

# Claire and the Pizza Monster

A Cheesy Adventure

*Told by Claire*



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One sunny afternoon, my dad decided to surprise me with a special lunch—pizza! It smelled so delicious, with gooey cheese and fresh toppings. But when I saw the crust, I scrunched my nose. "I don't want to eat the crust, Dad," I said, pouting. "But, Claire, the crust is the best part!" he replied with a smile. I didn't want to hear any more. So, when Dad wasn't looking, I hid the crust under my plate and tossed it in the trash! Little did I know, that crust was about to cause some big trouble. That night, as I snuggled in bed, I heard a strange noise. Suddenly, BOOM! A giant pizza monster burst through my window! Its eyes were pepperoni, and its mouth was a cheesy, gooey mess! "I'm hungry!" it roared, reaching for me. I gasped and ran! What had I done? I wished I had listened to my dad. Just then, I saw a flash of shiny armor outside my window. It was my dad on a sparkly, white horse! He charged in, and with a swoosh of his pretend sword, he slayed that pizza monster!



The pizza monster melted away into a puddle of cheese, leaving a trail of crumbs behind. I jumped into my dad's arms, feeling safe. Thanks for saving me, Dad! I squeaked, my heart still racing. Always, Claire! he chuckled. Then I thought about the crust I had tossed away. I looked up at him, a little embarrassed. I should have listened to you. The crust is really important, isn't it? Dad nodded. Just like this monster, sometimes we don't realize what's special until it's too late. I smiled sheepishly. I promise to eat my crust from now on! We both laughed, and I felt a little silly. To celebrate our adventure, we made a new pizza together—this time with extra crust! As we baked, I made sure to sprinkle on extra cheese and a dash of love. The next day at lunch, I took a big bite of my pizza, crust and all. It was the best pizza ever! And I even saved a little crust for Dad to try. We shared our lunch and our laughter, knowing that sometimes, listening leads to the best adventures of all!

**The End**