

# Claire and the Pizza Monster

A Cheesy Adventure

*Told by Claire*



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One sunny day, my dad made me the biggest, cheesiest pizza for lunch. The aroma filled the kitchen. "Yum!" I thought. But when I saw the crust, my tummy rumbled in protest. "Eat the crust, Claire!" Dad said with a grin. But I didn't want to. So, I came up with a sneaky plan! I took my crust, hid it under the table, and tossed it into the trash can when Dad wasn't looking. "Goodbye, crust!" I giggled. Little did I know, a big, gooey pizza monster was lurking nearby! It had sauce for skin and melted cheese for hair. Suddenly, it burst through my front door, eyes wide and hungry, shouting, I want to eat Claire! My heart raced. I was in trouble! What had I done? Just then, Dad appeared, riding in on his shiny horse, the bravest knight in the land. Fear not, Claire! he shouted. I gasped. Would he save me? I was holding my breath! I could feel the story turning a corner. My first little choice didn't seem huge... until it started rolling like a snowball.



With a whoosh and a swish, Dad charged at the pizza monster, waving a big slice of pizza like a sword! Back, you cheesy beast! he declared. The monster stopped, its eyes wide with surprise. It didn't want to fight. It just wanted a friend. I felt a pang of guilt. I hadn't listened to Dad. I wish I would have eaten my crust, Dad! I exclaimed. Dad smiled softly. You can always try new things, Claire. Crust can be fun! The pizza monster nodded, looking sad. I approached it slowly. Would you like to share my pizza? I asked. Its eyes lit up. Together, we all munched on pizza—Dad, the monster, and me! This is the best lunch ever! I laughed, crumbs flying everywhere. Now I knew—crust isn't just crust; it's part of the fun! And it's always better to listen to Dad. And from that day on, I never hid my crust again! The pizza monster became my best friend, and we had cheesy adventures every day! I noticed a warm, cozy smell nearby. My honest apology changed the whole mood, like turning on a warm lamp.

**The End**