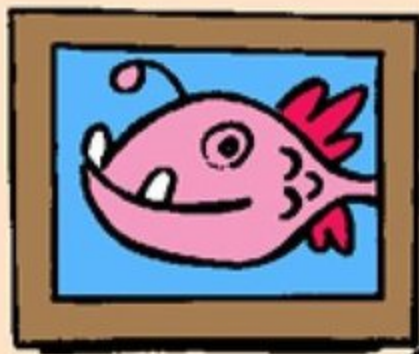


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# Monster Cowboy

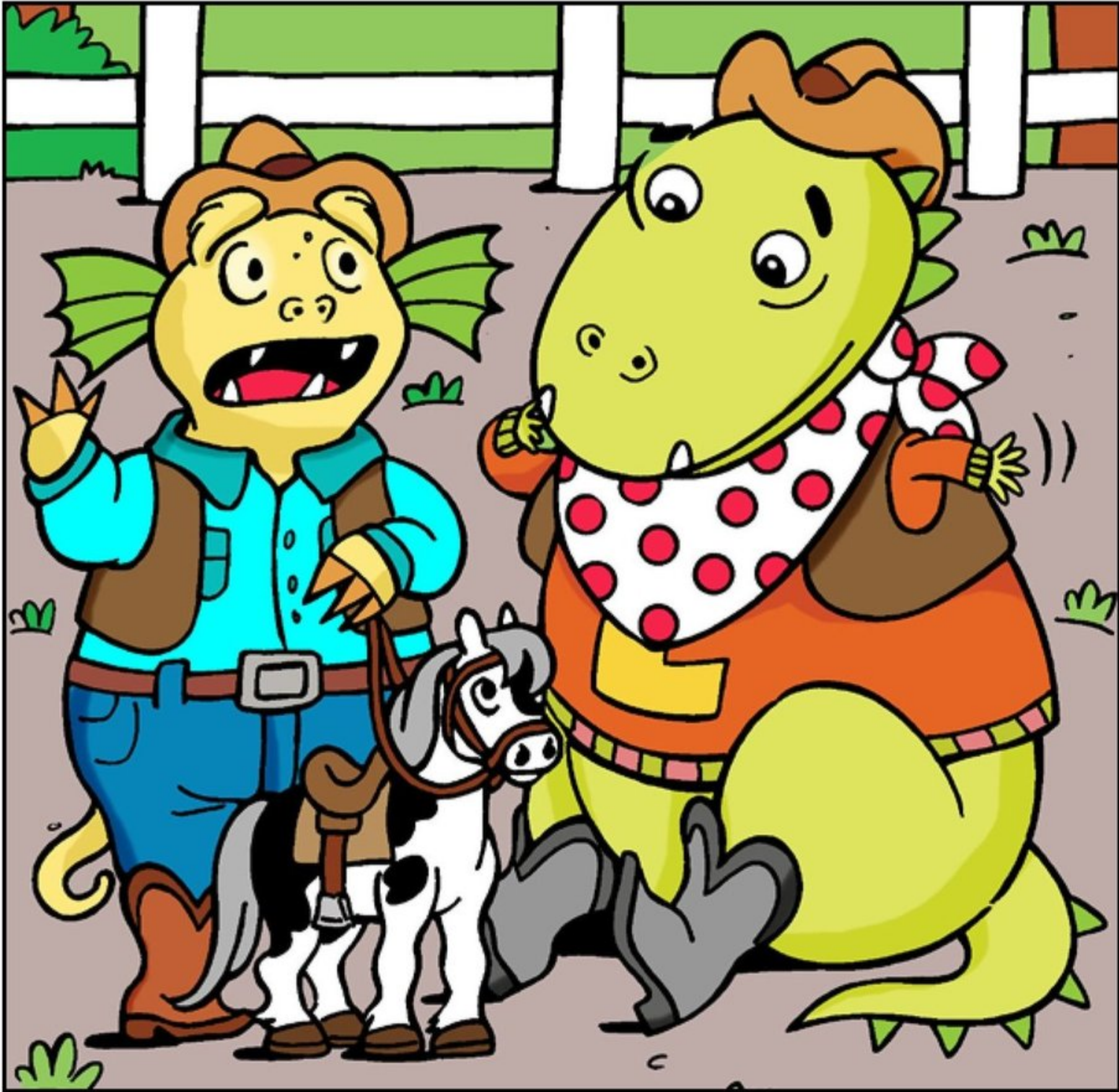


Written by Maribeth Boelts  
Illustrated by Nora Voutas

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# Monster Cowboy



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Lurk wants to be a cowboy.

He has a cowboy hat  
and cowboy boots.

“Get along, Little Doggies,” he says.

“Let’s get some grub.”





The monsters plan a surprise for Lurk.  
“Let’s take Lurk to a farm to ride a  
real horse,” says Uzzle.  
On Saturday, the monsters go to  
Lurk’s house.





