

Prose Honorable Mention

“The Not So Scary Monster” by Ella Lattaie St. Francis Xavier School, 5th Grade

At 12:35 AM I started to hear noises underneath my bed. I peeked under to see what was there, but there was nothing, just pitch black. So I crawled back in bed and went to sleep. A few minutes later, I kept hearing whimpering underneath my bed, but every time I looked, there was nothing there.

It's the next night and I wanted to see what was making the noise. I went underneath my bed to see if I could catch the monster. While I was under the bed I heard footsteps. The monster came under the bed. I accidentally scared him, he was not expecting me to be under the bed.

I asked him why he was here, trying to scare me. He explained to me he was an outcast from his friends and family because they thought he was bad at scaring people so they believed he didn't belong with them. He asked me if I can help him become better at that.

First I asked to see his roar. He very timidly said, “Roar.” I told him that it was too soft, so I took him to the Zoo. He asked me what we were doing here and I said, “I'm going to show you the lions and the gorillas to see if they could show how to roar louder.” We went up to the lions and they roared really loud and I said, “That is exactly how you need to roar.” Then we went to go see the gorillas. I told him that gorillas are tough and you need to be tough like them to be a scary monster. I asked him to show me his roar once again. This time when he roared it was loud like the lions and strong like the gorillas. Sense our job was done at the Zoo we went back home.

Next I asked him to show how he would scare people. He showed me his BOO and it was very loud. Since that part was really good, I asked him to scare me. So I laid in my bed and waited. A few minutes later I heard him stomping into my room. I explained to him “You have to tiptoe and be very quiet when scaring people. That way they won't know it is coming and they will get super scared when you say boo.” We then tried it again and after a few minutes of waiting for him, I started to wonder if he got lost or just decided to take a nap. Then I suddenly jumped and my heart started beating very fast when I heard a loud boo that was very close to me. “Wow that was really good and scary, I didn't hear you at all” I exclaimed.

I then told the monster “Well, it looks like my job is done here, you should quit living under my bed and head back to your family. Don't worry, you most definitely will fit in with them.” He said his thank you to me and then we said our final goodbyes. With the final goodbye I said, “Now this means, you can visit me sometimes but you better not scare me in the middle of the night or I might have a heart attack!”