

Listen Closely

Timely advice for hearing with the heart

BY CHRISTINA G. BRINSLEY



On Monday, Billy didn't have his homework,
And when the teacher asked him why,
He said, "Because a monster ripped it up,
After I told him a lie."
"Now Billy," said the teacher,
"You know monsters don't exist,
And if you don't turn in your homework,
No recess you will get."

On Tuesday, Billy had a stomachache,
And when the teacher asked him why,
He said, "A monster took away my dinner,
Even my cherry pie."

"Billy, I've told you once before,
Monsters are not real.
You'll have to wait till lunchtime
Before you get a meal."

On Wednesday, Billy had a handage,
Which covered his right eye.
When the teacher asked him how it
happened,
This was his reply:
"A monster was running after me
When I ran into the door."
"Billy, please," the teacher said,
"I don't want to hear any more."

On Thursday, Billy refused to sit down,
And when the teacher asked him why,
Billy said, "A monster whipped my bottom,
Because I started to cry."
"Billy" said the teacher, "this is getting out
of hand,
And if you continue with these stories,
In the corner you will stand."

On Friday, Billy didn't come to school,
And when the teacher found out why,
She said a little prayer to God
In hopes Billy would survive.
For a monster had beaten Billy
and threatened him with a knife.
Now Billy lay in a hospital bed,
Fighting for his life.

So teachers please remember,
That monsters are for real.
Listen closely to kids's stories,
A wounded heart you may heal. ♣

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