so very annoying.  
It's not like I ever call you names, do I?



I could easily be like,  
"Look at that little meat  
snack over there."



Or "There goes the kid I'm going to chomp up."



But I don't.  
I don't say anything. Because I have good manners.  
You could really learn something from me.

Yep. I'm a monster with excellent manners!



Um ... I didn't mean ...  
I didn't mean *monster*, exactly ...  
I'm not a ... um ...



Sigh.



Okay, okay. Okay! I'm *technically* a monster.



After all, I have horns. And fangs. And wild eyes.  
And crazy hair. And clompy feet. And long toenails.  
And a huge, toothy smile that glows in the dark.





And my *parents* are monsters.  
It's all kind of obvious, I guess.  
Still, I really don't like being called  
a monster one bit.  
How would you like it?  
You wouldn't—*that's* how.  
So quit calling me a monster,  
everyone.



My name is Floyd.  
Floyd Peterson.



Please call me Floyd Peterson from now on  
and I won't roar at you like this.  
**ROARRRRRRRRRRRRRR!**

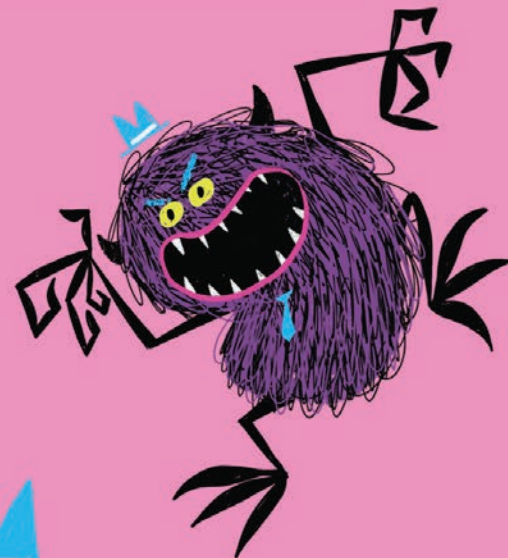


Or this ...

**GROWLLLLLLLLLLLLLLLL!**

Or this ...

**KAIYAWWWWWWWWWWWW!**







**That's the roar of Floyd Peterson.  
Not bad, right?**



Now I'm going to bed.



Try not to wake me when you clomp in  
with your silly feet. No offense.



ROAR  
SNORE



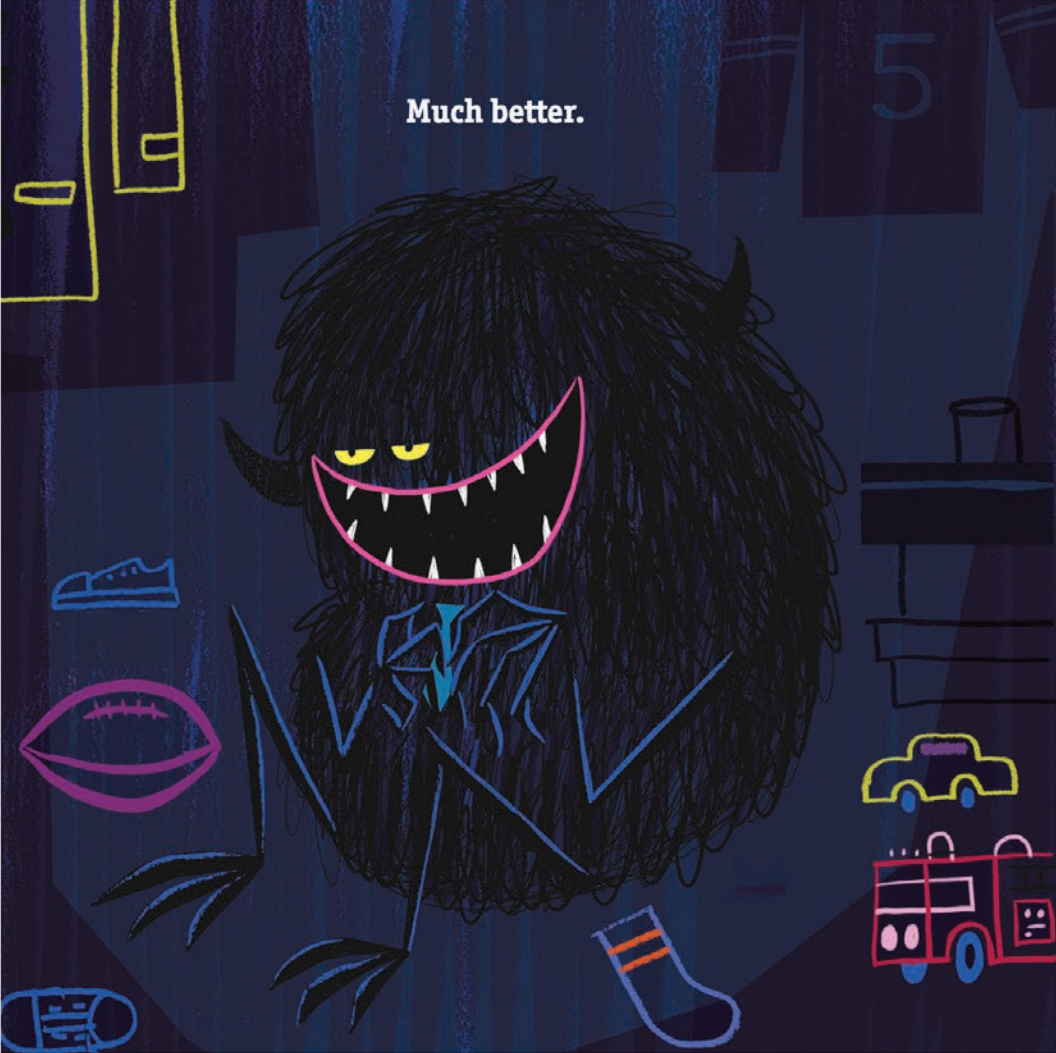
ROAR  
SNORE

Daddy, I think  
there's a monster  
in my closet!

No, son, it's just  
Floyd Peterson.

Oh . . . okay.  
Good night.

Much better.







**JORY JOHN** is a *New York Times* bestselling author and a two-time E. B. White Read Aloud Honor recipient. His previous collaboration with Bob Shea is the picture book *I Will Chomp You!* Jory is also the author of *Goodnight Already!* and coauthor of *The Terrible Two* and *All My Friends Are Dead*, among many other books. For six years, he taught writing at 826 Valencia, a nonprofit educational center in San Francisco. He can be found at [joryjohn.com](http://joryjohn.com) or on Twitter at [@joryjohn](https://twitter.com/joryjohn).

**BOB SHEA** has over a dozen picture books to his credit, including the popular *Dinosaur vs.* series, which he writes and illustrates, and the cult favorite *Big Plans*, illustrated by Lane Smith. His characters and animations have appeared on Nick Jr., Playhouse Disney, and PBS Kids. Bob spends his days writing, drawing, and having "conversations" with NPR. He lives in Madison, Connecticut, in real life, and online at [bobshea.com](http://bobshea.com).







