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Home > Johnny Swanson

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## **Johnny Swanson**

**Author:** 

Eleanor Updale

Reading Level: Grades 4-6

When 11-year-old Johnny, the very shortest boy in his class, steals money from his mother and answers an ad promising to give him the "secret to instant height", he is dismayed to receive a note advising him to "stand on a box." Angry and ashamed, Johnny begins his own mail order scam thus setting a series of events in motion which may lead to his own mother's death.

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## Other stories of questionable young entrepreneurs include:

The Great Brain by John Dennis Fitzgerald

The Year Money Grew on Trees by Aaron R. Hawkins and

The Beloved Dearly by Doug Cooney

## YS Book Level:

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5th Grade

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