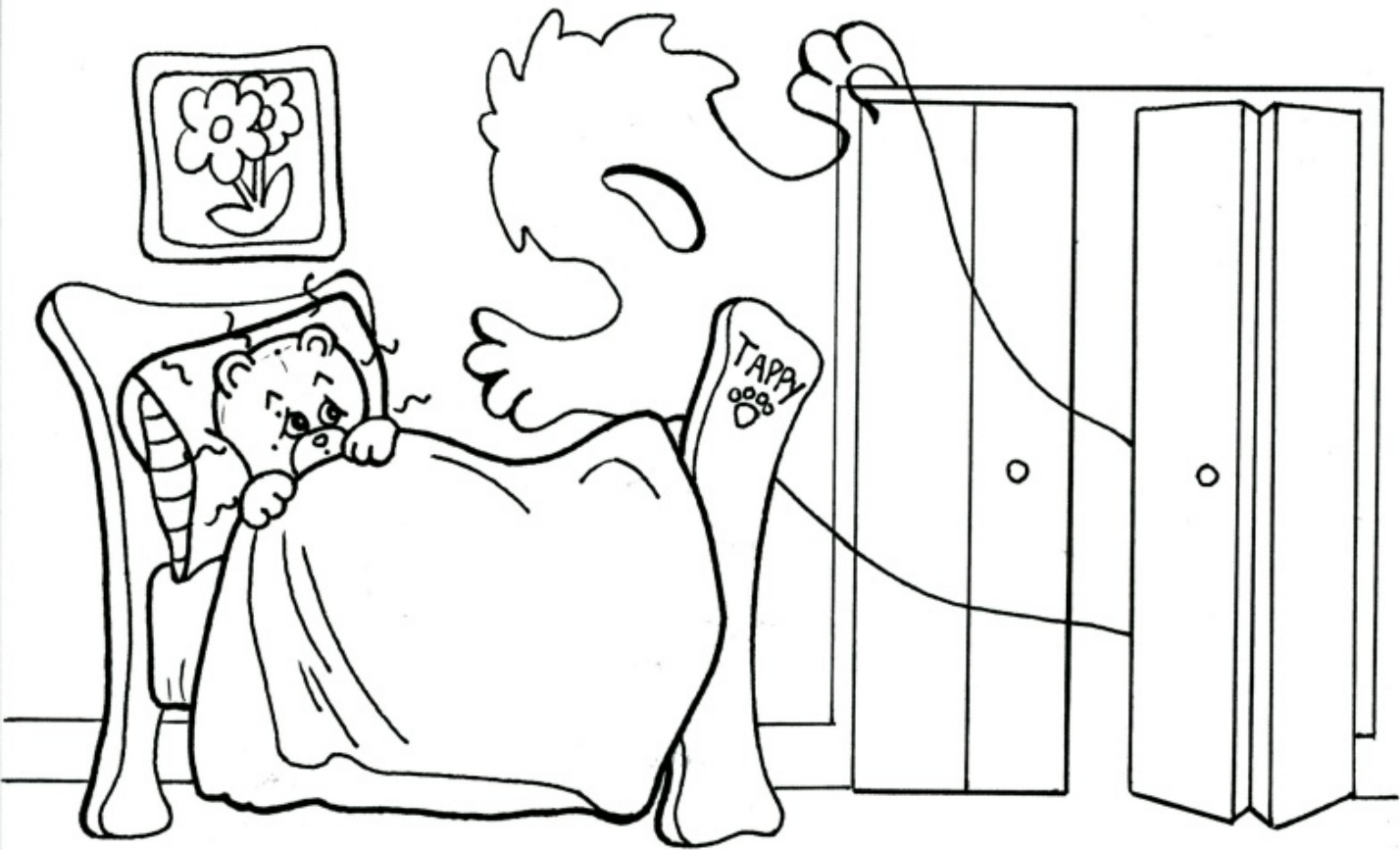


COLOR TAPPYBEAR – Tappy and the Ghost



## The Ghost in Tappy's Closet

One night, in the middle of the night, TappyBear was sound asleep and all warm and comfy in his bed, when he was awakened by the sound of thunder. He hadn't expected a storm and so he felt a little scared.

Then he heard a strange sort of groaning noise. It seemed to come from his *closet*.

Tappy now felt more scared. What was this? Maybe a ghost was hiding in his closet!

Then his scary thoughts made him even more scared. Suppose the ghost would come *out* of the closet!

Then he became *even more* scared when he thought, "Suppose the ghost will come *after me*?"

Thoughts can make you really scared. Tappy was *really* scared.

To make himself feel better he decided right then and there to tap on his special magic tapping spots and tap the scared feelings away. He knew he would be able to take care of *any* problem if he just wasn't so scared.

So, Tappy began to tap on his special tapping spots. At each tapping spot he said out loud, "Even though I'm scared, I'm a *great bear* and I can handle this!" - He said this same thing at each tapping spot, and soon he began to feel better — and better ---- and better.

Pretty soon Tappy felt so much better from doing all that tapping that he got out of bed, switched on the light, and went over to his closet and OPENED it to see what was in there. And guess what? All that was in that closet was his own clothes and a few games on the self. THERE WAS NO GHOST AT ALL!

But then Tappy heard that groaning noise again. This time though he was so calm that he realized the noise was coming from his *window*. He decided to walk over to the window and see what was going on; the tapping had helped him so much that he wasn't a *bit* scared anymore. "I'll handle it" he said to himself.

And that's what Tappy did. He went over to the window and he listened to the sound and he looked out the window. Even though it was night, the light from his room shone out into the darkness and now he could see a tree branch outdoors being blown by the wind. It was being blown so it brushed right against his window, and when it scraped on the glass of the window it was making a noise that sounded like a squeaky *groaning!*

A tree branch! It hadn't been a ghost at all! He had only thought it was a ghost because he had felt scared in the first place when he was wakened up by the thunder. Now that he wasn't scared anymore, he realized what the noise was and felt fine. The tapping had come to his rescue!

Tappy went back and crawled into bed and said to himself, "It's only a tree branch scraping on my window. I'll just go to sleep." And that's what he did.