

Section 1:

#1 - Opening paragraph: "I raced through the woods, holding a sacred copper locket to my chest as if it were my life. Wolves and predatory owls were right on my tail. With my life at stake, I made a dash for a burrow with my heart thumping like a giant's footsteps."

Strengths: Your opening grabs the reader's attention immediately with exciting action. You've created a clear sense of danger and urgency that makes us want to keep reading.

Weakness: Unclear scene transition → The connection between your dream sequence and the real world becomes confusing. When you write "I suddenly unexpectedly woke up," readers lose track of what's happening because there's no clear signal that we were in a dream from the start.

Exemplar: *I found myself racing through dark woods in what felt like the most vivid dream of my life, clutching a sacred copper locket to my chest.*

#2 - Middle section: "I wasn't giving up yet. I searched the entire house from the underground basement to the roof. I couldn't find anything about a locket until I opened a mini closet disguised as a filing cabinet."

Strengths: Your determination to prove the doctor wrong shows good character development. The discovery of the hidden note creates genuine mystery and intrigue.

Weakness: Rushed pacing → Your search happens too quickly without showing the effort involved. Phrases like "I searched the entire house" tell us what happened but don't let us experience the frustration and hope you felt during this important part of your story.

Exemplar: *For three hours, I searched every corner of the house, checking behind old furniture and inside forgotten boxes, my hope fading with each empty drawer I opened.*

#3 - Ending section: "The locket opened revealing an obnoxious eye. Then, it exploded releasing black gas which slowly started morphing together. Two eyes as black as death formed."

Strengths: Your ending has a surprising twist that changes everything we thought we knew about the locket. The transformation scene creates a spooky atmosphere that fits well with your adventure story.

Weakness: Incomplete resolution → Your story ends right when the most interesting part begins. The phrase "I had unleashed an unstoppable reign of terror" promises more story, but we don't learn what happens next or how your character deals with this problem.

Exemplar: *As the dark creature towered over the frightened dinosaurs, I realised I needed to find a way to reverse what I had done before this evil spread beyond the dimension.*

■ Your piece shows real creativity in mixing dreams, mystery, and adventure into one exciting story. The idea of a locket that opens portals to different worlds is imaginative and engaging. However, your story would benefit from slowing down in key moments to help readers understand what's happening. Currently, events happen so quickly that we don't get time to feel the emotions your character experiences. Additionally, your story needs stronger connections between different parts - the jump from dream to reality, then to the attic search, feels choppy. To improve your writing, try spending more time on each major event. For example, when your character searches the house, show us the mess they make and their growing frustration. Also, consider giving your character more of a personality by showing their thoughts and feelings about what's happening. Finally, your ending needs to resolve the main problem or at least show us how your character plans to fix the situation they've created.

Overall Score: 42/50

Section 2:

The Primeval Locket

#1 I raced through the woods, holding a sacred copper locket to my chest as if it were my life. Wolves and predatory owls were right on my tail. With my life at stake, I made a dash for a burrow with my heart thumping like a giant's footsteps.

~~I suddenly unexpectedly woke up.~~ [I suddenly woke up with a start.] "That was all a dream?" I thought to myself. It seemed too real to be a dream. I couldn't remember much from the dream after school, but I felt like I could feel its importance and its energy humming ~~in my dream~~. [within me.] ~~Feeling~~ [Experiencing] physical things in a dream was not normal. I decided to get checked ~~at the doctors~~ [by the doctor] but all he said was that I was imagining ~~feeling~~ [the] energy ~~in the dream~~. [from my dream.] I knew that wasn't the case.

#2 Filled with extraordinary determination to prove the doctor wrong, I embarked on a mission to find the ancient locket. Looking in my own attic for any clues, I found an important ~~looking chest~~. ~~My heart pounded heavily. "This could be it"~~ [,] I thought hopefully but I opened the chest to find an old newspaper and ~~few~~ [a few] comics. With anger and frustration, I ~~teared~~ [tore] the newspaper ~~up~~ into tiny scraps of dusty paper and threw the key onto the street.

I wasn't giving up yet. I searched the entire house from the underground basement to the roof. I couldn't find anything about a locket until I opened a mini closet disguised as a filing cabinet. I hadn't touched it since I ~~arrived~~. [had moved in.] Inside was a note reading[:]

~~If you find this note, then I am dead already.~~ [If you are reading this note, I am already dead.] ~~I have spent years opening a secret dimension in this closet.~~ [I spent years creating a portal to a secret dimension within this closet.] Pass this secret on for generations so my efforts will be ~~cherished~~. [remembered.] Stick your head into the second shelf from the top and imagine a world full of ancient animals. Good luck.

After I finished reading, my jaw dropped. I had a thousand questions. "Who wrote it and were they evil? Did I have dyslexia and read the words wrong? Despite my unspeakable fears and terrors of what awaited in the pocket dimension, if there really was one [,] ~~Despite my unspeakable fears and terrors of what awaited in the pocket dimension, if there really was one.~~ [I knew I had to try.]

#3 I found myself lying on the ground in the middle of an enchanted rainforest. Next to me was a golden locket. "Wow," I thought out loud [. "~~That was easy.!~~"] ~~My joy was short-lived when I saw a pair of dark red and a pair of dark yellow eyes staring at me,~~ like I had taken their babies. The next thing I knew I was running at full speed away from the danger, away from death. The locket was humming dangerously loudly. I didn't even have time to ~~recall~~ [realise] this was exactly what ~~happened~~ [had happened] in my dream.

When I made it to the shore of the beach, I thought I was safe. But there were raptors, T-~~Rexes and velociraptors waiting for me,~~ hungry and fierce-looking. ~~When I least expected it,~~ the locket shook vigorously as if it were trying to escape. Then, it released a powerful stunning shockwave making me lose ~~grip of~~ [my grip on] it. The dinosaurs I thought were going to eat me started roaring ~~scaredly~~. [in fear.] The locket opened revealing an obnoxious eye. Then, it exploded releasing black gas which slowly started morphing together. Two eyes as black as death formed.

It made its way towards the raptors confidently. I thought the raptors were going to win but unexpectedly they looked scared and ~~horror~~. [horrified.] ~~Thats~~ [That's] when I ~~realised~~, [realised] I had unleashed an unstoppable reign of terror.