



Josh Funk [He/Him] is a software engineer and the author of books like the Lady Pancake & Sir French Toast series, the It's Not a Fairy Tale series, the How to Code with Pearl and Pascal series, the A Story of Patience & Fortitude series, Dear Dragon, Pirasaurs!, Albie Newton, and more.

Josh is accepting applications for: fiction, humor, rhyme OR prose, STEM.

Josh is accepting applications from: unagented, unpublished creators only.

1. What's one non-publishing-related career that you wish you could have?

Musician. Or starting pitcher for the Boston Red Sox.

2. If you could have dinner with one person, dead or alive, who would it be and why?

Myself. I suffer from misophonia and don't like to hear other people chew.

3. What are your five favorite picture books not written, illustrated, and/or edited by you?

Chicken Cheeks. Boats for Papa. Iggy Peck, Architect. The Remember Balloons. The Curious Garden.

Also, I despise this question for making me pick only five.

4. What writing and/or publishing-related accomplishment are you most proud of?

That I've been able to publish a book at all. Having a single piece of my writing published is a huge accomplishment. The rest is syrup.

5. What about mentoring excites you most?

Connecting with a like-minded picture book loving writer and helping someone make more awesome books for kids to read.

6. What are your strengths as a mentor?

Enthusiasm. Market knowledge. Recent publishing experience. Social media know-how. Moderately solid critiquing.

7. What is your feedback/critique style like?

Written. And also face-to-face via video conference. Encouraging. I just want to get more great books into kids' hands.

Also, if you write in rhyme, I will break your manuscript down syllable-by-syllable just like I do my own manuscripts.

8. What are the most important things you're seeking in a mentee?

Someone who likes discussing stories and figuring out how to take them to the next level.

9. Who are you not the best mentor for?

Someone with aversion to revision.

10. How will you help your mentee and their stories develop?

Critiques. Industry & market insight. Social media support.

11. What is your style of communication like?

Relaxed. Informal. Email, Phone, Video.

12. What are you looking for in the applications you receive?

Creativity.

13. Any tips/advice for applicants to make their applications and/or manuscripts shine?

Have fun with it.

14. What advice or inspiring and/or motivational words would you like to offer up to anyone applying to be your mentee or simply reading this questionnaire?

Keep writing new things. Your next story will be better than your last because of everything you learned while writing and revising the last one. And check out the [Resources for Writers](#) page on my website, because most of the rest of my advice is there.