

Read Along to...Mike the Monster 🌟

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Look into your imagination and find...

Mike the Monster

Mum, Dad and Sophie were wandering through Nutswood forest when they heard a roar.

'What was that?' asked Mum.

'I don't know,' said Dad, 'maybe just some kids.'

Sophie realised she had dropped her ring, the one her Nanny had given to her when she was just old enough to know what a ring was.

'My ring, my ring.' said Sophie.

They spent hours trying to find the ring, but as they searched, Mum noticed something lurking in the woods.

'Did you see that?' asked Mum.

'What?' asked Dad.

Mum looked deep into the dark forest, 'Nothing.' she said, 'time to go home.'

But Sophie was sad because she had lost her favourite thing from her favourite person.

'We'll make it up to you.' said Mum.

But Sophie cried herself to sleep.

In the middle of the night Sophie woke up. Her window was open and her curtain flapped around in the wind. Sophie was cold, so she crept up to the window and as she closed it, she was certain she saw something big hide behind a tree.

Sophie stared at the tree but as the wind died down everything seemed so still, so she closed the window and went back to bed.

Moments later came a bang and a crash. Mum and Dad rushed into the room and they all went to the window together. They all peered out but all they could see was a fallen wheelbarrow and broken spade.

'Go back to bed.' said Dad kissing Sophie on the head.

The next day was the strangest day in Sophie's life. She felt all day that something was following her. As she was shopping in Nutsworth, looking for a new ring, she caught a glimpse on more than one occasion of something, but she didn't know what. It seemed like large fingers or toes or a hairy blue face always hiding around a corner, but every time she investigated there was never anything there.

Sophie lay in bed certain she had been followed. She looked at her new ring and couldn't help but feel sad. Sophie closed her heavy eyes but as she did her window flew open and she caught sight of something black and ghost like.

Sophie was scared and she pulled the blanket over her eyes. She heard a yelp and peered over the covers. She was certain this time, a blue hand grabbed at the dark ghost and the dark ghost disappeared.

Sophie ran to the window but whatever had grabbed the ghost had disappeared too.

Sophie looked out. It was quiet. Too quiet. No birds, no night animals, no sounds at all.

Sophie listened.

'I know you're there.' she said softly, 'I know you helped me and I know you've been following me.'

It was still quiet.

'I know you're protecting me.' said Sophie looking at her ring.

Suddenly something large moved from behind a tree and soon a huge blue hairy monster revealed itself from the shadows.

It walked up to Sophie's window then sat down with a rumble.

Sophie didn't feel scared. She felt happy to see the Monster.

'What's your name?' asked Sophie.

The Monster made a strange rumbly sound.

'I don't understand you.' said Sophie, 'I'll call you Mike. Mike the Monster.'

The Monster nodded.

'Where did you come from Mike?' asked Sophie.

Mike the Monster pointed up to the sky. Sophie held her ring and smiled.

The Monster put out his hand and Sophie climbed into his palm. He carried her down to the ground, closed his fist with Sophie inside and began to run.

He ran with a thunderous stamp through the cornfields, over the great lake and into Nutswood forest.

He walked her into the forest and the blue monster seemed to switch on his eyes to shine a light at the ground.

Sophie climbed down and walked to where the light shined. The monster walked over and began to grab but it couldn't make contact with whatever was on the ground.

Sophie looked down. It was her ring. Sophie was happier than she had ever been. She grabbed the ring and put it on her finger.

Suddenly the light switched off and the Monster was gone.

Sophie just as quickly took off the ring and the Monster came back again. Sophie held it as the Monster picked her up and ran her home.

As the Monster returned her to her bedroom Sophie looked up at him

'I won't wear it.' she said.

The Monster's hand crept through the window and he closed her hand over the ring.

Sophie ran to the Monster to give it a hug.

A tear passed the cheek of Sophie as she put the ring back on.

Then....the Monster was gone.

Sophie lay in bed looking out of her window at the stars.

A smile crossed her face and she felt safe.