“Follow us, Lurk,” says Uzzle.

“We’ll take you to a surprise.”

The monsters lead Lurk on a  
dusty trail through the woods.

Soon, they reach the farm.





“Horses!” Lurk says. “Cowboys love horses!”

The farmer brings out horses for Lurk to see.





“They are all so small,” Lurk says.

“Will I be able to ride one of them?”

Lurk asks the farmer.





“I’m sorry you can’t ride these horses,” the farmer says.

“And the bigger horses are not here,” he says.





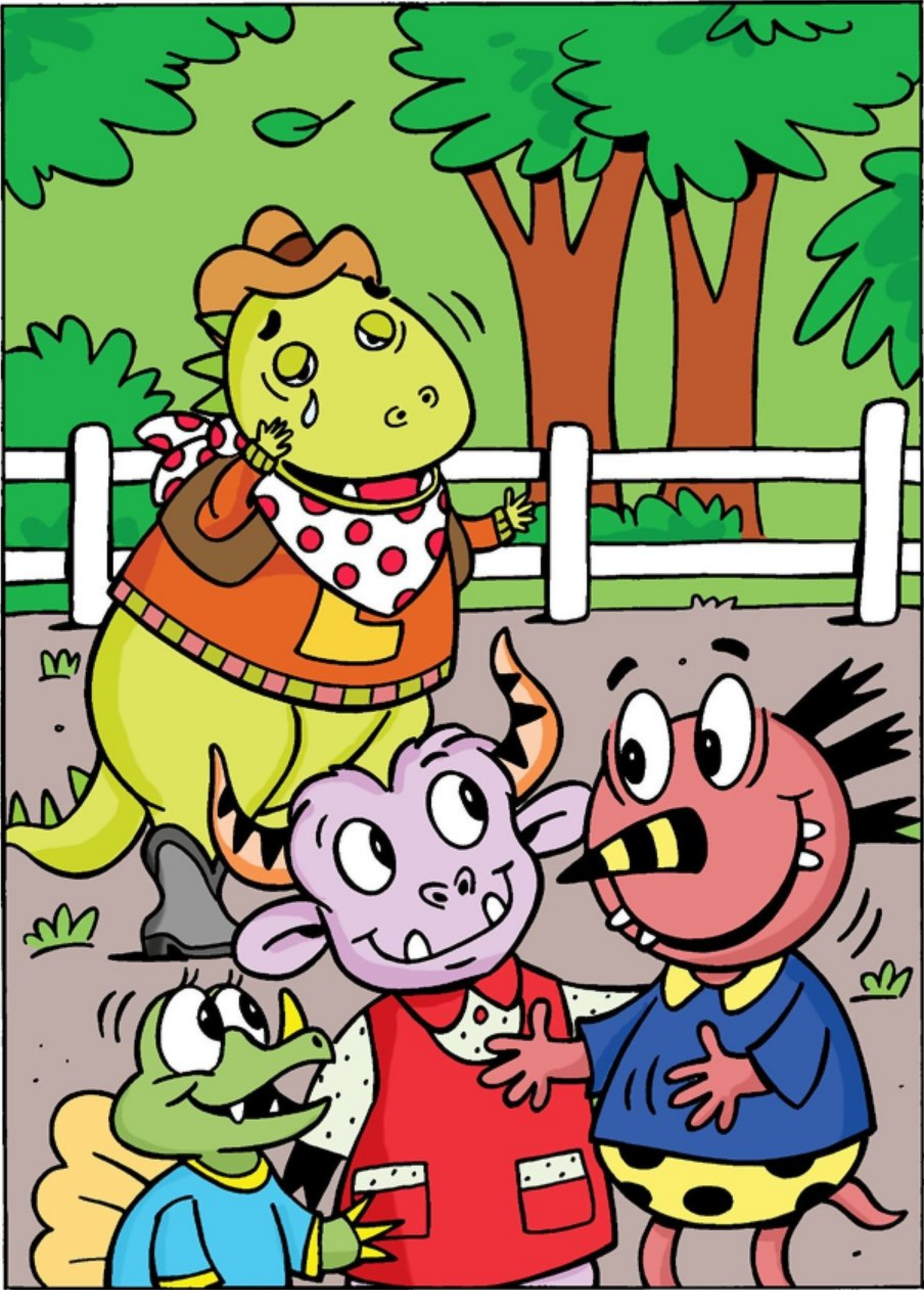
“They are at a friend’s farm,”  
the farmer says.

“They are all getting new shoes.”

“Will they be back?” Lurk asks.

“Not for a long time,” the farmer says.





“I really wanted to ride a horse,”  
Lurk says.

The monsters make another plan.





“Follow us, Lurk,” says Bonk.

“We’ll find a horse you can ride.”

The monsters lead Lurk on the trail  
back through the woods.

