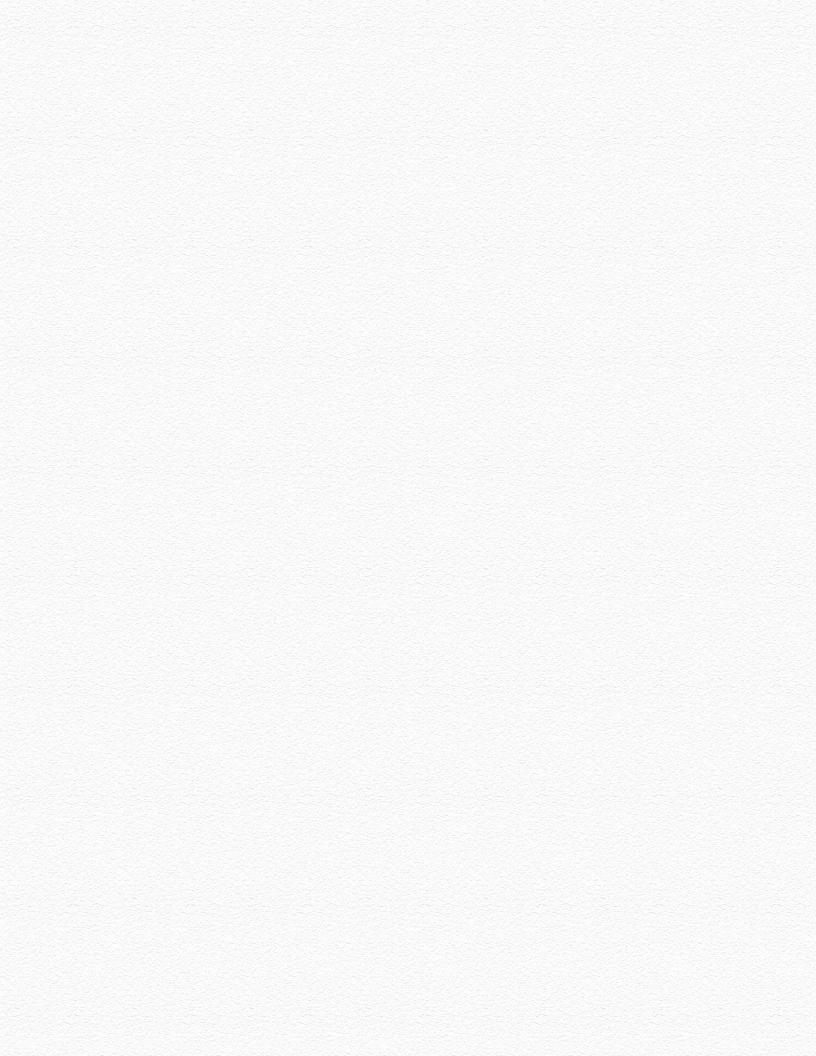






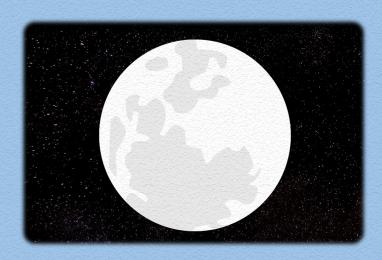
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BUT JUST AS THE DOOR CLOSED AND LOCKED WITH A CLICK, I HEARD A LOUD CRASH SO I RAN UPSTAIRS QUICK! THE KID'S ROOM WAS A MESS (WAS THERE A TORNADO?) BUT NO SCAMP IN SIGHT WHICH WAY DID THEY GO?



MEANWHILE...
HIGH IN THE SKY
THE MOON PEAKED FROM A CLOUD
AND DOWN HERE ON EARTH
THE KIDS GOT REAL
LOUD!

A STUFFED ANIMAL PILE FLEW IN EVERY DIRECTION WHEN A SMALL LITTLE FLUFFBALL BURST OUT WITH CONVICTION!

HAD THEY GOTTEN A PUPPY?
I WANTED TO ASK,
OR WAS THIS A BIG TRICK
INVOLVING A MASK?



BUT THAT GREAT BIG SMILE
I DID RECOGNIZE,
JUST THE SOFT FUZZY NOSE
WAS NEW TO MY EYES!

THEY RAN THROUGH THE ROOM ON SOFT PADDED FEET, FLYING DOWN STAIRS IN A HASTY RETREAT!

