

Section 1:

#1 "It was a miracle happening right before my eyes. A tall, plump man dressed in a bright red pyjama robe was standing right in front of me. A wave of excitement rushed through me, and I was bursting with joyfulness. All the doubt from my six years of living were finally washed away, and a flood of certainty filled my body. I finally knew that I had been right the whole time, and no one would ever be able to tell me that Santa didn't exist, because I had seen him with my own eyes."

Strengths: Your vivid description creates a powerful emotional scene. The phrase "bursting with joyfulness" effectively conveys childlike excitement.

Weakness: Repetitive sentence structure → Your opening paragraph contains several sentences that begin with "A" or "I," creating a monotonous rhythm. For instance, "A tall, plump man," "A wave of excitement," and "All the doubt" appear consecutively, followed by multiple sentences starting with "I." This repetition reduces the impact of what should be a dramatic moment.

"The miracle unfolded before my eyes as a tall, plump man in a bright red pyjama robe stood before me. Excitement rushed through my body, washing away six years of doubt and filling me with absolute certainty. No one could ever tell me Santa didn't exist now—I had seen him with my own eyes."

#2 "Suddenly, I saw a bright red figure exiting through the back door. A rush of anger poured through me like a deluge of rain, and I was ready to pounce at any second. "Hey! You're meant to leave through the chimney!" I screamed. "B...b...but you don't have one," replied Santa uncertainly, as he hurried towards his sled."

Strengths: Your dialogue feels authentic and the stammering "B...b...but" effectively shows Santa's surprise. The simile "like a deluge of rain" helps readers visualise the character's emotions.

Weakness: Underdeveloped reaction → Your narrative jumps too quickly from anger to confrontation without showing the thought process behind the character's decision to speak. The phrase "I was ready to pounce at any second" suggests hesitation, but immediately after, you write "I screamed," without explaining what prompted this sudden outburst.

"When I spotted the bright red figure slipping through our back door, anger flooded through me. 'That's not how it works in the stories!' I thought frantically before shouting, 'Hey! You're meant to leave through the chimney!' Santa turned, his eyes wide with surprise. 'B...b...but you don't have one,' he replied uncertainly, hurrying towards his sled."

#3 **"Immediately, I realized what I had done wrong. I was terribly ashamed of myself and wanted to go back in time. I had allowed the stories and fairytales to be carved into my mind and had now started to carve them into everyone else's mind. I had been so lost in fantasy that I had forgotten about the real world. However, at least now I knew that i could believe in fiction if I really wanted to, but I would always live in a non-fiction world."**

Strengths: Your conclusion shows maturity and growth in the character. The repetition of "carved" creates a powerful metaphor for how stories shape our thinking.

Weakness: Telling rather than showing → Your final paragraph states emotions directly rather than revealing them through actions or physical sensations. Phrases like "I realized," "I was terribly ashamed," and "I knew that" tell readers what the character feels instead of showing these realisations through concrete details.

"My cheeks burned with shame as Santa hurried away. Standing alone in the dim room, I touched the presents he'd left—real gifts from a real person who'd come through a door, not a chimney. The magical stories I'd clung to had blinded me to what was happening right in front of me. I could still enjoy those fairytales, but now I understood the difference between the stories I loved and the world I lived in."

Your narrative captures the moment a child confronts the difference between fantasy and reality in a poignant way. The emotional journey from excitement to confusion to understanding works well, but you could strengthen this by slowing down key moments. Consider how your character physically experiences these emotions—do they feel their heart racing? Is there a lump in their throat? Adding these sensory details would make the reader feel more connected to your character's experience.

The revelation at the end has significant potential, but it feels rushed. You might expand this moment by showing how the character processes this new understanding. Perhaps they look at other childhood beliefs differently, or they notice small clues they had previously ignored about Santa. Also, consider developing the character's relationship with "fiction" more throughout the piece, rather than just mentioning it at the end.

Additionally, your dialogue effectively captures the awkward moment of realisation, but you could enhance this by including more sensory details about Santa's appearance and actions. What does the character notice that might be different from the "stories and fairytales" version? These details would reinforce your theme about distinguishing fantasy from reality.

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Overall Score: 40/50

Section 2:

It was a miracle happening right before my eyes. A tall, plump man dressed in a bright red pyjama robe was standing right in front of me. A wave of excitement rushed through me, and I was bursting with joyfulness. All the doubt from my six years of living ~~were~~ [was] finally washed away, and a flood of certainty filled my body. I finally knew that I had been right the whole time, and no one would ever be able to tell me that Santa didn't exist, because I had seen him with my own eyes. #1

As I watched the old man place my presents that I had waited ever so long for, I suddenly felt pleased with myself. I prided myself with great ~~honor~~ [honour] as I remembered that it was I who had always believed in the fascinating stories of this marvelous man. Santa was like the father of my ever growing imagination, and not once had I stopped to think that there was a possibility that he didn't exist. I wanted to give the large man a great big hug with my tiny arms, but I knew that he wasn't meant to know I was here.

Suddenly, I saw a bright red figure exiting through the back door. A rush of anger poured through me like a deluge of rain, and I was ready to pounce at any second. "Hey! You're meant to leave through the chimney!" I screamed. "B...b...but you don't have one," replied Santa uncertainly, as he hurried towards his sled. #2

Immediately, I realized what I had done wrong. I was terribly ashamed of myself and wanted to go back in time. I had allowed the stories and fairytales to be carved into my mind and had now started to carve them into everyone else's mind. I had been so lost in fantasy that I had forgotten about the real world. However, at least now I knew that ~~ı~~ [I] could believe in fiction if I really wanted to, but I would always live in a non-fiction world. #3