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November **23** 2011

A Monster Calls: Inspired from an Idea by Siobhan Dowd

Author:
Patrick Ness
Illustrator:
Jim Kay

Grades 5+

Have you ever read a book that made you cry? Ever read a book that, once you were finished, you just sat with and held for a while, letting the words sink into you, not wanting to have finished it? Ever read a book that you couldn't stop thinking about after you finished? Ever read a book that was so true and real you experienced the whole thing in your mind as you read? This is one of those books.

Hauntingly, chillingly written with formidable illustration, *A Monster Calls* tells the story of a boy named Conor. Conor has terrible, monstrous nightmares; one day he looks out his bedroom window to see a monster looking back at him - but *not* the one from his nightmares. This monster wants something of Conor, but before it gets it, it will tell Conor three stories.

When the three stories are finished, it will be Conor's turn. And he will have to tell *his* story.

The truth.

If you read one book this year, this reviewer hopes it's this one.

Check availability of this book*

More books by Patrick Ness

Books by Siobhan Dowd
Siobhan Dowd, children's and young adult author, passed away from breast cancer in 2007. Among the things left behind was the idea for *A Monster Calls*, which Patrick Ness has written in her memory.

*Title also owned on My Media Mall

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