I'M STARTING TO THINK THIS PLAN WAS UNWISE AND THE PEOPLE WHO LEFT WERE ALL FULL OF LIES.

BUT THINGS THEN GOT WORSE!
I SAW A FUR BUTT.
WAIT, THERE'S THE DIAPER!
PRIMED TO ERUPT!



THE 'SPLOSION SENT SHOCKWAVES FROM HERE CLEAR TO TULSA, AND FURNITURE EXPLODED AS IF MADE OF CHEAP BALSA!



WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?
I'M REALLY NOT SURE,
BUT I KNOW IT INVOLVED
FANGS, CLAWS, AND FUR!

IF BY ANY LUCK
I MAKE IT THROUGH THIS DAY
I'LL DEFINITELY CHARGE THEM
FOR MAX HAZARD PAY!



THE ROOM WAS A WRECK,
EVERY ANTIQUE NOW BROKEN,
BUT I KNEW MAGIC WORDS
THAT HAD TO BE SPOKEN!



THE PARENTS CAME HOME,
THEIR MONSTER THEY MISSED.
BOTH SEEMED QUITE AWARE
OF THIS SHAGGY PLOT TWIST.



"YOU DID A GREAT JOB!"
THEY COULDN'T STOP THANKING!
"IN FACT, IF YOU'RE FREE"
"YOU MUST COME ALONG CAMPING!"





A MONTH LATER WE PACKED AND PILED INTO A CAR. WE DROVE DEEP INTO WOODS UP TO A SANDBAR.

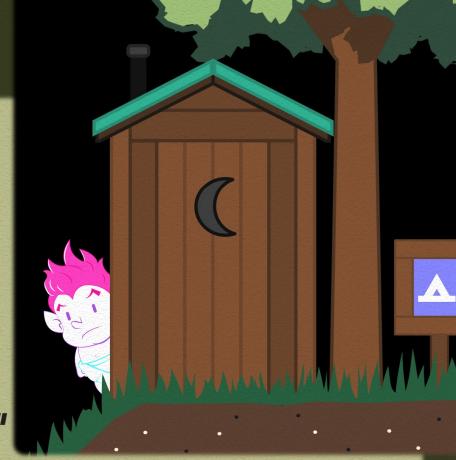
WE LOVED THE OUTDOORS!
THE PARENTS TOOK A HIKE
WHILE I SAT BACK, RELAXED
WITH AN EYE ON THE TYKE.

WE WERE HAVING A BLAST,
ME AND MY NEW FUZZBUDDY,
WHEN UP PULLED A CAR
SPLATTERED AND MUDDY!



IT BECAME EVIDENT
AS THE DAY CAME TO AN END,
MY EMPLOYERS HAD GONE
AND INVITED THEIR FRIEND!

THEY IMMEDIATELY ASKED
"WE DON'T MEAN TO BOTHER
BUT SINCE YOU ARE HERE
COULD YOU WATCH ANOTHER?"



MEANWHILE...
HIGH IN THE SKY
THE MOON PEAKED FROM A CLOUD
AND DOWN HERE ON EARTH
THE KIDS GOT REAL LOUD!







I ASKED THEM TO PLAY
OR EAT SOME GUMDROPS
AN EXPERT LIKE ME
PULLS OUT ALL THE STOPS!

NOTHING WAS WORKING.
WITH ONE I WAS STUCK,
WHILE THE OTHER WENT CRAZY
RUNNING AMUCK!

UNTIL, ON A WHIM,
I STARTED TO SING.
OUR NEW FRIEND LIT UP
THAT WAS THEIR THING!

A SWEET LITTLE VOICE
JOINED IN AND SANG!
OF ROW BOATS AND WATER SPOUTS
AND... IS THAT...A FANG?



THEY SWOOPED AND THEY DOVE
I RAN FOR SOME COVER!
WEREBABY JUST LAUGHED!
I WANTED MY MOTHER!

I CHASED AFTER THEM
(AND OF THIS I CONFESS)
I KNOCKED SOME THINGS OVER.
I MADE THE MESS!





THE PARENTS RETURNED

COVERED IN TWIGS.

"WE GOT A BIT LOST,"

"HOW'S OUR GUINEA PIGS?"

"SIMPLE PERFECT!" I SAID
FEELING EXHAUSTED.
"WHY'S EVERYTHING BROKEN?"
OH NO. I WAS BUSTED.



## THE END!



