

# Claire and the Pizza Monster

A Cheesy Adventure

*Told by Claire*



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One sunny day, I, Claire, sat at the kitchen table. My dad made the best pizza for my lunch! It smelled so good with its cheesy goodness. He said, "Don't forget to eat the crust, Claire!" But I didn't want to. The crust looked funny. I thought it was too hard to chew. So, I made a silly choice. I hid the crust under my napkin.

When Dad wasn't looking, I tossed it in the trash can. "Out of sight, out of mind!" I giggled. But then, something strange happened. The room shook, and a loud growl echoed! A big pizza monster burst through the door! It had gooey cheese for skin and pepperoni spots all over! I was terrified! What would I do? I ran around the table, trying to escape the monster. It lumbered after me, its cheesy breath filling the air. I thought, "Oh no! I should have listened to Dad!" Just then, I heard a loud thudding sound. My dad came riding in on his shiny horse! The first little choice didn't seem huge... until it started rolling like a snowball. The room held a quiet pause, as if waiting for the next brave move.



I'll save you, Claire! he shouted. He jumped off the horse and charged at the pizza monster. With a swoosh and a clang, Dad waved his pizza cutter like a sword! The monster roared, but Dad was brave. He slashed the pizza monster right in half! Cheese splattered everywhere! I giggled a little despite my fear. The monster melted away like ice cream on a sunny day. After the adventure, I felt a bit silly. I said to Dad, I wish I would have listened to you! He smiled and ruffled my hair. It's okay, Claire. We all make mistakes. But next time, remember that crust is important!

From that day on, I learned to love my pizza crust. It was crunchy and delicious! I even pretended the crust was a magic wand. I waved it around and said, Pizza crust, pizza crust, you're the best!

Dad and I laughed together, and I promised to always eat my crust from now on. No more monsters for me! They traded quick glances, deciding to be brave even if their voices were small. The truth finally felt lighter once it was said out loud. It felt like the moment when a story decides to turn a corner.

**The End**