They walk to the shopping mall.





Outside the mall is a row of horses that go up and down.

“Horses!” says Lurk.

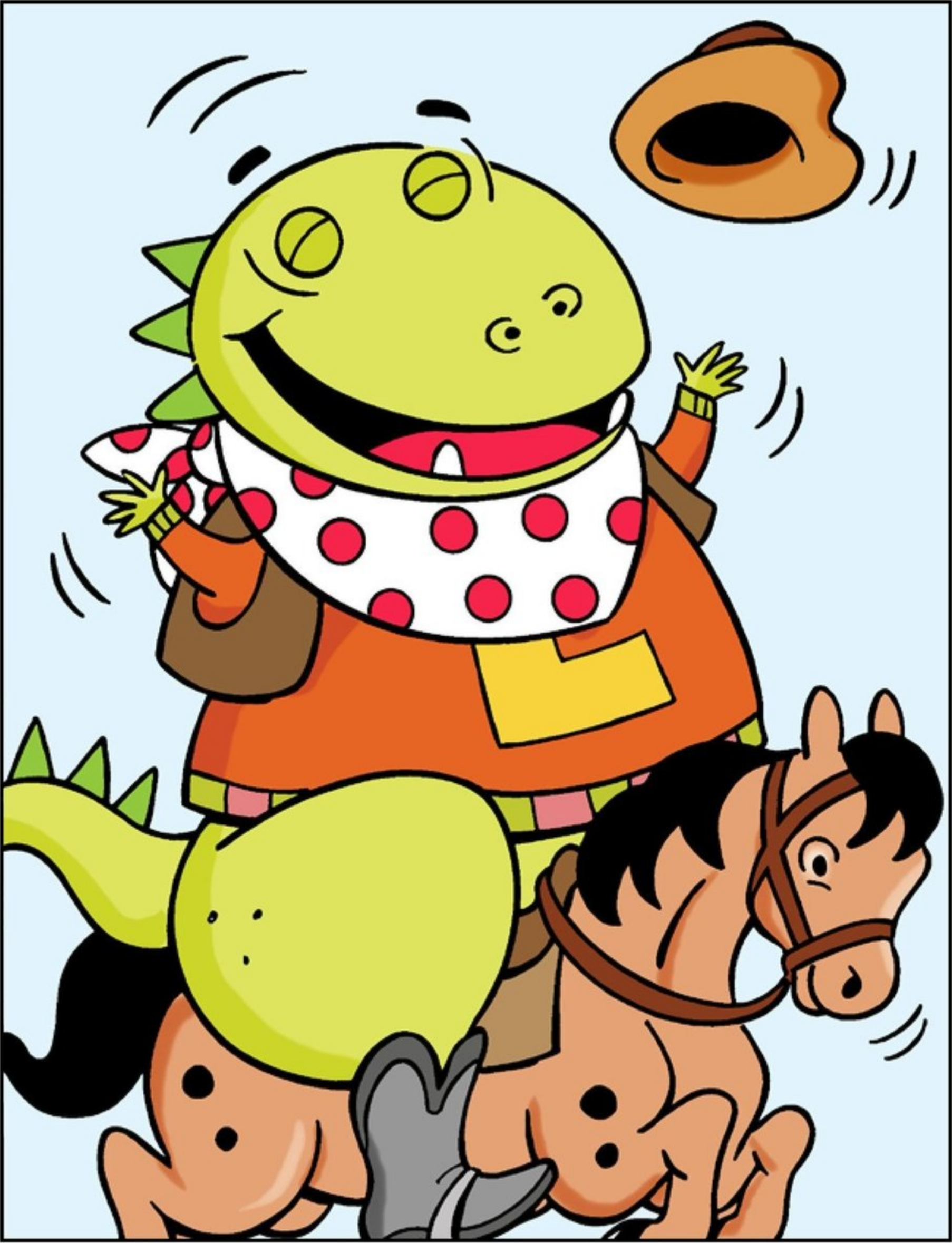
Lurk chooses a horse and swings his leg over the saddle.





Jupe puts a quarter into the slot.  
Soon the ride begins, and the  
monsters cheer.





Lurk's cowboy hat flies off.  
"I'm riding a horse!" he says.  
He waves his hands in the air.  
"Yippee-ki-yay!" he says.





“When the ride is over, Lurk says,  
“There is one more thing that  
cowboys need.”





“What?” asks Bonk.

“Lots of quarters so all his friends can ride horses, too!” Lurk says.



**Author Note**

Maribeth Boelts is the author of over twenty books for young readers, including the “Little Bunny” series (*Dry Days, Wet Nights; Little Bunny’s Pacifier Plan*); *Lullaby Lullabook*; *Big Daddy, Frog Wrestler*; and the upcoming *The Firefighters’ Thanksgiving*.

Monster Cowboy  
A Monsters Story  
Level J Leveled Book  
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