

The Big Circus

Page 1 - illustration

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Page 3 Dedication

This book was created especially for

Paul Michael Jones

at the age of 4

With Love From,
Grandma and Grandpa

December 22, 2000

Page 4

Paul has waited such a long time
for the circus to come to town.

He had always dreamed of seeing
the lions, elephants and clowns.

Now the time had finally come,
and **he** was going to see
that in the town of **Fair Lawn**,
Paul's dreams can become a reality.

Pages 5 & 6 - illustrations

Page 7

"Welcome children, young and old,
to the greatest show around;
to the place where animals, magic
and entertainment can be found.
Step right up and take your seat
inside the tent so grand,"

a friendly clown said to **Paul**
and **his** friends at the ticket stand.

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Danny, John and Dylan

were waiting to sit in their place.

Suddenly a clown rushed out
with a worried look on her face.

"One of our clowns isn't feeling well!" she said.

"I'm afraid he can't do the show.

Would **Paul** be willing to take his place?

That's all I need to know."

Pages 9 & 10 illustrations

Page 11

The clown looked down and studied **Paul**,
then smiled with great delight.

"Would you be willing to take his place?

You are just the perfect height!"

Paul looked at **his** friends with a great big grin,
and quickly agreed to go.

"Hi **Paul**, my name is Coco,
and tonight you'll be the show."

Coco painted **Paul's** face white,
and gave **him** bright colored clothes.

He topped **Paul's** head with a bright orange wig
and put a red ball on his nose.

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And just when **Paul** was through getting dressed,
the lights in the tent went out.

A spotlight shone on the ringmaster,
who started to walk and shout.

"As we begin, please give your attention
to the cage just on my right.

Where Daniel, our fearless lion trainer,
has worked both day and night."

Pages 13 & 14 illustrations

Page 15

Six giant beasts rushed into the cage,
as Daniel cracked his whip.

Paul thought to **himself**, "I could do that,
but it's something I'd rather skip."

They jumped through hoops and formed a line,
and **Paul** thought it was funny,
when a lion rolled onto his back,
and showed the crowd his tummy.

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As **Paul** looked up,
at the very top of the tent,
he had to guess the next act
was a most dangerous event.
Paul saw a clown step forward,
and jump on a flying trapeze.
After he swung a couple of times,
he hung upside down by his knees.

Pages 17 & 18 illustrations

Page 19

Suddenly, it seemed to **Paul**
that everything happened at once.
Three separate groups came into the tent
to perform three different stunts.
First came a clown on a one-wheeled ride,
as fast as he could go.
Juggling things up in the air,
he was sure to steal the show.

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In the third ring was the funniest thing,
Paul thought **he** had seen it all.
Then a mouse and seal team stunned the crowd,
with balloons and a big bright ball.

Pages 21 & 22 illustrations

Page 23

The circus fun went on and on.
It seemed to last all day.
Clowns rolled in on a fire truck,
with hoses ready to spray.
Danny, John and Dylan
were ready for a soak,
but when confetti sprayed out on them,
Paul saw it was a joke.

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Paul was busy watching the show,
and completely lost track of time.
He was startled when **he** heard Coco say,
"Get ready, we're next in line!"

Pages 25 & 26 illustrations

Page 27

"Get ready for the big parade!"
Coco said to **Paul** with a grin.
"You get to ride an elephant
that goes by the name of Big Ben."
Paul's eyes grew wide and **he** laughed with delight
when Coco pointed and said,
"Climb up this ladder to get on his back,
and sit behind his head."

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Paul climbed on the back of Big Ben,
who stood at least twelve feet high.
And just as **Paul** was settled in,
he heard the ring master cry,
"Ladies and gentlemen, I'm afraid to say
we're close to the end of our show,
but we'd like to give you one last act,
before we let you go."

Pages 29 & 30 illustrations

Page 31

**"We're going to have a big parade,
right here inside our tent,
but I have a great announcement to make,
before we begin the event.
The one who's going to lead the parade,
lives right here in your hometown.
It brings me pleasure to present to you.
Fair Lawn's own Paul, the clown!"**

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**When Paul had gotten off Big Ben,
and thanked him for the ride,
he went to find Coco the Clown
and give her a hug good-bye.
On the way home, Paul remembered the show,
where magic and wonder were found.
Paul knew he would never forget
the day the circus came to town.**

Pages 33 & 34 illustrations

