

Jonathan's Nightmare

by Guy Belleranti

"I don't want to have another nightmare," Jonathan whimpered in his sleep.

"But I'm a happy nightmare," said a voice.

"There isn't such a thing," Jonathan said.



"Yes there is. Look at me."

Jonathan looked at the horse before him, its tail swishing back and forth. "You're a horse."

"I'm both," neighed the horse. "There is no nightmare there is. I visit your happy dreams."

"You do?"

"Sure."

"But — Wait! Hold on."

"But I'm not just a horse," Audrey whinnied. "I'm a happy night mare."

"Oh, yeah. I forgot."

Audrey looked around the room. "I love your green walls, Jonathan. They make me think of sweet grass in a pasture. Which reminds me - I sure could use a snack."

"A snack?"

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"Yes. Apples if you have them. My travels make me very hungry."

"Oh." Jonathan wrinkled his brow. "I think we might have apples in the kitchen. But I would have to wake up to get you one."

"Not if you dream it."

"Dream it?"

Audrey bobbed her head. "Close your sleeping eyes."

Jonathan closed his eyes.

"Now see into your dreams."

"Yes," Jonathan said.

"Wonderful," Audrey said.

"Three?"

"Yes. Two for me and one for you."

Jonathan nodded. "I'll be there in a minute." He got up and went to his room, in his bed. Audrey was much more interested in the dream.

"We have to be careful," Jonathan said. "Mom and Dad aren't supposed to know about this."

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of friends."

in his room, in his

d Audrey. "And I hope

Don't worry," Audrey winked. "This is a happy nightmare. There will be no mess, and you'll be hungry and well-rested in the morning."

Jonathan smiled. He couldn't wait to wake up and tell Mom and Dad all about his happy nightmare.

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- 1) Jonathan first didn't want to eat apples himself because,
- a) he didn't like apples.
 - b) he didn't enjoy Audrey's company.
 - c) he was afraid mom and dad will be angry when he's not hungry in the morning.
 - d) he had eaten a lot of apples that night.

2) Why was Jonathan

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3) Recount some p

ory.

4) What is the diff

ightmare'?

5) Have you ever had a happy nightmare? Describe the experience.
