**The Monster in the Jar**

(Ver. 03)

**1 INT ALICE’S BEDROOM – NIGHT**

Alice is in bed. Mom kisses her good night before getting up and walking over to the door. As she walks, you see moving boxes around the room and a dream jar on her nightstand. She turns on the wall nightlight that projects stars onto the walls and ceiling. She turns off the bedroom light and closes the door.

The girl closes her eyes to sleep contentedly.

The nightlight starts buzzing and flickering, waking the girl, before going out. The boxes in the room create large, menacing shadows, making the girl feel small and scared. The nightlight turns on briefly before the light zips around the room and into the jar, causing the jar to fall off the table and crack on the floor and roll into the center of the room.

The jar is now glowing which makes the girl curious as she climbs out of bed and hesitantly picks it up to inspect it. Something moves in it, startling the girl, making her drop it and shatter it. Plumes of smoke from the jar fill the room.

**2 EXT FANTASY LAND – NIGHT**

She opens her eyes and sees that she is no longer in her room. Instead she is just outside of a forest. She looks around fearfully, crying.

A monster jumps out of the bushes in front of her and tries to scare her by hissing and jumping around like a cat. The girl stumbles backward and falls, scratching up her hand, which makes her pony-bead bracelet jingle. The sound piques the interest of the monster and he goes to investigate.

The girl raises her hand (with the bracelet) to protect herself from the monster. The monster flies up and tries to pull the bracelet off with his teeth but can’t. He then notices that the girl is injured and licks her hand which then heals. The girl looks at her hand fascinated before looking up at the creature, she then notices the stars from her nightlight in the sky behind him. She points at it excitedly making the creature look at it. He knows how to get to it and scurries forward before looking back at the girl. He does it again and she understands and follows him.

**3 EXT FOREST – NIGHT**

She follows him into the forest. As they get deeper into the forest it becomes darker, the animals make noises, and their eyes glow in the darkness. She is frightened and stops walking. The trail continues forward into the darkness. The monster looks at her confused, flies up, and tugs on her bracelet to try to get her moving. She’s trembling.

The monster grabs a branch of berries nearby and trots into the darkness. He comes back moments later riding on top of a bigger monster with the berries extended, leading the monster into the area. He hops off and flies over to the girl and drops the berries onto her lap. She hesitantly picks it up and shakingly extends the berry branch to the monster. It eats it, then licks the girls face, messing up her hair and nuzzles her. A few more creatures come out of the darkness and look at her curiously. The girl giggles and stands, no longer scared of the monsters in the dark. She and her monster friend continue onward.

**4 EXT MUSHROOM TOPS – NIGHT**

They exit the forest and find massive glowing, mushrooms growing out of a good-sized trench. The girl hesitantly looks down and sees nothing but darkness. She is fearful. The creature easily hops on to a mushroom head, then turns expectantly to her. She shakes her head and backs away from the edge.

The monster hops back easily, then does little hopping motions to show the girl that she needs to jump. She looks up at the sky and sees that she is so close to where her nightlight is. She takes in a breath and hops onto the first mushroom head, eyes squeezed tightly shut. It sways a bit, but she is feeling more confident now. She continues to more easily hop across until she is now on the other side. She smiles excitedly at what she had accomplished and they continue on.

**5 EXT OPEN FIELD - NIGHT**

They can now see that the nightlight is just ahead of them. The monster flies over to the nightlight and excitedly flies around it to show her that they did it, but then the darkness swoops in and the girl can’t see anything. She’s scared and alone. She is about to cry when she hears her friend make a sound and sees flashes of light through the darkness.

She realizes she needs to be brave and gets up and pushes through the darkness to her friend.

She realizes that she was able to overcome her fear, this time, without help and feels proud of herself. She pets the monster, kisses his head, and offers the bracelet to him in friendship. He wears it around his neck now and proudly shows off his new trinket. The girl laughs, pets him one last time and without hesitation, picks up the light. It glows brightly.

**6 INT ALICE’S BEDROOM - NIGHT**

When the light dies down, the girl is in her room again where she was before. The jar still broken, but not glowing. She looks around the room and sees that the room no longer frightens her even though there is no light. The only thing different is that she doesn’t have her bracelet, indicating that what happened did happen. She smiles, climbs back into bed, and goes to sleep.

**The End**